

FLYER



OAK BROOK TROUT UNLIMITED BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 1, JAN/FEB 2010



February speaker Jay Anglin Steelhead: The Elite Angler's Edge

Jay will discuss the finer points of technique and the mechanics of steelhead fishing that will assist the angler in obtaining the elite edge that the hardcore steelhead fishermen possess.



These aspects of the sport should be the foundation of any steelheaders game plan. Careful hook selection and sharpening, knot tying and leader maintenance, leader and fly weighting, line and rod selection as well as presentation are just a few of the basic things that experienced steelhead fishermen and guides use to put the odds in their favor.

Jay Anglin has been fly fishing and tying flies for 30 years. He is well versed in all aspects of fly fishing and conventional tackle techniques and can found on the water year round fishing for trout, steelhead, salmon, bass and musky as an angler and as a guide for his company Anglin Outdoors (www.anglinoutdoors.com). His scientific approach to guiding is built upon his lifelong love for nature and his experience in the field. He holds a biology degree from Northern Michigan University. Jay has fished all over North and Central America and guides anglers on the rivers and lakes of Northern Indiana and Southwest Michigan.

Jay is the Kankakee Valley Ducks Unlimited Chapter chairman and writes a weekly column for the LaPorte, Indiana Herald Argus called "Jay Anglin Outdoors". He lives in LaPorte, Indiana with his wife, their five children and his Black Lab "Deuce". You can contact Jay by email jay@anglinoutdoors.com or by phone 574-210-2844.

Trout Team Gets Lesson In Development

December 24, 2009

By CHUCK FIELDMAN cfieldman@pioneerlocal.com

Thirty-nine seventh-graders have joined a new fishy team at Roosevelt Middle School in River Forest. Students are working on a science project involving a 50-gallon fish tank that contains the fertilized eggs of brown trout. The students monitoring the growth of the fish are keeping tabs on conditions in the tank and have been dubbed the Trout Team.

Roosevelt Middle School science students are raising trout from eggs that hatched recently. Seventh grade student Georgi Beck helps release the trout from a net Dec. 8. (Tamara Bell/Staff Photographer)

"I thought our students would like something like this because it's hands-on," said Corin Kadlec, a seventh-grade science teacher at Roosevelt, who is working with students on the trout project along with fellow science teacher Amy Rains.

"Any time you can see life develop right before your eyes, it's a great experience," Kadlec said. "It's a way for our students to experience the wonder of life starting and be involved with the process as it develops." *Continued on page 5*



Roosevelt Middle School science students are raising trout from eggs that hatched recently. Seventh grade student Georgi Beck helps release the trout from a net Dec. 8. (Tamara Bell/Staff Photographer)

Future Meetings and Events

Go to your 2009 calendar and mark down the following meeting and event dates:

- January 12**
TU Vol Ops Training: "Monitoring Fish and Aquatic Insects." See www.tu.org member login for sign up info.
- January 13**
Directors' meeting
- January 19**
IL Council of TU Quarterly Meeting, Dunham Park Field House, Chicago
- January 20**
Membership meeting at OBPD Rec Ctr. Annual Meeting Election of 2 Directors
- January 29-31**
Midwest Fly Fishing Show, Pheasant Run, St. Charles, IL.
- February 9**
TU Vol Ops Training. "Monitoring Water Quality." See www.tu.org member login for sign up info.
- February 10**
Directors' meeting
- February 17**
Membership meeting at OBPD Rec Ctr. Speaker: Jay Anglin
- March 10**
Directors' meeting
- March 17**
Membership meeting at OBPD Rec Ctr. Speaker: Jeff Hastings, TU Driftless Coordinator, TUDARE update.

Please see our website for a full listing of calendar events. www.obtu.org.

Letter from the President

Dear Members,

The state of the Oak Brook Chapter of Trout Unlimited generally remains strong. Having presented three fly fishing Scout merit badge class days, two Girl Scout introduction to fly fishing days, and conducted two youth fishing outings, our Youth education program is our crown jewel. The chapter also made a major contribution of time and money to the Illinois Council Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing School. We plan on keeping to a scheduled youth program day once a month from May through September. The chapter also conducted a fly-fishing skills day, open to the public, which will again be repeated this year. We will also try again to schedule a Scout HAFF Camp in Iowa in June as well as a Columbus Day weekend youth outing in either Michigan or Iowa. Our Trout in the Classroom program started with one tank, but this year will see tanks in four classrooms. This is a program with the potential to expand our conservation message to a multitude of youngsters, who will carry it forward into adult life. It is doubtful that any other TU chapter can claim a fuller youth education program than Oak Brook. It was only with the help of countless OBTU members that these programs achieved and will continue to achieve such success.

As a chapter, Oak Brook participated in stream improvement projects with Hawkeye Fly Fishers and the Schrems West Michigan TU chapter, which hopefully will be duplicated this year. The chapter has also committed this year to supporting the Borger chapter, with both dollars and manpower, in its improvement of Paradise Springs. Our OBTU chapter still seeks to develop its very own conservation project.

Unlike other Illinois chapters, we do not seem to be able to garner much support for chapter fly-fishing outings. This is an area in which we need to work a little harder.

Chapter finances continue to be our nemesis. Although our assets are comparatively sound, our operating budget for the last fiscal year ran in the red to the tune of a little over \$1,200. This was largely due to cost of printing and mailing of the *Flyer* and the cost of speakers and the meeting room for our monthly meetings. Meeting cost cannot really be cut, unless we cut out some of our monthly meetings, which is unacceptable. The only solution seems to be greater patronage of the meeting by members and a proportionate contribution to the monthly raffle, which in the past has managed to support the cost of the meetings. Other chapters meet their monthly meeting expenses by a tariff built into a meal ticket and further charging members who choose not to come for the meal. This has never been the way of OBTU.

In order to manage better the expenses of producing and distributing the *Flyer*, it will, beginning with this January edition, come to you every other month, by e-mail to those members for which we have e-mail addresses and by USPS only to those for whom we have no e-mail address. More expense can be cut only if everyone who has e-mail will update his or her e-mail address (personal information) on the TU National website, www.tu.org, or by notifying our membership chairman, Marvin Strauch. We will also continue to seek a yearly donation of at least \$15 to our operating expense fund from each chapter member for what was previously euphemistically called our mailing assessment. Last year's red needs to be eradicated.

Our Holiday Dinner went rather well with 68 members in attendance. Rich Osthoff gave a great talk on fly-fishing the west's great rivers on your own. Donald Jackson drew the coveted raffle ticket entitling him to a custom rod built by Clyde Alho at the Rod Shop. Nancy and Ken Voight bought in on a starter wine cellar in a basket. The crowd bid early and often netting us about \$3,200 from the silent auctions and bucket raffles; Clyde's rod raffle brought in another \$2,200 net. Special Kudos to Tom Wilhelm and Stan Zarnowiecki for amassing the prizes that put some bread on our table for the next year.

Next year will bring with it plenty of time for volunteering. Members from time to time have expressed being uncomfortable in mentor or instructor role called for in many of our programs. To cure those apprehensions, we are developing a "train the trainer" program, whereby our members can hone their fly-fishing and fly-tying skills. The program is expected to start up in February and carry through March. Contact Phil Young, if you are interested in becoming a better angler. Phil also needs hordes of volunteers to operate the Scout programs planned for the summer. Time to step up, everyone!

Midwest Fly Fishing's Great Waters Expo takes place this month at Pheasant Run January 29th to 31st. OBTU needs to provide partial staffing for the Illinois Council TU booth and well as support OBTU's Kids' Angler Trail and fly-fishing skills program. Contact Wally Bock if you can give of yourself to the former and Marvin Strauch or Phil Young for the latter. If that is not enough, we need to send more OBTU representatives to the Illinois Council. We are entitled to 13 Representatives: one for every 50 members. We only have six representatives at present. Call me if interested.

Note the DRiFT annual auction coming up on February 20th. Good opportunity to pick up some great gear and support some very worthwhile programs!



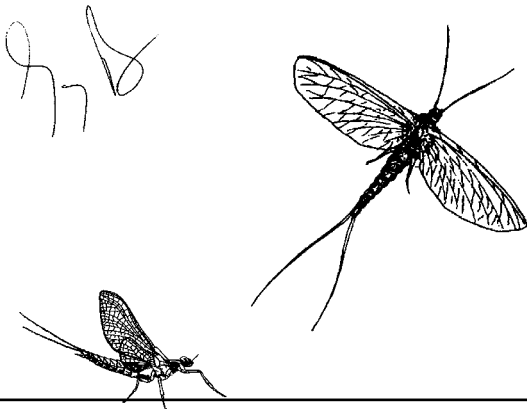
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Presidents Letter *continued from page 2*

If you have not taken part in the training offered by National TU, go on their web and check it out! (www.tu.org, click on Member Login and go Tackle box to sign up for online training)

Lastly and most importantly, do not miss the OBTU Annual Meeting on January 20th. It will present you an opportunity to let your voice be heard on what course you want your chapter to take in the coming year. A committee, headed by Doug Vanerka, is working on the strategic plan for OBTU for probably the next three years and they need your input. Tell us, the officers and directors of OBTU, what you think about the path we should take in leading the chapter. Get Involved!!



OBTU welcomes its new members:

Michelle Corlew, *Naperville* | Joseph Gratzke, *Darien*
 Bradley Hadraba, *Willow Springs* | Jeff Hoffman, *Elmhurst*
 Robert Love, *Elmhurst* | Sean Miller, *Ottawa*
 Victor Needham, *Park Forest* | Alann Petersen, *Carol Stream*
 Mitchell Schwarz, *Joliet* | Kenneth Zelazny, *Joliet*

The chapter also welcomes John Davis, as a new lifetime member.

Every fishing water has its secrets.
 A river or a lake is not a dead thing.
 It has beauty and wisdom and content. And to yield up these mysteries, it must be fished with more than hooks.

*Zane Grey,
 The fisherman's Guide To Life, 1996*

DRIFT 17th Annual Auction



Support DRIFT Programs and Projects

Healing Waters

BSA Merit Badge

Youth Education Bass in the class

Water Quality Monitoring on the Fox

Saturday, February 20, 2010 at noon to 4:00 PM
 VFW Hall at 39 E. St. Charles Rd., Villa Park, IL
 Auction begins at 1:00 PM

Items to be auctioned include:

Cane rod and case made by Gordon Koppin
 Rods, reels, and other fly-fishing gear, fly-tying materials
 Books, DVDs, discount certificates, vintage tackle
 Guided fishing trips and casting lessons

For more info contact j.loebach@comcast.net

www.dupageriversflytyers.org

2010 ILLINOIS COUNCIL OF
TROUT UNLIMITED

YOUTH CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING SCHOOL



The Illinois Council of Trout Unlimited will once again host its annual Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing School, on the banks of Michigan's fabled Au Sable River, July 18 through 23, 2010. Although we will be lodged at the Ralph A. MacMullen Conference Center, outside of Roscommon, MI, the Au Sable watershed will be the classroom within in which a full curriculum of hydrology, forestry, fisheries

biology, aquatic entomology and ecology will be taught by highly qualified professional instructors from the University of Michigan,

the Michigan DNR, Hartwick Pines State Park, and the Huron Pines Americorps Conservation and Restoration Program. Students

will tour the entire watershed to gain an appreciation of the unique geological and hydrological features that make this a world-class trout fishery. The extirpation of the Grayling, the Au Sable's only native Salmonid, will focus attention

on the factors leading to its demise and the real need for preservation and protection of this and other pristine cold water fisheries.

Students will receive on stream instruction in fly-fishing, each day presenting an opportunity to catch a wild brook, brown or rainbow trout. Wading and stream safety will be emphasized, as will streamside ethics and etiquette. Aquatic insects will be seined and attempts made of their imitation at the fly-tying bench. Participation in a stream improvement project as well as testing for water quality is also part of the broad curriculum. Students should leave the school with good understanding of the delicate interrelationships between the Au Sable's hydrology, morphology, water quality, ecological

communities, and land use, and how it all comes together to produce a healthy, quality trout fishery. They will also leave with a fly-casting outfit of their own, hopefully having caught at least one or more trout on a fly, and just enough experience to embark upon a lifelong preoccupation with nature.

The school is co-ed for youth, ages 13-18, who are residents of Illinois, and who show an interest in the outdoors, wild life, conservation, and fly-fishing. Acceptance is based upon submission of a short essay showing a strong desire to attend as well as explaining what the Student hopes to learn and achieve at the program. A brief recommendation by a teacher or counselor is also required. Applications will be accepted immediately. Selections will be announced sometime in late spring of 2010.

Tuition is \$625.00 and includes accommodations, all meals and transportation to and from the Chicagoland area to the RAM Center at Roscommon, MI. All or part of the tuition can be waived upon a show of need.

Come join us where TU had its beginnings for a week of fly-fishing on the magnificent Au Sable, learning all about its trout, their history and the surrounding environment.



For additional information
and application, contact:

Barry Coddens
847-347-0063
bac248@lulu.it.northwestern.edu

Marvin Strauch
630-323-4363
mjstrauch@comcast.net

Greg Prosen
630-986-1310
g.s.prosen@sbcglobal.net

Also visit our website at
[www.obtu.org/
Youth%20Education.htm](http://www.obtu.org/Youth%20Education.htm)

Trout Team Gets Lesson *continued from page 1*

This is the second year for which Oakbrook-based Trout Unlimited has coordinated Trout in the Class programs in Illinois. Roosevelt is one of four grade schools involved for the 2009-2010 school year. Trout Unlimited supplied the tanks, and the eggs were provided by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. About 150 brown trout eggs were delivered to Roosevelt Nov. 12. Students watched the eggs hatch about 10 days later.

“It’s fun to see them grow,” said Hope Detlaan, one of the seventh-graders on the Trout Team. “I like fish. They are the only animals that have to stay in the water all the time to live. It’s fun to take care of animals and watch them grow.”

Georgi Beck, another member of the Trout Team, also is enjoying her involvement. “I’ve had lots of experience with pets, but this is not something I would do every day,” she said. “It is very interesting to see them grow.”

While some of the very young trout have died, students involved with the Trout Team look forward to daily checks of their new fish friends. “I’m already attached to them,” Georgi said. “It’s a big responsibility and a lot of work, but being a part of this makes you really care about them.”

Another Team Trout member, Rodderick Williams, unsuccessfully tried to make the connection between students and trout a little more personal. “I tried to name them, but there are just too many,” he said.

Plans call for a spring 2010 field trip to northwest Illinois, where the trout will be placed into a river. Kadlec said he hopes to deliver about 75 trout into the river.

Other members of the Trout Team are: Cat Davis, Bianca Fowler, Emily Gilbert, Maddy Gillette, Jack Hamilton, Rachel Hughes, Jacob Marcus, Mary Milad, Madison Peterson, Sam Phelan, Johnny Sullivan, John Tabet, Seamus Blaha, Tierra Brooks, Gareth Coalson, Alex Fletcher, Cam Gieschen, Jon Kagan, Luke Masella, Juliette Nye, Jacob Hill, Nolan Wight, Martin Faland, Alex Kagan, MaryGrace Detmer, Abby Donlin, Madi Gaebler, Paige Kane, Sophie Smith, Kate Donlin, Maddy Halperin, Nora Kraft, Bryant Lindsay, Gabrielle Macioch, Madeline Strand and Phil Szewc. ■

In our family there was no
clear line between religion and
fly fishing.

*Robert Maclean,
A River Runs Through It, 1976*

Memorandum
Calvin H. Gates, Jr. (1955-2009)

*Known to us simply as Rusty or Da Gator
Passed Ad Astra on January 19, 2009*

“Sometimes god gives us giants
With frail bodies and quiet voices;
It’s up to us to see the gift for what it is
And how fleeting. . . god how fleeting.
With apologies to Will,
“The private wound is deepest
Tis good to be sad and say nothing.”
Why can I hear Rusty’s voice reciting
Shakespeare’s lines? “What is best,
That best I wish in thee.”
And there you have it, his own elegy,
Who steppeth forward now to
“imitate the action of the tiger
Stiffen the sinews, disguise fair
Nature with hard favored rage?”
I hear Rusty. “We few, we happy few,
We band of brothers.
For those that have shed their blood
With me are my brothers
And those not here will think themselves
Accursed, and hold their
Manhoods cheap while any speaks.
Cowards die many times before their deaths; the valiant
Never taste death but once.
To expostulate why day is day, night night, and time is
Time, were nothing but waste night, day and time.”
Rusty Gates is once dead, and wasted nothing in his life.
Our river lives on, oh how it lives, oh my
We can not, must not, allow this precious thing to die.
Today we say goodbye to the body of Rusty Gates.
For his friendship and decades
Of support I can no other answer make
But thanks, and thanks. Please God, rest his soul and
Show him the best water.
(Because trust me: He’ll find it anyway.)
His body is gone. His memory and gift to us remain.
What we do with both are matters of our collective fate.
Amen and tight lines”

*Rusty was our champion of the Au Sable
The River that gave breath to Trout Unlimited
We will all miss you Rusty*



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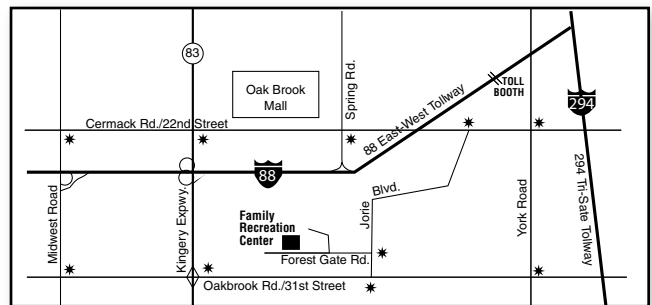
Oak Brook Trout Unlimited sincerely thanks all the individuals and their businesses who contributed to the success of our Holiday Dinner:

R.L. Winston rod company, Galvan fly reels and Rachele Galvan, Kevin Feenstra, Fred Vargas, Orvis Yorktown, Pat Bock, Great Lakes fly fishing company, J. Stockard fly tying materials, Cabela's, Roy Amsrud, Olde Thompson; Nick Mowat, Churchill; Mike Bainum, Hockenbergs; Rich Packer, American Metalcraft; Tina Brandt, Service Ideas; Mike Ramm, Hamilton Beach; Dianne Brooks, Carlisle; Warren Reynolds, Taylor; Rob Bules, Libbey; John Riley, Hockenbergs; Joe Burke, Forschner; Christy Schlafly, Ford Hotel; Kevin Clark, Dexter; Craig Smith, Montague; Ted Gravenhorst, John Boos; Josh Steenblik, Rest & Store; Dan Ibele, Libbey; David Wasserman, Focus; Mike Kaldenberg, Waring; Cheryl Wolf, Homer Laughlin; Austin Lee, Comm'l Pro. ■



Advertisement Space Available!

If you or anyone you know would like to advertise in this newsletter, please contact Marvin Strauch (mjstrauch@comcast.net, or 708-599-5101).



Oak Brook Chapter meets at the Oak Brook Park District Recreation Center 1300 Forest Gate Rd.

From Jorie Blvd. Turn west at Forest Gate Rd. (first stop light north of 31st Street). Follow Forest Gate straight into the Recreation Center parking lot. We meet in Meeting Room 2/3.



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