

Ozark Fly Fishers

Member Newsletter

May 2021

President's Message

Welcome to May, and we say hello to the mayflies. Our fly fishing really heats up around this time, and the season is upon us!

I enjoyed Wayne Simpson's talk on wet flies, and the different uses and patterns going back to the early days in England. Maybe someday in the future, in a distant galaxy, there will be a presentation of the history of trout fishing in the Ozarks. Hopefully those will be kind words.



As I mentioned at the meeting, Hanna Yates from Channel 5 is still interested in doing a story on us, but Bob Plagers passing and other stories have grabbed her focus. I thought we were forgotten, but she sent a note that we are still on her to-do list.

It was good to hear Steve A plans to have our annual visit to Bennett Springs for the November opening of catch and release re-instated! If not earlier, then maybe that will begin our "return to normal." One can only hope.

I was told the Taneycomo trip was good, both in the quantity and quality of fish. I understand it was a little difficult to book a guide, so maybe an early phone call would help next time. Phil Lillley treats us right, too. I heard stopping at Bennett on the way home produced even more good fishing. Gotta believe these are glimpses of a better year and getting back to normal.

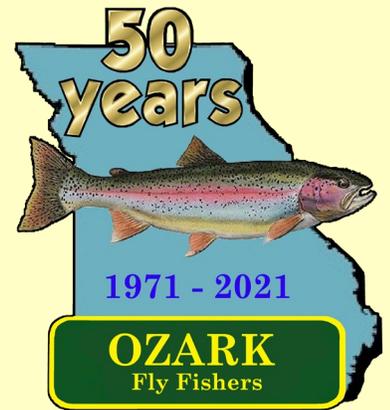
Hoping to get Governor Nixon to complete that one page description of stream waterway rights, and he was forwarded an earlier piece from a smallmouth group.

At Oakville Senior High School I did a fly fishing presentation, this time with casting instruction. Some showed promise and it was a good visit. Maybe a few will follow up on the business cards and brochures I passed out. I heard Mehlville High School may have a similar interest. Good to see young arms casting a fly line. Kinda wish the school year had a little more time!

So, it seems we are slowly getting back on the streams and look forward to meeting in person. Be well my friends.

Dan Rasch, President, Ozark Fly Fishers

Email: drasch27@hotmail.com



Upcoming Events

May

General Member Meeting

May 27, 2021 – 7:00 pm

Online via Zoom

Guest Speaker:

Mark Van Patten

(see p. 3 for more info)

June

General Member Meeting

June 24, 2021 – 7:00 pm

Online via Zoom

Guest Speaker:

TBD

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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Fly of the Month – May 2021

Super Simple Snowshoe Caddis

Here in Missouri, what we lack in mayflies we more than make up for in caddis. While I really enjoy our little BWOs and PMDs, they do not generate nearly the interest as our prolific caddis emergences draw – for both fish and fly fishermen. Few bugs draw more fish up to feed on the top chasing the emergers swimming to the surface, the fluttering and skittering adults, and the bouncing and diving egg-laying flies. In addition, caddis are kind of chunky, bushy, motley bugs. Not too big, not too small. Not too technical or difficult to tie. This fly can actually imitate all three phases of caddis “hatches”. It can be an emerger, an adult, and an egg-laying dun. This one shown is tied in black for Bennett Springs, but can be tied in any color.

Materials

-
- Hook: Standard Dry Fly hook (preferably barbless) #14-18
- Thread: 8/0 – 12/0 Veevus Black - or color of your fly
- Body: Hare’s Ear Dubbing Black – or your choice of color
- Ribbing – Fine Silver Wire
- Wing: Dyed Snowshoe Hare hair
- Head: Snowshoe Hair butts

Tying Steps

1. Secure hook in vise and start thread behind hook eye and cover hook shank with thread.
2. Tie in a length of fine silver wire.
3. Dub a tapered body of hare’s ear dubbing – color of your choice to two eye lengths from the eye.
4. Trim out a section of snowshoe hare hair. Pull out any really long guard hairs, and any soft underfur.
5. Tie in showshoe hare hair as a wing on top of hook shank extending to the end of the hook shank.
6. Trim any excess material neatly leaving the butts as a head and secure with a few more thread wraps.



This is kind of a dumbed-down do-it-all caddis pattern. Showshoe hare floats very well so it can be fished as a dry with minimum fuss or dressing. It can also be pulled under the surface and swung in the current as an emerger/egg/laying diving caddis. Try it in natural hare’s ear, olive, or tan in a couple of different sizes. You can also add a tuft of white snowshoe hair in top to increase visibility.

Mike Ott, Fly-Tying Chairperson, Ozark Fly Fishers

Next Meeting: May 27, 2021 – 7:00 PM

Guest Speaker: Mark Van Patten

On Thursday, May 27, OFF will have its next Member Meeting. Join us as we continue to celebrate our 50th Year with this online meeting, with Guest Speaker Mark Van Patten.

Mark has over 50 years of fly fishing experience with 30 years of teaching the sport and fly tying. He is a freelance writer on various outdoor related subjects, including his new book “Moonshine and Watermelons.” In addition, he is the host and writer of a fly tying show on PBS with 200 episodes, and has numerous awards and recognition for his efforts. His career as a fisheries biologist has supplemented his work with Stream Team 31, which the club knows from our water quality monitoring trips to Montauk in July. He has a new position as a Ranger on the Current River and is also on the board of the Ozark Rivers Foundation.

Come Zoom with Ozark Fly Fishers. OFF will offer online, visual programming for members. The programs will be available to all members that have a computer or smartphone.

On the morning of the meeting, each OFF member will be emailed a link and password for the evening program. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM, but members will be able to join the Zoom meeting room as early as 6:45 PM.

Reminder: Using Zoom

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.)

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.

Outings Report – May 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. For outings questions, please contact:

Richard Bable, Outings Chairperson, Ozark Fly Fishers

Phone: 314-650-2859 Email: rbable@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: 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

Treasure's Report – May 2021

In my report, at the March 25th club meeting held on ZOOM, I reported that our club's income stream has basically dried up due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Our biggest fundraiser, the annual banquet and auction was cancelled, we do not have our monthly raffles at the meetings, we waived the membership dues for a year since we were not allowed to gather in numbers etc. Unfortunately, our fixed expenses remain just that, fixed. Our two club insurance policies, post office box, website expenses, speaker fees, ZOOM subscription, etc., are just a few expenses that come to mind. In 2020, the club ran a deficit of \$4,899.00, and we are projecting a deficit of \$5,744.00 for 2021.

Ozark Fly Fishers is a tax-exempt organization, and any donations can be itemized on your taxes as you do with other organizations you might donate to. At last month's meeting I reached out to those members in attendance to consider donating to the club to help offset some of the fixed expenses and lessen the deficits projected. We are tax-exempt and you can use this to your advantage when doing your taxes.

Since that meeting, the club has already received donations from several club members totaling \$550.00 whom I would like to thank for their consideration. If any others would like to contribute, there is still plenty of time to support OFF. Any donations to help offset these deficits are greatly appreciated. If you are interested in supporting your club in this manner, you can make your donation out to OZARK FLY FISHERS, and in the memo line, just note, donation. You can mail your donation to either our club Post Office Box or directly to my house

:

Ozark Fly Fishers
PO Box 31473
Saint Louis, Mo. 63131-9998

Steve Lekich
1035 Camargo Drive
Ballwin, Missouri 63011

Thank you for your support.

Steve Lekich, Treasurer, Ozark Fly Fishers

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.

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.

Pic of the Month

This 23" beauty was caught by George Stumpf at Busch Wildlife on the morning of December 21. Caught on a Megaworm on a 4wt Moonshine rod. Caught and released safely. Nice looking fish, George!

If you would like your latest catch to be featured in the OFF Newsletter, email your pics or videos to OzarkNewsletter@gmail.com



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

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

<i>Coordinator / Current River</i>	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 newtying 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

Affiliate Club of Fly Fishers International.



Please Support Our Corporate Sponsors

The logo for Shur-Way, featuring the name "Shur-Way" in a stylized font with "Since 1971" above it and "AUTO BODY" in a banner below. The phone number "314-645-5540" is also present.

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The logo for T. Hargrove Fly Fishing Inc., featuring a silhouette of a person fishing with a large tree and a sun in the background.

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A small portrait photo of Brad Kohlbrecher.

Brad Kohlbrecher

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Ozark Fly Fishers
PO Box 31473
Saint Louis, MO 63131-0473

BRANSON FLY FISHING EXPO 2021

Sponsored by the Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association

JULY 29-31, 2021

Thursday July 29 th	Noon – 5 pm.
Friday July 30 th	9 am. – 5 pm.
Saturday July 31 st	9 am. – 4 pm.



Lions Community Building

1015 E State Highway 76, Branson, MO 65915

Food and Drinks served by the Branson/Hollister Lions Club



Admission - Free



Fly Casting Demos - Fly Tying Demos - Classes

Raffles, Silent, and Live Auctions - Many Local Exhibitors



INFORMATION CALL: Ron Leggins, Expo Director (912) 980-0766 ronleggins@gmail.com

Howard Hawkins, Expo Treasure, (417) 234-6806 pdgpcc@yahoo.com

See our Website: MTFA-Springfield.org or [MTFA Branson Chapter](#) Facebook page

