

President's Message

by Mark Borserine

Streamside Etiquette

I have now been Club President for 18 months. I confess I'm running out of things to write about in this column each month but life always seems to provide us something. On Monday and Tuesday of this week, my wife and I joined another couple who have been best friends for many years at Rockbridge. I had a chance to witness the worst of streamside etiquette; so I thought a reminder of how we should all act would be a good subject. People were walking in front of us, casting over our lines; one family came down to the water's edge with their kids tumbling in the water, throwing rocks and they backed their pickup down to the bankside so they could easily reach their supply of beer in the bed!

Now this is not to complain and rant about Rockbridge, despite all this we had a great time and due to the nature of Rockbridge's business, this sort of thing is very hard or

impossible to regulate but I had never seen it quite so bad as this recent experience. I also realized that, with the exception of one individual, these people were truly oblivious of what they were doing and meant no harm at all. To the contrary, they were cheerfully friendly as they trashed everyone else's fishing! To her great credit, one lady asked our permission to join my friend and I on a pool; she was new to fly fishing and once she cast over my friend's line and promptly apologized. There is always someone who restores your faith in humanity!

The one fellow who was really incredible walked up to bottom end of the "Mill Pool" and cast straight up toward the waterfall and cranked something large down through all the trout lined up there. He cast across my line and snagged me; as I untangled us I figured out what he was doing! He had a huge flatfish lure about 5 inches long with four treble hooks and he was trying

HOAFF Meeting

Monday, July 17 - 7:00pm

Ron & Sheryl Knight
Spinnerbait Flies

to snag the trout! Happily he didn't succeed but after a few minutes of what amounted to a submarine attack, the trout stopped any biting at all. Again, due the nature of Rockbridge's business, I don't know if this was legal or not but I did report and the folk's mouths fell open – it may not have been illegal but it was hardly ethical!

All this simply serves to remind us that our own behaviour should be a model to everyone else and a credit to our sport and our club. Our behaviour should include patience and brings to mind one of my favorite prayers: " Lord, give me the courage to change things I can, to abide those I cannot, and, most importantly, the wisdom to know the difference".

Casting Clinic - August 12th



On Saturday, August 12th, Capt. Paul "Sodie" Sodaman will come and give us two Casting Clinics. There will be a morning session for those who are working on or are interested in pursuing the FFF Certified Casting Instructor Program.

After lunch there will be an afternoon session for those who are wanting to polish up some techniques or those who are just beginning in Fly Fishing. There will be a \$20 charge for each session.

"Sodie" is an FFF Master Certified Instructor: this represents a golden opportunity to learn from a genuine Master! To sign up for either session, contact Mark Borserine: (913) 381-0722 res, (913) 915-1002 cell, MAJBORSER@aol.com e-mail.

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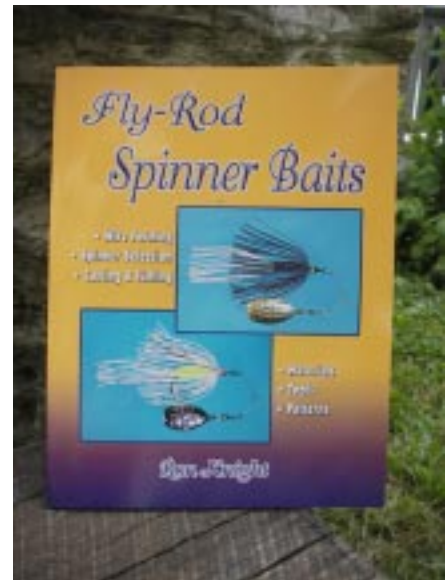
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July 17th Presentation

by Mark Borsierine

Be sure to come to our meeting of Monday the 17th. We are honored to have two founding members of the HOAFF return to give us presentations. Sheryl Knight, Southern Council VP of Conservation will give us her thoughts on Conservation and as nominee for FFFSOC President, her thoughts on the Southern Council in general. Her husband, Ron Knight has just published a book on tying Spinnerbaits for flyrods. His book is a tribute to Tom Nixon and based on methods Tom taught him. Ron will demonstrate his tying techniques and his book will be for sale (signed, of course!). Don't miss this evening!



Give Iowa a Try

September Outing

by Mark Borsierine

There has been a lots of interest in going to NorthEast Iowa. This will be the weekend of September 9th, leaving Friday evening and returning Sunday evening. I have yet to put the details together but I am working on setting up a block of rooms for us, getting Jene Hughes of Des Moines

to "guide" us and estimating expenses (which we will all share). I will put the particulars together by mid-July and get the information to all who've showed interest. The next newsletter will have the details. This will be a great outing, so keep it on your calendar!



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Cast To Ledges

Fly Fishing Tips

by Norm Crisp, Stream Side Adventures

Remember last fall when it took you longer to clean the splattered remains of big bugs off your windshield than it did to fill the gas tank? That was the beginning of terrestrial time on mid-west trout streams. A time to put away your summer fly box and bring out the one with big bushy flies for big hungry trout.

The majority of Missouri's, and most mid-western trout streams, are not bordered by grass or pastures. They are tree lined. Typical western terrestrial techniques, where hoppers are the common fare, just aren't that productive. Successful mid-west terrestrial fishing means a modification of both fly and tactics.

The Missouri terrestrials includes everything from beetles to crickets to ants and every thing in between. Such a wide array of "hatches" lead us to a terrestrial hybrid we call the The Madam. As the name implies the The Madam is a variation on the classic Madam X. The

Madam combines the features of several different terrestrial insects and patterns into a one fly fits all pattern. The crystal chenille body mimics the metallic



- Hook: Tiemco TMC 5212 - Size 6
- Thread: Black 3/0 flat waxed
- Body: Black Ice Chenille
- Wing: Natural deer hair
- Legs: Black round rubber – small

sheen of many beetles. The black color represents a cricket. And, the natural brown deer hair wings and the rubber legs work as a generic imitation. For whatever reason it works.

The Madam is most successful fished starting in late summer and keeps catching fish until the first

hard killing frost. This is the time that the terrestrials are in the "autumn of their life". They are at both their biggest and at their weakest. Cool or cold nights slow them down. Breezes, that pick up as cool night turn to warm days, shakes them lose from their grasp on the leaves and branches. With each breeze more terrestrials falls from the trees and splatts down on the water.

We have a saying about how to fish The Madam. Our ditty is, "Cast to the Ledges, the Edges and Up Under the Bushes. Many areas of Missouri's rivers, such as the upper Current and the North Fork of the White, are lined with limestone bluffs or lower out cropping ledges. These areas are the Ozarks' under cut banks. An

underwater evaluation of these areas would reveal a myriad of nooks and crannies. Add to this that portions of bluffs and ledges are

continuously falling into water to provide cover and that there is seepage of cool ground water entering the river and you have the perfect spot for a big trout to lurk. White, are lined with limestone bluffs or lower out cropping ledges.

For most of the year, "Cast to the Edges, means casting to current seams. But, during terrestrial season "Cast to the Edges" means casting to the edge of the stream. Often to within inches of the bank! Fall trout seem to know that the biggest and the best mouthfuls of food originate at the river's edge. And they are there waiting to gobble them up.

Since we are not talking about the typical terrestrial, a hopper, where do most of continued on p. 6



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"The Pits"

by Mark Borsierine

Saturday, the 17th of June was "The Pits". Members of the HOAFF were invited to fish the Strip Pits leased by Hunting Sports Plus by permission of Daryl Traylor, owner of HSP. Those of us who are members of HSP call the area "The Pits" with humor; in reality, it's a warmwater fisherperson's paradise. There are over 30 bodies of water, all of them unique. The area was strip mined for coal in the early 1970's by the Pittsburg Midway Mining Company, the famous "Big Brutus" was the shovel used. "Big Brutus" is now on display at the Mined Lands Wildlife area near Pittsburg, KS. My cousin was newly married at the time to a Rancher whose land was being mined and I remember Marty taking me to tour the

area while it was being mined – I watched Big Brutus create these very pits!

Members enjoyed some great fishing, got a "taste" of the pits along with some great submarine (how appropriate) sandwiches provided by Jim Jorgensen for lunch. Daryl Traylor gave a presentation to the members present on HSP, the costs of membership, the club structure and regulations. This was the first time Daryl had ever allowed a club or any organization such as ours to use the Pits! Daryl and the other HSP members who were out there were very pleased with everyone's courtesy and conduct – nothing but positive comments on our members!



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Cast To Ledges

Fly Fishing Tips

continued from p. 3

them come from? They literally come raining down from tree branches that hang out over the river. In our ON STREAM STRATEGY Terrestrial class, when our first student catches or raises a fish, we have the entire class wade to the spot where the fish rose.



When we tell them to do it, they look at us like we were crazy. But once they get there and we tell them to look up over their head at the tree canopy, they begin to understand what we are trying to teach them.

Casting a big bushy fly like The Madam has both its good points and its bad points. On the plus side, a less than perfect cast and presentation can be often is a good thing. A big beetle falling from an over hanging branch doesn't land delicately on the water. It lands with a resounding splat and splash. This great news for beginners! That poor cast just became a great one. On the downside, a big wind resistant fly requires a modification to your typical casting stroke. Even further on

the downside is the preferred casting locations. Prime places mean more than your share of lost flies.

When you find that location where in one cast you can "Cast to the Ledges, The Edges, and Up Under the Bushes" Your Mid-West terrestrial time will be a season to remember.

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Norm Crisp is owner and head guide for STREAM SIDE ADVENTURES (www.StreamSideAdventures.com). STREAM SIDE ADVENTURES offers guided fly fishing trips in Missouri and Wyoming. STREAM SIDE ADVENTURES is permitted by the Ozark National Scenic Riverways, the Medicine Bow National Forest and the Rawlins, Wyoming District of the Bureau of Land Management. STREAM SIDE ADVENTURES is an equal opportunity provider.



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Photography Contest

The Southern Council will also hold a photo contest; the requirements will be the same as the FFF as presented in the last issue of Fly Fisher magazine.

FFF SOC Embroidered Shirts

Michael Ames of the FFF SOC has light blue embroidered shirts with the FFF SOC logo available for \$38. He will be listed on the SOC website: www.southerncouncilfff.org or they will be available (if supplies last) at the Conclave.



Southern Council Conclave
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 Baxter County Fairgrounds
 October 6,7& 8
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 "across the board"

Featured Presenters:
 Charles Jardine – UK
 Ian Colin James – BC CANADA
 Lori Ann Murphy – "Reel Women" USA

For details; look for the upcoming June issue of Long Casts or, see the FFFSOC website:
www.southerncouncilfff.org.

Fly Tying Contest

The Southern Council will hold a Fly Tying contest. The fly to be tied is the Gray Ghost as originally tied by Carrie Stevens of Maine in the 1920s. Two examples of the fly are due by Sept. 1st.

The Gray Ghost is the classic streamer represented on the Southern Council logo. Recipes are available on the internet by searching "Gray Ghost Tying Instructions".

Complete tying instructions are available in the book: "Tying Classic Freshwater Streamers", by David Klausmeyer: Mark Borsierine has a copy.




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Upcoming Events & Programs

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|------------------|--|
| July 17, 2006 | Ron & Sheryl Knight - Spinnerbait Flies |
| August 21, 2006 | Craig Fuller - Niangua River |
| Sept 18, 2006 | Annual Picnic - Shawnee Mission Park |
| October 18, 2006 | Annual Raffle & Auction |
| December 2, 2006 | Annual Club Banquet - Bennett Spring |



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