

# Newscasts

September, 2006 Serving the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited



## **The Steelhead Are Coming**

Our September 12<sup>th</sup> chapter meeting will feature a salmon and steelhead seminar by Jeff Preiss. Jeff resides in Sheboygan and guides anglers on the rivers in that area. If you are thinking about an autumn pilgrimage to the land of leviathan salmonids, then you will want to come out and learn all that Jeff will have to share.

We will meet at the *Maple Tree Restaurant* in McFarland for this meeting. Though the meeting will commence promptly at 7:02 pm, the lies will start much sooner than that so please come early and have dinner with us. This will be a historic meeting, in that it will be our last meeting at the *Maple Tree* (see below).

## **New and Improved SWTU Venue**

Over the last few years, numerous chapter members have expressed desires to hold our chapter meetings in a smoke-free facility. Indeed, it has been ironic for an environmental organization to hold monthly meetings where a *purple haze* hangs so thick that we *don't know if it's day or night* (sorry Jimi). So, a location was sought which would offer libations, reasonably priced dinners and a centralized location for our Madison members. Most importantly, it had to be free. Perhaps it was a miracle, but we seem to have found such place.

After holding their August 29<sup>th</sup> meeting at the *Coliseum Bar*, the SWTU board of directors voted to change the location of the monthly chapter meetings to that establishment. Effective October 10<sup>th</sup>, the *Coliseum Bar* in Madison will be our regular meeting place.

The *Coliseum Bar* is located at 232 E. Olin Ave. If you still think of the *Alliant Energy Center* as the *Dane County Coliseum*, then you may also remember the *Coliseum Bar* as *Jingles*. Either way, the *Coliseum Bar* is located across the street from the arena formerly known as the *Dane County Coliseum*. Look for us in the spacious (yet secluded) second floor meeting room.

## **Newscasts Distribution**

Speaking of historic changes, another one is coming in January. After many years of printing and mailing monthly newsletters to all of our members, financial considerations have forced us to mend our ways. Previous *Newscasts* editions (especially the June edition) have foreshadowed this change, but implementation is now immanent.

Beginning January 1, 2007, printed copies of *Newscasts* will be mailed only to those who pay for that privilege. It will cost \$12 per year, and all subscriptions will run from January 1 through December 31. Clearly, early subscribers will realize a greater value, but the sum is small and the potential for administrative headaches is large. Comments on this policy are welcome.

Monthly publication of *Newscasts* will continue – only the distribution method is changing. If you prefer to receive printed newsletters via the postal service, please fill out the subscription form on page 4.

If you choose electronic distribution, please sign up for that as soon as possible. As an electronic subscriber you will receive monthly email notifications that a new edition of the newsletter is available for your perusal. These messages will not contain an electronic copy of the newsletter. Rather, they will contain a link to an *Adobe Acrobat* file located on our website. This method of distribution keeps these messages very small, and the *Adobe Acrobat Reader* is distributed free of charge. Once accessed, you can either view the newsletter on your computer screen, or print it for offline consumption.

To get on the e*Newscasts* bandwagon now simply send an email to [Maffmarkitt@hotmail.com](mailto:Maffmarkitt@hotmail.com) with "Newscasts Opt-Out" in the title of the message, and your name, and address in the body of the message.

**From the State Council Chair**

By Bill Pielsticker

By now most of you know that Roger Widner, founder of the *West Fork Sports Club* in Avalanche, is in his final days. The pancreatic cancer that had been in remission returned this summer and Roger is receiving in-home hospice care.

Roger is a rare bird in the heavy equipment field, with a wide knowledge of stream reclamation and habitat enhancement practices. Duke Welter characterizes Widner as a “steward of the West Fork, Wisconsin stream restorationist who has an intuitive magical understanding of trout stream dynamics, public access champion, tireless local conservationist, and friend of Wisconsin trout anglers and *Trout Unlimited*.”

Roger Widner is still a young man by many standards, and his passing will put a significant financial burden on his wife and children. A trust fund has been established for Roger’s children. I hope you will consider making a donation to this fund.

Checks should be made out to, “Roger Widner Family Benefit #5106” and mailed to:

Westby Community Credit Union  
PO Box 70  
Westby, WI 54667-0700

**Welcome New Members**

*Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited* is pleased to announce the addition of the following new members to our ranks.

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Christopher Brady | Eric Shullenberger |
| Timothy Enright   | Doug Sveum         |
| Robert Ross       | Ryan Wildman       |

Please join us for a chapter meeting, and we will give you some free raffle tickets. These aren’t those cheap raffle tickets that you may have been bribed with in the past. These are top quality raffle tickets, capable of winning fabulous prizes, like flies, books and other cool stuff.

**Fine Fish Art for Sale**

On Saturday September 23<sup>rd</sup>, the *Spring Creek Partners* will again hold a fish art sale to benefit cold water resources in southwestern Wisconsin. Past fish art sales by this group have offered stunningly beautiful works of art featuring fish and/or fishy places. *Trout Unlimited* activist and former *University of Wisconsin* art professor Bill Weege is the heart and soul of this event. Bill apparently leverages his many contacts in the art world such that the profit margins for this event are quite large. That means that nearly every dollar that you spend acquiring these magnificent pieces of art directly benefit coldwater resources. The proceeds from the 2006 Fish Art Sale will benefit the restoration projects of the *Ocooch Chapter of Trout Unlimited*. The sale will be held at Off Jones Road Print Shop, 7046 Reimann Road, Arena, WI and will run from 10:00 am until 5:00 pm. Riemann Road intersects Highway 14 in the town of Arena, and the shop is south of town. For more information call Bill Weege - (608) 753-2332.

**You Must Be Present To Win**

There was no winner of the *You-Must-Be-Present-To-Win* drawing at our July chapter meeting. The would-be winner was apparently uninterested in prizewinning and electrofishing. The absence allowed our jackpot to grow by \$20. Please join us at our September 12<sup>th</sup> *Meeting* at the Maple Tree for your chance to win a \$60 gift certificate to *Fontana Sports Specialties*.



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**On the Stream Meeting and Picnic**

Our July meeting was a lot of fun. Kurt Welke and his team of WDNR electrofishers, provided proof that there are already trout in Token Creek, while Mark Rhinerson and Larry Meicher provided proof that they continue to deserve the titles of Mr. Bean and Dr. Sausage. Thanks guys.

**Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited Leadership:**

President	Jack Way	(608) 222-2461	JackWay@Charter.net
Vice President	Dave Sanders	(608) 843-7125	daveandcheri@charter.net
Secretary	John Serunian	(608) 277-9295	jserunian@aol.com
Treasurer	John Schweiger	(608) 238-8062	johnrose55@charter.net
Past President	Susan Fey	(608) 442-5801	smfey@facstaff.wisc.edu
State Council Rep.	Greg Vodak	(608) 873-5107	gregvodak@charter.net
Project Chair	Dan Geib	(608) 834-1652	
Newscasts Editor	Mark Maffitt	(608) 273-2140	Mark.Maffitt@Invitrogen.com

**Important dates to remember:**

September 12 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter Meeting at the Male Tree
September 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Fish Art Sale Benefit for Ocooch Chapter TU
October 10 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter Meeting at the Coliseum Bar featuring George Close
November 14 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter Meeting at the Coliseum Bar featuring Timothy Ehlinger
December 12 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter Meeting at the Coliseum Bar featuring Dan Wisniewski (tentative)
January 9 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter Meeting at the Coliseum Bar featuring SWTU Fly Tying Jamboree
January 19 <sup>th</sup>	Nash Williams Memorial Banquet
January 20 <sup>th</sup>	Ice Breaker featuring Tom Rosenbauer, Kevin Searock, and Craig Amacker

## 2007 Newscasts Subscription Form

- Please sign me up for the printed edition of *Newscasts* for the remarkably low price of only \$12 per calendar year. I am enclosing a check, made payable to *Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited*, and mailing it to:

John Schweiger  
5541 Dahlen Dr.  
Madison, WI 53705-1341

- I would like a SWTU chapter leader to respond to the enclosed comments.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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