

BROOKIE NEWS

Newsletter of Central Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited

December 2006

PrezSez

What is it about the words "Planning Session" that strikes fear and loathing into the hearts of the willingly assembled? Is it past memories of butt-numbing hours of "outsider-led" goal-setting that was later ignored? Or is the fear of commitment?

Our chapter needs to plan!

I am not a meeting guy, but I believe in goal-setting. I realize you can't get to the promised land if you haven't decided what that is and plan the trip. Every once in awhile you need to sit down and decide what you want to do, how you're going to do it and, most importantly, who's going to do it. Our Chapter should do this yearly. We will be designating a Saturday morning in early February, in essence our Board meeting for the month. to do our planning. All members who are interested are also invited.

Our Chapter does a lot of things well, but there are some things we could improve on; for instance, we don't do a good job of preparing people to become leaders in our Chapter. Right now, we're looking for people to be Banquet and Workday Chairs, and Vice-President. These are all vital positions. If you are interested---call me.

The good news is that we will have a new President (Bob Haase) in three months, the Master's Fly Tying Series has filled up again this year, planning has started for our February 25 Trout Fishing Funday, we added 35 new chapter members this year, Bob Hunt will be premiering his video at our January meeting, we had outstanding workday sessions this year, and we had a successful banquet.

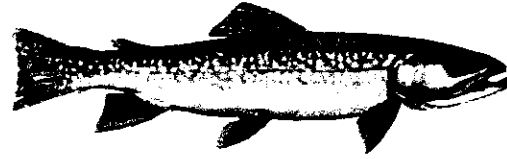
I am looking forward to Bob Hunt's video premiere at our January meeting. I hope to see you all there. Have a great Holiday Season.

John Gremmer

Next Meeting

On Monday, **January 16**, author and renowned former WDNR fisheries biologist Bob Hunt will present the premiere of his video "*Trout Stream Habitat Restoration*." The program, part of our monthly educational series, starts at **7:30 PM** at the **Fin 'N Feather, Winneconne**.

The video is a case study of trout stream rehabilitation done on Lawrence Creek in central Wisconsin. While working for the WDNR, Bob's restoration team



took a degraded creek, made instream improvements, and then investigated trout population changes. They found the restoration process led to a healthier stream with a greatly-increased population of trout. This research started the stream restoration work many chapters and State DNR departments conduct today.

This video illustrates to individuals and groups how to rehabilitate degraded trout streams.

The program was produced with financial help from our Chapter, The Chamberlain Foundation, and other Wisconsin Chapters. Gary Herlache and UW-Green Bay provided technical assistance and production for the video.

Minutes of December 12 Board

Members attending: Bob Chamberlain, Edward Engle, Scott Grady, John Gremmer, Bob Haase, Dan Harmon III, Bob Hunt, Al Lee, Tracy Moran, Bob Rennock, Jerry Strom and numerous guests.

The meeting opened at the appointed time with the minutes of the previous Board meeting approved as published. A few presidential handouts were followed by Scott's financial report which noted a cash balance of \$47,719.42 with some banquet charges still outstanding. Approval of his report was moved by Moran, seconded by Strom and passed without dissent.

Pres. John then announced Rich Mlodzik had resigned for personal reasons and asked for a replacement to volunteer. Bob Chamberlain moved and Bob Haase seconded a vote of "great thanks" for Rich's seven-year effort. The motion passed unanimously.

Gremmer noted he and Haase planned to attend the January 25 Conservation Lobby Day in Madison.

Mike Shaeffer reported on the contacts he's made regarding "Trout in the Classroom" and indicated others were planned. He felt, on the basis of his current study, the program was one having more positives than negatives.

The question of support for the Driftless Initiative was postponed to the next meeting.

Our February FunDay has been scheduled for February 25 at the Fin 'N Feather.

To close the meeting, Gremmer reported for Tesch that use of Chat Boards on our website was down, but that "hits" continue to climb. He then asked for reports from the Nominating and Water Monitoring Committees at our next meeting.

Bob Chamberlain

Fifth Masters' Fly Tying Series

We will open our Masters' Fly Tying program on February 2 at the Winneconne High School, starting at 6:30 PM. Mr. "No Hatch to Match", Rich Osthoff, will be the first week's tier. He will be followed by Jack Holewinski doing panfish flies....and thereafter by other exceptional tiers.

Each of five sessions will tie three different flies twice and will end at 8:30 PM. The cost of the Series, including materials, is \$45 and entrance is now closed, since we can only accommodate 20 tiers in the room.

We generally meet at the Fin 'n Feather before each session to share an evening meal with the Master. Afterwards, we have refreshments and share stories of past glories.

Letter from Tara Kent

I would like to express my gratitude to the members of Central Wisconsin Chapter for the Bill Beck Memorial Scholarship given to me during the 2003-2005 school years. The following is a summary of the work that was conducted on Emmons Creek.

The title of my Master's thesis was "The Effects of Deposited Fine Sediment on the Life History Characteristics of *Physa Integra*." With the help of my mentor, Dr. Robert Stelzer, research was conducted using streamside, once-through, continuous flumes on Emmons Creek over the course of the summer of 2004. My thanks go to Tracy Moran for construction and technical help with the flumes!

Siltation, the input of fine sediments (silt and clay) to streams and rivers, impairs 84,503 U.S. river and stream miles, making research in this area important in protecting trout streams. *Physa integra* snails were exposed to three levels of silt (ambient, low, and high)(through the)...flumes and recirculating chambers and snail growth, behavior, and egestion rates were determined. In four experiments, there were no significant differences in snail growth rates among silt treatments, but significant behavioral differences were apparent.

Snails that received added silt spent less time on the algal-covered tiles than those not receiving silt. Snails in high-silt treatments egested more than those in ambient- or low-silt. These snails may have ingested more of the algae and silt, but the presence of silt may have decreased assimilation, nullifying any positive effect on growth.

In addition to measuring their growth, behavior, and egestion rates, I also examined their food. Elemental analysis of algae revealed higher nitrogen, carbon, and phosphorus levels for the silt treatments, which may be providing the snails with more nutritious food, although this was not reflected in their growth rates. In conclusion, silt addition did not affect *Physa inera* growth rates, but did influence their behavior and egestion rates.

Over the course of my two years in graduate

school, I have learned a great deal about the importance of conserving, protecting, and restoring our running waters. With this knowledge, I hope to continue to protect our rivers and streams for future generations....Thanks again to CWTU; keep up the good work!

Tara Kent

Thanks, Rich!

For seven years, Rich Mlodzik has been doing an outstanding job as CWTU Workday Chair. Rich has always been enthusiastic in his approach to this very worthwhile task. He has met with DNR officials to select projects, recruited workers, sent out eMails with maps, put out signs, maintained and rehabilitated broken chainsaws, and led by example. In addition, Rich got right down and showed us how brushing is done.

A lot of trout out there ought to be grateful to Rich. He has provided them with better habitat to live and reproduce in. The same gratitude goes for many fishermen who use these streams.

I'm grateful for Rich's efforts and know CWTU will miss his leadership in this area. Rich has resigned his Workday Chair position in order to attend to other matters in his life. I hope that Rich will be able to remain an active member of the Board and be involved in other Chapter activities in the future.

Thanks, Rich, for all you've done.

John Gremmer

Stream Maintenance

Our Chapter continues to worry about and seek a plan for improved maintenance on the forty-six waters totalling 233 miles in Marquette and Waushara Counties. We seek an outline of specific program(s) to redress the situation Bob Hunt, Elward Engle and Ed Avery identified in their summer's research on just twenty-six reaches of previously-restored streams.

As reported on our October session with the DNR on that subject, they had independently come to the same viewpoint, so a follow-on meeting was suggested for March. We now report the exact date for such a conclave has not yet been determined.

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 newslet-

ter), so we can avoid wastage on the postage. (Ye Ed: Please see the following article, too.)

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

Shoulders

In a week of Alaskan "fly-out" fishing, each day is generally planned to be a unique experience, visually and in the fishing itself. An added fillip is the chance to see wildlife in natural surroundings, either en route or while fishing. Both of the objectives were achieved for Jane and me during one memorable trip and one memorable day.

As we flew out to the day's fishing site, the pilot suddenly banked the airplane, saying, "There's a Griz with three cubs." As he flew circles for passengers on each side to get a look, we all saw a sow in a beautiful cinnamon coat moving through low green shrubbery with her much-smaller offspring in single-file behind. Gorgeous!

After landing on the river we were to fish and meeting our guide who camped nearby, we embarked on the local boat to run up a nearby tributary. During the trip, the guide told us of the day's fishing and, in the process, echoed a phrase used in our briefing, the previous night..."These fish have shoulders."

Naturally, we pressed for an explanation, so he told us, "For some reason, the 'Bows in this stream fight harder than others we've found in this general territory. We don't know if it's because the salmon start spawning earlier here...which they do...or if it's just a happenstance...but they seem to fight very hard and every which way. So, since the water is a bit narrower, you'll have to clear all the lines in a hurry when anyone hangs a fish."

Jane and I had heard guides' sales pitches before and so were somewhat skeptical, even though we'd gotten straight scoop on previous visits to the lodge. (We'd never fished this stream previously, since the lodge, over the years, tries to scatter its pressure around the vast wilderness in which it is located.)

Since Jane says she outfishes me on such trips (I say the guides like her better), she hung the first fish...across and downstream....on an egg-sucking leech. When her line came tight, that fish moved away from us so fast, despite the current, there was a visible bow-wave around the line as it cut through the water! Literally a bow-wave and a wake!

I was whooping and hollering at the sight and the guide had to snap at me to clear my line. After I did and the guide landed Jane's fish, it turned out to be about 25 inches and very, very broad. A fish with shoulders indeed!

Some Pics of the Year

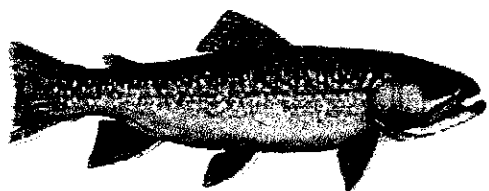
During the year, we had some some great events! Here is a sampling of just two.



A Workday with Students from West High



A Demo on Fun Day at Dakota



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 Lec	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.