

# FLYER

OAK BROOK TROUT UNLIMITED MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 9, ISSUE 05, MAY 2009

## Coldwater River Workday Reminder

We are still looking for more volunteers to participate in the work day Saturday, May 16th on the Coldwater River. This workday is in cooperation with the Coldwater River Watershed Council. The work will consist of woody debris collection and placement along a bank area of the stream. Also, there will be a garlic mustard pull along the Coldwater River for those who are unable to participate in wading & toting.



We will be working from 9:00 AM to approximately 1:00 PM. Lunch will be provided.

Contact Marvin Strauch for more information and to sign up. We need to provide a head count of volunteers so food can be provided. The Coldwater River is about a 3 – 4 hour drive for most of us in the south or western suburbs. It is about 15 minutes southeast of Grand Rapids.

Don't miss this opportunity to spend a few hours giving back to the resource. And take a few more hours to fish in this wonderful trout stream, or the surrounding waters. 🐟

## Fishing . . .

Ralph Loza

After a 7-hour road trip into Wisconsin I couldn't wait to get on the water. We hurriedly got our waders on and put our rods together, tied on a fly and started towards the river. As I stood at the bank of the Namekagon, I took in the beauty of the area. As we started to fish upstream, we began to see some fish rise but no bug hatch. You could see the storm clouds start to roll in with the sun still shining. We would get some rain but it would stop and this would go on for two days. Thanks to our fishing skills (something called LUCK) we were still able to catch some fish. We had intended to stay at the local campground, but the ground was so wet that we had to change to the Ramada Inn. It was a good decision, because that night a tornado had touched down right outside town. It took down trees and power lines for the next couple of days.

Eventually the weather had started to clear up and we decided that a Guide might be a good idea. The fishing improved as the week went on. We drifted sections of the river that we would have never been able to get to wade fishing on our own. Our guide was somewhat new to the area but was able to put us on some good fish. We caught Brown Trout, Northern Pike and Smallmouth Bass for the next 2 days. 🐟



## Future Meetings and Events

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

**April 8, 2009 - Wednesday**  
Board of Directors meeting

**April 15 - Wednesday**  
Membership meeting at OBPD Rec Center – 7:00 PM – “Red Gold” a film covering the Pebble Mine project controversy in Alaska – presented by Wally Bock

**May 2, 2009**  
Salt Creek clean up; 31st and La Grange Road

**May 8, 2009**  
Trout in the Classroom release of brown trout fry into Illinois' Kinnikinnick Creek

**May 9, 2009**  
Fly Fishing class for Girl Scouts – St. Charles Sportsman's Club – Elburn, IL 8:30 – 4:00

**May 13, 2009**  
Director's meeting

**May 15 – 17, 2009**  
Work day / Fishing the Coldwater River in Freeport, Michigan; Sat. morn stream work.

**May 17, 2009**  
OBTU booth and fishing demonstration at May-Dellwood Park, Lockport, IL.

**May 20, 2009**  
Membership meeting at OBPD Recreation Center – 7:00 PM – speaker Dan Basore and his antique fishing equipment.

**June 10, 2009**  
Director's meeting

**June 11-17, 2009**  
Scout High Adventure Fly Fishing Camp (HAFF), Highlandville, IA

**June 20, 2009**  
OBTU Member fly fishing skills day -9:00 AM to 4:00 PM-Dean Property, Oak Brook

Please see our website for a full listing of calendar events. [www.obtu.org](http://www.obtu.org).

## Letter from the President

Dear Members:

Last month your Oak Brook Chapter resolved to grant \$1,000 to the Dane County program, which is buying permanent streambank easements on the county's 40 miles of trout streams. Trout Unlimited, in the past half century, together with Dane County, the WI DNR, and other conservation partners has secured more than 50 easements for angler access on the waters of the county, beginning with the showpiece Black Earth Creek. Stream access was obtained in conjunction with the stream restoration work done through those years. It all began with resurrecting Black Earth from farm dung, a project pioneered by TU and L.L. Bean. Twenty-year easements were the usual norm and are now expiring. This coupled with Madison's encroachment is threatening to change the character of the land from rural to urban, thereby also threatening public access. A bold program, led by a Dane County executive, who is also a TU member, has been initiated to obtain permanent easements, which also would include a covenant running with the land to preserve its rural character. TU National, last year, also began a pilot program for angler access, one of two in the nation, to promote and accelerate the Dane County acquisition program. TUNA, including its Southern WI TU Chapter aided by the WI Council, together with Dane County, National Heritage Land Trust, and the WI DNR, are all collaborating in the effort, the funding of which will count in millions before our conservation and restoration work is permanently protected. In that, OBTU can be counted to have played a small part.

On a similar note, OBTU last month also granted \$1,000 to fund partially a project on Tyler Creek in the Coldwater River watershed to monitor and assess the air quality and potential surface water impacts resulting from a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) and other agricultural activities upstream of the Tyler Creek Golf Course and Campground. In August 2006, Tyler Creek was devastated by a fish kill, which found an estimated 2,000 brown trout and 8,000 sculpin and various minnow species floating belly up from the stream's upper reaches to its confluence with the Coldwater River. Initially a long heat wave and warm water storm runoff depleting oxygen levels were deemed the culprit, but later determined fecal matter from farms or septic systems to be the likely cause. No one was formally brought to task for the disaster. Tyler Creek is a premier brown trout fishery. SWMITU (Schrems), together with the Kalamazoo Valley and Lansing TU Chapters, as well as the MI Council, further allied with the Coldwater River Watershed Council, MI DNR and DEQ, all are concerted to prevent this kind of disaster from occurring in the future and are all actively involved in restoration efforts in the Coldwater watershed. This program to

monitor the effect of the CAFO on Tyler Creek may not necessarily prevent a reoccurrence of a fish kill, but will be a countermeasure to fix responsibility. OBTU is very concerned with the impact of CAFOs on our coldwater resources, its Illinois Council having just gone a bout with the CAFO in the Apple River watershed. This program, which SWMITU is now implementing, partnered with the Coldwater Watershed Council, will have significant impact on how we will monitor such agricultural activities in the future and is expected to prove a model first response to the potentially harmful impacts of CAFOs on our coldwater resources. The total cost of the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) approaches \$6,000, to which OBTU is a substantial contributor.

May promises to be a very busy month for OBTU. Following a TUNA initiative to help celebrate Earth Day, we will help with a clean up our own local Salt Creek on 2 May. Meet at the Cook County Forest Preserve at 31st and LaGrange road at 9 A.M. For more info, visit the Salt Creek Watershed Network web at [www.saltcreekwatershed.org](http://www.saltcreekwatershed.org). On 8 May, be on hand to see the release into the Kinnikinnick of the brown trout fry raised in our Trout in the Classroom program. There will also be fish and aquatic invertebrate sampling as well as water quality testing as part of the day's program. The next day, our Scout program takes a new and welcome twist by presenting our fly-fishing merit badge curriculum to Girl Scouts. The one-day program will take place at the St. Charles Sportsman's Club in Elburn, IL. If you would like to lend a hand in this or the remaining, merit badge programs give Phil Young a call. Remember to block out the long weekend of 15-17 May for fishing the Coldwater River and Tyler Creek and participating in the in-stream workday and wild garlic mustard pull on Saturday. There will also be a chance to cast some classic cane tapers and pick the brains of a naturalist as well as an aquatic entomologist. If all goes well there should be plenty of Hendricksons to make the fishing easy. On Sunday of that same weekend, as part of an Earth Day event, OBTU will also staff a booth and give fly-casting demonstrations in May-Dellwood Park in Lockport. Call me if you can volunteer some time for this event. Our monthly chapter meeting on 20 May will bring Dan Basore with his collection of fishing antiques, including some Helen Shaw memorabilia, to the Oak Brook shelter. Bring your old tackle for Dan to assess at what should prove an interesting antiques road show evening. The July ILCTU Youth Conservation & Fly Fishing School still has slots open. If you have kids, relatives, or neighbors, who might be interested in this dynamite program, they need to get their applications in at once. Do not forget TU is celebrating its 50th

*continued on page 2*

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*Letter from the President continued*

this July; the annual meeting will take place 18-23 Aug at the Grand Traverse Resort in MI. OBTU is selling a limited number of commemorative pins to mark the anniversary. See the web at [www.tu50.org](http://www.tu50.org) for complete info on the schedule of events. Keep your eyes on our calendar for more programs and events during the summer months.

Although our conservation and other earmarked funds are relatively healthy, our operating fund is dwindling. All monies expressly raised for conservation or donated for express causes are never placed in the general operating fund of OBTU. They are always maintained for the purpose for which the donor intended. The operating fund finances our day-to-day operations. The monthly meeting raffle covers only about half the expense of our meeting room and cost of a speaker for an evening. Notwithstanding, many members now receiving the Flyer by e-mail, printing and first class mailing continue to be substantial costs. We need your donations to cover not only the costs associated with the Flyer, but to set off all our monthly operating expenses. I humbly beg you, if you have not already done so, please to send in your donation now! Fifteen bucks would be great, but anything more, if you can to afford it, would be greatly appreciated. With your support, we still will be in business next month. We have some great programs going and hope with your continued support to succeed on our quest to be one of the most active and best of TU chapters.



Greg

## Introducing - Dan Basore

Many of you know Dan Basore from his "Fishing History" column in Midwest Outdoors or see him at sports shows with his Historical Fishing Display.

For the OAK BROOK TROUT UNLIMITED meeting on May 20th Dan will bring and discuss the earliest fishing items made in North America, the Oldest Orvis Fly Rod and it's exciting provenance, the most complete collection of the great fly tier Helen Shaw, a complete mint fly fishing kit from Weber in Stevens Point, Wisconsin and other fly fishing items.

In addition to acquiring, researching, preserving and sharing fishing history he eagerly studies fishing, and angles in public waters right in this area producing many nice fish.

BRING YOUR OLD FISHING LURES, REELS, RODS, MANUFACTURERS CATALOGS, CASTING ITEMS, ETC TO OUR MEETING FOR IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION.

We look to see you at this very interesting meeting. Wednesday, May 20th at 7:00 at the Oak Brook Central Park West building – this is the old Shelter building where we used to have our meetings.

# OBTU Needs You.

## Volunteer Today.



### MAILING ASSESSMENT REQUEST

*Mailing assessment for 2009 are due. We rely on these assessments to print and mail newsletters. The newsletter and mailing costs are a substantial cost for the Chapter, your help is needed to defray these costs. What we do not have to spend on the newsletter we can spend on conservation projects.*

Name (First, Middle, Last) \_\_\_\_\_

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Please fill out the following form and enclose a check for \$15 payable to Oak Brook Chapter of Trout Unlimited to defray the cost of printing and mailing the Oak Brook Chapter newsletter and other mailings in 2009.

**Mail to: Oak Brook Chapter of Trout Unlimited  
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 P.O. Box 5046  
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Special Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of involvement in TU desired: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours/Month

Type of involvement desired: \_\_\_\_\_  
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\$15 mailing donation       \$10 Name tag



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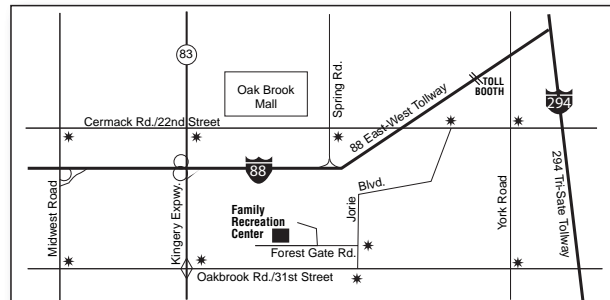
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## May Meeting Location Change!!!

**P**lease note that we have moved the location of the May Oak Brook TU meeting to the "Central Park West" building at the Oak Brook Park District. This is the old Shelter building where we held our meetings in the past. It has been remodeled and renamed.

For those of you who have not been to this building, directions are simple. Once you have turned on to Forest Gate Rd. from Jorie Blvd., make the first right turn available. This is just before entering the parking lot for the Recreation Center building. You will proceed past the tennis court building, and the soccer fields. The Central Park West building is at the end of the road.

Make sure to come to the right place! We'll see you there.



### 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.



## 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).



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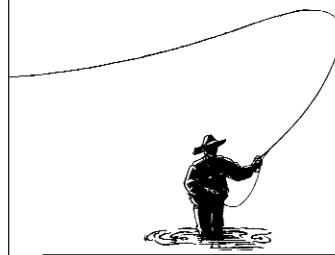
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