

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)

March 2014

Prez Sez

March will mark the end of our Stream Work Day Fund Drive. We now have a one page, easy to print Contribution form on the CWTU website in the “About & Contacts” section. This form will remain on the website and can be used at any time,

but there will be only one more email request for contributions this year. As of last week, we had received nearly \$1,000 in donations for stream restoration. We will make good use of this during the summer projects, but we could certainly use more. If you have suggestions for improving the fund drive for next year, please let me know at jtucker358@gmail.com or 920-622-5401.

The WITU Youth Fishing Camp still needs volunteers. This event will be July 24-27 at the Pine Lake Camp near Waupaca. Please contact Bob Haase (920-922-8003 or Linn Beck (920-379-2974) to find out how you can help.

We have been kicking around the idea of providing maps and directions to all of the stream improvement that we have done at our work days for the past 5-6 years. This idea is evolving into the possibility of creating a booklet with maps and directions to stream access points for all trout streams in our chapter boundary. It makes sense that we should be promoting trout fishing in Central

Wisconsin. Stay tuned to see how this progresses.

At the time of this writing, the ground water bill SB-302 and the WITU License Plate Bill had not been scheduled for the Senate floor. The good news is that SB-302 is not likely to get passed this year. The bad news is neither will the License Plate Bill. I am packing my gear today for the 2014 Sowbug Round up in Mountain Home Arkansas. This is the foremost gathering of fly tiers in the USA, and over 100 tiers are expected. I have never been to this event, so it is a new adventure for me. I hope to watch the experts for one day, and fish for two days, weather permitting.

John Tucker

**CWTU Board of Directors Meeting
March 11, 2014
Fin 'n Feather, Winneconne**

1. Meeting called to order by President John Tucker at 6:25 p.m.
2. Minutes of the January meeting were approved as distributed.
3. Treasurer's report was approved as distributed. Mr. Schaefer's noted that matching funds for the grants received are to come from the operating budget, as previously approved by the Board. Mr. Smaglik gave a brief update on the very successful Troutfest in February.

4. Mr. Tucker pointed out that the Chapter needs to have an ongoing program of fund raising for our stream improvement projects. Mr. Haase added that we should be proactive in publicizing our work in area news outlets, to broaden the appeal both for fund raising and for participation.
5. Mr. Tucker opened the discussion on whether the Chapter can and should provide public information such as online maps showing locations where we have done stream improvement work. Mr. Tucker and Mr. Haase will work with Shawn Sullivan on possible ways of producing a brochure or other means of publicizing our chapter's stream improvement work.
6. Mr. SanDretto addressed the upcoming State Council sponsored stream restoration workshop. He suggested that the Chapter sponsor an annual Robert L. Hunt Lecture on the science of stream restoration. We could start off with John Gremmer's talk on the life of Bob Hunt, perhaps as one of our regular post meeting programs, and perhaps go on from there to a larger format such as the annual joint River Keepers Banquet. These venues could provide additional

fund raising opportunities. Further discussion is needed.

7. Mr. Beck updated the Board on the summer Youth Fishing Camp. Two chapters are committed to sending a kid and three more are in process. The camp is for youths ages 12-16 and covers all aspects of fishing, water safety, stream ecology, knot tying, various types of fishing, etc. Our Chapter has not yet identified a candidate.
8. Mr. Haase reported that the annual Beaver Dam Outdoor Expo was cancelled for this year, but a limited version is in the works for the McKenzie Center at Poynette. He reported that there is a possibility that the Amherst Dam may be removed, as it will cost more than \$1.2 million to repair it and the town may not wish to undertake that, while the cost of removal would be much less. TU is willing to work with the Town to help them consider options. There is no further progress on discussions regarding the Wautoma Dam.
9. No Old Business
10. New Business: Mr. SanDretto reminded us that we need to be working on a succession plan, communications, and leadership development. Committee structure and

planning items will be on the agenda for the April Board Meeting.

11. Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,
David Seligman, Secretary**

Reminder to Attend the Spring Conservation Hearings

The annual Spring Conservation Hearings will be held on Monday, April 14, at 7:00pm, in all the counties of the state. It is important to attend these meetings and we encourage all our members to try to attend these meeting if at all possible. Wisconsin is the only state that allows the citizens of the state to elect representatives to the Conservation Congress which acts in an advisory capacity to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Natural Resources Board. There are five delegates elected in each county and they have the responsibility of representing the people of their county on hunting, fishing, and conservation issues.

The booklets for the Spring Hearings are available at many of the sports shops, from any DNR Service Centers, and they are also available electronically on the DNR website. These booklets list all the proposed rules changes, resolution proposals, listing of hearing locations, and information on how to write a proposed resolution if someone would like to introduce one.

Bob Haase

For this part of the state the hearings will be held at the following locations:

- Fond du Lac County, Theisen Middle School
- Green Lake County, Green Lake High School
- Marquette County, Montello High School
- Waushara County, Waushara County Courthouse
- Winnebago County, Webster Stanley Middle School

There will be trout questions related to changing the start of the early catch & release season, eliminating the five day closure between the early catch & release season and the open season, extending the open season to October 15 or extending the catch & release season to October 15. There is also a question about having just one fishing conservation stamp for all fish and eliminating the Trout Stamps.

Every year there are questions that affect anyone that hunts, fishes, traps, or uses the outdoors for other recreational purposes and yet most people don't take the time to attend these important meetings. There will also be an informational session this year from the Wildlife Biologists on the current status of the deer herds and changes being implemented as part of the Deer Trustee Report. Please mark your calendar for 7:00pm on April 14th and make plans to attend these meetings.

CWTU River Keepers To Kick Off 10th Year on April 22

Our organizational meeting will be held at the Fin 'N Feather at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, April 22. Former CWTU scholarship recipient Mike Shupryt who is now the DNR's Streams & Rivers Monitoring Technical Lead, will present a short program on the value of water monitoring volunteers. During the one hour meeting new teams will be assembled, old teams may pick up some members, and equipment needs will be addressed. Join the River Keepers today! Anyone interested in becoming a River Keeper should contact me at [920-582-7802](tel:920-582-7802), or jgremmer@charter.net/, or Rick Fahrenkrug at [920-725-0255](tel:920-725-0255), or rfahr07@gmail.com/.

Little Black Stone Fly

This little darling was photographed on a snowbank at the Dover Road crossing of the Mecan River on March 28,



Photo by Bob Haase

Brookie News Articles and Features

Members and friends of CWTU are encouraged to submit articles, notices, and photos for publication in the Brookie News. Contact the editor at Seligmand@gmail.com.