

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)

November 2013

Prez Sez

Here come the Holidays, a favorite time for all. Laura and I are ready. We rented the Saxeville Mill House (built 1857) for a big family Thanksgiving feast. At home, the gutters are clean, the leaves are removed, new firewood is stacked, and the snow blower is freshly tuned. I have never been more ready for the winter season.

You have been getting frequent emails urging you to contact your congressmen. The requests seem

unusually high, but a lot of things are in the works, and the designations keep changing as bills go through the proposal stages, Assembly votes, and Senate votes. Thank you for helping with the WITU License plate Bill. It recently sailed through the Assembly with a 92-0 vote in favor. Now it must go through the Senate, so your help is again requested. Much more of a concern is the Senate Bill SB 302 (also known as the Kedzie bill). This bill has not yet been scheduled for a Senate vote. But please don't hesitate to contact your Senator and request a vote against it. Passage will greatly restrict our and our communities' ability to control the approval of high capacity well permits. Our ground water is a precious resource that must be preserved.

Our chapter was just awarded a matching grant from the Trout & Salmon Foundation for restoration work on the Chaffee Creek. The matching funds will be split equally between CWTU and Elliott Donnelley TU. This is a continuation of a great working relationship with EDTU, a large Chicago area chapter. We have previously shared matching funds for two Mekan River restoration grants. Chaffee Creek is a tributary to the Mekan.

For those of you with an interest in working with teens and preteens, please be aware that Wisconsin TU is organizing a fishing camp for kids. This will be a great opportunity for youth to learn about conservation, fishing and water safety. This is expected to be a 4 day program, possibly in mid July. If you are interested in joining the planning committee or volunteering to help at the camp, please contact Bob Haase (920-379-2974), or Linn Beck (920-922-8003).

Happy Thanksgiving,
John Tucker

**CWTU Board Meeting,
November 12, 2012**

Fin 'n Feather, Winneconne
1.Meeting was *called to order* by President Tucker at 8:03 p.m. Minutes of the September Board Meeting were *approved as distributed*.

2.The Treasurer's Report was approved as distributed. Treasurer Schaefer presented and explained the proposed fiscal year Budget. The Budget was approved as distributed.

3.Mr. Tucker presented and explained the request for funding support of \$2000 from CWTU for DNR work crews. Since the Northern area does not need crews this year, it is highly likely that the work will be done in the Central Region. We plan to request a Friends Grant to match our contribution, with approval likely.

Motion to allocate \$2000 to support the DNR crews, contingent upon receipt of a matching Friends Grant, was approved.

4. Mr. SanDretto discussed the status of the Wautoma Pond (not "Millpond"). The dam is owned by the city of Wautoma. There is little support in the city for leaving the pond in its current, unfilled state. Mr. SanDretto has worked with Mr. Burke, Mr. Peirce, Mr. Giese, and Mr. Engle, and consulted with the DNR and Ms. Sarakinos of the River Alliance on this issue. While CWTU strongly supports keeping the dam open and the pond unfilled, as a benefit to the White River and its fish populations downstream, we must proceed cautiously in this matter since we do not wish to alienate the citizens of Wautoma. However, DNR reports the heavy presence of Asian Pond Weed, an alien invasive, in the Pond area, which may be a factor in the future of the Pond. Mr. Burke and Mr. SanDretto will meet with Professor Porter, a stream ecologist from UW to continue fact-finding, and report back to the Chapter. No action taken.

5.Mr. Gremmer presented an analysis of the River Keepers data. Continued trends upward in numbers of teams and numbers of sites monitored. Comparative analysis is available on line.

6.Mr. Gremmer reported on the upcoming FVTC Fly Fishing Class which will hold six sessions in

January followed by a casting clinic and a one-on-one guided fishing opportunity later in the Spring. This continues to be an exceptionally well-regarded program, as the number of its graduates now involved in TU indicates.

7.Mr. Gremmer reported that we have added 62 people to the Chapter's email lists. Mr. SanDretto has prepared a letter to the more than 100 Chapter members for whom we do not have email addresses, requesting that they provide their email addresses so as to enhance the Chapter's communication with members. Assurances will be provided that the email addresses will not be shared with anyone else. ***Motion was made and carried to authorize expenditures necessary to duplicate and mail these letters.***

8.Mr. Haase reported no further progress with DNR on the Bob Hunt Memorial as reported at the previous meeting. He and Mr. Tucker may have to make an in-person visit to move this along. Mr. Bouck suggested that the Chapter also look into some sort of Chapter-specific way of memorializing Mr. Hunt. Mr. Gremmer indicated that we have lots of Bob Hunt material available for putting together some kind of presentation on Bob's life. Mr. Seligman reminded the Board that we have begun developing funds to support a Bob Hunt Memorial via the special auction of Bob Hunt's book and fly box at the Banquet, which

were re-donated to the Chapter to be auctioned again next year.

9.Per the State Council request for Chapter support for its Banquet, Mr. Haase will again coordinate the very popular chapters fly boxes. Together with one or two additional items, this will more than account for our Chapter's contribution.

10.Old Business: Mr. Beck and Mr. Haase are working on the establishment of a summer State Council Youth Camp. Depending on site availability, the Camp will likely be held the third weekend in July at Pine Lake. Volunteers are needed to help with the camp: contact Mr. Haase or Mr. Beck.

Mr. Harmon III reported on the upcoming Trout School. Brochures are available.

11.New Business: Mr. Bahn plans to apply for an Embrace-a-Stream grant. Deadline is December 10. These are highly competitive grants, but well-worth the effort.

Mr. Haase reported that Wisconsin set new records for attendance at the Awards Night and the Banquet for the National TU Annual Banquet. All-in-all, Wisconsin did an impressive job.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,
David Seligman, Secretary**

CWTU's River Keepers Close Out The Year!

The CWTU River Keepers closed out a spectacular 2013 with a Buffet/Program on November 12 at the Fin 'N Feather in Winneconne. Over 70 people attended, including almost all of the Board Members. Thanks go to all the River Keepers who diligently monitored from Spring through Fall. You are truly citizen scientists. The program was presented by Dr. Robert Stelzer and Mike Louisan. Dr. Stelzer presented his ongoing research on Emmons Creek, which he has been doing for nine years. Mike Louisan, our current CWTU scholarship grad student, talked about his research on brown trout and their use and dependence on springs along Emmons Creek. We are fortunate to be associated with these two scientists and are grateful for their contributions to our mission. The River Keepers had their best year ever. Twenty-eight teams monitoring over 35 streams is the greatest participation we have ever had. Many of the water monitors, not being CWTU members when they started, have been becoming chapter members. These people are interested in preserving clean water for future generations. Thanks to Rick Fahrenkrug we have received a \$5000 grant to help us buy 12 new monitoring kits for the next few years. We have been adding around six new teams

every year. This is the second \$5000 grant that Rick has secured for us. Thanks Rick!

To learn more about the CWTU River Keepers, go to www.cwtu.org and click on the River Keeper button at the top of the home page. There along with other things you will see images of all the River Keeper teams. If you would like to become a River Keeper--contact me at jgremmer@charter.net or 920-582-7802.

John Gremmer

CWTU RK Stream Monitoring Summary – Nov. 11, 2013 THESE ARE THE STREAMS THE RIVER KEEPERS MONITORED IN 2013.

| <i>Station ID</i> | <i>Site</i> |
|-------------------|---|
| 83187 | South Branch Manitowoc River at Park St |
| 593158 | Middle Branch Embarrass River at CTH Q and Cardinal Ln |
| 693117 | Hartman Creek at Hartman Creek State Park |
| 10010711 | Wedde Creek at Deerborn Rd |
| 10012437 | West Branch White River 125 yds W of CTH T |
| 10012445 | Bird Creek at Antler Dr |
| 10013632 | Radley Creek at STH 22 |
| 10015400 | White River at Cottonville Ln and 17th Dr |
| 10015742 | Peterson Creek 200 yards upstream from South Branch !! Little Wolf |
| 10020551 | White River 100 yds DS dam at CTH YY |
| 10020689 | Waupaca River at STH 10 |
| 10020691 | Waupaca River at STH 22 and Riverside Park due W of !! parking lot |

10020692 Mekan River east of Cty II on
Cypress Rd to W9853, 100 yds
!! S of residence
10022426 Chaffee Creek upstream from
CTH Y and CTH Z
10028918 Willow Creek at CTH S and Z
10029791 Pine River at W4902 Portage Rd
10030208 Fordham Creek at 8th Ave
10031326 Unnamed Tributary to S Branch
Rock River E of CTH AS
!! and Radio Rd
10037927 Pine River at Aniwa Rd
10038078 Sucker Creek 1/8th mi E of 24th
Ave
10039561 Chaffe Creek at CTH CH
10039566 Killsnake River W of Killsnake
Rd and CoHwy BB
10039567 Waupaca River 1 mi downstream
of Weyauwega Dam
10039577 Tagatz Creek at 4th Ave and
Dakota Rd
10039602 Pine River at CTH H
10039603 Hartman Creek 100 yds
downstream from dam
10039625 Emmons Creek below the dam
10039680 Dakin Creek 1/4 mile E of Fond
du Lac County Line
10040323 Waupaca River at Cobbtown Rd
.1 mi E of Townline Rd
10040536 Lawrence Creek at Eagle Ave
10040638 Willow Creek at Brown Deer Ave
W of 24th Rd
10040730 Sawyer Creek at 9th Ave by
Mercy Medical
10040925 West Branch of White River 1/4
mi W of W9179 CTH C
10040928 Twin Creek N of Twin Creek Rd

**The Following Item Was Lifted by
Ye Ed, From an Online Site, Most
Likely The Limp Cobra, and
Regrettably Unattributed**

*With the demise of so many great
fishing waters, and increasing
pressure on the remaining wild
fisheries, the best thing that has
come down the pike for fly
fisherman is the put and take
fishery. Let's face it, who has the
time these days to put in the
hours, years for chrissake,
necessary to catch sufficient
numbers of wild trout to be able to
call yourself an angler? Well,
nowadays, with these fantastic
put and take fisheries, all that lore
and experience stuff about flies
and hatches and so on is just a
bunch of boring old crap preached
by boring old farts. No wonder the
kids aren't interested in fishing
anymore.*

*And, even better, the P&T waters
are just getting better all he time.
No nettles, brambles or mud, all
nice green grass and neat wood
and concrete jetties to fish from,
no need for waders and all the
paraphernalia. Your nice
expensive Nikes stay as clean as*

when you stepped out of the car, only feet away from the old fishing hole. And the fish keep getting bigger! We no longer have to work so hard for weenie little sprats like on the so-called wild waters. Now the time put in is worth something, all these fish are whoppers, easy two pounds and up. Some are real hawks too, over twenty pounds of fighting rainbow swimming around out there in plain sight, with its mouth open. It's better than Playstation!

No, there's no two ways about it, 'wild' trout fishing just ain't worth the candle. I have to admit though, catching hawk after hawk can get a bit samey. But I was thinking these same operators could provide something with a bit more edge for all of us who have logged the hours on the trout. You know, just for a change of pace. For a bit more money you could fence an area and stock it with chickens. They're better eating than trout anyway. You go in there with a golf club or two and pay for a limit of, say, five. You don't want it too big an area,

because you'd never get a good swing at them, and of course you'd have to think about the disabled, maybe have wheelchair access.

Anyway, that would really get the blood running, so to speak, don't ya think?. Good aerobic exercise, too, for the heart or whatever. There'd be all the same really interesting stuff about tackle and tactics, just like fishing. You know, what action you prefer, swing weight and so forth. No end of fun. And hey, if it caught on, which I'm sure it would, you could graduate to 'big game' – have an area stocked with pigs or something. Use a range of hammers. Sporting stuff, say 1.5 pound ballpeen for light corner work, and heavy sledges for long range. You could have a weight class competition.

You can imagine the chat around the artificial campfire up at the lodge. "Man, that last one was a real stonker. I was going too light, definitely. Struck too hard and he broke me. I know where he's hiding though. I'll sneak up on

*him at dusk with the post maul.”
Best yet, who doesn’t prefer BBQ
ribs to fish farm trout? If you get
a big bag, you could donate the
catch to charity, hospitals and old
folks homes and such, who are
probably getting mighty sick of
rainbow trout by now...*

Fly Fishing and Fly Tying Class To Start on January

This will be the 16th year that Fox Valley Technical College has offered this class. The instructors this year will be Jim Murphy, Mike Sandretto, Bill Pable, Bob Haase and John Gremmer. The class meets eight times with six classroom sessions each running three hours and two outdoor sessions running three hours each. The outdoor sessions, held in May, consist of a casting clinic and a one-on-one guiding experience on a local trout stream. Students will learn to tie fly fishing knots, buy equipment, select equipment, set up a fly rod, stream biology, fly fishing literature, the types of flies and how to fish them, to tie flies, where to fish, how to present flies to fish, etc. Our goal is that when the class is over, you will be able to go fly fishing on your own, use flies you have tied, be confident, and be successful. The class is held at Winneconne High School, meets on Tuesdays, runs from 6:00 pm

till 9:00 pm, and costs \$98.08 dollars for those under 62 and \$88.78 for those 62 and over.

To sign up for the class contact FVTC at 1-920- 233-9191 or 1-877-272-4559. If you any problems contact me at 920-582-7802 or jgremmer@charter.net/.

John Gremmer

Brookie News Articles and Features

Members and friends of CWTU are encouraged to submit articles, notices, and photos for publication in the Brookie News. Send electronic submissions to seligmand@gmail.com.

**Last Chance – Only
TWO Remaining
CWTU 40th Anniversary
Fishing Shirt Columbia
“Bonehead” Sea Foam
Green, Size Large
Price Reduced – Only \$60
Contact David Seligman,
CWTU Secretary**

**Current CWTU Officers and Board
Members are listed elsewhere on
the CWTU.org Website**

