

# BROOKIE NEWS



<<< Illustration “One Last Look - Brook Trout” courtesy of Bob White of Whitefish Studio

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

February 2012

### Prez Sez

I would like to open up with a summary of the recent Trout Fest held February 25th. What a wonderful job by all who were involved to make this event a huge success. This year’s event was very well attended and according to most of the comments a great time was had by all. **Bob Smaglik** and **Dave Johnson** really worked hard at coordinating the event and it really showed from the mini seminars all the way to the fly tiers. A big round of applause and a huge thank you goes out to all who were involved to make this event possible and such a success.

The month of February also brought several of our members some accolades for their hard work. At the WITU state banquet this year **John Gremmer** was awarded the “Gold Net Award”. John was given the award for his leadership in many of the chapter’s endeavors, including Trout Fest, the Master Fly Tying class, his introductory to Fly Fishing and Fly Tying class, various

## IN MEMORIAM: GENE WEST

casting clinics, and CWTU’s water monitoring program. He also has been responsible in bringing the chapter into the technology age. After involvement in John’s classes quite a few of his students have joined CWTU and many of them have gone on and become board members and officers. Congratulations John on this award.



**Shawn Sullivan** was our second member honored. Shawn received the “Resource Professional Reward” for all of his hard work on the many DNR projects he has been involved in. The most recent was a project that took several years to complete because of many obstacles - the restoration of a section of the Waupaca River in downtown Waupaca. This area now has some bank

covers, a reworked stream corridor, and will include handicapped fishing access and an educational kiosk. This, along with all the habitat work on Chaffee Creek, the Mekan River and Lawrence Creek all contributed to this award. Thanks for all you do, and congratulations Shawn. I saved the best for last, not to take anything away from John and Shawn. I received a letter from the **Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame Foundation** announcing that **Bob Hunt** will be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Bob along with his brother Richard will be inducted on Saturday April 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 am in the Theater @1800(the Sentry Insurance Building Theater) in Stevens Point, with the doors opening at 9:00 am. Please join me in congratulating Bob on this well deserved achievement.

With the opening of the early season, my hope is that everyone gets a chance to get out and shake the dust off of their rods, for some of us our bodies, and enjoy some time out on the streams. And with the upcoming better weather hopefully start to think about all of the summer activities CWTU will be starting shortly, like the water monitoring and work day programs, and **John Gremmers** Fly Tying and Fly fishing program. One good thing about the early season is some of us may find out that the casting clinic **Russ Bouck** will be running again in April might be needed more than we think. This year, the Casting Clinic will be combined with the Kayak Fishing Clinic. Watch for more info coming on all of these activities.

Hopefully all can take advantage of the programs and if not these, then please make sure you get out and enjoy our streams.  
Tight Lines

**Linn Beck**  
CWTU president

## **State Council Meeting and Banquet**

Some notes from the February 4 TU State Council Meeting and Banquet

The state council officers for 2012 are: Kim McCarthy chair, John Meachen co-chair, Todd Hanson secretary, Gary Stoycoff treasurer, and Bill Heart the NLC chair. Kim said that this would be his last year as chair.

There may be some grant money available for education purposes with Wisconsin Community Education Association (WCEA), going for a \$200,000.00 grant with the backing of the State Council. This money then would be available for chapters to submit a request for portions of the money.

Eighteen of the 21 Wisconsin chapters have their by-laws complete and uploaded to the National website with the state council working with the remaining to complete

Beverly Smith of TU National reported that there was a total of \$8,949,289 dollars of total revenue raised, with Wisconsin accounting for just under \$1,000,000.00 of it. Nationwide there was 651,212 total volunteer hours reported, worth about \$13,909,888.00 in equivalent wages, again with Wisconsin providing a substantial portion.

Frac Sand mining may prove to be significant environmental issue of concern to TU. The State Council will continue to monitor this matter.

The Conservation Congress spring hearings are coming up and a vote was taken on whether to have the state council take a position on 2 issues. The Council voted unanimously in favor of the question: " Do you favor phasing out the use of felt sole wading products in /Wisconsin waters"? The

council voted to oppose the second question: " Do you favor transferring shore land and isolated wetland protection responsibilities to the State of Wisconsin"?

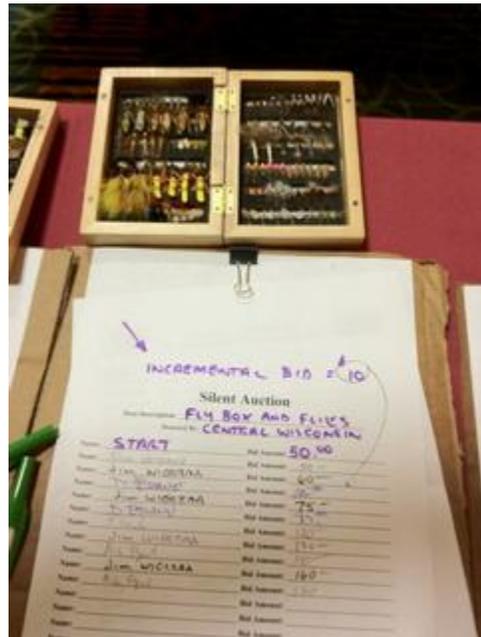
One of the most important issues covered was the bills that are up for vote soon with the assembly. We have all been informed on them and are still being encouraged to contact our congressman with these issues. They are the mining bill (AB426), wetlands bill (SB368/AB463), and the Chapter 30 bill ( SB326/AB421). Let's stay on top of these if we can.

Last but definitely not least, the State Council has adopted our CAFO position. There was some opposition but it carried.

At the Council Banquet, John Gremmer was presented the "Gold Net Award" for all he has done over the years for our chapter. The last line of his biography in the program stated that the Central Wisconsin chapter would not be what it is today if it were not for the time and leadership John has given his chapter. And how true!!!! Congratulations John and thanks for everything. Our own David Seligman served as Banquet MC and Auctioneer for the third year. A good time was had by all!



Once again, the Chapter fly boxes created and managed by Bob Haase were a big money maker for the State Council. Thanks to Bob for his terrific efforts on behalf of the Council. Twenty-one chapters filled the beautifully engraved wooden fly boxes with hand-tied flies like the one shown below.



## **FVTC/CWTU Fly Fishing and Fly Tying Class**

Again this Spring I will be teaching the FVTC/CWTU Introduction to Fly Fishing and Fly Tying Class at Winneconne High School. This will be the twelfth year that I have taught the class. A number of CWTU fly fishers assist in the instruction.

Over the years this has been a lot of fun for me. I get to make new and interesting friends and turn them on to the most interesting and rewarding sport that I know of. This is the way the class is listed in the FVTC course catalog:

### ***Fly Fishing & Tying, Intro***

*Allows participants of experience hands-on time to tie eight different flies, a casting instruction session and an on-stream instructional experience. Content will include equipment selection, fly types and selection, knot tying, fly presentation, fly fishing organizations and resources, where to fish, fly fishing the Internet, leader making, stream biology, hatch charts, casting technique, and warm water fly fishing.*

*4/10 - 5/29 Winneconne High School  
6:00pm - 9:00pm*

To be more specific, we have six, three-hour classroom sessions, one on-the-water casting session, and one evening session on a local trout stream for a total of eight sessions. The first class is Tuesday, April 10, starting at 6:00 PM. The costs are \$90.12 for those under 62 and \$81.60 for people over 62. There is also a \$15 materials fee that pays for feathers, hooks, leader material, etc. Overall the participant will receive 25 hours of instruction at a cost of around \$4.00/hour.

If you know of someone who would benefit from this class, please have them contact me at 920-582-7802(home), 920-379-9263(cell), or [jgremmer@charter.net](mailto:jgremmer@charter.net).

To sign up for the class contact FVTC's Marie Thull at 920-582-4025.

**John Gremmer**

## **“Yakity Yak”**

By  
“Mango Danny”

After having selected a kayak of your choosing and the paddles to propel it, one should think about stopping it, or keeping it in a place from which to fish.

**A**nchor(s) and an anchoring system is a solution that has many options. Some of my colleagues have opted for a fore and aft (bow and stern) or a single anchor point at either end of the kayak. After considering several options, I installed a “Trolley System” on my kayak which is a variable fore and aft arrangement. As the photograph shows, the pulley anchoring points are located on the kayakers left side approximately two feet from the ends of the bow and stern with a cord running through them. Joined between two ends of the cord are bungees and clips connecting to a ring in the middle. When adjusted properly, the trolley is tight enough to conform to the curvature of the kayak and stay out of the water. The anchor line is then threaded through the ring and secured in board by an easy tie cleat. Actually, any type of cleat will do, but I preferred this type as no knots are necessary to secure the anchor line. The operation of the system is quite simple in that moving the top cord, the one not attached to the ring, from side to side allows you to have the anchor line at either end of the kayak. With the anchor line already tied to the inboard cleat, you can have your kayak either facing into the wind (into the current) or with the wind (with the current) or somewhere in between, just by moving the cord. To keep the trolley system from moving while at anchor, a simple wrap of the cord around the circular outboard cleat, keeps the trolley from moving. If adjusted correctly, there is enough give in the

bungees to do this with very little effort. Before I discuss anchors, here's a nifty little trick that I learned from the fishermen of Mosquito Lagoon, Florida. You can anchor your yak in calm water with a graphite golf club shaft put through the ring and into the soft bottom. I epoxied an arrow target point into the shafts open end to preclude splitting and so far, so good. I carry two anchors usually, a one pound and a three and a half pound, but given a choice, I carry the heavier one because of wind or current changes during the day. Attached to each anchor line is a sliding buoy and if I should ever hook my "Moby Dick" of all fish, I can release the anchor rope and fight the fish to a happy conclusion, worrying about where the anchor is later. This has not as yet occurred, but hope springs eternal, and if it should, I will have no excuses about the fish tangling in the anchor line etc. and getting away. "Gee, I hope this happens soon"!



### 2012 CWTU River Keepers

Plans are being made for our 2012 CWTU River Keeper season. Last year we had 20 teams with a monthly monitoring success rate of around 99.99%. In 2012 we hope to make our current teams stronger while adding a few new teams. The strength of this

program is the team leader. We thank all of last year's team leaders for their leadership and positive contributions.

During the year River Keepers have three meetings—a Spring organizational meeting, an on-stream training session, and an end of the year buffet/program/wrap up session. By attending and participating in these meetings you make our organization stronger.

Our organizational meeting will be held on Thursday, April 12 at the Fin 'N Feather in Winneconne at 6:30 pm. At this meeting we will explain any changes in procedures, form new teams and add members to old teams, and provide other information that will make your monitoring my efficient and rewarding.

Our training session will be on the Waupaca River at Riverside Park at 10:00 am on Saturday, April 28.

The year-end wrap-up/buffet dinner/program will be on Tuesday, November 13.

Being a CWTU River Keeper is a great way to learn about our streams, help protect our streams by gathering important environmental stream data that the DNR and others can use, make new friends, and have a fun and rewarding time.

Would you like to get involved in River Keepers? Call me at 920-582-7802(home), 920-379-9263(cell), or [jgremmer@charter.net/](mailto:jgremmer@charter.net/).

**John Gremmer**

### Upcoming Events

#### [Board Meeting and Program](#)

Monday, Mar 19 at 6:15 PM - 8:30 PM

*Wildflowers found along the Trout Stream presentation by Elward Engle.* Presentation at 7:30pm. Don't miss this very enjoyable program as Elward reveals the early spring wildflowers that we walk past each early season trout fishing trip. Elward will draw

from his over 40 years of notes that he has collected and steer you in the right direction to make discoveries yourself. Not many know our central sands area better than Elward, so come on out and learn the names of those plants you always wish you knew.

 **Board Meeting and Casting and Kayak Fishing Clinic Program**

Monday, Apr 16 at 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
Program combines the popular casting clinic and kayak fishing clinics into one great event. More information to follow.

**CWTU Logo Wear**

Some CWTU logo wear is now available for a reasonable donation to the Chapter. Quantities are limited for the fishing shirts, so order soon if you'd like to have or give one as a gift. The 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary design on shirts and caps is only available during 2011-2012.

<i>Item</i>	<i>Suggested Donation</i>
CWTU "Brookie" baseball style caps	\$15
CWTU "40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary" baseball style caps	\$17
CWTU "40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Columbia Bonehead Fishing Shirts	\$60
Size M (one available)	
Size L (six available)	
Size XL (one available)	

Contact David Seligman, CWTU Secretary  
W764 Brooklyn J Rd.  
Ripon, WI 54971  
Phone: 920.745.2579  
Cell: 920.204.2541  
seligmand@gmail.com

**CWTU Officers and Board Members**

***Officers:***

President: Linn Beck, 160 W. 19th Avenue,  
Oshkosh, WI 54902, 920-233-5496

Vice President: John Gremmer, 5935  
Hiawatha Drive, Winneconne, WI 54986.  
920-582-7802  
Secretary: David Seligman, W764 Brooklyn  
J Rd., Ripon, WI 54971, 920-745-2579  
Treasurer: Mike Schaefer, 2471 Newport  
Court, Oshkosh, WI 54904, 920-378-460  
Past President: John Tucker, N5424 Sunny  
Hill Rd, Saxeville, WI 54976, 920-622-5401

***Board of Directors:***

(Term ending in 2012)  
Chris Northway, 7905 Liberty School Rd.,  
Omro, WI 54963, 920-420-1594  
Bob Haase, W7949 Treptow Lane,  
Eldorado, WI 54932, 920-922-8003  
Alistair Stewart, 1400 N. Mohawk Street,  
Chicago, IL 60610, 312-730-5246  
Laura Tucker, N5424 Sunny Hill Rd,  
Saxeville, WI 54976, WI 54956, 920-540-  
5293  
(Term ending in 2013)  
Bob Hunt, N2254 Skyview Lane, Waupaca,  
WI 54961, 715-258-2886  
Gary Herlache, 7075 Clow Road,  
Winneconne, WI 54986, 920-427-0625  
Dan Harmon III, 57 Stoney Beach Road,  
Oshkosh, WI 54902, 920-235-1761  
Russ Bouck, 9357 Nelson Road, Amherst  
Junction, WI 54407, 715-824-3781 (Term  
ending in 2014)  
Dave Johnson, 820 W 3rd. Street, Appleton,  
WI 54914, 920-850-6410  
Jeff Wegand, 555 Ann Ct., Berlin, WI 54923  
920-361-0689  
Bob Stelzer, 1122 Merritt, Oshkosh, WI  
54901, 920-235-4217  
Jim Murphy, N2146 Fox Ridge Lane, New  
London, WI 54961, 920-982-6233

**Directors At Large:**

Mark Brosseau, Elward Engle, Ray Piehl,  
Tom Poulette, Jerry Strom, Jack Wahlers,  
Bob Chamberlain, Dave Johnson