



Wisconsin Smallmouth Alliance Ltd.

Helping to Protect and Preserve Quality Smallmouth Bass Fishing

March 2017

Monthly Meetings

Wisc. Smallmouth Alliance

Meets 3rd Tuesday, 7 p.m. Maple Tree Restaurant, McFarland

March 21 – Speaker: Tim Landwehr, Tight Lines Flyfishing Co., De Pere, Wis.
“SmallMouth Bass in NE Wisc.”

Southern Wisc. Trout Unlimited

Meets 2nd Tuesday of month (Except Jul /Aug) 7 p.m. at the Coliseum Bar, Olin Ave, Madison

Badger Flyfishers

Meets 4th Monday of month 7 p.m. Maple Tree Restaurant, McFarland. Kyle Zempel, Black Earth Angling, “Experiencing the Crash”

Yahara Fishing Club

Meets Wed. Mar. 8, 7 p.m. at VFW on Cottage Grove Rd. Topic SM Bass and Walleye on jigs

Capital City Muskies

March 18, Muskie School, 7:00 p.m. at Waunakee High School

Club Information

wisconsin-smallmouth.com
Mike Simon, 608-334-4448
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President Jerry Pasdo
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Editor: John Cantwell,
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12th Annual WISCONSIN SMALLMOUTH ALLIANCE FUNDRAISING AUCTION

April 18, 2017 - Maple Tree Restaurant in McFarland

Doors open at 5:30 to allow time for socializing and dinner, viewing the auction items, and bidding on the Silent Auction items. Winning bidders of the Silent Auction will be announced promptly at 6:45, followed with the live auction. This event is free to the public.

We're featuring trips to some of the best destinations in the Midwest, including the Mississippi, St. Croix, Wisconsin, and Flambeau Rivers, as well as Lake Mendota. See our website for more information. While you're there, check out the links to the guides and consider booking a trip for the upcoming season. It'll be the highlight of your year.

We will also have rods, reels, bags, packs, flies, lures, and assorted gear for both the spin and fly angler including St. Croix, Simms, Sage, Redington, Fishpond, Boga, Orvis, Shimano, and Bass Pro. Also featured are fly and lure assortments made by our talented members.

Also, handcrafted items, restaurant and other gift certificates, Fiskars Gardening tools, optics by Vortex, the Stihl Blower raffle, and goodies to satisfy your sweet tooth. Want to see more? Go to our website to keep up with the growing list. Check it regularly. We will have a list in the April newsletter.

This one event funds the coming year's projects. Plan to attend and bring a friend or two. A roomful of people to enjoy the camaraderie and bid on the variety of items sure adds to the enjoyment of the evening. If you have items you'd like to contribute, please contact me or any of the board members listed on our web site. Members who cannot attend can also bid. Contact Mike or another board member to place a bid for you.

All of this is made possible by our generous donors in support of our club and its cause. These include guides who donate trips, business partners who donate merchandise, and our members who contribute items.

Cash or checks only are accepted. ATM on site.

WHERE'S THE MONEY GOING?

To date, \$29,835 has been donated. Last year's projects were:

- Kids on Ice and Kids Summer Fishing Day in Dane Co.
- Youth Conservation Days in Sauk Co. • Youth in the Outdoors in NW Wisc.
- Dane Co. Parks, Jenni & Kyle Fishing Day Event
- Grant Co. Outdoor Alliance kids' programs
- Nesting cover brochures were printed in conjunction with the DNR for distribution to educate groups on habitat improvement.
- The River Alliance of Wisconsin, Friends of the Lower Wisconsin Riverway, and the Upper Sugar River Watershed Assoc.
- Helped provide transmitters and survey rewards for research on lower Menominee River
- Save the Wild UP environmental group

SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN FISHERIES REPORT

By Jerry Pasdo

At our February meeting, Bradd Sims of WDNR, offered some valuable information about SM streams in Southwest Wisconsin. Bradd covered the Ames, the Galena, especially stretches around and above the County Highway W crossing, various branches of the Pecatonica, including the Pecatonica just above the Illinois border, the Sinsinawa, the Little Platte, the Mineral Point Branch, the Rattlesnake, and the Grant.

The DNR is in discussions with property owners to get easements. They were able to get easements on the Galena above and below Highway W and also on the Platte River below Highway B. Fortunately, a generous property owner gave an easement of between 6,000 to 7,000 feet on the Platte. These easements appear on the WDNR website maps. Bradd cautions to be aware of property owners who are not cooperating with the easements to make sure we stay in the water when we are traversing those areas.

As would be expected, 20" SM are not common on these southwest streams, but those fish present are healthy. Nearly all the reproduction is natural with very minimal stocking. The WDNR's samplings show a good age spread between 3" and 17" throughout the various watersheds. Their samplings were done late August into September so they could check the young of the year stock.

We are interested in Bradd's feedback and comments regarding projects where he and the WDNR need some help. We spent the last portion of the meeting discussing projects ranging from disabled access areas, like one that was done near Highway W, or access 'ladders'. We also discussed projects that our organization could be involved in by supplying materials or building the structures. Access improvements would be explored also. If any members are interested in helping out, please contact Jerry Pasdo or Mike Simon. These are projects we can be involved in that are close to home. I know WSA will provide some funding, but we definitely would like to provide manpower.



DESTINATIONS

By John Cantwell

My favorite lakes in Vilas and Oneida counties (Northern Highlands) are mostly wilderness lakes. By that I mean lakes with very limited development, which translates into a pleasant, quiet outing.

Day Lake is a wilderness lake located about 10 miles north of Minocqua off of Hwy 51. It is a 101 acre seepage lake with clear water and lots of rocky shoreline. Its deepest part is 57 feet. It is only a few miles from Boulder Junction.

The lake has at least two DNR campsites that I have seen. This lake makes for a nice day or weekend trip. It is located in the remote Day Lake State Natural Area. A boat launch off Day Lake Rd. has limited parking. The shoreline is entirely undeveloped. Camping requires a permit.

SUMMER OUTINGS

By Jerry Pasdo

A couple members have discussed fishing trips into the Vilas County area. The area targeted, at this time, would be around Boulder Junction where there are many small-craft-only accessible waters or small fishing boat lakes. There will be something for everyone.

The dates are flexible depending on the participants' preferences. Please contact me for more information or to provide input.

japasdo@gmail.com

Wisconsin Smallmouth Alliance

Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Maple Tree Restaurant,
McFarland. 7:00 p.m. or come
early and join us for dinner

“Smallmouth bass in North East WI ”

Presented by Tim Landwehr, owner of Tight Lines Flyfishing Co.
DePere, WI



Tim is the owner of Tight Lines Fly Fishing Co. in De Pere, Wisconsin and I have been lucky enough to have been a professional fly fishing guide for the majority of my adult life. I guided some of the famous rivers of the West, but my warm water roots brought me back to my home state to open a fly shop and outfitter business.

My crew of guides and myself float the rivers of Northeast Wisconsin in western-style drift boats for some of the largest River Smallies in the country. I am proud to say our shop was one of the first in the Midwest to incorporate this style of fishing on our Smallouth Rivers.

I employ eight guides and I still put in countless days on the water myself guiding. Our shop and fishery has been featured in ESPN, OLN, Fly Fisherman Magazine, Catch Magazine, Fly Fishing Film Tour, Grays Sporting Journal, Eastern Fly Fishing and Sporting Classics.

I am most proud of how many people we have introduced to warm water species and fly fishing in general. Check out the Tight Lines app to see what else we are up to! <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/tight-lines-fly-fishing-co./id1027642404?ls=1&mt=8>

**For additional information contact Mike Simon 608-334-4448 or
Jerry Pasdo 608-345-2198 or visit our website at www.wisconsin-smallmouth.com**



The **Fly Fishers Fly Shop** will be hosting the 2017 IF4 Fly Fishing Film Tour again on Wednesday evening March 8th. Last year's event was a blast and a big success and a record year in raising funds for Southeast Wisconsin Trout Unlimited and the Wisconsin Smallmouth Alliance. We are again holding the event at the Sprecher Brewery, 701 W Glendale Ave. in Milwaukee.

Everyone who attends will get a great gift bag. We will have tons of free door prizes again. There'll be food, Sprecher beer, soda, and raffles, with all sales benefiting SEWTU and the WSA. Don't wait and miss out. Stop in at The Fly Fishers for tickets, call us at 414-259-8100 to order.

WE HAVE TICKETS IN THE SHOP - \$20
Doors Open at 5:30PM - Show Starts at 7:00PM
Wednesday March 8th, 2017



WSA sponsors the Kid's raffle at the Badger Fly Fishing Opener every year. The raffle is open to kids aged 14 yrs. and under, and everyone gets a prize. 2017 we had 18 participants and as you can see, some very happy kids! The little one with the fly rod was the first name drawn.

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12th Annual Fundraiser Auction

Join the Fun!

*Helping to protect and preserve
quality smallmouth bass fishing*

Tuesday April 18th, 2017, The Maple Tree Restaurant in McFarland
Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for dinner and registration.

Auction events start at 6:45 p.m. **Sorry no credit card sales.**

- Flies and lures
- Guided Trips
- Spinning, Fly, Casting rods and reels
- And much more

100% of proceeds donated to:
Youth fishing, outdoor education
programs, restocking, and
conservation projects partnering
with WDNR and WI universities.

For more information, contact Mike Simon (608) 334-4448
or madisonmike@tds.com

Log on to www.wisconsin-smallmouth.com
for an updated list of auction items. **Open to the public no admission.**

