

BROOKIE NEWS

Newsletter of Central Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited

February 2006

PrezSez

This is my last PrezSez. Being President has been an honor and a privilege. I've learned a lot, had fun, made a lot of new friends and strongly recommend the experience for anyone.

In my life I have chosen to support TU because the mission's worthwhile, the people are great, and it's where my hobbies lie....nature, trout fishing, fly tying, etc....but I'm more interested in seeing our cold water resources conserved, protected, and restored for future generations, while also having the satisfaction in making things better. I plan to continue helping CWTU facilitate its programs wherever I can.

CWTU has come a long way in the last five years; we added 80 new members last year alone! We've started a tremendous water monitoring program, more people are attending workdays and more are attending meetings. Enthusiasm is up!

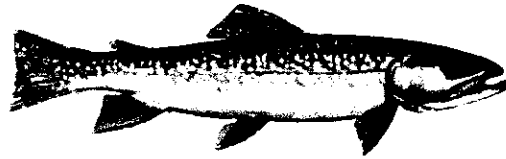
More needs to be done, though. Almost all the streams in our area need maintenance and some need total rehabilitation. We'll have to rise to a higher level to accomplish these things; all of us have to be ambassadors for TU. Then, individually, we must engage new members at meetings, take them fishing, invite them to workdays and water monitoring sessions, teach them fly tying, etc.

Here's my vision for the next few years:

1. Make it a priority to recruit, involve, and retain new members.
2. Have 250 attendees at our next banquet.
3. Add 100 members in the next two years.
4. Morph our water monitors into stream keepers.
5. Create an effective Speakers Bureau.
6. Start a major stream rehabilitation project by identifying a stream, building a coalition of interested parties (environmental groups, DNR, etc.), raising the money, and getting the job done. Other Chapters have done it--let's do it.
7. Start leadership training for future officers.
8. Emphasize the camaraderie, fun, and our mission,

These things will only happen if people step forward to assume responsibility, commit to the mission, and accept leadership positions....by giving one's talents to a good cause....and we all have talents to share.

John Gremmer



Trout Fest

Remember, our (free) **TroutFest** at the **Fin 'N Feather in Winneconne** on **February 25** will start at **9:30 AM** and end at **3:00 PM**. There will be ten 20-minute presentations (beginning on the half-hour) on various topics of interest to trout fishermen. Topics will include **Fishing SW Wisconsin** by Jeff Preiss, **DNR Trout Habitat Update** by Dave Bartz, **Tying Sleazy's Waker** by Steve Winters, **Ecology of a Trout Stream** by Dr. Robert Stelzer, **Fun With Foam Flies** by Dr. John Gribb, **Trout Stream Rehabilitation---A Case Study** by Bob Hunt, **Small-mouth Fishing** by Tim Landwehr, **Fishing The Bois Brule** by Marty Kwitek, **Fishing Equipment Tune-Up** by Scott Grady, and **Streamside Video Diary** by Tom Young.

Over 70 fly tiers, biologists, rod builders, environmentalists, knot tiers, net builders, water monitors, historians, authors, guides, DNR personnel, fly shop owners, etc. will demonstrate their expertise.

And there will be special instructors for kids to learn fly-tying! Come early and enjoy all the action!

A used fishing equipment rummage sale will be also be held.

Next Meeting

Our next Board and membership meeting will be on **March 13** at the **Fin 'N Feather in Winneconne**. with the Board meeting at its new time of **6:15 PM** and the meeting itself at **7:30 PM**. The program will be **Digital Photography for the Fisherman** by John Gremmer. Come and see it; his pictures are great!

The first (short) order of business at the membership session will the annual election of officers.

2005 Financial Results

According to National, every Chapter's financial year dates from October 1 to the following September 30. For the period just concluded, our total income on that basis was \$17,773.61; our total expenses, \$19,336.39, for a year's loss of \$1,562.78.

As usual, Banquet income was the largest amount at \$14,098.00 with Donations being the second largest at \$1,423.00. Under Expense, the numbers were \$7,420.56 for banquet prizes and \$4,716.95 for projects.

We utilized approximately 5,890 volunteer man-hours in our various activities during the year! That's

about 17 manhours per member, even though some of those associated with our Chapter live well outside our five-county area! Thanks to you all and congratulations!

A Plea

Wherever you are in our five counties, we'd appreciate your help in locating the Program Chairs of your local Kiwanis, Lion, Optimist and/or Rotary clubs! We're so enthusiastic about our two new CDs, *Trout Stream Habit Restoration* and *CWTU in Action*, that we wish to share them with these several groups are the starting point to that end!

As CWTU is a non-political, environmental organization, it is likely such community groups will be welcoming, so don't hesitate to provide us with this information. Please send it to me at 920-398-3721 or rchamberlain@centurytel.net.

History Needs

We are trying to assemble a history of our Chapter. When Ye History Chair went to the site where all that was supposed to be stored, he found only plaques with the names of awardees recognized by our club. There were no minutes of meetings, no copies of previous issues of our newsletter, no banquet bulletins, etc. Nada.

So we're asking your help in finding such. If you have any of the possible sources of information, we'd appreciate your forwarding reprints of the items to us, if you do not wish to forward the originals themselves.

Some of our past presidents have provided data on their regimes: other officers, their predecessor and successor, important events and activities, etc. Those who have not....or anyone else having this needed data....please don't hesitate to help. A simple email or a snail mail will do! (See above for my address.)

Pilot WAV Proram

CWTU is currently being considered for a pilot WAV Upper Level Monitoring Program. To qualify for the program, CWTU volunteers will be asked to commit to the following:

- 1) Collect five baseline water monitoring parameters, using WDNR methods and various meters, for
 - a) Dissolved oxygen
 - b) PH
 - c) Water temperature.
 - d) Air temperature
 - e) Turbidity

CWTU WAV Teams that sign up for this project would still monitor their existing stream sites using WAV protocols, but the WDNR data and the WAV data would be recorded on separate data bases.

- 2) In order for the collected stream data to be useable by the WDNR, CWTU volunteers will be asked to make a FIRM commitment relative to monitoring dates and times.

- 3) All CWTU volunteers will be asked to attend a two-hour preliminary planning session, which basically will explain the importance of meeting our commitments on monitoring dates and times.

- 4) A second three-hour training session will be required for all CWTU teams, which will cover care, calibration and use of the instruments to collect the stream data.

- 5) We need three CWTU WAV teams as primary data collectors using WDNR protocols at their existing stream sites.

- 6) We need two to three CWTU WAV teams to serve as alternates to collect WDNR data at the primary sites in the event a primary team cannot collect data on the committed date.

- 7) The CWTU WAV leaders on the primary teams will be responsible for collecting stream data on the agreed dates and times using their respective teams or members from the alternate teams.

I'm trying to arrange a date for the first preliminary planning session, which will be conducted by Frank Fetter, Citizen Monitoring Coordinator, WDNR. Frank is available the evening of March 16, 2006.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING A PRIMARY OR ALTERNATE TEAM MEMBER FOR THIS PROGRAM, PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU CAN ATTEND AT 6:00 PM ON MARCH 16, 2006. THE PLACE IS TO BE DETERMINED.

Dick Pollock

Workday Comittee

Meetings have been ongoing with the DNR to identify streams in need of maintainance: major tree/brush trimming or removal and shore work or work to prevent significant deterioration on streams already improved. Some of the streams surveyed include the North Branch of the Wedde, the Chaffee, the West Branch of the White and the Mecan. We are working with the DNR to prioritize the effort on those waters deemed most vulnerable.

Based on these discussions, future workdays will be scheduled to start on the most serious problems. Our first workday of 2006, however, is set for Saturday, **April 22, at 9:00 AM** for the final phase on the Little Pine on County II, south of State Highway 21. Bring your friends and your teens and their friends; membership in TU is not required and everyone will learn why healthy streams are important to the area's ecology.

The workdays are fun and educational; each gourmet lunch will be followed by a program about water-borne insects, wildflowers or fly-tying, etc. Bring waders and gloves for the work, but also your fishgear, if you wish to enjoy the afternoon on any of the local streams.

If anyone has not attended a workday and would like to participate, please email me at jjimray@charter.net for details and directions.

Jim Humphrey

CWTU/FVTC School

We recently had our first CWTU/FVTC Fly Fishing and Fly Tying Class with 15 students. Dick Pollock was hired as the assistant instructor with remuneration that just about covers gas back and forth from Oshkosh to Winneconne for him. (Ye Ed notes the fantastic recompense our reiring President receives has not been metioned.)

We had 28 tiers involved in Thursday night's first Master's Fly Tying Series opener....standing room only! And we've recently received notice in the local papers.

John Gremmer

Minutes of February 6 Board

Members attending: Bob Chamberlain, Dan Colligan, Scott Grady, Ira Giese, John Gremmer, Bob Haase, Bob Hunt, Al Lee, Rich Mlodzik, Tracy Moran, Bob Rennock and numerous guests.

President Gremmer reported on the recent State TU meeting and noted an affirmative vote for funding and then seeking an Executive Director for Wisconsin at an estimated cost of \$300,000 for three years. He then briefly reviewed CWTU's year and its current status of 350 members.

The balance of the session was used in long-range planning. This effort essentially boiled down to several strategies for the next several years:

Aggressively activate and retain members.

Emphasize new member contacts this year.

Increase "Welcome" effort within 30 days.

Initiate between-meeting/program "chats".

Enlarge and enhance stream rehabilitation and monitoring activities.

Expand efforts in "cold water" education.

Establish PR Committee this year.

Initiate a "Speakers Bureau" this year.

Expand Spring FunDay for non-fishers this year.

Fully fund all Chapter expenditures.

An Appeal

The Central Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited uses the database at National Trout Unlimited for printing its monthly **Brookie News** mailing labels. As a result, we need your help in keeping that database current. Otherwise, we are sending the newsletter to the wrong address, losing the mailing cost as the result.

Therefore, we would appreciate your updating your membership address at any change, if you have access to the internet. Here's how:

1. Go to www.tu.org
2. Choose the TU member section.
3. Enter username=tumembership number.
(TU1234567)
4. Enter Password=tumembership number.
(1234567)
5. Submit
6. Click on Edit Personal File

7. Under Profile Information, click on Edit.

8. Make any corrections/additions.

9. Click on Update

You then have our thanks. This minor task helps greatly!

Scott Grady

Website

One special feature of CWTU's communication effort is our website www.cwtu.org. The site is full of news, including upcoming programs, events, and workdays, meeting minutes, the scoop on local streams, pictures, and is frequently updated....in short, lots of good stuff. There are even message boards and the site is linked to State Council and National websites, so it's available to many different users.

As a member, you have a choice of methods to keep up to date on our Chapter, this Newsletter or the Website....whichever is the most convenient for you.

Should you choose the website, please inform Scott Grady (listed on the back page of this newsletter), so we can avoid wastage of the postage.

Glaciers Overhead

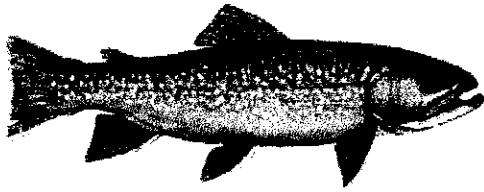
The waters in South America rival any others Jane and I have fished in the world as to their clarity, but an extra advantage of trout fishing there (over New Zealand, say) is that angling we've done in Argentina or Chile is generally by boat on lakes or day floats on their big, big rivers. One spot we particularly favor is Los Allerces National Park in Chubut Province, Argentina where one can achieve a so-called Grand Slam of Rainbow, Brown, Brookie, and Landlocked Salmon in any given day....and have the smallest of the four be over 20 inches!

There are some wading opportunities too and the fishing is just great.

While most visitors think Argentinian fishing is at high altitudes (as it might be in the mountains of this country), it actually tends to be low and Los Allerces is a good example. In the water sightings tourists have on the way from the entrance to the Park's only in situ hotel, it appears the rivers between the chained lakes really, really run downhill, as one might see in Colorado, say. The impression of altitude is further heightened when one arrives at the lodging and can view glaciers hovering just above the lake.

On one occasion, we moved up four lakes and had a great day. We could see fish bust up after dries from what must have been eight feet of water, time after time. (It's hard to tell; the water is so pure.) Then, when releasing a fish, it was not unusual to see it fin down within the reflection of a nearby mountain's culm and its cup of ice.

Surprisingly, we've never seen many others in the Park, probably a reflection of the poor economy. But the last time we were there, a new multi-lane road was being built for better access to that lovely place.



Central Wisconsin Chapter of TU
2325 State Hwy 44
Oshkosh, WI 54904

CWTU People

Officers

President	John Gremmer	
5935 Hiawatha Dr, Winneconne 54986		
	920-582-7802	
Vice President	Elward Engle	
W8927 Cottonville Dr, Wautoma 54982		
	920-787-2887	
Treasurer	Scott Grady	
2325 State Hwy 44, Oshkosh 54904		
	920-687-0987	
Secretary	Bob Chamberlain	Editor
W2728 Oakwood Dr, Markesan 53946		
	920-398-3721	
Other Board		Comm.
Mark Brosseau	920-231-7355	Education
Dan Colligan	920-787-4801	
Bob Haase	920-922-8003	Banquet
Dan Harmon III	920-235-1761	Fishing School
Bob Hunt	715-258-2886	

Ira Giese	920-787-4279	
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	

Central Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited, which serves Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Marquette, Waushara and Winnebago Counties, invites anyone interested in preserving, protecting and enhancing cold waters in this area to join our Chapter and its efforts in that Mission.