

Rod Raffle Drawing and Holiday Party December 9

Mark your calendar now for our annual Holiday Party and Rod Raffle drawing scheduled Wednesday, December 9th, from 7-9 p.m. at the D.O.C. Wine Bar in the Yorktown Center around the corner from the Orvis store.

This year's event features an "Around the World" wine tasting and food pairing. Besides wine, beer, soft drinks and water will also be available. In addition to the Rod Raffle drawing, a silent auction will feature Michigan and Wisconsin guide trips; Orvis, Fishpond and Patagonia gear; fly fishing artwork; wine and craft beer baskets; plus plenty of bucket raffle items.

"We hope this year's wine tasting event will attract our newest members as well as spouses and guests," said Carol Hennessy, event committee lead and board director. "Tickets to the event will cost \$45 apiece and will be available for sale at our November 18 chapter meeting and at the door via check and credit card. Members who purchase tickets in advance at our November 18 meeting will be eligible for a special door prize."

Fund Raising Helps Cover Annual Costs

Your donation to our annual rod raffle plus funds raised from our silent auction and bucket raffles help cover our Chapter's general operating expenses for the year for monthly meetings, speakers, and various conservation and youth education activities. The mailing to each member of the Oak Brook Chapter was delivered this past week.

"We must provide Chapter funding for these programs because there are no other outside sources of funding," said Dave Lunardini, board director and treasurer. "National Trout Unlimited membership dues are not shared with our Chapter for funding our local conservation activities, youth programs and general operating expenses."

The Chapter hopes each member will also make an optional donation of \$5 per ticket or \$20 for the book of five tickets. Though a financial donation is appreciated when you return your tickets, it is not necessary to send

a donation to enter or win one of the rod raffle prizes, and sending a donation does not increase your chances of winning. To enter the raffle, simply fill out the stubs that are attached to the tickets and mail them back to Oak Brook TU. Any donation to Oak Brook TU is tax deductible.

Rod Raffle Features Three Great Prizes

FIRST PRIZE: Eric Heckman, owner of Coren's Rod & Reel, has agreed to be our custom rod maker. Eric will supply his time and talents, and our Chapter will provide rod components up to \$400.00 for a custom rod of your choice. The winner is free to upgrade the rod further at their expense. This is a true custom-built fishing rod by a master craftsman. You can learn more about Eric and Coren's Rod & Reel by viewing their YouTube video.

SECOND PRIZE: Orvis Superfine glass 8' 5wt full-flex 3-piece fly rod from the Orvis Yorktown store in Lombard.

THIRD PRIZE: Orvis Battenkill 3 reel with Superfine line from the Orvis Yorktown store in Lombard.

The winning tickets will be drawn at the annual Holiday Party on Wednesday, December 9th at the D.O.C. Wine Bar. You can return raffle ticket stubs and your check at our monthly membership meeting on November 18th. Your ticket stubs should be mailed by December 1, 2015. You do not have to be in attendance at the December 9th Holiday Party to be selected as a winner.

Conservation Projects, Youth Camp and Endowment Fund Donations

Our Rod Raffle mailing will also provide you with the opportunity to specifically donate to our upcoming conservation projects, 2016 Youth Camp and/or Endowment Fund. The objective of the Oak Brook TU Endowment Fund is to provide long-term funding of key conservation initiatives through the fund's money market earnings. The Endowment Fund principal is not available for withdrawal. For questions about the Endowment Fund, please contact Dave Lunardini at djl22@att.net.

Meetings and Events

Chapter meetings are typically the third Wednesday of the month except for December at the Oak Brook Recreation Center, Central Park West building near 31st Street and Jorie Blvd. in Oak Brook, Illinois.

November 9, 2015
OBTU Directors Meeting
7:00 p.m.

November 18, 2015
Chapter Meeting
Speakers:
"Coldwater River Disaster"
Ron Barch & John McKenzie
7:00 p.m.

December 2, 2015
OBTU Directors Meeting
7:00 p.m.

December 9, 2015
Holiday Party
D.O.C. Wine Bar
Yorktown Center
7:00 p.m.

January 13, 2016
OBTU Directors Meeting
7:00 p.m.

January 19, 2016
Chapter Meeting
Speaker: TBD
7:00 p.m.

February 10, 2016
OBTU Directors Meeting
7:00 p.m.

February 17, 2016
Chapter Meeting
Speaker: TBD
7:00 p.m.



The Oak Brook TU Rod Raffle features three great prizes--\$400 toward a custom rod from Coren's Rod & Reel; an Orvis fly rod; and an Orvis Battenkill reel.

All Things OBTU...

By Stan Zarnowiecki, President

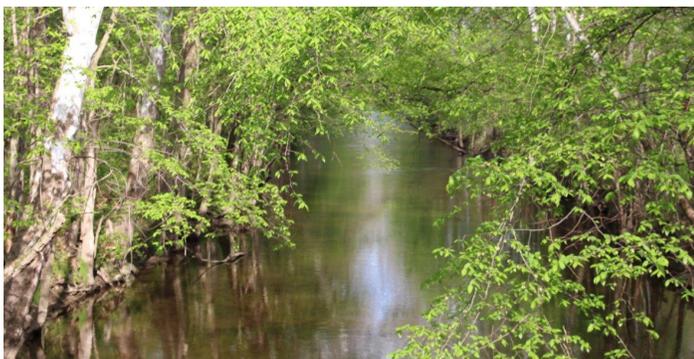
You may think of the year winding down but for OBTU we are into a new year already. Our fiscal year ended on September 30 and so we are starting up a new year, financially. We had a great kick off meeting in September with Badger Tenkara. A lot of guests tried out this new type of fishing and the presentation was very enlightening. Our October speaker, Andrew Chione, gave a great presentation on his summer internship with Oregon Fish and Wildlife surveying fish and habitat on the Grande Rhonde River. What an experience for a young person to have! Thanks Andrew for your time.

Our November meeting will be about our efforts on the Coldwater River and our ongoing macro-invertebrate study. Members of the Coldwater River Watershed Council will be joining us and talking specifically to the devastation that took place this spring, when a contractor clear cut the banks of the upper portion of the river. We will find out what is being done to restore this habitat. We had a great October event up there, with 13 volunteers assisting with the fall macro-invertebrate study. The weather was great, the food was great, and those who fished managed to catch something.

Our December meeting will be our Holiday Party and it will be on Wednesday December 9, a week earlier than usual. We will be picking the winning tickets from our annual custom rod raffle. This year we also have two more great prizes donated by Orvis Yorktown, a fiberglass rod and a reel. A new venue has been chosen for this event so please make sure you attend. We will have some great silent auction items and bucket raffles too!

Our 2015/2016 budget is very aggressive and we have formed a new fundraising committee to implement new fundraising opportunities. If you want your name added to this committee or any other, please contact any of our directors or officers to get more information. Also, January will be the time when we vote on new directors so if you are interested in joining the board contact us also. We have a great group on the board and your participation will make us better.

A lot of great things are happening with the chapter so join us for our meetings and volunteer opportunities. YOUR voice, YOUR participation, YOUR input keeps our chapter going in a positive direction!



November 18 Speaker: “The Coldwater Rivershed Disaster”

Oak Brook Trout Unlimited has partnered with the Coldwater River Watershed Council (CRWC) every year since 2005. It's been a rewarding relationship, with our members aiding in numerous stream bank restoration projects, deadfall removal, tree and shrub planting, and now a multi-year macro-invertebrate survey. Additionally, our chapter has contributed funds to conservation initiatives to aid in preventing farm run-off.

Actually, we were all starting to feel really good about the progress being made on the Coldwater River, and Tyler Creek, its major tributary. Then in early 2015, in what can best be described as bureaucratic bungling, county drain commissioners and a contractor vastly decimated 16 miles of stream bank along the Coldwater River in the name of “deadfall removal”.

John McKenzie and Ron Barch of the CRWC will speak to our membership on Wednesday, November 18th at 7 p.m. They will provide a detailed overview of the events that transpired leading to this mishap, the destruction to Coldwater River watershed, and the plans now being developed to remediate the damage.

This is a presentation that should be of interest to all of our members. Please try to attend.



John McKenzie and Ron Barch of the Coldwater River Watershed Council will speak to our membership on Wednesday, November 18th at 7 p.m. regarding the recent misguided destruction to the watershed. Coldwater River before destruction (left) and after (above).

Coldwater River Study: “A Bigger Picture”

By Rick Ralph – Conservation Chairman

Wading through one hundred yards of stream while putting sand, gravel, silt, debris, and water into a bucket, I wondered, “Do our members know where this clear, cold water comes from, where it goes, and where in the watershed do we sample?”

This question was posed during the conclusion of our second year of macro-invertebrate studies of the Coldwater River watershed in western Michigan.

Our macro-invertebrate sampling locations are reached by driving a few miles from Tyler Creek Golf Course and Campground past farm fields and then parking near a small bridge. It can be hard to remember just where the site is if you rode in the car’s back seat. So, you really can’t get a perspective on the watershed from those drives, let alone standing in the stream. To get the answers, I turned to the Coldwater River Watershed Management Atlas available on the council’s website, www.coldwaterriver.org. It makes good sense once you look at the map. We sample a point upstream, three major creeks that flow into the Coldwater River, and then the Coldwater River itself further downstream. (See *Coldwater River sites on page 4*)

Selecting sampling sites is somewhat pragmatic in that you want a reasonable characterization of the watershed, but you have to consider what access to the water is available. Access includes permission from the landowner and reasonable entry into and egress from the stream.

The first site, Messer Brook, is a tributary to the Coldwater River. It is labeled on the map as Site 1. Messer Brook is a small, cold creek that flows several miles from the north.

Our second site is the former Freeport dam on the Coldwater River. It is labeled on the map as Site 2. The Coldwater River flows for miles before reaching Freemont. However, the stream flow becomes substantial by the time it gets to Freeport.

Duck Creek flows for over 10 miles before emptying into the Coldwater River just upstream from Tyler Creek. The Duck Creek monitoring site—labeled as Site 3 on the map—is about a mile and a half upstream from the Coldwater.

Tyler Creek—labeled on the map as Site 4 on the map—is located on Tyler Creek Golf Course and Campground and is very accessible. Tyler Creek is formed by Pratt Creek and Bear Creek which have their headwaters further up the watershed.

The last site is on the Coldwater River itself. It is called the Dolan Property. This location is valuable because it is downstream of where Tyler Creek and Duck Creek enter the Coldwater River so any effects from those sources can be seen at the Dolan Property site. The Dolan Property is labeled on the map as Site 5.

The Oak Brook TU chapter concluded its macro-invertebrate monitoring on the Coldwater River watershed October 10, 2015 on a glorious fall day. Thirteen volunteers teamed up to sample all five sites. Perfect weather made it a perfect day. Thanks to the

Continued on page 5

5th Annual Early Show Sunday, November 8

Presented by the Illinois Smallmouth Alliance
and DuPage Rivers Fly Tiers

Come to the 5th Early Show, Chicago’s only all fly fishing and fly tying show! Sit with the area’s best fly tyers as they demonstrate their talents on a wide variety of fly patterns. Kids will enjoy the free fly tying and entomology programs.

Show Features:

- 25+ regional fly tiers – sit and watch them create a fly for the waters they fish.
- Federation of Fly Fishers Certified Casting Instructors will provide free casting lessons.
- Spey casting demonstrations and help matching the line to rod.
- Regional fishing guides on hand to share tips and book trips.
- Guest speaker presentations all day long.
- Vendors include area shops, reps, pro tyers and guides--all with great deals.
- Club booths ready to answer questions about their activities.
- DuPage Forest Preserve District booth to promote outdoor and youth programs.
- Raffle of donated flies and gear drawn at end of the show.
- Free Youth Fly Tying with all the materials and tools provided.

Guest Speakers:

- 11:00** Kyle Zempel - “Keep’em Wet Initiative” Photographing Fish Safely
11:45 Bob Long Jr. - “Smallmouth Bass in Rivers and Streams”
12:30 P. J. Smith - “Driftless Trout and Float Trips for Bass and Musky”
1:15 Abe Downs - “Fishing Northern Wisconsin Rivers for Musky and Bass”
2:00 Austin Aducci - “Kankakee River Bass, Pere Marquette Steelhead, Beaver Island Carp”
3:00 Tim Adkins - “Introduction to Saltwater on the Fly”
3:45 Ed Buric - “Sylvannia Wilderness Primer”
4:30 Raffle Draw

The Early Show will be held at the DuPage Forest Preserve Mayslake Peabody Estate, which was constructed by Francis Stuyvesant Peabody during the American Gilded Age. Experience the splendor of its grounds and learn about fly fishing and fly tying inside the mansion at The Early Show.

Mark Your Calendar Now For The First Fly Show Of The Fall Season!

Show Location:

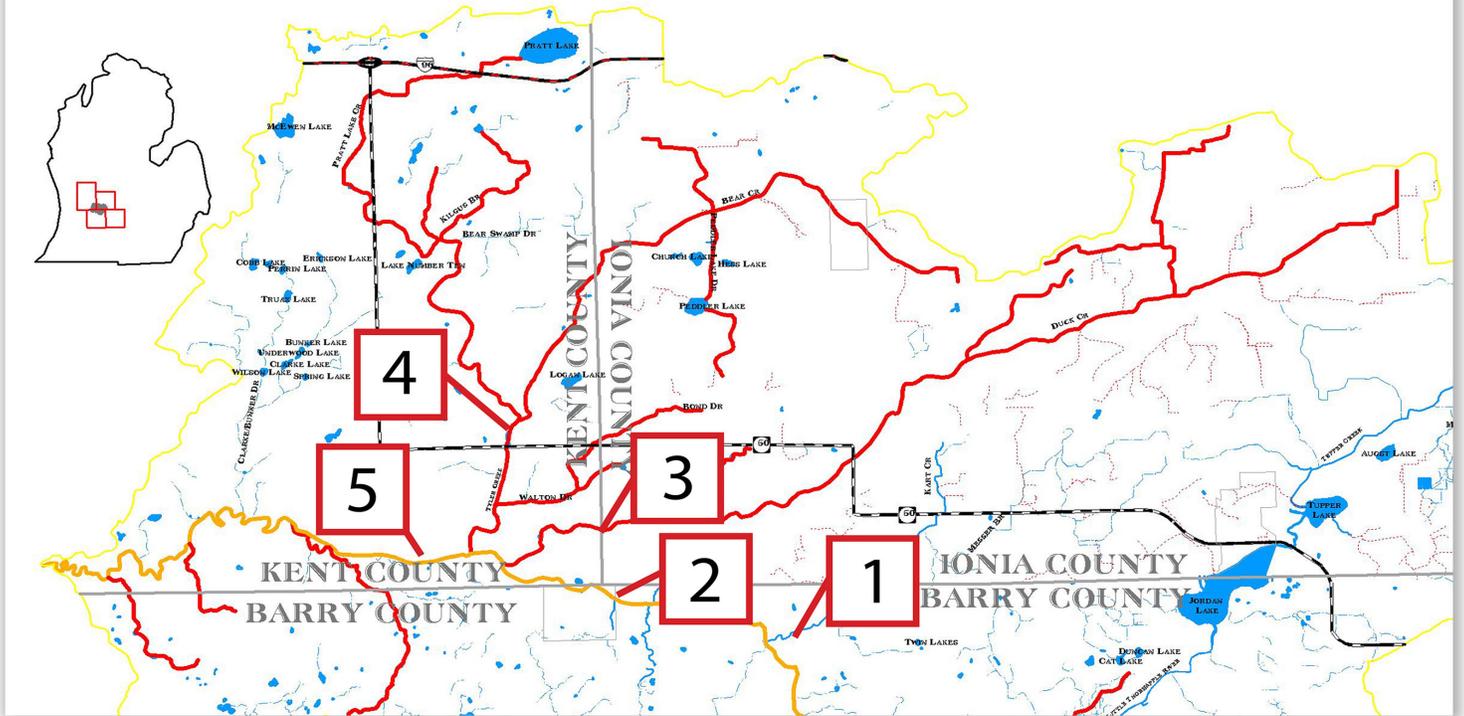
Mayslake Peabody Estate,
1717 West 31st Street,
Oak Brook, IL 60523

Show Date: Sunday November 8, 2015

Show Time: 10:00 am to 5:00 p.m.

Admission: \$10.00 for adults; kids 12 and under are FREE.

COLDWATER RIVER WATERSHED DESIGNATED TROUT STREAMS



Strategic Planning Input Wanted

By Rick Ralph, Oak Brook Trout Unlimited Vice President

“Leadership is a potent combination of strategy and character.”

Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf (U.S Army)

Our Board of Directors is requesting input as we update our Chapter’s strategic plan. Having a clear plan that is relevant to members will help define our direction and give us focus. The strategic plan will be modeled after the Trout Unlimited national strategic plan with the following areas:

- Conservation
- Communication
- Membership Engagement
- Fund Raising
- Chapter Development

We expect that each area will have several objectives. We will then support each objective with strategies and programs. For example, a current conservation objective is “to contribute to the restoration of the Coldwater River watershed in Michigan”; and a supporting strategy is “to conduct two macro-invertebrate studies per year on the Coldwater River watershed.”

Are there objectives or tasks that you think are important? Please send your thoughts by November 10, 2015 to me at r.ralph1@comcast.net.

Member Name Badge

We will be placing an order for Oak Brook Chapter name badges for this fall. If you are interested in ordering one or more please complete the form below and mail it or give it to Stan Zarnowiecki.

Make your check payable to: **Oak Brook Chapter of Trout Unlimited**, P. O. Box 5046, Oak Brook, Illinois 60522

\$10 each badge

Name: (as you want it to appear on badge)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

The Librarian's Corner

by Phil Young

Pike on the Fly with Barry Reynolds

(BT2 Productions / 2007) 68m / DVD

Fly Fishing for Smallmouth Bass with Harry Murray

(Harry Murray and Sam Love / 2005) 60m / DVD

The Oak Brook Trout Unlimited library has two new warm water DVD's that will make you put away the 4wt rod and get out the 6, 8 and 10wt. Oh, and you might also need to get some bigger flies.

Pike on the Fly: In Pursuit of the Water Wolf will take you to some of the most prolific pike waters in North America in search of pike in excess of 30 pounds and over 50 inches in length. Barry Reynolds shares some of his favorite fly patterns, leader set-ups and fly line selections to cover the water from top to bottom.

Fly Fishing for Smallmouth Bass covers smallmouth fishing from dry flies and bugs on the surface to nymphs and sculpins on the bottom. Harry Murry provides strategy, casting tips and clear instructions on knots and flies to effectively teach how to fish for smallies.

These two warm water DVDs, as well as others in the chapter's library, are available for check out at chapter meetings. If you are holding any of the chapter's other videos, please return them when you are finished so that others may view them.

Coldwater River Study

Continued from page 3

volunteers, Willie Beshire, Steve Carlson, Andrew Chione, Michael Governale, Indre Januskeviciute, Jim Jones, Stuart McCallum, Ed Michael, Rick Ralph, Marvin Strauch, Joe Weisenberger, Phil Young, and Stan Zarnowiecki.

Stan provided breakfast for those staying at Tyler Creek and a satisfying lunch for the group. Paul Eberhart of the Coldwater River Watershed Council stopped by to say hello and provided a fresh cobbler for dessert.

Our autumn study marked our second year of spring and fall sessions with plans to return again to the Coldwater River in 2016.

Message from OBTU Treasurer on Fund Raising Committee

Oak Brook Trout Unlimited Members:

The Oak Brook Chapter is undertaking the recruitment and development of a permanent Fund Raising Committee and are looking for Members to participate in various ways.

Our focus will be to expand and develop new and traditional ideas and methods of securing funds to support our mission statement concerning conservation and education.

Our objective will be to find ways to walk the fine line that all non-profit organizations straddle, between being effective at soliciting donations and funds while avoiding being obnoxiously overbearing and desperate with omni-present requests for financial support (much like we experience from the national TU organization).

We want to identify ALL potential fund-raising ideas, then structure our committee organization and efforts in such a manner that evenly and fairly distributes the task load in directed activities to capitalize on those opportunities.

Sample activities may include: composing fund-raising letters, flyers and email lists; face-to-face presentation of OBTU literature and brochures; involvement in planning, organizing and staffing fund-raising functions; internet research for grants and Corporate donation programs that we may access and solicit; prize sourcing for raffles and auctions at fund-raising functions, and exploring NEW ideas and suggestions of raising funding.

As you can see, we are not just looking for people who will be asking for money.

Our Fund Raising Committee scope will be one that will be fluid and evolving, resultant of the talents and dynamics the members bring the committee.

If you wish to become a committee member—at any level of involvement—please contact me via email and identify how you would like to assist us with this initiative. If you have specific questions, you can call me at 630-939-3471.

Respectfully;

David Lunardini
OBTU Officer—Treasurer
Email: djl22@att.net

Please contact the following board member regarding volunteer activities or other questions

Stan Zarnowiecki	President	Officer	vp@obt.org	708.606.4148
Rick Ralph	Vice President	Conservation Program	Rralph1@comcast.net	630.939.2643
Dave Lunardini	Treasurer	Officer	djl22@att.net	630.939.3471
Carol Hennessy	Secretary	Officer	chennessy@earthlink.net	815.341.6010
Jim Schmiedeskamp	Director	Publicity/Communications	jimschmieds@gmail.com	312.375.6502
Marv Strauch	Director	Youth Education	mjstrauchjr@gmail.com	708.638.1318
Joe Weisenberger	Director	Membership	flytie8@yahoo.com	630.390.9494