

Ozark Fly Fishers

Member Newsletter

March 2021

President's Message

Ok, when Malcolm nominated (insisted) me to be President, he never mentioned the fifty-year anniversary. As a fairly new member of about ten years, I am a relative newbie (my son uses the term "noob"). Many in the club have forty plus years. I have gone to the trouble of gathering historical records, and actually put together a fairly complete timeline of the club. There was a very nice storyboard of the club history going back to the beginning, that I was able to update. I now have the new panels, snapped a picture of them, and also created a text file of the same. All available for the asking.



At the end of this month, our club will be Fifty Years Old! The date was March 31, 1971. I have arranged for St Louis County to declare that day Ozark Fly Fishers Day. The county has issued a plaque proclaiming the date. I will also pursue a news release with the Post Dispatch and local TV stations. Not sure about the rest of you, but I think Fifty Years is a big deal.



I have also arranged the speaker at our monthly meeting to be Jay Nixon, Governor of Missouri from 2009 until 2017. He has been recognized for his environmental work, and cleaning up pollution sites. Pretty sure he also has a few fishing stories to tell. His secretary said "he is always telling stories of his younger years and fishing." So I spoke to the 'Guv Nah' and was not sure of the best topics to cover, but am sure he could speak at length on many. He had a history of fishing the White River from an early age and Tom Nixon is an accomplished fly fisher and author. I think it best to get questions from the club, so we will set up a way to submit them.

Other projects have included two 50 year graphic designs and a website to a local screen printer for club members to purchase both apparel and patches to commemorate the anniversary.

Website: <http://ozarkflyfishers.itemorder.com/sale>
(Cont. on Page 2.)



Upcoming Events

March

General Member Meeting

March 25, 2021 – 7:00 pm

Online via Zoom

Guest Speaker:

Former Governor Jay Nixon

March 31, 2021

Ozark Fly Fishers Day

April

General Member Meeting

April 22, 2021 – 7:00 pm

Online via Zoom

May

General Member Meeting


May 27, 2021 – 7:00 pm


Online via Zoom


Reminder

Keep an eye on upcoming newsletters and the OFF calendar and website about future events. To keep up with OFF, you can follow our social media accounts listed below.

 www.ozarkflyfishers.org

 Instagram: [@ozark_fly_fishers](https://www.instagram.com/ozark_fly_fishers)

 Twitter: [@ozarkflyfishers](https://twitter.com/ozarkflyfishers)

 Facebook: [@ozarkflyfishers](https://www.facebook.com/ozarkflyfishers)

 OzarkNewsletter@gmail.com

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President's Message (Cont. from Page 1)

I am also working on a history of the club, with a number of past officers and charter members, since I was only in seventh grade at the time. Efforts to celebrate the actual day have been pushed back to get past this pandemic, but we will certainly celebrate some day in the future. Ideas, as always, are certainly welcome.

This should be fun. Now, go wet a line!

Dan Rasch, President, Ozark Fly Fishers

Email: drasch27@hotmail.com

March Meeting Guest Speaker: Governor Jay Nixon

On **Thursday, March 25**, OFF will have its next Member Meeting with Guest Speaker, Jeremiah W. "Jay" Nixon, JD. Join us as we continue to celebrate our 50th Year with this online meeting.



Missouri's 55th Governor Jay Nixon currently is a partner at the law firm Dowd Bennett LLP. He provides strategic counsel to companies involved in high-stakes litigation, and he counsels clients on public policy issues. He advises businesses and corporate executives that are the target of government investigations and conducts internal investigations. Also, he is actively involved in Dowd Bennett's pro bono work and helps train the firm's junior litigators.

In addition to private practice, Nixon served the state of Missouri for 30 years. Prior to joining Dowd Bennett in January 2017, he completed his second term as governor of Missouri. As governor, he led the state through difficult economic times and devastating natural disasters. He received national recognition as a strong fiscal manager and was praised for his appointment of more than 150 centrist, bipartisan judges.

Before taking office as governor in 2009, Nixon served four terms as Missouri attorney general from 1993-2009 and served as a Missouri state senator from 1987-93. As attorney general, he tried cases at each level of the state judiciary, and he argued and briefed cases in state and federal courts of appeals. He personally argued two cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, including the Nixon v. Shrink Missouri Government PAC, which reinstated Missouri's campaign contribution limits. Nixon's aggressive action led to the founding of Missouri's two largest health care foundation, Mo Foundation for Health and Greater KC Health Foundation with over 1.5 billion in assets.

Earning his JD degree and BA degree with honors from the University of Missouri-Columbia and has received many recognitions throughout his career. As an avid outdoorsman, he received the 2015 Sheldon Coleman Great Outdoors Award for his commitment to conservation and the outdoor economy.

Nixon and his wife, Georganne Nixon, reside in St. Louis and have two sons, Jeremiah W. and Willson.

If you cannot make the Zoom meetings, a video recording will be posted to the OFF website a few days following the meeting. (But it's more fun to join in live.)

(Cont. on Page 3.)

Reminder: Using Zoom (Cont. from Page 2)

Click the Link to Watch this Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nKQq96TiGpg>

As always, the programs will be advertised on the OFF Website, our social media channels, through emails to members, and in the monthly newsletter. **On the morning of the meeting, each OFF member will be emailed a link and password for the evening program.** During the meeting program, all members except the presenter will be muted, so that only the presenter will be able to speak. Members will be able to virtually raise their hands in Zoom if they have questions, or post their questions in the Zoom chat. We'll demonstrate how to do this before the meeting gets started.

Join by computer

- Have a headphones available if possible to minimize feedback – your cellphone earbuds will work well.
- Click the **Zoom link** that's been sent to you in an email, and Zoom should automatically and quickly download to your computer.
- In Downloads on your computer, click Zoom_launcher.exe. Zoom should direct you to this with a large orange flag.
- Once Zoom has launched, a screen should pop up asking for your name. This will identify you during the meeting.
- You should now be part of the meeting. Click the green button that says "**Join Audio By Computer**".

Join by tablet or smartphone

- If you choose to use your tablet or smartphone, be sure to download the Zoom app ahead of time.
- Once you have downloaded the Zoom app, follow the "Join by computer" instructions above.

Join by telephone

- First, dial the phone number provided in the Zoom email.
- When prompted, dial the meeting ID number that is also provided.
- Your phone will be automatically muted once the meeting starts. If you want to speak, press *6 to unmute.

Conservation / Missouri Stream Team #31

2021 Events and Opportunities

Belews Creek Watershed Cleanup

March 20, 2021 - 9:00 AM

Location: Hillsboro Little League, 9855 Highway BB, Hillsboro, MO 63050

By invitation - Belews Creek Watershed Partnership - Stream Team #3853

This cleanup will concentrate on eliminating roadside trash along rural county roads. The goal will be to remove trash before it is flushed into the beautiful Belews Creek watershed tributaries. Numerous Stream Teams will partner on this project. Work gloves, trash bags, safety vests and bottled water will be provided. COVID-19 precautions will be practiced.

If interested in attending or if you have questions, please contact Scott Darrough at 314-560-1335 or swdarrough@yahoo.com

Scott Darrough, Conservation Chairperson, Ozark Fly Fishers

Outings Report – March 2021

Tentatively, and due to COVID-19, outings for 2021 will not be club sponsored. Members are welcome to utilize the Club's existing reservation slots and make their own private bookings.

Lake Taneycomo Outing – April 23 and 24, 2021

OFF Members are welcome to reserve the following cabins for a two-night stay at Lilley's Landing Resort in Branson, MO (www.LilliesLanding.com). Members are required to make and pay for their own reservation directly with Lillie's by February 14, 2021. Please contact Ed Olander to notify the Club of your reservation. Ed confirm who is staying where.

Cabin #2 - Rich Bable & Earl Nachtrieb

Cabin #3 - John Furlong & Chris Friesen @ \$138 Tel: 636-447-504

Cabin #4 - Ed Olander & Jim Gera

Cabin #5 - Jeff Cohen & Bill Armon

Cabin #8 - Two beds is available @ \$106 on 3/8/21

Edward Olander

Tel: 314-487-1663

Cell: 314-566-1422

Email: olanderedward@att.net

Richard Bable

Phone: 314-650-2859

Email: blackbird@brick.net

2021 Outings Dates

As these are not Club sponsored, Members are required to make and pay reservations directly to resorts.

- Montauk State Park: May 14-16, 2021
 - Montauk Park Rooms #1- #9
- Montauk State Park: July 9-11, 2021
 - Montauk Park Rooms #1- #9
- Eleven Point River: September 17-19, 2021
 - Eleven Point Guide Service and Housing
- White River: October 15-17, 2021
 - Ridge Lodge, Norfolk, AR

2021 Membership Directory

As I hope everyone is aware by now, the Ozark Board of Directors voted to renew membership for 2021 to everyone who was a member in 2020, at no charge. When preparing this year's directory I am using 2020 directory information since new applications have not been submitted, Therefore, if any of your directory information has changed, please contact me at troutal@att.net.

Al Bourisaw, Director of Membership, Ozark Fly Fishers

Throwback

Ozark Fly Fishers has had a Monthly Member Newsletter for a long time. To celebrate our 50th Anniversary, we'll be highlighting some issues of the Newsletter from years' past, so keep an eye out.

We are always looking for new content to fill our Newsletter. If you've got a good story, a hot tip, a nice pic, or a funny joke, send it our way.

Streamgram Workshop Announcement

The Stream Team Academy is proud to announce its spring 2021

Creek Course

An Introduction to EPTs

**Ephemeroptera - Plecoptera - Trichoptera
Mayflies - Stoneflies - Caddisflies**

A Virtual Online Series

This online workshop will provide a series of four (4) online presentations over a span of two weeks highlighting a background in the ecology, classification, distribution, and morphology of the three orders of mayfly, stonefly, and caddisfly taxa occurring in Missouri streams. Presentations will also go into greater depth in identifying these groups to the Family level. Each presentation is open to anyone interested in learning to identify these sensitive aquatic insect groups.

Presentation schedule and links to register:

Tuesday, March 16, 2:00 p.m.

Introduction to EPTs: Ecology, Classification, and Morphology - Amy Meier, Missouri Dept. of Conservation, Stream Team Program

Register HERE

Tuesday, March 23, 1:00 p.m.

Introduction to EPTs: Ephemeroptera (Mayflies) - Randy Sarver, Missouri Dept. of Natural Resources, Environmental Services Program

Register HERE

Thursday, March 25, 1:00 p.m.

Introduction to EPTs: Plecoptera (Stoneflies) - Dr. Barry Poulton, US Geological Survey, Columbia Environmental Research Center

Register HERE

Tuesday, March 30, 2:00 p.m.

Introduction to EPTs: Trichoptera (Caddisflies) - Dr. David E. Bowles, Missouri State University, Dept. of Biology

Register HERE

Registration links can also be found on their website at www.mostreamteam.org.

Beginners Fly-Tying Class

Ozark Fly Fishers, through the subgroup Fly Tiers of the Long Table, will be offering a beginners fly tying course via Zoom. The classes will be held on Tuesday evening starting at 7:00 PM and have a limited enrollment. The date of the first class is yet to be determined. If interested in enrolling in the class contact Mike Swederska at 314-799-1998 or shur-way@sbcglobal.net.

If you have any questions about the class or tools required, contact Mike.

2021: Ozark Fly Fishers 50th Anniversary

Time flies, right? 2021 is the 50th Anniversary of Ozark Fly Fishers. The club was founded way back during the Nixon Administration in 1971. We are looking to our members for ideas on how to celebrate the occasion. If you have any thoughts, ideas, or requests on how to celebrate our Gold Anniversary, please send them to OzarkNewsletter@gmail.com

50th Anniversary Gear is available now! Check out the website and treat yourself to some OFF celebratory swag.

Website: <http://ozarkflyfishers.itemorder.com/sale>



Tie Flies with OFF on Zoom

The Fly Tiers of the Long Table have made the best of a bad situation. Mike and the guys have set up a weekly group tying Zoom call.

If you are looking for something to do while you're at home, and you don't tie flies yourself, but are just needing to be entertained, the FTOLT has been successful in holding Zoom meeting tying session. The sessions are free for anybody wanting to participate. All you need to do is download the Zoom app and let us know that you want to participate.



Email Mike Swederska at shur-way@sbcglobal.net or post that you'd like to join in the Ozark Fly Fishers Facebook page or GroupsIO page. You'll be provided with a link and can join in on the fun using your laptop, smartphone, or tablet.

The tying sessions are 5:30 on Wednesday nights.

Communications

Ozark Fly Fishers Member Newsletter

Do you enjoy writing as much as fishing? Have you recently read a good fly-fishing book or had a fun trip you wish to recap? The Ozark Fly Fishers Member Newsletter is always looking for new content from our members. Articles up to 1,000 words can be submitted to: OzarkNewsletter@gmail.com.

In addition to member content, the Member Newsletter acts as members' primary source of information about upcoming events and speakers, future outings, and other important dates and updates from the Board of Directors. It is delivered each month either through email or snail mail. Many members collaborate each month to put the newsletter together, and we hope you enjoy.

Social Media

A great way to stay up to date (and not have to wait for the monthly newsletter) is to follow Ozark Fly Fishers on our social media channels. In addition to getting updates from the club, it gives you the chance to interact with other members and to share your stories, photos, and videos. Be sure to like and subscribe to the various links below. **WE WANT YOUR PHOTOS AND VIDEOS.** Sharing your photos and videos is a great way to show off your latest huge catch and to promote the club. Send photos/videos to OzarkNewsletter@gmail.com. If you have any questions about social media or even want to create your own account to interact with OFF, please reach out to Jake Voss, who is happy to help.

Follow OFF on Twitter for discussions.



www.twitter.com/ozarkflyfishers
[@ozarkflyfishers](https://twitter.com/ozarkflyfishers)

Follow OFF on Instagram for photos.



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Like/Follow OFF on Facebook.



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[@ozarkflyfishers](https://www.facebook.com/ozarkflyfishers)

Subscribe to OFF on YouTube for videos



www.youtube.com/ozarkflyfishers

Ozark Fly Fishers Website

The Ozark Fly Fishers website will provide you with all the information you'll need about the club, its members, its events, and its sponsors. The website holds an archive of past monthly newsletters, flies of the month, and photos of past OFF Events. The OFF Website also hosts the Club Calendar, which provides the dates and times of all club events, as well as some events hosted by third parties.

Our website can be found at: <http://www.OzarkFlyFishers.org> or use your smartphone to scan the QR code to the right.



Groups.IO

Ozark Fly Fishers has now joined Groups IO. To join in the discussion, all you have to do is go to <https://groups.io/> or google search for "Groups IO".

Register on the site by putting in your email and creating a password. (Write it down, save it, and keep it simple. If you lose it or forget it nobody can find it or get it for you.) They will send you an email to your address where you can verify your account. That's all you have to do to become a member of Groups IO. Once you have registered, search for "Ozark Fly Fishers" and ask to join the group. It will send an invitation. It is that easy. We also have a subgroup in the Groups IO of Ozark Fly Fishers for the tiers in the club. Once you're a member of the Ozark Fly Fishers main group you can then join the Fly Tiers of the Long Table sub group. You **have** to be a member of the Ozark Fly Fishers **main** group to join the sub group. It's just a matter of asking to join as you did with the main group. Having problems, contact Mike Swederska at: Shur-way@sbcglobal.net



Ozark Fly Fishers Board of Directors

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Directors</u>	<u>Chairpersons</u>
<i>President:</i> Dan Rasch	<i>Communications:</i> Jake Voss	<i>Casting:</i> Brian Ellis
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	<i>Ways & Means:</i> Chris Friesen	<i>Group IO Moderator:</i> Mike Swederska

Stream Team 31

Coordinator / Current River	Scott Darrough
<i>Blue Springs Creek</i>	Glen Bish
<i>Mill Creek</i>	Bill Leslie

Reminders:

Monthly Member Meeting

Before COVID, Ozark Fly Fishers typically met at 7:00 PM on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Greensfelder Recreation Center in Queeny Park, Ballwin, MO (Unless noted differently. See OFF Calendar at www.ozarkflyfishers.org) These days, our meetings are held on Zoom.

Fly Tiers of the Long Table

The Fly Tiers of the Long Table new tying schedule is tying on the second and the fourth Wednesday of the month at the same location, Shur-Way Auto Body in Maplewood, starting at 5:30 pm. Early arriving tiers are welcome. All tiers of all skill are welcome to join in on the fun. There is always more going on at the tying event than just tying. We talk about everything fly fishing. Feel free to join!

OFF Student Membership

Ozark Fly Fishers is proud to announce our new Student Membership Program. Students will be able to join OFF for a discounted rate of only \$10 per year. Be sure to pass word along to any young anglers you believe would benefit from membership.

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

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Ozark Fly Fishers



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MARCH 1996

DREW SPANOGLE, EDITOR

GREAT LAKES STEEL- HEAD IS TIMELY MARCH PROGRAM

Early spring is the time to head north to get in on some fantastic lake run steelhead fishing in any state with a Great Lake washing it's shores. (I think we

can safely discount Illinois). Wisconsin and Michigan which are so close to us deserve special attention. George Roberts has caught more than his share and has been to many locations in both states will show us the ropes in our March 28th program. There will be a slide presentation on flies, presentation, rigs, equipment, various rivers, lodging and what gear to bring. Questions to follow. The meeting will be held at the American Legion Hall in Creve Coeur behind Bristol's Restaurant. 7:30 PM.

SPRING OUTING APRIL 19, 20, 21

My first spring outing was a long time ago. Too long. I had heard about some club function on the North Fork. Some of the long-time members were going early, using precious vacation days.

There were statements about camping, campfires, a canoe trip and some great fishing. While I couldn't get away early, and the only tent I had was one which would hold about 30 people, I stuffed my two little kids in the car after work on

THE FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS

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Friday and headed South. Try setting up one of those 10X15 canvas tents in the dark at midnight! The next day, the club had arranged for canoes and what a day we had. I don't even remember if I caught any fish, but probably not. I remember Bill Armon caught a couple of monsters on a .56%er. I remember Katherine Cornett admonishing me for not having the kids in life jackets. I recall Marlon Graham and Dave Haas dumping a canoe above McKee's bridge. I remember meeting some of the nicest people I had ever had the privilege of sharing a campfire with. Hmm..... there must be more to this club than going to a meeting once a month.

A couple of years later, I took my new bride on the club outing. Since this was our first trip out of St. Louis since the wedding, it must have been our honeymoon. Same damn tent, but this time Mary was in the canoe, not the kids who had decided camping was way down the list compared to skate boards.

I remember catching a beautiful fish right at the mouth of Rainbow Springs while Mary watched. I tried to act like this happened all the time but I think Mary knew that fish this large were not frequent with me.

We got back to Sunburst Campground mid afternoon. Things were already starting to warm up. A group

of members and their wives had gathered at the river in lawn chairs and cutoffs, having a few pre-cocktail hour cocktails. As I remember, we were rating the skill with which amateur canoeists negotiated a deadfall in the middle of some fast water. Others were rating the quality of flesh being displayed by some of the passengers.

By now, I knew many of these members, some older hard core types, some new ones, green as grass, with a spinning rod in their trunk in case this "fly stuff" didn't work out. George Roberts, falling in the river twice on the slippery bottom of the Northfork. Dick Ryan, with his man servant doing the cooking, cleaning and tying flies. Mel Trotter, shooting the moon to astonished passers by. Mary, using a hair dryer to get my waders dry. Chet Smith, risking hyper-ventilation inflating a float tube.....

I was fully reinforced by then. This club had some really interesting people in it. Some could even fish!!

Doug Jefferies, Jerry Clark, Jack Stevens, Lee Trapp, Jack Birkner... and many others all contributed to my pleasant recollections of the SPRING OUTING. Even Widmar used to show up!!! Didn't fish, of course.

The point of all this

reverie is: There is a lot more to Ozark than just meetings. These old guys are just dying to share their expertise with you new members. The evening cup of coffee laced with cognac tastes a bit better when you are among kindred spirits who are anxious to share their experience and knowledge.

Meet with Ozark Fly Fishers Friday, Saturday and Sunday, April 19, 20, 21 on the Current River. You will find that same atmosphere that made me feel so welcome when I was a newcomer to Ozark Fly Fishers.

Your program committee has reserved a block of rooms in the lodge and a few hosekeeping rooms at Montauk State Park. There will be a Social Gathering on Saturday night preceeding a buffet supper on Saturday at 8:00.

This is a members only function as OFF is footing part of the bill. Make your plans now and send in your reservation request. Cancellations by April 1 will receive a full refund. See form at end of newsletter.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

March 28, Steelhead w/

George Roberts

April 19, 20, 21
Spring Outing, Montauk

April 25, Spring
Creeks, with Jim
Vandyke DNR Geologist

May 23, Fly Fishing
Missouri, Chuck Tryon

CURRENT RIVER TROPHY AREA MAY IMPROVE:

**DAVE MAYERS
RECOMMENDS
ARTIFICIAL
LURES**

On March second there was an informational assembly held by the MDC to discuss the state of the Current River and proposed policy to improve it. The featured speaker was Dave Mayers, the Fisheries Management Biologist responsible for the Current River.

The problem with the Current River Trophy Area was there are too few trout attaining the 15" trophy size. A streamside survey with 2000 interviews found that the typical angler was not happy about the general state of the fishery,

specifically, about the lack of fish which attain any size. In the survey, slightly more than half of the interviewed anglers fished with bait. Real science (and native intelligence) indicates that fish caught and released by bait users died at significantly higher rates than those caught and released using artificial lures. If my memory serves me correctly, the ratios were 1 in 4 bait caught fish die as a consequence of being caught while 1 in 20 lure caught fish die as a consequence of being caught. In other words, a fish is 5 times more likely to die from bait fishing as opposed to lure fishing.

The typical stocked brown trout is typically caught 3 1/2 times per year. How many survive a fishing season? Obviously, not many. No wonder so few fish attain 15" length. This is not rocket science, folks.

This is elementary statistical analysis which makes one wonder why it took so long for such conclusions to be reached.

Mr. Mayers is suggesting an artificial lure zone from Montauk Park lower boundary to the bridge at Cedar Grove.

This stretch is stocked annually with 8,000 9' fish. The decline in mortality and consequent increase in life expectancy should result in an increase in fish size.

I should point out, from my interpretation, before this proposal is made a regulation, it must be approved to the MDC Regulations Committee.

THIS AIN'T NO SURE THANG. Interested parties should write Mr. James Fry, Chief, Division of Fisheries, MDC, POB 180 Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180

Bye the way, one thing that was mentioned at the meeting I was totally unaware of was the situation on the Current below Cedar Grove. It is stocked monthly with Rainbows. And live bait or no, there are some monster holdover fish below Cedar Grove and Aker's Ferry!!!

I want to thank Dave Mayers for his efforts to get that upper river situation back into a manageable situation. Drew

NEW MEMBERS

Mike and Patricia
Acquisto
23 Chamberwell Drive
St. Louis, MO 63131
965-8944

Jeffrey Christian
4591 Southridge Pines
St. Louis, MO 63128
845-0636

Robert DuPont
326 Bristol Rd
Webster Groves MO
63119
962-3826

Jim Harrison & Family
721 Fairington View
Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63129
894 2525

Jim Pohlman & Family
5023 Suson Hills
St. Louis, MO 63128
849-2687

Paul A. Schulz &
Family
210 Pine Lake Rd.
Collinsville, IL 62234
619-344-0940

Gene Taylor
4 Westwood Drive
Trenton NV 08628
609-883-2251

Joseph Wever
815 Jackson Ave.
University City, MO
63130
721-3715

Ed West & Family
706 Carman Meadows Dr.
Manchester, MO 63021
527-0795

Mike & Beverly Hoffman
13298 Fairdyal Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63131
822-3044

A BOULDER RUNS THROUGH IT OR HOW THE WEST WAS REDISCOVERED

By Jack Sadler

It finally dawned on me how the Hawley Mountain Guest Ranch people got wind of T Hargrove Fly Shop. Gary Clem. The woman on the phone had a voice that could charm a possum out of a persimmon tree. Cathy, she said her name was, wanted to know if any of our people would be

interested in fishing a two mile stretch of private water on the Boulder River in southwest Montana. Having spent a week on the Boulder the previous summer where the water was private and carefully watched, the two mile stretch idea got my attention. Those who were along last summer concurred. Two miles of private water with ample cutthroat, rainbow and an occasional brookie or brown would be acceptable indeed. So, As Bill Popovic would say "Book the Hunt."

Now gentle reader, the phone call to which I refer took place in early spring of this year. Our reservation was for eight anglers from Sept. 9 to Sept. 16. Many's the slip twix cup and lip as an ancient sage intoned and our plans were no exception. As many as ten fishermen indicated an interest in the trip but before a month had passed, two people begged off, then one other who was not on the original list wished to be included. What the hell, I stopped calling Cathy by mid August. On the day before departure, poor Gary Clem called from the hospital: Gall bladder surgery.

I explained all of this to you because you might be the booking agent or reservationist some-time in the future. Duck the job at all costs.

As the day of departure approached,

T. Hargrove's Fly Shop, where I spend much of my time, had frequent visits from those who had serious plans to make the trip. White Morrison had tied fifteen dozen proper flies and by the end of August had his duffle packed.

Our departure flight, booked well in advance and allowed for a leisurely drive from Salt Lake City to the Boulder river. (Who was the wag poet who said something about the best laid plans?)

Sweet Jean had volunteered to drive us to the airport. We met Warren at T. Hargrove's. After bidding Audrey adieu we headed for Lambert. Suddenly Warren discovered his tickets were in his jacked-- in Audrey's car! A 180 to the Couch residence-- no car, no Audrey. Departure was getting close. I told Warren I bought the tickets by Telephone and TWA should have a record of the purchase so we headed to the airport. Poor Warren, I had not seen him so upset since a waitress served him hard boiled eggs.

We made it to the counter and I went ahead. Warren walked down the agile as the pushed the plane out.

The flight to Salt Lake City was uneventful. We rented a minivan at the airport (wise choice) and headed for a motel in Salt Lake City. Next morning, it was up the interstate to West Yellowstone, Montana.

RESERVATION REQUEST

Montauk State Park Spring Fishing Party
April 19-20-21, 1996 (Friday-Saturday-Sunday)

Name _____ Phone: Day _____ Night _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Share-A-Room Plan: We enclose \$62.00 each for our room in Montauk Lodge for Friday and Saturday nights April 20 & 21 plus the Social Hour and Dinner. This room will be shared with _____

Housekeeping Accomodations: Enclosed is our check for \$ _____ for the accomodations we discussed by phone for Friday and Saturday nights April 20 & 21 plus the Social Hour and Dinner. These accomodations will be shared with _____

Elsewhere Plan: We enclose \$12.00 per person for the Saturday Night Social Hour and Dinner. We plan to stay elsewhere. Our party will include _____

(Guaranteed campsite (tent or trailer/pickup) reservations in the Park can be made by calling 1-800-334-6946).

Canoeing Saturday: A check for \$25.00 per canoe (a discounted rate) is enclosed. Reserve a canoe for us for Saturday April 20 to float from Baptist Camp to Cedar Grove. The canoe will be shared with _____

Note: The outfitter will pick you up at the Lodge, bus you to Baptist Camp, pick you up at Cedar Grove and return you to the Lodge in the evening. Paddles and life jackets/cushions are furnished. Lunch and beverages are your responsibility. The Lodge will make box lunches if ordered Friday night. A deposit will be paid for your canoe. Deposits are non-refundable for cancellations made after 10:00 AM Tuesday April 16.

For availability of housekeeping accomodations or other questions call Dick Jente at 961-1516. Confirmations for rooms will be mailed about April 10. Make Checks payable to OZARK FLY FISHERS. Mail to Dick Jente. 7 Daniel Road, St. Louis, MO 63124.

The park was not crowded and except where traffic was stopped to view the elk and bison, no delays.

Out of the park north to Livingston is a pleasant drive. A pasture crowded with elk got our attention... hundreds of them.

Grant Nelson was waiting for us in Big Timber with the cork out of the bottle and we enjoyed a sip before a sumptuous repast at the Grand Hotel. Their steamed mussels are to die for.

The bumpy drive up to Hawley Mountain Ranch was assuaged by the eager anticipation of our reaching our destination. Two miles of exclusive water loaded with ten to eighteen inch trout as opposed to last year's limited access guarded water sounded enticing. Just about the time I began to think we had driven past the ranch we saw the sign. In half a minute we saw the lodge tucked against a steep foothill. In ten minutes we were comfortably ensconced in the four lofts with a continuous balcony that provided a spectacular view of the river and Hawley Mountain. Each unit had a double bed and stacked bunks. Beneath was the lounge and dining room. An eight acre stocked trout pond offered easy fishing for those interested in bank fishing, but the bubbling Boulder had

my undivided attention.

continued next month

NAME BADGES AVAILABLE

Here's your chance! Order new/replacement name tags. We have recently acquired a new supply of name badges and are offering our membership the opportunity to replace lost badges or order additional badges for themselves or a family member. Cost is only \$2.50 each. Ordered badges will be mailed to your address. Mail your order and check to:

"Badges"
Ozark Fly Fishers
P O Box 19753
St. Louis, MO 63144

From the editor....

Carl Richards was a delight to have as our February speaker. It's been about 17 years since he has addressed Ozark. I don't know about those molded latex fly bodies, though. I don't think I want to catch a fish than bad.

A recent trip to the Eleven Point indicated that while there are some fine fish in the water, their numbers are still quite small and the future is not now. More TLC and clandestine stockings are needed to get the numbers up to a

respectable fish per mile ratio.

Rattlesnakes on the Eleven Point? According to local sources, the last couple of years has seen an explosion in the local population of these deadly serpents. Twenty four Timber rattlers were killed by traffic alone on Hwy 19! Now that spring has sprung, these guys will be out and about. Watch yourself around rock outcroppings, downed timber and just about everywhere else.

The fabled Hendrickson Hatch is on in the Meremac if you are fortunate enough to get there soon. Be there around 11:00-1:00. These big guys are best imitated with a red quill, #12, and if the conditions are right, the dry fly fishing can be spectacular. Act now before the spring floods!

New Board of Directors member Dick Smith has been appointed Program Chairman.

I am sure there are many good reasons for the death of the Missouri Trout Stamp. I don't care. I miss it. Drew

Fly of the Month

RED QUILL