

BROOKIE NEWS



PrezSez

Trout season is finally here! The winter of 2007-2008 was what a lot of people call “an old fashioned winter”. Being an “old timer”, I suppose that I’m qualified to agree. This past winter was a tough one, but coupled with a slow snowmelt and runoff, I think it was just what we needed. Hopefully, ground water supplies are being replenished and we can enjoy a great season.

One of our Chapter’s goals for this summer is to have several Saturday workdays on Lawrence Creek in Marquette County. This is a stream on which I and many others have spent a lot of happy hours and is certainly worthy of our attention. It has a self-sustaining population of wild Brookies. There may have been Rainbows planted prior to the mid-1950s, but they no longer exist.

Lawrence Creek has deteriorated somewhat over the years since the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources did habitat improvement work in the early to mid-1960s. Three of our Chapter members, Bob Hunt, Bob Heading and Elward Engle, were with WDNR and worked on the stream at that time. The techniques used Bank Cover and Current Deflectors, devices which encourage vital stream meandering.

Our plan now is to work on about 1700 feet of stream. We will be aided by the WDNR and other TU Chapters. The work will include building in-stream structures, stream bank brushing, and perhaps some brush bundles. This is a very ambitious undertaking and we are hoping that a lot of our members turn out for all the workdays.

We will be working about half way from the Adams-Marquette County line downstream to the snowmobile bridge. Many of you are familiar with this section of the creek; it is *wonderful* water. (If you’re not familiar with this section, you should come and check it out, you’ll be glad you did.) In addition to learning new water, you will get a good lunch and can listen to the interesting fish stories that always come up at these outings (some of them might actually be true). Maybe you can tell a few of your own.

Newsletter of The Central Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited (CWTU)

Officers listed on last page

<<< Illustration “One Last Look - Brook Trout”
courtesy of Bob White of Whitefish Studio

April 2008

Whether you use bait, flies or hardware, Lawrence Creek is a gem you should know about and be a part of its future at the workdays.

We hope to see you on the stream, it’s a good time.

Dick

Another Perrier Raid Attempt!

And testimony about them in Michigan

In the April 14 issue of *Business Week*, there is a lengthy article about Nestle/Perrier’s attempt to build a 1,250 gallon per minute (1.5 million gallons in a 20-hour day) water bottling plant in McCloud, CA. The northern California town was hurting from a defunct sawmill, so the five elected members of the community services district “were susceptible” to an approach by Nestle to replace lost mill jobs.

After extensive negotiations, but without a public hearing, a contract was signed in 2002 with Nestle for their having a million-square-foot facility on the former mill’s grounds. The article states bottled water shipments would require 240 workers and fill 300 trucks a day. (Sound familiar with our Adams County?)

However, when a town meeting notice was posted in September 2003 to announce the bottling plan, many came in anticipation of a question and answer session, but Nestle made a power point presentation and the five board members adjourned to a secret signing ceremony. With that, opposition immediately arose and resulted in a forum of those against the contract in November 2004.

One of the activists at this meeting was a retired librarian from Mecosta County, MI, who told of a scientist there, in a similar fight, suggesting his tests predicted a severe dropoff in water flow levels. A year after the Michigan plant went into operation, a circuit court ordered Nestle to halt operations. Eventually, the Court of Appeals upheld the lower court’s findings about damage to the nearby watershed and lakes, but permitted Nestle/Perrier to continue pumping at half volume.

Congress is now investigating the bottled-water industry as part of an overall study of regulating groundwater wherever.

Other Coming Events

April 26, CWTU Annual Water Action Volunteer (WAV) Training, Parkside Middle School, Wautoma, 9:00 AM.

May 10, CWTU Annual TroutOuting, Dakota Inn, Dakota, 7:30 AM.

May 17, St. Lawrence Workday.(See Website for site.)

May 19, Board meeting, downstairs at Fin 'n Feather, Winneconne, 6:15 PM.

May 30, CWTU Fly Fishing School, Camp LuWiSoMo.

June 19, Board meeting (TBA)

June 21, St. Lawrence Workday, 9:00 AM.

July 19, St. Lawrence Workday, 9:00 AM.

August 16, St. Lawrence Workday, 9:00 AM.

August 18, Board meeting. (TBA)

September 20, St. Lawrence Workday, 9:00 AM.

STREAM DAYS ARE FINALLY HERE

Despite the weather. CWTU's activities are ever-increasing and everyone's help is needed. For example, four central Wisconsin chapters, CWTU, Fox Valley, Shaw-Paca and Frank Hornberg, are planning to cooperate this year on several projects, one of which is to improve the Waupaca River in downtown Waupaca. This is a very popular fishing area and the improvements will include a handicapped fishing ramp and a kiosk showcasing the efforts of these chapters. The work will begin this year (dates to be determined) and everyone is invited.

CWTU's planned Stream Days (workdays) will be on the 3rd Saturday of May, June, July, August and September as noted above. Please mark your calendars and participate.

CARPPOOLING: CWTU is encouraging everyone to carpool to the work sites. It saves money on gas, introduces members to each other, leads to new fishing partners, and gives everyone a new audience to lie about those huge fish caught last year. **To help in locating potential partners**, please email me at jjimray@charter.net or call me at 920-232-8845 with your name, phone/email and location. I will try to set up convenient rendezvous locations for each Day.

CWTU will begin Stream Days this year on Lawrence Creek on Saturday, May 17 (Illinois Day). Other chapters are joining us and will include about 15 members from the Elliott Donnelley TU in the Chicago area.. Last year, Illinois Day was a lot of fun with much accomplished on the Little Pine. Many CWTUers made new fishing friends and partnered with a visitor on Sunday for a day of fun and camaraderie.

Lawrence Creek is a fine trout stream – and needs

lots of help stabilizing banks, brushing and narrowing. CWTU has received a WHIIP grant to defray some of the costs, so let's all join together to show our appreciation for our guests' interest in helping to maintain and improve our cold water streams--and have a good fishing time, to boot. Plan on joining us for some work, lunch and fishing!

Also, on Thursday May 22, CWTU will be hosting about 15 Oshkosh West High students. CWTU's are needed to work with the students and give demonstrations of fly tying and casting. We are trying to find a location to take the students fishing for a few hours. Please let me know if you can help.

Jim Humphrey

A Tribute to John Gremmer



The evening of April 22 was, behind the scenes, a tribute to Past President John Gremmer. It was he who conceived the idea for a "casting tuneup" in April as preparation for the regular trout fishing season; this year was the seventh repetition of this special program.



As usual, John kicked off the evening by introducing the several experts who subsequently demonstrated several types and sizes of equipment and instructed the various flycasting groups: beginning, average or advanced. He also emphasized the safety precautions necessary, even with yarn in place of flies at the "point", when having so many flylines waving around the area

Before the tuneup actually began, brats, burgers, beverages, potato chips, cookies and such were prepared and served by several volunteers, including Dick Pollock.



Some of the equipment shown included Spey and other graphite and cane rods of various weights and lengths.



Our attendance for the event grows each year.



And all had a good time before darkness sent everyone home.

Website

The restructured CWTU website, www.cwtu.org, is up and running. New pages and information are being added daily. For our new officers and Board members, see the *About Us* page and what's for sale in *Classified Ads*. Then check out the *Home Page* for news, upcoming events and other odd bits of information. *Photos and Blogs* will contain snaps related to trout fishing and TU business members send to me. (Please send at least five sentences that describe the circumstances behind the picture.) Send pictures and descriptions to jgremmer@charter.net.

Also, if you see something that needs correcting---

or something that would enhance the site---send it to me.

John Gremmer

HELP!!

Ye Ed has been attempting to compile a history of CWTU, starting with a roster of elected officers. But the papers available do not include the slates for the years 1978, 1980, and 1992. If you were....or know of....such officers, I'd sincerely appreciate your calling or emailing me of same. My phone number is on the back of this newsletter and my email address is rchamberlain@centurytel.net. All help would be greatly appreciated.

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!

(Otherwise, phone me at the number on the outside of this newsletter.)

Scott Grady

2008 CWTU Level Three Project

This year's CWTU monitoring under our DNR's Level 3 protocol will be on Magdanz, Austin and Hatton Creeks. Several temperature and clarity logger sites on these three waters will attempt to quantify conditions as the result of a dam removal. Monitoring will start on May 14 and end on September 10.

The work includes profiling of stream inhabitants, measuring stream flows, and sampling stream waters....all important data for DNR planning.

Team members participating in this effort, who will be operating at a near-professional level, are: Lurton Blassingame, Dan and Gail Colligan, Lynn Druecke, Bob Gayeske, John Gremmer, Bob Haase, Jim Humphrey, Dick Pollock and Jack Talin.

