



From the President



Christmas is a time of faith, hope and charity, right? Or, is it more realistic to say it's a time of shopping, presents, spending, racing madly from store to store looking for the perfect gift? This dichotomy certainly gives us something to think about. One wonders how the same calendar day(s) can mark such opposites. How can the holiday season represent such extremely different things to people? Is it faith or is it craziness? Maybe it's both.

As we wind up another year, we recognize both the brightness of the human spirit and the darker parts of what it means to be human. Just like the old saying, "Is the cup half empty or is it half full?", we are all personally challenged to bring our best forward, to see the brighter side of life, to have faith in ourselves and our fellows, to see the human spirit as basically kind. As we look at the work we have done this past year, we see it as helping to make the world a better place, yet we know how small these efforts are with respect to the vast world around us. We keep working, giving of ourselves. Why? Is it faith or is it craziness? I'd like to believe it is faith, fellowship, kindness, and charity that help us continue working toward our important goals. Although we may not always see the magnitude of our efforts from where we are sitting, our work makes it possible for future generations to be able to share the thrill and wonder of catching the all elusive trout!

2011 will be another busy year with the stream improvements. Add to that the stepping up of the education component of our chapter plan as well as the Rendezvous to be held the weekend following Labor Day at Whitewater State Park. Yes, 2011 will be a good year! May your cup overflow this holiday season and always, Scott Steffens

Chapter Treasurer Opening

Hiawatha Chapter of Trout Unlimited is looking for someone who is interested in assuming the Treasurer's position that John Stoeckel has filled for the past three years. The Treasurer's responsibility is to maintain the financial integrity of the chapter. In general, the duties of the Treasurer are to pay bills, make deposits, collect funds at chapter events, manage and reconcile financial accounts, and provide financial reports as required.

John has indicated that he will step down from the Treasurer position in April following the Spring Banquet. So having a replacement identified during the banquet planning period and banquet would help immensely with knowledge transfer and transition.

If you are interested in this position or have any questions about it, please contact either Scott Steffens, HTU President at scott@mntu.org, or John Stoeckel at johnstoeckel@gmail.com.



HIAWATHA TU BOARD

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YOUTH & EDUCATION

Scott Steffens

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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- Presidents Message
- Chapter Treasurer Opening
- Up Coming Meetings and Events
- HTU Banquet 2011
- Newsletter by E-Mail
- New Webmaster



HTU Banquet 2011

Tickets are now available for the 2011 Hiawatha TU Spring Banquet. The evening fundraiser will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in Rochester, March 12, 2011. The evening begins at 5:00 pm with a social hour; a sit down dinner will be served at 7pm. There will be a silent auction, several bucket raffles, and a live auction to support the habitat improvement projects that HTU does in the SEMN Driftless Region.

Tickets for the Banquet are still \$45 a person in advance and \$50 at the door. This year the chapter is offering a book of 10 tickets for sale. If you sell the book, bring the filled out ticket stubs and the money to John Stoeckel. We are giving a complimentary ticket for each book of tickets sold. Sell two books and you and a guest will get in free.

How do I sell 10 tickets to the banquet?

Make a list of everyone you believe might be interested in cold water fisheries and environmental conservation. Let them know this is a fundraiser for Hiawatha Trout Unlimited with the proceeds going towards promoting sustainable fishing and the maintenance of the wild fishery population in the Driftless Area.

Tickets are also available online at www.hiawathatu.org. On the website home page there is a PayPal option for buying banquet tickets. However, online tickets do not count towards the complimentary ticket offering. If you would like a book of tickets to sell or to purchase tickets, contact Ray Ricketts at 507-282-2666, or wudcanu@yahoo.com.

New Webmaster

The Hiawatha Chapter BOD is pleased to announce that Vince Robichaud has taken responsibility for the maintenance and future development of the chapter website at www.hiawathatu.org. In the coming months you will see updates to the information contained on the website as well as new ideas and innovations made to the site.

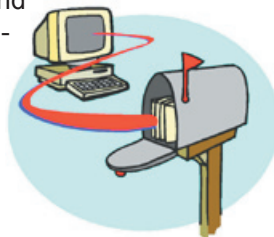
Currently, the site provides links to the MNTU home page, the MNTU Forum, as well as connecting you current to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council site where you can find up to date information on the recommendations and action on proposed habitat improvement projects is SEMN. In the future, pictures taken at the improvement sites (ie, before and after) will show the results of the work on Trout Run, Mill Creek, MBWW, and other projects scheduled for 2011. Keep up to date with the work in progress, and see yourself if you are helping with the volunteer workdays on the stream.

Also, if you have suggestions for improving or adding information to the HTU website, contact Vince at vincer40@yahoo.com.

Many thanks to Chad Christenson for the years of work he has put in developing and maintaining the website to this point. Without your support and expertise Chad, the Hiawatha TU website would not be what it is today. Thank you.

Newsletter by E-Mail

If you are receiving this newsletter each month by mail and you have an email address, send your name and email address to wudcanu@yahoo.com. First, you will receive the newsletter as soon as it is ready for printing (probably a week earlier than by mail), and second, you will help the chapter save money by helping to reduce our mailing costs. Your email address will not be given out to anyone or any other organization.



UP COMING EVENTS/ MEETINGS

MEETINGS

Monday, January 3rd
Wayne Bartz. Bugs and Flies

Monday, February 7th
Randy Binder, Lake City DNR. Overview of their region stream conditions following the 2010 weather (ie flooding) impact

Monday, March 7th
Scott Sorensen, Stone Harbor Wilderness Supply. Grand Marias. Tenkara rods and fishing techniques

Monday, April 4th
TBD

BOARD MEETINGS

2nd Monday of the Month
7pm at Gander Mountain

Board Meetings are open to the public



Hiawatha TU Account Balance as of 12/7/2010

Pay Pal	\$	88.39
Think Checking		5,399.42
Think MM		26,013.63
Bulk USPS		402.30
Cash Box		179.73
Subtotal		32,083.47
Keefe Reserve		-10,000.00
TOTAL	\$	22,083.47



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