

# BROOKIE NEWS

September 2015



*Illustration "One Last Look - Brook Trout"  
courtesy of Bob White of Whitefish Studio*

## Riffles, Runs and Pools

By President Mike SanDretto

The first Central Wisconsin Chapter Trout Unlimited Banquet I went to was about eight years ago. I had been getting the mailing for the banquet for some years and thought it would be fun to go. I didn't know anyone in the chapter and I didn't have anyone to go with. What happened the first time I went? I had a great time! I met many friendly people. The table I sat at had varied backgrounds experiences which made for lively conversation. Coincidentally, I also ran into a few people I knew but didn't know they were trout fishers.

If you haven't been to your chapter's annual banquet for any reason, consider coming to this one. If you don't know other chapter members ask for me, Mike SanDretto, at the desk. I'll show you around, introduce you to people and find you a table. I can assure you that everyone that comes this year will have a great time.

We have donations this year to make it another great one. Again, we have a fishing kayak raffle, in which you do not need to be present. The "high end" rod mentioned in the banquet advertisements has been purchased, a Sage 15 wt. We have been told it casts itself☺. There are other donations like Packer memorabilia and jewelry. While the banquet site is new to CWTU this year, Wisconsin TU State has held their banquet there for the last two years and had a positive experience with very good food and service. Lastly, any students attending will receive a few flies tied by our own members and they will be entered into a free raffle to receive a rod also created by one our members. Come join us!

We had a very special Program following the September 8th Board Meeting. Fishing in Bolivia presented by Tim Landwher of TightLines Fly Fishing Company. Tsimane Lodge is located in Bolivia where the Amazon jungle meets the Andes Mountains.



*Tim Landwher from Tight Lines "Fly Fishing in Bolivia"*

The scenery of the location is amazingly beautiful. Sight casting, free stone wading, and floating lines make for enjoyable fly fishing. This lodge gives the opportunities to catch the prized Golden Dorado's which grow from 12-25 lbs in this system. Yes, we saw pictures of big fish in the presentation - it looked like an unforgettable experience! Tim talked about the native people, their

culture and their life on the river. He described the waters they fished, the region, travel and interaction with natives. Thanks Tim for a great program.

## **Sleepless in Sand County**

By Jeff Wegand

It does not get any better than September fly fishing! My daughter says “Dad, I would like to go fishing. When can we go?” My wife knows this is really a rhetorical question. Madison does not have cheerleading practice and there will not be a better night to go.

I know a few places where you have to really try to float your waders and trout concentrations are higher.



We park at the parking lot and make our way down to the river. Madison asks how far the walk is and just like when we are back packing, I like to use my line “About a mile-mile and a half.” It is something hikers say to ease the pain and seemed rather fitting at this given moment.

After stomping through the wetlands we make it to the river and it is glorious as usual. Cold, clean and full of trout like it is supposed to be. Instead of immediately flailing away with my rod I like to take a second to take it all in which perplexes my daughter a little. It was a sight with the

birds going crazy and for the baetis coming off in size 16. Not much longer I see trout rising in every run I can see. This is too good to be true. We both take a couple steps into the river because I cannot cast from the bank. I tie on a small emerger and wait to see if the fish will continue to rise...and they do. It is time to pinch myself; I am fishing for trout with my daughter and trout are rising! So I take the rod and make an upstream cast. The plan goes as follows; Dad casts, sets hook and Madison does all the work lining the trout in. I make a small reach cast but it puts the fish down. We slowly advance to next pool working on our wading only to get similar results with another rising fish. This is the definition of insanity but I don't get any slack from my daughter. Only a little sarcasm has rubbed off on her and I think she is also trying hard to soak it all in.

I decide to switch to soft hackles and work our way down stream. I have seen this done a time or two by a guy I know. He is English and it is in his blood. There would be nothing better than to have my daughter master the art of swinging soft hackles. Here is the mantra as I tell her “Let line out, swing fly into likely left cover, twitch fly forward, swing into likely cover on the right, let more line out and repeat.”



Birds continue to be active but river has gone silent. It has always been a difficult

fish downstream for me on these streams but we continue the dance.

Eventually we get to a hole where fish are rising again. Now time is on our side because the light is fading and the fisher has the advantage. "Madison, is it time to feed the village" I say with a smile. We slide the soft hackle down the seam right next to the log and she gets a few bumps! She turns to me and says "Dad, I am cold." I rub her arms trying to create some friction and warm her up for the main event. It is just not enough and we decide to head back to the car. Nevertheless, we did not break or lose anything and I will always consider that a huge success. We stop at the Milty Wilty on the way home honoring tradition. Life is good!



## **CWTU Board of Directors Meeting 9/8/15**

Fin & Feather in Winneconne

President Mike San Dretto commenced the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

**Minutes Meeting August, 11th 2015**  
approved as distributed.

**Treasurer's Report** no new updates but committee was working on November Audit report

**In memoriam: Conrad Schneider.** Dan Harmon discussed that he was a very kind and giving man that came to all the workdays. He served in German army and became a prisoner of World War II which supported a very interesting life. His profession was a butcher and mechanic. Urban legend has it he could swim a worm from Wild Rose to Pine River.

**Work day coordinator.** Mike reported that Dennis Draskowski has volunteered for the position. The chapter with big thanks welcomes Dennis at this position. It is very important chapter function. We also thanked Scott Bahn for his years of successfully managing this important function of our Chapter. Dennis introduced himself by saying he has a cabin in Richford for last 15 years. Last February he recently retired from WI Department of Transportation and his back ground was law enforcement. Tom Meyer, Sherry Arnold, Chris Northway, Ira Giese, and Mike SanDretto will make up the work day team to support Dennis.

**Banquet: October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015.** We have another great event coming up! Posters were distributed. There will be lots of great donations and always great comradely.

### **Open positions:**

Mike would like a Vice president to bounce ideas off of and support president functions in the future. Board suggested that Laura Tucker become Vice President. She is looking to retire and it may be a possibility? We are also looking for new watch dogs. Job description was discussed and could be posted in upcoming Brookie and website? Bob Joswoski was not in attendance to discuss possibilities of current River Keepers taking on some or all functions of watch dog?

**DNR Lands for sale.** The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has released a list of 118 parcels of land which are currently being reviewed for possible

sale. These parcels are being considered due to a state law which requires the Natural Resources Board to make 10,000 acres of non-project land available for sale no later than June 30, 2017. Lands currently proposed for sale are located in 40 counties, and tally approximately 8,300 acres. Of the lands identified, 5,387 acres are proposed for sale to the public. 2,575 acres are proposed for sale to Wisconsin's counties, or other units of government. Finally, 325.5 acres are proposed for sale to Wisconsin Tribal Nations.

Several of the parcels proposed for sale, however, pose great concern to Wisconsin Trout Unlimited. First, several spring pond parcels in Langlade County have been proposed for sale. Langlade County has the world's greatest concentration of spring ponds, and such ponds are destination fisheries for numerous anglers.

Largest concern for our chapter was land for sale adjacent to other state land encompassing Lunch creek; parcel # is FI 2847. Mike asked for motion in support of writing letter to reconsidered state land in Lunch Creek fishery!

Each of the above properties is a part of Wisconsin's incredibly vibrant trout fishing economy. Recent studies by the American Sportfishing Association, for example, indicate that recreational angling results in an over \$2.2 BILLION annual economic impact in Wisconsin, supporting over 21,000 jobs, and resulting in over \$145 MILLION in local and state taxes.

**Bob Hunt Fish and Wildlife Area.** Mike discussed with Matt Selchert the Hornberg president what the status of renaming the property was. Hornberg decided CWTU would be the driving force of change. Nevertheless, before any acting on any decisions we would run them past Hornberg chapter before progressing.

**High capacity well position paper.** Mike discussed writing paper with Matt Selchert

of Hornberg on high capacity wells. Wood county is going to receive 33 new wells, 31 private, and 2 business. This data does not take into consideration the additional wells being considered. Board had motion to approve action.

**New business** Discussed current membership. 315 active members, 36 life members, 3 family life members, 5 sponsors, 41 senior members (over 62) Advertisement for fly fishing school will be shown at banquet.

**No old business**

**Motion to Adjourn**



*Workday on the West Branch of White Sept 19th  
More pics at <http://www.cwtu.org/apps/photos/>*



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# Upcoming Events

## Ice age Trail Hike & Dog Walk

**Saturday, October 10, 2015**

*Greenwood segment just south of Hwy C on 9th Ave  
1:00-3:00 PM*

*Contact Bob Jozwowski [bojzowowski@gmail.com](mailto:bojzowowski@gmail.com),  
Phone (920)765-1887  
[iceagetrail.org](http://iceagetrail.org)*

## CWTU Banquet

**Saturday, October 10, 2015**

*BEST WESTERN PREMIER Waterfront Hotel &  
Convention Center*

*1 N Main St, Oshkosh*

*4:30 PM (hors d'oeuvres & raffles start)*

*Contact Laura Tucker (920) 540-5293*

## CWTU Board meeting

**"Wisconsin Trib Steelhead waters"**

**By Nick Legler, WDNR Fisheries**

**Biologist & Steelhead Mngr.**

**Tuesday, November 10, 2015**

*Fin and Feather (upstairs banquet area)*

*6:15 board meeting 7:30 program*

*22W Main St, Winneconne, WI, 54986*

*[cwtu.org](http://cwtu.org)*

## Riverkeepers Wrap Up Meeting

**Monday, November 19, 2015**

*Fin and Feather (upstairs banquet area)*

*5:30 PM*

*22W Main St, Winneconne, WI, 54986*

*Contact Bob Jozwowski [bojzowowski@gmail.com](mailto:bojzowowski@gmail.com),*

*Phone (920)765-188*

## CWTU Board meeting

**"Central WI Restoration 2014-2015"**

**By Shawn Sullivan, Habitat**

**Operations Supervisor.**

**Tuesday, December 8th, 2015**

*Fin and Feather (upstairs banquet area)*

*6:15 board meeting 7:30 program*

*22W Main St, Winneconne, WI, 54986*

*[cwtu.org](http://cwtu.org)*

## CWTU Board meeting

**Night of "Tying fun"**

**Charlie from Tight Lines and Tom  
Lager will give presentations.**

**Tuesday, January 12, 2016**

*Fin and Feather (upstairs banquet area)*

*6:15 board meeting 7:30 program*

*22W Main St, Winneconne, WI, 54986*

*[cwtu.org](http://cwtu.org)*

**\*\*\*To list your conservation non-profit event  
in this newsletter, please contact Jeff  
Wegand at [jeffwegand@hotmail.com](mailto:jeffwegand@hotmail.com)**

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