



**Kansas City Chapter**



May 2009

**Next Club Meeting**  
May 26, 2009  
Fleming Hall  
6:30pm

**Executive Board Meeting**  
June 9, 2009  
Fleming Hall  
7:00 pm

**Location**  
Fleming Hall  
21906 SW Woods Chapel Road  
Lee's Summit, Missouri

**Next Club Meeting Date**  
June 23, 2009  
Fleming Hall  
7:00pm

### Kid's Derby at Lake Jacomo - 2009

The kids derby at Lake Jacomo was a great success. The weather cooperated and there seemed to be a better turn out than last year. The club had approximately 12 members present working the event along with staff from the Jackson County Parks Department. The fishing action started a little slow but the fish started to cooperate and there seemed to be several happy kids. It truly was a great event for both parents and children. If you missed this event be sure to plan on helping out next year. .



Registration Table 2008

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Let the fishing begin...

Hope you can be with us next year.....

#### For More Information

Visit the website for the latest News and updates  
www.geocities.com/kcmtfa/  
Email: kcmtfa@yahoo.com

“There is certainly something in fishing that tends to produce a gentleness of spirit, a pure serenity of mind.” Washington Irving

**Upcoming Events**

**May 23 - 24, 2009**

Fifth Annual fly Fishing Expo at Reading's Fly Shop on Highway 64, Bennett Springs, Missouri.

**June 6 - 7, 2009**

Free Fishing Weekend

**July 18, 2009**

MTFA Family Fun Day  
Fleming Hall  
10:30am - 4:00pm

**August 21 - 23, 2009**

MTFA Club Outing to Taneycomo, Branson, Mo.

**September 14, 2009**

MTFA Beginning & Intermediate Fly Tying/Rod Building Classes Start  
Fleming Hall  
7:00pm - 9:00pm

**September 25 - 27, 2009**

MTFA Fall Derby at Roaring River

**October, 2009**

FFF Southern Council Conclave

**October 27, 2009**

MTFA Annual Chili Dinner & Raffle  
Fleming Hall  
6:30pm

**December 1, 2009**

MTFA Christmas Dinner  
Fleming Hall  
6:30pm

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**MTFA Officers**

President: Kent Inman  
(816) 682-4924

VPresident: Marvin Alison  
(816) 358-9820

Secretary: Gary Davisson  
(816) 896-5221

Treasurer: Sandy Theroux  
(816) 523-5119

Members at Large:

Merril Miller  
Ken Stoner  
Bill Otis

Past President: David Cook

**Photo Opt.**

Have you been on a fishing trip and caught that one fish that some people dream of catching? You knew you had something of size by the pull and singing of your reel as the fish striped out line, the fish was rapped around a log and you were able to keep him on, then you finally saw what had hold of your fly, and your heart beat ever so fast until it was in the net, and you said to yourself “no one is going to believe this”. So now you need to take that photo, the one you will have enlarged, mounted and put on the wall, to so show your friends. In my travels, I have been lucky enough to be with guides that know how to take good photo’s. I met one guide that is probably the best I have ever been around for taking that once in a life time photo. His name is Cameron Miller a guide and photographer for Alaska West and Sage Rods. This past month he wrote a article for Deneki Outdoors Fly Fishing Blog on “Taking the Perfect Hero Shot - 13 Tips” Here is Cameron Millers 13 tips for capturing the moment.

1. **Read this list and then have fishing buddies read it.** You may know how to get a decent fish pic, but the fact is that you’ve got to hold the fish while your pal takes the photo.
2. **Take a deep breath and calm down.** After the excitement of a good fight and the disbelief that you landed a hog, the first instinct of most anglers is to dive into the net and touch the fish. Rushing into the handling of the fish most often leads to a bad case of “Oh-crap-itis”.
3. **Tidy yourself up.** After a second to catch your breath, give yourself a good once-over. You want to make sure that you look good for the photo so try to have all your zippers up, your pockets closed, and your wader pouch tucked in.
4. **Prepare the camera.** While you are busy making yourself pretty, have the photographer turn on the camera and make sure the setting is correct. If it is your camera, prepare it for the photographer so that all they have to do is frame you and the fish and push the shutter release button.
5. **Get in position.** You want to look comfortable when you are holding the fish, so try to avoid awkward positions (such as standing hunched-over trying to hold the fish and look at the camera). The easiest position is to take a knee in about six to eight inches of water.
6. **Determine where the sun/light is.** Generally you want the sun or the strongest light that is filtering through the clouds behind the photographer. Try to have even light on the angler’s face and on the fish, and if possible frame the shot with a darker background. If the light is strong like with mid-day sun, the fish is going to be by far the brightest object in the frame. Try to hold the fish

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**Continued from Page 2**

so that the light reflects off of it with the shallowest angle possible - that is to say have the sun off to the left or right side and not directly behind the photographer.

7. **Determine the fish's good side.** Before handling the fish, determine which side of the fish should be presented towards the camera. Obviously you want the side that looks the prettiest and has the fewest scars or marks on it. Usually the mouth and the position of the fly are the most important parts of this equation.
8. **Look comfortable.** You can always tell the guys who have handled lots of fish because they look like that fish should be in their hands. Try to be comfortable and confident. Smile or don't smile, look at the camera or look at the head of the fish. It doesn't really matter - just try not to have the deer-in-the-headlights look.
9. **Handle the fish with care.** Fish that are being squeezed look like their eyes are going to pop out and their mouths look like they are going to projectile vomit. With a proper grip there is no reason to squeeze the fish.
10. **Hide the finger, leader, and fly line.** Try to present as much of the fish as possible to the camera. Avoid grips that hide the fish behind fingers and hands. Also, be conscious of where the leader and fly line are and make sure they are not crossing between the camera and fish.
11. **Keep the fish close to the water.** I believe that fish look more natural close to their home (the water) and that they only need to be lifted out of the water a few inches for a good photo. If the light is good, such as in the early morning or late evening, the reflection of the fish in the water is often present and can add a lot to the photo. Always take photos above water in case the fish is dropped, and avoid completely out-stretched arms as if you were a five year old showing off an ice cream cone.
12. **Fill the frame.** The important things in a hero shot are the angler and the fish. Therefore you want them to fill the frame with just a little bit of the background around the edges to provide spacing. What you don't want is a scenery shot that has an indiscernible blob of angler and fish in the very center of it.
13. **Be quick.** Even though this list of tips is long, the process of photographing a fish should be quick. The fish just fought for its life and is stressed and oxygen-deprived. It is not fair to torture it even more just to get a decoration for your desk. Keep the fish in the water until the moment everybody is ready to take the picture. Take a quick picture or two and then put it back in the water and revive it until it swims out of your hand. If the photographer is quick, he can often get a good picture of the revival/release process.

One last note on reviving fish - in rivers, a fish must be pointed upstream for it to breathe properly. I'm surprised at how many people don't know this.

With these tips in mind you should get a great photo and look good while doing it.

Written by Cameron Miller - Guide/Photographer, Alaska West

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### **MTFA Membership Directory:**

The club directory will be available for club members to pick up at the May 26th meeting. This is for club members use only.

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## Fly of the Month from the desk of Joe Fusco Sr.

### Turkey Tail Nymph

**Hook:** Nymph hook of choice (Size #6 to #16 – Most of my Turkey Tails are tied in size #12 or #14 on a curved nymph hook).

**Weight:** Non-lead wire (size and # of wraps determined by the size of the hook) and/or a bead head (color of choice – my preferences are black or brown).

**Thread:** Brown or Black (My preference is a dark brown that closely matches the color of the turkey tail).

**Tail:** Turkey tail fibers (Tied in no longer than the length of the abdomen – if the tail is too full when you tie it in, very carefully clip out a few fibers to thin it out).

**Rib:** Brown or standard copper wire (My preference is brown, and occasionally I even substitute red wire for the ribbing).

**Abdomen:** Turkey tail fibers twisted on a tag of tying thread and wrapped to cover about 2/3 of the hook length.

**Thorax:** Peacock herl (Optionally, you can substitute other materials for the thorax – e.g. ostrich herl, dubbing or even a built up section of turkey tail).

**Wingcase:** Turkey tail fibers (Carefully coated with head cement after it is tied down).

**Legs:** Turkey tail fibers from the wingcase pulled to the side (Optional).

### Notes:

This is a modified version of Frank Sawyer's Pheasant Tail Nymph and for me has quickly become number one as a go to nymph. It seldom fails to induce a strike.

The ease of tying is one reason I like to tie this nymph. Turkey tail fibers are longer, stronger and give the abdomen a “mottled” appearance not always achievable with pheasant tail fibers.

I prefer the curved nymph hook for a more “life-like” appearance, but the fly can be tied on any style hook of your choice.



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## MTFA Recipe Book

The club is putting together a cook book for a fund raiser. We would like all members to participate and submit a recipe or two for one of your favorite main dishes or dessert. We would like to have all recipe's in to the club by November 1st, 2009. You can send in your recipe's by e-mail to: ewbeckman@kc.rr.com or bring your recipes to one of our club meetings.

Thank You.

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### 2009 MTFA Spring Derby - Bennett Springs Mo.

140 fishermen registered for the derby. That is higher than I remember for the last couple of years. We did get rain and thunderstorms on Friday night but it did not accumulate enough to change the fishing conditions. 19 tagged fish were turned in. Prizes were awarded from high to low tag number. The first pick went to Lisa Burns (#078) of Lexington, MO, who also joined our chapter along with her husband Mike. She picked a leather travel bag for rods and reels. The second pick went to Brian Willman (#068) of Gainesville, GA and he also joined our chapter. His selection was a Redington travel rod & reel. Dave Cook had the third pick (#067) of the derby and selected a TFO travel rod. Marvin had #028 and I did not see his pick and Don Kearns (#041) picked a new fly reel.



Dave Cook, Rod Pennington (Springfield), Charles and Debbie Jacques.

Fishing was tough. The water was dingy and a little high (8 inches). I caught my tag in the last hour of the derby on a jig and cork under the stone bridge. Marvin caught his on Saturday and it was the only fish he caught that day (It only takes one).

Saturday morning, many (about 20) of the Kansas City Chapter members & guests met at the Circle J Café for breakfast. It was a great time with lots of stories.

The State meeting and dinner on Saturday night was well attended by all chapters. Debbie Jacques is now the State president and David Cook is the State secretary. Each chapter's share of the derby proceeds was \$282 for a net profit of \$32. The State spent more on Saturday night's dinner than their share of the proceeds and money taken in donations to cover the cost of the dinner. We might want to review how we put on the dinner for the club meeting.

Hope you will plan to put the Derby on your calendar to attend next year.

*By David Cook.*



Sandy Theroux's grandson pulling Raffle Tickets.

