

# Across the Stream

A Publication of the Heart of America Fly Fishers

www.hoaff.org

May 2012

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE MAY 2012

Greetings!

With the recent ban by Missouri Trout Parks on felt-soled wading boots – effective March 1st -- did some of you grumble like I did about having to go buy a new pair? Well, it may be a little known fact that I'm a penny-pincher (or maybe many of you have already picked up on that!) but here's a quick tip about how you can save money by fixing your current boots.

The boots I have are not brand new but certainly weren't ready to be placed in the trash, despite the Didymo I experienced during our last club trip. So I was searching for a way to save my boots by finding a place that would remove the felt and replace it with rubber soles. I checked with shoe repair shops – no luck – and

found a place out in Portland, OR, but I wasn't eager to pay to ship them there and back. Then a fishing buddy told me to go to the Missouri Department of Conservation's website MDConline where our good friend Mark Van Patten shows you a method to do it at a low cost.

In the center of the home page where you see a picture of Didymo, click on "Video" and it will take you to a short (7 minute) video of Mark demonstrating two optional ways to treat your boots. I've tried the first options and it appears to have worked, but I welcome the chance to hear from the rest of you who also have given this tip a try. Maybe we can compare notes at our next club meeting.

See you on May 28th!

–Peet Crissey

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING OUTINGS/EVENTS

### • PRE-MEETING ACTIVITY FOR MONDAY, MAY 21ST

The Church will be using the Fellowship/Dining room during the Meeting on Monday night, the 21st to set up a rummage sale. Rather than a featured fly tyer, John Bell and Cliff Cain will be going over various "fishing" or "presentation" casts for you outside beginning at 6:30 pm. Bring your own rod or club rods will be available.

## HOAFF MEETINGS

**May 21, 2012** – Club Meeting  
John Bell, Cliff Cain & Bill Brant –  
Michigan Steelhead

**June 18, 2012** – Club Meeting  
Terry & Roxanne Wilson – Summer fly  
fishing for warm water species

**July 16, 2012** – Club Meeting  
Casting Games – Mark Borserine



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• HOAFF ONE FLY CHANGED TO JUNE 23 AT LAKE OF THE FOREST

• MAY 19 – HARTELL IS NOW A “DAY OF FISHING”

Saturday, May 19th at Hartell CA has been changed to simply a “Day of Fishing” meaning no lunch and no contest. HOAFF members can gather and fish together for as long as they want but there will be no lunch or awards. The One Fly will be changed to the Lake of the Forest, near Bonner Springs on Saturday June 23rd with Lunch and Awards.

The fishing is great at Hartell, so you’re still encouraged to come!

There are actually four separate lakes to fish at Hartell, each managed for either trophy bluegill or largemouth bass. By May the duckweed may get to one or two of them but the fish love that stuff.

### Your choices are:

Redear Lake 1.7 acres

Quarry Lake 3.4 acres

Picnic Lake 5.1 acres

Lunker Lake 3.2 acres

### Directions:

- Hwy 169 north through Smithville, Tremble and Grayson
- Right (east) on Hwy 116 for 7 miles to Plattsburg
- On the east side of Plattsburg turn left (north) on Hwy 33
- Turn right (east) on 280th Street
- Watch for the Hartell Conservation Area sign on your left.

If you are coming from the south side of Kansas City

- Stay on I35
- Exit I35 at Hwy 116. Turn left (west)
- Travel through Lathrop towards Plattsburg
- Turn right (north) on Hwy 33
- Turn right (east) on 280th Street
- Watch for the Hartell Conservation Area sign on your left.

# QUESTIONS ANSWERED FOR MEMBERS

BY MIKE SIEPKER OF THE MDC

Glad to hear the group enjoyed the presentation. It is always hard to judge how long and how technical to make a presentation like that. Sounds like it was just about right! I always enjoy sharing with anglers the work MDC does to make Missouri a great place to fish!

There were a couple questions that members asked that I didn't have great answers for, so I gathered a bit more info and would like to pass that along to you so you can update the membership. If you recall, one question was related to the parasitic copepods, and if anglers should be concerned about transporting them between trout waters thus infecting new streams. I contacted Wes Swee at Maramec Spring Hatchery for additional info.

## ***Wes provided the following:***

Yes they should be concerned if they are stream hopping on a fishing trip. The waders and equipment would still have to be wet of course to keep the copepodids alive by the time they reached the next fishing area. For this reason we make sure our equipment has been dry for several days before leaving the area again. A good thorough rinse with tap or well water and allowing them to dry is usually enough to ensure all hitchhikers are removed. The free swimming stage is only alive for about 48 hours so if they don't find a host in that period they die. If a person really wants to be cautious a 3% salt solution sprayed on equipment and allowed to dry would be even more effective.

***The second question was related to brown trout reproduction in Missouri streams, and why brown trout do not successfully spawn in the wild. I consulted Spence Turner, and he provided the following:***

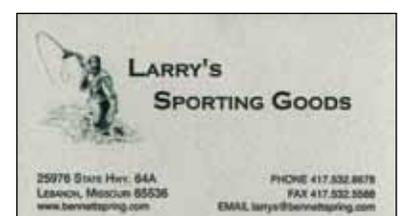
The first piece of evidence I found was published in the 1930s. A hatchery researcher documented brown trout egg mortality correlated with water temperature. The bottom-line, in hatcheries brown trout egg mortality was 100 percent as water temperatures warmed past 53 degrees. In water temperatures less than 50 degrees, egg survival approached 100 percent...the colder the water the better egg survival.

MDC hatcheries had problems hatching and producing brown trout for stocking. They were hatching the eggs in spring branch water temperatures...58 to 59 degree water at Montauk Hatchery. Survival was poor to say the least and some years nonexistent. This all started me thinking. I installed a series of Vibert boxes in the late 1970s filled with brown trout eggs in the Current River, beginning near Baptist Camp, then downstream at Parker Hollow, Cedar Grove, and a series upstream in Big Creek, a warm water tributary of the Current River, then began pulling individual boxes and checking egg development daily. Most eggs in the Baptist Camp set began dying first, with eggs in the downstream sets dying later during the first ten days. A few eggs in the warmwater tributary survived to eye-up. All eggs in the Current River died before eye-up.

Water and air temperatures were also recorded with min/max thermometers. Water temperatures in the Current River, even on the coldest days, went above 50 degrees, daily with most exceeding 57 or 58 degrees. The coldest water temperatures as expected were recorded on the coldest



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**Lucy Oberle & Rick Kirchberg**



days and downstream. From this I concluded that the problem was warm water temperatures...springs flow at 59 degrees. The eggs seemed to run out of gas by day 12 or 13 and died...possibly developed too rapidly, using up all energy stored in the egg.

## KANSAS WILDSCAPE FOUNDATION

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Thanks to the HOAFF organization for inviting me to attend your meeting on April 16 and share with you a little information about Kansas Wildscape Foundation. I enjoyed the chance to meet all of you who were there. As a fly fisherman myself, it was easy for me to feel welcomed by the group.

As a quick follow up to what I shared with you, here are a few key things about Wildscape that HOAFF members might find interesting:

- We are a nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving and perpetuating the land, the wild species, and the rich beauty of Kansas for the use and enjoyment of all. In other words, we're all about getting people outdoors and creating the opportunities to do so.

- Through our Cabins Project, Wildscape has placed over 73 cabins in state parks across Kansas to-date, and we're committed to funding a total of 150 cabins. These cabins create a unique opportunity for friends and families to get outdoors with all of the luxuries of home (heating/air conditioning, refrigerator, microwave, stove, etc.). The Cabins Project is a public/private partnership with both the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism (KDWPT) and with the Kansas Department of Corrections (inmates have built most of the cabins completed so far). To reserve a cabin, visit <http://www.kdwpt.state.ks.us/State-Parks/Reservations>.

- The WildLifer Challenge encourages parents and children of all ages to become more involved in the outdoors through the use of an interactive, do-it-yourself, web-based program that encourages children to accomplish at least 15 outdoor "WildLifer" challenges. Once a participant completes 15 challenges, they achieve official "Kansas WildLifer" status and will receive the WildLifer pack of outdoor items and a WildLifer t-shirt. Waaaay cool! To learn more about WildLife, visit [www.kansaswildlifer.com](http://www.kansaswildlifer.com).

- Our Outdoor Kansas for Kids "O.K. Kids" Program is held at more than 50 locations across the state every year. Participants (more than 13,000 Kansas youth and their parents/grandparents participated last year) get to experience the outdoor beauty of Kansas while learning a little about its natural resources and wildlife through games and activities.

If you are interested in learning more about the Kansas Wildscape Foundation or any of our programs, I invite you to call me personally at 316-841-8877, email me at [charlieblack@sunflower.com](mailto:charlieblack@sunflower.com) or visit our website, [www.kansaswildscape.org](http://www.kansaswildscape.org).

-Charlie Black  
Executive Director

# 2012 TANEYCOMO SPRING OUTING

BY RON CARRUTHERS

Who said lightning doesn't strike twice? In the case of high water in the spring at Taneycomo it sure does. I swore off it last year but the fall Taneycomo fishing was so good and my memory so short I immediately signed up for the spring trip to Taneycomo. My fishing fever was high and my fingers were all crossed but once again spring rains raised the levels of Beaver Lake and Table Rock Lake to the point that the Corp of Engineers demanded the gates to be open.

So the attending five HOAFF members and two guests were greeted with a torrent of water over the April weekend. It hurts to admit this but Peet, Don and myself went fishless Friday afternoon plus a full day on Saturday. Wading was difficult and keeping your fly on the bottom long enough though a drift was almost hopeless. Even a 1/2 day boat rental proved to be nothing more than a nice boat ride.

Things looked up for Sunday morning though. Wayne London and his guest, Ron Juhnke, had some luck on Saturday morning using soft hackles just down from the dam. That was encouraging as a fall back plan because Peet and I had a 1/2 day guide trip scheduled with Anglers and Archery Outfitters for Sunday morning. Maybe just maybe if we paid close attention we would learn how to catch fish in high water. Well to shorten the story, the weather forecast even spooked the guide this time. His cell phone confirmed there was no reason



to put a boat on the water with the wall of storms coming rapidly from the west right across southern Missouri.

OK then, reschedule that trip for later this year and bring out the fall back plan. By that time we found Wayne and Ron into fish just down from the hatchery outlet. With just one generator running a nice pod of rainbows was actively feeding just beyond the drop-off. Weighted and unweighted soft hackles proved to be the flies of choice. Several colors and sizes worked but Peet ended up with a ragged fly from deep in his fly box that no respectable trout would ever consider except of course the ones directly in front of us. Side comments, insults and questions about his family genealogy didn't seem to affect his ability to catch fish.

It turns out several of our fishing companions Sunday morning belonged to the FFF club from Dallas, Texas. A group of them had rented a house in Branson and were looking forward to fishing Taneycomo as well as the White River later in the week. They looked forward to their Missouri/Arkansas trip every year. After just a brief conversation walking back to our cars it was obvious they have a very active club in Dallas and it made me realize what a valuable fishing resource we have just a little closer to home.

So Sunday morning saved the trip. None of our group left Taneycomo on the skunked list. The clouds did look ominous as we left the river at noon but



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the bad weather had held off long enough. It ends up we could have gotten that guide trip in after all, were Peet and I disappointed....  
 Nope.

-Ron



# STEVE HEGSTROM PLACES IN BAXTER BULLETIN FLY TYING CONTEST

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ANNOUNCEMENT BY JOHN BERRY FOR THE BAXTER BULLETIN

Winners were announced of the Baxter Bulletin Fly Tying Contest at the Trout Nature Center Hall of Fame Banquet at Arkansas State University in Mountain Home, Arkansas. The contest attracted dozens of entries from Arkansas, Missouri, Tennessee, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and Wisconsin. Steve won the Dry Fly Category and received a plaque and Fly Tying Materials Collection donated by Wapsi. John Berry, who organized the contest and is a regular contributor to The HOAFF Newsletter stated the following:

“Steve Hegstrom, a talented fly tyer from Kansas won the Dry Fly Category with his ‘Hegstrom’s Black Caddis’. This is a realistic dry that is a great pattern for our area (the White River near Mountain Home, Arkansas).”

Congratulations Steve! Way to go!

Here is a picture and recipe for Steve’s 1st place Dry Fly.

## ***Hegstrom’s Black Caddis***

### ***Hook***

Tiemco 100 or 100BL, sizes 12-18

### ***Thread***

Black 6/0

### ***Antennae***

Paul Willock’s Realistic Antennae Black\*

### ***Eyes***

Mono Eyes Ex-small, Black

### ***Body***

Black Superfine Dubbing

### ***Wings***

Hemingways Caddis Wings Black (Or sometimes I make my own wings using Caddis Wing Cutters)

### ***Hackle***

Black



\*If you wish you can curl the antennae with the edge of your fly tying scissors.

## UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

**May 19, 2012** – Day of Fishing Hartell Conservation Area

**May 21, 2012** – Club Meeting John Bell, Cliff Cain & Bill Brant – Michigan Steelhead

**June 9, 2012** – Day of Fishing Olathe Lake

**June 18, 2012** – Club Meeting Terry & Roxanne Wilson – Summer fly fishing for warm water species

**June 23, 2012** – One Fly Contest, Lake of the Forest

**July 16, 2012** – Club Meeting Casting Games – Mark Borsierine

