



## North Bear Notebook

February 2015

### Next Meeting: Thursday, February 12

The next chapter meeting is **Thursday, February 12**. Robin Fortney from Iowa River Revival will speak about a project entitled River Rascals. The project focuses on inner city kids aged 5-7, and the curriculum consists of environment, fishing and floating. After the presentation, we'll explore the potential to partner with them to promote the outdoors to kids and bring them into the fishing community.

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.

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### Upcoming Events

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

**February 20-22**  
HFFA Annual Meeting and Show  
Dubuque, Iowa  
[Website](#)

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

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

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

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

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

### President's Message: The Chapter Is Its Volunteers

Conserving, protecting and restoring coldwater fisheries and their watersheds is the core purpose of our organization. To fulfill that purpose, our chapter needs a variety of members involved.

The North Bear chapter has three Board positions up for election this year, as well as numerous committees that need a hand now and then. You could help in such aspects as conservation,

communications, fishing trips, membership, financial development, education and youth.

At our forthcoming annual meeting scheduled on March 12, 2015, we are electing three board members for a three-year term. Board members do not have specific tasks. Rather, they provide advice and oversight to the Board, and lend a hand where their skills are most needed. This might include introductions to businesses or individuals, reviewing the strategic plan, making a call to a potential funder or source of donations, or even lending professional services to help with chapter management.

Our committees operate largely by email, and the tasks vary. In general, members do what they can, when they have time. (It's not like the to-do lists are ever done, we simply do what we can each year.) We have specific needs for some help with graphic design, and a few people with organizing skills to help event managers with some of the publicity tasks.

Want to learn more or offer to become a board/committee member. Contact chapter president Bob Bernard. 515.494.3434 or [bearbernard46@gmail.com](mailto:bearbernard46@gmail.com).

*Tight Lines,*

Bob Bernard  
*President, TU North Bear*

## **TUNB Annual Business Meeting March 12**

Trout Unlimited North Bear Chapter will hold its annual meeting, March 12, 2015. All members are encouraged to participate.

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.

### **Agenda**

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Minutes of last meeting
3. Treasurer Report
4. Program Report: Fundraising
5. Program Report: Fly Fishing 101
6. Program Report: Outreach (Iowa Environmental Council)
7. Program Report: Communications
8. Program Report: Conservation
9. President's annual report
  - a. Elections to board and officer position
  - b. Three positions for a three year term
  - c. Terms ending for Bob Bernard, Mike Schrader and Jason Hochstetler
  - d. President for a one year term
  - e. Vice President for a one year term
  - f. Secretary for a one year term
  - g. Treasurer for a one year term
10. Committee appointments
  - a. Communications: existing members Brett Lorenzen and Brian Kouba
  - b. Membership: existing members Jim Kelehan and Mike Chilton
  - c. Education and Youth: existing members Dave Wright and Tom Buchacker
  - d. Conservation: existing member Bob Bernard
  - e. Financial Development: existing members Michael Chilton, Jason Hochstetler and Jim Kelehan
11. 2015 Strategic Plan and Goals

12. Iowa TU Council – Appointment of representatives
13. 2015 Budget
14. New business/Open Mic
15. Adjourn

## Second Annual TUNB Summer Trip Scheduled July 13-17

This year's chapter trip will be held July 13-17. Our destination is the Black Canyon of the Gunnison and surrounding areas.

The trip will begin with three days of optional organized activities centered around the Black Canyon Anglers (BCA) lodge on the Gunnison River in Colorado. BCA will offer chapter members discounted lodging and fishing at \$60/night in shared cabins, with outdoor cooking facilities and an optional dining room dinner service. They provide guide services for the Black Canyon, have a fly shop on-site, and have several miles of private access to the Gunnison on their property. You can learn more about their operation at <http://www.blackcanyonanglers.com> . Camping is also available nearby.

Members will meet up at BCA on Monday. On Tuesday, July 14 there will be a chapter fishing day, with a group floating the legendary canyon and others venturing to wade-in waters. BCA will be providing heavily discounted float trips to our members, covering 14 miles of water.

On Wednesday, BCA will organize tours of some of the legendary production shops in the Carbondale area, including the Scott Rod factory, the Ross Reels factory, and Whiting Farms. Members can ride along as they desire, or fish the Gunnison through the BCA property.

On Thursday, a second chapter fishing day will be held at Sunshine Springs Angling Club. This unique location consists of eight spring-fed ponds that hold five species of trout. Many fish run 5 lbs, and they can run up to 14 lbs. The Club will discount their rod fee for the day to \$55 for our members.

For those who remain Friday and Saturday, groups will self-organize for trips over to the Roaring Fork and Frying Pan, further explore the Gunnison, or start to fish their way back to Iowa. Guide trips will also be available for those interested.

Individuals are, as usual, responsible for their own expenses and gear. Families and friends are welcome. The chapter is only coordinating the reservations and rates for the BCA nights, and providing information on the region and other options. The chapter is not formally coordinating off-site lodging--but we'll put all of those planning to camp in touch with each other.

Bob Bernard is coordinating this year's trip, and those intending to participate should contact him so he can arrange space for the activities of interest. He'll also maintain the list, work to arrange carpooling if desired, and otherwise keep us all updated. Bob can be contacted at [bearbernard46@gmail.com](mailto:bearbernard46@gmail.com) or at 515.494.3434.

Most reservations can be made until well into June, but if you want to stay at the lodge it is recommended you contact Bob by early May.

We'll have the downloadable trip packet ready by the March meeting, and we'll post a link to the complete document with the full costs and details in the March newsletter. (Bob will send those out to those who contact him in advance once they are ready.)

We hope you'll be able to join us.

## 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 nypmhs, 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 Midwest Regional Meeting Schedule March 27-29 in Minneapolis

The TU Upper Midwest Regional Meeting is back on this side of Lake Michigan this year. The gathering will be held at the Crowne Plaza, 3 Appletree Square, Bloomington, MN, on March 27-29.

The agenda is still being assembled, but the event will feature sessions on leadership development, chapter management, project management, communications and the other tools in the grassroots toolbox. TU CEO Chris Wood will also be speaking.

The agenda and registration details will be posted to the TU website when available. For those wanting to get reservations early, a block of rooms has been reserved at \$99/night and will be held until March 6. You can contact the hotel at 952-854-9000.



**Trout Unlimited North Bear Chapter**

PO Box 42041

Urbandale, IA 50323

[info@tu-northbear.org](mailto:info@tu-northbear.org)

<http://www.tu-northbear.org>

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**TROUT UNLIMITED**

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

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