

BROOKIE NEWS



Newsletter of The Central Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited (CWTU)

February 2010

Prez Sez

It has been a long winter, and is probably far from over, but fishing season is right around the corner. That can't be anything but good. My river is looking beautiful. Just need the melt to start and add a little color to the water. It is crystal clear right now.

On Monday, February 15, we held a special meeting of the Board devoted primarily to our planning process. We agreed on a new Committee structure that consists of seven Committees. All existing Committees, projects, and programs are included within the new committee structure, along with all 13 of this year's prioritized planning issues. All planning, and progress reporting about the Committee activities will be somewhat more formal. The intent is keep better records of what we have done and are planning to do. These files can then be passed on to the next person who takes over a committee or program with hopes that any transition, when it inevitably occurs, will be fast and smooth.

*"I have made it a matter of policy to disbelieve all fishing stories on their first telling; they begin to have the ring of truth, however, after I've repeated them several times." – Paul Quinnette, *Fishing Lessons**

program with hopes that any transition, when it inevitably occurs, will be fast and smooth. *Project Healing Waters* continued at the same pace with three to four students per class. Up until the last class, the veterans have been very young, mostly Iraq vets. Last class we also had two more "mature" vets, the result of our advertising over in the main clinic building following the presentation to the full staff on January 22. Every health care provider has a stack of PHW book marks on their desk announcing our classes. We are developing a flexible curriculum to deal with the frequently changing class composition. This is all about mental and physical therapy, so we need to be able to quickly adjust to the class situation. Sometimes it is a mix of new students and those who have attended several fly tying classes. It is a challenge, but one that we can handle.

John Tucker

State Water Monitoring Symposium at Stevens Point.

Symposium Highlights (Phil Peterson, Bob Haase, Mike Schaefer, John Gremmer, Rick Fahrenkrug, Bob Smaglik, Rand Vander Schaaf attended)

At this year's Citizen Stream Monitoring Symposium more than 60 people had the opportunity to network, learn and get inspired for this spring's monitoring season. Participants learned how agencies such as the DNR and county land conservation departments can be good stream monitoring partners and how they

use citizen data. Participants also learned about creating data reports and maps, partnering with colleges, sharing effective messages to educate and motivate the public to take action to improve water quality, and fish of the Wisconsin River sloughs.

Congratulations to Central Wisconsin Trout Unlimited, Tainter Menomin Lake Improvement Association, and Valley Stewardship Network for winning a temperature logger, donated by the Onset Corporation. These groups were entered in the drawing because they had a display or brought multiple members to the Symposium.

Symposium presentations and materials are available on the Wisconsin's Citizen-based Water Monitoring Network website.

Trout Habitat Seminar

The Central Region of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited is sponsoring a one day Trout Habitat Seminar March 20, 2010 at the Wild Rose Fish Hatchery. Two veterans of the WDNR with extensive Trout Habitat experience have volunteered to be the primary instructors for this effort. Al Niebur Fish Manager for Waupaca & Shawano Counties along with Shawn Sullivan Supervisor of the Cold Water Fisheries Habitat Crew out of Wild Rose will be presenting Best Practices for Central and Northern Wisconsin Trout Streams. Topics to be covered in this Seminar:

- * Characteristics of the Waters and Fish of Central and Northern Wisconsin
- * Threats to the Waters and Fish of the Regions
- * How to identify potential streams for projects

*Steps to a Successful Project and how to measure Success

* The Details, what to do, where, how and when

This seminar is especially for folks who wish to help with projects for their chapters. It will be an all day Seminar – Lunch and materials will be provided, There will be a \$20 non refundable registration Fee to cover costs of lunch and materials. (left over funds will be donated to the Central Region Waupaca Project Fund) If you register and can't make it find someone to go in your place. Maybe your chapter will pick up the cost. There will be optional hands on follow up in stream instruction later in the Summer in the Area.

Registrations will be accepted at the Wisconsin State Council Meeting in Stevens Point February 13th or can be e-mailed to Jim Hlaban at Wiscpr@Wolfnet.net. Or mailed to

N5967 Murray Road
Ogdensburg, Wis 54962

Registration will be limited to the First 30 Applicants. Registration will close March 1

Watch for more details to become available at WWW.WisconsinTU.Org under the projects section. As we get closer to the date.

Wisconsin State Council Meeting and Banquet

CWTU was well represented at the WITU meeting and banquet on February 13, in Stevens Point. Attendees included Bob Haase, Bob Hunt, Linn Beck, David Seligman, Tracy Moran, John and Laura Tucker, and Russ and Sue Bouck. Among the popular silent auction items was a handsome box of flies tied by Bob Haase.



David Seligman represented CWTU at the Wisconsin State TU Banquet on February 13th at Stevens Point as Master of Ceremonies and auctioneer.

Photo by John Gremmer

2010 Program Schedule Update

Prepared by Bob Smaglik and John Gremmer

Saturday, February 27, 2010: Fin ‘N Feather, Winneconne, 9:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m., CWTU’s **TroutFest ‘10**. TF ‘10 includes 10 mini-seminars, raffles, fly tying demos, artisans, used equipment sale, guides, outfitters, youth fly tying instruction, water monitoring, stream rehabilitation, and more. The program is free and the public is invited to participate.

Monday, March 15, 2010: Fin ‘N Feather, Winneconne, Business Meeting, 6:15 p.m.; Program, 7:30 p.m.: **Steve Fogler**, WDNR Biologist, Mishicot, presenting “**Exploring Wisconsin’s Lake Michigan Fisheries**”. The program is free and the public is invited to participate.

Monday, April 19th, 2010: Marble Park, Winneconne, 6:00 p.m., **CWTU’s Annual Casting Clinic**. The program is free and the public is invited to participate. For more information contact Russ Bouck.

Sunday, April 25, 2010: Riverside Park (on Hwy. 54--where the Waupaca River crosses the Hwy.) in Waupaca, **River Keepers Training Session**, Time: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Monday, May 17, 2010: Fin ‘N Feather, Winneconne, Business Meeting, 6:15 p.m.; Program, 7:30 p.m.: Program is yet to be determined.

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, June 4 - 6: **CWTU’s Annual Fly Fishing School**, Camp LuWiSpoMo, Waushara County near Wild Rose. Fly Casting, reading the water, understanding hatches, selecting fly patterns, tackle selection, knot tying, and fly tying demos are just some of the topics covered. Contact Dan Harmon.

Monday, June 21, 2010: Picnic and Business meeting, 5:30 p.m., Site yet to be determined.

Monday, July 19, 2010: Picnic and Business meeting, 5:30 p.m., Site yet to be determined.

Monday, August 16, 2010: Picnic and Business meeting, 5:30 p.m., Site yet to be determined.

Minutes of Board Meeting

February 15, 2010

The meeting at the Fin N Feather in Winneconne was called to order at 6:15 PM by President John Tucker with a quorum of the Board present.

On Motion and vote the January 2010

Treasurers Report was approved

On Motion and vote the Minutes of the January 10, 2010 meeting were approved.

On Motion and vote approved Alistair Stewart to replace Ira Giese on the CWTU board.

After much discussion, on Motion and vote the following committee structure and initial committee members were approved:

Membership

John Tucker-Chair
 Laura Tucker

Communication

David Seligman-Chair
 Bob Haase

Finance

Scott Grady-Chair
 Alistair Stewart
 Mike Schaefer

Programs and Education

John Gremmer-Chair
 Bob Smaglik
 Russ Bouck
 Dan Harmon

Watershed Management

Linn Beck-Chair
 Dick Krause
 Gary Herlache
 Jerry Strom
 Tom Poulette
 Scott Bahn
 Bob Haase
 Alistair Stewart
 Bob Stelzer

Events

Bob Smaglik-Chair
 David Seligman
 Russ Bouck
 John Tucker
 Laura Tucker

Executive Committee

John Tucker-Chair
 Dick Krause
 Linn Beck
 Scott Grady
 Mike Schaefer
 Bob Haase

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

River Keepers

How About Being A "River Keeper"?
 John Gremmer, Mike Schaefer, Rick
 Farhenkrug, Phil Peterson, Bob Smaglik,
 Tracy Moran, John Tucker, and I(Jim
 Murphy) invite you to join the many

members of Wisconsin's Water Action
 Volunteers' coalition to help monitor local
 streams and contribute, along with the
 Wisconsin River Alliance, and the WDNR, to
 their protection.

We currently have nearly 40 CWTU members
 and nonmembers teaming up in groups of threes
 and fours to check on the health of local streams
 each month from Spring through Fall.

Each team runs a series of six tests, four of them
 on each outing, and two of them Spring and Fall.
 These readings help determine the the overall
 health and well-being of the stream. The total
 time for running the tests is about an hour, after
 which many teams go fishing.....go figure.

The data is recorded and posted on the Water
 Action Volunteers' State data base. This data is
 accessible to the public, and reviewed by the
 WDNR when they need confirmation of data
 that they collect. The potential value of this data
 as future history of the stream cannot be over
 stated.

So, if we have over 40 members, why you????
 There are many, many miles of rivers and
 streams in central Wisconsin, and with more and
 more development and pollutants entering these
 streams each year, there is an ever growing need
 to actively monitor and be advocates for these
 waters.

Our CWTU "River Keepers" would like to
 expand our mission of protecting, conserving,
 and enhancing the rivers and streams in our area.
 Please consider joining us. Our first outing this
 year is a training session to help current
 members review their skills and provide new
 members with confidence to run the tests. This
 session will be held:

When: Sunday, April 25, 2010, 2:00 p.m.

Where: Riverside Park(on Hwy. 54--where the
 Waupaca River crosses the Hwy.) in Waupaca

Time: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

To sign up, or if you have questions, contact:

Jim Murphy 920-982-6233

murph@Gmail.com

John Gremmer 920-582-7802

jgremmer@charter.net

**Treasurer Report
January 31, 2010**

**Savings Account (\$500 Oz Fund)
\$526.48**

**Checking Account
\$6,607.14**

**Money Market Accounts
\$23,613.64**

**Beck Fund
\$3,451.45**

**Nash Fund (\$7,000 Mekan River
Grants) \$20,162.19**

**CD (50% Nash Fund/50% General Fund)
\$11,833.24**

**Sopkovich Fund
\$2,532.72**

**Cash on Hand ()
\$0.00**

**Total Funds
\$45,113.22**

**Oshkosh Area Community Foundation
12/31/2009 \$40,324.86**

Scott Grady, Treasurer