

NEWS RELEASE—LOVELLS TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY 3/11/09

TROUT UNLIMITED HISTORY EXHIBIT HIGHLIGHTS LOVELLS OPENER

The Lovells Township Historical Society has announced that its seventh annual history of trout fishing exhibit will honor the 50th Anniversary of Trout Unlimited. The 2009 feature exhibit, “**The Founding of Trout Unlimited, 1959,**” will open on April 25 and close on September 30, in the Lovells Museum of Trout Fishing History. The exhibit will focus on the roles George Mason, George Griffith, Arthur Neumann and other board of director members played in the origins of TU. **Gary Neumann**, Art’s son, will discuss his father’s recollections of his activities in getting the organization started and his own memories of its founding. **Brian Burroughs, Robert Andrus and John Walters** will also speak on Michigan TU in 2009 from state and local perspectives. Another exhibit on the centennial celebration of the Au Sable River Main Branch Sunrise Club will be housed in the Lone Pine School House Museum, along with an expanded display of early fishing cabins built by the legendary Ed Kellogg. And yet another exhibit there will feature the current projects of the Au Sable North Branch Watershed Restoration Committee. The museums are located on the Lovells Township Grounds at 8405 Twin Bridge Road in Lovells. Regular museum hours are Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The museums will also be open every day during the week of August 17-25 for TU members attending its 50th Anniversary celebration in Traverse City.

In addition to the talks by Neumann and Walters in the Lovells Township Hall, Master Fly Tier **Dennis Potter** will exhibit his wonderful skill behind the vice. Two new presentations this year will be by **Cheryl Stephan Lowes** on Trout Fishing Art and **Richard Perry** on Bamboo Fly Rod Building in the Township Hall.

A new outdoor activity this year will be the first ever, first annual “Leaky Waders 1K Run” from downtown Lovells to the Township Grounds. There will be five race categories and prizes for the winners. The \$20 entry fee includes the race, a tee shirt commemorating the occasion and lunch. Join this fun race for the river, as the proceeds will support both the Historical Society and the North Branch River Restoration Committee. Throughout the day there will also be casting with vintage bamboo fly rods on the Township Grounds. All activities except the race are free and open to the public, including a lunch at the River Guide’s camp.

The Opener schedule, which will start at 10 a. m. and end at 4 p.m., will be as follows:

10 a.m.-4 p.m.—History Exhibits in the museums

10 a.m.-noon, 2-4 p.m.—Lowes, Perry and Potter Demonstrations in the Township Hall
Vintage Bamboo Fly Rod Casting on the Township Grounds

11 a.m.—“Leaky Waders 1K Run” at the Township Grounds

11 a.m.-1 p.m.—Lunch at the River Guide Camp on the Township Grounds

1 p.m-2 p.m.—Neumann, Burroughs, Andrus and Walters talks in the Township Hall

For information contact Glen Eberly at 248-626-6515/ 989-348-3084 or Roger Fechner at 517-265-9561/989-348-4880.