




The *Flyline*

The Newsletter of the Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association


December, 2018




**HAWKEYE FLY FISHING ASSOCIATION
45th ANNUAL FLY FISHING SHOW**

**FEBRUARY 15, 16 & 17, 2019
RAMADA WILLIAMSBURG HOTEL
2211 U AVE (I-80 EXIT: 225)
WILLIAMSBURG, IA**


Featuring:



George Daniel:
*East-coast fishing guide
and innovative flytier*




Blane Chocklett: *Professional east-coast
fishing guide, author and flytier.*



Tim Landwehr:
*Midwestern guide and
flytier.*

**Prizes, Auctions and Raffles !
Win a Sage Rod and Ross Reel Outfit Valued Over \$1500**

**Presentations On Fly Fishing Techniques and Destinations
Hands-on Fly Tying for Adults and Kids
Fly Fishing Equipment and Materials for Sale
Conservation and Educational Programs
Silent and Live Auctions**



Everyone is Welcome!
Registration: Saturday (8 am - 3 pm): \$15 and
Friday (4 pm-8 pm) and Sunday (8 am -12:00 pm): \$10
Family Event: Children admitted free!

For more information visit: www.hawkeyeflyfishing.com



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The President's Hatch

My message for this President's Hatch is all about the HFFA (surprise).

First: **Why have the HFFA?**

Funny you should ask. The preamble to the By-Laws says: "*The Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association is a non-profit organization of anglers and conservationists dedicated to the promotion of fly fishing and associated activities, to the education of others in the art and joys of fly fishing, to the preservation and conservation of those natural resources that are important to fly fishing and to the enhancement of fellowship and camaraderie among fly fishers.*"

After 33 years of teaching, I know that people interpret the written word differently. My take is that we are **anglers** (mostly) and **conservationists** (this is the important part to me). As conservationists, we must protect and enhance our natural resources. We should read (last Hatch's emphasis) or re-read authors such as Aldo Leopold, Rachel Carson, Sigurd Olson, Sylvan Runkel, (looking at these in my library right now), and many others.

We should **promote** fly fishing and associated activities. That includes fly tying and stream restoration work. We, as the HFFA and affiliated clubs, do a good job of this. In one of these "Flylines" I hope to have a list of what each of the clubs puts on each year.

I have indicated above, that we should be conservationists. The preamble emphasizes that we should **protect and enhance** our natural resources. This is very specific to our fly fishing. How can we do that, you may ask? The most important way is to get to know your elected officials, starting at the local level and going as far as you can. Most elected officials want to know what their constituency finds important. If all they hear is "cut taxes," they will have to cut conservation projects. Lets not let that happen. Enhancing our natural resources means stream improvements, easement purchases, land acquisition, and most importantly, maintenance of the resources we have. HFFA contributes to many of these, and is part of the Iowa's Coldwater Conservancy, an organization that will accomplish these things on a much larger scale.

The last directive is probably nearest to my heart. **Fellowship and camaraderie** are what keeps us going. Without that we all would take the approach of "Let



John Carl Miller

George do it," and our organization would be very ineffective. We do this by having affiliate clubs in several locations throughout the state. The meetings, outreach and fishing activities keep the interest up and make us (HFFA) stronger. Just as important is the annual "HFFA Fly Fishing Show." The show gives us a chance to get together with old fishing friends and to meet new friends. We showcase who we are as a club. If we, as members, are not enthusiastic enough to attend and take part in the show activities, then how do we expect our club to be effective and maybe even grow. This year's show promises to be another great one, and the location is easily accessible from all parts of the state.

Part 2: **Why join the HFFA?**

Because no one person can do it all alone. Together we have the power to make this state better than we found it (or at least keep it from becoming a "black desert or endless cornfield" as I have heard it described). We all love fly fishing for different reasons, but without clean water to fish in, we would all be playing golf (some fly fishers also golf and have room in their lives for two passions). I can't imagine what my life would be like without fly fishing, and I hope you can't either. You all know that the HFFA speaks up on environmental issues that face this state, such as the 10,000 head cattle confinement at the head of Bloody Run, and our voice carries more force if we have more members. Make sure that you renew this year, even if you are unable to attend the show. Better yet, buy a

membership for your friend or neighbor and get them involved.

Part 3: Why attend the Annual HFFA Fly Fishing Show? Let me count the reasons: Oh, see the preamble for a number of reasons. But on a personal level, there are many other reasons. Mike Jacobs always puts together a great show. This year's speakers are well known in the fly fishing community. I was looking over a flyer for the Denver Fly Fishing Show (this would be the Superbowl of fly fishing shows) and couldn't get over the world famous names listed as speakers. **George Daniel** is one of the featured speakers at this year's HFFA show and was listed on the Denver show line-up. **Blane Chocklett** is very well known as a guide in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, an area that I'd love to fish. My wife and I took a motorcycle trip along part of the Blue Ridge Parkway in the summer of 1987 and loved the area. I didn't fly fish at the time, but in later years, saw some shows on TV (when there were many available) and vowed to go back there and fish. Looking forward to hearing from Blane. And **Tim Landwehr** is always a local favorite. By the way, **Geri Meyer** was also a featured speaker at the Denver show. She and her husband, Mat Wagner, of Driftless Angler in Viroqua, always have a booth at the show. Let's not forget the vendors; a chance to look at new equipment, get tying supplies, find a new rod, wading boots, or some item that just "trips your trigger." The best part is that you can contribute to conservation and get something in return at the auctions or raffles. Who could ask for anything more? But there is more, a great banquet where the atmosphere is like the best party on the block. **See you all there.**

John

Contacts & Meetings

2018 Board of Directors

John Miller, President

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Ron Stahlberg, Director

1412 Pine Ridge Lane NE
Swisher, IA 52338
flyfish@southslope.net

HFFA Webpage

<http://www.hawkeyeflyfishing.com>

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing

Meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday of Month
5:30 pm
American Legion, 2211 E. 42nd
Des Moines, IA
Contact: Dale Sanders
iaflyfisher@q.com

Quad Cities Chapter

Meets 1st & 3rd Sunday 6:00 pm
October to May
Meets 1st Sunday 6:00 pm June to
September
Riverdale Fire Station, 110 Manor
Drive, Riverdale, IA
Contact: John Channon
jc.channon@mchsi.com

Dubuque Fly Fishers

Meets 2nd & 4th Monday 7:00 pm
October to May
Swiss Valley Nature Center
13606 Swiss Valley Rd., Dubuque,
IA
Contact: Mike Stallsmith
president@dubuqueflyfishers.org

Central Iowa Fly Fishers

Meets 3rd Saturday 9:00 am Sep-
tember to May
Our Lady's Immaculate Heart
Church
510 East 1st St., Ankeny, IA
Contact: Martin Acerbo
macerbo@iastate.edu

Iowa City Chapter

Contact: Ryan Maas
maas_ryan@yahoo.com

Cedar Rapids Fly Fishers

Contact: Lance Zook
l.a.zook@mchsi.com

TROUT UNLIMITED NORTH BEAR CHAPTER

Meetings held second Thursday
of month
September – May, Starting at
6:30 pm.
The Tavern Pizza & Pasta Grill
1755 50th St.

West Des Moines, IA
Website: tu-northbear.org
Jim Kelehan-President
president@tu-northbear.org

TROUT UNLIMITED DRIFTLESS CHAPTER

Meets the first Thursday of the
month October through May @
7:00 pm in the basement of
T-Bocks Sports Bar and Grill,
206 Water St. Decorah
www.iadriftless.org

Iowa Women Fly Fishers

Beginner or Skilled
Meet other Women Fly Fishers
Des Moines or North Liberty
katelodge25@gmail.com
willacamp@gmail.com

Trout Unlimited Spring Creeks Chapter

Ryan Maas – President
Check Their Web Site
www.tu-springcreeks.org

Iowa's Coldwater Conservancy

Tom Murray
jandtmurray@gmail.com

Event Calendar

December 2018

January 2019

January 8

Mike Jacobs Fly Tying Class

Cedar Rapids Kennedy HS RM262
Every Tuesday Until Feb 26
6:30 pm
hawkeyeflytyer@yahoo.com
319-465-5574 work
319-465-4704 cell

January 26

Southern Wisconsin TU Icebreaker

American Family Insurance
Madison, WI
www.swtu.org

February 2019

February 5 & 6

Driftless Symposium

Radisson, Hotel
LaCrosse, WI
www.darestoration.com

February 9

Badger Fly Fishers Fly Fishing Spring Opener

8:00 am - 5:00 pm
American Family Insurance
Madison, WI
www.badgerflyfishers.com

February 15-17

HFFA Annual Fly Fishing Show

Little Amana Ramada Hotel
2211 U Ave
Williamsburg, IA 52361
Mike Jacobs
hawkeyeflytyer@yahoo.com

February 23 & 24

Mid-Iowa Bass Masters Swap Meet & Boat Show

4-H Building State Fairgrounds
Des Moines, IA
www.midiowabassmasters.com

March 2019

March 9&10

Midwest Fly Fishing Expo

Warren, MI
http://midwestflyfishingexpo.com

March 15 - 17

Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo

Hamline University
St. Paul, MN
info@greatwatersflyexpo.com

March ?

Driftless TU Spring Cleanup Day

Exact Date Later
Steve Perry
641-583-1604

March 23

Fly Tyer Rendezvous

Spring Creeks TU
Eagles Club, Monticello, IA
www.tu-iaspringcreeks.org

March 28-30

Sowbug Roundup

North Arkansas Fly Fishers
Mountain Home, AR
www.sowbugroundup.org

March 31

Fly Fishing Film Tour

Big Grove Brewery & Tap Room
Iowa City, Iowa

April 2019

April 27

Driftless TU Annual Fundraiser

Reception 5:00 pm, Buffet 6:00 pm
Danan Lansing Memorial Bldg
Decorah, IA
Gary Arner
iadrifttufr@gmail.com

April 27

HFFA-Iowa DNR Work Day

9:00 am - noon
Manchester Trout Hatchery
22693 205th Ave., Manchester, IA
Kate Lodge
katelodge25@gmail.com

May 2019

May 17 - 19

HFFA Bluegill Outing

Lake Wapello, Drakesville, IA
Dan Peterson
309-764-8401

June 2019

Wisconsin Women's Fly Fishing Clinics

June 12-14

On The Water Skills Clinic 2019

West Fork Sportsman's Club
Avalanche, WI
wisconsinwomenflyfishing@gmail.com

June 14-16

Women's Fly Fishing Clinic For Beginners

West Fork Sportsman's Club
Avalanche, WI
wisconsinwomenflyfishing@gmail.com

July 2019

July 22-27

FFI Fly Fishing Fair

Montana State University
Bozeman, MT
www.flyfishersinternational.org

The Flyline is the official publication of the Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association. It is published in March, June, September, and December. The HFFA is a chapter of the Fly Fishers International. Articles may be submitted as MS Word or as a text file. Typed, printed or clearly handwritten documents are also accepted. Photos can be submitted digitally. Send original jpeg. Deadline is one month before publication.

Send all materials to:

Don Otto, The Flyline Editor
Hawkeyeflyfisher@gmail.com
641-230-1468

Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association Membership Application

New Renewal Change of Address Information

Check Membership Category:

- \$25 Member
- \$10 Youth Member (18 and under)
- \$15 Senior Member (65 or older)
- \$45 Family Membership
- \$300 Life Member

Conservation Contribution:

- \$10 (Glass)
- \$20 (Graphite)
- \$30 (Boron)
- \$..... (Cane, over \$50)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Make checks payable to & mail to:

Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association
P.O. Box 8145
Cedar Rapids, IA 52408

HFFA Business Report

Minutes of HFFA Board of Directors Meeting November 17, 2018 Franklin Hotel, Strawberry Point, Iowa

Called to order by President John Miller at 9:15 AM

Attendees: John Miller, Ryan Maas, Dave Jones, Kyle Anderson, John Channon, Ron Stahlberg, CJ Klenske, Kate Lodge, Mike Steuck, and Cheryl Channon.

Meeting Minutes

Motion was made and approved by the board to accept the minutes of the August 18, 2018 board meeting.

Financial Report

General discussions were had regarding the financial results from October 1, 2017 through September 30. Revenue was reported to be \$34,595, expenses \$31,407 and a profit of \$3,188. Expenses included total conservation grants of \$7,200. Annual profits reflect deer tag net proceeds of \$7,098. Cash balance as of September 30, 2018 was \$47,508. Motion was made and approved by the board to accept the financial report.

Iowa's Coldwater Conservancy Update

Dave Jones reported that NEI RC&D has been working on marketing, branding and media development. Since the August meeting, much progress has been made regarding development of the website and organizational logo. ICC will wait to find out how much of the \$5,000 donation challenge made by HFFA will be matched by the 3 Iowa Trout Unlimited chapters.

2019 Annual Meeting

John Miller read a written report submitted by Mike Jacobs regarding show planning progress. All speakers have been contracted, the agenda has been set, vendor registration has gone well and good progress on auction donations reported.

Membership

Kyle Anderson and Ron Stahlberg led a discussion regarding an opportunity to modify the current membership process. Ron reviewed a proposed plan to improve confirmation, retention and recruiting of club membership. The board requested that Ron and Kyle consider a potential incentive program to improve membership retention and recruiting.

Clayton County Trout Maps

The Clayton County Conservation Board has committed to spend \$10,000 to print additional trout maps for Clayton County. At the August meeting, the HFFA board approved financial support of \$2,000 to fund the printing of an additional 2,000 trout maps, for a total of 3,000 printed. The trout maps have not been printed yet, because the balance of the funding requirement is still being pursued.

Annual Show Awards

The board discussed and considered potential candidates for the following awards; Conservation, Outstanding Member, Landowner and President's.

Board and Officer Elections

John Miller reviewed the officer and board member terms that will be completed at the end of this year. After some discussion, it was agreed that John Miller will follow up regarding unfilled open officer and board member positions to be approved by the club membership at the 2019 Annual Meeting.

Yellow River Public Access Project

Mike Steuck, reported that a landowner is willing to provide a public access easement for 1.4 miles on a section of the Yellow River located near Volney, Iowa. The estimated cost to fund the easement is \$84,500. Efforts are underway to secure funding from a group of individuals and organizations to support this project. The board approved supporting this project and has asked the President, to seek board member approval via email as necessary from a timing standpoint, as more details are known about the funding request.

Next Meeting

The annual meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2019 at the 2019 HFFA show. A HFFA board meeting will follow.

Adjourn

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously at 11:30 AM.

Submitted by Dave Jones, November 17, 2018.

ICC Report

ICC Update Report on Two Completed Projects in 2018

Submitted by Tom Murray October 31, 2018

This update report from Iowa's Coldwater Conservancy marks the two year anniversary of a gathering of leaders from HFFA, Iowa's three Trout Unlimited Chapters, Trout Unlimited Driftless Area Restoration Effort (TUDARE), Northeast Iowa Resource Conservation & Development (NEIARC&D), the Iowa DNR Fisheries Bureau and a local landowner.

In the April issue of *Flyline*, I reported that this was the first time these conservation groups met together with the Iowa DNR Fisheries staff. During this historic meeting in Strawberry Point, we discussed the growing list of challenges to the health and future of the ecosystems that sustain our coldwater rivers and streams. These challenges included the realities of a rapidly changing climate, agricultural and urban land use practices, shrinking state and federal budgets for conservation, increasing competition for philanthropic dollars, the rising costs of environmental restoration work and the potential loss of public access on private property through fragile "handshake agreements".

After numerous follow up conversations, emails, conference calls and meetings it was decided to form a new non-profit organization that would work to create strategic alliances between angling groups and other organizations and individuals who had a common goal to protect and preserve our unique coldwater rivers and streams. We needed to enlarge the "tent of support" for conservation initiatives to begin to address these significant challenges. This why Iowa's Coldwater Conservancy was created.

Today, I am pleased to report that thanks to the continuing support of organizations like HFFA and TU chapters and new support from the non-angling community, we have made good progress toward addressing some of these challenges.

Here are two examples in Winneshiek County of recent alliances that have produced a new wildlife area which includes a coldwater trout stream with permanent public access and an improved stream habitat site on a popular, well known stream in Decorah:

The Sindelar Wildlife Access Area and Casey Springs Creek

This seventeen acre property contains a varied collection of ecosystems within open prairie spaces, deciduous woods, and approximately 1/2 mile of trout water. It is adjacent to the 256 acre Falcon Spring Wildlife Management Area maintained by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

Wanda and Jim Sindelar and their family hoped this special place they enjoyed so much could be acquired by an organization that would manage these natural resources for the benefit of the wildlife as well as the public.

Thanks to several new partnerships, the sale of this property was completed this past spring, and the Winneshiek County Conservation Board became the new owner. WCCB will manage the property as a wildlife area providing a public fishing access in cooperation with the Iowa DNR. In the past, this coldwater stream was classified as a "put and grow stream", which required land owner permission to fish.

It was last stocked in 2004 with brook trout from South Pine Creek and brown trout in 2008. In August of 2017 the Iowa Fisheries staff from Decorah sampled a small portion of the stream and recorded 125 brook and brown trout.

According to fisheries biologist, Mike Siepker, "That means Casey Springs has healthy, naturally reproducing populations of both brown and brook trout. That's rare even in northeast Iowa with our abundance of coldwater streams." The stream has been designated as a *Brook Trout Catch and Release Area*.



This acquisition was made possible through an alliance of nine funding partners. A "Fish Habitat Grant" from the Iowa DNR covered 90% of the total cost. This grant was funded by sales from Iowa fish licenses. The remaining 10% of the purchase price came from a ICC grant, which included funds from HFFA, North Bear TU, Spring Creek TU, and Iowa Driftless TU. Additional grants were also provided by North Bear TU, Mid-Missouri TU, Winneshiek County Conservation Board and the Upper Iowa Audubon Society.

ICC Report- continued

Trout Run Creek Habitat Restoration Project Update

The concept of “alliances” has also worked this year on the *Trout Run Creek Habitat Restoration Project* at the Decorah Fish Hatchery. The following project update was written by Mike Siepker, fisheries biologist at the Decorah Fish Hatchery and may also be found on the ICC website at iowacoldwater.org

A Small Project with Big Impact

It all started with an idea to improve fish habitat and angler access along Trout Run, a popular fishery just south of Decorah. It quickly developed into a partnership between the Iowa DNR, Trees Forever, Alliant Energy, Iowa's Coldwater Conservancy (ICC), Friends of the Decorah Fish Hatchery, and the Iowa Driftless Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

In 2016, Trout Run was the third most popular trout stream in the state hosting over 25,000 angler trips that year. It is especially popular since it is stocked with catchable trout weekly from April through October, has a healthy population of wild Brown Trout, and has more universal angler access than any other stream in the state. Over time, one section of Trout Run had become overgrown with undesirable trees and brush that offered very little wildlife benefit and limited angler access along the stream.

The project scope included clearing brush and reshaping the bank to a flatter slope before seeding down to native grasses and about 50 different wildflower species. Wildlife-friendly trees were then planted along the project making the site a future haven for pollinators and wildlife. Along the stream, trees that were originally removed from the site were recycled by burying their trunks in the bank but leaving their roots extending into the stream to provide cover for trout.

Prairie cordgrass plugs were also planted along the stream and once mature, will provide overhead cover to trout living in the stream. After heavy construction work was completed, members of ICC and Iowa Driftless TU worked with Iowa DNR Fisheries staff and other volunteers to spread grass and wildflower seed, plant trees, and spread straw mulch on the entire site. The area will be closed to anglers through the summer to 2019 to give ample time for the plants to become established.

Project costs totaled \$7,156 and included over \$2,500 in volunteer labor and over \$930 of donated materials. Trees Forever supported the project with a \$2,000 Working Watersheds: Buffers & Beyond grant and the Friends of the Decorah Hatchery also provided financial support to complete the project.



Trout Run Creek Before and After Habitat Restoration

2019 HFFA Show

2019 HFFA Show Agenda

Friday, February 15, 2019

5:00 pm-8:00 pm	Registration
6:00 pm-9:00 pm	Carol Jacobs' Card Making Class (Class limit 12, contact Carol 319-480-9174)
6:00 pm-7:00 pm	Iowa Department of Natural Resources Presentation -
7:15 pm-8:15 pm	Becoming a Better Smallmouth Angler- Tim Landwehr
8:30 pm-9:30 pm	Predator Tube Fly Design - Gunnar Brammer,
9:00 pm-11:00 pm	Hospitality Suite

Saturday, February 16, 2019

8:00 am-2:30 pm	Registration
8:00 am	Commercial Exhibits open
8:30 am-3:30 pm	Fly Tying Demonstrations
8:30 am-9:30 am	Stripset 2.0 Streamer Strategies – George Daniel
10:00 am-11:00 am	Designing and Fishing Flies That Trigger Strikes- Blane Chocklett
11:30 am-1:00 pm	HFFA Business Meeting/Lunch
1:15 pm-2:15 pm	Situational Nymphing- George Daniel
2:30 pm-3:30 pm	Predators and Prey –Blane Chocklett
3:30 pm	HFFA Call Auction: East Amana Room
4:00 pm	Commercial Exhibits close
4:00 pm-5:30 pm	Silent Auction Ends/Bucket Raffle Drawings
5:00 pm	Social Hour Starts
6:00 pm-8:30 pm	Awards, Banquet and Program: Carl Haensel and Jade Thomason : Fly Fishing the North Country - Exploring Northern MN & WI
8:30 pm-11:00 pm	Hospitality Suite

Sunday, February 17, 2019

8:00 am -11:00 am	Registration
8:00 am	Commercial Exhibits open
8:30 am-12:00 pm	Fly Tying Demonstrations
8:30 am-9:30 am	Fly Fishing with Bamboo in the Minnesota Driftless- Steve Sobieniak
10:00 am -11:00 am	Smallmouth Master Class- Tim Landwehr
11:30 am-12:30 pm	Fly Tying Demonstration - Gunnar Brammer
12:30 pm	Commercial Exhibits close
12:30 pm	Drawing for Grand Prize Raffle Rod

HFFA 45TH ANNUAL MEETING & FLY FISHING SHOW Save the Dates February 15-17, 2019

The 2019 Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association Annual Meeting and Fly Fishing Show will be held on the weekend of February 15-17. The show hotel is the Little Amana Ramada Hotel, 2211 U Avenue Williamsburg, Iowa 52361. This is located at exit 225 (Amana Colonies exit) along interstate 80 about 20 miles west of Iowa City.

You can make your hotel room reservations at our discounted price any time, now through January 15. HFFA has secured a special room price of \$89/night for double queen room or a single king. After January 15 room prices revert back to regular price of \$99/night. If you would like access to the Wasserbahn Water park the cost will be \$20/night extra (for four passes). When making your room reservations please ask to be included in the block of rooms set aside for the Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association. The hotel does NOT have an elevator for access to second floor rooms. If you REQUIRE A ROOM ON THE FIRST FLOOR just make sure to request this when making your reservation. For reservations please call (319)-668-1175 or you can email sales@ramadawasserbahn.com

Thank you.

2019 HFFA Show

HFFA Grand Prize Raffle Sage VXP Rod and Ross Reel Outfit

This year's grand prize rod and reel is a one of a kind outfit. The Sage VXP Series Fly Rod features a medium/fast line speed and slender shaft design that reduces overall weight. The rod is consistently smooth and responsive. The 9 foot, 4 piece, 5 weight rod is an all-around great for trout and freshwater fish in the Driftless Region. Though no longer in production, the Sage VXP is no exception to Sage's tradition of excellence. This year's Sage Grand Prize rod is paired with a reel with a long-standing tradition as well. Ross Gunnison Reels have a reputation of outstanding performance and toughness.

This year's Ross Gunnison #2, second generation, is smooth, powerful, lightweight (5 oz.) and durable. It comes with an extra spool and a Rio Grand Fly Line WF-5F line and leader. The Gunnison reel debuted 28 years ago and has been re-engineered over the years. It is again an example of the tradition of excellence from its manufacturer like the VXP Series rods.

Sage Rod Raffle tickets can be purchased for \$2 each or 12 tickets for 20 dollars. Like last year, the tickets will not be mailed. Tickets purchased before the show will be filled out with your information by show volunteers and put in the drawing prior to the show's start again. In order to make sure they are included in the drawing, tickets must be received by February 4th, 2018. Tickets will also be available for purchase at the show.

Details:

SAGE VXP 590-4 9'0" 5wt FLY ROD

ROSS REEL GUNNISON #2 4-6wt, 3.25 inch diameter, 5.0 oz. FLY REEL and Spare Spool

Rio Grand Fly Line WF-5F and leader

Custom Reel Case

Drawing on Sunday, February 17, 2019: 12:30pm

Need Not Be Present To Win

Donation: \$2.00 for each ticket

Donation: \$20.00 for 12 tickets.



**Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association
 Registration, Banquet, and Raffle Tickets
 45th Annual fly fishing Show
 February 15-17, 2019
 Ramada Hotel, Williamsburg, IA**

Name (Please Print) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone # _____ E-mail : _____

Names of Family Member(s) Attending the Show¹ _____

_____ I am a new member for 2019. A new member may waive the registration fee for one of the days.

Preregistration special for All Three days: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday:	\$30	\$ _____
Preregistration for Friday, February 15:	\$10	\$ _____
Preregistration for Saturday, February 16:	\$15	\$ _____
Ticket for Business Meeting Lunch on Saturday, February 16: #___ Tickets @ \$11		\$ _____
Pre-registration for Sunday, February 17:	\$10	\$ _____
Pre-registration for Carol Jacobs' Card Making Class	\$10	\$ _____

Banquet Tickets²: # _____ tickets @ \$28 per ticket \$ _____
 Banquet served Amana Style (family) Oven Baked Steak, Fried Chicken,, green beans, mashed potatoes & gravy, coleslaw, cottage cheese, and Amana Bread. Drink choice water, coffee, lemonade and tea.

Preregistration Special: 1 Banquet Ticket + 100 bucket raffle tickets³ for \$100: # _____ @ \$100 \$ _____

Completed Grand Prize Rod Raffle Tickets (\$2 each or 12 for \$20)⁴ # _____ \$ _____

TOTAL FOR THE MEETING AND RAFFLE TICKETS⁵ **TOTAL** \$ _____

¹Your paid registration entitles you, your spouse, and your children age 18 and under to attend the show, but a banquet ticket is required for each member of your family attending the banquet.

²Your registration must be received by **February 1, 2019** to be sure of receiving a lunch and/or banquet **ticket**. All pre-registrations will be entered into a **prize drawing at the show**.

³Bucket raffle tickets will be available for purchase at the show; \$20 for 25 tickets or \$1 a piece.

⁴Purchased Grand Prize Rod Raffle Tickets will be filled out and placed in the drawing by registration volunteers before the show.

⁵**There are no refunds for any reason.**

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL

_____ New Member

_____ Please Update My Information

	<u>One Year</u>	
Member	\$25	\$ _____
Youth Member (18 and Under)	\$10	\$ _____
Senior Member (65 or Older)	\$15	\$ _____
Family	\$45	\$ _____
Life	\$300	\$ _____

GRAND TOTAL for Meeting, Dues, and Raffle Tickets **GRAND TOTAL** \$ _____

**Please make payments to:
 Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association
 P.O. BOX 8145
 Cedar Rapids, IA 52408**

Auction # _____

2019 HFFA Show Speakers



Blane Chocklett

For the past 30 years, Blane has lived his passion. He grew up fishing the small mountain streams in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, starting a guide service as a youngster. In the mid-90s, Blane opened Blue Ridge Fly Fishers in Roanoke, Virginia— one of the most respected full service fly shops in the region. About a decade ago, he returned to his river roots as owner/operator of the New Angle Fishing Company, specializing in float trips targeting the regions predatory fish including Musky, Stripers, Smallmouth Bass and Trout. The float trips located on four of Virginia's premiere rivers: James, New, Roanoke and Jackson rivers.

Since 1998, Blane has served as a fly designer for Umpqua Feather Merchants. Through his Hybrid Series™ and other innovative designs, Blane crafts traditional and synthetic tying materials to achieve the subtleness of flies and



George Daniel

George Daniel began fly fishing at age six in Potter County, Pennsylvania. Growing up along a native brook trout fishery designated as a "kids only section" and, being the only kid in the village who fished, George was able to fly fish and practice a lot, so he developed a true passion for it. Through his early teens, much of his fly fishing knowledge was self-taught. However, when George was 14, his family relocated to central Pennsylvania, where, at a local fly shop, he found himself talking to his fly fishing idol, Joe Humphreys. Joe kindly took George under his wing and began providing him with his first, formalized fly fishing instruction. When George was just 16-years-old, Joe began to provide instruction on all levels, e.g. the basic cast to advanced nymphing casts.

the strike-generating action of conventional lures. One the most enthusiastic and cutting-edge fly tiers in our sport, many of Blane's inventive fly patterns are produced through UMPQUA Feather Merchants. Blane is creating a series of patterns that has all the subtlety of flies and the strike-generating action of conventional lures. We believe that his new patterns combined with our commitment to make the right "Affordable – High Performance" delivery tools will compel many conventional tackle anglers to try fly fishing.

Through the years, Blane has supported the sport of fly fishing by serving as a member of the American Fly Tackle Trade Association's (AFTA) Dealer Advisory Board and by consulting with several fly fishing company pro staffs including:

Yeti Coolers, Temple Fork Outfitters (TFO), Scientific Anglers, Patagonia, Costa Del Mar Sunglasses, Fishpond USA, Ranzetti/RD Distribution, Flymen Fishing Company, Hedron Flashabou, Hareline Dubbing, Hyde Drift Boats, Towee Boatworks, and Hog Island Boatworks.

TFO welcomed Blane Chocklett to the team in 2012-2013 season. "Blane represents the best of young stars in fly fishing, and working with the likes of Lefty Kreh, Larry Dahlberg, Ed Jaworowski, Bob Clouser, Nick Curcione, Flip Pallot and Gary Loomis, will help us lead the next generation of anglers into our sport". Lefty Kreh said "He is one of the most innovative fly tiers and wonderfully creative fly fisherman I know. Blane will be an excellent member of the TFO family".

Blane has been featured in many outdoor books and magazine articles over the years. Blane is the Southeast Regional Field Editor for Fly-Fisherman Magazine. He has also been featured on multiple television shows including, The Hunt For Big Fish, with Larry Dahlberg, In The Loop Fly Fishing, and a few others.

George credits Joe for the bulk of his knowledge, but also graciously acknowledges many national and international fly fishing professionals who have worked with him during the past.

When George went off to a university, he didn't stray very far from the lovely streams of Pennsylvania. He attended Lock Haven University, where he earned a degree in natural resource management. Later, George had an opportunity to try out for Fly Fishing Team USA in Bend, Oregon. After qualifying for the team, George had the opportunity to compete in six World Fly Fishing Championships, coach both the US Youth Team and Fly Fishing Team USA in four World Championships. During this time, George has had an opportunity to travel the globe and learn from many of the best anglers in the world. George is a two-time US National Fly Fishing Champion and was ranked as high as 5th in the world. George is the former head coach for Fly Fishing Team USA. George also spent two years coaching the US Youth Fly Fishing Team.

George's true passion is in fly fishing education. He appears at clubs and fly fishing shows around the country, where he conducts lectures and seminars. He also logs more than 280 days a year on trout waters near and far. George and his wife Amidea bought and restored an old home near his favorite trout stream, and it is here where they spend many hours with their two children walking along the banks, throwing stones and sometimes even catching a fish.

George is not only the author of two highly regarded and best selling books, he has also published articles in Fly Fisherman, American Angler and Fly Tyer magazines. George is a pro-staffer for a number of fly fishing companies including Orvis, Tacky Fly Boxes, FlyCraft Boats, Regal Vises, Competitive Angler Tying Supplies, Golden Trout Lanyards, and Loon.

2019 HFFA Show Speakers



Tim Landwehr

Tim Landwehr is the owner of Tight Lines Fly Fishing Co. in De Pere, Wisconsin. Tim has been a professional fly fishing guide for most of his adult life. He has guided some of the famous rivers of the West, but his warm water roots brought him back to his home state to open a fly shop and guide service. Tim and his crew of guides float the rivers of Northeast Wisconsin in western-style drift boats.

Tight Lines Fly Fishing Co. was one of the first shops in the Midwest to incorporate this style of fishing on our Smallmouth Rivers. Tim and his staff of guides just completed a brand-new book called *Smallmouth Modern Fly Fishing Methods, Tactics & Techniques*. The new book showcases all the new information that has been learned over thousands and thousands of guided trips on his warm water rivers.

Tim employs 8 full time River Smallmouth guides and still puts in countless days on the water himself. He has been featured in ESPN Outdoors, OLN, Fly Fisherman Magazine, Catch Magazine, Fly Fishing Film Tour, Badger Sportsman, Eastern Fly Fishing, Sporting Classics and has hosted the Midwest Sportsman television program. He and his guides were also featured in the Guides and Destinations edition of Gray's Sporting Journal.

Gunnar Brammer has been tying professionally since 2015 and specializes in predator fly design along with fly tying demonstration. Brammer is a St. Croix Rods Pro, HMH Vises Pro, Hedron Inc Tying Team Member, Deer Creek Pro, FlymenFishingCo Ambassador, and a Friend of Ahrex Hooks. He was recently featured in Fly Tyer Magazine – “The Creative Streamers of Gunnar Brammer” and is a frequent guest writer for the Flymen Blog. Gunnar continues to buff out his YouTube channel with meticulous step by step fly tying instructions and fly fishing related content geared towards the diehard Streamer Junkie! Gunnar currently resides in Duluth, MN.



Gunnar Brammer

Carl Haensel is an educator, biologist, photographer, writer and fishing guide. He has guided and taught fly fishing since 1996 and has authored hundreds of articles on fly fishing techniques, tips, flies and locations. Since 2007, he has guided primarily in northern Minnesota and Wisconsin for trout, steelhead, smallmouth bass, pike and salmon. In the past, he served as a regional manager for Pennsylvania's Fish and Boat Commission, managing education, programming, and aquatic resource issues for an area of over five million people. He has fished extensively throughout North America and the Caribbean and his outdoor photographs have been widely published. He is also an educational consultant and enjoys post-secondary teaching. Together with Jade Czaia Thomason they manage the Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo on behalf of Minnesota Trout Unlimited and their business, Namebini. Carl serves as the Northern Minnesota Vice Chair for Trout Unlimited and is the Editor of the Minnesota TU publication *Trout Unlimited Minnesota*.



Carl Haensel & Jade Thomason

Jade Thomason is a conservation biologist and photographer and co-owns Namebini, a guided fly fishing, outdoor photography and writing business based out of Duluth, MN. Together with Carl Haensel she manages the Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo and writes and shoots photography for a wide variety of publications including Eastern Fly Fishing, Northwest Fly Fishing and the Pennsylvania Angler & Boater magazine.

2019 HFFA Show Photo & Essay Rules

Photo Contest Rules

1. All entries must be 8 x 10 prints.
2. Subject matter must clearly relate to some aspect of fly fishing and its environs. Only HFFA members may enter the contest.
3. All submissions become the property of the HFFA, and may be used for any purpose deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors.
4. Judging will be by popular vote of the membership in attendance on Saturday of the Annual Meeting. Each member will receive one ballot to vote for his or her favorite photo. The photo with the most ballots wins. Second and third place prizes will also be awarded. Prizes will be gift certificates: \$100 for first, \$75 for second and \$50 for third.
5. In the event of a tie, the winner will be drawn at random from the entries that were tied (e.g., if entry #1 and entry #2 tied for 2nd place, a drawing is held and the entry that is drawn gets 2nd place and the other would get 3rd place).
6. Winners will be announced during the Annual Meeting Banquet.
7. There is no limit to the number of entries, but each person may only win once (e.g., if Jane Roe submits 2 photos and each would have won a prize, the higher prize will be awarded to Jane and the lower prize will go to the photo that had the next highest number of votes).
8. Photos must be received before **February 1, 2019**.
9. **If the source of the photo is digital, including a CD or email with the source file is preferred & greatly appreciated.**
10. Send photos to the address listed below.

Essay Contest Rules

1. Entries must not exceed 2,000 words in length. Shorter essays are welcomed.
2. Subject matter must clearly relate to some aspect of fly fishing and its environs. Only HFFA members may enter the contest.
3. All submissions become the property of the HFFA and may be used for any purpose deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors.
4. Judging will be by popular vote of the membership in attendance Saturday at the Annual Meeting. Each member will receive one ballot to vote for his or her favorite essay. The essay with the most ballots wins. Second and third place prizes will also be awarded. Prizes will be gift certificates: \$100 for first, \$75 for second and \$50 for third.
5. In the event of a tie, the winner will be drawn at random from the entries that were tied (e.g., if entry #1 and entry #2 tied for 2nd place, a drawing is held and the entry that is drawn gets 2nd place and the other would get 3rd place).
6. Winners will be announced at the Annual Meeting Banquet.
7. There is no limit to the number of entries, but each person may only win once (e.g., if John Brown submits 2 essays and each would have won a prize, the higher prize will be awarded to John and the lower prize will go to the essay that had the next highest number of votes)
8. **If the essay is available as a digital text document, a CD or email with the source file is greatly appreciated.**
9. Essay submissions must be sent by email or US Mail no later than **February 1, 2019**.

Lance Zook
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Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
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On the Dream Stream In Paradise

by Frank Potter

Dubuque, Iowa

Although I was disappointed not having my son's usual companionship on this fishing trip I was finally on my way to Colorado on this August 28. A few years back I had tented at a KOA for one night on the Arkansas River but did not get to fish so I wanted to return. I had not fished it before.

I fished the river a few days at Buena Vista and had very little luck. The fall chill had finished off the terrestrials and I was left with nymphing - my poorest technique. It is a river with the highest density of trout in Colorado (in 2012) but I did not bother them.

I did get to the mountain-surrounded Wright's Lake west of Buena Vista for some dry fly fishing. Upon arriving I watched a dragonfly flittering around, snaring midges out of the air for its lunch. It took a while but after switching to the small stuff - Griffin's Gnats and flying black ants I started catching 10" Rainbows until I tired of it. I realized later they were after the midges.

The next day at Ark Anglers' shop in Buena Vista I had this conversation with a clerk/guide: Me: "I assume the jumping trout which were out a ways in the lake were after rising caddis or midges?" Clerk: "More likely they were after dragonflies." Me: "I have had a dragonfly in my box for years and have never caught a trout on it." Clerk: "That is because they don't land on the water - they hover." Now, I understand, they were hovering - waiting for the midges to emerge from the water.

Back at my campground a spin fisher told me he had luck on the Eleven Mile Reservoir. I then inquired from a guide at the fly shop about the area and he answered that he fished the Dream Stream there at every opportunity throughout the year. I had not heard of these locations, but I decided then to make that spot 45 miles east as my next fishing headquarters.

This is the layout from west to east and interestingly the water runs horizontally from west to east: Spinney Reservoir, Dream Stream, Eleven Mile Reservoir, Eleven Mile Canyon then the town of Lake George. The water becomes the South Platte River in the Canyon.

I found a nice cabin at Lake George Cabins at Lake George. There is one fly shop in town: the Tumbling Trout Fly Shop. Michelle White owns and operates the fly shop. She is a retired geologist, author of several books with contributions to magazines like *Fly Fishing World*. She is also a certified fly fishing guide, a hunter (grouse the day before), and she ties for Orvis in Denver. Michelle possesses a gold mine of fishing information with a supportive personality. For example, she told me that many educated fish in the area will rise to check if they can bump into a tippet for a trailer fly before taking a fly. So she ties a special knot on the leader from which she drops the trailing fly. She also said that the hooked big trout will often take the fly to the bottom to find a rock to try to disengage the hook. Fishing downstream has a benefit, she added, in that when you spook a fish they go downstream plus they will be looking for nymphs you dislodge in your wading.

Because the Dream Stream is so popular she wrote and sells her book the [Lesser Known Fly Fishing Venues in South Park](#). She used her geology software and photography skills to show 34 of the uncrowded and seldom fished locations for wild trout. On my first outing from Lake George I went to the nearby Gold Medal water of the South Platte in the Eleven Mile Canyon. Colorado Natural Resources calls the beautiful Eleven Mile Canyon "An Unexpected Paradise." I agree.

Michelle had recommended the spot above Springer Gulch Campground. I found I was the only fisher there. I slipped into the river in the midst of a huge morning Trico hatch. Oh. Oh. I had heard the Dubuque Fly Fishers mention those hatches but I never really hit one like this. So I asked myself why would a trout look at my tiny Trico imitation amongst 100s if not 1000s of naturals? So I put on one of my go-to Midwest flies - a black deer hair cricket. No takes- another outing where I was skunked.

By the way, the day before I left for Colorado, at our annual Dubuque Fly Fishers picnic, I was advised to take a wading staff. I had never used one but I bought one on the way out. I found the collapsible staff very useful in many of these rocky Colorado rivers- it is like having a third leg. Place it upstream as you move.

The next day I drove to the Dream Stream which is five miles of Gold Medal river between Eleven-Mile Reservoir and Spinney Reservoir. One sees why it earns its name. It has everything a fisher wants: many very large fish including Brown, Rainbow, Cutthroats and even Kokanee Salmon. (Go on line to see the photos of the lunkers caught there.) It has easy wading with water just above the knee and average flow. It has meadow's dirt bottom. No obstacles for back casts. It is artificial only and catch and release. It (and the Canyon) does not freeze over. In a few words: "It is perfect."

I was going to describe the scenery of Dream Stream and the Eleven Mile Canyon of the South Platte but found that one fellow took his video camera through the Canyon so you can get a good view on the Internet and see why it merits the word "paradise." Along that line, there are several videos of the Dream Stream with the fish caught there.

Upon arriving on the Dream Stream, I found just a few fishers there. I was not getting any takes with my continuous poor nymphing skills up stream so I went to a Names soft- hackle with a thin red wire segmenting the body. Dubuque Fly Fisher Don Cox shared this fly in our annual fly swap. Instead of fishing upstream I went across and downstream with it. I immediately was catching six -inch Browns one after another with that soft hackle. That at least got my confidence up. (I should have switched to soft hackles downstream last week on the Arkansas too.) Then my rod bent down when a trout took the soft-hackle. After his third dance skimming across the top of the water, a 14 inch Rainbow broke off at my net.

The following morning when I woke up in the cabin it occurred to me that with just two days remaining to fish that my strategy of just focusing on nymph fishing as a way to improve my technique had not led me to any success. I needed help - a guide. After all, at 75 I am getting closer to old age and what had I saved my money for?

I called Michele and she set me up for the following day, my last one, with a professional guide, George Mingus. He is a certified fishing guide who fishes or hunts every day (elk the day before) when not working as an officer in the county sheriff's office. I met George at Michelle's shop at 6 AM. (Not my usual retirement day start time.) I told him I am not out to catch a lunker but to improve my nymph fishing. He replied, "Great, because that is my favorite technique."

On the way to the Dream Stream I told him what Michelle had told me that trout will try to remove a hook from the mouth at the bottom of a stream. He confirmed this, "I've seen this 50 times." He added that Michelle had taught him a lot. We found ourselves to be the only ones on the water (more river size than stream) and the sun was now out in a clear sky. The spacious valley area was where only a buffalo would feel at home. George put on a San Juan Worm and a trailer which I believe was a #16 Pheasant Tail nymph with a split shot six inches above it. (The easily adjustable/removable Air-lock Strike indicators seem to be the guides' choice.)

After observing me, George said my mistake was that I was "casting." What he meant was after picking up the line downstream that instead of lifting the rod high and with my arm sending the two flies forward $\frac{3}{4}$ upstream and then releasing line with my left hand I was casting like it was a dry fly or even worse - dry fly false casting - which resulted in a tangled leader nearly every time. We need to remember in nymphing that short distant casts are better and keeping the rod tip high up until the fly is across from you keeps the line off the water as long as possible. He was kind to me saying I was doing fine in my mends upstream in keeping the fly from dragging.

Back to the river with George, this time with some dry fly casting. The Trico hatch came on again this morning but the density was much less than two days ago at the Canyon. George put on a Trico spinner as a primary then he put a Trico emerger with a white foam tower wing case for the trailer. Sure enough the trout could find my fly among the others. From time to time George would say, "He ate it!" when I did not see the strike. After a while George said. "Let's try a male Trico for the dropper - its black." Now, why didn't I think of that -#16 or 18 black male? We caught one nice size rainbow but mostly smaller browns, but as I had told George I wanted to just focus on improving my technique. And, that is exactly what we did together.

These were my take-a-ways from my trip: Although I did not catch a lot of trout nor a lunker, I now know what I need to work on to improve my nymph fishing. I also found that I was making a mistake of dismissing water just because it was close to a metropolitan area. I got to experience the Eleven Mile Canyon and the Dream Stream - some of the most beautiful and best trout water anywhere. Meeting Michelle and having the day with George on the water were additional highlights of the trip, I will return and when I do I will explore the many other streams in the area and I might even go for a lunker in the Dream Stream.

Frank



Just Fishing

by Dave Collins

I recently made a pilgrimage to what Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's referred to in his "Hiawatha" poem (1855) as the shores of Gitche Gumee. It was my hope, while rekindling my relationship with the Upper Peninsula of Michigan that I would breathe the piney air and my soul would be soothed by the sound of waves lapping against the majestic shoreline of Lake Superior. It was here that I hoped to reconnect with the spirits of Ernest Hemmingway and more importantly John Voelker a.k.a Robert Traver.

Voelker, a lifelong resident of the UP who had served as a lawyer, prosecutor and as a Michigan Supreme Court judge is best known for his novel *Anatomy of a Murder* but equally well known by a generation of trout fisherman for his collections of fishing stories which can be found in his books *Trout Magic* and *Trout Madness*. Each of his stories reflects the simplicity and beauty of fishing but is best stated in his essay :

Testament of a Fisherman:

I fish because I love to

Because I love the environs where trout are found, which are invariably beautiful, and hate the environs where crowds of people are found, which are invariably ugly;

Because of all the television commercials, cocktail parties, and assorted social posturing I thus escape because, in a world where most men seem to spend their lives doing things they hate, my fishing is at once an endless source of delight and an act of small rebellion;

Because trout do not lie or cheat and cannot be bought or bribed or impressed by power, but respond only to quietude and humility and endless patience;

Because I suspect that men are going along this way for the last time, and I for one don't want to waste the trip;

Because mercifully there are no telephones on trout waters;

Because only in the woods can I find solitude without loneliness;

Because bourbon out of an old tin cup always tastes better out there;

Because maybe one day I will catch a mermaid;

And, finally, not because I regard fishing as being so terribly important but because I suspect that so many of the other concerns of men are equally unimportant - and not nearly so much fun...

John Voelker

The trout streams of the Upper Peninsula still reflect much of the essence of Voelker. The streams are covered in trees requiring the perfect roll cast. There are no signs indicating the direction to streams or public access. There are no parking lots or styles and the small towns are not filled with Brew Pubs adorning their walls with "fish porn" only taverns where you can still get a perfectly mixed Old Fashion. There are no fly shops selling \$900 rods, logo caps or shirts brightly decorated with trout. It is just "fishing". Fishing for wild fish in beautiful environs.

I use to seek refuge and peace on a quiet mountain stream in the middle of Colorado. The stream went on for miles and my companions, my wife Jeanne and my yellow lab Alex, would be the only ones along the stream. Alex would run between us for hours. Alex could sense a fish before the strike but never did grasp the concept of catch and release. He probably understood the concept of limiting your catch and the true mortality of caught trout and released trout.

Fast forward; in the name of economic development, the once natural stream was "restored" and the wild fish were supplemented with hatchery fish. The parking areas were converted to parking lots and are filled by 8am. The banks along the stream have been pounded into dirt pathways. The fish all have been named!

Unfortunately, fishing has been lost in the name of catching and most of the tranquility and joy that Voelker experienced has been lost. It is a beautiful pastime that has been converted to a billion-dollar industry. Fishing magazines no longer carry stories by the likes of John Voelker, Arnold Gingrich or Art Flick but are filled with pictures of "trophy" fish (although I still believe that every fish is a treasure) and ads where manufacturers try to sell us their products for which we are merely buying hope.

Streams are now filled with anglers wielding expensive fly rods that will cast across a football field and reels with drags that would stop a semi-truck. Most every angler sports a commemorative hat from their last fishing trip, a shirt made from the latest techno fabric and their cars are plastered with fishing stickers. Each of these anglers aspires for the time when they can sit around the local craft brewery, or their fishing club talking about their "30 fish" day and proudly passing their phones around displaying a picture of their prize fish which is gasping for air. The simplicity and beauty of fishing have been lost.

In the UP there are no "restoration projects" aimed at creating "fish courses" and there are no stocked fish. There are no fly shops; only small fishing sections in hardware stores and the bears on the streams outnumber the anglers. There is no motivation to increase tourism in the name of economic development. There is just, as Voelker puts it, "solitude without loneliness."

As Yvon Chouinard, the founder of Patagonia, often says, "when you get to the edge of a cliff maybe progress is turning around and taking a step forward." Maybe we should all turn around and take a step forward. Maybe every stream does not need public access or need to be altered by a backhoe and maybe marginal streams do not have to be stocked with hatchery raised fish in the name of catching.

Maybe in an effort to preserve the environs we love we should re-read *Trout Magic*, simply our fishing lives, perfect our roll cast and then maybe at the end of the day "bourbon will taste better out of an old tin cup."

And by the way...a good day picking wild blueberries is as good as fishing for wild brook trout

Testament of a Fisherman Reprinted with Permission of Grace Voelker Wood

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