

Badger Fly Fishers



Newsletter

April 2016

Wisconsin Smallmouth Alliance will hold annual fundraising auction

By Mike Simon, Fundraising Chairman 608-848-3770 or madisonmike@tds.net

We'd like to invite everyone to our eleventh annual fundraiser Tuesday, April 19th at the Maple Tree Restaurant in McFarland. This year the doors open at 5:30 to allow more time for registration, socializing, and dinner. This will give everyone more time to view the items up for bid, including the bidding on the silent auction items. Winning bidders of the silent auction will be announced at 6:45, followed immediately by the live auction. As always, this event is open to the public with no admission fee.

We will have trips by Roger Lapenter, Kip Vieth, Ron Barefield, Blackwater Fly Fishing, Wisconsin Fly Fishing Co., Pool Nine Guide Service, and Mike Jacobs in the Iowa driftless area. These trips are the highlight of the evening, and the fishing season for the lucky winners.

We will also feature a Stihl blower raffle, and a wide array of gift certificates from area restaurants and businesses. Spin and fly fishers should check out our

auction list for names like St. Croix, Shimano, Guideline, Orvis, Stowmaster, Fishpond, Simms, Bass Pro, Umpqua, Echo, Airflo, Bogagrip, etc. We will feature flies for multiple species of fish, tied by some of the most talented tiers around.

The selection and quality of these flies is outstanding. Please plan to view the items before the auction starts.

100% of proceeds donated to youth fishing, outdoor education programs, restocking, and conservation projects.

Obviously, donations are important, but even more important is that we have bidders and buyers in the audience. Please consider bringing a guest or two to assure the continued success of this event, **our only fundraiser**. If you've attended in the past, you've witnessed the fun that is had by members and guests each year. You can help the club by just showing up.

Due to our previous success, we have contributed over \$26,000 to various programs. This past year's contributions have been to the Kids On Ice and Kids Summer Fishing Day here in Dane Co., Sauk County Youth Conservation Days, Youth in the

Outdoors in northwest Wisconsin, and the Grant Co. Outdoor Alliance, which serves southwest Wisconsin. These programs give over 2,000 kids the opportunity to experience the many opportunities the outdoors has to offer.

We've continued our contributions to The River Alliance, Friends of the Lower WI River Way, and have partnered with the DNR and UW Stevens Point to provide transmitters for research on the lower Menomonee River. We've also continued our funding of a brochure about the construction of half-log structures that the DNR distributes to the public.

WSA thanks all attendees and bidders for their on-going generosity and support of this event. Without you, it would not be possible. We ask that you patronize the great guides and businesses that do so much to support our causes.

A reminder: **only cash or checks** are accepted as payment for auction items. An ATM machine is available on site.

The items up for auction can be found [website](#). The site will be updated with new items as they come in, up to auction time.

Please join us on April 19th at the Maple Tree Restaurant, McFarland. Dinner and registration begins at 5:30 p.m. Auction at 6:45 p.m.

The Fly Fishers, Milwaukee hosts Annual Spring Opener Open House

Mark your calendar. Their annual spring Open House is fast approaching. Join them on Saturday April 9th from 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. for tons of fun.

They will have reps on hand, special one day a year in-house specials, casting lessons, brats and beverages. Pick up some great fly tying tips with fly tying demos all day. More fun stuff is in the works for the day too. Contact the experts at the [Fly Fishers Fly Shop](#) (414-259-8100) for more information.

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This year's hearings are scheduled for Monday, April 11th at 7:00 p.m.. The Dane County location is Waunakee High School.

Among the most significant questions for anglers; there is a proposal to eliminate "artificial-only" regs for trout, repeal the 2013 iron mining law, ban lead from fishing tackle, and an advisory question on returning the appointment of the DNR secretary to the Natural Resources Board.

More information including the complete questions and a list of locations can be found at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/About/WCC/springhearing.html>

Club provides funding for stream improvement

At our last meeting the Badgers voted to approve another \$2000 to support the Harry and Laura Nohr TU chapter's work on the Blue River.

This will be a continuation of work already done on the lower section below Shemak Road.

Speaker Signed for Spring Opener 2017

[Jason Randall](#) will be next year's featured speaker. Jason has been an outdoor writer for the last twelve years with feature articles appearing regularly in *American Angler*, *Fly Fisherman*, *Eastern Fly Fishing*, *Northwest Fly Fishing* and many other outdoor magazines.

He has authored three books: *Moving Water: A Fly Fisher's Guide to Currents*, *Feeding Time: A Fly Fisher's Guide to What, Where and When Trout Eat*, and *Trout Sense: A Fly Fisher's Guide to What Trout See, Hear and Smell*.

In January, 2017, Jason will release a book on advanced nymph fishing techniques that is yet untitled.

The Badger Fly Fishers Newsletter is published monthly. Articles, photos, information, and calendar events for the newsletter are encouraged and should be submitted by the 1st day of the month of issue to: Dan Johnson. 426

Next Meeting: Monday, April 25th

Curt Diehl, Dane County Conservation Specialist
on local stream projects and easements

Curt grew up on a northern Illinois beef and grain farm. His father was an early and committed advocate for soil and water conservation practices.

After two years in natural resource studies at Stevens Point, he got his degree in agriculture from U.W. Platteville.

He has worked in conservation planning for Dane County since 1991 where he helps farmers come into compliance with non-point source pollution rules, finds funding for stream restoration on their properties, and helps acquire stream easements.

Thanks to Curt, working with the DNR, three Dane County streams have been taken off the EPA's impaired waters list. And a fourth is about to follow.

Hear about these successful projects and what the future might hold - a virtual "State of the Streams" address - at our next meeting.



Photo by Mark Godfrey of the Nature Conservancy

Curt, speaking to landowners Steve and Don Peterson on Pleasant Valley Creek

Events Calendar

April 19th **WSA Annual Fundraising Auction**

April 25th **BFF monthly meeting**
Curt Diehl Dane County
Conservation Specialist
on stream and easement projects

May 23rd **BFF monthly meeting**
Bill Engber, Steve Born & Kirk Hogan
"Iceland Adventure"

The Badger Fly Fishers' meetings are normally held on the fourth Monday of each month. **The Wisconsin Smallmouth Alliance** meets on the third Tuesday. Both groups meet at the Mapletree Restaurant on Highway 51, in McFarland, Wisconsin. Programs begin at 7:00 p.m., dinner at 6:00 p.m. Visitors and guests are always welcome.