

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) June 2015

Prez Sez

There are those moments you wish things could go on forever as they are and yet you know that’s not how things work. John Gremmer is stepping down from the many roles he oversees for CWTU and his position on the board of Directors. John has some personal projects he would like to be able to devote time to. For 17 years John has been a chapter leader

For those of us of a certain age (and for those of you looking forward to eventually being of a certain age) check out this thoughtful piece by Jim Harrison, called “Older Fishing.”

<http://midcurrent.com/books/older-fishing/>

and innovator. Thinking of programs like the River Keepers, events such as Troutfest and his Fox Valley Technical College courses on Fly Fishing and Fly tying I realize how well he has aligned the values of Trout Unlimited with the needs of CWTU and our communities. Thank you so much John and congratulations on a job extremely well done.

Another successful year for the CWTU Annual Fly Fishing School now in its 38th year. That’s right 38 years running. 20 men and women learned to fly fish on the weekend of May 30-31. The school is held on the Tomorrow/Waupaca River at the Riverside Bible Camp, Amherst, WI. We continue to get very positive

reviews from students who come from around the state. They particularly like the one on one half day fishing on Sunday with a volunteer guide. If you know someone looking for a weekend fly fishing school at modest cost without a lot of travel tell them to check our website www.cwtu.org in months to come for updates on next year's school.

Wasn't sure it could happen but it did. June 9th we had a Casting and Kayak Clinic/Picnic with really nice weather. This event has moved from April to May and now from May to June with great results. Lots of people having lots of fun. Not only people learning how to fly cast but also many people working on improving their casting. There were more fishing kayak demonstrations and the nice weather made it easier to try out the kayaks on the water.

June 12-14 your chapter was represented by chapter members at the Greater Wisconsin Outdoor and Sportsman Festival. We offered people of all ages the opportunity to tie flies and to try fly casting. We had good encounters with people who stopped and got to tell them about Trout Unlimited. Our volunteers had a good time and memorable stories to tell. The woman with a booth next to ours came over to tie a fly when she had the chance. More than one person came up to our fly casting area with the story they had just recently bought a flyrod. There will be some new TU members because of this event.

Our next meeting and picnic is July 14 hosted by John and Laura Tucker at their home on the Pine River. See details here in the Brookie and on the website www.cwtu.org. John and Laura are gracious hosts. It is a good opportunity to see old friends and make new ones. This year there will be a gathering of past presidents. There may also be some fishing stories told. If you have not been to a CWTU summer picnic I think you will like this one.

One thing I like to do in this article is recognize all the people who make our events a success. If I listed their names it would add at least a page! There were about a dozen people involved in putting together the Casting and Kayak Clinic. Including the faculty, staff and volunteer guides more than 25 people participated in the Fly Fishing School. There were 15 CWTU members who participated in the Greater Wisconsin Outdoor and Sportsman Festival. Some people participated in more than one event but you get the picture. In less than a month's time we have had over 50 volunteer encounters to provide learning, coming together and fun for CWTU chapter members and our communities. That's just wonderful. Thank you all.

Mike San Dretto

Following images from the Casting/Kayak Clinic courtesy of John Henry Gremmer



**D.Harmon III, W. Trombly, S. Grady
At the Casting Clinic**



**Bob Haase demonstrates sit-on-top kayak
technique**



**David Seligman displays his rigged out
kayak and kayak transport system**



**Steve Heuser demonstrates new kayak
paddle design with his rigged out boats**

**Please note: The next meeting of
Central Wisconsin Chapter of
Trout Unlimited will be the annual
summer picnic to be held on July 14
at the home of John and Laura
Tucker on the Pine River in
Saxeville. Check the website at
cwtu.org for details and driving
directions.**