



Streamline



December 2020

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

Event Calendar

December 25th - Trout Pond Opens for Kids Only until January 2nd

January 7th - Public Hearing on ODWC Rule Changes in Oklahoma City

January 14th - Donovan Clary, "Smallmouth Fishing on the Illinois River"

January 23 - Roaring River Outing

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

Happy Holiday Season!



Women's Fly Fishing Workshop





Heath Tiefenauer

Hello {FIRST_NAME|TU/TFFer's},

Welcome to the December edition of Streamline. We hope you're enjoying the Holiday Season and staying safe and healthy in this very different year.

As the year ends, I look back on what has been one of the most unusual years most of us have ever experienced. For many of us encountering this year's pandemic has been a very new and trying experience. We've all had to adapt in some way or another this year. As we look forward to the coming year, we plan to embrace this spirit of change and continue to work on new ways to keep all of us connected thru the distance these circumstances have introduced. New for many of us this past year – online meetings. Whether work, family or social many of us have been thrown into the realm of online meetings and gatherings. We've decided to embrace this format for our upcoming Winter and possibly Spring meetings. **To start off the year, our January meeting will be going online.** We will be using the Zoom meeting platform and gladly hosting our speaker Donavan Clary. **The online session will be held at the same time as our normal monthly meeting, January 14th at 6:30PM.** We know this will be new for many of our friends, and we will host a few practice sessions before January 14th so everyone can work out the kinks of connecting to the service. Details for connecting to the monthly meeting as well as the practice and testing sessions will be posted on our Facebook page, website, and January Streamline. We hope you'll join us!

While it has been a year filled with unusual and often difficult circumstances, I still find myself thankful for many things. I'm especially thankful for the support of our organization, both local and National, and the opportunity to serve another year. We really are fortunate to have such a great group of people supporting our group, it's mission and our (somewhat modified this year), activities. One of our great Team members, Kelly Brown, deserves special mention. Kelly has served as Vice President for the past several years. He's been a keystone in our group and I'm very thankful for the opportunity to work with and get to know



TU420 was able to host the first Ladies Only Fly-Fishing Workshop at the Chimney Rock Hollow Trout Fishery. Collectively 20 plus ladies joined Carolyn Parker and Gina Leitle from River's Run Outfitters in a morning long workshop covering the basics of fly fishing, fly casting, entomology and fishing insights. The afternoon was filled with fly casting lessons and fish catching, with a couple of "first trout" moments in the crowd.

If you have a chance, thank Ed Jones and Don Moore for their generous donations to create this inaugural event for the TU420 club.

If you would like to participate in one of these events, contact one of the TU420 officers and they will take care that your name is on the distribution list for the next event, hopefully this Spring if not sooner.

Holiday Party Cancelled

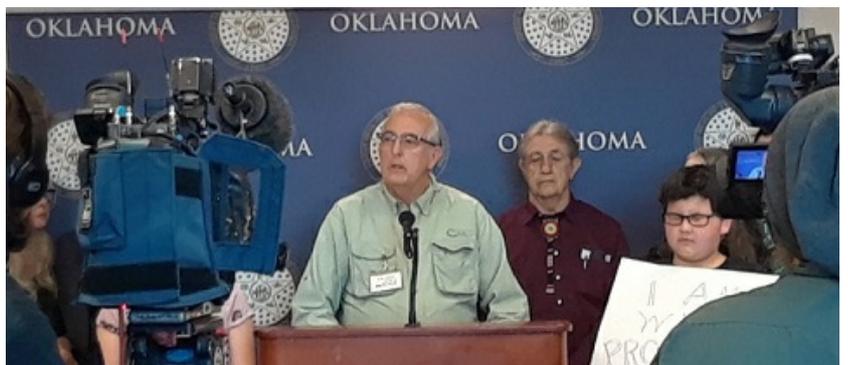


Our annual Holiday Party has been cancelled due to Covid guidelines and out of respect for everyone's personal safety.

We look forward to being able to get together in the future to celebrate our great sport of fly fishing and to see so many of our fly fishing friends.

Until then, stay engaged with our chapter and local fly fishing via our Facebook group, monthly Streamline newsletter, and our home page www.TU420.com

Conservation Champion Retires



him. Kelly has been blessed with the chance to embrace an opportunity which will take him out of our area. It's great for Kelly and his family and I know we're all excited for him, but we will certainly miss his contagious smile and the wonderful spirit of friendship Kelly brought to our group. We wish Kelly and family all the best. We are also excited to welcome several new people into our Volunteer leader group. Binnie Jones, AP Fletcher, Bruce Brewer and Kelly Bostian have joined the Team and we're excited to have them join us, please join me in expressing our gratitude for the willingness to volunteer.

Our group wouldn't be what it is without the volunteer leaders, but it wouldn't be at all without the support of the members. This unusual past year has been a great year for many of our programs and we owe it all to the material, physical, and financial support of every one of you. Thank you. Thank you for helping us fill the outdoor general meetings, for buying raffle tickets, coming out to clean ups events, funding our group thru tournaments, and fundraising events. Thank you for supporting Trout in the Classroom and our Conservation and Veterans' programs. We look forward to bringing you many more of these events. **Thank you, especially to our Trout Unlimited registered members, new and old. If you aren't a member of TU, please consider joining today.**

Tight Lines,

Heath Tiefenauer

President of Oklahoma Trout Unlimited & Tulsa Fly Fishers

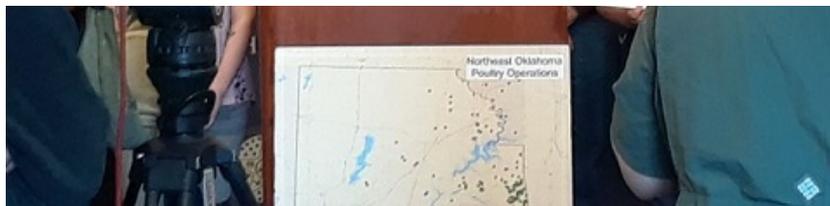
Trout In The Classroom



Beggs High School Students

Sometimes, especially in the days of the Covid-19 pandemic, no news is good news.

After seeding 3,000 unhatched eggs into all 10 of the area schools, I have only seen one report of interest. Catoosa High School declares a good hatch of all their eggs which included two anomalies ... one trout born with a back issue that allowed it to only swim in a circle, and another that was born with two heads. Both heads have



Pat Daly

We've been through a lot this year. Economies closing and opening, supply chain shortages, layoffs and unemployment, protests, political standoffs, virus case counts, and an election. While those things will probably continue to occupy the conversations that we have, both familial and virtual, as we crawl into 2021, the need and value for clean water has never been more evident.

Story after story has emerged throughout the pandemic describing newfound joy or old familiar habits that all take place in our state's streams, rivers, and lakes. Rods that have been set aside for decades have been dusted off. Friendships were reborn through the powerful connection of water. What we once considered an outdoor activity became our lens for clarity and a mediator between our divided country. Fly shops sold out of rods, fly manufacturers were backordered for months, and paddle and boat companies couldn't keep up. America waded back into its waters and found hope in the drifts and the swings of our local streams.

Pat Daly has spent the better part of 8 years making sure that we have plenty of access and opportunity here in Oklahoma. While the rest of us were planning our next trips and tying flies for our favorite stretches, he was reading bills and driving to the state capitol. While we were learning and exploring the habits of a new species or planning our schedules around runs of White Bass, Pat was becoming intimately informed on the problems and promise of our different watersheds. A river advocate doesn't seem to properly encapsulate or describe the profound passion that Pat brought to his time as the conservation chair for our local chapter,

but those are the meager words I have to illustrate such a generous and compassionate conservationist.

Pat recently decided to retire from his position, so that he can dust off some of his own rods and fish the water he's been so selflessly protecting for almost a decade now. We wish him the best of luck and hope that 2021 brings him a full net.

Jake Miller

Board Member

Outings

Date: January 23rd

Location: Roaring River

Start Time: 8:30

Contact: Heath Tiefenauer at TU420outings@gmail.com

Join us on January 23rd for our annual outing to Roaring River. We will host our Veteran's group again this year for a day of fishing and comradery. We'll kick off the event at 8:30AM in front of the Park Store and fish the morning. We will gather at the large pavilion across from the park store for lunch at 12:30. A chili lunch will be prepared on site and served by your Tulsa Fly Fishers volunteer staff, taking all the precautions needed.

functioning gills. The students named the oddities, Curley and Captain Two-Heads, respectively. The rarities are alive and well at this time.

You can check in on all that is going on with the tanks on our Facebook page ... TULSA AREA TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM.

Scott Hood
Youth Education Coordinator for OKTU420

2020 Conservation Issues

Conservation is Our Passion

Trout Unlimited was founded in the late 50s on the banks of a river by a bunch of anglers. The core ethos of that group was based on the conservational responsibility that accompanies the practice of fishing. In other words, the joy we experience when fishing can only continue to exist if we protect the places that we fish.

With Pat Daly's retirement announcement, there is now a need and an opportunity for our membership to continue his extraordinary conservation efforts. I have accepted the conservation chair position on the board, but I will need lots of help over the next year to ensure that our fisheries continue to have a voice and thrive.

Before accepting the position, I spent a great deal of time every week monitoring the Zink Dam project. The complexities associated with that project are limitless and time consuming. The strategies required to communicate with and inform all involved organizations and interests have created almost a full-time job for me. With the approaching legislative session and the reviving of the possibility of the Jenk's dam, I will have a full plate with just these two items.

There are so many other watersheds and issues that need our focus and consideration. If you have any interest in being part of the chapter's conservation team, please reach out to me at jake@heirloomrusticales.com. If you do decide to get involved, you can expect me to connect you with other organizations and professionals that are working on the same stream, project, or watershed. I'll get you up to speed on the current threats or opportunities and introduce you to other folks with which you can brainstorm ideas and developments. We'll work together on constructing long and short terms goals for your area of interest, and make sure you feel comfortable and informed. It may sound intimidating, but most of the "work" looks like identifying key partners and asking lots of questions. A passion and an interest are really all you need to create success.

Outings Poker cards will be available during the lunch session. We ask that you do not bring food to share with the group. After lunch the fishing resumes until the park closes.

Veterans desiring assistance or a fishing buddy and those willing to help as a fishing buddy, please visit the contacts page of TU420.com and send an email to Russell Vaughn.

Please make sure you have your Missouri fishing license, unless exempt.

Annual Roaring River Fishing with Veterans
Roaring River State Park
12716 Farm Rd 2239, Cassville, MO 65625

8:30AM Gather at Park Store for morning fishing.
12:30PM Lunch at the Pavilion
1:30PM Afternoon fishing
4:30PM Park closes

Youth And Adult Education



THE TROUT POND FOR TULSA 2020-21

Trout will be stocked again this winter in the pond located at the corner of 51st and Hudson (Tulsa). There will be NO FISHING signs on the pond until Christmas morning when the pond will be open for **KIDS ONLY DAYS**. This runs from Christmas Day until January 2nd when the pond will open to the general public. Two additional stockings will occur once before January 18th and another just before February 15th and both of those days will also be designated **KIDS ONLY DAYS**.

Adults can fish with children on these days as long as the children are actively engaged in fishing. Catch and keep is allowed with a limit of 4 fish daily.

We encourage our membership to enjoy this opportunity to engage in fishing on the pond and to also interact with those people fishing on the pond. It's good PR for our TU chapter ... tell people about our chapter and make it known that these fish are not FREE. Tell them where they can donate to help us continue to offer the program in years to come. www.tu420.com

If you intend to fish and release your catch and we hope members will do both, please use barbless hooks!

If you have any questions or would like to get involved, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. Think about the last good day fishing that you experienced in Oklahoma. Think about what it would mean to you for that place/spot to not be the same. What if the phosphorous load in the Upper Illinois started having a negative effect on the smallmouth population? What if the city of Tulsa doesn't put fish migration and egg passage into the operations plan for the new dams and we lose several native and game fish populations? What if we could get an allocation study on Lake Tenkiller and finally get minimum flow for the Lower Illinois?

There are so many possible positive and negative outcomes for Oklahoma water, and the only way we can ensure a better hope for our future fisheries is by doing the same thing those anglers did that started our organization all those years ago. By caring enough to get involved!

Jake Miller
Conservation Chair

Blue River Outing



A small group of souls mocked the weather predictions of morning rain and drove to the Blue River. Though it rained oft and on during the drive, the day fishing was spent under cloudy skies. The fishing remained challenging to us fly fishers.

At the November General Meeting our speaker, Skylar St Yves, said we should always carry a spinning and/or baitcasting rod with us. Those words popped up in my mind as we walked out with groups carrying stringers of trout and toting a handful of spinning rods.

Lunchtime brought fellowship and fish stories. The highlight being Donovan Clary's explanation of Euro Nymphing that he illustrated with an extra long rod. You don't want to miss our next outing, no matter what the weather forecast.

Bruce Brewer
Editor

Annual Election Results

At the November General Meeting, we held our annual election of Officers and Board members.

This program is supported by OKTU420, NatureWorks of Tulsa and the Tulsa County Parks Department.

Scott Hood
Youth and Education Co-ordinator

2021 GENERAL MEETING PRESENTATION SCHEDULE

January 14 – Donovan Clary – Small mouth Fishing on the Illinois River

February 11 – Phil Curtis et al – Annual Evening of Fly Tying

March 11 – Bruce Burton - Catching OK's Warm Water Big Bass on the Fly

April 8 – Stephen Ruiz – Euro Nymphing Techniques for Big Trout

May 13 – Lt Gov. Matt Pennell – Oklahoma Fishing Trail & Importance of Fishing to the OK Economy

January 2021 to be a Virtual Meeting on ZOOM. Links to be provided in the January Streamline and the TU420 FaceBook page.

Please provide Pat Daly, pat@cimtel.net, with any recommendations you have for winter/spring fly fishing topics and guest speakers.

Kelly's Korner

Only You Can Save Our Waters

Who remembers Smokey the Bear, reminding you to prevent forest fires? The original campaign was launched in 1944 because of the very real risk of man-made fires. During WWII, Japan launched 9300 hydrogen weather balloons into the jet stream with bombs and incendiaries bound for American shores. Seasoned Fire Fighters were largely enlisted and not available to combat forest fires. The Forest Service realized that their best resource for protecting our wild lands were the people who owned the land, you and me. The "Only You Can Prevent Wildfires" campaign was launched to raise awareness of the impact of human activities on wild places and ask the general public to help protect our natural resources.



Smokey the Bear came later, a young black bear cub rescued in 1950 from the Capitan Gap Fire in New Mexico. Smokey was a big hit and had a long career as a Forest Service movie star and retired from his public service. Then there was Smokey II to carry this radical message: *Forests. rivers and streams are best*

Including the elected Officers, our 2021 TU420 Board consists of the following:

Scott Hood, Pat Daly, Frank Kohn, Ed Wampler, Jake Miller, Russell Vaugh, John Sellars, Bruce Brewer, Kelly Bostian, and AP Fletcher.

Our 2021 Officers are:

President – Heath Tiefenauer

Vice-President – Kelly Brown

Treasurer – Phil Curtis

Secretary – Binnie Jones

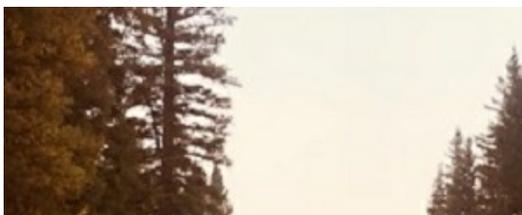
During the December Board meeting, Kelly Brown informed the board of his impending move to Oregon. This necessitated the move to appoint an interim vice-president. **Russell Vaugh** was chosen to fulfill Kelly's role until our next annual election.

A Few Words From Jake

Big Sky Fishing Part 3



We've been driving for the better part of 2 hours. We're crawling up dusty roads that parallel the Snowcrest Range. It would be easy to believe that we are the last humans on earth. We haven't seen another car in what seems like a lifetime. Signs begin to appear for the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Montana's largest national forest. Instead of figuring out the tricky and limited access on the Lower Ruby, we decided to make the long haul to the Upper Ruby in search of Grayling.



Emergency fire calls, and natural messages, forests, rivers and streams are best protected by the public's collective awareness and stewardship.

Thanks to a mid-summer wedding and social distancing, I had a great opportunity to enjoy our outdoors with extended traveling/camping trips to Oregon, Wyoming and plenty of Oklahoma destinations. We dodged snowstorms, high winds and wildfires and loads of folks like us, headed somewhere outside. I saw Karin catch her first Brookie near where my Grandparents took me to catch trout in a beaver pond in the 1970's. I had a great day fishing a Cicada hatch on the Green River with my Uncle. Thank you, Boomer, for the great day and fishing all day long with a single fly, but I still think Trout are best approached with 3 and 4 weight rods regardless of how big and nasty they fight.



I filmed Karin learning to bow and arrow cast across a creek you could step across. She caught that little Brown she saw rising on a no-name stream in the Malheur wilderness where we had grabbed the last wide spot in a narrow canyon to spend the night. My best buddy Paul Muzljakovich had two rainbows gobbled up by big bull trout on a rainy-day float down the McKenzie River that had our guide giddy. That same area was completely devastated by wildfires later in the summer. The biggest threat I saw this summer was not forest fires, fish limits, clear cutting, dams or litter, but the incredible number of campers in places that in the past were pretty quiet.



Oklahoma was no exception to crowded waters. I arrived at Scotty's One-Stop at 2:00 on a Friday afternoon for the November outing. Thanks to good advice from Donovan Clary, we settled into what I thought was the very last campsite at campground #2. I spoke with a local who had been driving around and he assured us that the other campgrounds were equally crazy packed. Somehow another half dozen Large Marge camp-trailers found room after we arrived. I felt more socially distanced in our local market than in the Great Outdoors.

Fortunately, our neighbors were Mark and Frank Kohn which was reason enough to stay even with a crowd. That weekend netted a few trout, saw Frank take a tumble and still show up Mark and I on the fish count. Fish stories and guitar at 1 AM generated some rather rude comments from my sweetheart. Fly fishing with friends new and old is one way I am extraordinarily blessed.



We pull into our campsite and step out into a windy Montana afternoon. A heavy gust doubles over the Creekside willows, revealing their silver leaf underbellies, confirming that today will be 6x hell.

I've never fished for Grayling, and to be honest I don't know much about them. I've obsessed over their patterns and extended bouffant dorsal fins, but I don't know a thing about their preferred habitat or predatory preferences. The stream itself is a narrow beauty, arousing the overused "gin clear" sentiment. My girlfriend takes an eager step towards the first pool. Shadows race towards the only cover in the run. The clarity of the stream is going to keep my presentation honest. My preference for streamer fishing has left my dry fly game wanting, and these fish are all looking up.

I tie on an Adams and approach my first run. There is a log jam near the bank on the opposite side of the stream and the water is shadowed next to the cover and abruptly drops into a deep trough towards the end of the drift. Like most of Montana, the willows walk right up to the water's edge and make back casting a distant memory. I'm content to watch the dark water for now and see if I can see any evidence of a fish rising. After my eyes adjust, it only takes seconds to notice several little mouths

gulping Tricos. I switch to a fresh spinner and begin plotting my roll cast. My first cast misses the run by a foot and my fly finds a small eddy and begins the eternal toilet flush until it becomes too waterlogged to float. I can't stand how bad I am at this. I can double haul a missile into prevailing winds, but I can't roll cast across a drainage ditch on my best day. I gather my fly back and make a second effort. This cast finds the inside of the run. It doesn't make it more than a foot before a fingerling comes fully out of the water after it. Multiple fish miss the fly as it cruises through the faster water. I'm laughing at their brave efforts. I finally get a connection when the fly slows down over the dark pool. I trout set and almost pull a juvenile right out of its barr marks. It skips across

My next job is taking this Okie once more to Oregon. I will be lucky to have my son and daughter nearby with plenty of wilderness to lose myself. I will miss talking trash with a group of damn good fly fishers from the OKC area including a few lost Texans, watching the Dean of the LIR show all of us how to do everything with an Olive Wooly Bugger, and swapping flies in the parking lot. Lucky I was to be able to fish some with PHWFF vets and gain new friends at Heath's Hard Luck Tournament. I had a great time this summer not catching all 15 species of fish and sharing afternoon beers and a fish story with some of the best people I know and seeing a group of nearly 30 lady fly fishers come together at the Trout Ranch for the first "For Ladies Only" TU420 event.

Our local TU420 chapter is many people and many things, and the chance to fish with first class fly fishers is reason enough to join the club. The very best reason to join in is to add your voice to the call to protect our Oklahoma waters and fisheries. There are many ways to be involved. If you can't join in a virtual meeting or an outing, take a picture of trash you have picked up from the stream and include it in your Facebook selfies. Please protect my home waters while I am gone and I hope to see a few of you on a Steelhead stream in Southern Oregon this next year. Only You Can Save Our Waters!

Kelly Brown
Vice-President TU420

Author Kelly Brown will be documenting his general thoughts in the coming months. If you see him at the next General Meeting, be sure to thank him for putting these projects together.

Proposed Fish, Wildlife Rule Changes Now Open for Public Comments

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED FOR JAN. 7, 2021, IN OKLAHOMA CITY

Each year, the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation proposes changes in [Title 800](#), the administrative rules that govern hunting, fishing and Wildlife Department operations. The public comment period for this year's proposed rule changes opened Dec. 1 and will close at 4:30 p.m. Jan. 8, 2021.

Many proposed changes are simple housekeeping matters, while some are more substantial. Some of this year's rule change proposals:

- For Close To Home Fishing waters, allow black bass harvest and set new aggregate limits.
- Set new aggregate bag limit for trout statewide.
- Clarify restriction on cleaning fish while actively fishing.
- Add restriction on dumping fish carcasses.
- Change fish stringer labeling requirement at tailwaters and trout fishing areas from name and address to customer identification number.
- Clarify the taking of fish species by bow and arrow, gig, spear and speargun and disposal of remains.
- Various changes to hunting season dates, open hours, closed seasons and bag limits on many wildlife management areas. For a summary, go to www.wildlifedepartment.com/public-meeting and click on [Rule Change Proposals 2021 Agenda \(PDF\)](#).
- Add archery as a legal method of take to fill Damage Control Assistance Program permits.

...the right out of the pan... it slips across the stream and lands at my feet. The vibrant colors keep me from immediately releasing the trout. It's been so long since I've fished skinny water for wild, infant trout, that I almost forgot how stunning they can be. I admire its dark blue mirrors and sunset red blush. The fish slips my barbless hook during my daydream and scurries back to the safety of the depths.



We spend all afternoon doing this. Neither of us catch a fish over 10" and the shy Grayling doesn't pay us a single visit. Evening steps in and reminds us that time indeed does exist. We follow the creek back to our car and start driving towards Ennis, both thinking that we need to find more days for small fish on light tackle. And both consoling each other on the number of roll casts finding willows instead of pools.

Jake Miller
TU Board Member

We are blessed to have Jake's fishing adventures in our monthly STREAMLINE editions. If you would like to share any of your encounters with the elusive trout or other finned creatures, please contact the editor.

Just in the Net...

TU420 Board Member, **Kelly Bostian**, contracted to the Conservation Coalition of Oklahoma (CCO). He will increase their social media presence, and cover environmental and conservation issues as a reporter.

Jake Miller has stepped up to take the position as Conservation Chair, vacated by the retiring Pat Daly.

- Clarify when and where hunter orange is required to be worn, and remove hunter orange requirements for dove hunters.
- Allow nonresidents to complete hunter education certification through the ODWC online course.

To read all of the proposed rule changes, go to www.wildlifedepartment.com/public-meeting.

Anyone wishing to make comments on any of the proposed rule changes may do so in one of three ways:

- Fill out the **online public comment form** at www.wildlifedepartment.com/public-meeting. The online public comment period closes at 4:30 p.m. Jan. 8, 2021.
- Write your comments in a **letter** and mail to Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, Re: Public Comment, P.O. Box 53465, Oklahoma City, OK 73152. Letters must be postmarked by Jan. 8, 2021.
- Voice your comments in person during a **public hearing** beginning at 7 p.m. Jan. 7, 2021, at the John D. Groendyke Wildlife Conservation Building, [1801 N. Lincoln Blvd.](http://www.wildlifedepartment.com/public-meeting) in Oklahoma City.

All public comments are collected and reviewed by the [Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission](http://www.wildlifedepartment.com/public-meeting). Commissioners are expected to consider the proposed changes at their regular meeting set for Feb. 1, 2021.

Mark Your Calendar For These Coming Events

February 11th - Phil Curtis and Friends, Annual Fly Tying Event

March 11th - Bruce Burton, Catching Bass on the Fly

"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) 533-0026, rbbrewer1@live.com

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