

A LOCAL CHAPTER OF
 AMERICA'S LEADING NONPROFIT
 COLDWATER FISHERIES
 CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION

THE MERSHON MINNOW

◆ Newsletter of the William B. Mershon Chapter of Trout Unlimited ◆

WWW.MERSHON-TU.ORG



Important Dates:

Saturday, July 12th
**Rifle River Streambank
 Stabilization Project**

The site will be accessed at
 3724 Rifle River Trail,
 Prescott, MI

volunteernorthernmichigan.org

Monday, October 13th
Saginaw Gun Club Event
 9540 Gratiot Rd., Saginaw

*Shooting, barbeque, and
 socializing!*

**Mershon Chapter Monthly
 Board Meetings**
1st Wednesday each month

5:30–7:00 pm,
 at Case Funeral Home,
 Mackinaw Road, Saginaw
(No meetings during summer months)

Fall Board Meeting Dates:
 September 3, 2014
 October 1, 2014
 November 5, 2014

2014 Spring Banquet Revisited

Our 2014 Mershon spring banquet was both a social and financial success, and we can safely say a good time was had by all! The Horizons staff provided an outstanding meal, and our speaker, Rob Thompson, provided a nostalgic and entertaining look at the Au Sable River, home water for many of us. Your banquet committee is already working on plans to

return to Horizons next spring for our 52nd annual banquet.

A special thanks goes out to those who donated items for our auctions and those of you who purchased items that night. Because of your generosity, we were able to raise over \$13,000 that evening. Much of that money has already been committed to habitat restoration and improvement projects on the

Au Sable and Rifle Rivers— projects that will be carried out this summer.

Our thanks again to all of you who attended and to the banquet committee members who worked so hard to make the evening a success.

—Don Albrecht,
 banquet committee chair

Rifle River Streambank Stabilization Project set for July 12th

The July 12 Rifle River streambank erosion control event will be held from 10am–3pm. Lunch and tools will be provided, but if volunteers have their own waders, it will be very helpful if they can bring them along. Gloves come in handy, too.

We will be installing approximately 400 feet of double-row tree revetment along a large eroding

streambank on the main stem Rifle River. This will be similar to volunteer event projects that Huron Pines and Trout Unlimited have completed in recent summers.

Lighter work will include broadcasting native plant seed and planting bare root saplings and plugs of grasses and wildflowers.

Please RSVP for this event at volunteernorthernmichigan.org.

You may also RSVP at 989.448.2293, ext. 21, or via email at info@huronpines.org.

This is a private landowner's property, and exact directions will be sent to everyone that RSVP's. But so you know, we will meet at 3724 Rifle River Trail, Prescott, MI 48756. There is a two-track leading to the streambank, and we can shuttle folks to the project site from the designated parking area.

New fall gun club outing set for October 13th

Mark your calendars for Monday, October 13th. The chapter will have a fall outing at the Saginaw Gun Club, 9540 Gratiot Rd., Saginaw. Our members who like to shoot clay targets will

not want to miss this event. Skeet, Trap, Five Stand and Sporting Clays will be available to shoot. Bring your own shotgun, ammo, and have a good time. Eye and ear protection must be worn

to shoot. We are still finalizing arrangements for food and program. If you have any questions, contact Dave Case at (989-793-9700) or dsbec53@chartermi.net.

Watersheds and wild places are home for North America's coldwater fisheries. By working in partnership with key players, Trout Unlimited strives to protect these places for future generations of anglers.

A message from our president

Greetings. As summer begins, I am looking forward to being your president for the next two years. We have a great board of directors and advisors, and I am looking forward to carrying on the traditions of strong support for our coldwater fisheries in Michigan.

I'd like to thank Jac Ford for his leadership the past two years. He guided us through many activities, the most significant being the 50th anniversary banquet celebration. Jac's service to Trout Unlimited is among the best there is.

This fall, we are planning an outing at the Saginaw Gun Club, on October 13th. Great

shooting, BBQ, and socializing. See more details in this newsletter. I look forward to meeting you there. This will take the place of our March walleye dinner, in an effort to provide varying venues for us to interact.

We are also planning to join in on a clean-up day on our Rifle River in July and a work day in August. Visit our web site for more details and sign up to help us out. Our streams are only as good as we keep them, so help us keep the rivers clean and cold. As I write this, our weather is finally warming up, and the bugs are going strong. I hope you are able to get out and take advantage of the many fishing opportunities we have

in Michigan. This week, I hope to do a little streamer fishing, dry-fly fishing, and mousing—all in one day! Who knows what the day may bring. Sipping trout to hatching flies or spinner falls, then aggressive takes to a streamer or mouse. We are so blessed to have this kind of fishing within a couple hours of our doorsteps.

So, get out and enjoy the summer. Tight lines!

—Don Albrecht,
chapter president

Mershon funding news

The Mershon Chapter of Trout Unlimited recently awarded over \$8000 to conservation organizations serving coldwater resources in Michigan. Proceeds from the spring fundraising banquet were given in support of habitat restoration projects on

the Au Sable and Rifle River watersheds, Michigan TU's watershed monitoring projects, cleanup activities on the Au Sable and Rifle, Michigan Trout Camp, cedar tree plantings, and in support of Trout Unlimited's executive director.

Thanks to the generous support of our members, these projects and continued funding of the chapter's operation were made possible. The chapter would like to thank all who attended or donated time or items to the spring banquet.

William B. Mershon
Chapter of Trout
Unlimited
P.O. Box 6920
Saginaw, MI
48608-6920

Officers

President

Don Albrecht
989-245-5819
Albrecht.don@sbcglobal.net

Vice-president

Donald Meyer
642-9093
donalddmeyer@aol.com

Treasurer

Dave Case
642-5286
dsbec53@chartermi.net

Secretary

Kris Cincinelli
989-793-6712
fishingkris@yahoo.com

Mershon chapter honors distinguished contributions

Each year during the spring banquet, our chapter honors individuals who have made distinguished contributions to the chapter or to the cause of coldwater conservation throughout the year.

This year, honorees included Todd Zwetzig who received the Harold Kleinert Volunteer of the Year Award given to a member of the board of directors who provides

exemplary service over the course of the chapter year.

Lou Albosta received the Howard Woolever Extended Service Award in recognition of his long-term contributions to the chapter.

The Art Neumann General Membership Award was given to Mike Meyers in honor of his commitment to habitat restoration projects.

Lastly, the Rev. Bruce Hatch Resource Professional Award was bestowed upon Josh Greenberg of Gates Au Sable Lodge for his continued vigilance in protecting the Au Sable and Manistee River watersheds.

Congratulations to all of this year's award winners!