



Streamline

May 2014

Oklahoma Chapter 420 of Trout Unlimited

Tulsa Fly Fishers an Affiliated Club of the International Federation of Fly Fishers

Event Calendar

- May 8 - General Meeting, Brian Wise presents "Fly Fishing the North Fork of the White River"
- May 17 - Outing on the UIR. Float from Round Hollow to Arrowhead Resort
- June 7 & 8 - Lloyd Wicker Fly Fishing Tournament. Bull Shoals Tailwater at Fulton's Lodge.
- June 12 - Picnic at Graves BSA Reservation on 101st in Broken Arrow
- June 21 - Lower Illinois River Stream Cleanup

If you have a friend who is not a member who might be interested in this information please feel free to forward this issue to your friend. Forward this message to a friend.

A Message from Your President



Trout Pond Catch December 2, 2013

General Meeting

Fly Fishing the North Fork of the White River

This month's meeting of the Oklahoma Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the Tulsa Fly Fishers will be held Thursday, May 8th. We will meet at the HARDESTY REGIONAL LIBRARY, 8316 E. 93rd St. on the North side of the Creek Turnpike off Memorial Drive. Meeting starts at 6:30 pm, and the doors open shortly after 6.

Brian Wise will share his years of experience on HOW and WHERE to

Hello:

I would like to thank the club for the fantastic turnout at our April meeting. We had over 70 people attend, which I believe is the largest crowd we have had since Dave Whitlock was the speaker. Scott gave a great presentation on TU as well as giving up his 'secret' spots on the lower Illinois River.

I am really excited about this month's speaker, Brian Wise. Brian is the most prominent guide on my favorite river in the Midwest, the North Fork of the White River in southern Missouri.

The North Fork is a beautiful Ozark stream. In its upper reaches, it is classic smallmouth water. About a dozen miles upstream of where it flows into Lake Norfork, Rainbow Springs enters the river and drastically changes its character, turning it from a warmwater to a coldwater fishery. For the next 10 miles or so to Dawt Mill dam, the river has loads of awesome trout water with many classic riffles feeding into beautiful pools.

Besides the great habitat, a big draw of this river is the trout population. The river gets an annual stocking of browns that have plenty of time to become acclimated to the stream and start to act wild. In addition and most importantly, the river holds a healthy self-sustaining population of wild rainbows. Rainbows haven't been stocked on the North Fork since the 1960's, yet rainbows are the majority of what I have caught on this river.

I have some great memories from this river. These memories include a solo overnight float in 94 with my dog. A torrential rain drove the first afternoon and we ended up taking cover for an hour or so in the cave at the 'cave riffle'. A couple of hours later after the weather cleared, we were treated to a magical hour where one particular riffle came alive with fish. It was one of the best hours of fishing I have ever had. A couple of years later I had an encounter with a very large snake that bumped into my leg while I was wet wading and focused on my drift but oblivious to my surroundings.

I have caught a lot of fish on this river, nothing huge, but a number of really colorful wild rainbows over the years. My largest fish on the river is an 18" brown on my last trip there. However, the fish I remember most is a modest brown, probably less than 12", that I caught on my first serious fishing trip to this river when I was just learning to fly fish for trout. Not too long before that trip, I had actually been skunked on a trip to Bennett Springs. After a day of so, it was starting to look like I was going to get skunked on the North Fork as well and I was starting to get discouraged. Near the end of the trip, I was halfheartedly

fish the North Fork of the White river. He'll also show us his favorite "go to" flies in his video presentation. If you want to catch more fish on the White this is a "must see" presentation.

The North Fork of the White River is one of the finest trout streams in Missouri. The North Fork has approximately 13 miles of officially designated trout water extending from Norfolk Lake upstream to Rainbow Spring. One of the largest springs in Missouri, Rainbow Spring pumps 137,000,000 gallons per day into the White and, aided by smaller springs along the way, provides superb trout habitat year round. The North Fork provides excellent fishing for both rainbow and brown trout. The rainbow population is self-sustaining -- stocking ceased in 1964 but browns are stocked annually in the lower reaches of the river.

Brian is a fly fishing guide in extreme southern Missouri. His mainstays are the wild rainbow trout and large predatory brown trout of the North Fork of the White River, but he is also a self-proclaimed smallmouth junky and loves the seasonal striper fishing as well. Priding himself on his teaching abilities and flat-out big fish catching karma, Brian has quickly made his way among the top guides in the Midwest. He has been the head guide at River of Life Farm, a Missouri outfitter near Dora, for over a decade and has been featured in print such as Southern Living Magazine, Outdoor Life, Fly Fisherman, Field and Stream, Rural Missouri Magazine, on television shows such as NBC's Today Show, Outdoor Channel's Ultimate Outdoors, and several appearances on Outdoor Channel Outfitters.

Mark your calendar and we'll look forward to seeing you there. If you haven't paid your Tulsa Fly Fisher dues, bring green, checks are also

stripping a wooly bugger across a riffle when the brown hit. That one fish was the positive feedback I needed at the time to keep me going in my fly-fishing hobby and within a year or so later, I was pretty well addicted.

Back to Brian Wise. As I mentioned, Brian is the head guide at the River of Life Farms resort on the North Fork and arguably the most prominent guide on that river. While Brian guides many of his clients in the classic North Fork deep dead drift nymphing techniques, he has recently gained a reputation for stripping large streamers and getting his clients into really big browns on the river. As part of his foray into big steamer fishing, he has developed a series of state of the art articulated streamer fly tying videos where he has gained a national following. For a sampling of these, check out this link: <https://www.youtube.com/user/flyfishingtheozarks>.

Given my love for the North Fork, I can't wait to hear what Brian has to say about the river next week.

David

TU Women's Initiative

As part of a drive to encourage women membership in TU, until June 15, first-time women members will be able to sign up for a free membership their first year and half price (\$17.50) their second year.

Click on the link below if you want to apply.

<https://gifts.tumembership.org/women>

"Mom's Day to Play"

Tammy Bagby, Operations Manager at Bass Pro in Broken Arrow is looking for a volunteer to demonstrate fly fishing and/or tying on Saturday May 10th from noon until four. A female flyfisher would be great, but I think Tammy would appreciate any offers of help.

Give her a call at 918-510-9862 or 918-355-7604 if you can help.

accepted.

Follow us Facebook

There are now [303](#) members on Facebook and growing. An easy way to find someone to go fishing with, brag about your success, or just keep up with what's going on. Here's a quick link.

Did You Know?

**By: Chris Wood
CEO of Trout Unlimited**

The Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers recently stepped up and released a proposed rule that would restore protections to headwater streams that were removed from the Clean Water Act in the 2000s.

Recall that 30 years of Clean Water Act protections for intermittent and ephemeral streams—streams that comprise at least 60 percent of the nation's stream miles—were called into question after muddy Supreme Court decisions in 2001 and 2006. The EPA's proposal would ensure those protections continue for these areas that are vital for trout and salmon rearing and spawning, bug production,

UIR Float Trip

Outing Chairman, John Sellars has contacted Arrowhead Resort as our outfitter for the May 17th float trip of the Upper Illinois River. The float will be their 6 hour float from Round Hollow Public Access down to the resort. It will fish a little longer. Here's a map of the river.

As we're headed out before Memorial Day we don't expect a large "aluminum hatch." To further reduce that possibility we plan on departing Arrowhead at 8:00 AM. If you need to rent a kayak or canoe get there earlier so we can leave on time.

John also has information on watercraft rental rates, shuttle fees, RV and tent camping. He would also like a head count so RSVP by clicking on the link.

and sources of cold clean water. This is H-U-G-E for TU and for trout and salmon.

This was (and remains) a group effort. As always, our government affairs staff worked their magic. We had great support from the water project staff, east and west. The science team came through with compelling analyses that made the point that these areas are integral for trout and salmon. But most of all, you, our grassroots volunteers answered every call to action over the past 13 years. We would not be here without you. Thank you.

But, we are not done yet. Please comment on the proposed rule, and ask your networks to do the same. There will likely be opposition from the regulated community and many in Congress. Nonetheless, I am confident that common sense will prevail, and we will chalk this up as a huge win for conservation and fish. And that will be a reflection of the unending commitment we've seen from each of you. Again, thank you.

NOTICE ALL ... "DID YOU KNOW?" is new feature to our monthly Streamlines newsletter. Do you have something you think ever member needs to know? Just write a couple paragraphs and send them to us. (Editors Note, we reserve the right to determine whether your item is truly something everyone needs to know. Facts only please.)

Lloyd Wicker FF Tournament

We will be holding our first annual Lloyd Wicker "Two Fly Tournament" on June 8 on the White River tailwater near Mountain Home. The tournament is being held in honor of Lloyd Wicker, whose estate donated Lloyd's fly fishing and fly tying

collection to our club for the benefit of Project Healing Waters and TU.

Proceeds from the tournament will support Project Healing Waters and the tournament will also function as a Project Healing Waters outing. The entry fee is \$40 and the tournament will be held out of Fulton's lodge.

IFFF Auction

The Southern Council has received a request from the IFFF National Office to help in the collection of donated items for auction at the National IFFF Fly Fishing Fair August 5 - 9, 2014 in Livingston, MT.

Suggestions for contributions include fly fishing trips, great-looking fly plates, rods, reels, DVDs, books, fly tying materials and tools, framed prints, and/or artwork. A selection of flies in fly boxes such as trout flies, bass, muskie, or saltwater flies would be great. Fly fishing-related items or a variety of non-fly fishing related items would also be welcome.

The National Office would like to receive these donations by July 1st.

Donations should be sent to:
IFFF
Auction Donation
Attn: Hold for Todd Heggestad
5237 U.S. Highway 89 South, Suite
11
Livingston, Montana 59047

Mark Your Calendar

for these coming events

- June - 7 & 8 - First Annual Lloyd Wicker Fly Fishing Tournament
- June - 12 - Annual picnic and fishing outing at Graves BSA Reservation 101 St in BA

"Streamline" is published on a monthly basis about a week before the next general meeting.

If you have content ideas, comments, complaints or suggestions please contact the Editor: Mike Shuman at Tel: (918) 443-9184 or Email: okflyfisher@aol.com