



GARY BORGER CHAPTER  
TROUT UNLIMITED

# The Tippet

March 2010

Volume 15, Issue 3

## **March Meeting:**

Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M.  
Libertyville Civic Center  
135 W Church St  
Libertyville, IL 60048

### **Featured Speaker**

Sara Creque  
Aquatic Ecologist with the  
Illinois Natural History Survey  
Lake Michigan Biological Station

### **Subject**

Sara Creque's presentation at the March 11th meeting of Gary Borger TU will provide a general overview of 3 of major Lake Michigan projects ongoing at the Lake Michigan Biological Station in Waukegan.

- From the sport fishing angle, Sara will talk about current population structure of yellow perch near Waukegan, IL.
- Sport fishing efforts and harvest trends for the major salmonids and yellow perch along the Illinois shoreline from data gathered by creel clerks.
- She will also talk about their nearshore study that looks at juvenile fish patterns at different habitats along the Illinois shoreline, which includes discussion of invasive species.

Sara's presentation will include some underwater video highlights, which are always a hit. Sara is very passionate about the lake and loves sharing information with other interested folks. Come find out about the health and future of our local Lake Michigan nearshore fisheries from someone who dives into her work and has first hand knowledge!

Sara Creque is the Lead Project Biologist on a study investigating nearshore fish communities and habitat. Sara is SCUBA certified and has conducted over 120 research dives in Lake Michigan. Summer classes at

Stone Lab and an internship at Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore switched her career from water quality to Great Lakes ecology. Sara is working in an advisory role with staff of the Parks Department of Highland Park on restoring ravines back to fish habitat, which GBTU also supports.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

:  
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or go to

[www.garyborgertu.org](http://www.garyborgertu.org)

## **GBTU RECEIVES GRANT FROM TU**

Bill Lamberson, the regional representative for the Trout Unlimited Midwest Region, announced that GBTU has been awarded \$4,500.00 to support continued work on Paradise Creek. Congratulations to Jim Bailey and the submission team on this significant achievement on their first grant request. Congratulations to SEWTU who also awarded a grant for their Elk Creek, Nash Family project.

Overall, TU only awarded grants to 32% of the projects submitted. The \$4,500 grant to GBTU was approximately 70% of the original grant request compared to their average grant award percentage of 52%. We can look forward to some great workdays this year as a result and will be able expand our efforts to restore Paradise Creek!

## **ARKANSAS TRIP REPORT**

The first outing of the year saw 16 fishers from Gary Borger and Texas Central FFF converging in Arkansas.

Fishing under different conditions provided good experience for all- drifting and wading were the two main techniques used by the team with one member, Chin Fung catching and releasing his first cutthroat trout. The award for most unusual "two-fer" was given to Scott Foster with a nice size rainbow complete with an attached lamprey eel.

(Arkansas Trip continued)

A number of participants achieved the Arkansas Grand Slam, which consists of a brook, cutthroat, rainbow, and brown trout. A side trip to Missouri yielded the largest fish of the trip for some of the Texas and GBTU members. This visually stunning stream is located in private waters fed by a natural spring.

Camaraderie, good food & fly tying were had by all. A trip for next year is being planned already based upon popular demand from all of the attendees. If you couldn't make this outstanding trip this year then start planning now so you aren't left out next year again.

#### **APRIL GBTU OUTING IN WISCONSIN**

The first local outing is the upcoming Southwest Wisconsin Outing on April 9-11. This outing will kick off the day after our April Chapter meeting, which will feature Nick Volk, a local fishing guide and owner of the On the Creek fly shop, located in Cross Plains, WI. He will discuss tactics, flies and maybe even discuss a few local sites to target.

GBTU has secured 7 double occupancy rooms at the Old Towne Motel in Westby, WI. The motel serves a continental breakfast in the morning. 12 GBTU members have already signed up. A prime rib dinner will be served at a local restaurant on Saturday evening. The trip cost is \$130 per person for GBTU members.

Please contact Fung Chin for more information or if you are interested in attending.

#### **FLAPJACKS FOR FISHERIES UPDATE**

Planning for the April 24<sup>th</sup> Flapjacks for Fisheries (FFF) charity event is fully underway. We are looking for more volunteers to help out with various aspects of planning and preparing for the event. If you are interested, please contact the appropriate committee lead (listed below).

- Food – Mark Wortsman [mwortsmann@aol.com](mailto:mwortsmann@aol.com)
- Logistics – Jim Tingey [tingeyj@comcast.net](mailto:tingeyj@comcast.net)
- Raffles – Darwin Adams [darwinla@comcast.net](mailto:darwinla@comcast.net)  
Tony Perlstein [t.perlstein@comcast.net](mailto:t.perlstein@comcast.net)
- Speakers – Matt Jennings [mattsbug@comcast.net](mailto:mattsbug@comcast.net)
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- Expense/Finance – Mark Mellicker [financial@garyborgertu.org](mailto:financial@garyborgertu.org)
- Exhibits – Gary Elliott [gelliott55@comcast.net](mailto:gelliott55@comcast.net)

#### **GBTU LOOKING FOR DONATIONS FOR CHARITY EVENT**

The Gary Borger Chapter is holding its second annual FLAPJACKS for FISHERIES PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND BENEFIT on April 23, 2010 at Sheridan Shore Yacht Club. We are looking for donations of items and/or cash for our raffle. The cash will be used to purchase additional raffle items. Any contribution will be greatly appreciated. There will be a sign with the items to show who donated them.

All proceeds will go towards Gary Borger Chapter's continued support of: Paradise Springs Creek Restoration project; Illinois Council Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing School; Trout in the Classroom at Hubbard Woods Elementary School; TUDARE (Trout Unlimited Driftless Area Restoration Effort); and Scouting Programs. If you have any question or donations please call Darwin at 847.223.5265 or e-mail at [darwinla@comcast.net](mailto:darwinla@comcast.net) or call Tony at 847.774.1782 or e-mail [t.perlstein@comcast.net](mailto:t.perlstein@comcast.net). Gary Borger TU is a 501c-3 charitable organization.

#### **SETBACK FOR TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM**

The trout in the classroom program sponsored by GBTU suffered a setback when all of the trout mysteriously died overnight. While this occurrence was a tragic loss for the students and teachers, it was also an opportunity. The teachers and counselors at the school were able to utilize this occurrence to teach another lesson to the children on the fragility of nature and the sensitivity of all things to their environment.

The school staff also took the feelings of the students into account as many of the students were upset about the demise of the trout after having worked on this project for five months. The loss was discussed with the students and the students displayed great resiliency in both word and written form. One student said, 'It feels like we've lost a 118 classmates. They were always there and I'm really going to miss them.' One student drew a picture of a fish with a halo. Another student looking at the papier machet trout hanging from the ceiling said, 'It feels like we've lost a 118 classmates. They were always there and I'm really going to miss them.'

Plans are underway to transfer some trout from another Trout in the Classroom project to their classroom.

#### **PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

At this time each Spring, our minds bloom with possibilities and our activity levels jump up a notch or two. Fishing begins even as the cold realities of winter have not yet completely abated. We chase trout and steelhead under leaden skies with shivering hands and

numb stumbling feet. It is who we are and what we are drawn to do. It is for pleasures that will be sought and wrought on spring creek and tributary alike.

The question I have is what will we be remembered for when all the fish have been pictured and released? It will be our work. It is for this that I am proud to be the leader of this group. I am proud to work with those that would be drawn outside their comfort levels to educate the next generation of anglers and conservationist alike, those that would push past barriers and educate themselves when others would quit and those that champion our cause to win funding for restoration work that will make a lasting change. To be associated in any small way with those that would look at failure as only a setback and to turn it into a triumphant learning opportunity. In short I am often humbled by the work of those in GBTU, and TU as a whole. Thank You, for all you do!

Take care, Matt Jennings  
President Gary Borger TU

### **GBTU CHAPTER CONTACTS**

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