



Kansas City Chapter



August 2021

Club Meeting Date:
August 24
Fleming Hall
7:00 pm

Executive Board Meeting
August 3
7:00 pm.
Zoom Meeting

Next Club Meeting Date
September 28
7:00 pm
Fleming Hall

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

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Presidents Message:

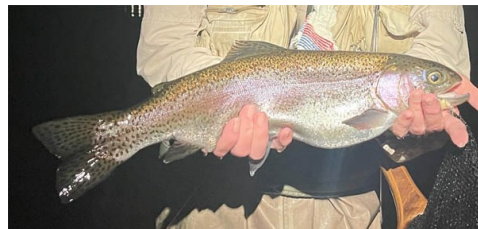


As many of you know, **David Haynes** passed away July 14, 2021. He was 71. Funeral arrangements will be at Barry Christian Church, 1500 NW Barry Rd, Kansas City, MO, on Aug. 21 at 10 am. A graveside / military service will be later on at Higginsville Military Cemetery.

Next, I would like to thank Mike McKinzie for his excellent July meeting program for his trip to the Bahamas in February to fly fish for bonefish.

In other MTFA news, I recently attended the **Branson Fly Fishing Expo** by the Springfield and Branson Chapters. It was a well organized event and I was proud to represent the Kansas City Chapter as one of the Expo fly tyers. The MTFA Springfield/Branson Facebook page has a great photo album. I enjoyed looking at their photo collection.

Each afternoon after the last session, I would join my son, Dan Cook, eat dinner, then wait for Table Rock Dam to end power generation for the day. After three nights of fishing I finally felt like I was back in the Taneycomo groove. Feeling the streambed with your feet, hoping to see stars above you, watching bats dart by, hearing herons disputing their territory and then being surrounded by fog and hearing families of Canada geese wings whistle over your head is all part of the Taneycomo Night experience.



The fishing this year was very rewarding. The food supply for the fish has resulted in creating extremely fat rainbows. We both caught fish to 20 inches or better.

It seems that the COVID pandemic has us all in flux as to what is low risk. For that reason, the executive board has voted for MTFA Kansas City meetings to only meet outdoors (if we meet at all) for the next couple of months. So plan for the regular meetings for August and September at Fleming Hall to be held on the parking lot. We will keep you informed by e-mail if conditions change.

— David

For More Information

Visit the website for the latest News and updates
www.mtfa-kansascity.org

Upcoming Events

August 3,
E-Board Meeting
Fleming Hall
7:00 pm

August 10,
Frontline Fly James A Reed
(See Page 4)

August 17,
Frontline Fly Tying Meeting
James A Reed 5:00 pm
(See Page 4)

August 24,
MTFA Chapter Meeting
Fleming Hall
If possible
7:00 pm

Photograph That Catch

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, too 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 have fished with 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. He has written a number of article’s for Deneki Outdoors Fly Fishing Blog on “Taking the Perfect Hero Shot”.

Here is Cameron’s 13 tips for capturing the moment:

1. **Read this list and then have your 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 12 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 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.



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Photograph that Catch Cont'd

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. So lets see some of those pictures in our Troutline. **Gary**



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Frontline Fly Fishing:



August Calendar:

To err on the side of caution, the August meetings for Frontline Fly Fishing will be moved outside. We'll meet at locations specified below;

August 10 6:00 pm, Gopher Lake, James A Reed Wildlife Area

August 17 5:00 pm Praire Hollow Lake, James A Reed Wildlife Area. Watch for announcement through email.

This will be a great opportunity to scout out your fishing spot for the One Fly Tournament to be held in September.

September 11 - ONE Fly Tournament

Come out for some fun and camaraderie. We will be setting up at the shelter house next to the old Head Quarters Building for registration and breakfast. The cost is \$5.00 per person. The total of the entry fees will be divided by 3 and split between the biggest fish, the most fish and Frontline Fly Fishing.

Derby rules:

- ♦ Derby Time span: 6:30 am to 11:30 am. Gates open at 6:00am
- ♦ You must register yourself and your fly before starting to fish.
- ♦ You may fish anywhere inside James A Reed. (where allowed)
- ♦ You can only use one fly, if you lose your fly you may purchase (for \$5.00) the opportunity to use a second fly **BUT**, you will have to start your fish count over.
- ♦ Breakfast served at 9:00am at the shelter house.
- ♦ This tournament is for fun and we will be on the honor system. Watch for more information in next months Troutline

Casting Tips and Tricks

TENSING AND RELAXING: Regardless of whether you're gripping a single-handed rod or a double-handed rod, there are two things you can do to help you control your casts better: tensing and relaxing.

If you tense your grip slightly as you prepare to stop the rod, it helps to "lock" the muscles and tendons in your arm and wrist. That, in turn, allows you to more easily bring the rod to a halt. One caveat: don't clamp down so hard that you leave fingerprints in the cork. Just a slight squeeze will do the trick.

Relaxing is just what it sound like: relaxing the muscles in your hand and arm after the cast has been made. Relaxing not only takes tension away from your muscles, but also helps to dampen any aftershocks in the fly rod. Such a damping action will assist in creating smoother line flow through the air. The idea with relaxing isn't to get so loose that the rod falls to the ground. The idea is to just slightly open the fingers that are curled around the rod handle--just enough to remove a bit of tension and to allow the rod a frog's hair of lee-way.

Try a bit of tensing and relaxing the next time you cast, you may find it allows you to be more controlled more easily. And the more control you have, the more precisely you can get the fly to the fish.

(Excerpted from Jason Borger's book, *The Nature of Fly Casting*)



Caring For Your Fly Rod

The following is a list of tips on how to care for your fly rod. This information was obtained from SAGE's web site at safeflyfish.com. I hope you find this information as helpful as I did.

1. Take extra care when stringing your rod. Thread a loop of fly line through the guides and tip top and pull the line and leader straight through without bending the rod.
2. Avoid placing or transporting your rod against metal or abrasive objects. Small nicks and scratches damage the graphite and lead to broken rods.
3. When using weighted or large flies, adjust to an open casting stroke. This allows the fly to pass over the tip or to the side of the rod (a fly hitting the rod can also damage the graphite).
4. Avoid severe rod angles when fighting and landing fish. Snagged flies should be broken off by pulling on the line with the rod tip pointed directly at the snag.
5. Periodically wax the ferrules (where the rod pieces separate) lightly with paraffin to ensure a firm fit and proper function.
6. Take the rod apart when you are done fishing to avoid stuck ferrules.
7. Completely air dry your rod and place it in a cloth bag and tube before storing. The rod tubes can trap moisture, which can swell reel seats and ruin the rod finish.
8. To protect the tip, it is best to bag your rod with the tip top and cork handle up.
9. Occasionally clean your rod with warm water and soap and completely dry.
10. To shine, apply furniture polish and don't forget to protect the rod when finished.