

THE LOOP



Dustin New, Editor



Before



After

Wednesday, May 15 at The Elkhart Conservation Club, Little Cabin

SJRVFF WELCOMES JOHN RICHARDSON

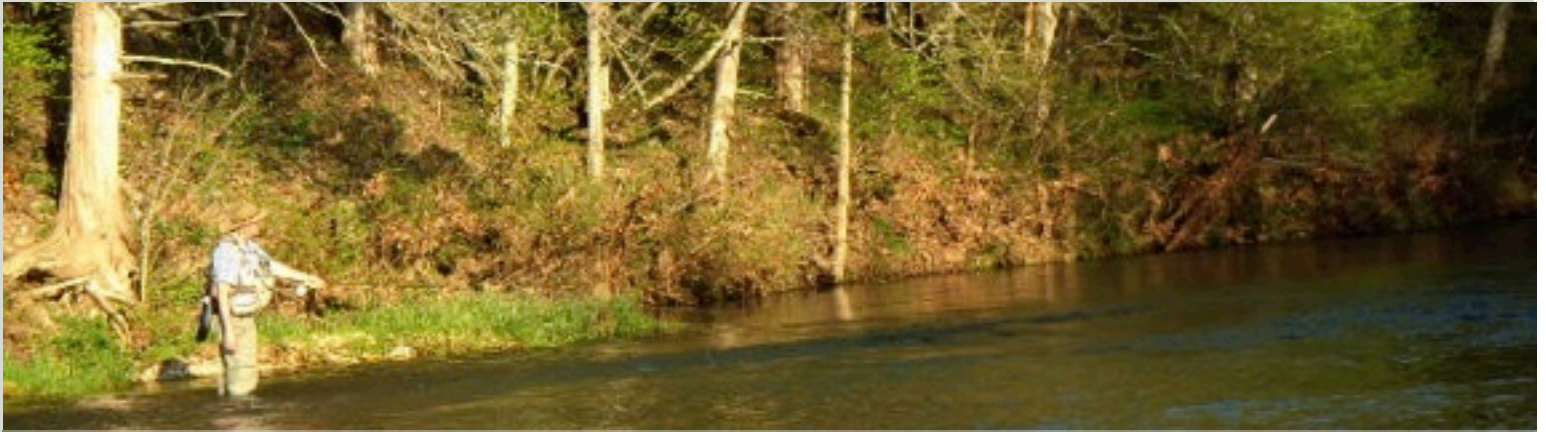
John Richardson is the stream expert for Cardno-JFNew. For the last 18 years he has been practicing the science and art of wetland, lake, and stream restoration. He is responsible for diagnostic, feasibility, and design studies, as well as construction management of water quality improvement projects. He conducts biological sampling, landowner and agency negotiations, project design, project permitting, and construction oversight. John holds a B.S. in Wildlife Management and Biology from the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, and an M.S. in Biology (Aquatic emphasis) from Tennessee Technological University where he studied the distribution, abundance and community structure of freshwater mussels. John will be

joined by Tom Estrem. Tom is responsible for the collection of aquatic resource data for stream and lake assessments including fish, macroinvertebrate, and mussel collection and identification. He is proficient in water quality sampling techniques, as well as qualitative habitat assessments, all levels of electrofishing equipment, and macroinvertebrate survey techniques along with field and lab identification of macroinvertebrates and fishes. Tom has a BS in Aquatic Biology with an emphasis in Fisheries from Bemidji State University.

John and Tom will describe the conditions and trends in Cobus Creek based on what they find. They will look mainly at aquatic invertebrates, stream bed



materials and vegetation growing adjacent to the creek on the Conservation Club as well as upstream. They will then discuss how vegetation, substrate stability, and water quality affect the fish and other aquatic life.



Well, Spring has finally sprung and the traditional fly fishing season has begun. It felt good to finally cast dry flies on my recent trip to the AuSable River . Soon the bluegills and bass will be spawning, and the summer fishing season will be in full swing!

Spring was also very busy for the SJRVFF. The annual fly tying class at Howard Park was a great success again this year. Many thanks to Dustin New and Jeff Stanifer for heading up this year's class. Hopefully a future Fly Tier of the Year will come from one of this years students!

The annual club auction was also a HUGE success this year. The spacious new venue proved to be just the ticket as over 80 people attended the auction. As usual, Jim Lothary outdid the previous year's auction. Many thanks to Jim and all of his helpers that made the auction run smoothly and to Dave Goodrich for doing a fantastic job as the auctioneer. We are very lucky to have him do this for us every year. Lee Troyer, Dustin New, and their wives did a great job handling the money and business end of the auction. Lastly, a big thank you to all of the SJRVFF members and guests that donated items and spent their money.

The Opening Day Outing was blessed with beautiful weather for the first time in several years. Over 50 people attended the outing, and a good time was had by all. The fishing reports were kinda vague and secretive as they usually are on this special day, as many anglers head back to their morning fishing spot after lunch.

Speaking of lunch, Todd Ezzell spent 6 hours Friday afternoon smoking over 30 lbs. of ribs and Saturday he finished cooking them for everyone in attendance. They were finger licking good and needless to say the ribs didn't last long. Terry Wittorp again deep fried 2 turkeys and made his special beans for us. The turkeys were juicy and very tasty. Once you have a taste you can't stop eating them! Thanks guys!!!

The Opening Day Rod Raffle was also a great success this year. The beautiful bamboo rod built by club member Winston Binney had many anxious ticket holders in attendance hoping that Bobbie LaBar would make them very happy that day when she drew their ticket. That happy person turned out to be Steve VanAntwerp, Terry's cooking assistant. It seems that it was his lucky week as he had won another raffle earlier in the week. Congrats Steve!!!



Many thanks to Craig Myers for selling the raffle tickets the past couple of months, and working the crowd on opening day. Nice job buddy!

I would also like to give a special **THANK YOU** to Bobbie for being a great hostess every year, and letting 50+ trout fishers invade her property every opening day!

Lastly, Vice President Mark Haley would like to get your ideas for guest speakers next fall. Please contact him at mhaley@dbacks.com and let him know what type of programs and speakers you would like to see at our monthly meetings.

The May meeting and cookout at the ECC will be our last meeting until September as we take the summer off to fish. Good Luck and tight lines to all!

Eric Ski



GOT YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

Membership renewal dues can still be paid at the club meetings or by mail to:

SJRVFF
P.O. Box 933
South Bend, IN 46624

- **New this year**, you can pay your dues by credit card through the web site. Click on the “Join SJRVFF” tab and down toward the bottom you will see where you can pay via PayPal.
- The dues are still just \$20.00 for individuals and \$35.00 for a family membership. Membership cards for paid members can be picked up at a meeting but you can still do your part supporting the club and continuing to receive the LOOP.
- You can still get your name on the “good” list and keep your “member in good standing” status after this month, but you won’t have the ability to whip out your membership card.



MEETING DETAILS:

Food will be ready about 6:30 PM, We'll take a look at the creek about 7:00.

Location: The Little Cabin at the Elkhart Conservation Club (see map on page four)

Parking is free.

Meal cost FREE per person.

MENU

Some sort of tasty meat prepared on the grill and served on a bun

Chips

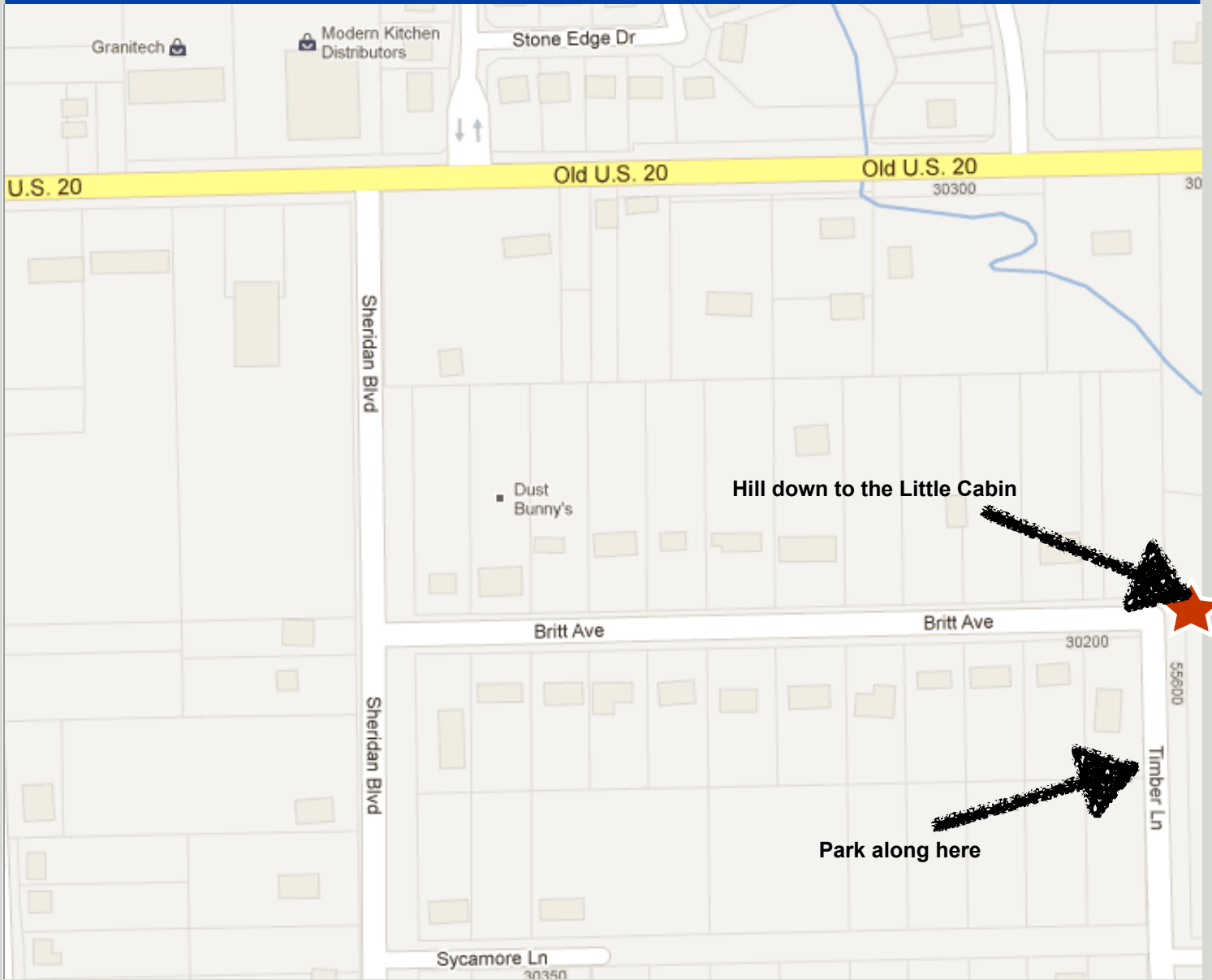
Assorted Sodas and Water

No Cash Bar (sorry guys)

BONUS

All members attending will receive one raffle ticket for a drawing or three for some special items Jim Lothary has kept tucked away.

If you get directions to the Elkhart Conservation Club you'll be close but on the wrong side of Cobus Creek. You want to go south on Sheridan Blvd to Britt Ave and down Britt Ave to the corner with Timber Lane. There's a dirt road leading down from that corner to the Little Cabin. Park along timber Lane. Please be respectful of the neighbors in the area. Bring a rod and some waders if you want to see what lives in these waters. (Hint - they raise brown trout right there!)



UPCOMING EVENTS	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPT 18
	<p>NOTICE THE BUGS ON YOUR WINDSHIELD? GET YOUR WADERS ON AND GO!</p>	<p>LOW WATER TIME AND LONG DAYS. GET OUT THERE AND PIERCE SOME LIPS!</p>	<p>FISH MORE.</p>	<p>Club Meeting 6:30pm - Location to be announced</p>

DIRECTORS

President: Eric Wroblewski (ewrobo2003@yahoo.com)
Vice-President: Mark Haley (mhaley@dbacks.com)
Treasurer: Lee Troyer (flyfish@maplenet.net)
Secretary: Jim Gibson (gibson72@earthlink.net)
1 Year Director: Larry Schmitt
1 Year Director: Erik Gilbert
2 Year Director: Billy Vail
2 Year Director: Mary Helen Znavor
3 Year Director: Doug Moore
3 Year Director: Tim Pote

COMMITTEE HEADS

Conservation: John Law
Event Coordinator:
Librarian: Deborah Mowery
Ghillie & Auction Director: Jim Lothary
Newsletter: Dustin New (dustinnew@sbcglobal.net)
Webmaster: Brandon Rasler



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The Loop is published the 2nd Wednesday of the month, September through May. If you have story, article ideas, photo, artwork, or need to get something off you chest, you contact me at: 574-286-6508 or dustinnew@sbcglobal.net

MC COY CREEK - BUCHANAN, MICHIGAN

The SJRVFF received a \$1500 grant from the FFF to be used for enhancements to McCoy Creek on behalf of the City of Buchanan, Michigan. The creek runs through Buchanan and has a nice trout population as well as small mouth. Donna Southwell, Special Projects Manager for the City of Buchanan, reported to the SJRVFF Board on the needs and status of the work on the McCoy Creek project and how the grant money would be used. She noted that the grant money goes to City and could be used for any part of the project, however, she agreed to provide an invoice as to how the money is specifically used. In addition to the grant money, the SJRVFF will provide in-kind volunteer labor in support of the project. Donna requested the club help with work on Luncker structures, rock placement and Tree plantings. Most of this work would be associated with the area in the heart of Buchanan where the creek meanders through an old mill pond. She also noted that a public sign could be placed to note the location of the work done by the club. More information will go out to everyone as we get closer to the time for our labor. This is a great little creek in our area and a great project for the club to get involved. Please come out and help when the time comes. Talk with one of the board members for more detailed information about the project.

WE STILL COULD USE YOUR HELP!

We are still looking for people to get involved with Events and Education Committees.

The Events Committee would make the arrangements for and coordinate the logistics and food associated with the events outside of the regular club meetings. We would like to get several people involved to spread the load.

The Education Committee is a new initiative for the club. For many years we have done many educational events each year. This has included casting, tying, rod building and fishing for specific species to name a few. We would like to see this continued more consistently as well as explore other opportunities.

If you have any suggestions for these committees or are interested in being involved, get in contact with one of the board members.



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