

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

October 2008

PrezSez

Over five months have passed since opening day of the 2008 Wisconsin Trout season; closing day has also come and gone. Each year, I wonder how five months can seem so short and how long the next seven months can be. Now, several other activities should be occupying my time: the lawn, which has been neglected for many months, needs to be mowed, hoses need to be put away, the mowing deck on the garden tractor removed and the snow thrower attached, the garden cleaned up and tools put away for the winter. All of these things are important, but did you realize the fall turkey and deer archery seasons are in full swing and, of course, salmon are migrating into the tributaries of Lake Michigan? And there are many other fall outdoor opportunities to enjoy.

Due to the cold weather, the grass has almost stopped growing and could perhaps wait a week or so before I disturb the deer and small mammals that now bed in my lawn. Maybe, just maybe, I could have a few more outings yet this year.

Besides the several remaining daytime activities available to us, there are many other ways to spend the "off season". Look at our website www.cwtu.org and its Events Calendar. There you will find the CWTU programs for each month which will help pass the winter. There are sure to be several of them of interest to you.

Also on our home page, scroll down to the notice of Fox Valley TU's Cabin Fever Day on January 31, 2009. Darrel Toliver will make a presentation on *Spin Fishing for Trout* and Tim Landwehr will present *Fly Fishing for Trophy Smallmouth Bass*. Cabin Fever is an enjoyable and interesting event which I'm planning to attend. Move to "Click Here" for more information.

If you fly fish, or just want to learn to tie flies, you should check out Ira Giese's Masters Fly Tying Program. This course is co-sponsored by our Chapter and the Fox Valley Technical College. Several people I've talked to have told me after taking this course

their flies look much better, so they highly recommend it. (See below for details.) Since my flies look awful and sometimes don't work, I'm going to sign up and avoid being ashamed to show my fly boxes to other anglers, next year.

These are just a few ways to spend the winter; if you have other ideas (e.g., Tom Poullette goes to Florida), please let me know.

Dick Kraus

Next Program

CWTU's November 10 program will feature **Mat Wegner** of the **Driftless Angler Fly Shop** in Viroqua. With the floods and rains we've experienced in the last couple of years on his mind, Mat has put together a program titled "**Fishing Dirty Water.**" The program is free to the public and starts at 7:30 PM on the second level of the Fin 'N Feather in Winneconne.

Everyone is invited to arrive early (5:15 PM) to enjoy a meal while visiting with others. A CWTU Board meeting will start at 6:15 and everyone is invited to attend this, too.

I have heard Mat speak and have found him to be informed, relevant, and very interesting. You will like the program; I guarantee it!!!

John Gremmer

Coming Events

November 10. Fin 'N Feather, Winneconne, 7:15 PM, Matt Wegner on "Fishing Dirty Water". Board 6:15 PM

December 8. 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.

Details of Master Fly-Tying Class

The class meets at Winneconne High School, Room H 114 and runs for five straight Thursdays, starting January 15 at 6:30 PM. Classes last until approximately 8:30 PM with a different Master Tier, every week.

We have a video camera aimed at the Master's vice and hands and projecting the view on a screen, so that everyone gets a good view. Usually we tie three new flies, each night.

The Master brings the hooks and all the materials. All any student has to bring is tying tools and thread.

Cost is \$45 for the course.

Refreshments are supplied during the tying session and many members meet prior to the session at the Fin 'N Feather in Winneconne around 5:15 to share a meal.

Banquet Tidbits

On October 9, our fund-raising Banquet had another great year at LaSure's in Oshkosh. During the evening, four of CWTU's members were recognized with citations as below:



Brookie Award Winners

“This award is considered the Chapter's most prestigious award and is presented to professionals and non-professionals whose efforts have helped preserve our cold-water resource.

This award is given in alternately to the above categories at the discretion of the Committee.

This is the first time this award has been given to a team, rather than to an individual.

Dan and Gail Colligan have worked tirelessly for many years on the Chapter's Banquet and Prize Committees as Chairpersons and Sellers where in they have introduced many innovations in raffles, drawings, and games at the annual fund-raising event.

The Chapter could not exist without the funds that are generated from this, our only fund raising event.

Both are Members of the Board of Directors.”

Two surprises of the evening were renewed presentations of the W.C.T.U. and the Curmudgeon Awards, neither of which had given recently.



W.C.T.U. Award Winner

“This award had its beginning in an error as the engraver left out the ”C”, but it was decided to continue it for service, which could be serious or humorous at the discretion of the Awards Committee.

This year, the award is given in the serious category to John Gremmer who originated several Chapter functions that exist today as a result of his endeavor: our TroutFest, FunDay, Masters Fly Tying Series, and Casting Clinic are some of these activities.

John is a Past President, Board Member, and also teaches at the Chapter's Annual Fly Fishing School.”



“OZZIE” Award Winner

“This award is given for Lifetime Humanitarian Achievement and is named in honor of Richard W Osborn, who exemplifies these attributes.

This year's award winner, Tom Poullette, served as the Chapter's first President and has also held the position as Chairman of the Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited. He has worked for many years at work days and at the Chapter's Annual Fly Fishing School as an instructor and supervisor of guides. He has been instrumental in the development of fly fishing merit badges for the Boy Scouts of

America in the Wautoma area.

Currently, Tom is the Chairman of the chapter's Watch Dog Committee."

The big surprise of the evening was the presentation of the Curmudgeon Award, a trophy which had not given since 1993. It was recently defined by Dr. Poullette: "The Curmudgeon was started in 1973 as a public, humorous announcement of someone's attempt to capture a crusty, ill-tempered (i.e., large) fish that resulted in a major goof--screwup-etc.etc. I really can't remember why I got it first--but I do recall the second adventure--as the ram tried to chew up my flyline as the rod tip was perched on his head. I still hurt and not only my pride!!

"As to Bob, his first goof was getting lost about 2 miles from the fishing school (after great directions from me) and spent the last part of the fishing morning finding his....and his student's....way back to the road.

"The second incident was fishing late on the Mecan and staying after dark with no flashlight. Thus, he was not able to find his way back to the parking lot and spent the night under his space blanky while enjoying the night sounds."

(Ye Ed denies all these scurrilous comments.)



**Curmudgeon Winner
Bob Chamberlain**

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!

Website

The CWTU Website was created to help inter- and intra-chapter communication, much like the **Brookie News**. It normally is updated daily and contains useful information for prospective, new, and old members.

The **Events** page contains a schedule of our upcoming events. On the **About Us** page, you can find who's on the Board, who's an officer, and who's heading up our Committees---with phone numbers and eMail addresses for all. The **Photos/Blogs** page exhibits photos and comments from members (lots of people holding fish and grinning). The **Classified Ads** page contains sporting items members would like to sell. The **Homepage** has links to the **Brookie**, the CWTU Fly Fishing School, the CWTU/FVTC Introduction To Fly Fishing Class, Workday News, the Featured Fly, The Fly Tying Archive, TroutFest, Casting Clinic, CWTU clothing you can purchase, the **Water Monitoring** Page, National and State TU, etc.

All members can help keep the site fresh and informative by forwarding information and photos related to the Chapter to me. It takes a whole Chapter (sorry Hillary!) to make an interesting newsletter and website. So, do me a favor and go to the site, www.cwtu.org, look in all the corners, and let me (jgremmer@charter.net) know how things can be improved

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 Scott Grady at the number on the outside of this newsletter.)

