



North Bear Notebook

September 2014

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 11

The Fall meeting season begins this Thursday, September 11. Meetings this year will again be held at Felix and Oscar's on the second Thursday of every month. Presenters will begin at 6:30, and the business meeting will follow the presentation. All are welcome to participate in the business meeting.

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.

Meeting dates for the Fall are:

- September 11, 2014
- October 9, 2014
- November 13, 2014
- December 11, 2014

The September meeting will feature a presentation on the chapter trip this summer, a survey of members on specific presenters they'd like to see this year, and a briefing on this year's planned activities. If there is something you'd like to see the chapter pursue this year, this is the meeting to speak up.

Bring your own summer fishing stories as well.

Upcoming Events

September 11
Chapter Meeting
Felix and Oscar's
6:30 p.m.

September 24
Knotweed Workday
Paint Creek, Waterville
See Story Below

September 27
Knotweed Workday
Paint Creek, Waterville
See Story Below

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

October 11-13
Pine Springs Rendezvous
Seed Saver's Exchange
See Story Below

October 15
TUDARE Project Tour
TBD
Duke Welter

November 13
Chapter Meeting
Felix and Oscar's
6:30 p.m.

December 11
Chapter Meeting
Felix and Oscar's
6:30 p.m.

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- [Workday Reminder: Knotweed on Paint Creek, September 24 and 27](#)
- [Fall Driftless Project Tour set for Wednesday, October 15](#)

Pine Springs Rendezvous to be Held October 11-13

Save the date for the Second Annual Pine Springs Rendezvous at Seed Saver's Exchange!

The Rendezvous is an annual event loosely organized by the state council to celebrate the end of the workday and fair-weather fishing season. The three day event is held at Seed Saver's Exchange just north of Decorah on Columbus Day weekend each year, and we invite TU members from chapters around the Driftless to come fish Iowa waters for a weekend.

SSE will allow TU members to camp on the farm along Pine Springs Creek throughout the weekend. The campground opens Friday night. On Saturday morning we'll have a solid breakfast, followed by a brief workday. This year we'll be tackling some invasive species sites and hand-cutting the path for a new handicapped-accessible trail along the stream. The workday is "lightweight" (volunteers generally need only gloves and a water bottle) and we'll be done by noon. A big lunch will be served, and in the afternoon Iowa TU volunteers will take our out-of-state visitors out to learn some new waters. For those that are interested, SSE will conduct a tour of the restored water on the farm, as well as the farm operations. We'll organize a Saturday evening dinner for the campers.

On Sunday, we'll venture out again to Iowa waters, and we hope to have some of our friends from Minnesota down to guide trips to their (now open until October 15) waters. Sunday evening dinner will be on your own. SSE will let us camp Sunday evening as well, and we'll pack out and venture out for one more round of fishing Monday morning.

If you're interested in attending the event, email Brett Lorenzen (chair@iowatu.org) so that he can pass along head counts for camping and food. Specify how many people will be coming for Saturday, and if camp sites are desired, how many people and tents we need to make room for, and on which nights.

Additional details will appear on the October newsletter. Those who contact Brett will receive specific updates on camping and parking as the date approaches.

Feel free to put out the word—the more the merrier!

Workday Reminder: Knotweed on Paint Creek, September 24 and 27

There are two remaining workdays this year to address Japanese Knotweed on Paint Creek: Wednesday, September 24 and Saturday, September 27. We really need a good turnout for these final workdays. At this point, it is largely a matter of apply chemicals to the plants that have been cut back to kill the roots and rhizomes. If the plants are all treated before winter, they could come back again next year.

If you can make it for either day, the help will be appreciated.

Volunteers will meet in the parking lot across the street from the Waterville Lutheran Church, 101 Main Street, Waterville, Iowa 52170. Work days run from 8:00 am through noon. Please bring work gloves, bug spray, water, sun screen and a smile. To volunteer for a work day, please contact Richard Kittelson at 563-864-7112 or kittelso@northeastiowarcd.org and/or Kent Kleckner at BCanglers@gmail.com. Additional information and updates are also available from the [Driftless Chapter website](#), and an overview of the project can be found at the [NE Iowa RC&D website](#).

Fall Driftless Project Tour set for Wednesday, October 15

Driftless Project tours have been popular and full-to-capacity each of the past several years. In a comfortable charter bus and several trailing vehicles, we set out from a starting point along the Mississippi and visit project sites in at least two states. Costs are picked up by TUDARE (although contributions to cover expenses are always welcomes) and a sumptuous box lunch is provided.



October 15 is this year's project tour, and this year we will feature projects from the Southern Driftless Area in Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota. You'll travel with fisheries professionals, project designers, contractors, biologists, engineers, ecologists, landowners and volunteers. It's a great time for dialogue and questions, with the folks who did the project fielding your questions.

Our tour will begin in either Prairie du Chien WI or Lansing Iowa, and we will straddle the river. Expect to see autumn foliage, migrating waterfowl and other birds, and a host of people who are driving the craft of watershed restoration as TUDARE moves into its second decade.

Expect a full day of travel, rain or shine. We should be starting by 9 a.m. and concluding by 5,

but as veteran tourers know, it sometimes takes a bit longer.

This year we have an added bonus: TU's Western Watershed staff will be joining us from their staff retreat site at Cedar Valley Resort near Whalan, MN. About 25-30 fisheries professionals will be adding their input as we travel, as they learn about these marvelous spring creeks across the Driftless Area.

All that means you should sign up early because there will be limited space. To sign up or if you have questions, suggestions, contributions or dishes to pass, email or call Jeff Hastings (jhastings@tu.org; 608-606-4158) or Duke Welter (dwelter@tu.org; 608-675-3184).



Trout Unlimited North Bear Chapter

PO Box 42041

Urbandale, IA 50323

info@tu-northbear.org

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

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