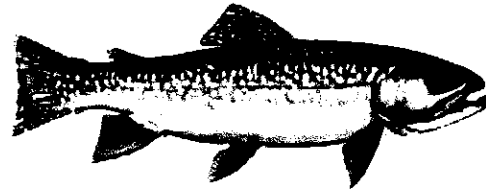


BROOKIE NEWS
Newsletter of Central Wisconsin
Chapter of Trout Unlimited



January 2006

PrezSez

Fishing season is right around the corner. Life is good!

Wasn't our January 16 program great? Sixty people were in attendance to witness the premiere of Bob Hunt's video, **Trout Stream Rehabilitation--A Case History**. Thanks go to the Robert G. Chamberlain Foundation, Shaw-Paca Chapter of TU, and the Friends of Wisconsin Trout for financially making this project happen. Great job, Mr. Hunt; we appreciate all your efforts! Thanks also go to Gary Herlache and the U.W.-Green Bay for all their help in producing the video.

Our **February 6, 6:30 PM** Board meeting will be held at the **Fin 'N Feather** in Winneconne. It will be strictly a planning meeting and it's important that all board members be present, although all interested Chapter members are also invited.

The growth we've had as a Chapter in the last five years hasn't happened by accident. The Trout-Fest, trout outings, casting clinics, water monitoring programs, FVTC Fly Fishing and Tying Classes, monthly programs, stream rehabilitation videos, KeyNote presentations on our Chapter, Master Fly Tying Series, etc., all started with a vision, planning, and commitment. Vision, planning, and commitment will also guide us to future growth, vitality, and success. Be part of this process!

Please put CWTU's annual **TroutFest** (formerly Funday) on your calendar. It will be held on **Feb. 25** at the **Fin 'N Feather** in **Winneconne**. We will be featuring ten, twenty-minute seminars on subjects related to CWTU and trout fishing, fly tying, rod building, youth fly tying, water monitoring, etc. If you would like to help out with the youth fly tying or the raffles---please contact me.

John Gremmer

Next Meeting

As John has just said, the **FIRST** annual Trout-Fest will be **February 25** at the **Fin 'N Feather, Winneconne**, starting at **9:30 AM** for all members and any visitors to the general public. Based on past experience, you are urged to come early to see all items of interest!

FLASH: Want to be in a **FREE** drawing for a **SAGE 5-wt Rod**?

If you answered yes, just bring a friend to Trout-fest. If that person signs up for a chance to win a free membership in CWTU that day, both he and his sponsor will be eligible for a raffle for a \$200 Sage rod with a winner to be drawn that day. New members will separately be eligible for several other prizes.

Show your support for our great organization and bring a potential new member for a day of fun.

Stream Monitoring 2005

During the 2005 season, Central Wisconsin Trout Unlimited (CWTU) Water Action Volunteers (WAV) monitored eight streams: Campground, Chaffee, Parsons, Wedde and Willow Creeks and the Mecan and Pine Rivers for various dates ranging from May 9 to October 23. While the original training for 38 people at Wautoma occurred on April 23, we had some difficulty in getting needed kits and supplies, despite Scott Grady's efforts in that regard. We also had later trouble uploading to the State Monitoring website and so had to maintain hard copy for later entry.

We now have 42 trained monitors and are organizing for the coming season; we thank everyone who helped us get started. If anyone has any questionsor wishes to volunteer for this season....they can contact John Gremmer, Bob Haase or me.

The WAV teams used the following sampling protocols to measure the health of the streams we selected to monitor:

1) **Habitat assessment:** completed once a year in the Spring. Using a score sheet, ten (10) different aspects were assessed with scores ranging between 13 and 52. The higher the score the better.

2) **Biotic index:** assessed twice a year, once in the Spring and once in the Fall. A Citizen Monitoring Biotic Index poster was used to indicate stream health based upon the following:

<u>SCORE</u>	<u>STREAM HEALTH</u>
3.6 and greater	Excellent
2.6 to 3.5	Good
2.1 to 2.5	Fair
1.0 to 2.4	Poor

3) **Water temperature:** measured in degrees Celsius. Brook trout require waters to be in the range of 55 to 65 degrees Fahrenheit (12.8 to 18.3 degrees

Celsius) to survive.

4) **Dissolved oxygen (D.O)**: measured in milligrams per liter (mg/L) using the Hach dissolved oxygen kit. Trout need high dissolved oxygen concentrations for survival, at least 6 mg/L.

5) **Stream flow**: measured in cubic feet per second. Changes in flow can indicate problems. As an example, urbanization will increase peak flows and runoff volumes in a stream.

6) **Turbidity**: measured in nephelometric turbidity units (NTUs) using a 28-inch clear plastic tube. An NTU value of less than 10 is excellent and the worse possible score is 240. Most of our streams have an NTU score of less than 10, with the exception of Parsons Creek. The downside of increased turbidity is that it can increase the temperature of the water, which is BAD FOR TROUT.

The eight sites monitored have been registered and the data entered. You can view this at: <http://clean-water.uwex.edu/wav/monitoring/index.htm>

We will be having a training session at the **Green Lake High School on April 29**, starting at **8:00 AM** to kick off the 2006 WAV program. We need old and new volunteers to make the program successful. If you are interested, please contact me at 920-235-2104 or rpollock@new.rr.com.

Dick Pollock

Workday

The first workday of this year is planned for **April 22, 9 AM**, on the **Little Pine, 1/4 mile south of State Highway 21, on County II**. County II is about 5 miles west of Wautoma. This will be the last workday on the Little Pine and is the final phase of several years' work. As usual, a sumptuous and elegant lunch will be prepared by the chefs, Tracy Moran, Bob Rennock, and John Gremmer.

Volunteers this year, in addition to enjoying the outdoors and participating in improving stream quality, will be entertained. For example, after completing a pleasant day's work, an expert (to be appointed) will demonstrate how to locate and identify stream insects, and to tie a fishable fly to imitate that insect. Other stream-based programs are planned and any suggestions on programs will be greatly appreciated.

For members who have not participated in a workday, this will be a good opportunity to see how stream quality is improved by the efforts of CWTU volunteers.

The Workday Committee has started to determine other sites for 2006. Meetings with the DNR are being planned to obtain their input and if any member has any suggestions for sites that may need a little (or even some major) maintenance, please email me at jjimray@charter.net or 920-232-8845.

In order to expand CWTU's impact on revitalizing our five-county trout streams, additional resources will be needed: people, funds and equipment.

And we need assistance in locating other groups with similar interests: gun clubs, fishing clubs, schools, etc. Please contact any Board member or email me at the above address with ideas.

Jim Humphrey

Driftless Area

Given the emphasis on our October fundraiser, Ye Ed did not devote enough attention to our October program by Duke Welter, a former State Council Chair, on the 24,000-square-mile Driftless Area in the four states of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin....for which we apologize. However, this month's National TU magazine, **Trout**, has an excellent article on that subject....and its proposed restoration....you should read and as well as enjoy the pictures.

In June of 2004, a number of Tu-ers laid the groundwork of a plan to renovate the area and slow or stop the region's topsoil's "slowly slipping to the sea", as Aldo Leopold once wrote. The concept, TU's Driftless Area Restoration Effort (TUDARE), was based on Bob Hunt's research on methods.

While more than \$450,000 has already been raised for the project toward a possible need of "tens of millions", it is just in its preliminary stages.

Minutes

Present: Bob Chamberlain, Dan Colligan, Ira Giese, John Gremmer, Bob Haase, Dan Harmon III, Bob Hunt, Al Lee, Rich Mlodzik, Tracy Moran, Bob Rennock, Jerry Strom, Jack Wahlers and numerous visitors.

On a motion by Jack Wahlers and Bob Hunt, the minutes of the December 12 Board meeting were approved as published. There was no Treasurer's Report, due to Scott's absence.

President Gremmer then announced several Committees and Chairs: Workday with Jim Humphrey (Chair), Tracy Moran, Shawn Sullivan, Tony Rennock, Elward Engle and Rich Mlodzik (Advisor); Water Monitoring with Dick Pollock (Chair), Bob Haase, Bob Rennock, and Don Macaulay; Program with John Gremmer (Chair), Bob Smaglik, and others.

He also announced a change in our State Council's ByLaws would be considered at the next meeting on February 4, that an oversized Master Fly-Tying Series would start on Feb 2 with 27 tiers and that our Chapter Effectiveness Index had been submitted to National with a Board-determined 98% rating.

Dan Harmon then circulated drafts proposing changing our Chapter's ByLaws to include three classes of four persons each and an unlimited, non-voting group of At-Large members honored for their previous contributions to the Chapter. He also distributed draft guidelines or Directors' and Officers' actions. Since the date of the March Annual Meeting

had not been set, the changes will be considered by all our members at that time.

The first Committee report by Dick Pollock noted another training session was planned for April 29 to update participants on various matters and techniques, including reorganizing and refreshing the several kits. (See Stream Monitoring 2005 above.)

Bob Hunt requested more time to submit suggestions for a donation to the Driftless Area and Bob Haase asked for a show of hands on having the coming October Banquet on the East or West end of our Chapter area. When a majority recommended the former, a search was initiated.

Bob Chamberlain noted the Nominating Committee work was proceeding apace and would be ready for the same meeting.

Dennis Draskowski of Curtis Lake described a zoning problem associated with that water and perhaps affecting its outlet, Wedde Creek. After some questions, several suggestions were made regarding further actions possible by the Lake's landowners.

Jim Humphrey announced important planning and training sessions for State Workday Committees to be conducted by National TU on March 25-26 at Westby. Topics include Stream Restoration and Project Planning Basics, Recruiting and Organizing Volunteers, Funding, and Publicity. Jim noted the fishing season would be open!

Ira Giese advised our membership growth for 2005 was 60 net, one of the largest increases in memory, and asked everyone to help in equal growth in 2006; Bob Stelzer noted he was seeking a long-term study on Emmons Creek and Gremmer sought assistance in updating the website, due to Tesch's being "swamped". We then adjourned for the program by Bob Hunt.

Bob Chamberlain

Musings

Back in the days when trout fishing opened on the first Saturday in May, I usually fell into an Opening Funk about the middle of February. That is, I just had to get out the tackle and start its refurbishing....replacing too-short leaders, sharpening hooks, oiling reels and cleaning flylines. The big job, of course, was returning all the leaders in their storage packets to usable condition...after a season of tree or over-hanging shrubbery "catches", path-side snags in the jungle guarding secret holes, or trout who broke off by running around rocks or jumping vertically over horizontal branches.

This late-winter effort continued even when Southwest Wisconsin began having its early catch-and-release seasons and, even later, when most of the State opted to have early starts. This year, the Funk has appeared much sooner than normal....in the week between Christmas and New Year's. Don't know if the advent is a result of the warm weather, my in-

creasing age or the open water outside our windows.

Forty years ago, as a result of the annual malady and accompanying total dissatisfaction with factory-tapered leaders, I acquired recipes for the tying of differing lengths of leaders for sinktip and floating lines and for various-sized tipits. Accordingly, I purchased a line micrometer and small spools of the specified diameters of leader material and began tying the webs from scratch....and then repairing them, as required, in subsequent years.

With a few exceptions, it's worked well. But now, time has taken its toll....it takes two successive applications of Joint-rite to get my fingers nimble enough for Surgeon's Knots in .007-inch material with minimum waste; my supply of the smaller sizes of leader material is nearing exhaustion; but, worst of all, my vision is deteriorating, so I'm occasionally clipping the desired leader when I'm trying to snip off that last .010-inch of tag end at the Knots!

Perhaps it's the latter that has caused the early review....my fishing time is running out!

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

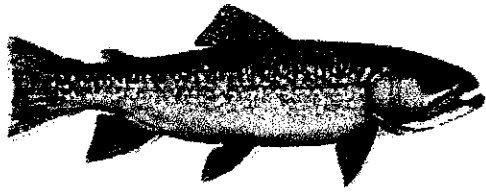
You then have our thanks. This minor task helps greatly and we appreciate it!

Scott Grady

Happy Birthday, Jack!

On January 21, Jack Wahlers celebrated his Eightieth Birthday at Berlin's Conservation Club. In keeping with his service and reputation in conservation matters, the event was well-attended.

Among those present were several CWTU Past Presidents, Dan Harmon III, Jerry Strom, and Ye Ed, with whom he had his picture taken. The Motor Machinist Mate (MoMM2c) from WW II seemed to be thoroughly enjoying himself!



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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 Lee	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.