

# BROOKIE NEWS



## 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

*June 2008*

### PrezSez

People sometimes say, "When dogs don't have anything better to do, they go to sleep. However, when they are disturbed or alarmed, they instantly begin barking and howling until other dogs nearby join in. And none stop fussing until there is no longer a threat."

So it is with CWTU's Watchdog Committee and, fortunately, they normally don't have much to do. However, they were alarmed recently about a proposed high-capacity irrigation well very close to the headwaters of Lunch Creek, a Class 1 trout water in Waushara County. This well was about to be approved by the DNR, even though it was only about 800 feet from the Lunch and the minimum setback is 1200 feet!

The howling, in which I joined, started immediately and was heard by other chapters and the State Council. Soon, we were getting e-mails and phone calls from all over Wisconsin with advice and words of encouragement, all of which were welcomed and helpful.

The Watchdog Committee and I contacted the DNR, expressed our concerns, and found they, too, were troubled. The Statutes and Administrative Rules for such situations were changed after the Perrier debacle, several years ago, but some trout waters were overlooked in the revision. The Department felt it was required to approve the application, because of the omissions and because the new Rules have no provision for correcting errors, etc.

DNR people in Madison, Wautoma and Montello were all willing to ensure all parties were fairly treated and we all worked together to find an acceptable solution for everyone...fish and people. In the end, the well operator voluntarily agreed to move the well to a site about 1500 feet from the Lunch!

I would like to thank our Watchdog Committee (Elward Engle and Tom Poulette), the DNR and the well operator for their cooperation that led to this conclusion. The effort will certainly benefit our cold-water recourse while still providing the irrigation

benefit sought.

With this threat mitigated, the possibility exists other streams in our State were left out of the new Rules and are also now unprotected. We must therefore be sure the Rules are amenable and amended, so a similar difficulty will not arise elsewhere in Wisconsin!

Dick Kraus

### Other Coming Events

**June 21**, Lawrence Creek Workday, 9:00 AM. (See directions below.)

**July 19**, Lawrence Creek Workday, 9:00 AM.

**July 21**, Board meeting at John Tucker's cottage 6:30 PM. (See directions below.)

**August 16**, Lawrence Creek Workday, 9:00 AM.

**August 18**, Board meeting.

**September 20**, Lawrence Creek Workday, 9:00 AM.

### Directions to Tucker's

From the intersection of County A and County W in Saxeville, drive south to Portage Road (about 1 block), turn East to Sunny Hill (about 3+ blocks) and then South again to Tucker's on the water.

### ANOTHER CHANCE TO LEARN ABOUT LAWRENCE CREEK!

The group on the first workday accomplished a lot (see attached photos) – the creek was narrowed with Xmas trees; pilings were installed for over head structures; sand bags were installed to close some ox bows. **Again, your help is needed!** This will become a wonderful fishing stream – and it ain't so bad now. Car pool if you can - but come on June 21 at 9 AM.

### Directions to Lawrence Creek

From Wautoma, go West on 21 to I-39/US51 - go South to Westfield exit. Go west on E to downtown Westfield (stop sign). Turn left (or south) on Main St. for 1 block (first right turn) and go west

on E (E turn not marked on Main St.). Continue on E (which joins A for a short time) about 5 miles to First Avenue. Turn right (north) about 1 mile to bridge. SEE YOU THERE!!

Joe Humphrey

### **Our Prez Raises Alarm**

Elward Engle, a retired DNR employee and a Chapter member, advised Kraus a high-capacity irrigation well located between the headwaters of the Lunch and Little Pine Creeks in Waushara County was about to be approved by the DNR. Dick immediately called for help. At the wellsite, these headwaters are about 1/2-mile apart and both streams hold excellent populations of wild Brookies. Elward had also discussed the problem with Duke Welter, who suggested we advise George Kraft at UW-SP watershed center, since it seemed the approval would happen very quickly and immediate response was required. Weller thought Kraft might do a quick analysis of any pumping impact on the two trout streams.

He suggested our Chapter watchdogs could contact Winston Ostrow, State Council's Legal Counsel "or possibly Bob Selk, who is retired, but may be able to give some advice." His e-mail included an extensive address list of all of the State Council and that they might have ideas "on how to stop the permitting process."

Duke suggested the DNR permitting office might provide more information on the specific permit, "as a start". and that they be asked for a public meeting (even though) "there should (have been) a legal notice in the local papers about the permit and comment period."

Duke also noted the GW Law, Act 310, only provided "authority up to 1200 feet from (any) trout stream (a ridiculous, arbitrary 'brightline' for regulation)....but the impact could occur from a well much farther away, dependent on hydrogeology of system." He suggested our Chapter "might also talk with Jodi Sinykin-Habush, who was "the principal enviro lawyer on the state GW Advisory Committee, and continues to have interest in the issue...(and) also possibly Karen Shapiro, of MEA, who can take on potentially viable legal actions."

In a flurry of e-mails, a point was made that "with the way the groundwater law and regulations are written, there may be no way to prevent the permit from being issued. If that's the case, we need to gather some baseline flow data prior to any pumping, then monitor the flows of both streams, afterwards." It also was written "There are some discussions right now about seeking to amend the groundwater law and this is one of the areas that needs attention (i.e., potentially sensitive water bodies that may be affected even if they are outside the arbitrary 1200 foot boundary)."

That same afternoon, Elward, Tom Poulette and

Kraus met to look at the proposed site of the well and to discuss filing an objection.

Eventually, the well was arbitrarily moved 1500 feet from the Lunch by its operator, but concerns remain about future "too close" situations because of faulty aspects of the recent legislation.

### **Banquet Plea**

It's not too early to begin thinking about items for the annual banquet. Suggestions for auction, door prize, and raffle items are welcome, but donations of said items are especially welcome. If you have items that need to be picked up, contact David Seligman at [Seligmand@ripon.edu](mailto:Seligmand@ripon.edu) or 920.369.6784, or any of the other Banquet Committee members.

### **Minutes of June 16, 2008**

Meeting called to order by President Dick Kraus at 6:30 PM with a quorum of the Board present. Dick repeated his suggestion that discussion on each topic be held to five minutes, whenever possible.

On motions, Minutes of the previous meeting and the Treasury balance of \$41,782.95, including a Net Income from the recent School of \$3,560, were approved.

After everyone was reminded of the forthcoming Lawrence Creek workday on Saturday, June 21, Elward Engle recapped the recent concerns regarding the DNR's apparent approval of a high-capacity irrigation well between Lunch Creek and the Little Pine and too close to the former. (See PrezSez in this issue.)

Membership Chair Ira Giese distributed Member Application forms to several Board members who needed them and Dan Harmon III reported authorization of half tuition for Nicolas Bach, a continuing Scholarship Student.

Dan also announced May 29-31 as the dates for the 2009 Fly School and John Gremmer suggested seeing our website for many pictures of 2008's by Jerry Strom and himself.

John also told of rod's recently being sold from our website!

Under Old Buenos, Tom Poulette presented Bob Haase with the traditional landing net made by Cliff Burns for his services as president of CWTU, concluding with the admonishment the net was for ceremony, not actual use. Then there was some discussion of the current status of the Mekan Discovery Center. It ended with President Dick suggesting a tour to determine current conditions there.

Under New Business, Tom P noted the current attempt to remove a dam in Adams County being balked by the County Supervisors because of a road atop that structure. Bob Haase recommended the By-Laws be updated to reflect recent changes by the Board and a clean copy be made thereof.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Bob Chambelain, secretary pro tem.  
**Flyfishing School 2008**

The 32nd Annual Flyfishing School, held on May 30 to June 1 at Camp LuWiSoMo on Round Lake near Wild Rose, was a great success and also a funtime for both students and staff. We had 21 students who came from as far away as Coon Raids, MN and Chicago, I and as nearby as Wautoma. Yet, five are already enrolled for 2009 and several more promised!

The weather couldn't have been nicer, but it did play havoc with the casting session. However, the consensus among students was if they could learn under the conditions, they certainly would fare better on the streams.....and so it proved on Sunday.

Such was the spirit of the class. They were eager to tackle any subject and every phase that required dexterity. With the amount of information resented, it was rewarding to see how much fun everyone was having in learning the new skills.

The purpose of the School is to introduce people to trout fishing with a flyrod and also to partially fund a graduate university student in environmental sciences, two goals!

We are now looking forward to another great school, next year; with the support of our Chapter and staff, how can we lose?!

Dan Harmon III, Director

### Website

The restructured CWTU website ([www.cwtu.org](http://www.cwtu.org)) is up and running. Check out the *Home Page* for news, upcoming events and other odd bits of information.

I'm now working on the *Photos and Blogs* page which will contain snaps related to trout fishing and TU business that members send to me. ([jgremmer@charter.net](mailto:jgremmer@charter.net))

And, if you see something that needs correcting---or something that would enhance the site---send it to me.

John Gremmer

### 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](http://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

A new feature, starting with this issue:

### Dick's Rootin' Tootin' Big Buck Chili

2 pounds ground venison.

2 medium onions.

1 small green pepper.

2 jalapeño peppers.

5 garlic cloves.

3 quarts canned tomatoes diced.

5 tablespoons chili powder.

4 tablespoons cumin.

1 tablespoon salt.

1 tablespoon Oregano.

1 teaspoon red pepper flakes.

2 16 oz. cans of dark kidney beans.

8 shakes of Tabasco sauce.

1 teaspoon Olive oil.

Chop onions, green pepper, jalapeño, and garlic. Add olive oil to a large frying pan and sauté chopped vegetables. When done, put vegetables in a large pot.

Brown meat in the same pan. While the meat is browning, mix all of the spices and salt together. When the meat is nearly brown, add a little juice from the tomatoes, just enough to moisten the meat. Coat all the meat with the spices. Transfer the meat to the large pot.

Add the tomatoes, bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer until the chili reduces to the desired consistency (about 2 hours). Add the beans and simmer for another half hour. May be thickened with 1/2 cup of corn meal if desired, simmer for another 15 minutes.

This chili is quite spicy; you may want to hold back on adding all of the spices to the meat. Any reserved spices can be added during the 2-hour simmer time. However, I feel that this recipe leaves a pleasant "afterglow" in the mouth. If you find it too hot, cut back on the peppers, accordingly.

An interesting variation is to substitute bulk hot Italian sausage for some or all of the venison.

Like most chili, this improves after several hot and cold cycles.

Dick Kraus

Many more recipes are sought by El Presidente and Ye

Ed for an eventual (income-producing) booklet!