



**Kansas City  
Chapter**



January 2009

**Next Club Meeting**  
January 27, 2009  
Fleming Hall  
7:00pm

**Executive Board Meeting**  
January 13, 2009  
Fleming Hall  
7:00 pm

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

**Next Club Meeting Date**  
February 24, 2009  
Fleming Hall  
Annual Luncheon Dinner  
6:30pm

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**For More Information**

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

**Presidents Message: Winter Fishing - Lake Taneycomo**

By David Cook

Darrell Durst, Bill Otis and I made plans to fish at Taneycomo the weekend of January 17<sup>th</sup>. Darrell and I are veterans of many trips to Taneycomo this winter and this was Bill's first winter outing but we assured him he was properly equipped for such an outing. Two days before our scheduled trip the thermometer dipped below zero and then we get a dusting of snow on Friday. But there was a promising forecast. So I called up the guys and told them "let's wait until Saturday morning to head south and by the time we get there, it will have warmed up". Well, by the time we got to Taneycomo, morning turns into noon, it's 52 degrees (great!) and the first order of business is ... well, lunch at Dana's for some of the best barbeque in Branson. We were joined by my son Dan, who lives in Roger's Ark.

He already fished a couple of hours before we got there and had a good fishing report. He had caught 8, fishing between Outlet #1 and the cable below the dam using a John Deere.

After lunch, the four of us headed back to the area below the dam. Table Rock Dam had been generating constantly since 6 am. As it turned out, the water was flowing the whole weekend. For the times we fished, the flow was equivalent to two generators, bouncing around the 705 foot level. We could see a high water mark on the bank above us, so it had been much higher.

We spread out among the other fishermen in the Outlet #1 area. I tried various flies but I had the most success with a 1/64<sup>th</sup> olive marabou jig. Around 5:15, as we were approaching dark, the current seemed to have picked up speed, so we called it quits for a while. We all caught a few fish but my son's total was higher than what the three of us caught combined.

Dan (pictured below) had to head back home to Rogers.



The three amigos checked into the motel, ate dinner and geared up for night fishing. This was also Bill's first time to try night fishing. **(continued on p.3)**

**Upcoming Events**

**February 10, 2009**  
MTFA Executive Board Mtg.

**February 24, 2009**  
Annual Luncheon Dinner at Fleming Hall - 6:30pm.

**March 1, 2009**  
Opening day of Trout Season in Missouri

**March 10, 2009**  
MTFA Executive Board Mtg.

**March 14, 2009**  
MTFA Pre-Derby Meeting at Bennett Springs State Park.

**March 19 - 21, 2009**  
Sowbug Roundup — Mountain Home Arkansas.

**May 2, 2009**  
Kid's Derby Lake Jacomo.

**May 2, 2009**  
Kid's Derby Bennett Springs State Park.

**May 16 - 17, 2009**  
MTFA Spring Derby at Bennett Springs State Park.

**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

**MTFA Officers**

President: David Cook  
(816) 272-5194

VPresident: Roger Theroux  
(816) 523-5119

Secretary: Gary Davisson  
(816) 896-5221

Treasurer: Debbie Jacques  
(816) 356-5710

Members at Large:

- Charles Jacques
- Gary Rose
- Marvin Alison
- Merril Miller
- James Duncan
- Tom Criswell

**Kansas City Sport Show—Report:**

We want to thank all the club members that participated working our booth at the show and making it a great success. To everyone who tied flies, packaged flies, and promoted our club to new prospective members.

**THANK YOU.**



**MTFA Officers Nominated for 2009.**

Be sure to be at the January 27th meeting to vote for the slate of officers nominated at the Christmas Party/ December meeting. The nominees are:

- Kent Inman -President
- Marvin Alison - Vice President
- Gary Davisson - Secretary
- Sandy Theroux Treasurer

Members at Large:

- Bill Otis
- Merril Miller
- Ken Stoner



**Luncheon Dinner - Tuesday February 24, 2009 (6:30 pm) at Fleming Meeting Hall**

Our Luncheon Dinner/Installation of Officers will be held at Fleming Hall, this will be a catered BBQ dinner. The cost is \$12.00 per person, kids are free. So that we can order the correct amount of food, I would like to know by February 23rd if you will be attending. Contact David at (816- 272-5194) or Debbie (816-356-5710) to turn in your reservations or notify them at the fly tying classes. We will be having a guest speaker / fly tying demonstration for a program. David will be conducting our annual Luncheon Dinner raffle. If you have any items the club could use for our raffle please contact David. Be sure to put this date on your calendar and plan to attend.

**The fishing was good; it was the catching that was bad. ~ A.K. Best**

(Winter Fishing—continued from p. 1)

We went back fishing around 8 pm and we were the only ones on the parking lot at Outlet #2. I suggested to Bill to start with the white bunny fly. It didn't take him long to score the first fish. Bill caught a couple and Darrell and I were still looking for our first. So we changed locations to Outlet #1 and fished until 12:30 am. Our lines were icing and so were we, but we had all caught fish and could leave proudly.

Sunday, we ate a big breakfast at the Table Rock Inn and then headed for the water for a few more hours of fishing before returning to KC. We examined the water from the lookout above the dam and decided to try fishing from the south bank, parking opposite of the Rebar hole. Even though the water was up, we could ford a swift run behind the first island. I fished all around the island with little success, Darrell had no luck on the island and returned to the mainland to catch fish, and Bill caught a nice rainbow on the downstream side of the island. Bill and I moved farther upstream on the island and I noticed the water had picked up speed. Darrell had just rejoined us on the island and we agreed it might be a good time to take the ford back to the mainland and call it a day.

It ended up being a sunny and warm (48 – 50) day but we were a bit wind burned from the gusty conditions. We factored in all of the other environmental conditions and declared the weekend a success.

— Dave Cook



### Chad Mason Seminar (A Midwest fly fishing expert)

Sponsored by Heart of America Fly Fishers

**Date** Saturday February 21, 2009

**Time:** 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM (Continental Breakfast to start at 8:30 AM.)

**Location:** Missouri Department of Conservation Discovery Center 4750 Troost Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

**Cost:** Club Members \$40.00 (after February 1, \$45.00) (Non-member: \$50.00)

(Registration fee includes a lunch catered by Alpine Catering)

Questions? Call Don Grundy at 816-781-9019 or Dick Martin at 816-781-9557

Send checks made payable to HOAFF to: Paul Bennetts, Treasurer, Heart of America Fly Fishers, P.O. Box 731, Mission, Kansas 66201

Chad Mason's Programs and Clinics for this Seminar

**Fishing the Midwest and Fly Fishing Tips:** 17 species of fish in locations in the Mid Western states and drivable from Kansas City.

**Fly Tying for Mid West fishing:** Demonstrations on designing and tying Mid Western state flies.

**Fly Casting:** Learn basics and fundamentals suitable for all fly casters.

Note to MTFA members: When making reservations be sure and tell them you are a member of MTFA. HOAFF is extending their club member registration fee to MTFA members.

### Joe Fusco, Sr. Has a fly tying vice for sale:

Like new Griffin Superior 3ARP Vice for ( \$75.00)

This vice features 360 degree rotation, with the advantage of being a pedestal mount version, it's portability is advantageous to the traveling tier. It also comes with a c-clamp which allows it to be attached to a table if necessary. It is proudly made in the USA, and carries a lifetime guarantee. (Retail Price: \$135.00)

I will also include a set of Bull Nose Replacement Jaws for large flies (never used). Retail Price: \$23.95



## Fly-Fishing With Caddis

written by Jason Akl

In general, caddis-fly larvae can be found by looking on the river bottom clinging to sticks and stones. Except for a few specific dry patterns when the need arises, thin bodied, lightly hackled darker-colored patterns like the x-caddis, or elk hair caddis are used most of the time. Every serious fly fisherman has at one time or another tied on some sort of caddis-fly pattern. Caddis flies (Order Trichoptera) are insects that can be found in almost any good water-quality stream or river around the world. These benthic macro-invertebrates are great indicator organisms for determining water quality due to the fact that caddis flies absolutely cannot survive when their home waters become polluted. In general caddis-fly larvae can be found by looking on the river bottom clinging to sticks and stones or whatever structure can provide them protection. Caddis fly larvae build small cases made of tiny pieces of sticks, rocks, sand, plant materials or other such debris bound together by an adhesive secreted by the caddis-fly larvae. This case affords the caddis-fly much needed extra protection by allowing the larvae to simply retract inside when threatened.

The importance of caddis flies to fly fisherman cannot be understated. These small aquatic insects represent an extremely large portion of resident trout's diets. The weak spot trout have for these little critters make them a smart choice for any angler looking to catch more and bigger fish. The pupae and adult stages of the caddis-fly lifecycle are the most important stages for the fly fisherman to take advantage of. In America, there is known to be over 1,200 different species of caddis flies, but most anglers quickly find out that a few simple attractor patterns in varying sizes and colors will give you a good chance at catching just about every trout you come across. When out fishing a new stream or river in your area for the first time, it is a good idea to spend a few minutes finding out what is living just under the surface. By knowing the type of caddis that is thriving in that specific area you can increase your chances of catching fish tenfold.

Midwestern fly fishers who are smart enough to take the time to fish caddis patterns regularly find that fish in their favorite trout streams and rivers will start keying in on caddis during the early spring months of April or May and continue feeding mainly subsurface for the rest of the year. Fly anglers who use a combination of dry and nymph caddis patterns year long will be able to consistently entice fish into biting no matter how tight-lipped the fish seem to be.

### **Gear Considerations:**

In most cases with caddis-fishing one rod and line will serve fly anglers no matter what type of fly fishing -- nymph or dry -- that they intend on doing. The fly rod that an angler should choose depends on the size of the flies you expect to be fishing and the size of water they will be fished in. Big wind-resistant flies or heavily-weighted nymphs will require a stiff backboned rod to be able to handle these flies in the air. The rod you choose should be between eight- and nine-foot long and range anywhere from a 3- to 5-weight. If you are going to be fishing larger bodies of water that have the potential for gusty conditions heavier, longer, stiffer rods should be used such as a 7 weight. Likewise on small rivers with overgrown banks and low clear waters, lighter, shorter rods are ideal.

Fly anglers should also be conscious of what type of fishing they intend on doing most when choosing a fly rod. Serious nymph fisherman want to purchase a rod that is as long of a rod as their respective waters allow.

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choosing a fly rod. Serious nymph fisherman want to purchase a rod that is as long of a rod as their respective waters allow. This extra rod length comes in handy to control the line on the water surface, keeping flies drifting as natural as possible. As far as fly reels are concerned with caddis fishing, simply matching the reel to the rod weight is all that an angler needs to worry about.

Floating fly lines are the ideal choice for both dry and nymph fly fishing. Having the line lay on the waters surface allows the angler better understanding of the surface current so that he or she can better control the drift of their fly whether it be on the surface or deep below. These floating lines should be coupled to leaders that are long, sleek and do not scare fish. Having the correct leader system for the type of fish you will be doing will allow you to either deliver the fly quickly to subsurface trout or quietly drop the fly to the waters surface in the fish's respected field of view. Standard nine foot leaders tapered down to either 4X or 5X tippets are ideal for nymphing on most rivers while a 9- to 12-foot 5X leaders are good for fishing dries.

### **Choosing the flies**

Above all else when trying to decide what caddis pattern to tie on the best bet is to investigate the natural aquatic community of the stream or river you plan on fishing. A quick turning of the rocks and vegetation will help to determine the dominant type of caddis fly that inhabits that particular stretch of river. Most caddis nymph anglers use a variety of nymph flies, but generally all of these flies are based on three general types of cases caddis build to protect themselves, stick, sand and stone. There are many time-tested caddis nymph patterns that anglers believe in such as the Peeking Caddis, Green Rockworm, Deep Sparkle Pupa, and Olive Soft Hackle, Hares Ear and the Pheasant Tail. Contemporary tiers are adding bead to many of these traditions caddis flies just behind the eye of the hooks to sink flies smoothly and quickly. These new "bead head" flies are very effective, for imitating caddis nymphs and are easy for the beginning nymph fisher to use.

As far as caddis dries are concerned, general attractor patterns are used the majority of the time with a few specific dry patterns when the need arises. Thin bodied, lightly hackled darker colored patterns like the x-caddis, or elk hair caddis are used most of the time while the Hemingway Caddis or tent-wing patterns such as the King River Caddis are almost exact imitations of the real thing. With whatever dry you choose try and pick a pattern that incorporates materials such as foam or deer hair to keep these flies floating higher and longer than other traditional materials.

### **Caddis Fly Fishing techniques**

Nymphing techniques -- When caddis nymph fly fishing there are two general approaches that anglers use to get the best drift from their flies. The across-stream drift allows the nymphing angler to deliver their nymph to feeding fishes strike zones anywhere in the river.

To perform this technique cast across the stream and several feet upstream of your suspected target making sure that the fly lands upstream of the indicator. A quick upstream mend to the fly line is a good idea at this point because it will allow the line to drift downstream naturally without excessive drag -- making the fly appear unnatural to fish. As the fly floats downstream follow the indicator with the tip of the fly line gathering any slack line that is developing with your free hand. Once the fly has passed the respective target or fishy looking location, raise the rod slowly dragging the fly off of the bottom and back to the surface. As the fly has reaches the surface, take one step forward and repeat this process until you are satisfied that you have covered all of the fishable water.

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The second nymphing technique for caddis flies is the down-and-across downstream drift.

With this technique fly anglers cast the fly across the stream from their position and allow the current to carry it downstream. As the current pulls the fly line downstream the line and leader will become taut and the fly will swing accordingly from the far side of the river to a position directly below the angler. At this point again, raise the rod slowly dragging the fly off of the bottom and back to the surface, then repeat.

With this technique the idea is that the fly will be intercepted mid-drift by actively feeding trout or as the fly swings in the current.

Caddis fishing is not done alone with nymph patterns, dry flies definitely have their place and time during the summer months. If you do happen to come across a hatch of caddis flies, then like nymph fishing two techniques are used to present flies to fish. The first is the basic upstream and across technique that presents flies dead-drifted to fish. Similar to the across stream technique used with nymph fishing cast dries across the stream several feet ahead of their target. Place an immediate mend in the line upstream to the current allowing the dry fly to float dead and drag free down the river. Once the fly has passed the target pick up the slack line and reposition the fly for a new drift. The second technique for presenting dry flies to hungry trout is called the caddis hop or bounce. If you have ever witness a real caddis hatch come off of the water, the flies bounce tantalizingly on the waters surface until they can take flight. Cast dry flies the same as you would with in the first technique, across and upstream of your target, but this time instead of allowing the fly to dead drift downstream you will impart a bouncing action to the fly. To accomplish this bouncing or hopping action simply lift the rod slowly until the slack is taken out of the line use a quick upward jerk of the rod tip to lift the fly ever so slightly off of the waters surface. Repeat this hopping motion a few times throughout the downward drift until the fly is clearly out of the potential fishes view then repeat. Learning the basics of nymph or dry fly fishing with caddis patterns is an essential technique to becoming a confident and successful fly angler, but no amount of reading is able to adequately teach an angler how to fish these flies. On-the-water practice is a necessity to fully understanding the intricacies behind how the water acts on these flies and your line. Once fishing both dry and nymph patterns becomes second nature you will be able to cast and prospect potential fishy looking lies proficiently and catch trout time and time again.

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## Serendipity

by Hale Harris, Originated by Craig Mathews

### Description:

This fly works everywhere there are caddis.

HOOK: TMC 2487 #14-#20.

THREAD: Green 6/0.

BODY: Twisted Z-Lon.

WING: Trimmed deer hair.



I have great success with this fly only using the color red for the body.

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