



TU/FFI

April 2022



Streamline



Oklahoma Chapter 420 of Trout Unlimited &
Tulsa Fly Fishers a Charter Club of Fly Fishers International



Event Calendar

April 14th - Fly Fishing Tour Film at Circle Cinema in Tulsa

April 21st - Peter Breeden from Beavers Bend Fly Shop

April 23rd - Clean-Up, Eat, and Fish Outing on the LIR

If you have a friend who is not a member who might be interested in this information please feel free to

A Message from Your President



Heath Tiefenauer

Hello {FIRST_NAME|TU/TFFer's},

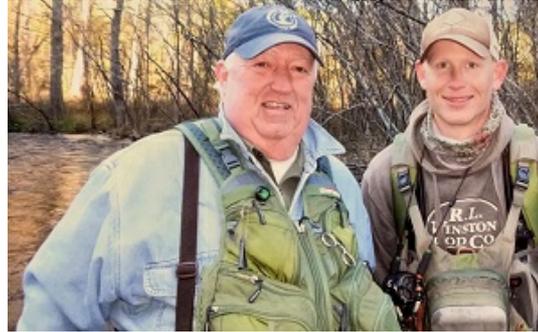
Hello and welcome to the April edition of Streamline. Our Newsletter has lots of great content this month, thank you for subscribing. Longer days and milder weather bring more opportunities to get outdoors and wet a line. Spring is finally here! March was a great month, and we've got more lined up for April.

Our general meeting this month is delayed one week and will be Thursday, April 21st. Oklahoma has two year-round trout fisheries. We all know and love our Homewater the Lower Illinois River. But there's also the Lower Mountain Fork. This month our Speaker chairperson Chris has lined up Peter Breeden, head guide for Beaver's Bend Fly Shop. Come join us at Hardesty Library on April 21st for a great presentation. Doors open at 6:00 PM, meeting starts at 6:30 PM.

Why did we push back our meeting in April? We're glad you asked! Heirloom Ales and The Gadget Co. have sponsored the Fly-Fishing Film Tour and invited all of our supporters to join in the fun. We've missed this feature the last couple of years and are excited these great local sponsors have partnered with Circle Cinema to bring the film tour back to Tulsa. Check out the article in this newsletter and join the fun on April 14th.

April also brings Earth Day, and we'll host our annual Lower Illinois River Cleanup again this year. Join us on April 23rd for this annual event and an afternoon of fishing. Lunch is provided. Check out the outings section of the newsletter for all the details.

Trout On The Bend



Peter Breeden (background) with Coach Brister

Peter Breeden

Peter is the head guide for Beavers Bend Fly Shop. He has been guiding the Lower Mountain Fork river for almost a decade. He is a pro staff member for R.L. Winston and Ross/Abel. Peter started fly fishing when he was 6 years old in southwest Colorado. It has since consumed his life and he has been fortunate to build a successful career in the guide industry. Peter has been incredibly blessed to travel the world fly fishing, with a few memorable trips, including a 15-day float down the Onon river in Mongolia, and to Lake Thingvallavatn and the many highland rivers of Iceland. His ideal day fishing is on a small stream fishing to rising brown trout or cutthroat!

He will be speaking to our TU420 chapter about his experiences on the Lower Mountain Fork river, tips, and tricks to fishing those great waters, and some of his experiences outside of our local fisheries. This should be a great presentation!

Date: Thursday, April 21st

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Hardesty Public Library

Trout Unlimited Chapter 420 and Tulsa Fly Fishers meet at Hardesty Public Library, 8316 E 93rd St Tulsa on the east side of Memorial Dr and one block north of the Creek Turnpike. Doors open at 6 pm (open discussion and questions) and admission is free. Raffle and door prizes are presented at the end of the meeting. (Masks will be available and plenty of room for social distancing)

2022 Conservation Issues

Conservation is Our Passion

Legislative Update 2022

I'm amazed and incredibly thankful to all of our supporters. We truly are blessed to have such a great group of people helping to make this group something to be proud to be a part of. Thanks to an incredibly generous supporter we'll have a special announcement in the coming weeks. We're working to put the last pieces of this new program in place and look forward to your continued support.

April is a great month in Oklahoma. Now let's get out there and fish!

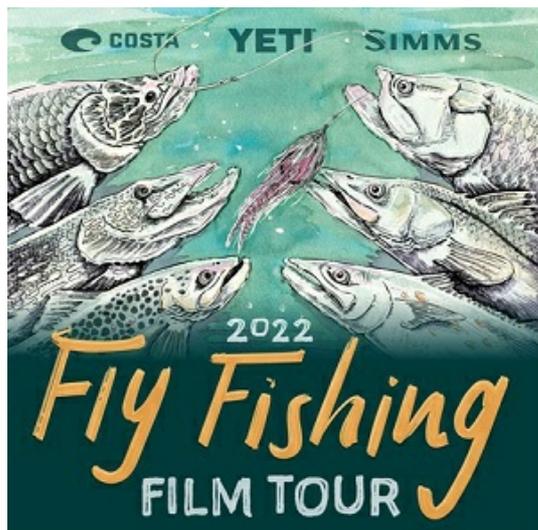
Tight Lines,

Heath Tiefenauer
President of Oklahoma Trout Unlimited & Tulsa Fly Fishers

2022 Meeting Schedule

May 12th - Alex Vaisval, Doctoral candidate in biology from OSU, with results from the Oklahoma striper survey

Fly Fishing Tour Film



Make sure and join us at Circle Cinema on Thursday, April 14th for a not-to-be-missed showing of this year's Fly-Fishing Film Tour. This year's tour is full of films shot all over the world, and covers species that are close to home and ones that most of us have only visited in our minds. Live Music from local band Pilgrim will begin at 5 PM.

Local beers and other concessions will also be available starting at 5. Ruth's chicken will be serving up some of the best fried chicken in the city from 5-7, and Tulsa Artist Fellow, Liz Blood, will be giving away 40 copies of the brand-new Northeastern Oklahoma Field Guide. JP (The Gadget Company) will be holding a raffle filled with gear from some of the top fly-fishing brands in the industry. Tickets are \$15 each and are available at

I've been monitoring somewhere in the neighborhood of 30+ bills for several weeks now, and I'm now down to closely following just 3 bills. I wanted you all to see what those bills are, and to be ready for an action plan if any of the three get out of committee (as I'm writing this, they are all currently sitting in their respective committees). Unfortunately, these are all negative bills, but hopefully 1 or 2 of these bills won't make it out of committee, and we can just focus on defeating whatever is left.

HB 3824: A representative authored this bill out of Enid for the city of Tahlequah. In short, there is a federal standard for phosphorus in discharged wastewater. It was also adopted by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board in 2002. That number is .037 mg/l. Tahlequah has exceeded that number for some time by double. Save the Illinois River has mentioned the possibility of a lawsuit if the city didn't correct these infractions. This bill would allow the governing state agency to grant variances to Tahlequah, so that Tahlequah would avoid lawsuits and potentially EPA fines.

This is an important bill for us, because Oklahoma already has numerous examples of polluters given temporary variances to perpetuity. It's also very disconcerting because it allows Tahlequah to duck accountability on state and federal standards for water quality on a scenic river.

We are working on the committee it's currently in before it hits the floor. We're hoping we can keep it from leaving committee, but if this bill does get out, we will be asking you to engage with your representatives on the issue.

HB2983: There's a lot to this bill. In a nutshell, this bill would require taxpayers to fund the plan writers for a backlog of nutrient management plans for poultry farmers (it's a funny thing to consider that a \$1 billion dollar industry is asking taxpayers to fund the plans needed to procure their profits), it would also change the governing agency to ODAFF, which is already an agency that's super overwhelmed and behind on their current responsibilities (they want taxpayers to fund the plans they're behind on, and they also want to transfer the governing power to an agency that's super behind), and wants ODAFF to write new rules through an emergency order with minimal guidance and not nearly enough transparency on what those rules would look like.

We are working on the committee it's currently in before it hits the floor. We're hoping we can keep it from leaving committee, but if this bill does get out, we will be asking you to engage with your

the [Circle Cinema website](#).

Coming to

Thu 4/14
5:00p live music, food, drinks,
and more
7:00p film screening

Sponsored by



Trout in the Classroom

Trout In the Classroom Releases are in Full Swing

Rain or shine the buses roll and the fingerling trout get released. The only things that stop us for getting the job done ... snow...ice... and threat of severe storms that might include lightning.

It all got started with Jenks Freshman Academy on March 1st. Weather was chilly at near 40 degrees. The class had raised a sizable crop of about 50 fingerlings and by sizable... some of these trout at above 4 inches could end up at the end of someone fly rod. They didn't have a large batch of trout, but they were giants compared to others yet to come.



Wilson schools went next on March 7th. It was again chilly 39 degrees at arrival and windy. The kids were warned to wear warm clothes ...some did, and some didn't. Those that didn't listen suffered the consequences. Teacher Bruce Burton had early year troubles with water quality issues and by release day they were only able to release 12 from their tank ... but like the old starfish story goes ... it was important for those 12 to get a chance at survival. Because of field trip rules at

representatives on the issue.

HB3280: This bill would limit public lands to 10% of Oklahoma land, and would eliminate conservation easements after 30 years. We had a lot of inside information that suggested this bill probably wouldn't pass the house, but it passed by a narrow margin just yesterday. The bill is extremely crippled and compromised, and we feel it won't go anywhere, but bigger surprises have occurred so here's the rundown. On the surface, 10% sounds like a lot, but once you dig into the bill, this means all land holdings, not just hunting, fishing, and recreational lands. Things like school buildings and such count, so we actually nudge up pretty close to 7-8% currently. This bill is in response to the Biden 30% public lands by 2030 plan. It's a reactionary bill that was poorly written by a misinformed author, and stands to really compromise the future of Oklahoma outdoors. If this one doesn't drown in committee, which it should, I would like to come at this with all of the momentum that we have.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any legislative concerns at 918-629-8622 (text) or jake@heirloomrusticales.com

Jake Miller
Conservation Chair

April Meeting Raffle Prize



April's Raffle consists of **two items:**

Super Size water proof duffel bag from Pacific Trail Montana

White River Chest pack

Must be present to win! Raffle tickets \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

Tulsa Fly Fishers April Outing

In April we'll be giving back to our Homewater with a clean-up event at the **Lower Illinois River on April 23rd**. April brings warmer weather and there's always plenty of trash to be picked up. We'll collect

Tulsa Public Schools, the Tulsa Met HS trout got to ride along with this release and those 50 to 75 trout were released by the Wilson students.



Owasso HS completed their releases on March 22nd and Ron Reese, tank leader for Owasso, pointed out to me that this was his 4th year on a release for Owasso and that this was also the 4th time he'd been on one when it rained. It wasn't all that cold at 50 degrees, but it was damp. They did a good job with their trout and had nearly 150 to 200 trout to release. They weren't big but there were plenty for the over 60 students that attended the release for all those that wanted to release a trout got to. (Size of the trout has a lot to do with the temperature of the water. Ruby Collins, the instructor at Owasso told me she runs her tank cold, near 50 degrees).



Up next and occurring by the time you are reading this is Riverfield Country School on March 29th. Followed by Pryor HS on April 6th, Tulsa Boys Home on April 14th, Broken Arrow HS on April 22nd, Collinsville HS on April 25th, and Beggs HS on May

trash for several hours in the morning, enjoy a freshly grilled lunch at 11:30 and spend the afternoon fishing the freshly cleaned waters of the Lower Illinois River.

Please join us at the upper parking lot of the Powerhouse below the dam on April 23rd at 9AM. We'll provide trash bags, and you can collect your Outings Poker Card for the month. Afterwards, we'll disperse to various parts of the river for the clean-up effort. Lunch will be served at noon in the Watts Area parking lot. To help us plan for this event, please RSVP using the link on outings page of TU420.com. See you there!

Lower Illinois River – near Gore, OK

Meet at the powerhouse at 9:00 AM

Lunch at Watts area at 11:30 AM

LIR Safety Tips

Gore Police Department: 918-489-5963 or 911

Local Game Wardens – 918-431-2550 or 918-431-2544

(to report fishing/hunting violations)

Gore response time is approximately 5 minutes.

If cardiac, call for help, start hands only CPR, pushing downward 2 inches on center of chest to the beat of "Staying Alive" by the Bee Gee's. If possible, please note time when CPR is initiated. Landmarks to assist emergency response: The Dam, Lower parking lot, Watts, and MarVal's. Also, let them know which side of the river you're on. Accurate information will allow for quicker response time.

If it is a swift water rescue, call 911, or Gore Police Dept, and they will respond in addition to Sequoyah County team.

If a medical transfer is needed, they will LifeFlight from the baseball field in Gore to either Muskogee or Sallisaw hospital.

Always a good idea to carry baby aspirin and Benadryl in your fishing gear. Also, a first aid kit, provided by Trout Unlimited, is located on the back side of the restroom at Watts.

Let's help keep our fellow angler's safe.

[Life saving instructions courtesy Nurse Binnie Jones, our TU420 Secretary.](#)

3rd. Coweta 3rd grade Special Education Class asked to “go it alone” and I have yet to hear from the teacher results of her release and also Catoosa HS has yet to set a date.



If you'd like to help out at a coming release where we take the kids for a short nature hike in the woods, do fly casting lessons, do demo fly tying and invertebrate studies please email me at tu420edu@gmail.com and I'll link you up on the day you can help out.

Thank you.

You can follow along as the year progresses at TULSA AREA TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM on Facebook.

Scott Hood
Education Coordinator for TU420

Outings Poker

We've started the event again, if you missed the October event you still have the rest of our 21-22 season to catch up and collect your cards.

What is Outings Poker?

Outings Poker is an event-oriented game that lasts the entire 2021-2022 season. No purchase is necessary, and everyone is welcome to play!

How to play:

- Receive 1 fly fishing themed playing card for each outing or special event you attend.
- Cards will be distributed at the start of events.
- Each card will be stamped with a letter. The location of the stamp for each event will be different.
- At the end of the season the player with the

Etc...

Don't Touch That Dial Department

Please think twice before deciding to **unsubscribe** to *Streamline*. Our email provider, Vertical Response, has placed many obstacles in the path of someone who unsubscribes and then later want to receive *Streamline* again. It usually takes up to six(count 'em) months to re-establish your subscription.

Input Wanted!

You may not be Gadabout Gaddis, the flying fisherman, but you might be saying to yourself, I could talk for hours spinning tales about my fishing adventures.

We don't need an encyclopedia of anglers antics in the wild, but we are in search of a few tales or tips for our readers to enjoy.

Please don't hesitate to take a firm grasp of the keyboard and reveal to us your experiences or fishing tips (like how to tie a siamese silver beetle bug).

Forward your completed works in Word format and don't forget your pictures to: [Bruce Brewer](mailto:Bruce_Brewer_rbbrewer1@live.com), rbbrewer1@live.com

Change of Address

Please copy and save the email address shown above. If your email address changes, please contact me right away with your new address. This will ensure non-stop delivery of *Streamline*.

Tulsa Fly Fishers

Trout **U**nlimited is an organization without parallel in the preservation of it's namesake. But many who are members of TU420 are also card-carrying members of **Tulsa Fly Fishers**(TFF). TFF's parent organization is Fly Fishing International(FFI).

While TU concentrates on Trout, FFI supports Fly Fishing in all it's forms. This universal approach helps you to be successful fly fishing in ponds, lakes, streams, rivers, and oceans.

All of our Officers and Board Members are required to be active members of both TU and FFI, but you can join today without pressure. Just go our website ([tu420](http://tu420.com)) and click on the link:

Join TFF/FYI

best traditional 5 card poker hand wins a prize!

- Your 5-card hand can only contain 1 card from each event. Any hands with duplicate markings will be disqualified.
- It is not necessary to fully spell TROUT as long as there are no duplicate markings.

Cards will be available at every monthly outing and certain special events.

Help for Website

Occasionally, you may experience a broken link on one of our web pages. This usually happens as the source provider has done some maintenance requiring a change to that link or is no longer publishing that website.

In either case, if anyone runs into this situation, it would be helpful if you could contact me at:

tu420web@gmail.com

So that link can be corrected or removed from the webpage.

Thanks for your help.

Frank Kohn
Webmaster

Bonus Feature

Kelly's Korner

The New Fly Fisher Argument

How about starting a fishing argument? There's a lot to argue. Bad news is that fly fishing is a fussy and particular sport with a lot of problems to solve. The good news is that fly fishing is a fussy and particular sport with a lot of problems to solve and can provide a lifetime of entertainment. Here is the challenge – what is the best approach to introducing a non-fly fisher to the sport? If successful, you may be responsible for an unreasonable addiction. Word of advice don't plan to invite the entire family for the first fly fishing outing. Word of caution for the teacher, memories from these trips may be worth more than any particular fish you have landed.

So how are best steps to teach a friend flyfishing for trout? Hire a Guide? Have them join Trout Unlimited and get into a beginner's class? Perhaps buy them a trout dinner and explain how much money you are saving them? Here are my thoughts

The Roar at Spavinaw

It was below forty degrees at 8AM on Saturday, March 26th. A quick check revealed that the water was gushing over the dam at speeds not amenable to casual wading.



Ray Marks hooking the dreaded Oklahoma Rock Fish

In fact, several small islands on the creek were covered in rushing water. Several fly fishers cast their hopes and flies into the water and were thankful when they got their fly back. At lunchtime, one angler reported the landing of a minnow-sized fish.

Thus, the axiom of our president rang true on that day. "Our outings don't guarantee fish, but you won't leave hungry!"

We all feasted on cheese burgers and cookies. Nothing beats a hot meal near a cold rushing stream. Be sure to join us next time at the Lower Illinois River. We might even catch some fish!

Editor

Kelly's Korner Continued

Next comes tippet, a predictable failure point for beginner fly fishers. A beginning might spend years before trying 6X, but is not that tough to manage on a 5 weight or less fly rod. Be a big-hearted person again and add a spool of high quality 6X tippet to your gift bag. Tying on 3X to your zebra midge is like taking a chihuahua for a walk with a log chain. You may have your reasons, but neither log chains nor large lines help land large trout. The size 16 and 18 flies on a heavy tippet won't look any more natural than that unfortunate Chihuahua, but they are often the most productive trout patterns when fished with a natural drift. A Zebra Midge rigged to float under an indicator within a foot of the bottom is a great setup to start with, especially as the trout tend to hook themselves with this setup.

Here is a good chance to be generous again. Throw in a modern spool fluorocarbon tippet size 3X or 4X. These lines are thin enough to work most

on a personal approach. It is all about taking the fuss away and helping your friend gain the confidence to regularly catch trout on their own. Fussiness will come with experience.

Don't lend your friend a fly rod and expect good results. I tried several versions of this, and it has not worked for me other than clearing out a few flyrods from my stash, providing opportunity for new additions. What a beginner needs foremost is a friendly teacher and a box of flies to unpack the mysteries of our grand sport. Fly rods are very personal choices, and a beginner won't appreciate picking out a fly rod for themselves until after they have some beginning proficiency in hand. If you have to start somewhere, you can't do better than a 5-weight balanced combo, the sort sold in Bass Pro or Walmart.

Get your friend in waders first. Waders are more important than a particular rod, fly, method, or place. Being comfortable in cold water and able to wade a distance no more than 2 rod lengths from a good run is the best way to be certain poor casting doesn't ruin a good day. Expect fewer tangles and better hookups at that distance and getting away from the fly eating trees and the biting bugs on the shoreline is also something expert fishers also appreciate.



An old pair of duck hunting waders will do, or they can be recently patched hand-me-downs that fit. The waders at Academy will work for less than \$100. Gold Level Option – get your friend into a pair famous name entry level breathable waders and wade boots. There are a lot of reasons to like products from companies like Orvis, Simms, and Patagonia, notably their financial commitment to conservation. Most importantly is that they have good products and will have a pair to fit your friend no matter their stature. There is also the loan and learn program with TU420.

For the fishing gear, start at the flies and work

nymphing and strong enough to land a large trout. This is the line to use for flies with a “retrieve,” swimming a Woolly Buggers or swinging a soft hackle across the current. Trout will be less sensitive to the heavier tippet and with pointing the rod directly at the fly, you may need the heavier line for the strikes. If you prefer, buy a spool of Seagar 6 lb. fluorocarbon, which is about the same as 3X tippet. This line will take a beating and still land a big fish and is a good lesson that a good quality line doesn't have to come 25 yards at a time on a cupcake spool. Keep in mind that line marketing toward the gear crowd will usually test a few pounds heavier than what is on the label, so that 6lb line may have a breaking strength closer to 7 or 8 pounds.

I like to introduce a new fisher to the leader / tippet idea by making a point about cutting off the skinny end of a band spanking new tapered leader and tying on a tippet. The fine end of a 4X or 5X tapered leader will not be as strong as tippet of the same diameter. Teach your friend to tie a good triple surgeon's knot and you have done them a big favor. This will likely be a “new knot” to them, and one that is hard to beat for strength, simplicity, and ease of tying. Readers are a good idea for the over 50 crowd.

Beginners are likely going to be a bit shy wading into a crowd of fly fishers. If you don't remember being a little intimidated as a beginner fly fisher you are either very self-confident or have a poor memory. Beginner's suck at fly fishing. This is a truism we all tend to forget once applied to us.

Twenty-five years ago, my Walmart rod, size 4 Woolly Buggers and my old tennis shoes worked wonders in the small mountain streams close to Albuquerque. Goose Eggs was all I got with my first several trips to the Orvis Hatch on the fabled San Juan River in Northwest New Mexico. It was difficult to stand without waders in the frigid water, big fish at my feet, watching those around me catch monster fish, while all I could do was cast knots in my line. The quality water temperature starts near 50 degrees but warms quickly underneath the New Mexico sun. Youth and stupidity made the cold waters tolerable for an hour or two, especially if I started the day with a little Brandy. Brandy was cheaper than waders.

Thankfully, I began to seek out the backwaters and side channels where the flow was warmer and filled with smaller, kinder trout that were merely difficult to catch. I also discovered plentiful Carp. Fifty-degree water is not prime Carp habitat. The muddy Cattail lined slews were far more comfortable for the carp and me to wade in and feeding carp kept

backwards. Remember this when it comes to the teaching part as well. Be a big-hearted and tie or buy the new fisher their first box of flies. Flies are like magical keys to the kingdom - you can have too many, it never seems that way. The number of flies that won't work in a given situation is larger than the number of flies that will work and selecting an appropriate fly for a situation is one of the more difficult items a new fly fisher will need to learn.

While we all have our favorites, I am suggesting a couple of flies of a limited number of patterns, sorted by size. Here is my list, Size 18 Zebra Midge, Size 16 Bead Head Pheasant Tail, Size 14 Prince Nymph, Size 12 Soft Hackle Hairs Ear, Size 10 Cone Head Woolly Buzzer in 2 colors, Olive and White. The Woolly buzzers will catch nearly any fish in the water. A bonus dry fly is a Chubby Chernobyl or Fat Albert, Size 12 - no floatant required and great for hopper dropper technique and is a great cross-over fly for bass and panfish in smaller waters. With this assortment, the new fisher will have at least one pattern that will work on almost any water.

If the opportunity presents itself, do a little streamside etymology. A little of that is a good way to describe why you generally want your fly near the bottom and moving the same speed as the current. Identifying specific bugs in the water is overrated. I have yet to see a hatch of Mops or Squirmy Wormys and yet those flies work wonders. Here is a lesson for fly selection to take the fly selection fuss away... the calmer the water, the smaller the fly. Matching the hatch can come later.



Article continued in column to your right

the watercolor in the beige to chocolate range. I found I could usually catch a few with a slow retrieve of an olive woolly bugger cast in front of the obvious wakes. After two or three fish, the carp would spook themselves silly and that would be the end of that. I would be a lot warmer and with some fish slime on my hands, ready to tackle the trout challenge again. Thanks to the Carp, I gained a lot of confidence landing large fish with light line. I had figured out the trick to fishing with really small flies that unlocked the picky lips of the mainstream main attraction.



Sharing flies, tips, mishaps, and fishing stories is also just as much of fly fishing as the actual catching. You may be surprised at the level of comradery that comes naturally while standing next to someone struggling to catch a trout on the fly rod or retelling the day afterwards. When a beginner fly fisher catches a really big fish, things will get to be the kind of exciting and remembered for years. Standing beneath the drop pipe at Watts, I have giggled like a girl as a good friend began to catch trout like a pro, even as their waders seemed to have more water inside them than in the river and their back casts slapped the water with every cast. That was a bright sunny day fishing Disco Midges. I am careful to always have a few of those in my box. Far more trout were lost than netted that sharp sunny day, but it will be a long time before that memory fades in my mind.

Flyfishing is a sport of passion with few peers. Introducing someone to fly fishing carries the risk of creating an obsession or a lifelong friendship. The fisher you help create could well be the person whose commitment and passion to wild places will make a critical difference in conserving the beautiful places and fish we pursue. Consider this not an argument, but a challenge to introduce someone new to fly fishing this year and do your

level best to get them off to a good start catching. Here is to be having a great fishing season and sharing with new friends!

Kelly Brown

Former Tulsan, now living in Oregon

(where you can still fish, but you can't pump your own gas)

Mark Your Calendar For These Coming Events

May 12th - Alex Vaisval, OK Striper Survey Results

May 21st - Spaulpa Park Day

May 28th - 15X15 Contest Begins

"Streamline" is published on the first of the month about a week before the next general meeting.

If you have content ideas, comments, complaints or suggestions please contact the Editor: Bruce Brewer, [\(951\) 533-0028](tel:951-533-0028), rbrewer1@live.com

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