



The Tippet

October 2010

Volume 15, Issue 8

October Meeting:

Thursday, October 14 at 7:00 PM

Libertyville Civic Center
135 W Church St
Libertyville, IL 60048

Featured Speaker

Tyler Hawthorne

Subject

Fishing the Tributaries for Steelhead

Early October signals the onset of salmon, steel head, and brown trout spawning migration into the Lake Michigan tributaries. This is the prime time for fishing the “big ones.” Fish measuring 30 inches or more are not uncommon. Fishing for these big fish requires different tackle, techniques and tactics.

Come and learn from Tyler Hawthorne’s presentation on “steel heading”. He also will be speaking on fishing the tributaries such as the Milwaukee River and other streams just little over an hour north of Chicago. If you have any interest in learning about “steel heading”, please join us at the next Gary Borger Trout Unlimited chapter meeting at 7 PM on Thursday, October 14th at the Libertyville Civic Center, 135 West Church Street, Libertyville, IL.

Tyler grew up locally in Lake Bluff, Illinois. He joined **Trout and Grouse**, Northbrook, IL after graduating from the University of Iowa with a degree in Marketing and an Entrepreneurial Certificate. His fly fishing and fly tying experience dates back to the age of eight where his dad introduced him to the sport. After he caught his first steelhead at the age of twelve, the passion only grew. Tyler is an exceptionally talented and innovative fly tyer and has a deep knowledge of Midwestern waters.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
Greystone13@comcast.net , gadavis38@comcast.net
or go to
www.garyborgertu.org

VOLUNTEER UPDATES

GBTU was well represented at numerous activities during September and early October. Jim & Nancy Bailey, Randy Cochran, and Darwin Adams helped out at the Wisconsin DNR’s second annual open house at the Root River Steelhead Facility. GBTU members also provided their expertise in teaching scouts about conservation and fly fishing at the Scoutfest in Chicago.

Ben Heussner from the Wisconsin DNR reports that the 46 lunger structures that were built at the GBTU sponsored workday in late 2009 have now been installed and are already helping to restore Paradise Springs Creek.



UPCOMING WORKDAY

A Saturday, October 16th workday is planned at Genesee Creek with GBTU joining volunteers from SEWTU for the 4th annual fall workday on the grounds

of Carroll College. Work will start at 9:00 AM and end around noon with a traditional brat cook out. The work site is located in Waukesha County, just south of Genesee Depot on Highway 83 (1/4 mile North of Highway 59). For more information, please contact Jim and Nancy Bailey at jlbailey2@hotmail.com.

FALL OUTING REPORT – SEPT. 24, 25 & 26

The beginning for the last outing for the Wisconsin inland trout season was greeted with 30-40+ mph winds and flooding in areas north of Avalanche. Despite the conditions, 15 GBTU members descended on the West Fork Sportsman's Park for a camping weekend. As the weather had turned cool, the campfire was just the ticket as everyone gathered around for sharing warmth and friendship.

Fishing highlights included Bob DeGraff's 1st tiger trout, Mark Mellicker's 3 double hookups, and Laura Wilson's 18 brookies.

Friday night cookout produced some excellent grilled meat and sharing of dishes. On Sat. evening, a number of GBTU members met Matt Wagner, owner of the Driftless Angler at the Old Towne Supper Club. Matt donated a fly box with his 6 best flies to the Chapter. Later that evening, members of Lee Wulff chapter joined GBTU around the campfire for food, beverages, and conversation. Despite the weather dropping to the 30's on Saturday eve, everyone was up early Sunday for coffee and breakfast.



Matt Jennings with a nice brown
A number of members fished Big Springs creek. The Wisconsin DNR is installing a major stream restoration –part of TUDARE, consisting of re-grading, stone riprap, and lunker structures. The amount of stored material and heavy equipment on site was impressive. The Harry and Laura Nohr Chapter of TU is also initiating their own portion of restoration further upstream.

While this outing wraps up the formal trips for 2010, a number of informal outings will take place during the Salmon, Steelhead, and Big Brown migratory runs. Look forward to even a better 2011.



A nice brown by Scott Foster

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I would like to thank you all for your support and to welcome Gary Elliott (new VP) and Jim Tingey (new Secretary) as the three of us join the Gary Berger TU Board. From my conversations with Gary and Jim, I know we are all looking forward to building upon the great work and tremendous results achieved under Matt Jennings' leadership. I would also like to thank Darwin Adams and Joan Butzow for their hard work and dedication over the past few years. While they will be rotating off the Board, I look forward to their continued active involvement with the Chapter.

Earlier this month I met with the Board to start shaping our 2-year strategic plan. While we are in the early stages of that planning process, I would like to share with you the high-level strategic framework that will guide our thinking. Our key areas of focus will be: 1) Conservation, 2) Service to Members, 3) Education, and 4) Effective Business Practices. We will drive membership growth and fundraising to fuel projects and programs supporting the key focus areas.

Additionally, we will build an effective, integrated communications program across various channels to ensure that our members are well informed about our events and that the communities in which we work and live are aware of the great work we do. Examples of things to come include not only expansion of our external education programs like the Boy Scout Merit Badge and Trout in the Classroom, but also an internal education program delivering basic fly fishing skills clinics, fly tying nights, and conservation education. Outings will be expanded and diversified. We will continue to support the conservation efforts in which we are already involved, and we will investigate

additional opportunities for fisheries restoration closer to home.

As we set out on this exciting time for our Chapter, I ask three things of our membership.

- First, please let us know your thoughts on the role of our organization, what we are doing right and wrong, and how we can better meet your expectations. Members of the Board can be reached via email at the addresses listed on the website. Your input will be welcomed and valued.
- Second, at present, Gary Borger TU regularly represents half of the volunteers at local TU events right here in the Chicago area and as far away as Wisconsin. If you are among this group of volunteers I thank you for your participation and ask that you continue this trend. If you have been thinking about volunteering, please come out and join us for a workday, casting instruction for the Boy Scouts, or to man a booth at an upcoming show.
- Finally, if it has been a while since you've attended an event or if you have been thinking of getting involved with TU, please come out and get to know us during a Chapter meeting, one of our fly tying evenings, or on one of our fantastic outings that will start up again in February.

Stay tuned for more great things to come!

Scott Foster
President
Gary Borger Chapter, TU

CATSKILL ROD GATHERING

The 15th annual Catskill Rod Gathering was held at the Catskill Fly Fishing Museum, Livingston Manor, New York. Initially 84 participants registered, however more than 140 attended making it the largest bamboo rod gathering of its kind.

Highlights included seeing Mr. Gus Nevros, now 90 years old, being inducted into the Rodmakers Gallery at the museum. Gus is still producing exquisite bamboo rods and remains active in the rod making community.

The author Bob Stewart spoke on F.E. Thomas, a bamboo rod maker who started building in the 1890's. Bob had over 50 Thomas fly rods on display. GBTU

member Jim Tingey lent his FE Thomas "Dirigo" rod for the display.

Yung Chin, brother of GBTU member Fung Chin, gave a presentation to the gathering from the perspective of a violin bowmaker. He demonstrated how certain techniques used in bowmaking are similar to those used by rod builders, and how the techniques mutual to both disciplines can lead to new possibilities.

TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM 2010-2011

GBTU has expanded our support of Trout in the Classroom to 2 schools this year. In addition to our first school, Hubbard Woods Elementary School in Winnetka, we are now supporting Maine East High School in Park Ridge for the 2010-2011 school year.

Mr. Pat Voitik, high school science teacher, will be leading the program at Maine East HS. An experienced hand at raising fish and amphibians, Pat is looking forward to getting the trout eggs into the tank.

At Hubbard Woods, students are already asking when the fish eggs will arrive. The tank has been moved out of the classroom this year and into the school library. The entire school of 300+ students will now have access to the program and a web cam will be installed next week that will allow viewing of the tank in real time. GBTU is looking for volunteers to help the schools manage the aquariums.

GBTU CHAPTER CONTACTS

President

Matt Jennings
mattsbug@comcast.net

Vice President

Darwin Adams
darwinla@comcast.net

Treasurer

Mark Mellicker
financial@garyborgertu.org

Illinois Counsel Rep

Michael Rasmussen
razmaspaz@gmail.com

Web Site

Randy Cochran
website@garyborgertu.org

Secretary

Joan Butzow
butzow@comcast.net

Conservation

Jim Bailey
jlbailey2@hotmail.com

Membership/Newsletter

Glenn Davis
gadavis38@comcast.net

Special Projects

Mark Wortsmann
mwortsmann@aol.com

Outings

Fung Chin
fcarch@mac.com

