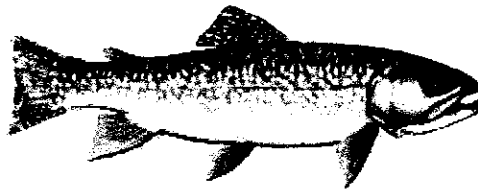


Brookie News

Newsletter of the Central Wisconsin
Chapter of Trout Unlimited

February 2005



PrezSez

I feel real good about our Chapter's strength, vitality and direction. The February meeting was one of the best ever! Even though it was Valentine's Day, we had good attendance and everyone was actively involved!

We made some interesting and ground-breaking decisions. The Board voted unanimously to financially support Bob Hunt's efforts to produce a video on stream rehabilitation, a program having the potential to help our Chapter and others everywhere. Friends of Wisconsin has promised to match our contribution, but Bob Hunt is also seeking funds from other sources.

The Board also voted unanimously to fund the acquisition of a video projector and a laptop computer for preparing programs to tell our story. This equipment will be used at various events: monthly programs, Fun-Days, Fly Fishing School, and Fly Tying Classes and also in school and community sessions through a hoped-for CWTU Speaker's Bureau.

We have approved a deficit budget as reported in previously, so what is the source of this money? Since the late Nash Williams' will provided our Chapter a sum to be used to further our mission of "Protecting, Preserving and Improving cold water resources", we believe this use would merit his approval.

(In the future, the Williams fund may also be used to finance our water monitoring program.)

The video purchase caused me to appreciate what a great role model Nash Williams was. Recently, Sue and I have been reviewing our wills. I plan to remember CWTU in mine and Sue will do the same for her favorite cause—The Nature Conservancy. Have you considered similar memorials?

My thanks to Scott Grady for providing our FunDay newsletter in color, just another of the generous donations he has made to CWTU. Thanks also to Dan and Gail Colligan for all the work they are doing to orchestrate our Annual Banquet; we owe them a great debt of appreciation!

Please support our Chapter by attending our Fun-Day on February 26 and our Banquet on March 12! These two events virtually support our Chapter's activities for the coming year. Don't forget to bring someone with you, too!

John Gremmer

Fun Day

The BIG event on **February 26** will be our **Annual Fun Day** at the **Fin 'n Feather, Winneconne**, starting at **10 AM**. This great, free event is open to any age and interest; there will be more than **forty** exhibits and **ten** interesting, half-hour presentations.

Y'all come!

Annual Meeting

Most of all, remember and attend our **Annual Meeting and Banquet** on **Saturday, March 12** in **Oshkosh's Park Plaza Hotel**. (Note: This is a change from our planning calendar!) We elect officers at **4:30 PM** in the Ballroom and the silent auctions, raffles and camaraderie begin immediately thereafter.

This is THE fundraiser for the year, so we ask all members to attend and **bring a friend!**

Minutes, February 14 Board Meeting

Present: Ira Giese, John Gremmer, Scott Grady, Bob Haase, Dan Harmon III, Bob Hunt, Al Lee, Rich Mlodzik, Bob Rennock, and Jack Wahlers.

The meeting was convened at the Berlin Public Library at 6:30 PM. As a first order of business, the Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published in the **Brookie News**.

John Gremmer reported on the State Banquet on February 5. CWTU had eight members in attendance, a good representation. The Council again supported raising Wisconsin license fees. And John reported the Council approved a committee to explore hiring an Executive Director. (*Ed: See article elsewhere in this issue.*)

John also planned to coordinate our Chapter's attendance at a Legislative meeting on February 16, an opportunity to meet the Governor and discuss cold water resources.

Then President John provided the latest details of our FunDay. (*Again, see article elsewhere in this Brookie News.*)

In a discussion of a proposed purchase of Power Point equipment, Bob Haase anticipated filming Chapter members working on stream projects and then showing such at our meetings. It was then voted to authorize up to \$3,000 for such gear, but the matter will be reviewed

by the Board after further research by Gremmer.

Bob Hunt then asked for funds to achieve his DVD project of explaining rehabilitation of trout waters. Upon motion by Rennock and a second by Haase, \$1,000 was approved, since other sources will match the amount.

Rich Mlodzik then reported he will be meeting with Dave Bartz, checking on sites for the year. We will first finish on the upper Little Pine Creek and then at the Czech Lane portion of the same water.

Jack Wahlers

CWTU People

Officers

President John Gremmer
920-582-7802
Vice President Elward Engle
920-787-287
Treasurer Scott Grady
920-687-0987
Secretary Bob Chamberlain Editor
920-398-3721

Other Board

Mark Brosseau	920-231-7355	Comm.
Dan Colligan	920-787-4801	Education
Ira Giese	920-787-4279	Banquet
Bob Haase	920-922-8003	PR
Dan Harmon III	920-235-1761	Fishing School
Bob Hunt	715-258-2886	
Al Lee	920-233-3581	
Rich Mlodzik	920-295-8772	Workday
Tracy Moran	920-685-0902	
Ray Piehl	920-787-3147	
Tom Poullette	715-258-5565	Watchdog
Bob Rennock	920-926-6010	Research
Jerry Strom	920-589-4182	
Jack Wahlers	920-361-0807	Legislation
Gene West	920-787-2455	

Stream Monitoring

We are organizing for monitoring one or more of our area's trout streams. This work coincides with the current emphasis on providing more scientific data for making rational environmental decisions, so it's very important! We want your help!

We're in the planning stage and welcome anyone and everyone to participate. The tasks are simple, the involved time is minor and the training is easy. We can have outdoor fun together, so call me at 920-926-6010 (or GURIBB@MHTC.NET) to join in and then watch for more information in the next **Brookie News**.

Bob Rennock

HELP!

Gail Colligan is part of a day-long program held for

kids in Waushara County, every Spring. One of the workshops teaches fishing and casting, but she says a good portion of the kids who come to that session don't own, nor have money for, a spinning rod.

So, she is asking our members to donate their used spinning rods for passing on to youngsters who would put them to good use. She would like to find 40-50 rods.

AND she would appreciate any other equipment, freebies, or fishing information for the program which is called "Blue Ribbon Kids Day".

Will you help?

And Again

And Prez John asks that we also honor this request: Tina Murray, a teacher at Shabazz High School in Madison, is preparing to teach a class on fly fishing to 20 students this Spring. She needs any old fly fishing stuff... flies/rods/reels...anything to outfit these kids.

And she needs guides for the West Fork at Avalanche during the week of May 15-20, since they plan to camp and fish there.

John Gribb is helping to organize this activity and has a list of flies to be tied for them: Caddis, BWOs, Hornbergs, etc. Contact him at jgribb@mhtc.net or 608-437-52609 if you can help in any way..

From Other Sources

At our January 10 meeting, Bob Hunt loaned me a magazine from New Zealand, a **beautiful** thing with lots of color pics of NZ waters and 30" Bows and Browns!

Three articles were particularly interesting. One was on the territorial "displays" of trout defending their space. Another was on problems with the increasing use of irrigation in NZ and the consequent dewatering. And the third was on choosing rod length.

I really appreciated Bob's thinking of this Ol' Codger!

State Council Banquet

Jake Vander Zanden, UW professor, spoke on Mongolia and its magnificent taimen trout (70 pounds in 39 inches is not rare) at the State TU Banquet on February 5 at Oshkosh's Park Plaza Conference Center. He discussed the current effort to attach transmitters to these fish, since little is known of their movements or "what level of catch and release is sustainable for them."

The speaker asked the normal fee for his talk be contributed to the Taimen Conservation Fund which supports the five-year research program on these land-locked salmonids.

Next year's fete will be in the center of the State.

Wisconsin TU Executive Director Plans

After the recent State Council meeting in Oshkosh,

the following email summary was distributed by Council President Bill Pielsticker:

"Friends: For the sake of those who were unable to attend (the recent) State Council meeting, here is my recollection of the motion that passed by a wide margin in a show of hands.

"Motion: To authorize the formation of a committee to put together a business plan, position description, and budget for the position of Executive Director. The committee (appointed by the Chair) will produce these documents in time to be considered at the Spring-Summer meeting.

"Note: This was a clear modification of Duke Welter's first two motions and provides for...additional details prior to a vote (at the Fall meeting) authorizing a fundraising campaign for an E. D. position.

"In addition to the items outlined in the motion that passed, I will direct the committee to:

1. Put together a draft fundraising strategy which would not include a tax on chapters nor preclude chapter donations.

2. Review how other organizations have changed following the hiring of an executive director, including other TU councils.

3. Draw up a description of the day to day activity an E. D. would likely take part in.

"At this time, the following (are) part of this committee: Jon Christiansen, Jim Hlaban, Jack Bode, Larry Kriese, Jim Folda, Dale Druckery, Andy Lamberson, Duke Welter. As Council Chair, I also will take part in the committee's work.

"Please feel free to share this email with our chapter members as you see fit. Draft minutes for the 2/5/05 Council meeting will be circulated for comment when available."

Central Region TU Notes

President Gremmer attended a Central Region TU meeting on January 26. Some excerpts from that meeting as reported by Jim Hlaban, Region Chair, are:

"Thanks to everyone who took time to attend. I think we all have a better understanding of what is going on in the coldwaters of Central Wisconsin.

"John Gremmer described the beginning of their water monitoring effort and will see to it their coordinator touches base with Dave Bartz to help assure we are getting the most valuable data from this effort.

They are also looking for help from the local chapters in a booth at the Ducks Unlimited Outdoor Fest in August. Bob Hunt reports that several Central members are documenting past projects in the Central Region that require maintenance. A report will be shared with TU and the DNR...

"...John Edelbeck of the City of Waupaca inquired

about (Hornberg Chapter's) involvement in removal of dam remnants near Shearer Street (and) removal of an abandoned concrete tank and some erosion near the sewage treatment plant (and) also development of a fishing trail along the river. He offered using the trail to educate and publicize our habitat improvement efforts.

"(We) will set up a meeting with John on a Saturday morning this Spring to tour the potential project area. We will hold the next Region Meeting that day....

"Bob Hunt described an effort he is involved in and seeking funding for putting together a video that could be a primer for stream improvement using movies and videos of past work he was involved in. An estimate of \$5,000 is needed to make this happen....

"Lastly, Jim Hlaban and Dave Johnson were re-elected as Chair and Treasurer of the Central Region."

Fishing Talk

Ye Ed was chatting with Doc Poullette, the other day, and discovered we both had backpacked and fished on the Middle Fork of the Flathead River in Western Montana...and that we both had seen plenty of Grizzly sign.

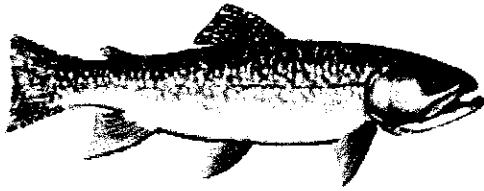
On one of my trips there (with seven Explorer Scouts), we saw a convoy of "hit and run" trouters on motor bikes. These guys would hit a pool, harvest a number of cut-throats into plastic bags and roar off to the next spot. I was very happy when Doc told me vehicles had subsequently been banned from the Flathead National Forest. That country's meant for hiking, as our group discovered....and loved....in its two weeks there.

One story to share: This old man wasn't quite so old then, but after laboring up several days from US2 west of Summit, MT, I was dog-tired when we had chosen a spot to camp and had just stretched out against the packboard when the kids yelled, "Mr. Chamberlain, there's a hatch! Come and show us how to catch a trout."

Fortunately, I had a fly that matched a green caddis coming off and a willing trout rising steadily in a given spot. When that fish was hooked, every spectator gasped and the fish flashed red in the crystal-clear water. Then the whole struggle was avidly watched.

Once in the net, the cut-throat was praised by all standing around before sending them scrambling for their own tackle and two weeks of a few fish to eat and mucho catch and release....a fond memory of two loves, Scouting and trout fishing!

Central Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited invites anyone interested in preserving protecting and enhancing cold waters in Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Marquette, Waushara and Winnebago Counties to join in our efforts to that end!



Central Wisconsin Trout Unlimited
2325 State Hwy 44
Oshkosh, WI 54904

Problem Culverts

In case you didn't notice, the current issue of our State's TU magazine has a front-page article on "tackling (Wisconsin's) problem culverts." The article states "that improperly sited culverts can be one of the best things our TU chapters can do to improve Wisconsin's trout waters."

It further notes "If a culvert is too small, it causes damming with secondary sedimentation which, in turn, heats a stream's water beyond trout tolerance." This point has been made, repeatedly, by Tom Poullette and Bob Hunt in our CWTU sessions and has been fundamental for our Chapter's watchdog activity ever since we were founded in 1971.

Let's be sure we keep our focus on our current five trout-water-laden counties, because we have many culverts. And let's be sure we use the proper channel (the

DNR) to be certain each problem is corrected when found no matter how long our Watchdog Chairman stays in Florida each year!

Go CWTU!

Planning

Our Board will renew the planning for our Chapter at its next meeting. At its last session, you may remember it revised the order of our targeted items, based on the success of planning in our first year.

The revised list is now:

- A. Improve communications and educational efforts.
- B. Continue/Expand fieldwork.
- C. Improve CWTU and its structure.
- D. Develop/Enhance conservation partners.
- E. Improve watchdog activity.