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The Newsletter of the Leon

P. Martuch Chapter of Trout

Unlimited

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The Landing Net

LANE PROPERTY TRANSFERRED

The River that Changed the World

Find the answers at the Michigan History Museum's newest exhibition, opening Sept. 30

In 1959, 16 fishermen, united by their love of trout and the Au Sable River, gathered at George Griffith's home east of Grayling, in Michigan's northern Lower Peninsula. The sportsmen were concerned about the need for long-term conservation of Michigan's coldwater streams. They were convinced that better and more scientific habitat care



would help the state's trout population thrive, creating not only better fishing, but also a better environment. Nearly 60 years later, Trout Unlimited, the organization founded by those fishermen, has become a national champion of fish habitat conservation.

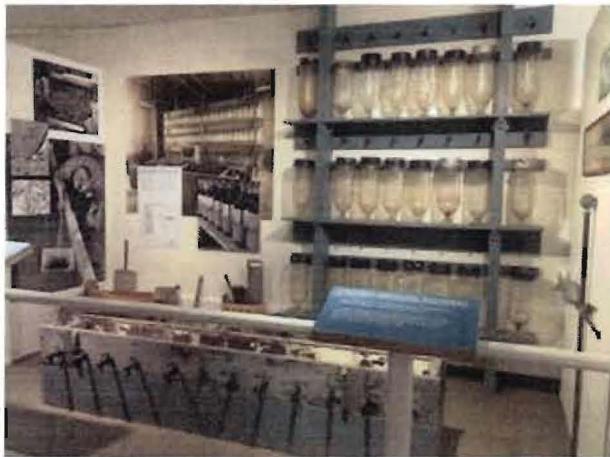
Trout Unlimited's founding on the Au Sable is showcased in the Michigan History Museum's newest exhibition, *The River that Changed the World*, opening Saturday, Sept. 30. From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. that day, visitors will get a first look at the new exhibition, and opportunities to engage with guest presenters and hands-on activities.

"The Au Sable River has influenced – and continues to influence – people around the world," said Mark Harvey, Michigan's state archivist and the exhibition's curator. "The stories in the exhibition demonstrate the innovative and unprecedented ways private citizens and state government worked together to conserve and protect the river and sustainably manage its fish populations."

The exhibition features George Griffith's 24-foot-long Au Sable river boat, surrounded by river scenes. A re-creation of the Wanigas Rod Shop introduces fly fisherman and rod maker Art Neumann, another founding member of Trout Unlimited. Nearby, visitors of all ages can learn how to tie a fly and compare tied flies to real insects under a microscope.

The exhibition also introduces the relationship between the Anishinaabe (Ojibwa and Ojibwe people) and the Au Sable River. It highlights how their use of the river changed with the seasons and includes tools and fish bones from an archaeological site along the river.

The late 19th-century work of state conservationists and private citizens who tried to save the Arctic grayling – the iconic native coldwater fish that once dominated northern



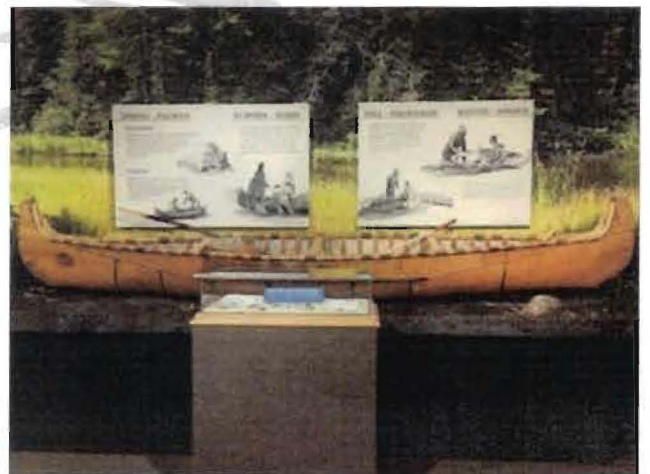
Michigan streams – is represented by a “battery” of glass beakers from the Grayling fish hatchery. Each beaker held thousands of eggs. Arctic grayling were native only to Michigan and Montana in the lower 48 states.

Original paneling and artifacts from the Wolverine fish car, which carried millions of fish by rail across Michigan, tell the story of subsequent efforts to plant trout in the Au Sable. Fred Westerman, former fisheries chief in the Michigan Department of Conservation (the forerunner to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources) and one of the first employees of the Wolverine, once reported: “Frequently ... thirty cans of fish would be dropped off at some spooky junction - like in

the jack pine at Au Sable-Oscoda with the cemetery across the tracks and the depot a mile from town – on the night run of the Detroit & Mackinac, to await the morning train going up the river branch.”

The exhibit's final section presents Grayling as a destination for fishing and tourism since the mid-19th century. It combines competing interests and different perspectives on the future of the Au Sable, with an appreciation of the river's recreational draw. In this section, visitors can sit in a kayak and experience a 360-degree, virtual reality paddle down the Au Sable, either by using an Oculus Rift headset or their own smart devices and cardboard viewers. At the end of the exhibition, visitors are invited share their stories about the rivers that they love and how they might work to protect them.

Current DNR Fisheries Chief Jim Dexter agrees that the Au Sable is a premier outdoor fishing destination, and he applauds the vision and passion of the people who early on



recognized that potential.

“As the name of the exhibit implies, the Au Sable is a world-class fishery resource attracting anglers from every corner of the earth. It's one of the most stable groundwater-influenced watersheds in North America, and produces exceptional trout fishing,” Dexter said. “It wasn't always that way, though. Without the creation of Trout Unlimited at the

Au Sable River, by those who understood the potential of our coldwater resources, Michigan might not be home to one of the world's greatest trout fisheries."

The exhibition will run through next summer, and is included with regular museum admission. The Michigan History Museum is a nationally accredited museum located in the east wing of the Michigan Library and Historical Center, on the north side of Kalamazoo Street, two blocks east of M. L. King Jr. Boulevard. The museum is open year-round, seven days a week. For more information, call 517-373-3559 or visit www.michigan.gov/museum.

The Michigan History Center is part of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Its museum and archival programs foster curiosity, enjoyment, and inspiration rooted in Michigan's stories. It includes the Michigan History Museum, 10 regional museums, and the Archives of Michigan. Learn more at www.michigan.gov/michiganhistory.

Lane Property Transferred

The Leon P. Martuch Chapter transferred the ownership of the Lane Trust Property to Little Forks Conservancy at their September BOD meeting.

Originally the Lane Property was transferred to our Chapter pursuant to George Lane's Conservation Trust. After the transfer it was found that in 2012 Trout Unlimited National had made a policy that Chapters could not own property. (This had no effect on the Leon P. Martuch Memorial Property on Townline Rd). We talked with Little Forks and in subsequent negotiations found it was in both our interests to pass the ownership to Little Forks.

Little Forks takes ownership of the Lane Trust Property and is to manage the upland portions of the Trust and our Chapter the river corridor.

We are working with Kristin Thomas MITU Biologist and Kathy Schrouder DNR Fisheries

Biologist to develop a management plan for the river in the Trust area.

This agreement is a win-win agreement with Little Forks. It allows us to meet our Chapters objectives ...exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes and specifically to conserve and preserve salmonids as a game fish and to work with and encourage constituted authorities and other conservation organizations to that end; through scientific, yet practical, salmonid management; through land, water and watershed management to provide desirable food and habitat.....

We will be working closely with Little Forks Conservancy in managing the property in accordance with the Lane Conservation Trust.

DNR encourages residents to review Army Corps plan to prevent invasive carp from entering Great Lakes

Comments accepted by mail, online or at Sept. 14 public hearing in Muskegon

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is encouraging state residents to review the recently released [Army Corps of Engineers plan](#) for stopping invasive carp (also known as Asian carp) from entering the Great Lakes basin. Residents who want to share their thoughts on the plan can do so online at the report site, attend a Sept. 14 public hearing at Muskegon Community College or mail their comments by Oct. 2.

"Preventing invasive carp from entering the Great Lakes, its tributaries and inland lakes is one of Michigan's most critical priorities," said Tammy Newcomb, the DNR's senior water policy advisor.

"The release of this plan is a vital step forward in protecting the Great Lakes from invasive

species that threaten fisheries, recreation and tourism,” Newcomb said. “We’re asking Michigan citizens – including recreation enthusiasts, anglers and anyone who values this irreplaceable natural resource – to give the report thoughtful review and share your opinions about the plan.”

The Corps last month released its plan that identifies an array of potential strategies to block Asian carp at the Brandon Road Lock and Dam on the Des Plaines River in Joliet, Illinois. The Tentatively Selected Plan would cost an estimated \$275 million and include such activities as the installation of underwater sound equipment, electric barriers and other measures.

The invasive bighead and silver carp pose a significant threat to the Great Lakes ecosystem, the region’s \$7 billion fishery, the basin’s \$16 billion boating industry and other economic interests dependent on the Great Lakes and its tributaries. Silver and bighead carp are likely to compete with native and recreational fish species and are known to quickly reproduce. Silver carp also are known for their jumping abilities and potential to cause serious harm to boaters.

Newcomb said that because the adult population of bighead and silver carp is immediately below Brandon Road, the Brandon Road Lock and Dam marks a critical pinch-point where the migration of invasive carp must be stopped.

“We want every Michigan resident to understand the real and substantial threat invasive carp pose to the economy and the ecology of the Great Lakes, and to understand the magnitude of that threat,” Newcomb said. “The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers plan lays out a series of technological solutions that can and should be taken to stop the relentless advance of this aquatic invader.”

As part of a public comment period on the plan, the Corps has scheduled:

- A public hearing in Michigan Thursday, Sept. 14, 3:30-6:30 p.m. at the Muskegon Community College Collegiate Hall in Muskegon. The meeting will feature an open house gathering, a presentation on the study and a public comment period.
- Two public meetings in Illinois. The first is taking place this afternoon in Chicago; the second one is set for Monday, Sept. 18, in Joliet.

The report can be viewed and comments made at <http://glmr.is.anl.gov/brandon-rd>. Comments also can be mailed to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District, ATTN: GLMRIS-Brandon Road Comments, 231 LaSalle St., Suite 1500, Chicago, IL 60604. Comments must be postmarked by Oct. 2.

For more information about the threat invasive carp pose to Michigan and the Great Lakes basin, visit the DNR website www.michigan.gov/invasivecarp.

Great Lakes Water Temperatures Start to Decrease Early

Traverse City, Mich. – Great Lakes water temperatures may have started their yearly decline ahead of schedule. George Leshkevich, a research scientist at the Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, said each of the lakes is cooler than it was at this time a year ago.

“It seems like they’re cooling. The cooling usually starts in September,” he said. “But, in just seeing the forecast for northern Michigan in the last week or so, night temperatures and frost risks will affect the water temperatures.”

Lake Michigan seems to have been the least impacted, being only about 1 degree lower than last year, from 72 degrees to only about 71. Lake Superior was about 66 degrees last year and about 63 degrees this year.

Normal air temperatures in late August and early September usually land in the mid-70s, said Matt Gillen, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Gaylord.

"In 2016, we were still in the low 80s, about 84 degrees which is about 5-7 degrees above normal for this time," Gillen said.

Leshkevich found it odd the lakes were already cooling, as in previous years the temperatures would remain fairly steady into mid-September. "At this point though, it could still bounce back if we had some very hot, warm weather," he said. "But we would need at least a week or two of warm at this point to have an effect."

But Gillen said that's likely not going to happen. "There's no signs of a substantial warm-up — that's for sure," he said.

The Great Lakes didn't freeze much at all in winter 2016-17, meaning the lakes had a jump-start on getting temperatures high and keeping them high, Leshkevich said.

"Winter wasn't that bad, there wasn't that much ice cover meaning heating season would last longer," he said. "In 2014 the opposite happened — we had a hard winter where the lakes froze and they weren't able to absorb as much energy because the ice was there longer."

Leshkevich said he wasn't sure what this will mean for the next season, other than it potentially shortening water recreation time on the Great Lakes, but circled back to air temperature as the likely culprit.

Traverse City Record-Eagle

U.S. Government Orders Expansion Of Hunter Access To Federal Lands

Washington, DC - In a ground-breaking move, U.S. Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke issued an order today that directs the overseers of millions

of acres of Federal lands to come up with plans to expand access for hunters and fishermen.

"Hunting and fishing is a cornerstone of the American tradition and hunters and fishers of America are the backbone of land and wildlife conservation," said Secretary Zinke. "The more people we can get outdoors, the better things will be for our public lands. As someone who grew up hunting and fishing on our public lands - packing bologna sandwiches and heading out at 4AM with my dad - I know how important it is to expand access to public lands for future generations. Some of my best memories are hunting deer or reeling in rainbow trout back home in Montana, and I think every American should be able to have that experience."

"We are delighted with this action by Secretary Zinke," said SCI President Paul Babaz. "It will give American sportsmen and women much greater opportunity to hunt and fish on the lands that belong to all of us, and will assure the conservation of wildlife on those lands well into the future."

Recognizing the critical role hunters play in conservation, Secretarial Order 3356 directs bureaus within the department to:

- Within 120 days produce a plan to expand access for hunting and fishing on BLM, USFWS and NPS land.
- Amend national monument management plans to ensure the public's right to hunt, fish and target shoot.
- Expand educational outreach programs for underrepresented communities such as veterans, minorities, and youth.
- In a manner that respects the rights and privacy of the owners of non-public lands, identify lands within their purview where access to Department lands, particularly access for hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, and other forms of outdoor recreation, is currently limited (including areas of Department land that may be impractical or effectively impossible to access via public roads or trails under current conditions, but where

there may be an opportunity to gain access through an easement, right-of-way, or acquisition), and provide a report detailing such lands to the Deputy Secretary.

- Within 365 days, cooperate, coordinate, create, make available, and continuously update online a single "one stop" Department site database of available opportunities for hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting on Department lands.
- Improve wildlife management through collaboration with state, Tribal, territorial, and conservation partners.

"The Secretary's actions today target some of the most important obstacles to hunting in the United States," said Anna Seidman, SCI's Director of Governmental Affairs in the nation's Capital. "His focus on increased access, better education and volunteer activities will help provide greater opportunities for current hunters and encouragement for new and future hunters. SCI looks forward to working with the Secretary and the Department of the Interior on these new projects."

SCI's advocacy staff on Capitol Hill worked closely with other groups and government officials to help realize this historic change of direction by the U.S. federal government.

DNR begins 47th annual Saginaw Bay fish community survey

This month the Michigan Department of Natural Resources is conducting its 47th annual survey of the Saginaw Bay fish community. The survey, now under way, includes both trawling and gillnetting and will determine the abundance and health of fish populations in the bay.

"The timing of late summer or early fall allows us to assess how much reproduction has taken place for the year, as well as the overall abundance of older age groups," said Dave

Fielder, DNR fisheries research biologist. "The use of the same methods each year allows us to detect population changes in each species."

This survey annually produces data to gauge the effects of fisheries management actions and invasive species on bay fish populations. While the DNR does other work in Saginaw Bay – such as walleye tagging projects, creel surveys and habitat work – this fish community study is the department's primary look at the status of the fish populations.

This year's study marks the second year of changed harvest regulations, first implemented in October 2015. Those changes increased the daily possession limit of walleye from five to eight fish in the bay and lowered the minimum length limit from 15 inches to 13 inches. It also lowered the daily possession limit of yellow perch from 50 to 25 fish. These changes were intended to make for more complete use of the recovered walleye population and promote yellow perch survival. The results of the survey will help determine if additional regulation changes are needed.



Long-term surveys such as this one are critical to understanding fish communities and how they are changing. It takes about two to three weeks and two research vessels – the R/V Tanner out of Alpena and the R/V Channel Cat out of Harrison Township – to complete the work.

"It will be a few months before we have the full results of this survey since there is a lot of follow-up lab work to do, such as aging the fish we sampled," Fielder said. "The data we collect will be analyzed and shared with our fisheries managers and stakeholders prior to the 2018 fishing season so that any needed adjustments to existing regulations can be implemented."

Adam's Fly Print

We have some prints of the Adam's Fly by Beth Ward Donahue that celebrate TU's 50th Anniversary. Costs are \$120.00 and \$160.00 (remarked). Contact Ross Rosenbrock 989-662-6533, rosenbrock@live.com. Check out our website.

State Council www.michigantu.org

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Secretary - Mike Lagowski

Treasurer - Rob Smith - rsmith@michigantu.org

National Council Rep - Rob Smith -
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L. P. Martuch BOD Meetings

November 8, 2017 at Scientific Anglers

L.P. Martuch - Board of Directors

Brad Befus (2018) 866-587-6747 –
befusb@scientificanglers.com

Will Halphen (2018) (989-708-1749) –
whalphen@gmail.com

Harley Holsinger (2016) (989-667-0581) -
harleyo@live.com – BOD

Josh Jenkins (2018) 989-495-7151 –
jenkinsj@scientificanglers.com

John Johnson (2016) 989-835-6047 jocko@tm.net –
Kids Day / Fly Tying

George Killat (2018) (989-835-3793) -
tugeorgek@charter.net – Membership

Thomas Monto (2016) 989-430-8327 –
t8monto@aol.com

Mark Rapanos (2018) 989-20-0198 -
mkrapanos@charter.net – BOD

Ross Rosenbrock (2018) 989-662-6533
rosenbrock@live.com

John VanDalen (2018) 989-631-6873 jvdfish@gmail.com

John Winchester (2018) 989-631-0122 jgwinch@att.net –
Treasurer/Hatch Book

Steve Wilkowski (2016) 989-495-7151 –
swilkowski2000@yahoo.com - President / SIC



Committee Chairmen

; Bill Holler 989-284-6566 fwholler@chartermi.net –
Projects/Property

John Van Dalen 989-631-6873 jvdfish@gmail.com – Special
Events

Interesting web sites

<http://www.martuchtutu.org/Pages/default.aspx> Leon P
Martuch Website

<http://h2o.usgs.gov> Hydrology data for all rivers in the
US

<http://www.totalflyfishing.com> Fly Fishing Website

www.flyanglersonline.com Fly patterns, articles, and general information.

<http://info.abrfc.noaa.gov/rfc-wfo.html> National Weather Service river forecasts

www.tu.org Home page Trout Unlimited.

www.steelheadsites.com Steelhead information

www.fedflyfishers.org Federation of Flyfishers Home Page.

<http://www.michiganttu.org/> Michigan Council of Trout Unlimited Home Page

www.fffglc.org Federation of Fly Fishers

www.lssu.edu Lake Superior State University. Fish cam at the power plant at the Soo

www.trailstotrut.com Website for trout fishing

On Line Fishing Log mydailyfishinglog.com

Guide to fly fishing waters of the US –
www.kyndoutdoors.com

American Museum of Fly Fishing
www.amff.com

Anglers of the AuSable www.AuSableAnglers.org

On AOL Look under Interest, Hobbies, and Fishing

We will publish more sites, as they become known. If you know of interesting sites let me know at t8monto@aol.com

Membership

Trout Unlimited has a membership program going. Our Chapter can greatly benefit by having you sign up a new member. Log onto www.tu.org/intro and you can get a special introductory rate of \$17.50. Be sure to enter code 250 so our Chapter will receive credit for the membership. This would make a great gift for your fishing buddy.

For membership problems, contact George Killat.

Disclaimer Statement:

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