

# Fly Line

A Monthly Newsletter

Feb 2014

## Club Officers and Directors

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	Lary Smith
	Lents Prendergast
	Ed Hinton
	Bruce Keen
	Tim Blackwell



Meetings at East Side Arvest Bank at 7 P.M.  
First Tuesday of the Month

## President's Conner



Hello G.C.F. Members,

The month of February is here.

It's time to think about spring, and get the winter blues behind us. I know for myself, I have had enough cold weather.

I haven't had any time to go fishing yet, hope some of you have.

Check out the article on the next page about Kansas efforts, directed by Ben Neely, to improve fishing at Montgomery County State fishing lake.

That's all I have to report for now.

Happy fishing  
Richard

## 2014 School

The Fishing School starts Feb 6 in Dewey. We will be using Washington

County Adult Center and Dewey mid high gym.

Bruce and Gene will be giving casting instruction at each of the 10 sessions. Our objective is to have all the students doing fishing casts by graduation time.

We will be demonstrating the tying of 4 flies with Larry, Ed, and Ivan will be the demonstrators. There will be a greater focus on fishing information.  
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# Monograph

## Neely works to keep anglers and fish happy

By **KASSIE SANDERSON**  
Family Living Editor

Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism district fish biologist Ben C. Neely is hoping to make fishing better for anglers who frequent the Montgomery State Lake by partially renovating the lake to enhance its fish populations.

A Coffeyville native who has been living and working in Independence for two years, Neely is the proud parent of a 3-year-old daughter and a 1-year-old son. He is a biologist for the lakes in Labette, Montgomery and Wilson counties, which keeps him busy.

"I'm doing what I enjoy," he said. "It's nice to get to work on something outdoors and make fishing better. My job is to keep people happy and the fish happy."

As a 2004 graduate of Kansas State University followed by a master's degree in 2008 from the University of Nebraska, Neely will be using his knowledge to "dewater" the lake in order to apply a chemical to kill off an intrusive species that's caused ecological problems for the bluegill and sunfish that inhabit the waters.

The gizzard shad was introduced into the lake after the 2007 flood and since then its population has exploded. According to Neely, the gizzard shad have been affecting the growth of regular fish, primarily the bluegill.

"Gizzard shad is an open water fish, they don't do well in small reservoirs like this," Neely explained. "What they do is compete for plankton with the bluegill."

Gizzard shad usually hatch before bluegill, and with their overwhelming number, the bluegill and other fish don't have a chance to



(Photo by Rob Morgan)

### Ben C. Neely

thrive and grow as they compete for food.

Neely's solution is to apply a chemical, Rotenone, once the "dewatering" of the lake has reached 494 acre feet from its usual 700. Anglers are still encouraged to use the lake, but once the chemical has been added to the water, signs will be posted at lake entrances until the first of February.

"What we're doing is just a partial renovation," Neely said. "We'll be adding 22 gallons of the chemical to the lake and what it does is inhibits oxygen to the fish. It'll be a two-week process to complete, and we're hoping that it works."

Typically when an undesired species overruns the waters and affects the ecosystem, Neely said that total renovation of the lake is preferred, but in order to keep "anglers and fish happy," he opted for a partial renovation instead.

Neely added that the chemical isn't harmful to humans and the animals that eat the fish.

With only eight more inches to go

before the lake is at desirable levels, Neely hopes the draining will be completed by next Wednesday. From there, three boats will be used during a two-day process of adding the chemical to kill the gizzard shad.

"Our approach is to do it slowly to avoid making hot spots for the other fish. This method isn't exactly new," he said. "But the way we gathered data with mapping was."

He credited advances in technology that allowed him to "get a better idea of how much water" that exists in the lake.

"We gathered information by driving, getting latitudes and longitudes and with that, we were able to measure the depths of the lake more accurately," he said. The information is made available to anglers on the Montgomery County fishing website.

"Montgomery State Lake is a good place to catch fish, and it's been known as one of the best areas to catch bluegill. We want to keep it that way."





## School Continued

We have power point presentation for each of the sessions. If you would like to improve your understanding of one of the sessions, please offer to teach it. We will work with you on the session and modify it to include information you think is important or change the order of presentation. Nothing improves understanding like teaching to someone else.

If you are interested contact Dennis.

Sessions being taught.

Introduction to fly fishing  
Flies and Demo Woolly Bugger  
Rods, Reels, Lines and Leaders  
Knots Demo Hares Ear Nymph  
Cold water fishing  
Warm Water fishing PS Leach  
Entomology  
Gear to carry Demo Elk Hair  
caddis

Reading Streams

All members are welcome to sit in on any session of interest to them. Check the web site school page for the dates of each session.

We worked up to 12 students, but then life got in the way and we are now down to 9 students. This is not all bad since we have no money tied up in tying equipment and we are making major changes to course material.



**Bartlesville Green Country Flyfishers dues are \$16, and most of our members pay in December and January. You can pay at the meeting or mail to Gary Kilpatrick, 1230 Dogwood Court, Bartlesville, OK. 74006.**

## **Calendar of Coming Events**

**Feb 4**

**Tying at Arvest Bank from 7 to 9**

**Feb 6**

**School starts**

**Feb 8**

**Coffee & Tying at Bambino's from  
9 to 12**

**Feb 28 Mar 1,2**

**Outdoor Sporting Expo in  
Claremore**



**Time spent fishing is time well spent**