



Across the Stream

A Publication of the Heart of America Fly Fishers

www.hoaff.org

June 2012

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE JUNE 2012

Greetings!
Who do you know that we should know?

Let me explain what I mean by sharing a quick story with you that will hopefully get you thinking.

I was out working in the yard recently when I saw a new neighbor who was backing out his boat. When I went over to introduce myself, we started talking about fishing. I quickly learned that he enjoys fly fishing but – unlike me – he rarely gets to go (he is a father with very young children who also travels for business). When I told him about our club, he was enthused. Even though he can't often get away for a weekend of fly fishing, he is intrigued about coming to our meetings whenever possible.

My point to this story is that we have a great club with terrific members and

if we reach out to the people around us we may find someone else that loves the sport as much as we do. And who knows? They might just be a great addition to our membership! In fact...going back to my story...that new neighbor pointed out another new neighbor down the street who also loves fly fishing but is new to the area and doesn't know where to go. So I've now also told him about our club and invited him to a meeting.

The bottom line: We all know a lot of people who may be a great addition to our club. We just need to reach out and invite them to an upcoming meeting. So I am challenging each of you to bring at least one new potential member to a club meeting in the next few months.

Here's to a growing membership...

–Peet Crissey

Featured Fly Tyer for June 18

Will be HOAFF's own, award-winning, Steve Hegstrom. Steve will be tying beginning at 6:30 PM.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING OUTINGS/EVENTS

- HOAFF HOSTS TERRY AND ROXANNE WILSON, MONDAY EVENING THE 18TH OF JUNE

This is a MUST meeting – Terry and Roxanne Wilson are so well known for their expertise, writing and fly patterns for Warmwater Fly Fishing that you will not want to miss their presentation!

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HOAFF MEETINGS

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

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

August 20, 2012 – Club Meeting
Jeff Williams, AGFC, Arkansas Trout Program



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Terry and Roxanne Wilson's articles about fly fishing for warmwater species have appeared in numerous national magazines in the past twenty-five years. They are regular contributors to Midwest Fly Fishing, the Federation of Fly Fishers' magazine, The Flyfisher, and staff writers for the St. Louis-based Outdoor Guide Magazine. Their first book, Bluegill Fly Fishing & Flies was published in 1999 and their second book, Largemouth Bass Fly Fishing: Beyond the Basics, appeared in fly shops and bookstores in 2001.

Their latest book, Smallmouth Bass Fly Fishing: A Practical Guide, was released in May of 2007. Terry's original flies for bluegills, largemouth bass, and smallmouth bass have been featured in Fly Fishing and Tying Journal and Fly Fish America and were included in the Federation of Flyfishers Fly Pattern Encyclopedia and Innovative Flies and Techniques. Roxanne's photos appear in their magazine articles, books, and slide shows.

They are active life members of the Federation of Fly Fishers, members of the Missouri Smallmouth Alliance. In addition, they are members of Whiting's Pro Team, Pacific Fly Group's Fly Tyers, and their original patterns are distributed by Orvis.

- ONE FLY OUTING AT LAKE OF THE FOREST, BONNER SPRINGS, KS - FOOD & PRIZES!

The Annual HOAFF One Fly Contest will be held on Saturday June 23rd at Lake of the Forest near Bonner Springs, KS. There will be a \$25 gift Certificate from K&K awarded for the most fish (or best liar). Lunch will be served, cooked by none other than chef Peet Crissey of widespread fame (the next food channel "Food Star"!).

Lake of the Forest is a private lake reached off K-32 just before you get to Bonner Springs. The fishing has always been great. No gas motors are allowed but it's the perfect place to use your float tube, pontoon boat or kayak. Don't miss this, you'll have a great time!!

The initial gathering and launching of watercraft is at 8am and after lunch, the prize will be awarded for most fish and you are free to go or stay if you want more fishing.

If you intend to go, please contact **Peet Crissey** at pcrissey@gmail.com or **913-206-7299** or **Ron Carruthers** at rcarruthers2@kc.rr.com or **816-351-0685** since a head count is needed for the meal preparation.



Two years ago, the HOAFF was asked to help teach fly tying and casting at summer camp for youngsters who have Spina Bifida at Camp Mitiog which is close to Excelsior Springs, MO. I was one of those who went on Sunday and taught tying. It was not only a rewarding experience to see the gratitude and enjoyment of the youngsters and their counselors (each is accompanied by their own counselor) but on the selfish side, they fed us a great lunch and allowed us to fish in their lakes when we were not teaching. The lakes are private and are literally "teeming" with Bluegill and Bass. I would encourage you to volunteer for this worthy project, you will really enjoy yourself. The dates are Sunday July 22nd and Monday July 23rd. Sunday is fly tying and there will be two classes, one at 11-noon and another from 2:30-3:30pm. On Monday, the class schedule is the same but Casting will be taught. You'll want to spend the day if you can because the fishing is so good!

Those who wish to volunteer should contact **Peet Crissey** at pcrissey@gmail.com or **913-206-7299** or **Ron Carruthers** at rcarruthers2@kc.rr.com or **816-351-0685**.

GREAT FLY ROD

BY MARK BORSERINE

Everyone likes to share their excitement with new gear they acquire and find especially good. This spring I bought a 9ft, 5wt ADG Titanium Fly Rod, which has become my "all-round" rod.

The patented design of the ADG Titanium rod with its pure Titanium Wire spiraled up the entire length of the graphite blank gives it an unusual and superior way of storing and transferring energy during the cast. I am asked if the ADG Titanium is a Full, Mid or Tip-Flex Action – it's hard to believe - but it's all three! The ADG Titanium responds to every nuance of your hand: if you need to cast a short distance with great accuracy, it does so with remarkable ease; if you need to cast a weighted nymph rig, it does so comfortably and smoothly; if you need distance, the ADG rod will add twenty feet to your distance with no additional effort on your part!

I find the ADG Titanium 5/6 weight will cast 5 weight, 6 weight and 7 weight lines well, which means I can cast the smallest trout flies to Bass and Salmon flies using the same rod. The versatility is

unequaled by anything in my experience. The Titanium wire also gives the ADG rod exceptional lifting power.

The ADG TF Rod is unique among all rods I've ever used!

If you want to try an ADG TF Rod, try mine, I will have it with me before meetings. You can review the line of ADG Titanium Rods at <http://www.adgfish.com/>

Casting Instruction available at meetings

I will be making myself available (at no charge) to any members that want one-on-one instruction before each meeting as long as the weather remains warm and the light remains until 7pm. There will be no charge for this, we can cover any aspects of casting you want to! I'll be at the Church beginning at 6:30 pm, earlier if you call or e-mail me to do so **(913) 915-1002 MAJBORSER@aol.com**

-Mark Borsierine, CCI



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The weather lately has been terrific and, after three high water years in a row, it seems as though we are in for a spectacular year for fishing. I know that I have done well lately. The direct effect of this is that more anglers will be heading our way. As we incur more angling pressure, fishing etiquette becomes more important as a greater number of anglers fish in a limited amount of water. I am writing this article at the insistence of my wife, Lori, who encountered boorish behavior, while fishing in Cotter recently.

The main problem encountered, is crowding another angler. You know the story. You get there early, figure everything out, and begin catching fish. By the time the fog clears, you have a half a dozen other anglers encroaching on your position. This problem is particularly troublesome on the Norfolk River, where there is limited access and only four and a half miles of river.

Fly fishers require quite a bit of space. When they cast, there is a length of line out in the front and rear of their position. In addition, they tend to move either up or down stream as they systematically cover a given stretch of water. If you observe an angler slowly working down through a run and you pop in the river just below his or her position, you take a chance on severely messing up the anglers drift. It is much better to approach the angler and ask if it is OK to share the run. Ask if they would prefer you to fish above or below them. I am always surprised by how positively most anglers react to a little courtesy.

You should also be willing to share. Don't hog a prime location all day. Let others in to have a shot at it. Demonstrate your fishing prowess by catching fish in several locations. If you have figured it out and a nearby angler is struggling,

let him know what fly you are using and how you are fishing it. If you have an extra fly, why not give him one. It is a great way to make a friend!

Leave the boom box at home. Most anglers are looking for a bit of solitude on stream and are not interested in loud music. Control your dog. I love to fish with my yellow lab, Ellie. She has been extensively trained in canine obedience and responds to command. She does not bother other anglers. If your dog does not comply with this standard, leave it at home.

Boating etiquette can also be an issue and begins at the boat ramp. Prepare your boat in the parking lot. Connect the gas line to your engine, put in your plug, rig your rods and put any additional gear that you may require during the day into the boat. When you are ready back down the ramp, launch your boat, position it out of the way of other anglers and promptly move your vehicle to the parking lot. Do not clog the ramp. Other boaters need to use the ramp and they cannot launch if you are hogging it. The same holds when taking your boat out. Back down the ramp, put your boat on the trailer and move out of the way. Stow your gear and prepare for the drive home in the parking lot, not on the ramp.

When you are running up or down stream, avoid putting a wake over a boat where people are actively fishing. I personally find it uncomfortable to have a big wake hit my boat when I am guiding. This is amplified by boats with large jet motors that really put up a large wake. You should also be particularly careful when passing small craft like canoes, kayaks and personal pontoons. You should just slow down, until you pass them.

When you are fishing in congested areas

like the Catch and Release section below Bull Shoals dam maintain a reasonable distance from other boats. If another boat is drifting down stream, do not get below them (low boating). Instead locate upstream of them.

There are situations where wading anglers and boaters interact. At low water, most anglers will fish the main channel, where most of the trout will be located.

Waders need to understand that the boat may have to float through the spot they are fishing because it is the only way that they can get through that section of the river. Boaters must take great care to disturb waders, as little as possible. We have to share the water and there is plenty for all of us.

If you keep these suggestions in mind, it will be a better place for all of us to fish.

HOAFF ANNUAL AUCTION – LOOKING FOR SUGGESTIONS

BY MARK BORSERINE

Our Annual Auction which will be held October 15th this year is the club's only fundraiser throughout the year. For the last three years, the annual revenue from this has been steadily falling from a high of \$6,000 four years ago to a low of \$3,000 this last year. Everything taken in except some modest expenses each year is income to the club so the \$3,000 last year is a good thing. Nonetheless, the more revenue from the Auction, the more good things the club can do!

When I first took over the auction (by default) about five years ago, I had a list of 70 sponsors to send letters of solicitation to, but now that list is down to 40. The Fly Fishing industry has suffered along with the Economy in general and

many businesses don't feel they can give anymore and a number are no longer in business.

We are looking to revitalize the Auction and are asking for your suggestions and help in fundraising efforts. We are considering branching out to other items than those that are purely fly fishing such as general outdoor products, gifts that members might want to buy for gifts, such as gift certificates to restaurants, baskets of items from local shops, etc. Items all in good taste, of course!

You can call or e-mail me at
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CASTING GAMES – MONDAY JULY 16TH AT 7PM

By JOHN BERRY



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The casting games will be the same as last year's: "Loop the Hoop", Accuracy and Distance. Prizes will be \$25 gift certificates for the winner of each event. This is not only a chance to show off your skills, to have some fun but to learn as well; Below, I'll describe each event and give you some tips so you can practice up! Bring your own rod, or the club's rods will also be available. In the interest of learning, I'll demonstrate each event before we start:

1. **Loop the Hoop** is my name for casting a loop through hoops of different size at different distances. We'll have a large hoop and a small hoop and the rules are very simple: The person who gets a good loop through the two hoops at 30 feet in the least amount of casts wins. In the event of a tie, we'll move back a few feet and have a 'cast-off'. The loop must pass through the hoop entirely and the line be hanging over the bottom of the hoop at the end to qualify. This event tests your ability to throw a narrow loop and to throw it accurately.

2. **Accuracy** will be the same test given to the Candidates during the CCI test. You'll have three 30 inch hoops, one at 20ft, one at 30ft and one at 40ft. You'll have six chances and three attempts to get all three: If you get 20ft on the first cast, you have 5 more chances at the remaining two; if you take three attempts to get the 20ft cast, you'll only have three more chances at the remaining two, etc. If you don't get all three in six casts, you start over and you have three opportunities to do so. Again, the winner is the one who uses the least casts to hit the three targets. The yarn fly simply has to land somewhere in the 30 inch hoop. A warning – any time the fly touches the ground in front of your position is considered a cast. We will always start with the 20ft target and go out. The key to achievement here is the ability to

control the trajectory of your cast and to judge distance by false casting. On the 20ft cast, you'll need to tilt the trajectory of the cast steeply forward, less so on the 30ft and practically flat on the 40ft. Definitely practice this one!

3. **Distance:** very simply the longest cast wins. The key to distance is not increased force as some people think but to lengthen your stroke as you increase the amount of line you aerialize.

Concentrate on Bill Gammel's *Five Essentials of Casting* and you can achieve all these tasks:

1. The rod tip must travel along a straight line.
2. Vary the size of the casting stroke according to the amount of line outside the rod tip.
3. The pause between each cast to allow the line to straighten must get longer as the line gets longer (correct timing). Learn to vary the timing and the stroke length to maintain the straight-line path of the rod tip.
4. The power must be applied at the proper place, at the proper time.
5. Slack must be kept to a minimum.

See you Monday evening the 16th of July for the 3rd Annual HOAFF Casting Games !

HOAFF HELPS GALS GO FISH

BY CAROL FALKNER



Heart of America Fly Fishers lent a helping hand by sharing their knowledge with the ladies of Gals Go Fish, a women's angler guild. On April 11, 2012, Steve Hegstrom provided vises from the club and taught the ladies how to tie two flies with the promise the flies would be successful landing a lunker. On May 12, 2012, Mark Borserine held a fly casting clinic teaching the 5 basics of casting and provided individual instructions on technique.



BAXTER BULLETIN FLY TYING CONTEST PLAQUE AWARDED TO STEVE HEGSTROM

BY MARK BORSERINE

In the last newsletter, I announced that Steve Hegstrom had won the Dry fly category in the Baxter (Baxter County, AR) Bulletin, and Steve included the recipe for his winning Black Caddis pattern. I thought you'd enjoy seeing a photo of the nice plaque Steve received as well as getting a huge assortment of fly tying materials from WAPSI!

UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

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
Includes Lunch a prize for most fish

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

August 20, 2012 – Club Meeting, Jeff Williams, AGFC, Arkansas Trout Program

September 17, 2012 – Club Meeting, Club Picnic

October 15, 2012 – Club Meeting, Annual Auction

