

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

August 2008

PrezSez

As a result of the recent high-capacity well application in Waushara County, several waters have been reclassified as Class 1 trout streams. These creeks were not included in the DNR's official list of trout streams in Wisconsin, so did not have legal protection as a trout stream. (Ye Ed: See recent articles in the **Brookie** on a proposed high-capacity well near Lunch Creek.)

After discovering some eligible streams were left out of that publication, Dave Bartz, Scott Bundy and Ted Johnson, DNR personnel from the Montello and Wautoma offices, quickly did the work needed to reclassify those waters. Thanks to their efforts, Waushara County now has eight and three-quarter more miles of Class 1 trout water.

While this is a good result, I believe there may be many more streams left out of the official publication. Much more work needs to be done to ensure all trout streams in Wisconsin are listed in DNR PUB-FH-806 2002, especially in the agricultural regions of our state.

Our August Board meeting was held at the Wild Rose Fish Hatchery. It started with a wonderful picnic provided by Dan Harmon, Tom Poullette and Jerry Strom with more than a little assistance from Sue Bouck and Pat Strom. After the meeting, Steve Fajfer, the Hatchery Manager, gave a very interesting presentation on the history of the hatchery and its renovation. The hatchery today is truly a state of the art facility and is well worth seeing. Thank you to Steve and DNR for allowing us to use the Visitors Center for our picnic and meeting.

After volunteering to serve as Legislative Chairman, I appointed Mike Stapleton to that position. Mike is a long term member of TU and has served our Chapter in many capacities including President. Thanks, Mike.

Our Program Committee, consisting of John Gremmer, Bob Haase, Dave Seligman and Bob Smaglik has put together a great schedule of programs beginning in September. Be sure to check it out below

or on our website www.cwtu.org for more information. Everyone is welcome to all of our meetings and functions, please come.

One of these events is our Annual Fund Raising Banquet. The Banquet is, by far, the largest source of income that our Chapter has. This year's Banquet will be held October 9. Because this is a family-oriented event, bring the kids and watch their eyes sparkle!. Contact Dave Seligman for more information.

Elward Engle and Tom Poullette, our Watchdog Committee, are checking into some possible problems on Magdanz Creek in Waushara County. There will be more on this in coming months. Good job, Elward and Tom.

Summer is winding down, and as always, I haven't fished as much as I would have liked. September will be here soon and that is my favorite time to fish. If you haven't fished much either, make a point to go fishing. The Farmers' Almanac predicts a long, cold winter with above average snow, so let's go fishing and make some memories to hang on to during the closed season.

Dick Kraus

Kickoff Program

To kick off CWTU's 2008/2009 program schedule, Jim Bartelt will present "Fly fishing the Southern Wisconsin Spring Creeks" at 7:30 PM on Monday, September 15 at the Fin 'N Feather in Winneconne. It will be preceded by a Board meeting at 6:15 PM.

All members are invited to share a meal and socialize beforehand (5:30 PM).

Jim Bartelt has a lifetime of fly fishing experience and has been guiding anglers for trout on mid-western spring creeks since 1990. He is a professional fly-casting and veteran fly-fishing instructor.

Jim taught for 32 years at Madison East High School, so has spent his entire career sharing knowledge with others. Let him share his knowledge of fly

fishing and the intricacies of his home waters with you.

Other Coming Events

September 15. Fin 'N Feather, Winneconne, 7:15 PM, Jim Bartelt on "Fly Fishing the Southern Wisconsin Spring Creeks". Board 6:15 PM

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

October 9. Annual Banquet, LaSure's, Oshkosh 5:00 PM. Evening concludes, 9:00 PM.

November 3. Fin 'N Feather, Winneconne, 7:15 PM, Matt Wegner on "Fishing Dirty Water". Board 6:15 PM

December 3. Fin 'N Feather, Winneconne, 7:15 PM, John Gremmer on "Fishing Trout in Pennsylvania," Board 6:15 PM.

January 15, 2009. Fin 'N Feather, Winneconne, 9:00 PM. Bob Haase on "Fishing the Hex Hatch and Favorite Hex Patterns". Board 6:15 PM.

February 28. TroutFest. Fin 'N Feather, Winneconne, 9:00 AM.

March 16. Joint Program with Fox Valley Chapter, TBA.

Workday

Work continued on August 16 on Lawrence Creek with additional pilings installed and completed. Many thanks to President Dick Kraus, Scott Bahn, Linn Beck, Scott Bundy (DNR), Dennis Krazkowski, Dave Paynter (DNR), David Seligman, Alistair Stewart, and Jim Williams for getting their feet wet.

This year, over 100' of Xmas trees were used to narrow the creek near the snowmobile bridge – and this area of the stream has already shown improvement with filing in of the bank and faster water flow.

Also, over 500' of bank structures have been installed upstream of the snowmobile bridge. These will be completed with rock and other materials by the DNR to narrow the stream, this winter. The next and last scheduled work day this year will be on Saturday, Sept. 20. **PLEASE JOIN US!**

Jim Humphrey

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 on September 20!

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 or 920.369.6784, or any of the other Banquet Committee members.

Still Need Help!!

Ye Ed/Historian still needs a few items for the preparation of a formal history: Board Members for each year 1972 to 1990, financial reports for all years and Board meeting minutes for numerous dates over the years, but especially of the very first few years We also need Flyfishing School folders and fliers, Workday and Watchdog reports, amusing anecdotes, etc.

Several guys have emptied out attics or garages to give us what we have, but if you have such stuff, would you at least let us see it, even if you wish to to have it back? Any viewing would be greatly appreciated!

Board Minutes of August 18

The meeting at the Wild Rose Fish Hatchery was called to order at 6:30 PM by President Dick Kraus with a quorum of the Board present.

On motion, Minutes of the July, 2008 meeting were approved.

Treasurer Scott Grady reported total funds as of July 31, 2008 of \$37,860.53. On motion, the Treasurers report was approved.

It was reported that Linn Beck taking over water monitoring.

Jim Humphrey reported there will be one more workday this year on September 20.

The Watchdog Committee reported issues on the Magdantz property which Tom Poulette will follow up. Also, the recent event related to the high-capacity well near the Lunch Creek resulted in the classification of an additional 8.1 miles of streams in the area as Class 1 trout streams.

The Program Committee presented a full calendar of programs for the coming year. See the below or the CWTU website for details.

The website is constantly being updated and revised, so visit it often for new information. Further, if you have any fish pictures (Grip & Grin) that you want published, send them to John Gremmer.

The Board approved \$200 for purchase of a Lewis winch for use in the Central Region of our State TU.

The following positions are vacant; interested members should contact President Dick Kraus: Banquet Chair 2009 and Newsletter Editor. The following positions were filled: Troutfest: Bob Smaglik, Casting Clinic: Russ & Sue Bouck and Masters Fly Tying: Ira Giese.

After some discussion, the Board formed a committee to review our Chapter Constitution and

Bylaws.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Mike Schaefer

TUDARE Economic Report

If you missed receiving and reading the 2008 TU report on the economic impact of trout fishing in the driftless region of southwest Wisconsin, south-east Minnesota, northeast Iowa, and northwest Illinois, you may want to obtain a copy (details at the end of this article.) TU hired Northstar Economics to carry out the evaluation during 2007 and published the findings in a six-page summary, this past April. A more detailed report is available on-line.

Here are a few highlights from the brief report I found especially interesting:

Recreational angling in the driftless area generated a stunning \$1.2 billion during 2007; \$647 million was direct expenditure by anglers and the remainder indirect ripple-effect contributions to the local communities.

Over the past 25 years, state and federal natural resource agencies and other conservation groups have invested \$45 million to restore healthy trout stream habitat. Every dollar spend on restoration has produced an estimated \$25 of economic benefit, an amazing economic return. (It is clear our Wisconsin Inland Trout Stamp revenue has been money well spent.) Quoting from the report: "It is clear that clean water, resilient streams, and healthy fish populations help support a thriving economy in the Driftless Area."

The angler clientele of approximately 125,000 is dominated by men (93%), 64% over age 40, 69% have college or technical school education and with annual incomes in the \$60,000-\$80,000 range. Most of the anglers are fly fishers (74%) and 61% do not live in the driftless region, but they fished the region about 10 days a season. Local anglers fished an average of 22 times/season. Amazingly, 78% of the anglers managed to stay married.

To receive a free copy of the summary report, contact Laura Hewitt at the TU regional office: 2225 S. Hamilton St., Madison, 53707. The complete report (TU's Driftless Area Restoration Effort) may still be available via www.tu.org/driftless.

Bob Hunt

Website

The restructured CWTU website (www.cwtu.org) is up and running. Check out the *Home Page* for news, upcoming events and other odd bits of information. Also check out the items for sale; you'll find bargains!

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)

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
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

Another Note from Bob Hunt

Bob, here's still another "filler" for the **Brookie News**:

So far as I am concerned, the art of fishing is akin to the situation involved in the old story about a teenager who remarked to an elderly friend that all of his contemporaries were asking girls to the county fair that year. "Which one are you taking?" his friend asked?

"I'm not taking one." the youth replied sadly.

"How come?"

"I don't know how to ask anyone to go," the teenager replied.

The oldtimer snorted, "Why, shucks, son," he declared, "There ain't no wrong way!"

If there is a really wrong way to go fishing, short of using a stick of dynamite, I have never encountered it.

Louis Rulin, Jr
in the *Even-tempered Angler*

(Bob added, "Hopefully, this filler is not two lines short".)

(Nope, Bob....just one.)

