

Ozark Fly Fishers

Member Newsletter

October 2021

President's Message

By now, your individual plans to fish Bennett in November should be complete, and I hope to hear good results. Really hoping it will be our normal (remember normal?) outing next year. I think we are fortunate to have good relations with Sand Springs Resort. I wish my Crystal Ball came with a rebate.

We continue to shore up the Membership position, keeping our new Director, Alex Scott busy. If anyone has an issue requiring attention, please contact him.

The Two Rivers Fishing Fair up at Marquette was at first quite wet, but Jim Gera and I tied safety pin flies for 67 kids once the rain gave us a break. Always good to interact with the youngsters!

I worked with two young men at the Fall Youth Event down at Westover on Saturday Oct 10. They both had success and especially were casting much better at the end of the day. It was good to see a few members at the event.

Be well my friends.

Dan Rasch, President, Ozark Fly Fishers

Email: drasch27@hotmail.com



It is time to Renew Your OFF Membership.

See Page 4 for the application. Mail it in ASAP in order to take advantage of the early-bird discount. If you have any questions about the renewal process, please reach out to Membership Director, Alex Scott.

We appreciate your patience as we transition to our new Membership Director.

Alex Scott, OFF Membership Director

Email: ascottward1@gmail.com

Phone: (314) 724-1345



Upcoming Events

October

General Member Meeting

Oct 28, 2021 – 7:00 PM

Guest Speaker:

Nick Voss of Driftless Anglers

See p. 2 for info.

November

Fly Fishers International

Virtual EXPO 2021

November 5-7, 2021

See p. 2 for info.

CANCELLED:

Catch & Release Outing

Nov. 12 – Nov. 14

Bennett Spring State Park


See p. 2 for info.

Private bookings available.


Reminder

Get vaccinated. We can't go back to normal until you (Yes, you) get your shot.

 www.ozarkflyfishers.org

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

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Next Meeting:

October 28, 2021, 7:00 PM

On Thursday, October 28, OFF will have its next Member Meeting, with guest speaker, Nick Voss of Driftless Anglers. Join us as we continue to celebrate our 50th Year with this online meeting, with you, the Ozark Fly Fishers!



Cancelled:

2021 Catch and Release Outing

The club outing for the opening of winter catch and release has been cancelled due to conditions of the pandemic. We know members look forward to this yearly event, but conditions dictate we pass on this year. If you are interested on going for the weekend, Sand Springs still has units available, but you need to make arrangements on your own. There will be no club activities that weekend. We all hope this is the end of cancelling outings due to Covid.

Winter Catch and Release season for the four trout parks in MO. begins Friday, Nov 12 at 8:00am. Fishing is allowed Friday through Monday, 8 am to 4:00 pm. The season will close Feb. 13, 2022 at 4:00 pm. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Antonic.

Steve Antonic, OFF Past President

Phone: 314-401-8874

Email: sjantonic@charter.net

FFI Virtual Expo News

Save the Date: Fly Fishers International will be having a Virtual EXPO 2021 this year on November 5-7. If you would like to participate as a tier, speaker, or Zoom person, contact blueken@luekenlay.com

FFI has opened registration for the inaugural FFI Virtual Expo 2021. For only \$25.00 you can access over 100 FREE classes and events plus, for a small fee there is an array of about 50 workshops. This event supports FFI conservation efforts, the new youth programming and its Learning Center educational endeavors.

Go to www.flyfishersinternational.org to check out the schedule and to register.

Fishing Report

On Friday, September 17, Ed Olander, Randy Hilger and Jim Gera drift boated the Eleven Point River out of Alton, MO with guides, Brian Sloss and Jason. The river was majestic beautiful and almost free of kayakers. The full-day float netted over 100 trout, small mouth bass and a few other native varieties each day. The bourbon and cigars were outstanding.



New Book Club

Fly Fishing and Leadership: Lessons from the Stream

Wednesdays, January 26, February 9,
February 23, March 9, 2022

6:00 – 7:30 pm CST

Virtual using Zoom

Free Registration Limited Enrollment

What does fly fishing and its treasured stories teach us about leadership? This unique, new book club will address lessons from the stream that help to inspire others, shape organizations, and guide self-understanding.

Using a blend of literature from fly fishing, leadership, and psychology, we will explore how these lessons build compassion and character, sharpen resilience and creativity, and refine skills in problem solving and communication. At the core of the book club, we will discuss how fly fishing illuminates the place where authentic leadership begins—within.

Primary readings include *A River Runs Through It*, by Norman Maclean, and *Fly Fishing for Leadership*, by John Childress and Christian Bacasa. Additional short readings from fly fishing, leadership, and psychology.

For more information on *Fly Fishing and Leadership: Lessons from the Stream*, visit:
<https://homewatersguiding.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Fly-Fishing-and-Leadership-Flyer.pdf>

This is a virtual program using Zoom. Once registered, you will receive Zoom instructions and additional information about the readings.

Registrations and Inquiries:

Email: steveehrlich76@gmail.com lisa.schlueter@westoverfarms.com

Call: Steve (314) 827-7204 Lisa (573) 743-6284.

Facilitators:

Steve Ehrlich, lifelong educator and angler, 35 years in continuing adult education and professional development. Retired teacher and dean, Washington University in St. Louis.

Steve Lawler, organizational psychologist, founding director of the Walker Leadership Institute at Eden Seminary, St. Louis. Clients include the Four Seasons, Ryobi, and Ascension Health.

Sponsored by Westover Farms.



**FLY FISHING AND LEADERSHIP:
LESSONS FROM THE STREAM**
A Unique Book Club for Leaders and Fly Fishers

Wednesdays, Jan 26, Feb 9, Feb 23,
March 9, 2022 6:00 – 7:30 pm CST via Zoom

Free Registration Limited Enrollment

TRANSFORM YOUR LEADERSHIP

- Sharpen your leadership skills and style through the lens of fly fishing and its treasured literature.
- Learn and apply lessons from the stream and the natural world to help inspire others, guide organizations, and understand yourself.
- Explore and apply principles from fly fishing, leadership, and psychology to illuminate the place where authentic leadership begins—within.
- Improve skills in problem solving, communication, curiosity, resilience, conflict management, agility, creativity, and mindfulness.
- Collaborate with like-minded professionals and anglers about leadership and organizational challenges.

YOUR GUIDES

 Steve Ehrlich, lifelong educator and angler, 35 years in continuing education and professional development. Retired teacher and dean, Washington University in St. Louis.

 Steve Lawler, organizational psychologist, founding director of the Walker Leadership Institute at Eden Seminary, St. Louis. Clients include Four Seasons Hotels, Ryobi, and Ascension Health.

BOOKS

 *A River Runs Through It*

 *Fly Fishing for Leadership*

REGISTRATION AND INQUIRIES

steveehrlich76@gmail.com (314) 827-7204
lisa.schlueter@westoverfarms.com (573) 743-6284

No registration fee, limited enrollment. Virtual program using Zoom.

Sponsored by Westover Farms, Missouri's Premier Fly Fishing Destination

Membership Renewal Time

It is time once again to renew your OFF Membership. Please complete the form below and mail it in with your payment ASAP. Thanks!

Ozark Fly Fishers, Inc. Membership Application

Name _____ Date _____

Street Address _____ Spouse _____

City/State _____ Zip Code +4 _____

Membership (Please circle one)

Renewal New Member

(A membership renewal would include anyone who has been a member in the past 5 years. Contact Alex Scott, Membership Director, if you are renewing, but not a member last year.)

Contact: Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Cell Phone _____ E-mail address _____

Member Newsletters are delivered electronically through email and available on the OFF Website.

Other Club Memberships (Check all that apply)

Conservation Federation of MO ___ Fly Fishers International ___ Smallmouth Alliance ___ TU ___
(F.F.I. members who are Illinois residents should request membership in the Southern Council on their F.F.I. membership application or by sending an email to membership@flyfishersinternational.org.)

Dues (Check only ONE item below)

**Individual - \$30 _____ Student - \$10 _____ **Family - \$40 _____ Corporate - \$250 _____

** There is a \$5.00 discount if renewal is made prior to January 25, 2021, making an Individual membership \$25.00 and a Family membership \$35.00. Also, personal information may not appear in the Membership Directory if renewal is made after January 25, 2021. Membership paid in October or later is automatically renewed through the year 2021.

Fly Fishers International Recognition (Check all that apply.)

Certified Casting Instructor ___ Master Certified Casting Instructor ___ (Highest level will be noted in directory.)
Bronze Fly Tying Award ___ Silver Fly Tying Award ___ Gold Fly Tying Award ___ (Highest level will be noted in directory.)

Mail this form and a check payable to Ozark Fly Fishers, Inc. Please do not staple the check to this form.

Alex Scott
Membership Director, Ozark Fly Fishers
PO Box 1422
Maryland Heights, MO 63043

Note: Some information on this application will be included in the published Membership Directory

For additional information or questions contact Alex Scott, Membership Director at: Ascottward1@gmail.com. or 314-724-1345

Agreement for Membership/Waiver of Liability

In consideration of participating in Ozark Fly Fishers, Inc. activities and/or events. I hereby indemnify and hold harmless and release Ozark Fly Fishers, Inc.: its officers, Board of Directors, Members and Agents from any and all pilfer, and any injuries suffered by myself arising from or connected with club activities or events. I understand the inherent risk in participating in activities of the Ozark Fly Fishers, Inc. and assume all risk for any injury received and agree to hold the organization free and harmless from any cost, expenses and attorney's fee incurred in connection with any action claim or demand thereon.

Signature _____ Date _____

Fly of the Month – October 2021

Itty Meaty Thing

Fall and winter bring some of the best opportunities for big trout – its streamer time. But you don't have to invest in an 8-weight power-stick and 500-grain sinking line to throw mega-articulated chicken-sized flies to be successful. Leeches work and are much more user-friendly.

This one works especially well if you are getting into the tight-line nymphing systems. It offers a great jigging action, a lot of movement, and a great silhouette. I found the Itty Meaty Thing at a small fly shop while the creator and tyer was delivering a load for late season fishing.

Tying Materials

- Hook: Gamakatsu Octopus #8-12
- Bead: Black Tungsten of appropriate size
- Weight: .020 Lead wire
- Thread: 8/0 Black
- Tail: Black Rabbit Zonker Strip (could use Squirrel strip for smaller sizes)
- Body: UV Black Simi-Seal dubbing and Dyed Black Pheasant Rump
- Collar: Black-Dyed Pheasant Rump

Tying Steps

1. Slide bead onto hook and secure in vise. Back-load the bead with 5 or 6 wraps of lead wire shoved up tight to the bead.
2. Start thread just behind the lead wraps. Secure lead wraps with thread up to the bead and then wrap back to a point adjacent to the hook barb – not the hook bend. This is a short shank hook with a wide gap so the geometry is different.
3. Tie in a section of rabbit zonker strip about twice the hook shank length.
4. Form a dubbing loop then wrap thread to the bead.
5. Fill the loop with a loose amount of UV Black Simi-Seal and 1 Black-Dyed Pheasant Rump feather stripped of fluff and laid in tip-up along the center stem. Spin up your dubbing loop while brushing the fibers out. Make sure you don't up too much material or it will be too bulky.
6. Wrap the body while brushing the material to the rear all the way to the bead and secure. Trim excess.
7. Tie in another pheasant rump feather by the tip and make 1 wrap to form a collar.
8. Whip-finish thread and trim excess.



They also tie and sell this fly in gray, olive, and black/olive. If you don't have dyed pheasant, try using natural colors – it gives the fly a mottled effect that seems to work just as well. I fish this on a tight line jigging it through likely runs or up against sharp banks or logs.

I have also fished it under an indicator with success. I have not really had a lot of success swinging it, though, but it looks great in the water fished that way. Early fall or late spring, I use the larger sizes, while the smaller sizes work best in winter.

Mike Ott, Fly Tying Chairman, 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.

Looking for Vaccine Info?

The sooner we're all vaxxed, the sooner the Club can go back to normal.

For information and to book a vaccine appointment, visit:

<https://covidvaccine.mo.gov/>



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.



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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>Secretary:</i> Richard Brasington	<i>Membership:</i> Alexander Scott	<i>Video Library:</i> Ed Heist
<i>Past President:</i> Steve Antonic	<i>Outings:</i> Richard Bable	<i>Webmaster:</i> Jake Voss
	<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

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4025 South Old Highway 94 • Unit T
St. Charles, Missouri, 63304

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