

Come Hear Henry Speak!

Henry Koltz is an avid fly angler, conservationist, and stream steward, who currently serves as president of the 650 member Southeast Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

Henry has published many articles and chapter updates in Wisconsin Trout, as well as national's Trout. He has appeared in articles by Bob



Riepenhoff of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel with regard to the stream restoration of Bluff Creek in the spring of 2007.

As the leader for the Camp Creek project, Henry wrote the grant requests to Embrace-A-Stream and

for a National Fish Habitat Action Plan grant for a one mile, \$157,000 stream restoration project outside Richland Center, Wisconsin. Work began in 2007 and was completed in 2008. Project partners included the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Richland County Land Conservation Department, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and other governmental agencies.

Henry has personally coordinated over 20 in-stream volunteer workdays across southeast, southwest, and central Wisconsin since April, 2006, accumulating over 4,000 volunteer labor hours. He served as project leader in 2008 for the restoration of 1.5 miles of sediment impaired stream channel the Melancthon Creek headwaters outside of Hillsborough, Wisconsin. Henry also wrote the request for a Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program ("WHIP") grant for the project work in 2008.

Henry has been a presenter for the past three years at the TUDARE Workshop, in Westby, Wisconsin and has been serving as a TUDARE

steering committee member. He has organized multi-governmental agency think-groups, resulting in work projects at Bluff Creek (near Whitewater, WI), and the Menomonee River (near Miller Park, Milwaukee), involving the WDNR, WDOT, MMSD, SEWRPC, USFWS, USFS, and local university professors. He continues to maintain his chapter's very successful website at www.sewtu.org.

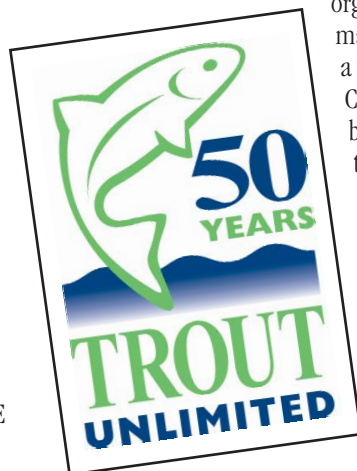
Henry is called upon regularly to lecture to other TU chapters concerning chapter building, planning, and organization. Come join our October chapter meeting, where Henry will address how workdays can help to improve our own OBTU. 🐟

TU Celebrates Its 50th on Grand Traverse Bay

Greg Prosen, NLC

The annual meeting of Trout Unlimited upon its 50th anniversary proved to be more a celebration, a birthday party, than the more business-like conference for which the meeting is usually called. Sure working groups met face to face, made or renewed acquaintance, discussed relevant issues, and planned for future meetings and taskings, but such meetings were limited to a just a few hours one morning over the course of the six and one half day affair. One of the purposes of an annual meeting is to fold the organization together into "One TU", making sure the grass roots have a voice, but the Trustees, NLC, and Council Chairs never sit as a unified body, except probably to eat and to hear the State of TU message delivered by Charles Gauvin.

The shinning light of the week was the ubiquitous appearance of Art Neumann. At 92 years of age, there he stood, talking to whosoever would chance by,



Future Meetings and Events

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

October 9-12, 2009

Columbus Day weekend Scout fly-fishing trip, Coldwater River & Tyler Creek, MI.

October 14, 2009

Directors' meeting

October 17, 2009

Project workday with sewtu Genesee Creek. RSVP to Stan Z. see www.sewtu.org for more details.

October 21, 2009

Membership meeting at OBPD Rec Ctr-7:00 PM, Speaker Henry Koltz, SEWTU chapter, winners of Golden Trout Award

November 11, 2009

Directors' meeting

December 2, 2009

Holiday Dinner, Harry Caray's, Lombard

December 9, 2009

Directors' meeting

December 12, 2009

Project workday with sewtu Kettle Moraine area. RSVP to Stan Z. see www.sewtu.org for more details.

January 1, 2010

Happy New Year!!

January 13, 2010

Directors' meeting

January 20, 2010

Membership meeting at OBPD Rec Ctr, Election of 2 Directors

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

continued on page 4

Letter from the President

Dear Members,

I have always wondered what went on at the national TU meetings. On my own 25th anniversary of being a TU member, now having attended as the NLC rep from IL, I now have some idea of what transpires, although it may not have been the paradigm for such meetings. Read about it in this edition of the *Flyer*.

Charles Gauvin, in his State of TU message, given at this year's 50th Anniversary National Meeting, said that of the over 600,000 volunteer hours expended this past year, 60% were devoted to sustainment. Of the remaining 40%, 20% went to our restoration efforts, 14% to protection, and 6% to reconnection. The breakdown between protect, reconnect, and restore is very easy to understand. Volunteers just cannot remove those dams nor reconstruct culverts by their own hands. It takes in large part governmental agencies, heavy equipment and money to move earth. Nor can volunteers do much for protection by their own hand. Here is where lobbying goes to work. Refuges, wildlife areas, ATV limits are the realm of lawmakers and foundations. Fencing out the cattle is one of the few pure hands on jobs vols can do for protection. The traditional area of hands on TU volunteer effort has and probably will remain our bread and butter restoration efforts, the rock rolling and LUNKERS construction sites. The ratio of volunteer hours between, protect, reconnect and restore probably will not change much.

It is the 60% of effort going to sustainment that must be changed. Keeping the organization breathing cannot be the primary effort of any organization. Events organized for the benefit of members to an extent are necessary to keep the organization together, but must not drive the effort of the organization. TU is dedicated to the conserve, protect, and restore North America's cold water fisheries and their watersheds. So it should be that the majority of TU effort down to the local level needs to be dedicated.

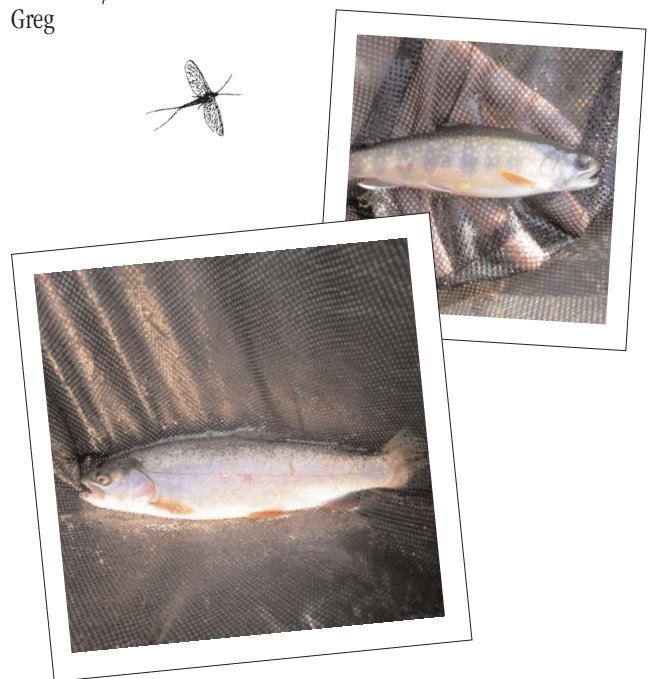
At OBTU a tremendous effort has been targeted toward sustainment in our youth programs. Beginning with a successful fly-fishing merit badge program, our efforts expanded to HAFF Camp, TIC, and considerable participation in the ILCTU Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Schools. All these great programs promote the TU vision and need to be continued and expanded, but we need to come back and focus on the TU mission. Arguably, urban chapters do not have a local stream to be championed and perhaps sustainment should be their only mission, but look to the New Jersey Council and their work on the Musky or the restoration efforts of the Southeast Wisconsin Chapter, both of whom are in the shadow of skyscrapers and belching smoke stacks.

In the forthcoming new fiscal year, we must rededicate our Chapter and ourselves to working directly to accomplish that primary TU mission to conserve, protect and restore. OBTU will in the forthcoming year actively pursue stream projects, but for that, we will need far more volunteers. We will need help from all our members. Not everyone can give weekend or two a month, but most can give a day or two a year. It is now the time to step up and volunteer.

There will be a work project with the Schrems West Michigan Chapter over the Columbus Day weekend. It will be held in conjunction with a Scout camp-out and merit badge day on the Coldwater River south-east of Grand Rapids, MI. See Marvin Strauch to sign on. Our next chapter meeting will feature Henry Koltz, of SEWITU, speaking how in stream work projects turned his chapter around. Don't forget to mark 2 Dec. 09 on your calendar for our annual holiday party, this year to be held Harry Caray's in Lombard, IL. We will have bucket raffles, silent auctions and more. Tickets are \$40. Get your check in to treasurer, Rich Ference as soon as possible. This will be our major fund raising event of the year.



Greg



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Coldwater River Stream Project and Merit Badge Program

October 9 - 11

Oak Brook Chapter Trout Unlimited members will travel to the Coldwater River for Columbus Day weekend this year. We have arranged to conduct a Fly Fishing Merit Badge program for scouts of Boy Scout Troop 111 from Naperville. Boys from this troop along, with some dads, are interested in earning their merit badge, but also in giving back to the resource by taking part in a conservation project.

Paul Eberhart and Ron Barch of the Coldwater River Watershed Council were more than happy to oblige with a stream project along the Dolan Preserve section of the Coldwater. It will be some sort of woody debris placement along the stream bank, to create structure in the stream, and probably protect stream bank trees.

The scouts will stay at the Tyler Creek Country Club campground, and will arrive very late on Friday evening, October 9th. We plan to conduct the conservation project Saturday morning, break for lunch, and then begin the Merit Badge program that afternoon.

Instead of the standard group format, we will break down with a TU member with each scout, and teach the casting, basic tackle, insect identification, safety, and conservation segments on the stream. The boys will gather after dinner on Saturday for fly tying and knot tying. We will complete any merit badge requirements on Sunday morning, and spend the rest of the day fishing the Coldwater River.

We welcome anyone who may wish to join us for this weekend. We may have the Merit Badge program covered, but volunteers to help in the work project are always welcome. And it's a great opportunity to join other Oak Brook TU members for a little autumn trout fishing. I hear the caddis will be there, why not you?

For more information, please contact Marvin Strauch at 708-638-1318 or mjstrauch@comcast.net 🐟

A Student's Log Book

This Summer I was fortunate enough to attend the Illinois Trout Unlimited Youth Fishing School. This camp was very good because we were outside and we were always busy with things to do. The only time we were inside was for fly tying, watching a movie and hearing a talk about entomology and what a stream is.

The First Day we rode the bus to Michigan. On the ride we watched a movie about the trout's life and Joan Wulff's movie on fly casting. When we arrived in Michigan at the Ralph A. McMullen center we unpacked our gear and everyone got a new fly rod! We headed out to the lake so everyone could learn fly casting and improve on it for those of us who knew how to fly cast. In the evening, we watched a movie on entomology.

The Second Day we went out and found the quality of the stream by measuring the length, depth, water flow, and number of aquatic insects. We learned that day about the basic types of aquatic insects and their Latin names Ephemeroptera, Tricoptera, Plecoptera, Diptera or Mayflies otherwise known as Caddisflies, Stoneflies, and Midges. After dinner we all had our first experience fishing the famous AuSable River. When I got to my section of river with my buddy and my guide we found brook trout rising to size 16 tan elk hair caddis. My buddy had never fished before so he and the guide worked some rising fish. He had already landed two fish before I even landed one!

The rest of the week we did some other activities such as participate in a fish shocking and visited a logging museum to see how logging hurt the AuSable river and the grayling population. Of course we tied flies about everyday and one day we got to

fish all day. That same day that we got to fish all day there was a Trico hatch that started at 9:30 and the spinner fall ended around noon.

By the end of the week we had fished different locations on the AuSable River and everyone had caught fish!

The Illinois Chapter of Trout Unlimited put together a wonderful camp for us and everyone enjoyed their week. We learned about conservation and entomology as well as fly fishing. Everyone walked away with a new fly rod to use and some flies and fly boxes. For anyone that has a kid I would really recommend this camp. It shows how precious the outdoors are and our coldwater fisheries are while they have fun fishing and tying their own flies! 🐟



-Wray Sinclair Northern Virginia Chapter of Trout Unlimited

TU Celebrates Its 50th *continued from page 1*

over the entire course of week's long events and activities. He moved about tirelessly, glad to engage the multitude, who both revered and respected him. He was clearly as enthusiastic today about the organization he helped found and develop as the day he met with George and those others 50 years ago on the banks of the Au Sable in the Barbless Hook.

Early arrivals on Tuesday were able to sample the fly-fishing on a number of Michigan's great waters: the Au Sable, Manistee, Boardman, Jordan, Betsie, Platte, and Pere Marquette.

Early arrivals on Tuesday were able to sample the fly-fishing on a number of Michigan's great waters: the Au Sable, Manistee, Boardman, Jordan, Betsie, Platte, and Pere Marquette. That evening, the first of the Michigan TU chapter sponsored hospitality suites ran its course into the wee hours of the night. Here the real politicking and deal making seemed to take place. Here took place the forging of friendships and common goals. The hospitality suit was open every night and seemed to grow exponentially in numbers as the week went by.

The Watershed Conservation Tour on Wednesday was one of the highlights of the meeting. The first stop was to Dair Creek, the coldest and second largest tributary of the Betsie, where the mounds and foundations of an old failed millpond dam were removed and the stream returned to its original channel. The dam removal and improvement of nearby road crossings, coming in at a cost of a tad over \$427K, opens fish passage to about 8 miles of upstream habitat (reconnect) and stops about 75 tons of sediment annually from washing downstream. Illinois' own Elliot Donnelley chapter collaborated with the many others in this effort.

After an enjoyable lunch on the old Mason Lodge property, Howard Johnson made a plea to support the annual planting and protection project for northern white cedars throughout the Au Sable watershed. The group was then bused to Grayling to see a project by Huron Pines AmeriCorps that dealt with the warm water run off into the East Branch Au Sable created by the huge new parking lot adjacent to the also newly constructed wing of the Grayling Hospital. A wetland catchment was created to block the run off and begin the filtering and cooling of rainwater through the characteristic Kalkaska sand of the region. Banks were improved to guard against possible erosion. The slope from the hospital now looks like a mountain meadow replete with wild flowers.

Patrick Ertel of Huron Pines then led the group away from the banks of the Au Sable to a several block residential area of Grayling where another solution to counter warm rain water run off was employed. The curbs along the residential streets were surveyed to determine

their low points in the relief. At those points, the curb was breached to allow rainwater to flow into hollows in the parkway through which the rainwater could be filtered to the water table. The hollows were over planted with a magnificent array of wild flowers, hence the name rain gardens. The flowers of these rain gardens were simply dazzling. In any given block, there were several rain gardens on both sides of the street. Beautification and use of the naturally filtering sand keeps the rain out of the storm drains and curtails the warming effect of urbanization on the Au Sable holy waters.

The group then hiked to the pond in downtown Grayling, which also had a warming effect on the water of the Mainstem Au Sable. The obvious solution was to remove the dam as had been done upstream from town, but the towns people were reluctant to remove the pond with which was part of the town culture far beyond recent memory. As Steve Sendek, a senior DNR fishery biologist who conceived and managed the project, told it, the solution was not to completely remove the dam, but rather to merely draw down the pond several feet thereby considerably reducing the surface area of the pond. The pond water was not as susceptible to warming rays of the sun and the years of sediment and other foul matter would not be washed down into the holy water. The net effect was that the water of the Mainstem became 2 to 3 degrees cooler. A beautiful park was created on the drawn down banks. One board remains to be pulled in the gradual draw down. It was a win win situation for all. The long day finished at a barbeque at Ranch Rudolf., on the banks of the Boardman and site of the Michigan Council's fly-fishing school.

Thursday dawned cold and rainy for a Vendor/Partnership Day. Vendors and partnership organizations maintained booths in a giant circus tent, where wares were hawked, fly tying demonstrated, books signed, and hourly raffles held. The morning also brought on a working group on international cold-water conservation, a portend of things to come. Throughout the day, TU partners presented programs: Boy Scouts of America, Casting for Recovery, Sierra Club on Stream Sentinels, and Project Healing and Waters. There was also the perfunctory program on successful fundraising banquets. The day ended with a Luau, featuring the UP's own Chasin' Steel Bluegrass Band.

Things got down to business on Friday, with opening remarks by Debbie Stabenow, U.S. Senator from Michigan. Charles Gauvin followed with the State of TU Address, which reviewed 50 years of TU progress and prophesized what the next 50 should bring. In the address, he reviewed the litany of efforts made by TU to protect, reconnect, and restore our cold-water fisheries. He emphasized that "restore" is our bread and butter, but that youth is our future. He followed the lead of TU's first president, Casey Westell, by stressing the continuing need for science to drive our efforts, announcing that CSI will be expanded to non-native wild populations. He also noted our tremendous financial and membership growth over the years. In short, it was a very impressive list of accomplishment indeed.

Duke Welter laid down the State of the Grassroots and NLC, emphasizing that although TU has an overriding mission, it is the local problems, issues, and solutions that drive the chapters at the grass roots. He stressed that projects are the heart of the grassroots

effort as evidenced by almost 610,000 volunteer hours, valued at over 11 million dollars, last year alone. He stated that we need to expand beyond TIC to reach school courses, the Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs, FFAs, and BOW. To accomplish all that, he said, we need a cadre of instructors. Duke also touched on the rechartering process, noting 389 chapters still with us, but 133 chapters were dropped from the rolls.

Steve Born gave a very brief summation of the work of the International Cold Water Conservation Working Group. Representatives from Canada TU, the UK's Wild Trout Trust, and Chile were on hand as the vanguard of 60 countries concerned with cold-water fisheries. Steve stated that this beginning effort might not grow to fruition in our life times, but that it will come.

Several awards to TU preceded lunch. The special awards came from Casting for Recovery, Boy Scouts of America, and the U.S. Forest Service.

Perhaps the singly most inspiring moments of the week ushered forth at the Volunteer Awards Luncheon. The State Council Award went to New Jersey for its work in conserving cold-water fisheries in the midst of some of the most urban and industrial concentrations of the nation. Our neighboring Southeast Wisconsin Chapter received the Golden Trout Award for the electrifying effect its leadership played in motivating its active membership to grow from a handful to regularly attracting near a hundred at chapter meetings and at project sites. The chapter's \$15K leveraged \$200K for a stream restoration of over 2 miles.

The Great Basin Chapter, for its restoration of Bonneville cut habitat, and the Bellevue/Issaquah Chapter, for protecting diminishing kokanee stocks, both went home with silver trout awards. Tualatin Chapter and the Idaho State Council both took the Bollinger Award for their outstanding newsletters; the Seth Green Chapter took the Best Website Award. Many people received individual awards, some for their work in concert with TU and many others for their distinguished service to TU. Three Youth Education Awards were given, one of which went to Kathy Scott for her work with the kids in Maine. To read the citations accompanying the awards was truly inspirational. Every member of TU should have been mailed a copy of the Award Program.

Featured speaker Nick Karas, author of *Brook Trout*, presided over dinner that evening.

On Saturday, some real work began to be done. After the Grassroots Breakfast Buffet, the Council Chairs sat down for a meeting, which lasted the morning. The NLC broke out into separate workgroups: Native Trout; New Initiatives; Chapter Focus/Chapter Models; Great Lakes; TUDARE; Access; Pacific Salmon; Conservancy; and Youth Education. The meetings lasted only an hour, after which the NLC was convened for its business meeting. The chair of each work group gave a brief report followed by a short questioning period. Before the meeting adjourned, Duke Welter was re-elected as the Chairman of the NLC, with Larry Harris, as its Secretary. The work groups and council chairs again met again in the afternoon.

That evening a banquet was held honoring Mr. Art Neumann. At the Banquet, the Mortensen Award for outstanding volunteer leadership went to Marcia Woolman of Virginia for her years of outstanding and exemplary service to TU. A silent auction preceded the banquet; a live auction followed dinner: only 10 items, but including a matched set of three cane rods, 3-5wt., made for Art Neumann, but unfinished. The hospitality suite that evening, hosted by Headwaters On Sunday, the Board of Trustees conducted their annual meeting. 🍷

OBTU Mail Box

Response to last month's article "Phil's Rant"

Dear Phil,

I just finished reading your recent article, Phil's Rant, as well as the entire Flyer. Your article was well written and touched me to the point of sitting down and writing you.

I have been fly fishing since a young kid in Northern California, Washington, Oregon, about 40 years. I continue to travel to great cold water and salt water to fish, and rarely find myself with a spinning rod in hand.

Although I have always been somewhat of a "on and off" TU subscriber I have never been active in the form of volunteer or service work. Now that I'm in my early 50's I have a desire to pass along my knowledge and skills to younger people and find some good companionship with other Men who enjoying fishing. Over the years, I have taught many to fly fish including my two children and always found it to be rewarding.

Your article has given me the motivation to reach out to OBTU and ask for a meeting with either yourself, and or other members so I can become active in OBTU. I would like to start some form of service work dedicated to fly-fishing, conservation, and the passing along of the rod/reel.

I have lived in Glen Ellyn for twenty-three years, and I am a small business owner. My kids are out of the house, and I've been divorced for eight years. It's just my two bird dogs and I, so I do have a great deal of free time for TU.

Unsure of your entire capacity in the organization I will also copy Greg Prosen on this note in hopes we can arrange a time/day to meet and talk. Perhaps a casual lunch or cup of coffee.

Thanks for the inspiration.

Respectfully,

Mark Kingston,
Glen Ellyn, IL



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Annual Custom rod Raffle

By this time all members should have received your winning tickets for our chapter annual custom rod raffle. We are asking all members to purchase or sell a few books of tickets. This is one of the few ways that we have to raise revenues for our general operating fund. You are welcome to come to our monthly

membership meeting and drop off your ticket stubs and money. See Stan Z. for more tickets if you need them. Please be generous and purchase tickets for this great prize, a custom rod of your choice built by Clyde Alho of The Rod Shop. 🎣

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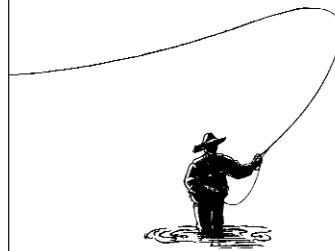
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