



The ROLLCAST



The Official Publication
of the
Perrin – Lansing Chapter of Trout Unlimited

October 2004

Fall Edition

Important Announcement: Our good friend and chapter namesake, Frank “Bob” Perrin passed away October 6th. He had been very ill and under hospice care at St Lawrence Hospital. We honored Bob last Fall by re-naming our chapter, the Frank “Bob” Perrin chapter. He was a loyal and dedicated member of the Lansing Chapter for over 40 years. A detailed tribute to Bob was published in the January 2004 RollCast. He was 86, and will be dearly missed by all who knew him. Please keep Bob in your memory and his family in your prayers.

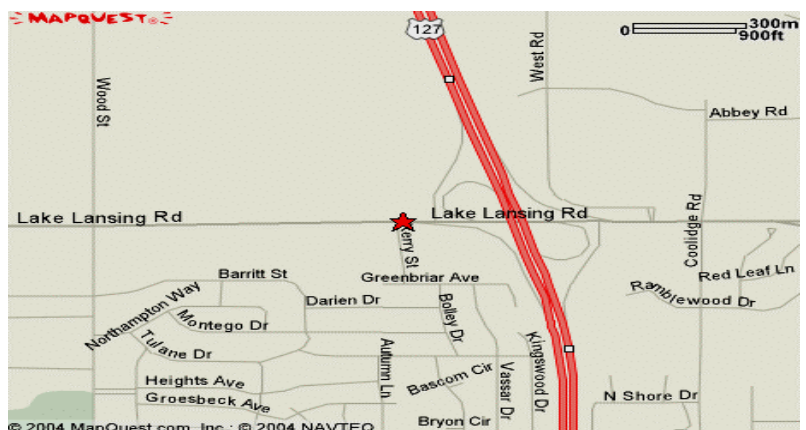


Dinner Meeting – Nov 4th

Mark your calendars. The Perrin – Lansing Chapter of Trout Unlimited is planning another fun-filled event..... a dinner meeting on **Thursday November 4th** at the **LaSenorita Restaurant** banquet room at **2706 LakeLansing Road**, (See map on this page).

Cocktails at 6pm with dinner at 6:30. Cost is \$11 per person for the Super Fajita Buffet, (drinks and gratuity extra). The banquet room can only accommodate up to 50 people. So reserve your place asap. **RSVP no later than Nov 1** by calling 676-7179. There will be door prizes and a special program on “Fall River Fishing for Salmon, Trout, and Steelhead, using flies and spinners”, by local fishing celebrities Jim Bedford and fly tyer extraordinaire Tony Pagliei!

This meeting is a result of some brainstorming by the chapter’s board to try to get more of the membership excited about Lansing TU. This year, the monthly meetings, usually held at MUCC headquarters, will be suspended and replaced with this dinner meeting and another fun meeting/event in early February. Other usual chapter events, ie. the Trout Pond at the Sportfishing show in March, the WaWa Sum weekend in June, the fall Ausable River Cleanup, as well as other fisheries conservation projects will continue. As of right now, the Spring Banquet is in question. The previous banquet committee members have produced four very successful banquets and deserve a break. Its time for for a new goup of volunteers to step forward to keep this popular event on our agenda. Planning and producing this major fundraiser can be a lot of fun and very rewarding. If you would like to volunteer to make this event continue, or volunteer with some of the other events which helps the chapter carry out its mission, contact one of the board members. A roster and phone numbers of the board members are located on the back page.



LaSenorita restaurant is located on Lake Lansing Rd, just west of I-127. on the South side of the road in front of the Courtyard by Mariott mote

WA WA SUM 2004 by Dick Augustine

Our annual Wa Wa Sum retreat was a great **success**. Maybe the best in many years. I'm not sure by what yardstick one measures **success**....



If we measured this year's outing by the hex hatch... well... it's Michigan! Our Chapter is truly blessed by the fact that every year we have locked in the last week of June for our retreat. If you crave casting big bugs for a chance at a trophy Brown or just want to sit back on the river's bank and marvel at the sight of these incredible insects and the fish that come out to feed on them (often when you would swear that the stretch is "troutless"), late June is the time to do it! Again, it's Michigan. We were not treated to the balmy nights that we usually associate with a great Hex hatch and spinner fall as we have in other years. In fact, we experienced some of the coolest June nights on record. There were some Hex opportunities on some stretches that met with angler success, and most importantly, the anticipation was there that *"there will still be a hatch"*.

I personally saw the largest non-lake run Brown that I have ever seen **explode** out of the water and just miss my fly! I was casually walking upstream to an area that I saw smaller fish rising, the spot that I had selected to wait for a "hatch". After my heart stopped pounding, I decided to continue upstream, and wait for the "big guy" to come out again and aggressively feed on a hatch. It didn't happen! Several smaller fish amused me for next few hours. The Manistee holds some very large and very smart fish. Next year!

WAKELY LAKE.....

If you are not familiar with this "managed" lake, with access from M-72, and you would like to catch and

release a 4lb plus Bass on a fly, (sort of), you need to talk to someone! Come to a meeting and see some photos!

Bottom line, fishing was great as always, but catching will be better next time.

WHY THE BEST YEAR?

One of the best measures of **success** can be the Chapter's participation. We not only filled our bunks, but actually had volunteers sleeping on their air mattresses in the Lodge's Great Room! The Chapter always has its stalwarts, participating not only at Wa Wa Sum, but all of our other functions. A particular "hats off" to each of the new folks that responded. Let's build on this base of volunteers!

THE FOOD

Duh! Our Wa Wa Sum outings have always produced big appetites and great menus! This year was no exception. Our traditional breakfasts, offered it all. Our hosts at the Saturday work project provided a lunch to remember.....a Super B-Bque with all the "fixins", after which made it was extremely difficult to get back to the project!. The evening's dinner selections included grilled pork tenderloins, lamb, chicken, and more! All prepared by one of our newest volunteers and expert chef, "Dr. Beef", of East Lansing's Goodrich Shop-Rite.



South Branch work site

Wa Wa Sum continued


THE PROJECT

If **success** can be measured by what the Chapter can accomplish to “conserve and protect watersheds that support wild trout”, we met that goal. A section of the South Branch of the Au Sable was identified as having serious erosion and habitat issues. With the cooperation and financial contributions of the riparian owners, (the Odell, Schlernitzauer, Gustafson, and Hicks families) of the stretch, their volunteer efforts providing manpower, the Chapter’s manpower & financial support, we met the challenge. Working with the Anglers of the AuSable and the Huron Pines RC&D, the Chapter cut and placed with “duck bills and cable”, over 30 large trees, establishing “large woody debris”, that not only provided erosion protection to the river bank, but provided habitat cover for fish, and a productive environment for aquatic insects. Rick Hicks has renamed this newly protected bend of river, “30 Oaks Bend”.

And if **success** can be measured by the sound of chain saws, power winches, farm tractors, and a “Bob-Cat” delivering the “goods” to the stream bank, the Chapter was successful. We all owe special thanks to the 30 plus volunteers that participated in the Project (our names are too numerous to mention, but we know who we are), but special acknowledgements are deserved by Rick Hicks, who at age 80, operated the “Bob-Cat” and Mike Tomasi, (a 20 year old intern from Hocking College). “Mikey will get it”, was the call of the day with his exploits in the River! He scared the #\$\$%&* out of most of us! The point being that there is always a place for volunteers in a TU project. Whether 20 or 80, and those of us in between, we all are needed !

The **River** thanks all that participated and also acknowledges everyone that could not be there, but contributed in the Chapter’s fund raising projects that made this effort possible. Hopefully next year.

Grandpa Randys General Store



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www.grandparandys.com

Coldwater River Habitat Improvement Project by Greg Bovee

On Saturday July 31st, a few good men from the Perrin – Lansing Chapter took part in a combined work project to install large “woody debris” into the Coldwater River, which is located on TU property, approximately 3 miles west of Freeport in Barry and Kent Counties.

Project coordinators were Jim Bedford of our Chapter and Paul Eberhard of CRWC, (Coldwater River Watershed Council)

Paul and Jim had pre-marked the dead trees on the TU property, that were to be cut. One crew used chainsaws to fall the trees. Another crew helped drag the trees to designated spots on the riverbank. A third crew pounded duckbills and cabled groups of trees to provide the much needed trout cover and habitat improvement



Paul and Jim – work in progress

It was a hot day, but the crews worked very hard until noon for lunch break, discussions, and pictures. A small crew stayed until 2pm to finish-up. Everyone was in good spirits, realizing that they were instrumental in improving this important local resource

Grand River Fly Shop



536 E. Grand River Ave.
Lansing, MI 48906

(517) 267-1573

Coldwater River continued

Our chapter purchased duck bills, cables and other miscellaneous items. Pizza and Beverages for lunch were provided by Schramm Chapter TU, formerly West Michigan TU.

Participants:

Stephen Arnoczky, Dick Augustine, Jim Bedford, Jim Kwasny, Tony Pagliai, and Greg Bovee of Perrin TU, Lansing, MI

Paul Eberhard, Sandra Eberhard, Eric Starck, Jim Gryska and Gordie Howes of CRWC

Larry Risbridger, Dave Smith, Dick Smith and Ellen Smith of Schrem TU, Grand Rapids.

Dick Smith is also acting director of CRWC.



Stewards of the Coldwater

RIVER CLEANUP by Jim Pifer

It was a September morning as we eased the AuSable River boat into the South Branch. Eager eyes searched the River for the elusive quarry. “What was that bright glint deep in the water next to the log near the bank?” It was going to be a good day!

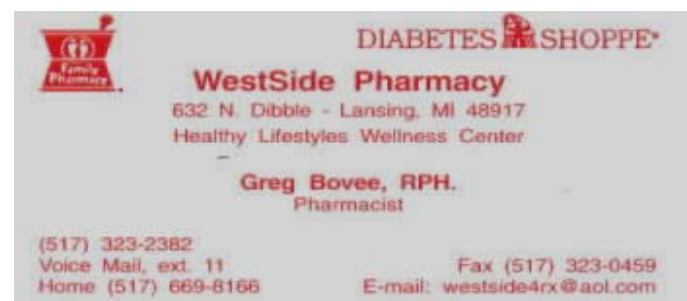
It was the start of the AuSable River Clean-up and we had just found our first beer can! The remaining two and a half hours on the River were almost as exciting with many similar ‘finds’ and a few other

pieces of glass, plastic, golf ball and assorted clothing. Cathy Hicks took the lead in her kayak. Dick and Marilyn Augustine, Steve Arnoczky, Jim and Betsy Pifer guided the riverboat while wading and searching for river “treasure”. Fortunately, the quantity of trash was less than in previous years, but any trash gathered at all makes this effort very rewarding and a worthwhile project.

Actually, our day began by enjoying a tremendous breakfast spread served by Rick and Bev Hicks at their riverside abode. Dick, Marilyn and Betsy provided additional items and help. After several helpings of quiche, sausage, sweet rolls and bread, coffee, fruit, and other goodies, some of us ‘waddled’ down to the River. And as usual, after the cleanup there was the outdoor gathering at Rusty Gates’ Orvis Lodge. The cookout fare featured sweet corn, burgers, brats, cookies, salad and beverages.

Thanks to all who participated. Hopefully we’ll see more people involved next year. This annual event is sponsored and organized by the Anglers of the AuSable, and always takes place the Saturday after Labor Day.

As I said at the beginning – it was a good day!



Pere Marquette Erosion Controlled

by Amy Beyer

The fish habitat, and the overall biological health, of the famed Pere Marquette River is being improved as the “Headwaters Project,” coordinated by the Traverse City-based Conservation Resource Alliance (CRA) gains momentum.

The Headwaters Project, initiated in 2003 to address 25 severely eroding streambanks on the Baldwin River, a key headwaters tributary. The Orvis Company helped to spur the project on by issuing a challenge contribution, which has raised nearly \$50,000 toward the project so far. Recent donations from the Federation of Fly Fishers and the Trout and Salmon Foundation have been added to funds contributed by Orvis customers, Baldwin River landowners, the Whirlpool Corporation, and local businesses and interest groups.

CRA project manager Kimberly Balke says, “By the end of the 2004 field season, between 8 and 13 eroding bank sites will be repaired, involving more than 1,000 feet of stream. Also, we have installed 500 feet of fish cover structures along with our erosion control work.” CRA and professional contractors have used natural field stone, whole trees, plantings, and wooden platform structures, which are installed prior to stabilizing erosion sites that simulate undercut banks used by fish for protection and shade.

Balke says, “We have been very pleased to have local landowners stepping up to help us with donations, access, and enthusiasm. These folks really seem to appreciate the long-term benefits of our work.” CRA’s erosion control work is designed to reverse the devastating effects of turn-of-the-century logging activities, which stripped all trees and vegetation from steep banks in order to roll saw logs into the river. Balke says, “The resulting bare sand banks erode hundreds of tons of sand into the river each year, smothering natural gravel, filling in deep holes, and raising water temperatures.”

In addition to the Headwaters Project, beginning in the mid-1980s, a CRA led local partnership of the Pere Marquette Watershed Council, US Forest Service, state agencies, and Trout Unlimited, have spent over \$2 million to repair all 172 erosion sites along the main stream. Significant progress has also been made by local road commissions, with financial assistance arranged by CRA and the Forest Service, to repair 30 of the 140 stream crossing sites impacting the river. Stream crossing repairs remain a focus of partnership work.



“*Before* - Severe erosion and nearly vertical sandy banks are characteristic of the problem sites being addressed through the Headwaters project.”



“*During* – Fieldstone was placed at the toe of the bank, and the upper slope was terraced, brushed, and planted. “Edge logs” of the fish cover structures are just visible underneath the fieldstone.”



“*After* – Immediately following treatment”

Pere Marquette continued

“*After* only one growing season, vegetation is re-established. Over time, shrubs growing over and into the stone will make it difficult to see that work was even done.”

For more information, contact CRA at (231) 946-6817, or check out their web site at www.rivercare.org, or the Pere Marquette Watershed Council’s web site at www.peremarquette.org

Local Project News - Carrier Creek

In 2004, members of the Perrin Chapter were active in helping improve fish habitat in a Grand River tributary in northwest Lansing. Carrier Creek is in a watershed that supports the annual migration of Coho Salmon and Steelhead to the Lansing area. Migrating Salmon and Steelhead use it to reproduce. The watershed has been under severe stress, and improvements were needed to help it remain a destination for these migrating fish.

This tributary serves as the primary drainage for surrounding areas of Delta and Windsor Townships. Area development had increased the amount of impervious surfaces in the watershed significantly which dramatically increased the amount of runoff draining into the creek. Heavy rain storm water also made the creek increasingly flashy causing water levels changes which in turn caused serious bank erosion, (blocking fish migration), and silted over gravel beds used for spawning. It was a bad situation that worsened every year. A major drain improvement project correcting all these problems was developed and approved by the Eaton County Drain Commission, the design of which combined contractor and volunteer work to minimize impact on the environment while making major changes to the creek. A volunteer group was formed...Friends of Carrier Creek, specifically for that purpose. Chapter members, Fritz Kellerman, Jim and Janet Leonard, and Jim Kwasny are members. The volunteers worked at various times throughout 2003 and 2004. It was a very rewarding experience for everyone. The volunteers, while learning about conservation methods and the power of teamwork, also had fun doing a wide variety of jobs. And regardless of ability, skill or knowledge, everyone pitched in and found things that they

could do. In 2003, log jams and debris were removed from the Creek. In 2004, The group installed prevegetated mats, seedlings, and wetland shrub plugs on Creek banks to stabilize them and prevent erosion. With contractor help, fifty large wooden "Lunker Boxes" were placed at points along the Creek to provide shelter and resting points for fish. Where severe erosion existed, members assisted contractors as they deepened the channel, and constructed meanders with cross vanes and riffles.

Much of the volunteer work is done, but contractor work on the creek continues. The end result of the Carrier Creek improvement project will be a watershed that is stable and capable of handling the demands of future growth in the area while significantly improving fish habitat. Our Chapter volunteers were pleased to be part of this volunteer effort which supports the Chapter mission.

Membership Information:

Annual Membership

Regular - \$35 Student - \$20 Senior (62+) - \$20
Family - \$50 Lifetime - \$1000

For More Information – contact Jim Pifer at (517) 646-0141 or Pifer@voyager.net or visit lansing-tu.org

Perrin –Lansing Chapter of Trout Unlimited Mission Statement:

To fully support national Trout Unlimited’s mission to conserve, protect, and restore North American Trout and Salmon fisheries and their watersheds....doing this with a volunteer membership network and partnerships involved in:

- Educating our members and the public on important mission issues
- Conservation / improvement projects on Michigan’s cold water watersheds.
- Participation in Trout Unlimited meetings and initiatives for legislation reform
- Cooperative Fundraising activities to allow financial grants to be awarded

BANQUET SUCCESS.... A huge Thank You!!

To all the contributors to our Spring Banquet held on April 14th.

If you missed the banquet, which was held at the Big 10 Room at MSU's Kellogg Center, it's too bad, as you may not see another like it. It was a grand event, and a super success thanks to the extraordinary efforts of the banquet committee, and Bill's hard working secretary Janet Poggiali.

Bill Demmer – Banquet chair
Greg Bovee
Dick Augustine
Jim Kwasny
Jim Pifer
Linda Chambers
Chet Kapusinski
John Slawinski
Marsha McKee

With over 180 attendees, we easily surpassed our goal of \$10,000!

There was over \$15,000 worth of donated prizes, services and merchandise, auctioned off or won in the various raffles. Orvis rods and reels, Verlin Kruger collector videos, a custom Bob Perrin commemorative Fly Rod built by Mike Stephans, the "Rod Doctor", guided float trips on the Pere Marquette, and AuSable rivers, a Trophy deer archery hunt in Il., a Bob Perrin commorative canoe, Ruimveld, Kepler, and Van Leen artwork, Linda Chamber's jewelry, a weekend stay in Harbor Springs, a week's stay in Key Largo Fla. and a catered dinner for 8 at an Okemos Frank Lloyd house, were some of the highlighted items taken home by lucky attendees.



banquet attendees

We sincerely thank the following people and businesses for their generous donations. Please frequent the businesses as another way of saying Thank You!

Dick & Marilyn Augustine
Jim Bedford
Mike Bliss (our auctioneer)
Greg & Stevie Bovee
Linda Chambers
Clarion Hotels
James Cavanaugh
Bill Demmer of Demmer Corp
Vivian Dwyer
Fly Factory – Steve Southard/Grayling
Grand Adventures/Russ Bodell
**Grandpa Randy's GeneralStore/
RandyAtkinson**
Grand River Fly Shop
Kathy Hicks
Tom Huggler
George Kepler
Chet Kapusinski & Regina Spradlin
Verlin Kruger
Jim Kwasny
Cheryl Stephans
Marsha McKee
Merideth's Interiors
Michigan Streamside Journal
Michigan Wildlife Conservancy
Modern Fly Fisher TV Series
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Gary and Donna Nelson
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Pere Marquette Lodge
Bob Perrin
Jim & Betsy Pifer
Production Tool Supply
Raupp Campfitters
Riverfront Cycle
John Slawinski
Suds & Sodas
Trees For You
TU Chapter
The Rod Doctor – Mike Stephans
Deb Van Leen
Jim Watling

Calendar of Events

November 4:

Dinner meeting at LaSenorita restaurant
2706 Lake Lansing Rd 6pm

December:

RCFF Fly Fishing Expo – Ingham County Fairgrounds

Jan/Feb:

Quietwater Symposium
Perrin – LCTU general meeting - location to be announced

March:

Lansing Sportfishing Show – Trout Pond fundraiser

April

Opening of Trout Season 2005 – last Saturday

June:

Wa Wa Sum Chapter Retreat and Work Project – last weekend

September:

Annual AuSable River Cleanup Perrin - LCTU and
FFF participation – fishing and fun
Annual Planning meeting for 2006

The ROLLCAST is a collaborative effort of several
Perrin – LCTU members

Editor: Chet Kapusinski

Be sure to visit www.lansing-tu.org
to keep abreast of chapter activities throughout the
year, and leave us your email address so that we
may keep in touch with you about important
announcements.

Perrin – Lansing Chapter of Trout Unlimited Board of Directors

Greg Bovee	Past-Pres/Advisor	669-8166
Dick Augustine	Past Pres/Co-Treasurer	668-3761
Jim Kwasny	Advisor/Grants	321-1812
Bob Flickinger	Co-Treasurer	323-9572
Bill Demmer	Advisor/Banquet	321-3600
Stephen Arnoczky	Trout Pond Coordinator	353-8964
Jim Bedford	Project Coordinator	484-5178
Mel Comeau	Historian	651-5892
Chet Kapusinski	Roll Cast Editor	676-7179
Tony Pagliei	Advisor/Special Programs	324-9633
Jim Pifer-	Membership/Webmaster	646-0141



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