



# Wisconsin Trout

July 2012

*Trustees meet in Spring Green*

## TU National meeting coming to Wisconsin in September 2013

By John "Duke" Welter

Meeting in Spring Green this June, TU's Board of Trustees selected Madison as the site of the organization's 2013 annual national meeting.

WITU and the Southern Wisconsin Chapter submitted a proposal to host the 2012 national meeting, but Wisconsin lost out to Asheville, South Carolina.

Several Wisconsin TU leaders will be attending the South Carolina convention and are expected to publicize the 2013 meeting and pick up suggestions on hosting the meeting.

"The 2013 annual meeting is a must-attend event," said TU president and CEO Chris Wood after the meeting.

"Wisconsin is the home of conservation legends such as Aldo Leopold and Gaylord Nelson," said Wood. "It also happens to have some of the best trout fishing on the planet. I look forward to seeing you all in Madison."

TU National Board Chair Jon Christiansen, who cut his teeth as president of the Southeastern WI Chapter and later as WITU State Council Chair, said, "I am truly delighted that the greater TU family will have the opportunity to experience our legendary Wisconsin hospitality and to sample our many fine trout streams."

Christiansen hosted groups of trustees before and after the Spring Green meeting and, with other volunteers, showed them some of those streams. Good fish were reportedly caught and trustees left impressed by the restoration work across the area.

"An annual meeting is a great opportunity to show off what TU does in your part of the country," said Kim McCarthy, WI State Council chair. "It also gives Wisconsin and Midwestern TU members a chance to attend and see how TU works at the national level."

"We'll be inviting volunteers and chapters to help support the meeting. A day-long conservation bus tour is one of the highlights of each national meeting, and we have plenty of sites west of Madison to show off TU's work. A pre-meeting fishing day can match up anglers from across the country with volunteers for a fish-along outing, and each evening a hospitality suite is a good chance for a chapter to host and meet volunteers from across the country. We've already had requests for plenty of good Wisconsin beer and cheese curds from people who will be attending. Wait till they see the fishing opportunities."

TU's National Vice President for Volunteer Operations Bryan Moore said a team from his office will be working with the Wisconsin volunteer committee — headed by Henry Koltz of Milwaukee and Bill Heart of Ashland — on meeting arrangements in the coming months.

"Wisconsin TU submitted a good proposal for 2012, and then they improved it for 2013," Moore said. "They're enthusiastic and ready to go. It should be a great meeting."

At a dinner at the House on the Rock Resort in Spring Green, trustees and volunteer leaders from Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, and Minnesota got to know each other and talk about TU issues.

### Top national issues discussed

Right now major conservation issues for National TU include stopping the Pebble Mine project in Bristol Bay, Alaska, and working to ensure that conservation programs in the upcoming Farm Bill aren't gutted by Congress.

Wood told the board at its meeting that the proposed gold, silver, and molybdenum mine would threaten the Kwichek River, which produces half of the world's sockeye salmon, and the Nushagak River, one of the three top coho salmon producers in the world.

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John Welter

### TU TRUSTEES TOUR BEAR CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT

TU National Trustee Bill Egan of Jackson Hole, Wyoming, observed after viewing the restoration work on Bear Creek, "We're doing a major stream restoration in Jackson across the National Elk Refuge, and these techniques could be exactly what we could put to use there."

## Bob Hunt inducted into WI Conservation Hall of Fame

By Todd Hanson

Bob Hunt, 78, Wisconsin's top authority for decades on trout stream science and a national leader in that field, was inducted into the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame in Stevens Point on April 21.

Hunt was inducted along with his brother, Richard, 85, who spent his career working for the WDNR and its predecessor, the Wisconsin Conservation Dept., as a waterfowl researcher.

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Kim McCarthy

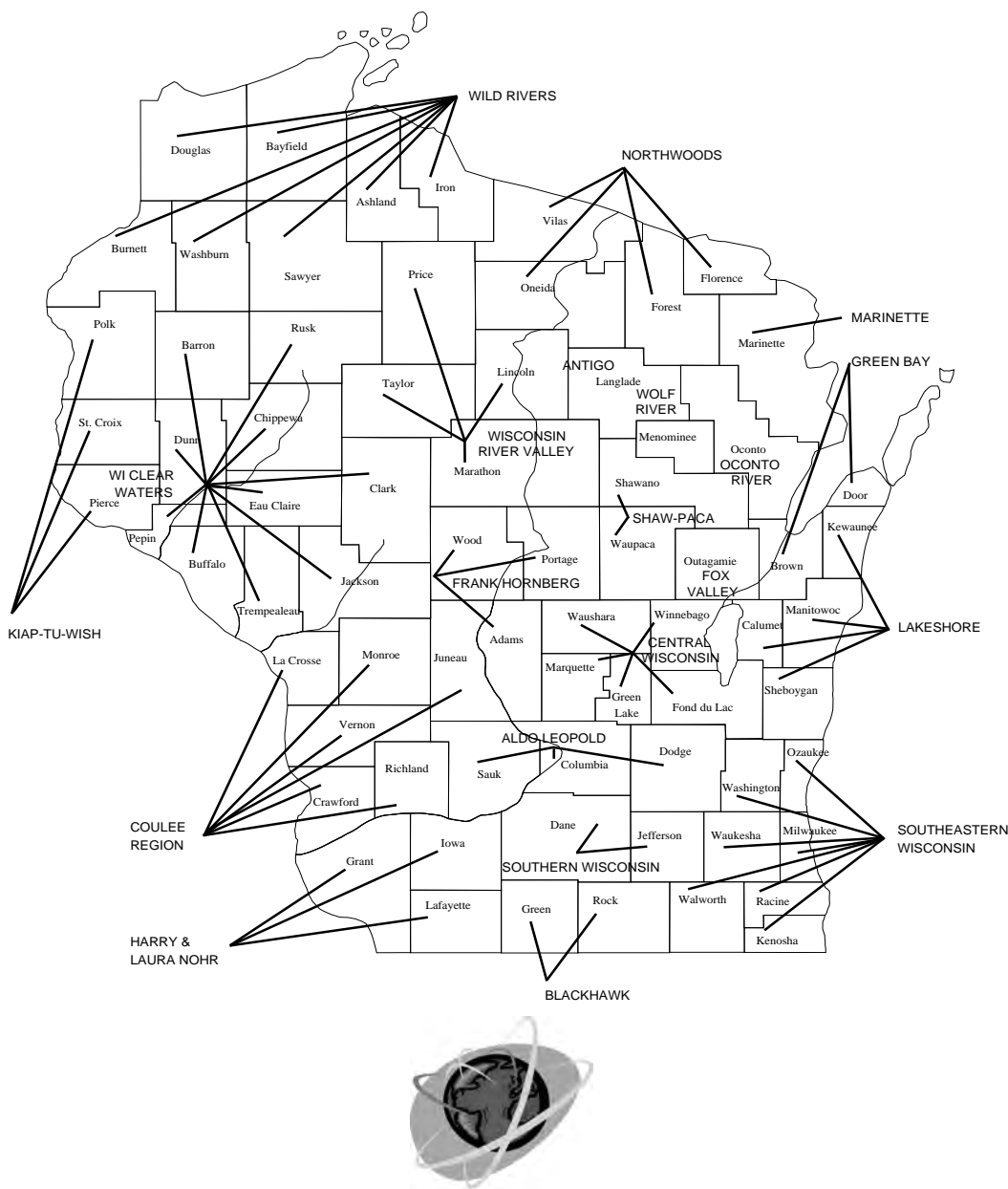
### BOB HUNT WITH COLLEAGUES AT CONSERVATION HALL OF FAME

2012 Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame inductee Bob Hunt (2nd from left) posed for a picture with some of his former WDNR trout research and management colleagues at the hall's induction ceremony. Flanking Hunt are (left to right) Ed Avery, Bob DuBois, and Kent Neirmeyer.

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## Contact TU National when you change addresses or chapter leaders

TU National manages WITU's mailing list, so update your address by calling 1-800-834-2419 or e-mailing trout@TU.org. Address changes can also be done on-line by going to www.tu.org and signing in with your member number, which is found on your wallet card or *TROUT* magazine label.

If you are moving to a different city and wish to be affiliated with the TU chapter in your new area, note the new chapter number (see the text next to the map above for the numbers of our chapters).

## WISCONSIN TROUT

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# Even great Canada fishing didn't stop me thinking of WI trout

By Kim McCarthy

WITU State Council Chair

I'm writing my column after just having returned from a week of Canadian fishing. A few friends and I have been taking a fly-in trip for years, and it has become an event we all look forward to each year.

I had every intention this year to write this column while sitting on an island contemplating true wilderness. Of course, that never happened, because the fishing in that true wilderness was so incredibly good this year that when confronted with the choice of writing or fishing, somehow the fishing managed to win.

But even while experiencing the kind of fishing Canada can provide, Wisconsin and its trout kept creeping into my head. And the thought that wouldn't go away was that we now have a trout fishery in southwestern Wisconsin that is great by any standards.

Having come to the end of another early trout season, during which I managed to spend a good deal of time on the water, I was thinking about the kind of recreation our trout fishery provides without having to drive 14 hours and then climb on a 60-year-old bush plane for another 180 miles. The fishing in southwestern Wisconsin still seems to be getting better, or maybe I have just done a better job of learning what is needed to catch those fish.

The end of another early trout season always leaves me with a bunch of good memories. I was fortunate this year to be able to fish with a number of old friends and

some great new ones. It is always interesting to watch the reaction of people who are fishing the Driftless Area for the first time. Almost always they are amazed at the quality of the fishing and become hooked on the area very quickly. Some might not like the idea that more people are coming to use that fishery, but each new user adds to the constituency that will battle to preserve the resource. And if TU and DNR continue adding easements and improving waters, the area will continue to absorb more users without diminishing the quality of the resource.

I was also able to talk to a couple of local business owners in the Driftless Area. It was a pleasant surprise to find out that they are well aware of Trout Unlimited. They are also seeing more people using the area and adding to the local economy.

Every early season leaves moments that won't soon be forgotten.

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"But even while experiencing the kind of fishing Canada can provide, Wisconsin and its trout kept creeping into my head. And the thought that wouldn't go away was that we now have a trout fishery in southwestern Wisconsin that is great by any standards."

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Maybe for some it is finding a new creek where the fish are just a bit larger than in some other creeks. Maybe it is fishing a new creek for the first time and finding out it is just as good as some of the better-known creeks. Or maybe the moment isn't quite that good. One of many moments for me came on a



**STATE COUNCIL CHAIR KIM MCCARTHY ON TIMBER COULEE CREEK**  
Kim caught his share of trout on Timber Coulee Cr. during a recent trip to southwest Wisconsin.

new stretch of creek when I was busy watching fish and scenery instead of where I was wading. The face plant that followed left every inch of me soaking wet and busted one of my favorite rods. That re-

was about what a fishery needs to present to anglers to attract them to an area, whether it be the complete wilderness of the Canadian Shield or the hills and valleys of the Driftless Area. My feeling is that, above all else, the quality of the fishing must be first rate. That can be accomplished in a couple of ways. The first is complete wilderness where fish populations are good simply because it is darn hard to get at them. The second method is a bit harder to accomplish in developed areas. It involves creating and maintaining good habitat coupled with regulations that preserve excellent populations.

It seems to me that Trout Unlimited is completely on track with the second method of creating great work.

And also make sure you take some time to enjoy what Wisconsin has to offer.

One final thought that passed through my fishing-obsessed head

mind me that, at my age, it is a pretty good idea to stop before admiring the scenery and the number of fish in the next pool, and then continue wading. That moment also reminded me why I now purchase rods with lifetime warranties.

## TRUSTEES: Wisconsin to host 2013 national annual meeting

*Continued from p. 1*

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the White House are considering using EPA authority under the Clean Water Act to stop the mine.

Wood said it's an opportune time for concerned anglers and conservationists to contact the agency, White House, and their congressional representatives to urge them to support EPA stopping the mine.

### Group visits Leopold shack and Bear Cr. project site

While the trustees met at Spring Green, they toured Aldo Leopold's shack and the Aldo Leopold Foundation headquarters on the Wisconsin River east of Baraboo.

Trustees also visited the nearby Bear Cr. restoration project site north of Lone Rock in Sauk County.

Aldo Leopold Chapter President Mike Barniskis and project leaders from his chapter joined partners from DNR, Sauk County Conservation Department, NRCS, and Holtz Lime and Gravel to show trustees the mile of restoration done in 2011 and the mile-long reach where this year's work will occur.

Many of these trustees have worked on restoration projects in their own states. Dr. John Braico is a New York TU leader and trustee who has studied restoration and led projects in his home state. He suggested that TU work to get restoration teams together from across the

country to share ideas and solve common problems.

"This is great work you're doing in the Driftless Area," Braico said. "I look forward to seeing more of it on next year's conservation tour."

### TUDARE update

TUDARE Project Manager Jeff Hastings and two other panelists talked with trustees about doing restoration projects in the Driftless Area. Landowner and farmer Steve Thompson, who agreed to have a portion of Gordon Creek restored through his Iowa County farm, said, "I have never fished a day in my life." But he said he has enjoyed the anglers who fish through his land, and hasn't had problems with them.

One challenge of the stream restoration, according to Thompson and Iowa County Conservation Technician Joe Schmelz, was getting multiple agencies to coordinate their efforts on a project. Once the coordination had been worked out, it went smoothly, said Schmelz. Hastings said a big part of his job is identifying bottlenecks and opening them up to enable work to get done.

### Farm Bill discussed

The Farm Bill discussion in Congress has significant potential impacts for TUDARE. Many projects in Wisconsin and Iowa rely on funding from the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service

(NRCS) to pay a large majority of certain project costs.

Landowners normally have to pay the remainder as a cost-share, but TUDARE's goal is to find other sources to pay the landowner's share and make it a no-cost operation for the landowner. Those sources include local TU chapters, the Friends of Wisconsin TU, TU National's Embrace-A-Stream program, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services,

National Fish Habitat Partnerships, the WI trout stamp program, volunteer project labor, and additional dollars from local conservation clubs, individuals, business sponsors, and foundation grants.

If Congress guts the conservation programs of the upcoming Farm Bill, a significant portion of that funding would be lost. As of press time, the U.S. Senate has passed a bill. The House will act soon.



### TU TRUSTEES VIEW DRIFTLESS AREA RESTORATION TECHNIQUES

Aldo Leopold Chapter President Mike Barniskis (in stream) got wet and dirty on Bear Creek in Sauk County as he described the stream restoration techniques being used to touring TU trustees.



**WISCONSIN TU RECOGNIZED AT WLCV EVENT**

WITU State Council Chair Kim McCarthy (center) accepted the WLCV's Community Action Award on June 15 in Madison. Next to Kim are (left to right) WLCV Program Director Anne Sayers, WLCV Field Director Tom Stolp, Past WITU State Council Chair Bill Heart, and WITU Legislative Committee Chair Jeff Smith.

# Wisconsin TU honored at League of Conservation Voters event

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited was thanked for its ongoing conservation efforts by the Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters (WLCV) on June 15.

The occasion was the WLCV's 10th anniversary celebration held at

the Lussier Family Heritage Center in Madison.

The WLCV presented TU with a Community Action Award (see WLCV's award comments in box).

The WLCV is a nonprofit, non-partisan organization dedicated to electing conservation leaders, hold-

ing decision makers accountable, and encouraging lawmakers to champion conservation policies that effectively protect Wisconsin's public health and natural resources.

For more information on the WLCV, visit [www.ConservationVoters.org](http://www.ConservationVoters.org).

# HUNT: inducted into conservation hall of fame

*Continued from p. 1*

Bob Hunt joined the Wisconsin Conservation Department, later the WDNR, in 1959 when Wisconsin's trout program consisted mainly of stocking hatchery fish ill-equipped for survival or reproduction. The streams themselves — degraded by cattle grazing, erosion and other factors — were often too wide, too shallow, and too warm for trout to grow and survive. Silt covered gravel substrates needed for reproduction.

Leading a research team at the Lawrence Creek station in the 1960s, Hunt was able to prove conclusively that fixing the stream — restoring and stabilizing its banks, narrowing channels, and installing rocks and logs for cover — would produce more trout and bigger trout, leading to superior fishing than stocking could ever provide.

The reshaped streams meant faster flows that scoured away silt and dug out deeper holes where

large trout could thrive. It meant colder, cleaner water enriched with higher levels of dissolved oxygen.

Hunt's research changed the direction of Wisconsin trout management and was a key factor in the creation of the trout stamp in 1977 that raises segregated funds for stream rehabilitation. More than 900 miles of degraded streams in Wisconsin have been reclaimed for trout because of this work.

Hunt will be remembered for his oft-quoted admonition to "manage first for wild trout."

"Bob's choice of the preposition 'for' carries great importance," says WDNR Fisheries Management Bureau Director Mike Staggs. "People tend to say management of fish, rather than management *for* them. But wild fish know perfectly well how to manage themselves, if we conserve and, where needed, restore the natural conditions they require."



**BOB AND RICHARD HUNT**

Bob (left) and Richard "Dick" Hunt hold their WI Conservation Hall of Fame induction plaque.

## WLCV remarks on Trout Unlimited

The following remarks from WLCV Field Director Tom Stolp preceded the award accepted by Kim McCarthy:

*"In the broad tent that is the Wisconsin conservation community, groups are often portrayed as either an 'environmental group' or a 'hook and bullet' group.*

*"We've been told often that Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters is the 'hookest and bulletest' of environmental groups and, likewise, Trout Unlimited is often called the most environmentalist of the hook and bullet crowd.*

*"Over the last 10 years, we've found that in every good fight we've fought, Trout Unlimited was at our side, every step of the way.*

*"During the Great Lakes Compact, we knew that Trout Unlimited would make sure that their members were on top of the issues, and during the open-pit mining bill fight, Trout Unlimited worked tirelessly to stop the bill. In fact, many believe that the Senator Dale Schultz definitive vote against the bill came as a result of Trout Unlimited members taking him to the Penokee Hills.*

*"Of course we also know Trout Unlimited for their great work protecting our natural resources through stream restorations and their efforts to pass on our conservation legacy to the next generation of anglers. They are one of the most engaged and motivated sportsmen organizations in the state.*

*"Tonight, accepting the Community Action Award for Trout Unlimited is Wisconsin State Chapter Chair Kim McCarthy."*

# Leopold shack tour planned for July 11

By Todd Franklin

For TU members and supporters who are interested in learning more about our chapter's namesake, the Aldo Leopold Chapter has arranged a walking tour of the Leopold farm and a visit to the Leopold family shack on Wed., July 11.

This is the place where many of Aldo's thoughts on conservation and land stewardship were conceived and put to paper. Scheduled for 5 p.m., the tour will be led by a staff member of the Aldo Leopold Foundation and will last about two hours.

This tour is open to all TU members, families and friends. The cost is \$10.00 per person, with the proceeds going to support the Aldo Leopold Foundation. After the tour, we will have an informal gathering at the Legacy Center with food and drinks.

The Aldo Leopold Foundation Legacy Center is located at E13701 Levee Road between Wisconsin Dells and Portage. For more detailed directions, visit [www.aldoleopold.org/visit/directions.shtml](http://www.aldoleopold.org/visit/directions.shtml).

Please RSVP to ALCTU board member Scott Allen by July 9 at [jscottallen12@gmail.com](mailto:jscottallen12@gmail.com) or (608) 524-1753.



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## WITU Looking Back

### From the July 1972 WITU Quarterly Report..

#### Organizers Efforts Appreciated

Like any major organizational project, the national convention has involved a lot of work. The state council says "THANK-YOU" to the following committees and the individuals who served on them:

Awards; Nash Williams  
Al Moore  
Clint Byrnes  
Lee Parker

Door Prizes; Ed Lloyd  
Ron Ahner

Emcee; Steve Henry  
Doug Hart

Panel Discussion; Ray White

Dinner Program: Ron Ahner

Stream Shocking Demonstration;  
Bill Threinen  
Cliff Brynildson

Publicity, Photos; Bill Wollin  
Susie Isaksen

Flytying Seminar;  
Tom Poullette  
Arling Erickson  
Fred Horn  
Bob Heding  
Ed Lloyd  
Tom Towne  
Gene West  
Bob Hunt  
Bob Carline

Chapter Booths; Bob Brunzell  
Frosty Parrish  
Roy Sarow

Contributions; Businesses who have supported T.U.

Ticket Sales; All T.U. members

#### Come to the Convention

Now, all that's needed is people. ...So come for one or two events, or for the whole program. That's Aug. 4, 5, & 6, at the Holiday Inn No. 2 on I90 at the exit for Highways 12 and 18, just southeast of Madison. Wives are welcome.

Tickets are still available from members of your local chapter or from Jim Stewart, P.O. Box 564, Madison, Wis. 53701.



*Doug Hart, emcee, got laughing at his own jokes...Like the one where he had to wash Dan Devine's car but his tongue got dry.*

### From the July 1982 WITU Quarterly Report...

The month of April, 1982, was a super one for Wisconsin Trout Unlimited and its members. Several TU'ers were honored with individual awards, and the chapters of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited were collectively the recipient of another award.

At top right, Clint Byrnes (r) receives the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Wildlife Conservationist of the Year Award from WWF president Doug Olson (l) of Viroqua. The award was presented to Byrnes at the April 24th annual Federation convention in Stevens Point for Clint's hard work and dedication in rehabilitating Crystal Creek in Dodge County. Once a muddy, lifeless little ditch, Crystal Creek was transformed into a fine, productive trout stream due to the efforts of Byrnes, his family, and many other groups, including two chapters of Trout Unlimited, over the past ten years.

On April 28th, Wisconsin Trout Unlimited received the first annual John Brogan Environmental Award from the Natural Resources Board in Madison. Council chairman Ronald Ahner accepted the award for the state council. The award was established by former Board member John Brogan of Green Bay (below, right) in order to honor individuals and groups promoting environmental quality in the state. Brogan attended the presentation ceremonies and lauded TU for its efforts on stream rehabilitation and conservation education.

### From the Summer 1992 Wisconsin Trout...

## Council responds to early season problems

At the May 16, 1992, meeting of the Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited, much discussion centered around problems associated with the early trout season currently in place in eight southwestern Wisconsin counties (see separate article on Council meeting).

Subsequent to that meeting, Council Chairman Steve Born submitted the following communication to Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources secretary Carroll "Buzz" Besadny:

*Dear Buzz,*

*At its May meeting in Antigo, the State Council of Trout Unlimited addressed concerns about the early trout fishing season and its inequitable impact on the involved southwestern counties. While there is a mix of viewpoints regarding the early season among TU members, the organization unanimously resolved that the present*

*arrangements impact the southwestern counties disproportionately, and that maintaining the status quo is unacceptable.*

*TU further resolved to work with the Department and other concerned interests to develop and evaluate alternative seasonal regulations that might equitably provide recreational angling opportunities while providing biologically-based protection for the resource.*

*I want to communicate our action to you prior to the final Natural Resources Board action on the Conservation Congress voting recommendations on the early trout fishing season. Thank you for your consideration.*

*Yours truly,  
Steve Born, Chair*

### From the July 2002 Wisconsin Trout...

## Waters of WI forum Oct 21-22

Waters of Wisconsin is holding a statewide forum October 21-22 at Monona Terrace in Madison.

This event will mark the release of a formal report, with guidelines and policy recommendations for water use and

management.

Find out more about Waters of Wisconsin at the Wisconsin Academy website, [www.wisconsinacademy.org](http://www.wisconsinacademy.org), or call (608) 263-1692.




**A WISCONSIN TRADITION RETURNS**

Virgil Beck's painting of a brook trout chasing a Mepps spinner is the winner of the newly revived 2012 inland trout stamp print contest. Wisconsin TU has

taken over the artwork selection and printmaking aspects of the program, which was discontinued in recent years by the WDNR.

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1. Don't play fish to exhaustion. Instead, use a landing net to bring fish under control before they're played out.
2. Handle fish in the net. Grasp them across the back and head for firm but gentle control. Use the net fabric as your "glove."
3. Turn fish belly up while removing hooks. This disorients fish momentarily for easier, quicker handling.
4. Don't remove swallowed hooks. Just cut the line...doing so saves two-thirds of deeply hooked trout.
5. Don't keep fish out of the water more than 10-15 seconds. Fragile gills are damaged after that...especially in cold weather.

# Wisconsin TU revives the trout stamp and print

By Tim Waters

At the State Council meeting in Viroqua last September, Chair Kim McCarthy laid out a proposal he'd received for reviving Wisconsin's trout stamp program.

The WDNR had put an end to the program in recent years as part of budget tightening measures. Everyone agreed that reviving this Wisconsin tradition would be a good project for Wisconsin TU.

Darrell Toliver took a lead role in the program's revival. Darrell solicited artwork and photographs from artists around the state.

A committee was organized to determine a winner. Members of

the Frank Hornberg Chapter decided on Virg Beck's beautiful rendering of a brook trout chasing a Mepps spinner. This became the cover of the 2012-2013 *Trout Fishing Regulations* booklet.

Darrell has also arranged for prints and commemorative stamps to be printed, and Virg Beck has signed and numbered the prints.

Artists and photographers interested in competing in the next trout stamp contest can contact Tim Waters. This project is currently an annual one, with contest entries due on November 15. If WDNR goes to a semi-annual trout regulation booklet in the future, the print project will also become semi-annual.

**Ordering information**

Wisconsin TU is now selling the prints to individuals for \$125, plus shipping and handling. Each print will include a commemorative stamp. Stamps alone cost \$10.

WITU chapters will be allowed to purchase up to two prints for the reduced price of \$50 apiece for their fund-raising efforts.

Anyone with questions or interest in purchasing the 2012 trout stamp print should contact Tim Waters at [MuddyWaters@new.rr.com](mailto:MuddyWaters@new.rr.com), or visit Wisconsin TU at [www.wisconsinTU.org](http://www.wisconsinTU.org) under the "News" tab.

Prints are also available on the Wolf River TU website at [www.wolfriverTU.org](http://www.wolfriverTU.org).



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**PLEASE SEND ME:**

\_\_\_ 2012 trout print/s @ \$131 each (\$125 + \$6 S&H.) Price includes a free trout stamp.

\_\_\_ 2012 trout stamp/s only @ \$10 each.

**Make check payable to:**  
WI Trout Unlimited  
and mail to:  
Tim Waters  
409 2nd St.  
Menasha, WI 54952

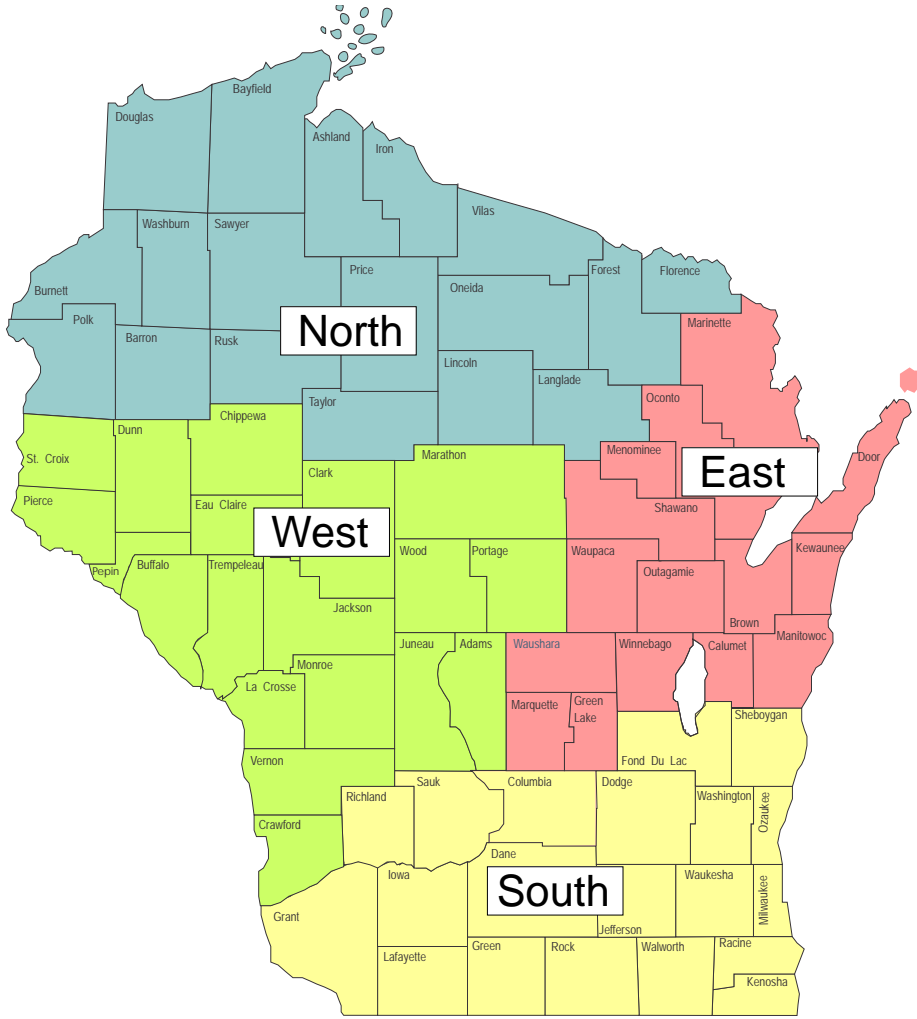
**ORDER FORM**

**2012 Inland Trout Stamp Print/Stamp**

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



# Report a Beaver Dam

WDNR trout officials need your help identifying the locations of beaver dams on trout streams. Mail or e-mail your field observations to the WDNR official in your area.

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## WDNR Beaver Dam Report Contacts

### Southern District

Scot Stewart  
3911 Fish Hatchery Road  
Fitchburg, WI 53711  
608-273-5967  
Richard.Stewart@Wisconsin.gov

### Western District

Bob Hujik  
1300 W Clairemont Avenue  
Eau Claire WI 54701  
715-839-3731  
Robert.Hujik@Wisconsin.gov

### Northern District

Steve Avelallemant  
107 Sutliff Avenue  
Rhineland WI 54501  
715-365-8987  
Steven.Avelallemant@Wisconsin.gov

### Eastern District

Randy Schumacher  
2300 N Martin Luther King Jr Dr  
Milwaukee WI 53212  
414-263-8672  
Edward.Schumacher@Wisconsin.gov

# Watershed Access Fund

## Donations exceed levels set in 2011

The 2011-12 Watershed Access Fund campaign is half over, and the response already has surpassed last year's donations in a short time, with nearly 77 donations and approaching \$7,000 in funds raised. Thank you to all who have donated. There is a very important proposed project in the works involving the DNR and Central WI TU on the main stem of the White River. If this purchase goes through, a highly prized property will be protected for all future use. Your financial commitment helps make these purchases a reality.

The current grant request limit is \$5,000. Because two chapters may each make a request on a single acquisition, and each chapter would have to match at 50%, the new limits would provide as much as \$15,000 for a single purchase or easement. So for all you chapters looking for purchase help, this should go a long ways. Another change is the matching 50% from the chapter can be in the form of volunteer hours to be applied against acquisition costs.

### 2011/12 Contributors

- |                  |                   |                         |                    |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Dale Bakke       | Stevens Point WI  | Bruce Davidson          | Wauwatosa WI       |
| Edwin Barnes     | Middleton WI      | Erwin Dohmen            | Port Washington WI |
| Ronald Berg      | Chippewa Falls WI | Richard Duplessie       | Eau Claire WI      |
| Stephen Berg     | Highland WI       | Robert Franzkowiak, Sr. | Brown Deer WI      |
| Stephen Born     | Madison WI        | Greg Gerard             | Hudson WI          |
| R.G. Chamberlain | Markesan WI       | Tony Goldberg           | Madison WI         |
| Terry Cummings   | Rhineland WI      | James Goodwin           | Sturgeon Bay WI    |

- |                        |                 |                     |                  |
|------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Robert Haglund         | Green Bay WI    | Herb Oechler        | Wauwatosa WI     |
| Jack Halbreher         | Sparta WI       | Robert Pelowski     | Franklin WI      |
| Gerald Haunschild      | Neenah WI       | Randal Rake         | De Pere WI       |
| Bill Heart             | Ashland WI      | Anne Readell        | Madison WI       |
| Mark & Jan Heifner     | Appleton WI     | Steve Robertson     | Verona WI        |
| Gilbert Herman         | Stoughton WI    | Frederick Seybold   | Madison WI       |
| Andrew Holverson       | Wauwatosa WI    | John Shillinglaw    | Appleton WI      |
| Greg Hyer              | Cross Plains WI | Ronald Smith        | Cudahy WI        |
| Ed Inderrieden         | Mequon WI       | Mike Spittler       | Minneapolis MN   |
| Dan Jansen             | DeForest WI     | Wayne Stockman      | Spring Valley WI |
| Bill Jordan            | Appleton WI     | Charles Urban       | Chicago IL       |
| James Kennedy          | Cross Plains WI | Hugh Waber          | Madison WI       |
| Paul Kosin             | Minocqua WI     | Richard Wachowski   | Eau Claire WI    |
| Andrew Kosmider        | Milwaukee WI    | Don Wagner          | Gillett WI       |
| James Laudon           | Plover WI       | John Wahlers        | Berlin WI        |
| Brian Madsen           | Ellsworth WI    | Jim & Sharon Waters | White Lake WI    |
| William Maggard        | Mequon WI       | Donald Welhouse     | Kaukauna WI      |
| Richard Mandelin       | Montreal WI     | Fred Young          | Roscoe IL        |
| Bob Mazanec            | Saint Paul MN   | Anonymous           |                  |
| Kim McCarthy           | Green Bay WI    |                     |                  |
| Randy & Janice McGrath | Janesville WI   | Antigo TU           | Antigo WI        |
| Fred Mikolajewski      | West Allis WI   | Kiap-TU-Wish        | Hudson WI        |
| Gene Mueller           | Monona WI       | Marinette Co. TU    | Marinette WI     |
| Bob Obma               | Green Bay WI    | Southern WI TU      | Fitchburg WI     |

*Here is my contribution of \$100 or more to the Watershed Access Fund*

*(Make your check payable to "Wisconsin Trout Unlimited")*

MAIL TO: TU Watershed Access Fund  
% Doug Brown  
R4800 Timber Ln.  
Ringle, WI 54471

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_





## Chapter News

### Aldo Leopold Chapter

Our spring workdays were well attended. Workday Chair **Todd Franklin** put together a couple very successful events — March 24 on **Rocky Run Cr.** and April 21 on **Manly Cr.** The never-ending battle against invasive woody plants took a turn in our favor as chapter mem-

bers cut, cleared, and treated many a stump.

Our June 2 **Bear Cr.** luncheon-building day with **SEWTU** was a great success. Over 50 people from seven different TU chapters built 61 luncheon structures in about 3 1/2 hours. Amazing! After all the hard

## Blackhawk Chapter tutors Project Green Teen

By Dave Hinde

The Blackhawk Chapter has been a financial supporter of Project Green Teen for several years, but on May 14th, six chapter members took our help to another level.

Steve Bentz, Paul Hayes, Tom Kautz, John Lusk, Dave Patrick, and Terry Vaughn, along with Paul Krahn from the Vernon County Land Conservation Dept., met with over a dozen students at the West Fork Sportsman's Club in Avalanche, and supervised the students' construction of 14 luncheon structures.

Not familiar with Project Green Teen? It's a select group of eager youngsters from Malcolm Shabazz High School in Madison who do special coursework revolving around coldwater resources. They've been monitoring the West Fork of the Kickapoo for several years, among other activities.

Unlike other TU workdays, the students did all the work. Chapter members only oversaw the construction and provided safety instructions for using the equipment.

Blackhawk Workday Coordinator Dave Patrick said, "Those kids were fantastic. They worked their tails off! What a joy it was to be with them."

The structures will be placed on Weisner Creek and on the West Fork of the Kickapoo.

The chapter also presented an \$8,000 check to Paul Krahn for three projects in Vernon County this year.



### BLACKHAWK SHARES LUNKER-BUILDING SKILLS WITH SHABAZZ

Blackhawk member John Lusk shows a Shabazz High School student how to use the chapter's four-inch nail gun (top). When the day was done, the group had built 14 luncheon structures.

work, a large number of brats were consumed as we looked upon a job well done. Many thanks to all the folks from **SEWTU** who brought the tools and food, and a huge thank-you to all the volunteers!

The luncheon structures we built are likely being installed as you read this, as the contractor will be completing the six-week project from mid-June until late July. About 5,400 feet of stream will be worked on this summer, and once again non-game species habitat is part of the mix. Some wetland will be preserved/enhanced, turtles and snakes will have places to spend the winter, and amphibians should also find many places to call home once we are finished.

Last year's Bear Creek project area, downstream from this year's, is fishing very well already. Numerous reports of great fishing have been passed on, with some really good size structure to the fish as well as good numbers. There was even a report of a tiger trout being caught there. The DNR will shock it later this summer to get hard data, but so far it appears that the fish have found their new homes.

On June 18 the **Trout Unlimited National Board of Trustees** toured the **Bear Cr.** project. We hope they

gained an appreciation for the level of commitment our chapter members have once they see the scope of the project and how successful it has been both for the resource and also for TU. I also hope they get a chance to find out how great trout fishing is in Wisconsin.

Our chapter picnic on June 13, coupled with our spring fund-raising appeal, was again very successful. Over \$1,000 from the appeal and over \$1,100 from the picnic will help our chapter continue our workdays, fly tying classes, and our Bear Cr. work. Many people and companies have earned a "thank you" for their donations to the picnic raffle as well as their donations of time to make it a successful event. A few of them are **Eric Lorenzen, Tom & Sally Gawle, Michael Stupich, Chad Van Ness, Todd Franklin, Russ Bouck, Fontana's, On The Creek Fly Shop,** and **Orvis** in Madison. If I missed listing you, I apologize. Know that your efforts matter and are appreciated!

Thanks also to **Mike Miller** from the **DNR** for putting on his bug show at the picnic, a really neat display of what is swimming around in **Lodi Spring Cr.** One piece of advice: crayfish claws pinch!

—Mike Barniskis

### Antigo Chapter

Hope everyone has had a GREAT spring. We held our fund-raising banquet on Sat., March 27 at the **Antigo Knights of Columbus Hall** and had 247 people give their support to TU. We had a lot of fun and raised \$14,800 profit for the coldwater resource. It is only with the continued support of the local people and businesses that we can raise this money. Thank you to all.

We have been busy this spring working on a project with the **City of Antigo** to construct and place a fishing dock for kids at **Remington Lake** here in town. With the support of friends like the **Remington Foundation** and TU, we can get this project done. A special thank-you goes to longtime Antigo TU member **Tim Gregrich** for his hard work on this project.

On June 2 we held our annual Kid's Fishing Day. What a glorious day for all. This has to rate as one of the biggest turnouts in our history. We had at least 750 trout in the fishing tank and, at the end of the day, I don't think we had 40 fish left. The kids and their parents had a good time. We gave out 420 prizes to the kids, plus a girl's and boy's bike.

**Curran's Taxidermy** again provided a free fish mount to the kid that got the biggest fish. The **Antigo Fire Dept.** came with their fire safety trailer and showed the kids what to do at home to get out of their house in case of fire.

The **Antigo DNR** was present again to help run a casting contest for all the kids.

We have sent \$1,000 to support to the **National Forest Service** for beaver control. We gave another \$1,875 for our share of funding two DNR summer work crew members. Tim stopped at the DNR office and wrote a check for \$1,175 for local beaver control and equipment. We will also pay for the fuel to run the dredge at **Karberger Springs**.

We are looking to help the DNR on stream brushing and with work with **Tanya Meives**, our local DNR trout specialist.

Finally, if you get a chance to see the lower reaches of the **Evergreen R.** in **Langlade County** just before it runs into **Menominee County**, you can see some GREAT stream work that has been done for the last three years. Hope you all have a great TU summer.

—Scott Henricks

### Blackhawk Chapter

Since our March report, we've donated \$500 to the **Legler School** in **New Glarus** for stream monitoring equipment.

Our board is currently discussing the possibility of funding a stream project on **Beaver Cr.** near **Sparta**.

We've been busy so far this year! We've brushed out willows along **Elk Cr.**, built 30 luncheon structures for **Coon Cr.**, built another 30 structures for **Legler Cr.**, and supervised the **Project Green Teen** youngsters' construction of luncheon structures at the **West Fork Sportsman's Club** in **Avalanche** (see the separate story on this page).

In March, we were pleased to have **Penny & Gary Shackelford** present a program about their land restoration efforts near **Lake Kosh-**

**konong**, including Gary's superb nature photographs. The Shackelfords are active with two TU partners, the **Lake Koshkonong** and **Wisconsin Wetlands** associations.

In May, **Dennis Franke** journeyed south from **Black Earth** and provided great casting instruction for the group assembled at **Sweet Allyn Park** in **Shopiere** along **Turtle Cr.** During the course of the instruction, a reporter, an editor, and a photographer, all from **The Janesville Gazette** covered the event. The resulting story, replete with several photos and interviews, ran on June 4 on the front page! And several chapter members improved their casting ability, too.

—Dave Hinde



# Chapter News



## Central Wisconsin Chapter

The chapter has been quite busy as we head into the summer months. The months of April and May had **John Gremmer** teaching his fly tying and fly fishing class through the **Fox Valley Technical College**. The classes were held each Tuesday starting April 10 and ending May 29. Besides learning how to tie flies, students also learned how to set up fly fishing gear. There were 15 students, and on the last night of class each student spent some time learning to fish the flies he or she tied. Each student was able to fish separately with a chapter member. Thanks and hats off to John for another job well done and to the rest of the chapter members who helped out.

On Saturday, April 21, **Bob Hunt** was inducted into the **Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame**. This day was well attended by a large contingent of TU members and their wives from several chapters. WITU Chair **Kim McCarthy** also attended. Without exaggerating, I believe TU members made up the majority of the people in attendance at the Hall of Fame in **Stevens Point**. What a great tribute and congratulations again, Bob.

May also saw CWTU complete our first workday of the year. The workday was held on the **White R.** just south of **Wautoma** on the **Colligan** property. The river had a couple break-through points that needed to be closed off to get the river back on course. We anchored in Christmas trees for the leading edges, and then we filled in the rest of the breaks with brush. This was attended by 26 people, including 10 members of the **Elliot Donnelley Chapter** from the **Chicago** area.

Our first workday every year is always a joint effort with the guys from **EDTU**. Their chapter president, **Grant Brown**, led the group. Afterwards, of course, everyone enjoyed a little fishing. A big thank-you goes out to workday chair **Scott Bahn**, along with **Chris Northway** and **Gary Herlache** for the great lunch. Also thanks to all who participated. We hope to see you at the rest of our workdays.

June brought our Fly Fishing School. Classes started Sat., June 2 at our new location, **Riverside Bible Camp** just outside **Waupaca** near **Amherst**. On Sunday most of the students went out on a guided fishing excursion, each with an individu-

al guide. The guides helped them learn to fish different flies, and also helped them apply all they learned on reading water and casting. Thanks goes out to chairman **Dan Harmon** and all the rest of the TU members who helped make this a success.

Summer also is the kickoff of our outdoor board meetings. June 18 will find us at **Bob & Mary Haase's** house in **Eldorado**, just outside of **Fond Du Lac**, with **Tracy Moran** also co-hosting. Rumor has it the menu is bluegill and burgers.

The July 16 meeting will be at **John & Laura Tucker's** house right on the **Pine R.** in **Saxeville**. This has turned into an annual occasion. John and Laura are very gracious, and the menu has always been wonderful.

The August meeting is yet to be determined. All picnic meetings start between 5:30 and 6:00 p.m., with the business meeting following dinner. Please check out our website for directions and more info.

With the onset of the warmer weather, our River Keepers water monitoring group is hitting full stride. We have 23 teams this year monitoring our waters. Headed up by coordinator **John Gremmer**, with help from **Rick Fahrenkrug**, this year seems like it will turn out just as successful as in past years. Thanks to all who help out and donate their time for this.

The workday crew has been busy getting ready for the rest of the summer. The next work days are planned to continue on the **Mecan R.** We will be working north of Hwy. 21, upstream from the last year's projects. From **Wautoma**, take Hwy. 21 west toward **Coloma** about seven miles. Just after Hwy. 21 crosses the **Mecan R.**, take a right on 9th Avenue. Follow 9th Ave. north about eight miles. Watch for the TU signs with parking on the right.

We have workdays scheduled for the third Saturday of each month — June 16, July 21, August 18, and Sept. 15. Weather permitting, we will have a workday in October at a site yet to be determined.

All workdays start at 8:00 a.m. with coffee and doughnuts at 7:30. Lunch is also served at each workday. Contact workday chair **Scott Bahn** with any questions at (920) 886-9651. Hope to see you there.

—Linn Beck

## Coulee Region Chapter

May 19 was a gorgeous spring day in the Coulee Region, and it was the day our chapter hosted its spring pig roast and the **Fly Fishing Film Tour** at the **Norskedalen** grounds near **Coon Valley**. We had more than 100 attendees enjoy delicious roast pork and local Amish pies.

In addition to the food, guests had a shot at many raffle items and heard presentations from **Mat Wagner** of the **Driftless Angler Fly Shop** and **Todd Opsal** of the **On the Creek Fly Shop**. **Mike Miller** of the **DNR** led stream sampling demonstrations to show the abundant amount of insect life in the stream.

## Fox Valley Chapter

April was the start of summer this year and, as a result, we started

spring cleanup a little early at **Davis Cr.** on April 14. This habitat day was



### YOU CAN HOLD IT, SIS, BUT REMEMBER IT'S MINE

Prizes that are taller than oneself are always good. So thinks the winner of this fly rod and reel, four-year-old Braeden Huff, who got help holding his prize from his older sister, Kaitlyn. The Huffs attended the Heckrodt Nature Center's Kids Fishing Day in Menasha on June 2.

led by **Elward Engle**. Elward is the retired DNR agent who purchased Davis Cr. headwaters properties for the public and has been managing their restoration since the 80s.

It was a most interesting cleanup crew, male and female, young and old. The oldest attendee, **Del Schwaller**, is 86, and the youngest was 11-year-old FVTU member **Dakota Lane**. Dakota's father, **Allen**, a U.S. Army veteran who served two tours of duty in Iraq, was also present (thank god). There were also members from other TU chapters present. Elward was kind enough to take time after the lunch to give a tour of the creek's flora and fauna.

Speaking of **Del Schwaller**, on May 19, FVTU hosted our 36th annual Fishing Day for People with Disabilities. Del originated and has managed this event since its inception. It was very heartwarming to see the participants experience the joy of catching 14- to 16-inch rainbow trout. **Jim Cuhel** and **Rich Erickson** have now assumed the roles

of managing this event which allows people who may never have experienced the joy of trout fishing an opportunity to fish. Del gave our creator thanks for the bountiful and flavorful food prepared by **Mark Peerenboom's** wife, **Beth Spencer**, and her yoga ladies.

Our spring membership meetings were very interesting. In March, **Jim Hauer** of **BlueSky Leaders** gave a presentation on using the **Tenkara** method of fly fishing. Tenkara is the Japanese method of fly fishing without a reel. See [www.tenkarausa.com](http://www.tenkarausa.com) for more information.

In April, FVTU Vice President **Tom Lager** gave a cultural and fishing documentary of Scotland based on his family's personal experiences. Both presentations were outstanding. **Irene Sheer**, a new FVTU member, is now the proud owner of a Tenkara fly rod. You can contact Irene through our website if you are interested in learning the reasons why she became a Tenkara fisher.

*Continued on p. 10*



### DISABLED FISHERS TREATED BY FVTU

FVTU member Bill Repulski (left) helps Tim Fries show off the nice rainbow trout he just landed at the 36th annual Fishing Day for People with Disabilities.



## Chapter News

Continued from p. 9

Our May 12 habitat crew on **Peterson Cr.** experienced some real challenges while jetting pilings for overhead bank covers. A steam bed harder than my head was encountered.

At our June 9 habitat workday we constructed some traditional lunger structures. **Steve Devitt** of **WDNR** directed the construction of the structures.

On May 24 we once again worked with the young men from **Rawhide Boys Ranch's About Face Program** as they enjoyed the experience of stream habitat restoration. They freshened up previous improvements FVTU made on the **S. Branch of the Little Wolf**. **Jim Hlaban** prepared a wonderful brat and

burger lunch for these fine young men and their leader, **Gator Melton**.

Fox Valley TU participated in the **Heckrodt Nature Center's Kids Fishing Day** June 2 at **Jefferson Park** in **Menasha**. **Gordy Braun**, **Al Johnson**, **Joe Bach**, and **Todd Calder** spent the morning tying wooly buggers with the kids. **Rich Erickson** was the greeter and spent time talking with parents. The chapter offered an **L. L. Bean** fly rod/reel combo as a prize. The young winner was 4-year-old **Braeden**.

As I am sure **Tim Landwehr** would say, "Tight Lines."  
—*Joe Bach*

### Frank Hornberg Chapter

Our chapter's fly fishing school was held on the weekend of May 18-20. We had perfect weather and a good group of students from Wisconsin, Illinois, and Minnesota. Chapter members supplied their skills as instructors and support staff. We have special thanks for **Paul & Loretta Peck**, who prepared a multi-course Saturday dinner fit for a gourmet.

On Sunday afternoon, the students broke into smaller groups, each with an instructor, and travelled to several nearby fishing spots to put their new casting skills to use.

We will have at least eight workdays on the **Tomorrow R.** between



### NICK McLAFFERTY

UW-Stevens Point student Nick McLafferty is this year's recipient of the Frank Hornberg scholarship.

now and the end of September. Members of other chapters are always welcome to join us. The schedule is in our newsletter and on our website, which you can find at [www.hornberg-tu.org](http://www.hornberg-tu.org). We may add additional workdays, so it is always a good idea to check with an officer or board member to see if there are any changes to the schedule.

Our board of directors meetings are generally held the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at **Shooters Supper Club** in **Plover**. Upcoming meetings will be August 2 and Sept. 6. We do not meet in July.

The winner of the **2012 Hornberg Scholarship** is **Nick McLafferty**, a fisheries major at the **UW-Stevens Point**. We are pleased to provide financial support for Nick's college education.  
—*John Vollrath*

### Green Bay Chapter

Get more info on the Green Bay Chapter at [www.greenbaytu.com](http://www.greenbaytu.com). We are in the midst of another busy summer working on projects to benefit our trout waters.

Under the direction of **Tami Paoli** of the **Peshigo DNR** office, and with the financial and physical assistance from other area conservation groups and the **Oconto Electric Cooperative**, we floy-tagged and stocked a large number of brown trout into the **Oconto R.** The purpose of this project is to track the movements of these trout, thus providing valuable information for future efforts in this area. Those participating in the tagging and stocking included **Randy Rake**, **Jack Koivisto**, **Ken Hutjens**, **Bill Holton**, **Pat Hill**, **Larry Mommaerts**, **Bob Hagland**, **Dennis Gusick**, **Kim McCarthy**, and **Paul Kruse**, all of the Green Bay Chapter. Also participating was **Bob Reeners** of the **Classic Anglers FFF**. Our **WDNR** leaders included **Tammie Paoli**, **Project Coordinator Steve Hogler**, **Rod Lange**, **Cory Wienandt**, **Ron Rhode** and **Garret Schacht**.

On **May 19**, we started our summer habitat improvement work. Work project #1 had the mission of clearing the **2nd South Branch** of the **Oconto R.** of beaver dam debris. It was a "blast." **Cliff Sebero**, **DNR** fisheries technician, and one the few licensed blasters in the **DNR**, demonstrated how to remove a beaver dam the quick way.



### FOX VALLEY TU WORKING ON DAVIS CREEK

The Fox Valley Chapter worked on Davis Creek in Waushara County this spring. The assembled work crew posed for a picture (top), while Russ Bouck, James Dobie, Elward Engle (left to right, bottom) used some available tools to prepare a bank for some narrowing.

# Chapter News



Eighteen TU members showed up for the dam removal project. It was sort of a Past Presidents Day, as several former chapter presidents showed up to help out, including **Pete Harris, Paul Mongin, and Dennis Gusick.**

TU members who worked on the May 19 project included **Matt Norem, Jeff House, Doug Seidl** (his wife, Sue, took many photos), **Paul Kruse, Randy Rake, Pat Hill, Dennis Gusick, Larry Mommaerts, Bill**

**Holton, Paul Mongin, Mike Renish, Pete Harris, Wally Heil, Mark Schuette, Rob Schuette, Harold Becks, Lee Meyers, and Bob Obma** of the Oconto Chapter.

The chapter will work with the **DNR and US Forest Service** on several more projects as the summer progresses.

We will also stage our very popular Kids Fishing Day in July.  
—Gary Stoychoff

## Harry & Laura Nohr Chapter

This past fall and this spring we extended our 2011 project work to include a lower portion of **Six Mile Branch** below Pine Road where **Big Spring Cr.** enters. This is a fairly channelized section, and we have pulled back the banks and added some rock protection.

We have completed the structures and ground work, and we have tied the work into Big Spring by cleaning it up a hundred feet or so above the confluence.

Our 2012 stream project on the lower end of the **Blue R.** off **Shem-ack Road** is getting closer to starting. There are about 3,000 feet below and 1,000 feet above the bridge that can be worked on. The stream is very deep here and will cost a bit more for pulling back the bank soils, but there is good substrate and many large redds have been seen here.

—Brian Larson

## Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter

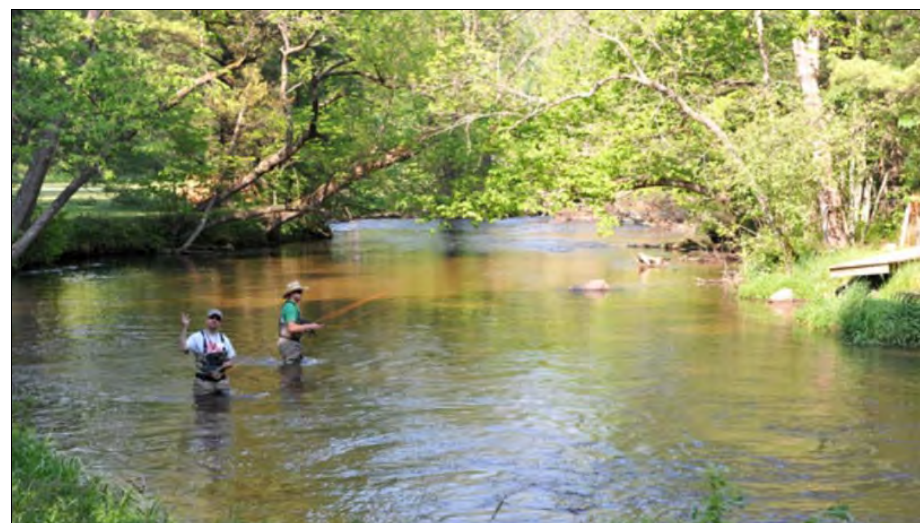
Kiap-TU-Wish has commenced work on the Hwy. 10 section of the **Trimbelle R.** project.

Volunteers built and installed lunger structures under the guidance of DNR habitat manager **John Sours.**

Our next effort will be to lay seeding and mulch. Board member **Randy Arnold** coordinated the volunteer effort.

We have received more grant money this year for the **Trimbelle** project than on any other project. Board member **Greg Meyer** has done an excellent job

in his first stint as grant writer. We have secured enough money for our 2012 project, and we are currently working on grants for the upper section along Cty. Rd. W for 2013.



### HORNBERG FLY FISHING SCHOOL ENJOYS THE WAUPACA RIVER

There was plenty of room to practice fly casting both on dry ground (top) and in the Waupaca River (bottom) during the Hornberg Chapter's fly fishing school held May 18-20.



### LAKESHORE HOPES OUTREACH TO YOUTH WILL REEL 'EM IN

Some recent outreach to the Reel 'Em In Club at Longfellow Elementary School in Sheboygan found **Wayne Trupke** (top) giving fly tying instruction to individual students as some parents observed. At the same event, **Dave Zerger** (bottom) worked with **Skyler Phanthavong** on his fly casting technique.

A good number of chapter members made treks to the Bighorn Riv-

er this spring, and some outstanding fishing was had.

—Kyle Amundson

## Lakeshore Chapter

The Lakeshore Chapter has been busy this spring! A \$2,000 check was presented to our chapter from the **Friends of WITU** for our continued work on the **Onion R.** which will be completed late this summer. This is one of our final projects for our ten-year plan on the **Onion R.**

Lunker structures, cribs, and overall stream improvements will be carried out at the confluence of **Benn Nutt** and **Mill** creeks which form the **Onion R.**

Workdays will be confirmed in the coming weeks, and if you are able to lend a helping hand, please do so! Any help is greatly appreciated. Contact **Gordy Martin** at (920) 876-3510 or **Jeff Preiss** at (920) 208-1135 for more information.

We had a picnic on June 18 to celebrate all the great work that has been done on the **Onion R.** The location was at **Lester Schmidt's** property on Cty. Rd. U. Members brought their families and friends.

Lakeshore's 29th annual banquet was in April, and our chapter raised about \$5,000. Thank-you to all who attended and helped this year.

Lakeshore Trout Unlimited Chapter and members of the **Helen Shaw Flyfishers** visited **Longfellow Elementary School** recently to give student members of the Reel 'Em In Club some lessons in fly tying and fly casting in the school's gymnasium. In addition, lessons in freshwater ecology were presented by the club's advisors.

The Reel 'Em In Club, now in its sixth year, is an afterschool program that meets twice a month to teach students about the joys of fishing and to foster an appreciation of the outdoors. Lakeshore TU Chapter members **Dave & Patty Zerger** advise the club at Longfellow. The Reel 'Em In Club is supported by Lakeshore TU, **Helen Shaw Flyfishers**, and **The Sheboygan County Conservation Association.**

Four Lakeshore TU members attended the **Shezza** take a kid fly fishing outing in May, assisting in casting and fly selection and even a little one-on-one fishing! See you on the streams!

—Gordy Martin

## Northwoods Chapter

July 28 will be our 19th annual Youth Fly Fishing Conclave. The event runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at

the **Cedric A. Vig Outdoor Classroom** in **Rhineland.**

*Continued on p. 12*



# Chapter News



## SEWTU IS BIG ON YOUTH AND CONSERVATION EFFORTS

SEWTU's Ben Cheeseman (top, wearing cowboy hat) helps a youngster with the finer points of casting during the Annual Kid's Fishing Clinic in West Bend. Over 400 kids attended the event. SEWTU volunteers also helped clear brush on the Mukwonago R. (bottom) in preparation for a culvert removal project. The DNR will remove seven culverts on the river later this summer.

*Continued from p. 11*

The event is free for girls and boys ages 10 to 16.

Participants will get to cast a fly rod, learn the difference between a mayfly and a stonefly, tie fishing knots, and experience tying a fly. Casting will be taught by **Federation of Fly Fishers**-certified casting instructors.

There will be great prizes, and this is just a great day to learn the

basics of fly fishing. Lunch will be provided.

Please arrive by 9:30 to complete registration forms before the start of the conclave at 10:00 a.m. Attendance is limited, so please contact **Terry Cummings** at (715) 362-2187 or [tcmuddler@chater.net](mailto:tcmuddler@chater.net) before July 22 to register.

—Hannah Hansen

## Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter

SEWTU will move the location of our monthly meetings to the **Charcoal Grill** in **New Berlin** (15375 W. Greenfield Ave.) starting **Sept. 25!** It's located just east of the intersection of Moorland Road and Greenfield Ave. Some of you may already be familiar with the location as they've hosted our Fall Fundraising Banquet for the past several years. We can use the first parking lot and enter on the lower level of the building.

We'll continue to use the same meeting format — dinner (optional) at 6:00, a meet and greet at 7:00, and the meeting starting at 7:30. Our meetings are open to the public and run monthly from Sept. thru May. We would like to thank all the folks at the **Thunder Bay Grille** for their hospitality through the years, and we look forward to making

some new friends at the **Charcoal Grill**.

At our March meeting, **Gordy Martin**, owner of **Tie-1-On Guide Service**, gave a presentation on fishing the **Lake Michigan** tributaries for trout and salmon.

In April, **Mat Wagner** from the **Driftless Angler** spoke about the importance of midges and crane flies to a trout's diet. We also drew the winners of our **Spring Raffle** in April. Winners included **Mike Lavoie** (Shimano spinning rod and reel), **Matthew Willert** (Cabela's fly rod and reel outfit), **William Wierzb**a (Weatherby .308 rifle), and **Gene Szymaszek** (cedar strip canoe and paddles). Congratulations and thank you to all who bought tickets to support SEWTU's conservation efforts.

Our May meeting featured our members' travelogues — accounts

of recent fishing trips to places like **Iowa, Colorado, and New Zealand**.

Our 2012 workdays have started off with a bang. On April 21, we hosted a clean-up on the **Menomonee R.** near **Miller Park**. This annual event was very well attended. We hauled lots of trash out of the river, and we also helped pull out large patches of invasive garlic mustard. We'd like to thank our site captain, **John Knitter**, for organizing our involvement in the event.

On May 19, SEWTU volunteers assisted the **DNR** with a project at the **Rainbow Springs** property on the **Mukwonago River**. Rainbow Springs is the site of a former golf course which went out of business. Several years ago the **DNR** purchased the land. Volunteers prepped the site for the removal of seven culverts on the river. Removal is scheduled to occur later this summer.

With plenty of public access now acquired via this property, we anticipate more restoration projects are in store on this rare **Waukesha County** trout stream.

On June 2, SEWTU partnered with the **Aldo Leopold Chapter** to build lunkers for phase II of their **Bear Creek** restoration project. We had over 50 volunteers build 60 lunkers in about three hours. That's strong work! Special thanks to **Stan Strelka, Jim Wierzb**a, and **Ray Weiss** for taking care of our workday trailer and equipment. And thank you to **Henry Koltz** and **Rick Frye** for making sure no one went hungry! We coincided the workday with our **Annual Chapter Outing** in the **Driftless Area**. Members camped at the **West Fork Sportsman's Club** and enjoyed a weekend of fine trout fishing.

Upcoming Saturday workdays include:

- July 21 at a trout stream in **Waukesha County** (location to be determined),
- Aug. 18 at **Camp Cr.** in **Richland County** (plan on another chapter outing weekend in the driftless), and
- Sep. 8 at **Van Slyke Creek** near **Fontana**. Check our website for the latest details or join our e-mail list by sending a message to [sustain@sewtu.org](mailto:sustain@sewtu.org).

Education and outreach continue to be a priority for our chapter. On April 14 we partnered with the **DNR** and the **West Bend Kiwanis** to host the **Annual Kid's Fishing Day** at **Sandy Knoll Park** in **West Bend**. Over 400 kids turned out to try their hands at catching some of the pond's rainbow trout and panfish! Thanks to **Chris Weber** and **Mike Keagle** for spearheading our efforts.

## Southern Wisconsin Chapter

Educational outreach, stream improvement, partnering with other interested groups, fundraising...on these measures and more, the first half of 2012 has been truly successful for Southern Wisconsin TU.

Over the course of our three winter/spring 2012 stream workdays, we had 58 volunteers log over 350 hours of service! Our efforts focused on streambanks within a perpetual **Dane County** public access easement on **Vermont Cr.** near **Black Earth**. We tackled some densely overgrown sections, branch-by-branch, bush-by-bush, and tree-by-tree.

We want to thank **Pat Ehlers** and all at **The Fly Fishers Fly Shop** for sponsoring the **Fly Fishing Film Tour** in **Milwaukee** on April 18. Pat donated raffle prizes and a portion of the proceeds from this sold-out event to SEWTU, helping us raise more than \$1,600 for coldwater conservation! Thanks also to **Sprecher Brewery** for hosting and SEWTU's **Kyle Klamar** and **Josh Radlein** for their help in setting this up.

We manned two booths at **Cabela's Kid's Fest** in **Richfield** on June 9, one indoors to promote TU's **Stream Explorers** program and another near the pond to help with the fishing events. Thank-you **Jay Zawerschnik** and **Chuck Beeler** for organizing our involvement. We also had a chance to thank Cabela's personally for awarding a \$1,200 grant to SEWTU for our **Camp Creek** restoration project.

We continue to help with the **Orvis Fly Fishing 101** classes as well. These two-hour classes are a fun, easy way to get introduced to the sport of fly fishing. Best of all, every participant gets a free membership to TU!

On Tuesday, July 24, we'll have **Orvis** instructor **Erik Helm** at our **Annual Casting Clinic** in **Greenfield Park**. We'll meet in the southwest corner of the park from 6:00 p.m. until dusk. SEWTU casting guru **Larry Wirth** will be on hand to provide additional instructions, and **Stan Strelka, Jay Zawerschnik,** and **Chuck Beeler** will provide food and drink (while supplies last)!

Our **Project Healing Waters** program is in full swing. **Al Dalphonso, John Knitter,** and **Glen Winston** lead our morning fly tying sessions at the **VA Medical Center** in **Milwaukee**. **George Batcha** and **Rick Frye** continue to lead the evening classes.

Our first fishing outing was a success. On May 24 we kicked off Memorial Day weekend by taking the vets fishing at **Wern Valley Sportsman's Club**. Summer outings include June 21 on the **Milwaukee River** in **Newburg** and July 26 at **Rushing Waters Fisheries**.

Finally, we'd like to thank **Rich Vetrano** for his work over the years in putting together our newsletter and for his help in finding a web designer to re-tool our website. We hope to have the new site up and running by the fall!

If you would like to receive SEWTU e-mail alerts with details about upcoming events, contact us at [sustain@sewtu.org](mailto:sustain@sewtu.org). Thanks for all you do. Our coldwater resources wouldn't be the same without you.

—Mike Kuhr

Our April 28 event was rainy, windy, and chilly, but that didn't daunt two dozen dedicated volunteers. It was a great group of volunteers, including some still in elementary and middle school, several members of **UW-Trout Unlimited**, and other more, let's just say, seasoned members. The event concluded with a marvelous picnic at **Veteran's Park** in **Black Earth**.

Our Conservation Committee is already preparing for stream work to continue in October. We welcome your assistance at any of our events. There is much to do, and many hands make light work.

# Chapter News



On the fundraising front, chapter treasurer **Tom Thrall** was pleased to report that we made close to **\$3,900** at our **Meicher Madness March** auction! The generosity of our membership, both in donations and bids, was in full view at the event. Our excellent and entertaining auctioneers, **Topf Wells** and **Mark Maffitt**, did a fabulous job!

Our April meeting saw a slight shift in chapter leadership. **Steve Wald** stepped down as vice president to focus on his role as conservation committee chair. We are excited to have elected **Matt Krueger** to step into Steve's former role, and we're also pleased to welcome **Mike Burda** and **Pat Hasburgh** to our board of directors.

We were honored to once again collaborate with **Malcolm Shabazz High School** and their Project Green Teen program. Chapter volunteers tied flies, provided casting instruction, and spent time with the students during their week at **Avalanche**.

The students hooked onto 150 trout during their week long outing, but more importantly, they got hooked on the outdoors, our coldwater resources, and the need to protect and preserve it.

Our chapter provides rod/reel combos for the students to use that they can later purchase at a discount if they choose. Many thanks to all who volunteered their time and talents for this important educational initiative, once again completed under the able leadership of **John Gribb**.

We held our annual Casting Clinic on April 14, drawing many people interested in learning more about gear, insects, reading the water, and casting. **Jeff Smith** once again did a wonderful job of promoting this community outreach event and organizing volunteers.

Please stop by [www.swtu.org](http://www.swtu.org) for more news about our chapter and to check out our calendar of events.

—Drew Kasel

## Wild Rivers Chapter

Our **Wild Rivers Fishing Expo and Auction** continued to be a great fund-raiser again this year, in spite of conflicts with other events. Now in its 10th year, the event provides funding for the chapter's conservation projects and donations. Some highlights this year included a strong speaker program, great food, and many donations of quality items. The guided fishing trips, boxes of flies, rods, nets, and top-notch desserts led the way.

Thanks to the auction team of **Bill Olson, Joe Johanik, Rolland Kiel, and Dick Berge** for a good auction night. Thanks to **Todd Bucher** and the **Delta Diner** for some of the best food ever served at the expo. **Dan & Krista Bloomquist** and **Rolland & Joyce Kiel** not only prepared the pulled pork, but also worked in the kitchen to serve the popular sandwiches.

Thanks to the speakers for a great program. **Erika LeMoine**



### WILD RIVERS CHAPTER THANKS SENATOR BOB JAUCH

Sen. Bob Jauch (left) receives an inscribed wood fly box from TU's Bill Heart of Ashland. The box was given Jauch in appreciation for his efforts on the Penokee Hills mining issue. The box contained flies tied by Jim Emerson and Dick Berge.



Chuck Campbell photos



Jim Beecher photos

### BRUSH IT AND THEY WILL COME

Vermont Creek in Dane County continues to get Southern Wisconsin TU's attention. Heavily overgrown, the stream is slowly revealing itself thanks to intensive brushing by chapter members the past couple years.

spoke to the Get the Lead Out effort; **Mark Brouder** provided a comprehensive look at the **USFWS** brook trout experiment on **Whittlesey Cr.**, and **Steve Therrian** talked about a brook trout adventure on the **Sutton River**. Lots of people were there to enjoy this interesting program.

Thanks to **Don Sutliff** and **Chase Stephenson** for the fly tying demonstration, and to Chase for the box of flies sold at the auction.

Thanks to the **Iron River National Fish Hatchery** for bringing the live brook trout.

Some of the best auction items were the great pies and bars, thanks to the bakers in the group. Some special auction items included rods donated by **Phil Wallace, Bill Pearson, Peter Freiburger, and Dan Bloomquist**, and a beautiful net from **LDH**.

There were a lot of great guided fishing trips. **Dr. Bob Stanley** donated a trip on the **Chequamegon Bay**; **Aron Kastern** of **Unlimited Trophy Outfitters** donated a **White River** trip; **Damian Wilmot** and **Steve Therrian** of **Fly By Night Guide Service** donated a **Brule R.** trip; **Larry & Wendy** of the **Hayward Fly Fishing Co.** donated a **Namekagon R.** float trip; **Jason Stewart** donated a northern river drift boat trip, and **Don Sutliff** donated a **Lake Owen** trip.

The chapter's offer for a free first-year TU membership, and a general interest in our chapter projects, convinced 14 new members to join the chapter.

The 10th Annual Expo will go down as another good fund-raiser. Thanks to all of the friends and partners who shared in the effort. The net profit was \$5,198.

It was a great honor to have **State Senator Bob Jauch** as our speaker at our April 19 meeting. He complimented TU as a respected environmental organization. Sen. Jauch talked about the strong envi-

ronmental legacy that Wisconsin has had, but he said this has been a bad year for environmental laws in the state. Rollbacks of protective environmental laws in the interest of business have occurred and probably will continue to occur.

The positive side is that this will go down as the first major environmental debate that Wisconsin has had in years. We who value the natural world will have to be more vigilant than ever. If we see a group proposing a project on a wetland, we should challenge it and make the public aware of its consequences.

Sen. Jauch spoke extensively about the mine in the **Penokees** and told us how important the public outcry was. He explained how he worked with **Sen. Dale Schultz** across party lines to bring forth a more sensible mine bill. That bill was not moved forward by those in power. The mine company dropped out, ending the mine issue for the time being.

The chapter presented Sen. Jauch with an engraved box containing streamers and wet flies tied by **Jim Emerson** and **Dick Berge**. The inscription on the box read, "Wild Rivers Chapter of T.U. recognizes Senator Bob Jauch in 2012 for his stand taken to protect rivers and streams of Northern Wisconsin."

On April 14, chapter volunteers helped the **Red Cliff Hatchery** staff insert floy tags in about 2,000 brook trout. The trout will be stocked along the **Lake Superior** shoreline. The fish are about 10-12 inches long, and the volunteers recorded the length and tag number of each fish. Thanks to the hatchery for the great lunch of fresh whitefish and potatoes and to all who donated desserts. Thanks to chapter volunteers **Peter Freiburger, Jim Emerson, Kevin Grand, Cindy Heart, Dick & Jody Prine, Dick Berge, and Chuck Campbell** for your efforts.

Continued on p. 14



# Chapter News



## DO YOU REMEMBER YOUR FIRST TROUT?

This teenager from Madison Shabazz High School's Project Green Teen Program got a chance to net her first trout while in Avalanche this spring.

*Continued from p. 13*

Our chapter will have work days on the **Little Sioux R.** on July 21 and 28 and on August 22 and 25. We will remove stream debris after the DNR has cut the streamside brush.

Last year we cleared about 1,500 feet of stream, and it vastly improved water flow and exposed gravel that had been covered with sand.

—Chuck Campbell & Dick Berge

## Wisconsin River Valley Chapter

It has been a quiet spring for the WI River Valley Chapter. We had to cancel our annual banquet this year.

It was a hard decision to make, but some events this late winter put us behind schedule, and the board

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wanted to put on a banquet we could be proud of and that our supporters were accustomed to. Anything less than that would not be acceptable.

As summer is upon us, we don't have formal meetings until September. We don't have any stream projects lined up for this summer. We have a few items to look into.

Some easements are coming due from the late 1980s, and an assessment of the work done back then

needs to be evaluated. We will make contact with the new owners along many of these easements.

We are looking into another watershed to begin work on, since the **Prairie R.** is complete. There is a promising piece of private land with a willing landowner to do some work. This stream has good potential with DNR lands in many areas.

We hope summer treats you well and the fishing treats you even better.  
—Doug Brown

## Wolf River Chapter

The Wolf River Chapter is again running the brat stand on the corner of Hwys. 55 & 64 in **Langlade** at **Mike's Service Station**. The Memorial Day weekend stand, run by **Andy Killoren**, was a complete success! Upcoming planned brat fries are July 6th & 7th, July 27th & 28th, and August 31st, Sept. 1st & 2nd (Labor Day weekend).

On May 12, **Andy Killoren**, **Bill Livingston**, **Tim Waters**, and **Mike Sikorski** placed temperature monitors at seven locations, including **Hunting R., Getchell Cr., Lily R., Nine Mile Cr., Wolf R., Evergreen R.,** and **Spring Cr.** The feeders were also monitored for dissolved oxy-

gen, turbidity, stream flow, habitat, and macro invertebrate life.

On Saturday, July 28, we will meet at the parking area off Hwy. 55 at **Nine Mile Cr.** just south of **Hollister** at 8:30 a.m. for some work on the creek. All volunteers will get a free lunch at our brat stand in **Langlade** after the work.

The date for our fall Appreciation Dinner has been set for October 13. Please check out our new website at [www.WolfRiverTU.org](http://www.WolfRiverTU.org) for more information on any of our projects.  
—Tim Waters

## HOPPER: foam holds a dropper

*Continued from p. 15*

you are going to place the eyes which can be made from the legs of a kids squish ball or other squish type toy or a strip or small cylinder of foam. Fold the strip of foam over and tie down as shown.



While holding on to the foam strip, take your scissors and trim off to about 1/8" behind the body and then trim at an angle to make it look like a wing. (You can see this better in the picture. And don't forget, these pictures can be seen in color by downloading *Wisconsin Trout* at [www.WisconsinTU.org](http://www.WisconsinTU.org).)

Next apply super glue to the top of the body and hold the wing down



until it sets up. By gluing the body to the hook and the wing to the body, this makes a more durable fly. You



can now take your scissors and trim the eye material to form the eye as shown.

Next tie the foam legs as shown.



Use the small size leg cutter from River Road Creations to cut the legs out of 1/16" thick foam.

It sometimes place a drop of super glue just where the legs attach to the body to make it stronger.

Now take any dry fly hackle of the appropriate size and tie it in between the head and body and make about two wraps as shown and tie off.

An option for the fisherman — as I don't think the fish care — is to cut two little antennae from a similar squish toy called a googly critter or from rubber leg material.



You can now take permanent markers in yellow, brown, and green to color the hopper the color you and the fish want, or you can leave it plain and color it on the stream to match the hoppers you find.

(Author Bob Haase shares many of his best flies with readers. If you have a fly pattern you'd like to share, contact Wisconsin Trout. -Ed.)

## Bob's Tying Tips

Advice from  
the bench of  
Bob Haase

### Get more fish per fly with these fly durability tips

By Bob Haase

#### Select & control your thread

Thread selection and thread control are the most important elements in tying a more durable fly. The thread material and diameter are the primary things that affect the strength of the thread.



The strength of the thread determines how much tension you can place on the thread without breaking when tying down materials. Most people get upset when they place too much tension on the thread and it breaks, but if you seldom break your thread, you are probably not putting enough tension on your thread.

GSP and Kevlar thread is the strongest, but because it is so smooth, it does not grip as well as polyester or nylon. Braided thread is not only stronger than stranded thread, it also provides more gripping strength. Stranded thread can be sharpened by spinning it tighter, which makes it grip better and can be flattened so it does not cut into materials like foam and weaken the fly.

Selecting the best thread for your tying application and applying the maximum amount of tension will usually result in a stronger and more durable fly.

#### Use adhesives & head cements

I have read lately about tyers not using any kind of glue or head cement. They say that it does not make a fly more durable, and the odor may negatively affect the fish taking the fly. I would like to see some objective testing done to back this up, both in terms of strength and odor.

I do support the concept that a properly tied fly should be able



to hold up without head cement, but there are a lot of variables here. The type of thread, the type of knots tied, where the knots are tied, and materials used all affect durability. Adhesives and head cements can improve strength and durability.

For example, I tie a lot of foam bluegill flies, and I apply super glue on the thread base before tying in the foam. By doing so, the foam is less likely to spin on the hook shank, making it more durable.

I also use a little drop of super glue to bond the jungle cock nail to the mallard flank feather for Hornbergs. This also makes the fly more durable, allowing you to catch more fish without losing or damaging the jungle cock.

If you have problems with the elk hair on an elk hair caddis spinning on the hook shank when using larger amounts of hair, try putting a couple drops of liquid (not gel) super glue where the hair is tied in. This usually helps.

Adhesives and head cements should not be used to compensate for poorly tied flies, but their proper use can strengthen a fly.

#### Control the material applied at one time

Rather than tying one large clump of materials such as hair, try applying it in two applications. If you tie in one large clump of materials, it is sometimes more difficult to achieve a tight enough bond so that it does not spin or rotate on the hook shank.

Tying in one large clump is not necessary in most applications, but when larger amounts of material need to be applied, applying two clumps instead of one large clump makes a stronger and more durable fly.

#### Select durable materials

Some materials are stronger than others and can affect the durability of the fly. As an example, antelope hair is very buoyant and can be substituted on an elk hair caddis pattern. The problem is that antelope hair is not nearly as strong as elk or deer hair, and you can cut right through it with your thread when tying it down. It's just not very durable.

The same is true for a lot of tying materials, so knowing the characteristics of materials can help you decide if you can substitute them to make a more durable fly.

#### Use reinforcing techniques

I sometimes tie in my hackle at the eye of the hook and wrap the hackle back toward the bend of the hook and tie it in at the appropriate location. I then wrap my thread forward to the eye, weaving it between the hackle barbs and over the stem of the feather.

## Bob's Foam Hopper rides high even carrying a nymph dropper

By Bob Haase

There are a lot of great hopper patterns, and during the last few years I have been trying to create a hopper pattern designed specifically for "hopper-dropper" fishing — a

wise with your left hand to form (twist) a body as shown below.

#### MATERIALS LIST

##### Bob's Foam Hopper

**Hook:** Mustad #94831 (3x long, 1x fine) or equivalent in sizes 12 to 8.

**Thread:** 140 Denier tan.

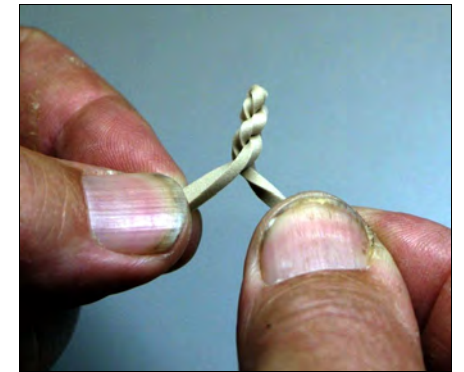
**Body:** 2mm (1/8") foam.

**Wing:** 1/16" foam.

**Legs:** 1/16" foam

**Hackle:** dry fly hackle to match

**Eyes:** Squish Ball material or foam.



Note that all the dimensions of the foam are for a #10 94831 hook. Adjust accordingly for different sized hooks and hoppers.

Now tie in the foam on the hook as shown, leaving about 3/16" or



hopper able to support the weight of various nymphs tied in as a dropper, if desired.

During this time I tried many different materials for all the body parts, including the legs, and was not satisfied until I decided to make an all-foam hopper.

The hopper leg cutter from River Road Creations was the final piece of the puzzle. That tool allowed me to create the best-floating hopper pattern I have ever tied. This hopper floats great (even with heavier nymphs) and casts well without causing too much line twist. The best part is that the fish approve of it by including it in their diet.

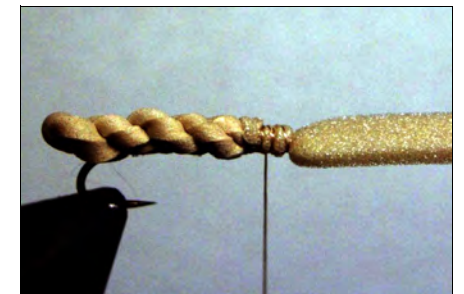
I tie it in different sizes, and the hopper leg cutters come in three different sizes available through Hairline Dubbin dealers. By using a light tan foam and permanent markers, I can create all kinds of colors. Another plus is that they are easy and fun to tie.

Place a Mustad 94831 or equivalent hook in your vise and lay down a good thread base. Next take a piece of 2mm foam and cut it into strips about 1/8" wide and about 3 inches long. Holding the strip between the thumb and forefinger of each hand, twist the strip clockwise with your right hand at the same time you are twisting counter-clock-

more for the head of the hopper. Then apply super glue to the hook shank and hold the body on to the hook until the glue sets.

You can then trim the excess foam off and make a few more wraps of thread to secure it.

Tie in a strip of 1/16" foam cut about 1/4" wide as shown. The foam



strip should be tied in just behind the eye of the hook and then moved about 3/16" back.

Place a drop of super glue where

*Continued on p. 14*



This technique makes a more durable fly and helps prevent hackle from breaking off where it is tied down.

This and other tying techniques can make your fly more durable.

#### Pick the best knot for the job

We usually finish our flies with a knot or series of knots, and I will end these tips with knots as well.

There are different kinds of knots, and they often work better in certain applications.

A whip finish is not always the strongest knot. When you are tying in behind a bead or stacked in one



spot over materials such as foam, the whip finish can slip lose. Tying a series of half hitches usually makes for a more durable knot in these applications.

Knowing how to make various kinds of knots, and knowing where to use them, will result in a more durable fly.

Some might question why fly durability is important, but if you only have one or two of that fly in your fly box and the fish are taking that fly, you want it to hold up. Tying your own flies allows you to not only be creative, it also allows you to tie a stronger and more durable fly that can catch a lot more fish without falling apart.

# 2012 Friends off to a great start

By Doug Brown

## Friends of WITU Chair

The 2012 Friends donation campaign is well underway, and the response has been outstanding! You should have received our letter, or you will get it shortly.

A lot of grants have been approved for 2012, and the nearly \$12,000 received so far will help more grants become a reality. A huge thank-you to the 100+ individ-

uals and five TU chapters who have contributed so far.

Of the project requests from various chapters, \$2,000 was awarded to each of the following chapters earlier this spring: Coulee Region, Wild Rivers, SEWTU, and the Nohr Chapter. A multitude of projects will be accomplished this year.

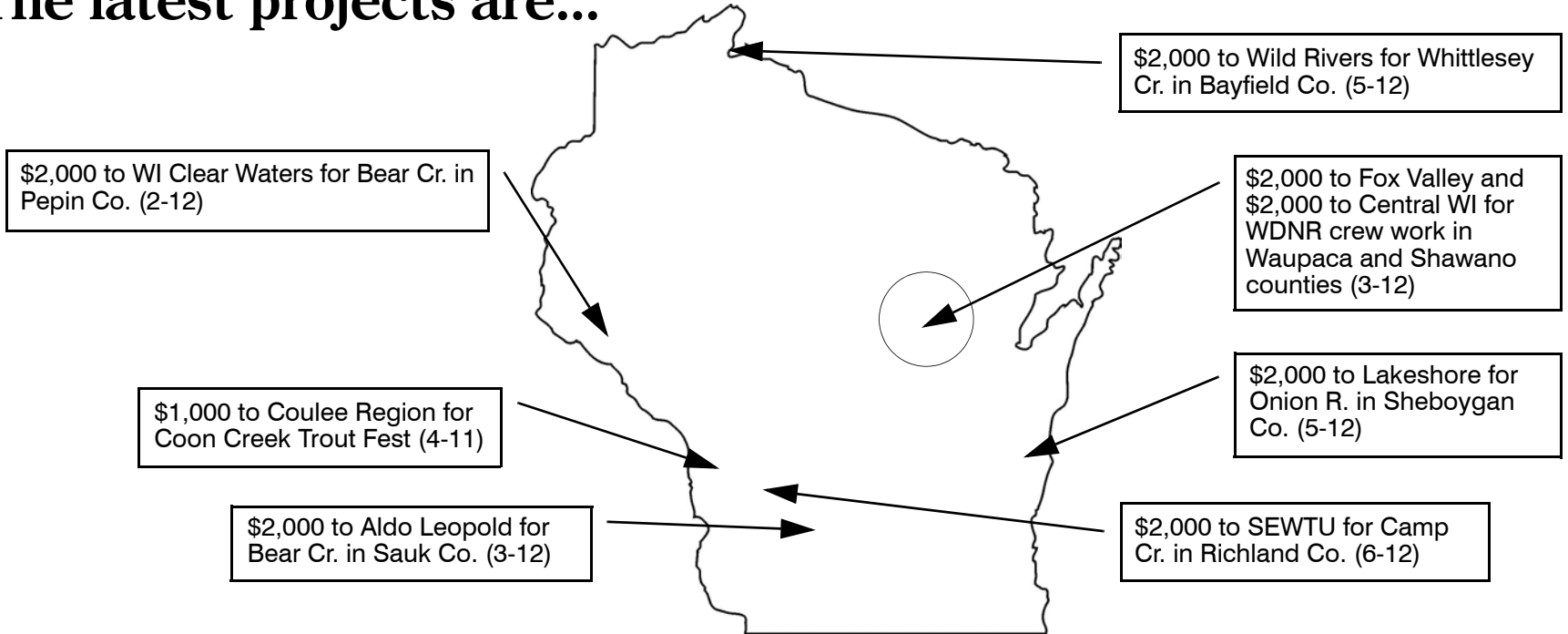
I would also like to thank some people for donating time and supplies in the thank-you letters sent to those who contributed. Jodi Luebbe supplied office-technical help

with the letters and envelopes, Brian Marnholz from Domtar Paper Co. donated all the paper for the return letters, and my four- and nine-year-old daughters, Brooke and Anika, helped address labels, stuff letters, and run to the post office.

This year, with a \$100 donation, you get a Stream Works Fly Box to dry your flies. It attaches easily to your vest or fits in a small pocket. Donations can be sent to the address shown below. I can also be reached at Decbrown@yahoo.com.



## Approaching \$200,000 in grants since 1991. The latest projects are...



## Friends of Wis. TU

Here are our new 2012 Friends of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited

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PLUS THESE WITU CHAPTERS:  
 Aldo Leopold Chapter  
 Oconto River Chapter  
 Shaw-Paca Chapter  
 Southeastern WI Chapter  
 WI Clear Waters Chapter

Yes, I want to join the "Friends" of Wisconsin TU.  
 Enclosed is my check for \$100, \$250, or more payable to Wisconsin Trout Unlimited.

MAIL TO: Friends of Wisconsin TU  
 % Doug Brown  
 R4800 Timber Lane  
 Ringle, WI 54471

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_