

April 2014

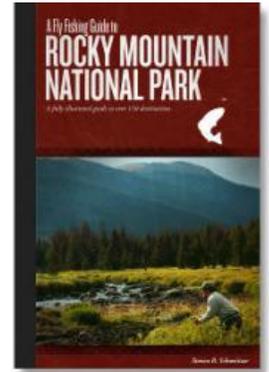


April Meeting

THURSDAY, April 24th
Queeny Park
Greensfelder Recreation Complex
550 Weidman Rd
Ballwin, MO 63011
7:00 PM

Our speaker for April is Steve Schweitzer. Steve's presentation will be "Fly Fishing Colorado's Rocky Mountain National Park" where he will share effective tactics and flies to help make your next visit to the Park a productive one.

Steve has been a backcountry junkie since moving to Colorado in 1999. He has hiked more than 1,000 miles doing research in RMNP for his book entitled "A Fly Fishing Guide to Rocky Mountain National Park." Since its January 2011 release, Steve's book has received numerous international book awards and has been recognized as the go-to guide for fishing the Park. It went into its second printing only a year after its release. Steve is now working on a second book of similar format for the Indian Peaks Wilderness area. He is co-authoring this book with Michael Kruse, owner of the Laughing Grizzly Fly Shop.

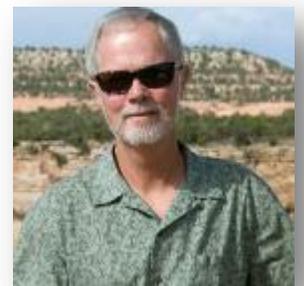


Steve is a contributing editor for Angling Trade magazine and author of the Innovative Fly Tyeer column for Southwest, Northwest and Eastern Fly Fishing Magazines. He has authored numerous articles appearing in Fly Fisherman Magazine, Trout, Wall Street Journal and a myriad of other regional angling publications. He also is contributing author & illustrator for the book "Drag Free Drift – Presentation Techniques for Fly Fishing", authored by Joe Kissane. His fly tying patterns appear in books by Chris Mann, John Shewey, FFF Masters, Rick Takahashi & Jerry Hubka. Steve makes his home in Lakewood, CO. By day, Steve works as a consultant in the broadband and digital media industries.

Hope you can join us on the 24th, see you there.
Bob Zagar

President's Message

Hopefully, everyone has had a chance to get out and fish. After the winter we have had, we deserve it. I just returned from leading the WQM on Mill Creek. Thanks to those of you who showed up and helped. I think it was one of the smoothest WQM's I have been on. We got done in short order and had some time to fish Mill Creek for a couple of hours. We all managed to net a fish or two. No monsters but a couple of decent sized rainbows were had. The water was in excellent condition, although there was a definite lack of scuds in our net sets which was very unusual for Mill Creek. Our next WQM will be on April 26 at Blue Spring. Contact Glenn Bish if you are interested in participating.



The Board has a committee exploring the possibility of having a booth at the Webster Groves July 4th Carnival as a fund raiser. The committee is looking into what options are available and if it will be economically viable plus all the other factors that go into holding an event of this magnitude. If it is decided to go ahead with the event, we will need volunteers to man the booth during the event, which happens over 4 days. A successful event would take some of the pressure of our annual auction and give the club some options.
I will keep you posted.

Remember that casting instructors will once again be meeting before the meeting, now that it is staying light longer. See you there.

Bill Leslie

Outings

May 16-18,2014 Montauk Outing

The Montauk Outing will be the weekend of May 16 thru 18. We have rooms for the weekend at \$82.00 per night (\$164.00 for 2 nights). We will also have use of the Searcy Room for Friday and Saturday night of food, fellowship and fly tying on both nights. Friday night will be a pot luck dinner and Saturday night the club will provide food, to be named later. Everyone attending should plan on eating too much. I will need to have all room payments by May 2, 2014.

For information, please call Malcolm Royce at 636-329-1504 or email me at, doorman709@sbcglobal.net. Please make all checks payable to Ozark Fly Fishers, and send them to me at 709 Cooper Way Drive, O Fallon, MO, 63368. I have it on good authority they will be stocking the park that weekend!

Malcolm Royce

Casting Tip April 2014

By: Bill Armon CCI

The Tuck Cast

Spring and high water are probably coming soon. The tuck cast can help get a weighted fly deep faster than a traditional presentation can.

The back cast is a constant tension or Belgium style backcast or any style that results in a good loop on the forward cast with a weighted fly or split shot. The forecast is thrown with a normal loop (not too small but not an open loop). Next the caster must do several things to make the cast "tuck" into the water. Stop high on the forward cast (and do not follow through too quickly) and over power the foreword cast using a directly overhand stroke. These moves will cause the weighted fly (or split shot) to jump downwards at the end of the cast and tuck into the water. The fly will hit the water first and with enough force to immediately break the surface tension.

This is not a delicate presentation but in fast or hi water, when you want to get a fly down quickly, this cast can be very effective.

Ozark Fly Fishers Database Report April 2014

Last reported membership on 3-5-2014	216**
New memberships since 3-5-2014	3
Former members rejoining since 3-5-2014	<u>0</u>
Total memberships as of 3-5-2014	219

A year ago	222
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** This is the membership total for the beginning of the 2014 membership year.

New members since March 6 are as follows:

Chuck Niesen
chuckniesen@yahoo.com
Webster Groves, MO

Gary Eaton
doubledok@gmail.com
Saint Louis, MO

Susan M. Lawless
orioon70@yahoo.com
Edwardsville, IL

Mark A. Harris
Membership Committee
(Database & Directory)

Fly of the Month – April 2014

By Mike Ott

Randy Hanner's Laser Minnow

Randy Hanner, a member of the US Fly Fishing Team and now a rep for Umpqua, is one Missouri's own fly fishing elite. It's been said that "he can catch fish in this coffee cup before you're even rigged up" - and that's coming from some other great Missouri fly fishers. This fly is one of his simple but productive creations that should be remarkably easy tie and effective for everything from crappie and bass to white bass and strippers.

- Hook: Owner Mosquito Hook #4
- Thread: White Monocord
- Tail: White & Black Barred Craft Fur
- Flash: Two strands of Pearl Flashabou
- Body: Pearl Estaz or Polar Chenille
- Bottom Wing: White Senyo Laser Dub
- Top Wing: Minnow Belly Senyo Laser Dub
- Eyes: Red Jurassic Eyes



Secure hook in vise and start thread behind hook eye.

Advance thread to about 2/3 down the hook shank.

Tie in a small tapered hank of craft fur on top of the hook shank extending about two hook shanks.

Tie in two strands of pearl flashabou over tail extending just to the end of the tail.

Tie in Estaz on top of the tail tie-in-point and advance thread to about two eye-lengths from the eye.

Wrap a body of the chenille brushing the fibers back as you go. Tie off and trim excess.

Pull out a small hank of White LaserDub and pull out to a taper.

Tie in material at its middle on the bottom of the hook just behind the eye and leave sticking out both directions.

Tie in Minnow Belly LaserDub on top in the same manner.

Now brush the laser dub that sticks out the front back toward the hook bend and make several wraps at the hook eye. Whip finish and trim thread. Lay the fly flat on the table and brush the top and bottom wing toward the tail using a tooth brush.

Finally, glue on the eyes using either Zap a Gap, Goop, or some new Clear Cure Goo.

Using a sharpie, make a small "false eye" just behind the glued on eyes.

Remember not to make it too bulky. It should look somewhat transparent like a real minnow. Randy likes to fish this on a full sinking line around whatever structure is available – wood, weeds, stream banks, etc. Let it sink, then strip it back in short quick bursts. Should be great for spring bass, crappie, and bluegill.

Meeting Program schedule for 2014

April 24	Steve Schweitzer – Rocky Mountain National Park
May 22	Fishy Fullum – The Catskills
June 26**	Casting and BBQ Outing - no general membership meeting
July 24	TBD
August 28	Don Kirk – The Smokies
September 25	Mark Van Patten
October 23	Bob Krumm – Blue Quill Fly Company, Big Horn River
November	Thanksgiving - no general membership meeting
December 11	Holiday fly tying and fly exchange

Programs are held on the 4th Thursday of each month, starting at 7:00 P.M.

*Saturday

** 6:00 P.M. start time

Bob Zagar

The Fly Box

By Al Bourisaw

At the all day program in March Gary Borger talked about using tippet rings as part of the rigging for your flies. Being a little on the thrifty side, the idea was intriguing to me. I searched for the rings at Hobby Lobby, Schaffer Hobby Shop and a couple other potential shops in the area without success.

Bob Temper, being a greater mind, thought that you might find fly fishing equipment at a fly fishing shop. He made a trip to Cabela's that proved him correct. So, I order some from a fly shop that I found online. I ordered the 2mm size (20-25 lb strength) thinking that I usually fish with small stuff.

Anyway, I rigged up three leaders with tippet rings for a trip to the Sow Bug and White River in Arkansas the following week. I fished three days using the tippet rings and found them to meet all my expectations. My expectations were not great as I wanted to conserve leader and have a simple rig. I changed tippets a number of times and lost no length on my leader. I used the same leader all three days and came home with the leader in tact ready for the next trip. I placed a split shot just above the ring on the leader and dropped 18"-24" of tippet to the fly. The split shot stayed in place and only needed to be replaced if I wanted to change the shot size. I didn't bring any big fish – biggest was a 15" rainbow – to net, but believe the tippet ring to be light weight and very strong.

I did not do any dry fly fishing with the tippet ring, but found that it did not sink as easily as I thought it would. I bought a 10 pack at Blue Quill Angler for \$5.95 in a size 2mm. Cabela's carries a 2.5mm 10 pack for \$5.29 and Bass Pro has a 2.5mm 10 pack for \$7.49. With the cost of today's leaders and the potential to get more use from a leader, the cost of a pack of tippet rings can be recouped quickly. Give them a try.

I would also like to thank all the members that tied safety pin flies for the Wet Land for Kids Program. I would especially like to thank those members that gave up their Saturday to man our tables at the program. I can assure everyone that the kids enjoyed all of our efforts.

6th Annual Water Quality Monitoring Outing and Picnic

Montauk State Park July 11 and 12, 2014

Do not forget to mark the above dates on your calendar. This outing continues to grow in popularity and we continue to add new activities and interests. If you have not done so, consider making your accommodations, whether reserving a room at the lodge or nearby motel, cabin or campground. If you have any questions about the outing, please contact Scott Darrough at 314-560-1335 or swdarrough@yahoo.com. Watch for forthcoming details in any and all of the OFF communications. This is one outing that you will not want to miss.

WANTED: ONE FLY - FOR DONATION TO THE 6TH ANNUAL WATER QUALITY MONITORING OUTING

Please bring a fly of your choice to the April meeting for donation to our Members Fly Board. This board is always a popular raffle item at our WQM outing in July. All proceeds from this board will go to supporting the OFF. This is an opportunity for all members to make a contribution to their club.

Any questions, please contact Scott Darrough at 314-560-1335 or swdarrough@yahoo.com



Streamside

By Tim Wade

Rivers have become swollen from snowmelt this past week. Flows on the North Fork had reached almost to 1000 cubic feet per second by late Friday in the Wapiti Valley. The South Fork wasn't far behind as it surpassed 800 cfs flows.

This weekend's cold weather slowed the snowmelt down to more seasonal flows by Monday. Temperatures are to warm back into the 60's by this coming weekend. Expect flows to jump back to last week's flows, or higher. The snow has to come out of the hills at some point. Getting a good flush every week or so until hot weather truly arrives, will give water manager's time to make room for this spring's flooding at Buffalo Bill.



Reduced flows the early part of the week on our freestone rivers mentioned above should restore some clarity to the water, making it easier to show the trout flies and lures. Black and brown rubber-legged stonefly patterns work well this time of year, as do smaller bead-headed versions - Prince nymph, Hare's ear, Pheasant tail, copper John – for instance.

Tailwaters in the Basin have also seen an increase in discharge below Boysen, Buffalo Bill and Yellowtail dams. The lower Shoshone has been increased to 1965 cfs. The Wind/River Bighorn is running about the same, while its big sister in Montana is flowing at 6500 cfs.

Fishing is good to awesome in all three rivers now, although wading is limited with flows up and moving swiftly. The best patterns have been aquatic worms, sowbugs, scuds and midge pupae fished deep under a floating line. Dry fly action has been coming late in the

Expect to watch the flows climb on the tailwaters mentioned. Once water content of this winter's snowpack is accurately calculated by the water managers in the State and BuRec, they will recognize the need to dump more water before the runoff really gets cranked.

Get out and enjoy the lakes behind these dams or the ones made for recreation around the area. Walleye need to be eradicated from Buffalo Bill. Now is the time to find these tasty invasive fish along the South, SE and E areas of the lake. Bartlett Lane is your best access for boating.

Midge and scud patterns have been fooling some large, wily browns and out at East Newton the past week. Luce is once again easily accessible via the gate south of the rest rooms and is fishing well.

Please note: these two lakes are managed under Special Regulations by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Respect of these fisheries is not asked, it is required.

Tight Lines

Tim Wade

Ozark Fly Fishers Yahoo Group

One of the benefits of being a member of the Ozark Fly Fishers is the Ozark Fly Fishers Yahoo group. The Yahoo Group is a direct line of communication with all who choose to join. Like any other club function, the more members participating the better. The OFF Yahoo group is reserved for **Members Only** to keep spam and other issues that go hand and hand with the internet under control. The Yahoo group is a great avenue to receive or post fishing reports, big and little fish pictures or thoughts and ideas on club functions as well as to seek advice from a vast wealth of knowledge on just about anything fly fishing. To become an Ozark Fly Fishers Yahoo member is easy. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact **Mike Swederska** Cell: (314)-799-1998 Office: (314)-645-5440. Email shur-way@sbcglobal.net

Ozark Fly Fishers Calendar of Events 2014

Coming soon!

April 24th General Membership Meeting -- GRC Queeny park 7:00 - 9:30
April 26th Blue spring Creek WQM
May 1st Intermediate Fly Casting Class 1 – Tillies Park - \$
May 8th Intermediate Fly Casting Class 2 – Tillies Park - \$
May 12th Board Meeting – 7:00 – 9:00
May 15th Intermediate Fly Casting Class 3 – Tillies Park - \$
May 16th – 18th Montauk Outing
May 22nd – General Membership Meeting – GRC Queeny Park 7:00 PM
June 2nd – Board Meeting – 7:00 – 9:00
June 26th – General Membership Meeting – GRC Queeny Park 7:00 PM
\$ - Cost associated

Board of Directors

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Vice President: Bob Zagar
Secretary: Mark Thalhammer
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Fly Tying: Mike Ott
Webmaster: Mark Thalhammer
Librarian: Scott Darrough

Stream Team 31:

Coordinator: Scott Darrough
Blue Springs: Glenn Bish
Current River: Scott Darrough
Mill Creek: Bill Leslie

Ozark Fly Fishers Objectives

Founded 1971

To promote fly fishing as the most sportsmanlike and enjoyable way of fishing and the method most consistent with the preservation and wise use of our game fish.

To practice conservation of natural resources and to support efforts for environmental quality and pollution control.

To provide advice, education, and assistance to promote the art of fly fishing.

To demonstrate applied techniques in fly fishing, tying, casting and related subjects

Ozark Fly Fishers meet at 7:00 PM on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Queeny Park Rec Center

(Unless noted differently – see Calendar)

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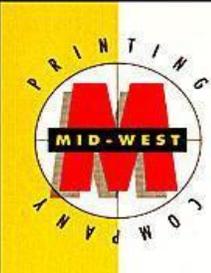


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