

Adams Chapter Update

A publication of the Adams Chapter of Trout Unlimited • Traverse City, Michigan • adamschaptertu.com



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It's pretty hard to believe that it's June already. After the banquet in mid April, I thought that there would be time to take a deep breath, get the fishing tackle sorted out, and enjoy the spring weather. As variable as the weather turned out, I'm still not sure if the trout thought summer arrived early or on some days we had already moved into October. This certainly describes my fishing adventures—variable weather/variable results. Now that the weather has become more seasonal, I hope the fish get the message that they can certainly feel free to act "normal." (At least when I'm in my waders.)

Our 17th annual fund raising banquet was a major success with mixed emotions. The chapter had the opportunity to introduce the Special Recognition Award for individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to the goals and objectives of the Adams Chapter and to Trout Unlimited over the years. In February, Bill Fernandez was unanimously selected to be the first recipient of our award. Fortunately, his family and friends were able to see his niece, Claire, accept the award in his absence. His guidance and expertise in making this event a success were certainly missed. Like many attending, it certainly felt different to me without Bill's presence.

The banquet was well attended and we came close to a total sell out of available seating. I promise to work on the sound system and make sure it is more user-friendly next year. We exceeded last year's contributions by several thousand dollars and will funnel those proceeds into worthwhile projects in the coming year. Specific contributions/grants are listed in this newsletter.

Many thanks to all of our contributors, sponsors, and underwriters for your efforts in help-

ing the chapter make the most of our annual fundraising event. Also, many thanks to those chapter members who took the time and made the effort to contribute to this success. Without their hard work, none of this would have been possible—especially in this economic climate. Work on next year's fundraising efforts will begin this Fall and we'll take all the help that you can offer. If you would like to get involved, please contact any Officer or Board Member.

The Asian Carp continues to threaten the Great Lakes and its tributaries. The situation appears to be wrapped in politics and there is not much positive news on this front. Now, more than ever, there is a need for everyone to take the time and to voice their concerns to legislators on State and Federal levels that this threat has to be addressed now. This challenge is not going away and to continually delay any "real" action is unacceptable.

The "gear restriction" recommendation process with the MDNRE continues. A series of meetings has been scheduled across the state during the month of June to solicit public input. Locally, these will take place on Sunday, June 6th, at 7:00 pm, in Grayling at the Crawford AuSable Public School and on Thursday, June 10th, in Gaylord, at Northland Sportsman's Club. Local TU chapters in both areas have asked for support to give a louder voice to help all of our recommendations. If possible, plan to attend these meetings to demonstrate that we think these deserve consideration and implementation. More specifics are readily available on the MDRE website.

In local business news, congratulations are in order for Chuck Hawkins and the crew at Hawkins Outfitters for being selected as the Orvis "Outfitter of the Year." I understand that it has been well over twenty years since an outfitter in the Midwest has been selected for this award. This recognition certainly helps raise the awareness of our local resources and the quality of the fishing that exists here in our

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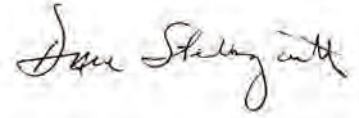
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own area that need our continued efforts at protection and restoration. Also, if you have not already heard, The Northern Angler is under new ownership and has moved. The new owner is Brian Pitser and the shop has moved to 426 W. Front Street. A big thank you to Kirk for your many years of help and support of the Chapter and I hope to see you on the river.

Our next general membership meeting is June 23rd at CCC Bridge. Please join us for a brief meeting, food, refreshments, and then off to the Manistee River to chase trout.



Adams Chapter member Dr. Norm Fred directs volunteers at the Scheck's State Campground during the Traverse Area Paddle Club's 6th Annual Boardman River Clean Sweep event. Volunteers pulled over 20 cubic yards of trash from the River and associated public access sites. Nearly \$2,000 was raised through an Adams Chapter sponsored raffle of a kayak that was donated by McLain Cycle & Fitness.



Adams Chapter member Steve Largent and volunteers from Red Lobster stand next to a truck load of trash that was removed from state land access sites along the North Branch of the Boardman River.

Adams to Return to Classic AuSable Lodge

A little recognized benefit of your Adams Chapter membership is yearly guaranteed use of a Grayling area lodge overlooking the AuSable River. Construction of this classic fishing lodge began in the late nineteenth century by local legend, Chief Shoppenagon. Additions over the years have made this a premier northern Michigan venue that is available to only a few fortunate groups.

The lodge is of full log construction and features a huge great room with fireplace and sleeping room wings to either side of the great room. Each wing contains a bathroom with shower and seven rooms—some containing up to six beds.

On the river side, a screened porch runs the entire length of the lodge and provides birch rocking chairs for relaxation and tranquil enjoyment of the AuSable just below. The porch also provides four additional beds for the truly outdoor minded.

Fishing is available on numerous sites along the “Holy Water”, the South Branch of the AuSable (Mason Tract), and on the nearby Manistee River. Autumn bird hunting has also been a traditional activity at our annual outing.

Adams Chapter members have been taking advantage of this wonderful opportunity for many years. The lodge has room for about 40 members and guests and a full complement of attendees is expected and welcome.

This year’s outing will begin Friday, September 17 and will conclude on Sunday, September 19. Cost is \$35 per person/per night. Complete bedding is provided. Contact Dennis Taylor (dktaylor1217@charter.net) for further information or to reserve your place at the WaWaSum Lodge.

2010 Chapter Grants

Below are the grants awarded by the Adams Chapter for stream improvement and Environmental studies this year. In addition to these we have funded the Bill Fernandez Children’s Activities Fund as well as provided grants to our local schools for stream related projects and maintained funding to various like-minded organizations in our region.

<u>Upper Manistee River Restoration Committee</u> Various Restoration projects	\$2,000
<u>Travers Area Paddle Club–</u> Boardman River Clean Up – 2010	\$500
<u>Conservation Resource Alliance</u> Platte River Improvements	\$1,500
<u>AuSable Institute</u> Boardman River- Year-3 Insect data collection on the newly Formed river above Boardman Pond	\$2,000
<u>AuSable Institute</u> Insect data collection in the Upper Boardman River	\$1,400
<u>Grand Traverse Conservation District</u> Boardman River Sand trap cleanout	<u>\$1,500</u>
Total Stream Fund Individual Grants	\$8,900

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Bill Fernandez Memorial Children’s Activity Fund

As you are probably aware, the Adams Chapter recently lost a dedicated member when William (Bill) Fernandez unexpectedly passed away while on a vacation trip with his wife Juliana. Bill had served as president of the chapter for nine years and was a member of the board of directors as immediate past president at the time of his death.

In memory of Bill’s dedication to the involvement of young people in outdoor activities, especially fly fishing, his wife requested that donations in honor of Bill be placed in a new, separate fund to be dedicated to outdoor activities for children.

The fund has been established and donations have been received mainly from those attending the funeral remembrance for Bill. Donation level has been moderate with special dedication of proceeds from the raffles of a donated bamboo fly rod and a “Bill Fernandez” camp knife created by local knife maker and chapter member, Duon Rose at our recent Adams Chapter banquet.

To date, only 26 chapter members of the 300 plus active members have donated to this fund. Please consider joining us in an attempt to make this worthy activity a long-term success. Donations by check can be made to “Adams Chapter T.U.” with a memo “Children’s Activity Fund” and sent to:

Adams Chapter T.U.
P.O. Box 2129, Traverse City, MI 49685



The ADAMS CHAPTER of TROUT UNLIMITED wishes to thank the following generous sponsors for their support of our Cold Water Resource Conservation and Youth Education Activities.

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2010 CALENDAR

June 23

Outdoor Meeting on Manistee River

6 p.m. at the C.C.C. Bridge

July 17

Boardman River Work Bee

(contact Steve Largent for location and details)

August 25

General Membership Meeting at Ranch Rudolf

September 17-19

Adams Chapter Wa Wa Sum Weekend

Wa Wa Sum Lodge on the AuSable

December 8

General Membership Meeting

7 p.m., Traverse City Eye Consultants, 5199 North Royal Drive, TC

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