



# North Bear Notebook

March 2015

## Next Meeting: Thursday, March 12

The next chapter meeting is **Thursday, March 12**. There will be no speaker this month as we will be conducting our annual elections.

Meeting begins at 6:30 pm. Location: Felix and Oscar's Address: 4050 Merle Hay Road (immediately north of Sears), Merle Hay Mall. (515) 278-8887. We meet in The Pub section -- Go to end of bar, turn right into private room. The bar staff will serve food and refreshments during the meeting.

We encourage all interested people to participate in our annual business meeting. This is an excellent time for you to help chart our chapter actions plus learn more about Trout Unlimited in Iowa. Generally at this meeting we review accomplishments, develop goals and the budget, plus elect chapter officers and 2 or 3 new board members, committee members and Iowa council representatives. A detailed agenda will be available at the meeting. This year we have two board member positions open. We would like additional members to step-up in offering to serve on the board (term is three years). For more information contact chapter president Bob Bernard [bearbernard46@gmail.com](mailto:bearbernard46@gmail.com) or 515.494.3434. More chapter information: <https://www.facebook.com/TroutUnlimitedNorthBear>.

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## Upcoming Events

**March 12**  
Chapter Annual Meeting  
Felix and Oscar's  
6:30 p.m.

**March 14**  
TU North Bear Fundraiser  
Jasper Winery, Des Moines  
6:30PM

**March 20-22**  
Great Waters Expo  
Blaine, MN  
[Website](#)

**March 27-29**  
TU Midwest Regional Meeting  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
*See story below*

**March 29**  
Trout Fishing 101  
Urbandale Public Library  
1:30PM to 3:30PM

**April 9**  
Chapter Meeting  
Felix and Oscar's  
6:30 p.m.

**May 14**  
Chapter Meeting  
Felix and Oscar's  
6:30 p.m.

**July 13**  
Chapter Fishing Trip  
Black Canyon Colorado  
Contact Bob Bernard

## President's Message: Thank You

We continue building and striving toward our overarching mission of clean water. This is my last

article and newsletter rendition as chapter president. I am highlighting accomplishments over the preceding 12 month. They are listed as they come to my mind, but certainly not all inclusive.

1. Monthly meetings with presenters and business increased attendance and participation to about 15 per month.
2. Our presenters' diverse topics informed while increasing actions and knowledge.
3. Trout Fishing 101. Our four sessions enhanced knowledge about Trout Unlimited as we educated on fly tying, casting and what trout eat.
4. Iowa Environmental Council is a 76-member organization of conservation-focused groups. We are active in its efforts as a newly elected board of directors' position, bi-weekly actions meetings, state capitol environment day, etc.
5. Our budget and strategic plan helped guide our decisions.
6. We had a successful fundraising event in 2014.
7. Chapter is hosting a second annual fundraiser in 2015.
8. Western Wyoming was the location of our first ever chapter fishing trip.
9. Western Colorado will be the site of our planned second annual chapter fishing trip.
10. We applied for an Embrace-A-Stream grant to help eradicate an invasive plant, Japanese knotweed, in the Driftless Area.
11. Our interactions with other conservation groups provide us with opportunities to become known and more active along with developing positive conservation effort.

*Tight Lines,*

Bob Bernard  
*President, TU North Bear*

## **TU North Bear Fundraiser: Saturday, March 14**

Second Annual TU North Bear Fundraiser

When: Saturday March 14, 2015 6:30 pm-8:30 pm

Where: Jasper Winery, 2400 George Flagg Parkway, Des Moines 515.282.9463

Come support Iowa trout streams and have a good time. We'll have 25-30 pieces of fishing and outdoor related art on display in addition to giving away a bamboo fly rod as a door prize again. There will also be silent and live auctions, hors d'oeuvres, and cash bar. Tickets are \$25 at the door or, if you can't make the event but would still like a ticket, send us a message. Last year we had 100 people attend and raised \$5000. That money went toward purchasing a permanent public easement at Patterson Creek and new water adjacent to Yellow River State Forest. Please join us this year and help reach our goal of 150 people and \$10,000!

See lots more information at: <https://www.facebook.com/TroutUnlimitedNorthBear>.

## **Trout Fishing 101**

Want to learn more about trout fishing in Iowa? Join us at one of our Trout Fishing 101 events. We will cover the basics of fly casting, show you how to tie a fly that you get to keep and show you where you can fish for trout in Iowa. It's a great way to get started or brush up on your skills. Need help setting up your fly rod? Bring it with you and we can help. We will also have rods for you to use if you don't have one.

Sessions are for anyone. Focus is on fly tying, casting and what fish eat. No reservations are necessary so please just join us at any event. Our contact is Dave Wright 515.276.9157 [wrightbandd@yahoo.com](mailto:wrightbandd@yahoo.com)

March 29 at Urbandale public library 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

April 18 at Des Moines, Franklin public library 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

May 3 at Waukee public library 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

May 9 at Ames, Jax Sporting Goods 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

## Volunteers Needed for Scout Fishing Day

The scouts from New Virginia we worked with last year to complete the tying portion of their merit badge still haven't found time for a day of fishing to complete the "catching" portion. They've asked if we could help them find a suitable location this spring, and perhaps a few volunteers to help keep the casts out of the trees.

We'll be looking for a farm pond or public lake with a nice stretch of bank 8-10 kids can spread out on, and where we can get to fish without long casts. There is no rush, so we're aiming for late April or early May to avoid weather problems.

If you know of a good potential location we could use for an afternoon (preferably between Des Moines and Osceola), or are willing to spend a few hours helping a scout get started on the water (and working the rust out of your own cast), contact [Bob Bernard](#) or [Brett Lorenzen](#).

And this is a good time for our annual reminder that we can always use a few dozen extra flies for events like this. If you found the time to tie a surplus this winter, or need to do some fly box cleaning, we'd be happy to take donations of common nymhs, dries and panfish flies in sizes 12 and 14. They can be brought to a meeting, or you can contact Bob or Brett for mailing instructions.

## TU North Bear Chapter Fishing Trip

### Logistics Information

**Black Canyon Anglers Lodge and Guide Service; Gunnison River, Colorado**

Website: <http://blackcanyonanglers.com/> Phone: 970.835.5050

Contact: Ben Olson, [info@blackcanyonanglers.com](mailto:info@blackcanyonanglers.com) Fly shop, guide service and river front lodge  
<https://www.facebook.com/BlackCanyonAnglers>

**BCA providing us with payment discounts on lodging and fishing**

**Fly Fishing: Our chapter fishing day is Tuesday, July 14.** Use this date for at least the first day of your guided float or wade trip. Tours occur on Wednesday, July 13. Black Canyon Anglers will schedule viewing trips to: 1) Ross Reels; 2) Scott Rods; and 3) Whiting Farms (as in fly tying feathers fame). **Fishing Day is Thursday July 14 at Sunshine Springs Angling Club**

*For more information contact Bob Bernard, [bearbernard46@gmail.com](mailto:bearbernard46@gmail.com), 515.494.3434. **Detailed information is available on <https://www.facebook.com/TroutUnlimitedNorthBear>.***



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*Conserving, protecting and restoring North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.*

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