



Wisconsin Trout

July 2014

Governor signs license plate bill into law

By Henry Koltz, State Council Chair

When the last issue of *Wisconsin Trout* went to press, Wisconsin TU's license plate bill, AB-173, had just passed the Wisconsin Senate. Having already passed in the Wisconsin Assembly, the final important step was having the Governor's office sign the bill.

On April 15, 2014, AB-173 was presented to Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker. One day later, on April 16, he signed AB-173 into law as 2013 Wisconsin Act 266.

Wisconsin TU owes a great debt to many people, including too many to list here. Quite simply, every person who emailed, called, showed up or wrote a letter in support of our bill was a part of this success.

A few shining stars in this process must be named, however, including Central Wisconsin TU's Scott Grady, who pushed the idea of a license plate at the council level in 2011.

None of this would have happened without Green Bay TU's Kim McCarthy, who during his time as state council chair, gave life to the spark that Scott Grady started.

Southeastern Wisconsin TU's Ray Weiss introduced Wisconsin TU to Rep. Jim Ott, and got the license plate bill rolling at the legislative level.

Southeastern's Rick Carr provided significant support at the legislative level as well, actively pushing for our bill to advance.

Finally, Southeastern Chapter's own John Christiansen, who is also TU National's Chairman of the Board, was instrumental in contacting key individuals and asking them to support our bill.

Finally, we cannot give enough thanks to Brandon Scholz of the Capitol Group in Madison. Scholz, a member Southern Wisconsin TU, took the time, and had the incredible patience, to teach me and others how to effectively communicate the message of what Wisconsin TU is about, and how to present the importance of our plate bill to legislators and their staffs.

He was a tireless worker on our behalf, and did more for us than



Heidi Oberstadt

GOVERNOR WALKER SIGNS LICENSE PLATE BILL

Gov. Scott Walker signs AB-173, allowing Wisconsin TU to offer a license plate. Behind him is Ray Weiss from Southeast Wisconsin TU, Jennifer Giegerich from Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters, Ryan Augustyn from Rep. Jim Ott's office, Rep. Jim Ott (Mequon), Matt Krueger from Wisconsin River Alliance, WITU CHair Henry Koltz, Brandon Scholz from the Capitol Group and Southern Wisconsin TU, and Kim McCarthy from Green Bay TU.

most will ever likely appreciate, and certainly more than I'll adequately be able to recite here.

At the Legislature, obvious thanks are owed to Rep. Jim Ott (Mequon). He took the time to learn about Wisconsin TU, to see the streamwork we do, appreciate the economic engine we provide, and to learn about how we work with kids and disabled U.S. military veterans.

Ott drafted our bill (twice, in two sessions) and took the time and initiative to work with Wisconsin TU, and to see that our bill passed. Wisconsin TU is incredibly thankful for the work that Rep. Ott and his staff put in on our behalf.

Thanks is likewise owed to Rep.

Keith Ripp (Lodi), and Sen. Jerry Petrowski (Marathon). Both chaired transportation committees in their respective houses, and both heard Wisconsin TU's message, and scheduled our bill for hearings. These hearings were required for our bill to proceed to votes before the full Wisconsin Assembly and Senate. Additional thanks is owed to Rep. Robin Vos (Burlington), Sen. Scott Fitzgerald (Juneau), Sen. Paul Farrow (Pewaukee), and Sen. Mike Ellis (Neenah), who were all instrumental in supporting our bill, and seeing it scheduled for votes and passed.

Finally, Wisconsin TU thanks Gov. Scott Walker for signing AB-173 into law. Wisconsin TU does

many good things for the State of Wisconsin and its citizens. We are proud that Gov. Walker recognized the impact that Wisconsin TU has, and saw fit to sign our bill and provide us with support therein.

The next steps in this process are primarily administrative, and they are being worked out through the Department of Transportation. Wisconsin TU will continue to keep its members updated, and will provide updates and information via our email system, website, social media and *Wisconsin Trout*, as it becomes available.

Wisconsin TU thanks its members for their incredible efforts in making our bill's passage a reality.

In this issue...

<i>New Outdoor Expo a success</i>	p. 5
<i>Advocacy 101</i>	p. 8
<i>Chapter president profile: Laura MacFarland</i>	p. 9
<i>It's in the Tackle Box</i>	p. 10
<i>Milkweed seeds coming to WI</i>	p. 19
<i>Three books reviewed.</i>	p. 21
<i>Visit trout, salmon library in Montana</i>	p. 22

WITU Youth Fishing Camp July 24-27

Council seeks additional volunteers for first-ever event

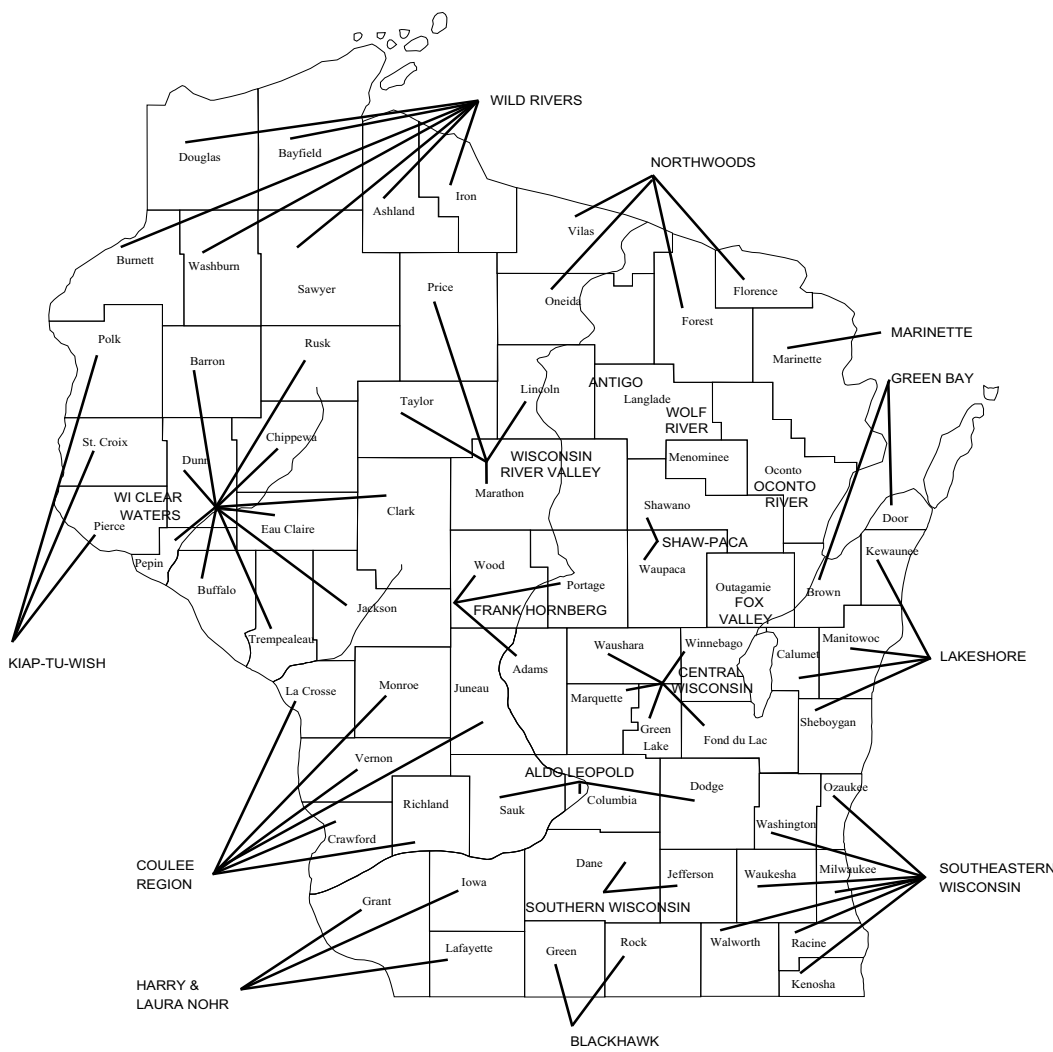
By Linn Beck, WITU Vice Chair

All is coming together for the 2014 WITU Youth Fishing Camp. There are a couple spots still open for students and we still could use a couple of more mentors. If this is something you would be interested in please contact Linn Beck at 920-379-2974, email chlbeck@att.net, or

Bob Haase at 920-579-3858, email flytier@milwpc.com. Please consider volunteering for one day or the weekend. Your lodging and meals will be taken care of. So if you want to come out and make a difference for our youth, or you have any questions about the curriculum we are offering please contact us.

Continued on page 5

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Are you getting emails from TU?

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. Make sure TU National has your email address. If you are currently not receiving news and event-related email messages from your chapter, the state council and TU National, then you are truly missing out on what's happening at all three levels.

WISCONSIN TROUT

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Chairman's Column

We are what we accomplish

By Henry Koltz, State Council Chair

About five years ago my physicians informed me that my hips were "shot." They didn't say that they were "sort of bad," or that they would give me some medication and see how things went. They said my hips were "shot." No joint space, bone on bone, and so on – the type of stuff that there isn't any pill or exercise for. So last February, at the ripe age of 37, I had my left hip replaced. This December old righty will get the Six Million Dollar Man treatment as well.

"When you do good things, quite simply, you'll attract good people."

Because of the type of procedure and the type of replacement joint I had installed, and the conservative nature of my surgeon, I spent six weeks, two days, and about 11 hours and 28 minutes in a walker (But who's counting?). I guess any time your medical procedure involves the word "installed," you should know you're in for it.

After four weeks in the walker, I thought it was curtains. I'd hit a wall. Not being able to move freely is one thing, but after four weeks, all pretense of courtesy is gone, and you are keenly aware that you are imposing on everyone around you. It stinks.

But I feel much better now and some of those I imposed upon have even forgiven me, or have at least lied and said they have. I'll take what I can get.

Sitting around for a long time leaves a fellow with a lot of time to think, and I'm not always so comfortable with that. I'm a lawyer, so obviously I try to avoid thinking in general, or at least that is what my friends accuse me of. But eventually you run out of fly-fishing videos to watch, the work you brought home gets done, and you are left alone with no one but the (heavily medicated) voices inside your head.

Given that TU is now firmly en-

trenched in "second job" territory around here, it obviously was a part of what the voices were discussing. It was around that time that the WITU license plate bill was hitting crunch time, and I was speaking about TU and extolling its virtues and accomplishments ... a lot, to a lot of people, in a lot of forms.

The process of regularly discussing our group, its accomplishments, and its people caused a natural distillation to occur. I suppose it truly is a lot like the brewing process, which is appropriate, given our Wisconsin roots. You add our best ingredients: Our members and general volunteers, our leaders, our grant writers, our education volunteers, our women and our minority members, those that run our veterans programs. You mix that up, and the best of what we are rises to the top.

What ends up rising is what I ended up talking about and repeating. What I found myself repeating was that we restore rivers, that we don't work unless there is public access such that the public is benefited, that we leverage state dollars, that we work with kids and get them outdoors, that we work with disabled U.S. military veterans, and that we provide a family where people can do good simply for the sake of doing good.

Again, much like the brewing process, the impurities within our process were discarded, as rightly they should be. I'd abandoned talking about the "fights" we'd gotten into, about the internal conflicts and growing pains that we'd experienced from time to time as we've grown and broadened, or about how this wing of the group or this person within our group wasn't doing this, that, or the other thing, or about various detractors. That's not what TU is about.

I think there's a lesson there:



KOLTZ ON THE WEST FORK OF THE WEST FORK.
Wisconsin TU Chairman Henry Koltz releases a native cutthroat.

Who and what we are is the positives that we accomplish. That's what makes us tick, and that is what has made our reputation so strong. I believe we should focus on the good that TU is capable of accomplishing, amplify that message, and go forth and use the very real nature of our accomplishments to do even more.

My own personal experience within TU is that when we focus on what we do well, and what we do that is good, we'll attract the best people. The best people I know within TU have come to our group and stayed with it for things like stream restoration programs, to write grants to allow public access, to encourage buffer zones and responsible development, to set kids programs in motion, to launch Trout in the Classroom programs, to work with Girl Scouts, to bring women into our ranks, and to work with U.S. military veterans. People have good inside them, and to leverage that we need to create outlets. When you do good things, quite simply, you'll attract good people.

Close to home for me, the Southeast Wisconsin Chapter, based in Milwaukee, has witnessed explosive growth as the chapter has created committees and expanded into each

of the areas that I've discussed above. As a result, along with a number of other efforts spearheaded by current Chapter President Jim Wierzba and former Chapter President Mike Kuhr, SEWTU has attracted nearly 250 new members in the past four years. As a result, SEWTU may now be (or is very close to being) the first Wisconsin chapter to crest 1,000 total members.

That's rarified air indeed, and puts SEWTU into a very small number of chapters nationwide. It's even more impressive when you consider that the greater Milwaukee area is not particularly known for its abundance of inland trout streams. It is a testament, however, to the appeal that accentuating the positive aspects of our work has, and to its ability to attract and retain members.

So take the message home to your chapters if you are a leader. If you are a volunteer, get involved, or start a program. Go out, get involved, and get to doing something good.

Letters to the Editor

Editor,

Having a Wisconsin Trout Unlimited License Plate has been a fundraising dream for more than three years. Finally on April 16 the dream became a reality when the governor signed the bill granting WITU its plate.

Many people deserve thanks for their efforts to get the license plate bill passed. All of our members and partner groups who made legislative contacts in support of the bill played a great role. We heard often how enthusiastic and numerous bill supporters were in making contacts. Rep. Jim Ott introduced the bill and supported it throughout its long trip through the legislative process.

But there is one individual who was instrumental to passage of the bill. I am referring to Henry Koltz, our State Council Chair. Henry was tireless. He is the one who formed the coalition in support of the bill. He is the one who led every step of the way. If Henry heard that a particular legislator might be wavering in support of the bill, he was off to Madison

to meet and remind legislators about all of the good work Trout Unlimited does in Wisconsin.

In February the legislative session was winding down and the license plate bill had not been scheduled for a vote in the Senate. About that time Henry headed to the hospital to have a bum hip taken care of. Within just a couple of weeks Henry was driving to Madison and roaming the capitol in his walker. He will be remembered as "that guy in the walker."

TU has many great volunteers. But the effort put forth by Henry to get the license plate was way beyond what most volunteers are able to do. I am in awe of his effort for TU. His success will make Wisconsin Trout Unlimited a much more effective organization for many years into the future. Thank him the next time you see him.

—Kim McCarthy, Green Bay

Editor,

I just got through reading the latest issue of *Wisconsin Trout*. There is always great news and

articles which I have been reading for more years than I can remember. Trout Unlimited is a great organization that has done a tremendous job of protecting and restoring trout and their habitat.

Many people claim to be "Catch & Release" fishermen. Some fishermen assume that when they catch a trout, hold it up, and take photos for a couple minutes and put it back in the water, that it was a "Catch & Release."

Seriously, if you just ran two or three miles and someone grabbed you and stuck you under water for one minute while they took your photo, would you survive?

A lot of these fish do swim off, but die later only to be eaten by some other animal than the one that caught them.

If we truly want to be "Catch & Release" and kind fishermen, let us forgo all the egotistical measuring and photos to impress other fishermen and just let the fish swim away.

John Wieseler, Oconomowoc



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Protect yourself from ticks

By Bob Haase, WITU Education Chair

Most of us who trout fish come in contact with ticks, some of them being the wood tick and others being the black-legged tick, commonly known as the deer tick.

However, many of us do not do a good enough job of preventing ticks from getting on us and embedding themselves, which can cause Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases. Like with many other things in life, we really do not pay enough attentions to things like this until we end up with Lyme disease or another tick-related illnesses. Having had Lyme myself, and seeing the effects on people that have not obtained early or proper treatment, I urge everyone to take this very seriously.

Rather than going into all the specific details about the different kinds of ticks and tick-borne diseases, I encourage you to do some research and learn what you can. Instead, I will concentrate more on prevention and removal.

One of the biggest problems is that we often check ourselves when we come off the trout stream, but don't check ourselves when we walk in tall grasses such as in our own back yard.

It's when we're not thinking about ticks that they can end up embedded in our skin for more than the 24 hours it takes to infect us with the Lyme disease. Not all deer ticks carry Lyme disease, but we have no way of knowing if the tick embedded in us is a carrier when we remove it.

I now use a two-part system for preventing ticks from embedding themselves in my skin. I rub a good insect repellent with about 25 percent DEET on my skin, when I go into areas I know have a lot of ticks, and during the times of the year when ticks are most prevalent.

During other times I use a product called SmartShield, which is distributed through TFO. It uses natural ingredients and is a combination sun screen and insect repellent. This product is also safe for all fishing lines, which can be damaged by other products. This is the product I use most of the time and is safer to use on children. I get the pack that contains one towelette for wiping on my skin and keep a few packs in my fly vest. They cost about \$1 per pack.

When ticks are bad, I also spray a small amount of Permethrin on selected parts of my clothing and let the clothing dry before putting it on.

I have had ticks on me, but they have not been embedded when I use this procedure. One of the problems with deer ticks is that they are small and hard to see. Even doing a tick check, it is easy to miss them until it is too late. That is why I feel that the risk of using the insect repellent as mentioned above is worth the risk and better than hoping you find them during a tick check. I still do a thorough tick check, but feel the repellent is also necessary.

I also found that an item called a Tick Key, which was designed for removing ticks from dogs, works great on humans. I try to carry one with me in my car or in my fly vest. The advantage is that you slide it over and then under the tick and just lift up slowly, pulling the tick out without squeezing fluids from the tick into your body. They are available at pet stores or from veterinarians and they are only about \$5.

The worst thing you could do is to stop enjoying the outdoors, such as trout fishing, because of the fear of ticks and Lyme disease. Practice good preventative measures and be proactive in getting the proper medical treatment if needed.

NZ mudsnails found at more Black Earth Creek sites

The multi-stakeholder New Zealand Mudsnail Response Team has been busy since the discovery of New Zealand mudsnails last fall. The Response Team would very much welcome a representative from the Wisconsin TU State Council to help us implement the Rapid Response Plan.

Mudsnails found at new sites

New Zealand mudsnails have been identified in archived samples from December 2011/January 2012 that were collected about two miles downstream of the known population at South Valley Road.

New Zealand mudsnails have also been confirmed about four miles upstream from South Valley Road, just downstream from the waste water treatment plant in Cross Plains.

Free Boot/Wader Wash Stations and Signs Available

The River Alliance of Wisconsin, with grant funding from the Wisconsin DNR, has a limited number of wader/

boot brush stations available for adoption. These would ideally be placed at high-traffic angler access points. The freestanding, five-foot-tall stations consist of a two-foot sign, a three-sided boot brush on a platform, and a long-handled scrub brush. They require little maintenance during the season. To see these in action, visit the West Fork Sportsmens Club (Avalanche) or Salmo Pond (Cross Plains). Please contact me if your chapter or a local land manager in your area is interested in adopting one of these stations or small 8x10-inch invasive species signs.

Please remember to inspect, scrub and rinse your boots and waders before moving from one stream to the next. These mudsnails, and other invasive species, can be hiding in the nooks and crannies of your gear. With the help of anglers, we can prevent the spread.

For more information contact Laura MacFarland, invasive species director at the River Alliance of Wisconsin. (608) 257-2424, ext. 110; lmacfarland@wisconsinrivers.org; www.wisconsinrivers.org

Mixed bag of results on WCC questions

By Aaron Frailing, WITU Legislative Committee Co-Chair

On April 14, in all 72 Wisconsin counties, citizens participated and voted at the 2014 Spring Fish and Wildlife Hearings and Wisconsin Conservation Congress (WCC) county meetings. The WCC was established by renowned conservationist Aldo Leopold and is an excellent opportunity for citizens to comment and provide input annually on proposed fish and wildlife rule and Conservation Congress advisory questions that could affect rulemaking in the future.

In May was the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Annual Convention, and delegates from all 72 counties attended. Delegates reviewed the votes cast statewide, assigned the votes that were approved to the appropriate committees for further review and analysis, and were updated by Department of Natural Resources staff on new projects.

This year's Wisconsin Conservation Congress proceedings included seven questions and two citizen-submitted resolutions related to trout regulations. Although the State Council attempted to obtain a position on these questions before the statewide votes, a consensus was not achieved on several of them.

Four of the seven questions were voted down at the statewide hearings and those "No" votes were supported by the delegates at the Conservation Annual Convention. The three remaining questions and the two citizen submitted resolutions were "Yes" votes. Those ques-

tions and resolutions will move on to the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Trout Study Committee for further research. Information about the questions can be found at the Wisconsin Conservation Congress website <http://dnr.wi.gov/about/wcc/>

The three questions that passed included one regarding uniform trout seasons for "put-and-take" trout lakes and ponds statewide.

Another question that passed calls for establishing a single fishing stamp for both Great Lakes and inland trout fishing.


The third question that passed calls for extending the open trout fishing season to October 15, as long as it would not have any significant impact on trout populations.


The two citizen resolutions called for eliminating the early trout seasons statewide and an effort to increase DNR trout stocking on the Upper Willow and Apple Rivers in St. Croix County.

These votes and the resolutions were discussed at length at the May Wisconsin State Council meeting and will be discussed further at the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Trout Study committee meeting, which is tentatively scheduled for late August in Stevens Point.

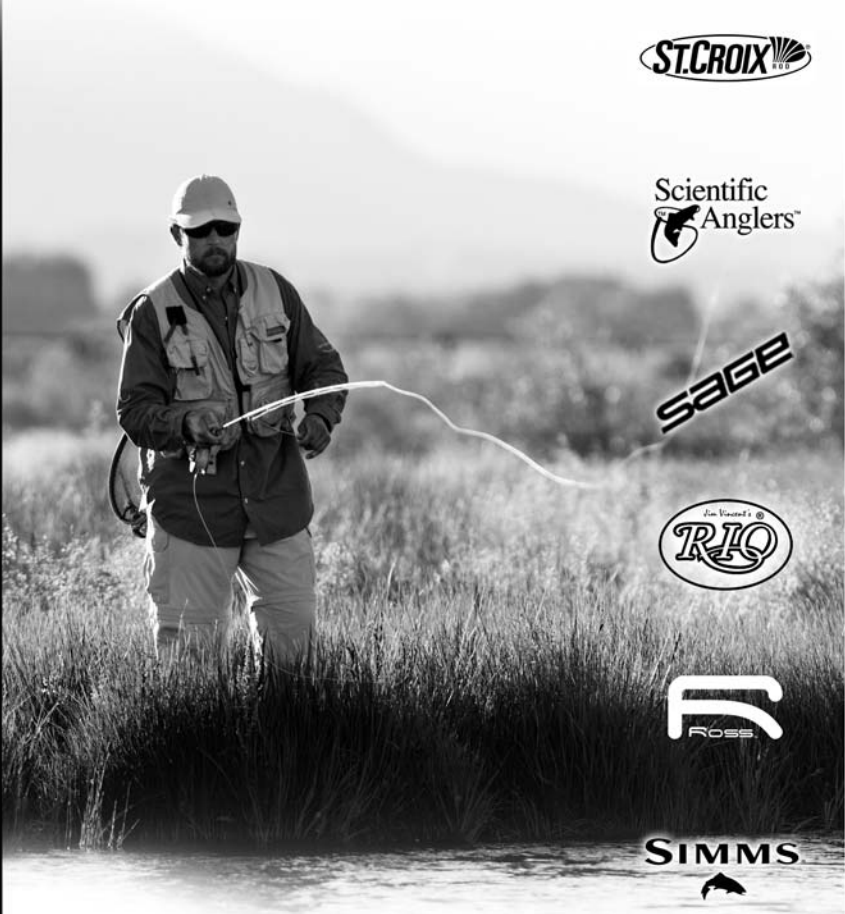
The State Council will continue to monitor these questions and resolutions and keep its chapters and members informed of their status. Stay tuned for more information as it develops.







If you are interested in becoming involved in the WCC process, more information is available at the WCC website, or contact your county delegates for more information.



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First Midwest Outdoor Heritage Education Expo at MacKenzie Center a great success

By Bob Haase

The Wisconsin Outdoor Expo that has been held in Beaver Dam in recent years was cancelled for 2014 for a variety of reasons. The main reason was that the director of the program resigned to take another job and they could not find a replacement in time. It looked like it would not happen this year. Fortunately for the kids, Mark LaBarbera of the non-profit Outdoor Heritage Education Center stepped up and provided the leadership for setting up a similar program at the MacKenzie Center in Poynette.

The program, called the Midwest Outdoor Heritage Outdoor Expo, was held on the same dates originally scheduled for the Expo in Beaver Dam. I was pleasantly surprised at how well everything went and how well organized it was, considering the lack of time they had to plan it. Many of the volunteer organizations that helped at Beaver Dam were on hand to help out at Poynette, and I think many enjoyed the event and plan to return next year. Organizers have reserved the location for the next three years, and hope to make it better than this year.

More than 1,400 students and 200 chaperones attended the event and were able to observe wolves, bison, coyotes and the other wildlife at the MacKenzie Center. They also participated in other events such as tying flies, climb the fire tower, shoot bows and BB guns, identify birds and trees, handle reptiles, skin muskrats and follow animal tracks.

The TU logo appeared on all the big banners placed around the grounds, along with the logos of other volunteer organizations. Thanks go out to the following TU members who volunteered to help the kids tie flies: Scot Stewart, Bob Haase, Rand VanderSchaff, Tom Connelly, John Tucker, Ira Giese, Bill Millionig, Jerry Gorman, Linda Lehman, Elek Nagy, Ben Cheesman and soon-to-be-member Dave LaPine.

Next year the Wisconsin Outdoor Expo organizers plan to be back to Beaver Dam during the same days as the Midwest Outdoor Heritage Education Expo. Unfortunately, most organizations can't be at both places at the same time, and I am not sure how many organizations could find the volunteers to do both. I think there needs to be some communications and planning to maybe offer one venue in the southern part of the state and another venue in the northern part of the state.

Whatever happens should be done with the best interest of the students in mind, with the goal of exposing as many kids as possible to outdoor education.



THEY ALWAYS SEEM SO FOCUSED

Bill Millionig (left) from Campbellsport, a member of the Central Wisconsin Chapter, helped out at the first Midwest Outdoor Heritage Expo at the MacKenzie Center near Poynette. Scot Stewart (above), also shared his tying skills on this chilly day. Stewart is DNR Southern Region Fisheries Supervisor. He is very supportive of what we do with the kids and is always there to help out when needed.

Help make WITU's first Youth Fishing Camp a success

Continued from page 1

The 2014 WITU Youth Fishing Camp will be held at Pine Lake Camp, located between Waupaca and Wild Rose, Wisconsin. It is open to youth between the ages of 12 and 16. The camp will run from 3 p.m. on Thursday, July 24 to Noon on Sunday, July 27. Our chapters are encouraged to sponsor a child to attend the camp and there are still a few slots open. Cost to sponsor a child to the camp is \$250, which includes all lodging, meals and materials. This can be paid by a sponsoring chapter, parents or possibly other sponsors.

The purpose of the camp is to help the kids develop the necessary skills for freshwater fishing of trout and other species such as panfish, using conventional tackle such as spin fishing equipment and fly rods and reels.

There will also be an emphasis on fishing safety, ethics and sportsmanship, as well as good conservation practices.

Schedule of Activities

Thursday, July 24

- 3 p.m. – 4 p.m.: Arrival & check-in
- 4 p.m.: Orientation, introductions, go over rules, schedule of events, safety requirements.
- 5:30 p.m.: Supper
- 6:15 p.m.: Get acquainted, talk about past fishing experiences
- 7 p.m.: Go over Friday's schedule
- 7:30 p.m.: Teach knot tying

8:45 p.m.: Check into dorm rooms; bedtime

Friday, July 25

- 7 a.m.: Wake up and prep for the day
- 8 a.m.: Breakfast at camp dining room
- 8:45 a.m.: Introduction to fishing equipment and rigging (different kinds of rods and reels, differences using flies, spinners, and live bait, and rigging of each)
- 10 a.m.: Break
- 10:15 a.m.: Casting instruction for spinning and fly casting
- 11:30 a.m.: Fishing safety: debarbing hooks, eye protection, wading safety, finding your way
- Noon: Lunch in camp dining room
- 12:45 p.m.: Board vehicles for field trip to trout stream and Wild Rose Fish Hatchery
- 1 p.m.: Arrive at trout stream where DNR staff will demonstrate electro-shocking of fish and show how they do stream restoration and habitat work
- 2:30 p.m.: Stream monitoring volunteers will demonstrate how they monitor the quality of a trout stream with help from the students
- 3:45 p.m.: Arrive at the Wild Rose Fish Hatchery for a hatchery tour
- 5 p.m.: Arrive back at camp for supper
- 6 p.m.: Students can spend time tying flies, making spinners, or going over any questions they may have

8:30 p.m.: Question and answer period and socialize. Camp counselors will try to find out what students learned and questions they may have

9 p.m.: Check into dorm rooms; bedtime

Saturday, July 26

- 7 a.m.: Wake up and prep for the day
- 8 a.m.: Breakfast at camp dining room
- 8:45 a.m.: Items needed for trout fishing
- 9:30 a.m.: Demonstrate how to rig and fish with live bait
- 10:15 a.m.: Break
- 10:30 a.m.: Demonstrate how to rig and fish with spinners
- 11:15 a.m.: Demonstrate how to rig and fish with flies and fly rod & reel
- Noon: Lunch at camp dining room
- 12:45 a.m.: Discuss where to fish and how to find places to fish, reading maps, respecting private property, etc.
- 1:45 p.m.: Practice fly casting and spin casting at the lake. Practice by catching some bluegills on Pine Lake.
- 3 p.m.: Talk on sportsmanship, ethics, and rules and regulations
- 4 p.m.: Talk about Trout Unlimited, conservation, clean water and protection and preserving our trout streams
- 5 p.m. Supper at camp dining room
- 5:45 p.m.: Leave for on-stream

demonstrations: reading the water (where fish hide); things to look for (hatches & rises); different kinds of structures (riffles, pools, runs); how to approach and fish a stream; fishing in the stream and from the bank; fishing up-stream or down-stream; wading safety and other fishing safety concerns

8 p.m.: Campfire discussion of things they learned and things they might want to know. Relax and socialize

8:45 p.m.: Check into dorm rooms; bedtime

Sunday, July 27

- 7 a.m.: Wake up and prep for the day.
- 8 a.m.: Breakfast at camp dining room.
- 8:45 a.m.: Leave with guides/instructors for morning of fishing on the stream.
- 11 a.m.: Arrive back at camp for wrap-up. Pack to go home. Students will complete a short evaluation form and be presented with a Certificate of Completion.
- Noon: Lunch at the camp dining room
- 12:30 p.m.: Depart for home
- 1 p.m.: Instructors, counselors and other staff will meet to make sure everything is picked up and accounted for and discuss what went right and where we could make improvements
- 2 p.m.: Volunteers leave for home

UW-Madison student chapter enjoying success



UW-MADISON STUDENTS ENJOYING TU WORK AND PLAY

Joining in on workdays with the Southern Wisconsin TU chapter (left) has offered rewarding service experience for the TU Madison Student Chapter. The student chapter members also try to plan at least one weekend camping trip every year, such as this one (above) on the Bad Axe River.

By Clint Gilman, Jack Johnson, and Khamsai Vang

For the past three years, we have been members of a new student TU organization on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus.

The TU Madison Student Chapter was formed in 2011 as part of TU's 5 Rivers college outreach program. To our knowledge, that made us a part of the first TU-affiliated college student organization in Wisconsin and one of the first in the nation. We've learned a lot and have had many rewarding experiences. Now that all of us are preparing to graduate, we hope to share some of our experience with anyone interested in starting a TU organization on their campus.

The 5 Rivers program is a TU effort to generate members among college-aged adults. TU has long provided programs for younger age groups, but there weren't programs to bridge the gap between high school and "adulthood" – namely, college students. It has truly provided us an opportunity to introduce

college students to the sport and to the TU organization.

Starting and maintaining our TU student organization hasn't always been easy, and we've faced some challenges. The greatest is probably that in Wisconsin, trout season doesn't overlap much with the school year. So, we learned to plan outings early in the school year to generate and hold interest.

It's also no secret that college kids also often keep busy schedules, and the turnout at our meetings often dips and rises. Social media outlets, such as Facebook, have been helpful by letting us communicate easily and share photos, videos and news. We also try to hold gatherings at central locations on campus, at convenient times, and as often as possible so someone who can't make one meeting doesn't feel out of the loop.

Anyone wishing to start a college chapter should contact their local TU chapter, and national TU as well. We have had immense help from people such as Steve Wald and Matt Krueger with the Southern

Wisconsin TU Chapter, as well as Franklin Tate, who runs the Headwaters Youth Program for TU National.

For those looking to start a college chapter through TU, The 5 Rivers Student Guide is available on TU National's website, in its Tackle Box. (see article on pages 10-11)

After getting approval to start your chapter, find out how you can start an organization within the University guidelines. Look to similar-minded clubs, student organization fairs, and friends with similar interest to gather members and officers. A highly recommended and important step is also to have an involved advisor for the club. This advisor can be an experienced adult or professor that has a great amount of interest in the club's goals.

To help keep a growing membership, the most important thing is to provide a rewarding experience, with opportunities to learn and be involved. This can be done by teach-

ing classes on topics such as fly casting, fly tying or fishing in general, as many of our new members have little fishing experience.

Hosting guest speakers, perhaps from the DNR or the local TU chapter, have been some of our most interesting events. If your college program does not overlap well with trout fishing, make sure that there is more to focus on than trout. Opportunities such as conservation, camping, fishing outings, and clinics can be enjoyable and rewarding for members.

The Trout Unlimited Student Chapter at the University of Wisconsin – Madison has by no means been a perfect success story, but we've had great experiences and have taught a number of people about fishing and conservation. In addition, we have made many friendships and we've increased awareness of TU.

Craftsman's Corner

Bob Haase: "The Energizer Fly Tier"

By Scott Grady

If you are an angler in Wisconsin, in one way or another you have been impacted by the good work of Bob Haase. One day he may be lobbying in Madison, the next day he may be hosting his radio show on the outdoors. The following day he might be working on multiple fishing club boards. Where he gets his energy and time, only Bob knows.

Bob started tying when he was seven years old. The lady at the local hardware store in Montello taught him and others the basics of fly tying. As his skills got better, Bob started selling his flies to Allure Tackle Co. in Kenosha. After college, Bob mostly tied for himself, tying everything from size 32 trout flies up to musky bucktails.

Bob says of the woman at the hardware store, "If it was not for Jo, I probably would not be tying today. That is why I feel so strongly about sharing our knowledge and teaching kids of all ages to tie flies."

Bob says he doesn't know exactly how many kids he has taught, but through his leadership, just this last year alone, he figures around 2,600 kids from Boulder Junction to Milwaukee tied a fly. "I am fortunate to

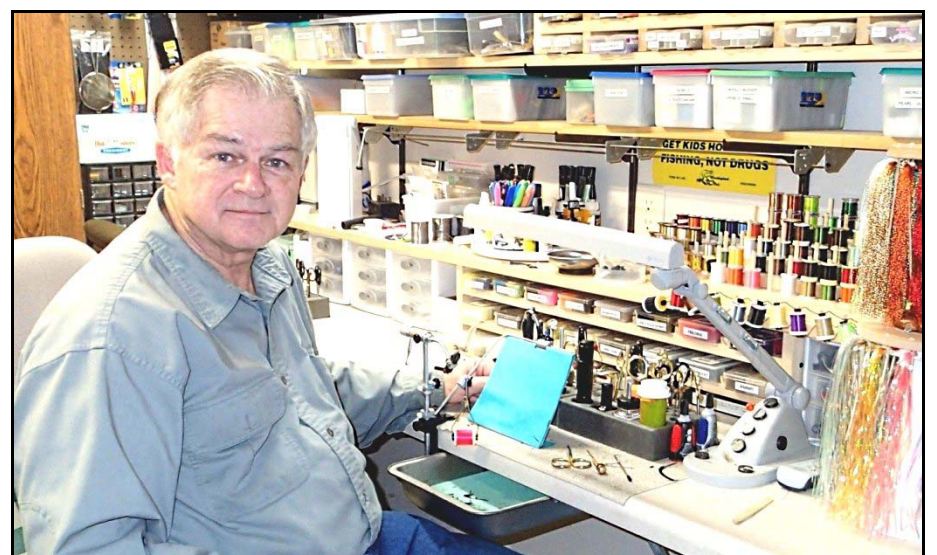
have a lot of other tiers that take their time and skills to teach kids to tie flies at events all over Wisconsin." With the help of other tiers at events like the Outdoor Expo, Milwaukee Sentinel Sport Show, scouting (Boys and Girls), libraries and other events, Bob and his crew have exposed more than 18,000 kids to fly tying in the last 10 years.

Bob's favorite fly is the Emu Bugger. "If I could only use one fly for the rest of my life, it would be the Emu Bugger."

Some day Bob wants to learn how to tie full-dress, presentation-quality salmon flies. Who knows where he will find the time?

As a craftsman, Bob has been tying flies for more than 60 years. And, with more energy than the Energizer Bunny, he will continue to have an impact on fishing in Wisconsin.

"Today fly tying is more fun than ever because of the quality and variety of materials that are available, and the sharing of information by fellow tyers." Bob believes it is important to share. "If other tiers hadn't shared with me at tying events and through books and other media, I would not be aware of many of the tips, and would not be able



BOB HAASE AT HIS AMAZING FLY-TYING DESK

With the help of other tyers at events like the Outdoor Expo, Milwaukee Sentinel Sport Show, scouting (Boys and Girls), libraries and other events, Bob and his crew have exposed more than 18,000 kids to fly tying in the last 10 years.

to share them with others."

Bob is finishing up his book "Bob's Fly Tying Tips and Techniques," which contains many of the tips you have seen in *Wisconsin Trout*. In addition to consolidating all of his tips into one book, it also includes ideas to help get kids started. Look for this book in 2014.

You can contact Bob Haase at flytier@milwpc.com. He is always looking for new ideas and more tyers to help him show others how to tie a fly.

If you know someone we should showcase in Craftsman's Corner, let me know at oossg@vbe.com.

Membership workshop in the works

By Linn Beck, WITU Vice Chair

The Wisconsin Trout Unlimited Membership Committee is developing a program to help our chapters become the best they can be. For the last year or so we have been talking with chapter leaders to learn about the challenges they are facing, including those which may be hindering chapter growth and development. We've gathered these questions and have developed some great solutions. Now we're ready to share this information and other great ideas with our chapters.

We are in the process of developing a Membership Workshop, which will be divided into two parts. The morning session will cover membership. Topics include: how to develop a membership plan, how to recruit members and how to retain existing members. The afternoon workshop will cover chapter leadership, such

as how to develop leadership candidates, how to build a leadership ladder and how to retain leadership. Watch for upcoming news regarding location, date and time of this workshop. We hope you will be able to join us.

We are also looking for someone to take over the State Council's membership chair position. Former Membership Chair Scott Criqui has done an excellent job this past several years, but we'll be losing his wonderful leadership as his family is moving out of state. We wish him the best of luck.

This opens up a chance for someone to step forward in his place. This position could be shared by two individuals. We are also looking for a couple more people to join the membership committee, so if this sounds like something you would be interested in, please contact me at chlbeck@att.net or 920-379-2974.

League serves valuable role

By Kim McCarthy, Past Council Chair

Conservation work in Wisconsin results from the efforts of many groups and individuals. Conservation groups can't operate effectively without engaging other organizations to take a group approach to modern day conservation issues.

Trout Unlimited is no exception. As TU works to protect and enhance the coldwater resources in Wisconsin, we are helped in our efforts by a number of groups. In this and the next edition of *Wisconsin Trout* we are going to focus on two of the groups that have become major partners with Wisconsin TU as we go about our important conservation work.

One group that Wisconsin TU works with regularly is the Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters. The League examines the conservation voting and activity record of elected and appointed political officials, and produces "report cards" for public consumption.

Because TU is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, we are legally prohibited from taking positions about one candidate or another. We strictly adhere to the law and have never, and will never engage in any form of candidate-based advocacy – either support or opposition. To some extent, however, this is problematic for TU, because much conservation policy is now being determined by bills created by people in political office.

Although TU can advocate on issues, it cannot hold any politician responsible for bills which have an adverse impact upon conservation. The League can, however, and one of its primary tools is a scorecard that grades politicians on a variety of conservation votes that they cast in the Wisconsin State Legislature. Like TU, the League is completely bipartisan, and doesn't look at anything except how dedicated individual politicians are to supporting a quality environment. In short, the League cares not if a politician has an R or D after the name. What matters is a legislator's track record when it comes to conservation.

The League's scorecard is avail-

able to the public so anyone can cut through political rhetoric and see precisely how their elected officials have voted on conservation issues. It is a fascinating document which can be viewed at the League's website, conservationvoters.org.

An important function that the League performs for TU is alerting us as bills are introduced in the legislature that will either enhance or harm the coldwater resource. When a new bill arrives, the League performs an analysis, and provides a recitation of where it finds issues which might adversely affect coldwater resources. Wisconsin TU and its policy committee and advisors then review the League's analysis, and use it as a tool in our decision making.

After reviewing legislation and its possible impacts, we are then able to ask Wisconsin's TU members to approach their legislators about improving parts of bills. By being educated about legislation, our membership is able to make informed contacts with the people who represent them. The State Council may also choose to work with legislators directly. In some circumstances we have been able to help defeat particularly bad bills.

The League actually consists of two parts: It contains both 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) entities. TU's support for the League is, and must always be, only directed to the League's 501(c)(3) wing, which performs education activities regarding the conservation impact of legislative actions.

The League has been an invaluable friend to TU regarding many coldwater issues. We look forward to continued cooperation with the League on important conservation issues in the future.

In the next edition of *Wisconsin Trout* we will feature another organization that shares our concerns for our water resources, the Wisconsin River Alliance.

Kim McCarthy is the past chairman of the State Council and is currently a board member of the Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters.

Author, teacher, TU member Larmouth passes

Long-time TU member and fly fishing author Donald Larmouth, 73, of Green Bay passed away June 12 after a long and arduous battle with Parkinson's disease. A successful college administrator, he truly loved teaching at the college level, but he also loved teaching and writing about fly fishing.

Passionate about fishing in Canada, the Midwest and Florida, he co-authored "Tarpon on Fly" in 2002, which is considered a must-read book for tarpon anglers. He also wrote a collection of fishing essays entitled "Riffles and Back Eddies:

Days and Nights in the Northwoods." For the last 50 years he contributed many articles to fishing magazines and journals.

Larmouth was active in the Federation of Fly Fishers and Classic Anglers of Wisconsin, but he was also a friend of TU. For the Central Wisconsin Chapter, he often shared his time. He presented programs at member meetings, sharing his flies at their Master Fly Tying Series, and he always attended CWTU's TroutFest as a seminar presenter or as a tier. He was considered "One of the nicest guys you will ever meet."

WITU Legislative Committee ramping up

By Aaron Frailing, WITU Legislative Committee Co-Chair

Traditionally the primary goal of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited has been advocating for conservation, restoration and protection of coldwater resources in Wisconsin. In recent years it has become apparent to leadership — with the growth of Trout Unlimited statewide, constantly changing faces in the state government and large amounts of conservation dollars being spent — that it is imperative for greater interaction with public policy leaders in the state.

So Wisconsin Trout Unlimited is putting its Legislative Committee to work on several tasks to accomplish this goal of greater interaction. This effort is going to take many proactive steps. However, by advancing the priorities of the Legislative Committee, WITU will continue to broker the success needed to fulfill its mission.

All of these plans are impossible without the interaction of chapters statewide. So the State Council plans to increase communication with all our chapters on issues that affect coldwater resources. We hope to share information on issues identified by chapters, share local knowledge and best practices, and provide tools to chapters as a way to affect change with policymakers.

The Legislative Committee will work with local chapters to develop methods and tactics to increase working relationships with elected

officials. Best practices on relationship building, involvement of elected officials in chapter functions and general outreach to legislative offices will help build relationships needed to protect and improve coldwater resources.

The committee will also continue to provide outreach to other organizations, working together to promote greater change.

Finally, the long-standing work of the committee will continue. Committee members will diligently watch for opportunities to progress legislation that protects coldwater resources and positively affects WITU. The committee will also identify best practices to encourage better legislation, offer continued input on DNR rule-making processes and follow proposed changes from the Wisconsin Conservation Congress.

We are always looking for volunteers who are interested in helping Trout Unlimited on the legislative level. The Legislative Committee is especially looking for someone in southern Wisconsin who would be willing to represent TU in the capitol at committee hearings and during office hours of elected officials. If you are interested, please contact Aaron Frailing at Apf.GB-Trout@gmail.com or via phone at 608-395-8200. We encourage everyone to reach out to the Legislative Committee, so we can go to work for you! Stay tuned to your email and publications such as *Wisconsin Trout* for more information.



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Advocacy 101:

Advice, tips and expectations for TU members who plan to advocate for issues

By Henry Koltz, Council Chair

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited accomplishes its mission in three primary manners: in-stream and riparian corridor restoration work, youth education events and working with U.S. military veterans. These three pillars have profound effects upon our streams, our people and our economy.

From time to time, however, it becomes necessary to engage in issue-advocacy activity to support and protect our group's three primary pillars. Doing so often involves dealing with decision-makers, the media and the general public.

When advocating for issues, it is important that Wisconsin Trout Unlimited's members act professionally, courteously and in the best interests of our cause. Doing otherwise might actually harm our objectives, and may damage the fine reputation that our current members and their predecessors have well earned.

Here are a few pointers to keep in mind when advocating for an issue. Wisconsin Trout Unlimited hopes that all of its members utilize this advice and act with dignity to enhance, not injure, our reputation.

TU can't advocate for candidates

Trout Unlimited is a certified 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. By law it cannot advocate for specific political candidates or political parties.

However, TU can advocate for specific issues. For instance, it can oppose a proposed CAFO site located too closely to tourist-dollar-creating and job-sustaining trout streams. Please keep this distinction closely in mind and remember that if you have any questions, council leadership is always available for questions. If you are unsure, ask!

Be polite

Perhaps the most fundamental and easily accomplished rule when engaging in advocacy is to be polite. As the adage goes, you attract more flies with honey than you do with vinegar.

Everyone with whom you will interact on behalf of WITU is human: every legislator, every member of the public, every reader of a newspaper, and every listener of a radio broadcast. All humans react more favorably to someone politely discussing an issue versus someone yelling at them.

To that end, it is incredibly important that when members of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited advocate for an issue they do so in a manner that allows compromise when possible, and which does not "burn bridges" and impede future discussion with perceived adversaries. Accusations, foul language, threats and innuendo, or anything even remotely along those lines, is simply not acceptable, and has absolutely no place when advocating on behalf of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited.

We are a group that accomplishes an incredible amount of good for our resources, for our people, and for our economy. We are a group that delivers tangible, positive benefits.

As such, just as our mission and results are positive, our attitude when dealing with advocacy issues should likewise be positive. It is an

unfortunate truth that a good reputation might take a lifetime to earn, but can be ruined in an instant. When acting on behalf of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited, we ask all members to keep in mind the incredible sacrifices and efforts of those who came before us, and respect and preserve the even-keeled legacy that our forerunners built over decades. Quite simply, be polite.

Stress the positive

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited sells itself. We fix up rivers and streams (for free!). We leverage the State of Wisconsin's dollars, bring in matching-grant dollars from non-state sources, and provide millions of dollars to the state and its citizens in matching grants and volunteer labor each year. Such efforts go directly into our streams, and only in areas with permanent public easements for the benefit of the public. And, such efforts have been found to have an annual economic benefit that can honestly be described in billions of dollars. Quite simply, TU helps create a discernable "trout economy" in Wisconsin. That's a positive message.

Moreover, we perform countless hours of volunteer work with children. When kids might otherwise be stuck in front of a television spending yet another hour playing a video game, we take them outside, get them tying flies, get them flipping rocks and examining stream residents. We get them dreaming about more than just what video game they'll play next. For many kids, being introduced to the outdoors at a TU event leads to a lifetime of healthy, outdoor activities. For others, TU might be the single event

"When advocating for issues, it is important that Wisconsin TU members act professionally, courteously and in the best interests of our cause."

that changes a child's course, and sends them down a positive life path rather than a much worse alternative. Again, that's a positive message.

Finally, we work with disabled U.S. military veterans. There is no group that demands our respect and our efforts more than those who have given so much so that we are free to care about our mission and engage in our activities. Wisconsin TU uses fishing, fly tying, and being outdoors to help heal our wounded warriors. This is an incredibly positive message.

Keep in mind that we have more than 5,000 members, in 21 chapters, and cover the entirety of Wisconsin's geographic footprint. We are growing, and are in the midst of a national expansion drive that specifically seeks to include women and stresses diversity. TU is growing intelligently, and again that is a positive message.

When dealing with decision-makers, the public and media outlets, keep in mind what Wisconsin TU is, what it does, and to stress the



PREPARING TO MEET THEIR LEGISLATORS

Green Bay chapter members John and Bruce Deuchert were among a group of

positive nature of our group and its impact. Stressing who we are and the positive items discussed above gives our message credibility. We bring jobs, we bring improved publicly accessible fisheries, we bring youth to the outdoors, we help bring peace to wounded warriors, we cover all of Wisconsin, and we're growing. When we speak, we're worth listening to.

Keep messages short and simple

When dealing with decision-makers, the public or media outlets, it is incredibly important to keep it short, and to keep it simple. Most of the issues we advocate for can be succinctly summed up in just a few well-articulated sentences. It is incredibly important that when broadcasting our message we do so in a manner that is succinct and appealing.

For instance, a legislator's eyes might glaze over if we start discussing stream-flow metrics regarding the impacts a high-capacity well might have on a nearby blue-ribbon trout stream. However, that same legislator should easily understand how a high-capacity well near a destination trout stream might ruin a trout-based economy, the jobs that it supports, and the money that it brings to the region. Often it's as simple as presenting three or four bullet points. Then, thank them for listening and ask if they have any questions.

Prepare before advocating. Know why you are advocating for an issue, and know why it is important. Then, as discussed above, distill that message into three or four sentences that are attractive to all political stripes, and which appeal to the general public. As part of this message, having a personal story to use as a connection point is a good idea, and will make clear why an issue is important, and particularly why it's important to you.

Finally, please report back to the State Council information you find during your talks with legislators. It is an important function of the Policy Committee to know where legislators stand on issues, and when to interact with them.

Support the TU message

Trout Unlimited, founded in 1959 in Michigan, has a long and proud history. Wisconsin Trout Unlimited has existed since at least the late 1960's, and likewise has a storied, long and proud history. As to

both Trout Unlimited nationally, and Wisconsin Trout Unlimited, countless others have come before us, and have acted admirably and with great personal sacrifice to achieve the incredible reputation that we have today.

As such, when advocating for an issue it is important that members recognize that Trout Unlimited comes to positions through a formal process, both nationally and at the state and chapter levels. In order to preserve the good name that our forerunners have given so much to create, institutional integrity must be maintained, and members must be cognizant of the message that they articulate on behalf of Trout Unlimited.

Specifically, if there is no national or state-level or chapter-level position on a topic, do not offer your personal opinion as a TU position.

To establish a position on a topic that currently has none, approach the chapter or State Council and ask that its policy committee discuss the issue and create a formal position. Keep in mind that the chapter or council may not deem the request appropriate or necessary.

Develop relationships

As humans, we naturally pay more attention to people that we know and trust as opposed to complete strangers. It's crucial that TU members develop and build relationships, which is easily accomplished.

Meet with decision-makers and media members just to introduce yourself. Once you get to know them, simply stop in to say "hello" sometimes. Take them fishing. Bring them to workdays. Bring them out and don't ask for anything. Introduce them to your members. Without saying a word, TU and its positive message will be right there in front of them. We can be much more effective when decision-makers know us personally, and have seen first-hand how we accomplish our missions and objectives.

Conclusion

Wisconsin TU hopes that its members will keep the above points in mind when engaging in advocacy efforts. Doing so will keep the voice of TU positive, polite, on point, and productive. If you have any questions, please contact me or any member of the WITU Executive Board, which includes officers and vice chairs. Their contact information is on page 2.

Winter 2013-14 a cold one for Wisconsin trout

By Matthew Mitro

Wisconsin DNR Fisheries Research

Winter 2013-2014 was an unusually cold one for trout in Wisconsin streams, both in severity and duration. Winter stream temperatures are rarely directly lethal to trout, but can be stressful. Water temperature may significantly impact trout physiology, behavior, feeding and growth, so it can indirectly impact survival. Low winter survival rates for trout are often attributable to the limited availability of winter habitat and to the depletion of energy reserves.

While much research on climate change impacts on trout has been focused on summer stream temperatures, I monitor temperature year-round in trout study streams, recognizing that changes in climate may impact streams and trout at other times of the year.

Climate scientists are projecting seasonal temperature increases to be greater in winter than in summer in Wisconsin. Yet this winter an unusual weather phenomenon called a polar vortex turned Wisconsin into one of the coldest places in the northern hemisphere.

The best trout streams are actually "warm" in winter because of groundwater inputs, even during the past winter. Groundwater-fed streams are "warm" in that they do not freeze over during winter.

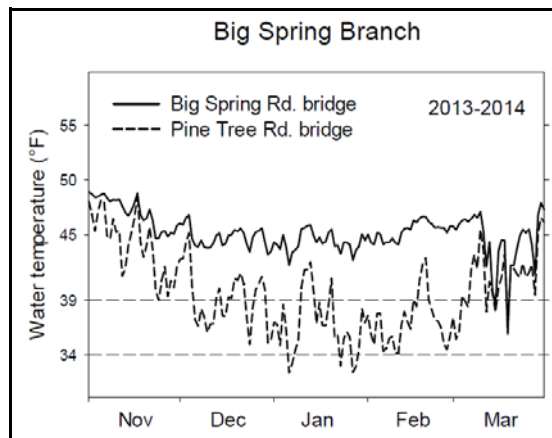
Big Spring Branch in Iowa and Grant counties is one such stream. Despite multiple days of sub-zero air temperatures, the average daily water temperature near the Big Spring Road bridge remained in the mid-40's°F through winter, only dipping below 40°F during snowmelt events in March.

However, the influence of air temperature on stream temperature did become evident a couple miles downstream near the Pine Tree Road bridge, where the stream temperature was lower and more variable.

Some of the most comprehensive work on water temperature and brown trout was conducted by J. Malcolm Elliott and his colleagues in Great Britain. Their models showed that even if food is not limiting, there is zero growth in brown trout at temperatures less than about 39 degrees.

Using 39 degrees as a cut-off val-

ue to measure the severity of winter stream temperatures (and 34 degrees as a further measure of severity), the winter 2013-2014 environment at the upstream area of Big Spring was relatively benign.



There were only two days with an average daily stream temperature below 39°F, and temperatures never dropped below 34 for the 151-day period between November 1 and March 31. But there were 72 days below 39 degrees and five days below 34 degrees at the downstream area.

Other trout streams less-influenced by groundwater experienced a greater severity and duration of

cold water temperatures this past winter. In the catch-and-release area of Timber Coulee Creek there were 118 days below 39 degrees and 82 days below 34 degrees in winter 2013-2014. By contrast, during the relatively mild winter of 2011-2012, there were only 63 days below 39 degrees and 14 days below 34 degrees.

Trout can and do survive such temperatures, but there are costs in terms of declining trout condition attributable to energy reserve depletion and increasing natural mortality rates.

Many Wisconsin trout streams undoubtedly experienced higher levels of natural mortality this past winter, compared to previous years. The extent of such losses will become evident as we complete more stream surveys this year.

Trout are resilient, however, and may compensate for lower densities with higher growth rates now and higher recruitment rates over time, as lower densities lessen problems associated with winter habitat limitations.

DNR Coldwater Fisheries Research Scientist Matthew Mitro can be reached at matthew.mitro@wisconsin.gov or 608-221-6366.

Chapter President Profile

Rivers, streams in Laura MacFarland's blood

By Terry Cummings

Laura MacFarland arrived in the Northwoods in February 2010, and by May she was active with the Northwoods Chapter. She then served as vice president from 2011 to 2013. By May 2013, Laura was

elected chapter president. Our chapter is fortunate to have someone with Laura's energy and enthusiasm.

Laura is a native of Cape Girardeau, Mo. She attended William Woods University, majoring in biology. After that she earned her Mas-

ters of Science in Water Resource Management at the University of Wisconsin - Madison. While at William Woods, Laura played collegiate soccer and softball. Also, during the summers, Laura was a whitewater rafting guide on the Arkansas River in Colorado. She clearly has no shortage of energy and enthusiasm.

After college Laura worked for Alpine County, California and was responsible for managing the Upper Mokelumne, Upper Stanislaus, South Fork American, Upper Carson, and West Walker Watersheds in northern California, as well as serving as the Executive Director of the Alpine Watershed Group. Here she was the major fundraiser and project manager for several stream restoration and citizen water quality monitoring projects.

Currently, Laura is the invasive species director for the River Alliance of Wisconsin. In that position she is responsible for educating local watershed groups and other stakeholders, including TU chapters, on the threats posed by invasive species to our flowing waters. Laura's organizational and communication skills from her day job have been a blessing to the Northwoods Chapter. She is fluent in many forms of communication and has brought our chapter up to date with several current electronic media sites and she continues expanding our contacts when new opportunities arise.

Laura first became a member of TU in November 2003. It was a natural fit, as she had fly fished since she was 16, and she was dedicated to protecting watersheds. Not long after that, she became a life member.

Before her arrival in the northwoods she was a member of the Southern Wisconsin Chapter. After volunteering to be the education chair, Laura teamed up with other chapter leaders to organize the first of many successful women's fly-fishing clinics. She remains active to this day in organizing this annual clinic

by women, for women at the West Fork Sportsmen's Club. At the National TU level, Laura has been involved with TU's women's initiative and aquatic invasive species program.

She hopes to continue to help the Northwoods Chapter grow through increased communication with its members and through fun, informational events. Thanks in part to her efforts, we have seen more faces at events throughout the year and have recruited a few new board members. These new board members have brought new life to the chapter.

Even with her busy schedule Laura gets out to fish as much as she can. She attempts to make an annual trek west to fish the San Juan or Rio Grande with her father, or further north in Colorado or Montana with her husband.

Although she is understandably drawn to the Driftless Area here in Wisconsin, she has plans to explore more of our own local waters in northern Wisconsin. These days, when seen streamside, she is often casting precariously over the head of her toddler, who is strapped on her back. If you find a lost pacifier on a stream, be it Vernon County or Vilas County, it probably belongs to her son, Jake. Laura has claimed to have lost more "binkies" than flies this year on our streams.

Besides her passion for fishing and conservation, Laura enjoys skiing, canoeing and cooking for her family.

Laura, her husband Dave, and budding outdoorsman two-year-old Jake, live outside of Rhinelander on Washburn Lake. A new member, Evelyn, joined the MacFarland family in March. Last but not least is Rottweiler/pitbull mix named Mesa, who is large, good-natured, and if I understand the "porcupine incident" correctly, is very tolerant to pain.

Terry Cummings is treasurer of the Northwoods Chapter.



LAURA MACFARLAND AND FISHING PARTNER JAKE

Northwoods Chapter President Laura MacFarland can sometimes be found fly fishing with toddler Jake strapped to her back.

It's in the Tackle Box

Got a question about anything TU? More than likely you'll find it in the Tackle Box

By Henry Koltz, WITU Chair

The national office of Trout Unlimited believes that chapters are the key ingredient for furthering our organization's work. In order to support that belief, in 2005 each of Trout Unlimited's three branches (its national staff and officers, the National Leadership Council, and the Board of Directors) came together to commence the Chapter Focus Project.

The Chapter Focus Project developed new tools to aid chapters, including the "Tackle Box." The Tackle Box is accessible to all members via the national website, and contains a staggering amount of instructions, pointers and tools. These tools include business practice instructions, fundraising pointers and suggestions, conservation project resources, youth education resources, membership tools, and a list of important national TU policies.

In short, the Tackle Box is a one-stop-shop containing an exceptional amount of information for chapter members and leaders. Becoming familiar with the Tackle Box can greatly aid a chapter's growth and service to its members. So the next time that someone in your chapter asks "how can we do that?" remember that the answer is "It's in the Tackle Box!"

And if you're currently not an active member of your chapter, but you're thinking about it, there is a wealth of information here that may very likely inspire you to volunteer your skills to help your chapter reach its goals.

Business practices

The first is dedicated to "business practices." You'll first find the TU Leadership Manual. This is an A-Z document full of information about TU's organizational structure, how to run a chapter, how to run a

state council, how to maximize the effectiveness of a chapter, managing risk and liability, and an explanation of TU's various national programs. In short, the Leadership Manual explains what TU is, how it functions, and how to make a chapter work.

Also found in the business practices section is a link regarding chapter financial reporting requirements. This is a must-read for chapter treasurers, and answers most questions that arise when completing annual financial reports.

Additionally this section includes information about completing the annual Chapter Effectiveness Index (CEI) report, a volunteer-hour-tracking spreadsheet, and a form letter which should be used to acknowledge donations to your chapter of more than \$250.

Next is a risk management section, including a memo with frequently asked risk management questions, an insurance request form (in the event a chapter event requires a certificate of insurance), and an application form for additional accident insurance.

For workdays, a standardized personal injury consent form/liability waiver is contained in this section. This section also includes a helpful memo regarding how to communicate with youth, as well a photograph-use waiver.

Finally, this section includes a memo from the Internal Revenue Service detailing how chapters can appropriately maintain their 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status.

Also within the business practices section is a strategic planning area. This area includes the Trout Unlimited National Strategic Plan's framework (for both its 2003 and 2008 iterations), and a 2011 presentation regarding how to create an effective strategic plan. Critically, this section includes useful strategic plan templates for both chapters and councils to use when complet-

ing their own plan.

The next section includes model chapter and council bylaws and information on how to create and amend your bylaws.

Finally, the business practices section contains a link to the Chapter Focus Project. The Chapter Focus Project is a joint venture between TU's national office, its Board of Trustees and its National Leadership Council. Its purpose is to help chapters evaluate their own successfulness, and increase their efforts to be even more successful in the areas of conservation, youth education, service to members and business practices.

This section contains an overview of the Chapter Focus Project. Also included are the Chapter Effectiveness Index, and its scoring instructions. A very helpful volunteer-hour-tracking sheet is included as well (which makes completing the CEI much easier). Finally, a document detailing how chapters are re-chartered is included.

Membership tools

This section answers frequently asked chapter questions about membership. The first section covers membership surveys.

Next is a membership memo, which lists TU National's membership-related staff. It covers how to appoint a membership chair, the functions of that position and tips on recruiting new members. There is information about ordering national brochures, as well as member fee information.

This memo also details how members are assigned to chapters, how national's membership rebate program works, how and when membership renewal notices are sent out by the national office, a list of the Tackle Box's contents (much like this article), and an explanation of the "Leaders Only Tools" on the national website.

Finally, the memo addresses how to access chapter and council rosters (for leaders) and an explanation of codes used therein, how to run and use membership change reports (for leaders), and contact information for the national office.

A section with membership acquisition forms and brochures is next. This area has information about discount introductory memberships, mass/bulk sign up forms for new members, existing members, youth members and so forth.

Next is a style and media guide, which provides TU's style guidelines, and assistance with stock online and stock free photographs for use in brochures and websites.

A link to TU's digital storefront is included, where ready-made and customized TU logo paper products can be purchased.

A memo about how to purchase Ready Talk Phone and Web Conferencing abilities is found here as well. This section includes standardized TU Power Point templates, and a sample brochure used by Coulee Region TU to promote TU and the work it does. This section includes instructions for using the national office's Bulk E-Mail Tool, and a video presentation about its use.

Finally, this section includes a section with memos and tips about public relations, a template press release, and a Microsoft Word version of the official TU Letterhead.

Next is a section on TU's past

How to access the Tackle Box

The TU Tackle Box is easily accessible to all members via the national website. To get to the Tackle Box, only a few simple steps are required.

First, go to www.tu.org. Then, "log in" to the site using the link in the upper right hand corner of the page if you already have an existing account. If you do not have a login account, simply use the information on your TU card to create one, and then sign in.

Use the "search" tool to find "Tackle Box" or move your mouse over the "Get Involved" button near the upper left hand corner of the page. A dropdown menu will appear. Once that menu has dropped down, click on "Volunteer." You'll notice a box on the left side of the screen, with a link to the "Tackle Box." Click on that link. Once you click on the Tackle Box link, you'll be taken to a screen that offers several categories of chapter tools.

and upcoming national meetings, including links to national award nomination forms, past award winners, past State of TU addresses, past meeting attendees, past State of the Grassroots addresses, and other past important documents flowing from national meetings (including, notably, stream access policy documents).

Next is a section of past Lines to Leaders communications issued by the national office, dating back to April 2008.

An entire section follows concerning TU's Veterans Service Programs. Within this section is a copy of TU's national Memorandum of Agreement with the Project Healing Waters program. A detailed Program Guide for Program Leads and Regional Coordinators is found here, as is a copy of the 2012 Veterans Service Program newsletter.

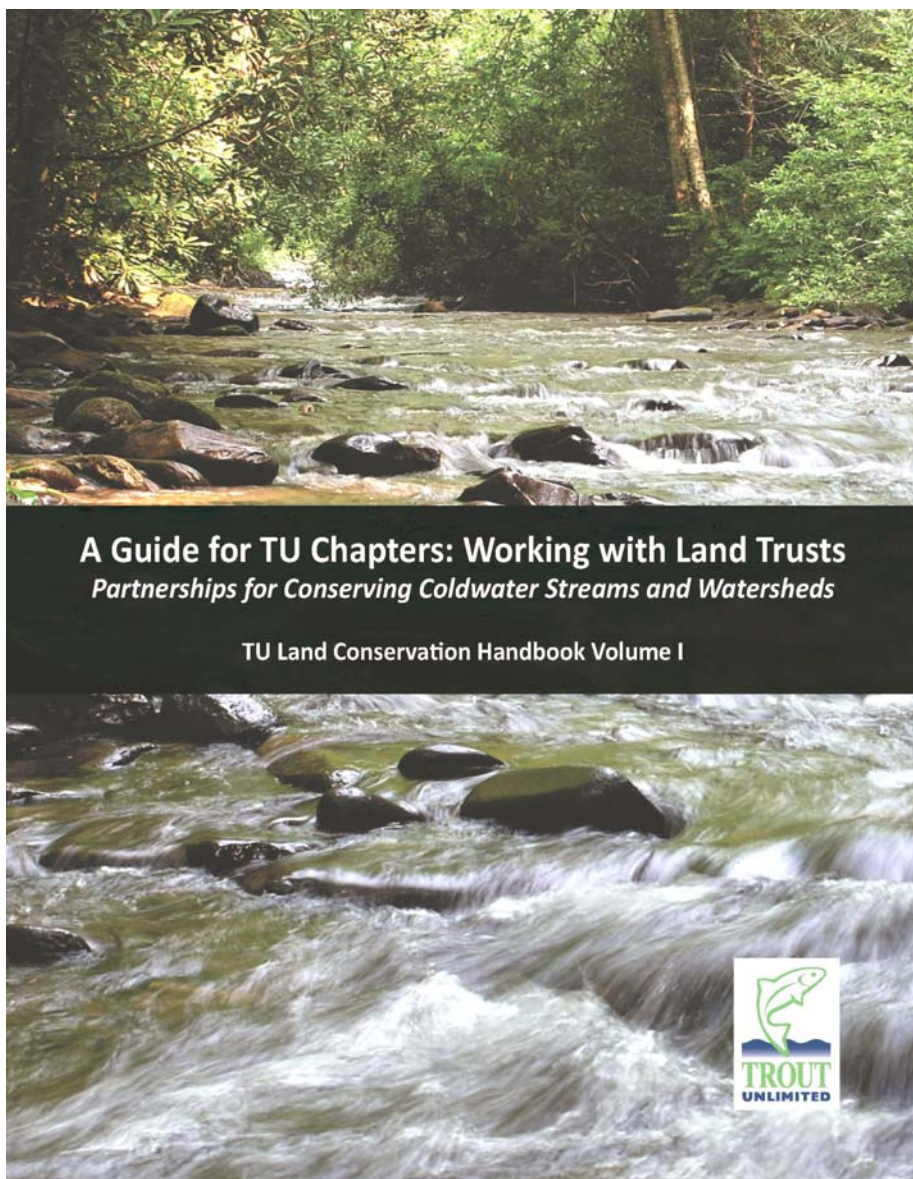
Thereafter, a bulk form is included to help update chapter members' information. Using this form, multiple member information changes can be put in one place, and then sent to the national office so that updates to members' information may be made.

A list of every TU's chapter's re-chartering date is also found in this section. Chapter leaders can review this list, be aware of when their chapter is up for re-chartering, and plan accordingly.

Additionally, a list of TU volunteer mentors is found in this area. This list contains individuals from across the TU nation who have agreed to assist chapters in areas from financing to fundraising to banquets to Trout in the Classroom to chapter organization to event coordination. This is a great list of mentors for chapters to contact for assistance, pointers, and ways to improve.

Next is an entire section devoted to Women in Trout Unlimited. This expansive section has examples of articles and blog posts focused on TU's Women's Initiative, and Women's Initiative brochures, postcards and fliers.

Additionally, ideas for meetings and events tailored to attract wom-



en to TU can be found, as well as a national calendar of women's events. Documents from the NLC's women's working group (including survey results, action plans, template letters, and more) are contained in this section, as are women's event and initiative planning documents. Also, Power Point presentations, videos and stock photographs for use in women's brochures.

A section devoted to regional meetings comes next, with a collection of council and chapters reports, presentations, and handouts from TU National's regional meetings (western, northeast, southeast, mid-south and upper midwest).

Finally, a section is devoted entirely to resources for new volunteer leaders. If you are new to TU leadership, this link is for you.

This section includes information about how to start a chapter, ideas for new chapter development, a must-read volunteer code of ethics, and a history of TU and its organizational structure (so you can know where you're coming from before you figure out where you want to go).

Additionally, links to TU's strategic plan, the chapter focus project, and the council focus project are contained in this area, all of which contain tips for volunteer leaders about how to build and maintain successful chapters and councils. An important memo is found in this section about keeping the peace at the chapter level and avoiding conflicts.

There are memos about chapter fundraising and chapter budgeting. Finally, this section includes a memo regarding attracting and retaining new members and leaders, and an incredible video presentation called "Leadership Mountain" by Sharon Lance, a former council chair, chapter leader, and grassroots trustee.

TU policies

The Tackle Box next includes a section about important TU policies. These policies are what guide TU and its chapters, and exist to give life to what TU is all about.

Within this section, nomination forms for National Leadership Council officers can be found.

TU's policy on promoting responsible energy development to protect coldwater fisheries is contained here.

Importantly, TU's Gift Acceptance Policy Guidelines and Procedure is contained here. This policy sets forth specific steps which must be taken regarding what types of gifts TU and its councils and chapters can accept, and what type of procedures must be taken as part of the gift receipt process.

TU's Resolution Adopting a Policy on Chapter and Council Contracts and its Resolution Concerning a Process for Reviewing Proposed Chapter and Council Contracts Involving Uninsured or Excessive Risk are found in this section. These documents lay out the circumstances under which councils and chapters may enter into contracts (and circumstances in which they may not), and the various steps and authorizations which are required before a contract may be entered into (note that certain contracts require approval from the national office's Volunteer Operations staff). A Contract Guidance for TU Chapters and Councils memo is also found here to help explain this process.

Documents explaining what a Grassroots Trustee is and what job they perform are found here, as well

as a Grassroots Trustee Nomination Form.

Provisional Recharter Resolutions follow, which explains the manner in which TU chapters are re-chartered.

TU's Resolution on Stocking Over Native Trout is contained in this section, and explains TU's position on this issue.

Next, a Memo on Fishing Access Agreements for Chapters and Councils is found, along with a Questionnaire on Agreements for Fishing Access memo to help chapters decide when a formal agreement is required.

Several documents related to the ownership of real property are contained in this section, including TU's Land Ownership Resolution, Trout Unlimited's Policy on the Ownership of Interests in Real Property, a document describing the definitions of terms used in TU's policy on the ownership of real property, and a Checklist for the Acquisition of Fee Property. These documents give incredible guidance to chapters and councils seeking to acquire real estate, and set forth the conditions under which property may be acquired, and the process and permissions required.

TU's National Conservation Agenda is found in this section, which sets forth TU's PRRS (Protect, Reconnect, Restore, Sustain) agenda, and the manner in which it will be accomplished.

A memo with TU's Resolution Concerning the Prohibition of Holding Interests in Conservation Easements is found within this section.

In addition, TU's policies related to operating procedures for early chapter development, and its bylaws and policies resolution are found here.

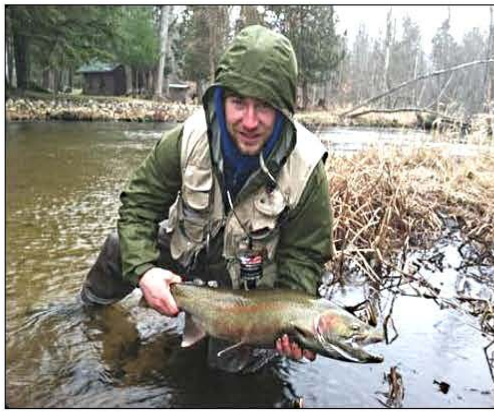
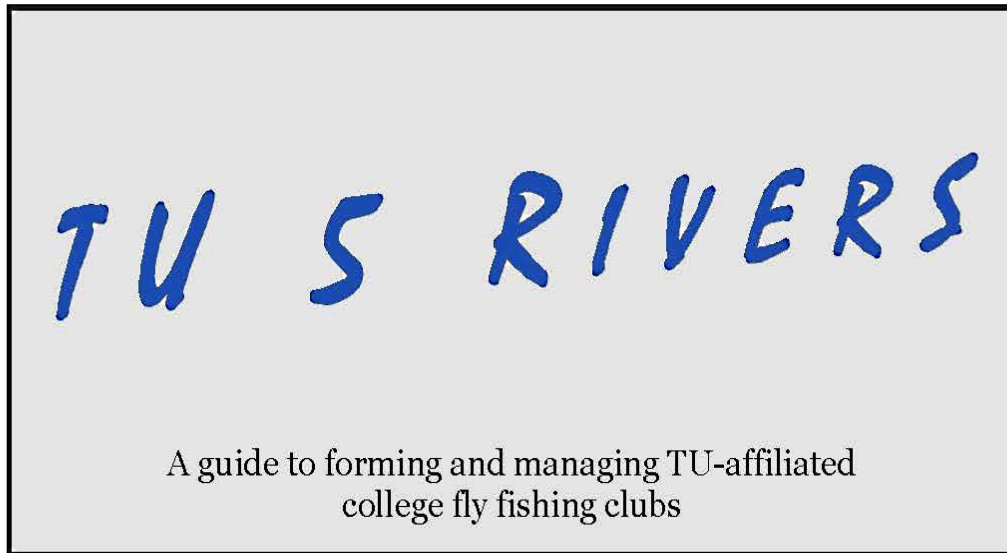
The official TU Privacy Policy is contained here, as is TU's official Logo and Brand Policy.

When legal issues arise, this section contains TU's Litigation Policy, which must be followed before TU, its councils, or its chapters can engage in litigation.

A document detailing how TU works with land conservancy is found here, called Trout Unlimited & Land Conservation.

The TU Policy on Pesticide Use for Conserving Native Trout and Salmon is found here, as is TU's North American Salmonid Policy.

Finally, TU's Stream Access Policy can be found in this section.



This guide was created by Trout Unlimited's Headwaters Youth Education staff for use and adaptation by colleges, universities, and Trout Unlimited chapters.

Fundraising for chapters and councils

The next section within the Tackle Box is devoted to fundraising for chapters and councils. This section is simply incredible, and provides a litany of tools that can be used to raise funds.

A link to the TU Fundraising Program can be found here, where chapters and councils can purchase products from various vendors at sometimes significant discounts for use as fundraising promotions and prizes.

The TU Guide to Fundraising provides information for chapter leaders to develop their fundraising efforts.

A helpful memo from the Donegal Chapter about its successful Golf/Fish Tournament is contained in this section, as is a memo with other creative fundraising ideas. These documents contain a number of "outside of the box" ideas for chapter and council fundraising, and the Volunteer Mentor List appears in this section again to link chapters with experienced leaders.

Continued on page 19



Chapter News



ALTU'S MOST ACTIVE YOUTH MEMBER

ALTU member Jared Sagal shows off a custom Aldo Leopold bench he built with his father and donated to ALTU's annual fundraiser picnic. Jared is an instructor at ALTU's fly tying classes and also helps at work days. For all his efforts the chapter happily sponsored him for the WITU Youth Fishing Camp.

Aldo Leopold Chapter

By the time you read this we will have had our fourth annual LUNKER-building day in conjunction with SEWTU. They have been an amazing partner in our Bear Creek project, providing equipment and volunteers that have made the project a reality. We have also had help from other Wisconsin chapters as well as chapters from Illinois. Thank you to all who have helped make the past four years such a success! Later this summer approximately 6,000 feet of additional stream will be restored, all the way to Highway N.

Another event that will have occurred before you read this would be our annual fundraising appeal that culminated in our picnic in Lodi on June 18. Some lucky person will have taken home a Sage 2wt rod/reel/line/flies combo donated by Tom Gawle and Michael Stupich. Another notable prize donation was a custom rod rack courtesy of Scott Allen. Scott made the rack from cherrywood harvested from the Leopold farm and likely planted by Aldo himself. Many other individuals and businesses donated prizes as well, for which we are most thankful.

We had a couple work days this spring, one on Honey Creek and one on Manley Creek. After a few years of ALCTU brushing work days along Manley Creek, the Riverland Conservancy is now seeking grant money to hire a contractor to accomplish the task. As many chap-

ters know, there is only so much you can do with volunteers and lopers. A contractor with the right equipment can cover a lot more stream bank in a much shorter time that we can.

Our Bear Creek temperature loggers were installed by Tom and Sally Gawle. They had to move one of them to a better location, but our anchor posts remained in place over the winter. We are still looking for help doing WAV monitoring, so if you live in or near western Sauk County and can help us out on monitoring, please contact me, Mike Barniskis, at 920-356-0081. Training is available and you only do the monitoring for a few hours once a month, so it doesn't take a major investment in time, but it is extremely valuable to our project.

The chapter is happily sponsoring Jared Segal from Lodi to attend the WITU Youth Camp. We first met Jared when he attended a Wisconsin Outdoor Expo at Dodge County Fairgrounds. The next year he was helping teach fly tying at the Expo, and for the past two winters Jared has led one of our fly tying classes during the winter. Jared attends work days, and for our picnic he and his father made a customized Leopold bench. Jared has an obvious passion for trout and we are happy to do all we can to help nurture that passion, and the WITU Youth Camp seems like a great way to do so.

—Mike Barniskis

Blackhawk Chapter

Spring has finally sprung, after a long time in mulling it over!

As many other Wisconsin TU chapters have done, Blackhawk has merged its website within the Na-

tional TU site. If you want to go directly to our site, just type in <http://blackhawk.tu.org/> and you'll get there.

Despite the economy and weath-

er affecting attendance at this year's Spring Banquet, we "reeled in" about \$8,000 to be used for coldwater projects. Don Studt and John Miller co-chaired the event, and more than 20 other chapter members, including Terry Vaughn, Dave Patrick, Dave Bickle and Fred Young, were actively involved in making the event successful. It's always held the last Monday in April, so mark your calendar for next year.

In April the chapter approved contributing \$1,300 for materials to be used at the Shabazz "Project Green Teen" workday at Avalanche on May 12, then followed up the financial support with a physical one

when Bud Hilgendorf, Tom Kautz, John Lusk, John Miller, and Dave Patrick oversaw the construction of 12 LUNKERS by more than a dozen enthusiastic Green Teens.

The chapter was represented at the TUDARE meeting at Westby in April by Chapter President Gordon Long and Treasurer Bill Lazor. Gordon also attended May's State Council meeting in Viroqua.

David Barron provided the casting instruction at our annual "Casting Clinic & Cookout" meeting in May, at the Sweet-Allyn Park in Shopiere, along the banks of Turtle Creek. Good food, good times!
—Dave Hinde

Central Wisconsin Chapter

Our chapter offers free programs following our monthly board meetings on topics that are of real interest to our members and guests. The topic for April was "A Mekan River Runs Through It." There were presentations on the restoration work led by CWTU and the DNR during the last three years, interesting features of the river, and a panel discussion by experts regarding how to fish the Mekan. This topic was a winner. More than 80 people attended and asked relevant questions. Thank you Scott Grady, and all the people who worked to put on this program.

The River Keepers had their kick-off meeting in April and all 30-plus monitoring teams were in the water in May for the first of five monthly recordings. This program has shown fantastic growth under the direction of John Gremmer, Jim Murphy and Rick Fahrenkrug.

We held our annual combined casting clinic and kayak fishing clinic on May 13 at Arthur Marble Park in Winneconne. The chapter moved the event from April to May with hopes of warmer weather. As it turned out, more than 40 attendees braved cool and windy April-like weather to take advantage of chapter members' expertise. Topics included casting techniques, as well as the benefits and challenges of fly fishing from kayaks.

Chapter members Dan Harmon III, John Gremmer, Jim Murphy and Russ Bouck provided instruction to groups of beginning and intermediate fly casters, along with demonstrations of various specialized casting techniques including the double haul, roll cast, reach cast and tuck cast. The chapter was pleased to introduce fly casting to a number of new casters, including

women and youth, as part of TU's initiatives to attract these demographics.

Chapter member David Seligman spoke to the crowd about the advantages of the fishing kayak, kayak selection, various rigging options, storage, comfort, safety and transport, while Bob Haase demonstrated various on-the-water techniques and safety.

Bob Haase organized a group of fly tiers to teach several hundred grade school and middle school kids at the MacKenzie Center in Poynette on May 15-16. I and many others have helped Bob with these programs several times and they are very busy. This one was no exception. The kids enjoyed it, and so did the teachers.

Our first stream work day for this year was May 17 on Chaffee Creek. For several years, the Elliott Donnelley TU Chapter members from Chicago have joined us for the May work day. With the combined crews from the DNR, Elliott Donnelley, Central, Fox Valley, Trout & Salmon Foundation (and a few others), we had more than 30 people to help. Scott Bahn, our work day coordinator, organized the effort and provided a great lunch. After that, people went off to fish. That evening, John and Laura Tucker treated Jeff Goad and his EDTU team, Jim Budelman, Chairman of the Trout and Salmon Foundation, Shawn Sullivan and Steve DeVitt of the DNR to dinner at the restored Saxeville Mill House.

The 37th Annual Fly Fishing School was on May 31-June 1 at the Riverside Bible Camp near Amherst. The 19 students learned the basics of fly fishing and ended with a half day of fishing with their own personal guide. Dan Harmon III has



John Gremmer

RIVER KEEPERS KICKS OFF THE MONITORING SEASON

The Central Wisconsin Chapter's River Keepers had their kick-off meeting in April and all 30-plus monitoring teams were in the water in May for the first of five monthly recordings. This program has shown fantastic growth under the direction of John Gremmer, Jim Murphy and Rick Fahrenkrug.

Chapter News



KAYAK SAFETY LESSONS

CWTU held its casting and kayak clinic recently in Winneconne. Here, Bob Haase demonstrates sit-on-top-kayak entry and exit techniques, proper paddling strokes, and kayak safety.

directed this program since its inception and does a great job at getting it staffed with volunteers. It was another successful year.

On June 6 a small group from CWTU taught a fly-tying class at the UW-Oshkosh Staff Appreciation Day. The University provided 41 classes and presentations for all members of their staff. We had 10 in our class, none of whom had ever fly fished or tied flies. They seemed to have a good time and several professed a new interest in fly fishing. Maybe some of them will join TU.

June 10 is the kick-off of our

Fox Valley Chapter

Fox Valley TU has started the spring/summer activity schedule for 2014.

Our April membership meeting included the election of officers for the next year. The leadership team changed a bit because some board members and officers have reached their term limits. A big thank-you to Joe Bach who served as chapter president the last three years. Thanks also to Jim Cuhel, Chris Witten and Shawn McMillian, who have served the chapter for a number of years. Keith Bassage, Tony Garvey and Rick Schinler are the newly elected board members. Tom Lager was elected president and Dick Stielow was elected secretary. The vice president position remains open at this time.

The April membership meeting featured Jim Hauer and his presentation on fishing the Nipigon River in Ontario, Canada. The large brook trout that Jim described and the pictures of the football sized trout have a number of members considering a trip to Ontario.

The chapter was represented at Appleton Alliance Church and their annual Wild Game Feed on April 18.

Our first Habitat Day has become the traditional opener for the year. On April 19 we met with Elward Engle at the Davies Creek site. That site was one of the very first stream improvement projects that our chapter was involved with many years ago. This year we cleared brush, cut up some downed trees, and built a number of bank covers. Elward explained why we were placing the bundles in the chosen places and how those bundles would help

summer board/picnic meetings. This one will be at the home of Bill and Mary Vance on Pleasant Lake near Coloma. The July meeting will be at John and Laura Tucker's home on the Pine River near Saxeville, and the August meeting will be at Bob Haase's home. In September, we will return to our regular meetings at the Fin 'N Feather Supper Club in Winneconne.

Please refer to our web site at cwtu.org to keep up with all our activities.

—John Tucker

to create spawning areas for the brook trout this fall. The noon lunch cook, Jim Hlaban, provided a great meal to finish the day.

On May 17 our chapter was involved with two events. Our main event was the 36th Annual Fishing Day for People with Disabilities. The event was held again at the Main Creek Farm Pond on the Killoren Family property north of Shiocton. There were 15 people fishing and a total of 52 people in attendance. Everyone caught fish, enjoyed great weather and the noon meal, and all had a chance to share stories of past fishing days.

The chapter's other event was a habitat day which included three other chapters working on Chaffee Creek. The main emphasis of the day was to place bank structures in various locations in the creek. The next habitat day will also be on Chaffee Creek June 21.

Several members spent about four hours tying flies with youngsters in Jefferson Park as part of the Heckrodt Nature Preserve's Kids Fishing Day program on Saturday, June 7.

We have been busy, but we must remember that our efforts at the local level are to continue to protect our natural resources and preserve our important green spaces and the life in it. It is that time of year that we all look forward to enjoying time on the streams, rivers, ponds and lakes of Wisconsin. Please check our website at foxvalleytu.org.

—Rich Erickson

Frank Hornberg Chapter

Our chapter's first work evening for 2014 was held on June 14. We did repairs to an in-stream structure on the Bob Lea section of the Tomorrow River. Future workdays for the summer will be devoted to the Department of Natural Resources projects on Roche-A-Cri Creek and on the Tomorrow River at Keener Road.

The chapter has scheduled a special social occasion, Hornberg Day, for Saturday, July 12. We expect to combine a day of trout fishing with food and entertainment with family and friends. More details will be announced in advance.

Hornberg chapter member Dan Holland is the author of "Dead Anglers Don't Lie," an engaging mystery story of love, murder and trout fishing. Download it to your Kindle and read it on the river when the fish are not biting.

A routine DNR inspection of the millpond dam in Amherst reveals that the village needs to replace, repair or remove the dam. Their decision will be made in a voter referendum later this year. This millpond impounds the waters of the Tomorrow River, and the village's decision on the fate of the dam has important consequences for the biology of that trout stream.

We will keep TU members informed of developments as the village considers the economic, social and biological factors involved in their decision.

Each year the Hornberg Chapter co-sponsors a river clean-up day with the Friends of the Tomorrow River. The 2014 tentative date is August 16. This event will be our regularly scheduled work day for August. Members will receive more specific information by email as the day approaches.

Hornberg members now receive information about work events and other chapter activities by email rather than by newsletter. The chapter needs correct and up-to-date email addresses to keep its members informed of these events. If you are a member and have not received email messages from the chapter this year, it is because we either do not have an address for you or the address we have for you is incorrect or out of date. If this is your situation, please send us a message with the current and correct address where you wish to receive our communications. Send it to either frank-editor@yahoo.com or mattsalchert@yahoo.com.

—John Vollrath

Green Bay Chapter

The months of April and May were busy months for GBTU. In April, the Green Bay Chapter had its April meeting, which also served as the chapter's annual meeting. At the meeting, the chapter made several important decisions including election of new board members. The chapter was saddened as president Randal Rake resigned. Randy is moving to Montana with his family. Thankfully he will remain involved with the chapter as the role of past president on the board of directors.

Thanks go to Adrian Meseberg for stepping up to take the position. Adrian was a long-standing board member with strong dedication. His board position will be filled by Doug Seidl, who will also be assisting in

fundraising. Lastly, long-standing education chair Jack Koivisto stepped down from the board to be replaced by Dave Ostanek. We are all very excited to have Adrian, Dave and Doug all part of the GBTU board.

May saw two important chapter events. The first was the stocking of floy-tagged brown trout into the Oconto River. The stocking was part of the third year in a scientific project in cooperation with Oconto Electric and the DNR in an effort to track the migratory patterns of brown trout in western tributary streams of lower Green Bay.

The Green Bay Chapter also spent a Saturday cleaning up the NEW Zoo Trout Educational trail. The Education Trail has been a part



GBTU CONTINUES EFFORTS ON TRAIL

The Green Bay Chapter spent a recent Saturday cleaning up the NEW Zoo Trout Educational trail. The Education Trail has been a part of GBTU's education efforts since 1992. The recreation trail is a half-mile loop running along the edge of Haller's Creek, a class II trout stream. Here GBTU member Jack Koivisto shows off the trail.



Chapter News

of our education efforts since 1992. The recreation trail is a half-mile loop running along the edge of Haller's Creek, a class II trout stream. The trail has a number of interactive, informative and artistic displays to better educate the public. These displays include logs, stones, rip-rap, sand traps and wing deflectors that give a great presentation to the public about the work our chapter does for our coldwater resources.

We also co-hosted the first Women's event at Tight Lines Fly Fishing with National Women's Coordinator Heidi Oberstadt. The event, entitled "Women, Water & Wine," brought together conservation-minded women to discuss the status of local streams, current stream restoration plans, and share the heart of Trout Unlimited with the women in our community. The event was a great success and the chapter looks

forward to continuing our efforts to diversify our membership.

The next several months will be busy ones. The chapter has three work projects planned for the summer. They include work projects with the Wolf and Antigo chapters on Spring Creek tributary streams to the Wolf River, work on the Wausaukee River and work on the Upper Oconto system. The chapter will also have its annual Kids Fishing Event on July 9 with the Isaak Walton League of Brown County and the Brown County PALS program. The chapter is always looking for other opportunities and is looking at diversifying its fundraising efforts. Watch for news on more activities as the summer progresses.

We look forward to all the activity that the summer brings. Good luck and tight lines to everyone from the Green Bay Chapter!

—Aaron Frailing



Todd Templen

NOHR CHAPTER RESTORATION PROJECTS CONTINUE

Sixmile Creek will see the focus of the NOHR Chapters efforts this coming year, eliminating muddy banks like these.

Harry & Laura Nohr Chapter

Well, summer is here and we are eager for the habitat work to begin.

Our annual banquet May 2 was well-attended and successful. The Southern Wisconsin Chapter and the Elliot Donnelly Chapter had members in attendance, significant funds were raised and donated and everyone had a good time. Final sums are still being determined, as a few of our members were still seeking matching funds from their employers.

The new DNR easement process has still not resulted in a new easement. It has been a year and a half and still the journey continues. Landowners met with the DNR June 6 to submit their feedback on the new process. A few landowners

are now considering a WITU stream access easement because they want to see work done.

The Nohr chapter will be working on several thousand feet of stream again this year, with nearly a mile of new habitat work. We will continue to work with the WDNR within the new easement process to refine and improve it where possible. Project work will be done on Sixmile Creek and Big Rock creek this year, with a potential for more work in the Blue River watershed if the easements can be obtained.

We hope everyone has a safe, happy and adventurous summer. Regards from the Harry and Laura Nohr Chapter.

—Todd Templen

Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter

Habitat work remains at the core of our activities, but other activities are gaining attention. April 29 saw snow mixed with rain mixed with volunteers, who planted 1,100 bur oak, swamp white oak, and various shrubs within the Trimble River corridor of our 2013 restoration project. Along with Dan Wilcox, Dennis Anderson and Tom Henderson, many of the volunteers were employees of Fairmount Minerals Corporation. The plants were furnished by the DNR. Downstream from that project the rock has been delivered for work on another 1,808 feet of stream. We have been waiting for the ground to dry enough to support heavy equipment.

While waiting for the snow to melt, we held several meetings with Marty Engels and John Sours of the DNR to discuss our habitat projects for 2014 (Trimble River) and 2015 (upper Kinnickinnic River.)

On May 5 Jeff Himes and Tom Henderson discussed insects, habitat and conservation with four busloads of eighth graders from the Ellsworth Middle School. The presentation took place at the American Legion building on Pine Creek near Maiden Rock, WI. Students enjoyed identifying insects under rocks in the water.

On May 24 Margaret LeBien held a retreat with fishing on the lower Kinnickinnic River for ladies

who were previous graduates of the Casting for Recovery program. This reunion was a first-ever event, and the participants were very enthused about it. Margaret has some additional activities for women planned for later this year.

On May 30 students from Meyer Middle School in River Falls assisted with some stream measurements in preparation for the 2015 project. Given several choices of activities for the day, 39 students chose to learn about stream work and volunteerism. After a tour of pre-project and post-project stretches of the Trimble, they were bused to the upper Kinni. There the students measured stream width and bank height, and sampled the substrate. This data will be used by the DNR to determine locations for transects when drawing samples of insects prior to the planned restoration work. The students were enthused to be doing actual useful work. Hans Jung, John Kaplan and Tom Schnadt lead the effort, assisted by

Ron Kuehn, Mike Alwin and Tom Henderson.

June 7 the River Falls Park and Recreation Department sponsored a fishing clinic at Glen Park. Instructors were by Bob Diesch, Margaret LeBien, and Bob Trevis. In past years these clinics have resulted in some new members.

On June 13-15 Casting for Recovery held a retreat on Knapp Creek. Although this is not organized by our chapter, we furnished a few volunteers to stock the creek to enhance the ladies' chances for success.

Meanwhile, plans are moving forward to establish a Trout in the Classroom program at one or two schools within our chapter territory next year, with Greg Olson leading this. Reflecting back on the variety of activities we are becoming involved in, it is fortunate that we have many members who are passionate about them.

—Tom Henderson

Oconto River Chapter

The chapter's fundraising banquet was April 24 at Romy's Holiday Inn at Kelly Lake. Banquet Chair Dan Sumnicht reported that approximately 240 members and friends attended the event. Raffles, prizes and dinner with a few surprises made for a fun time for everyone. Dan indicated that the banquet would net about \$9,500.

The chapter has awarded eight camp certificates to youngsters from the area. The camps are offered by UW-Stevens Point. Various camps for kids ages 7-18 are offered. Most are day camps but several are week-long. The chapter asks only that the participants report back at a monthly meeting.

On May 15 chapter members set up the casting contest and fish pond at Victory Olympics. More than 420

participants enjoyed a carnival-type event on a cold windy day. The smiles on the faces of the students said it all.

Plans are being made to participate in DNR and USFS work days planned in our area. Members will work with Green Bay and Wolf River chapters, placing brush bundles, rocks and logs to improve habitat. Dates and work locations will be published in the chapter newsletter.

Our chapter meetings are held monthly, except May & November, on the first Wednesday of each month. Meetings are held at the 7 p.m. at the Lone Oak Gun Club north of Gillett.

—Dale Halla



PROJECT HEALING WATERS -- NORTHWOODS STYLE

The Northwoods Chapter recently completed the fourth session of Project Healing Waters at the VA Center in Iron Mountain, MI. Project Healing Waters is a national program designed to introduce wounded veterans to the sport of fly fishing. In the four sessions, wounded veterans had orientation videos, sessions on tying flies, and on casting a fly rod. Here TU Member Mick Mliner of Florence instructs on fly casting.

Chapter News



Jim Wierzba

RAJEFF VISITS SEWTU

Pat Ehlers (left) of The Fly Fishers sponsored a visit by Tim Rajeff, owner of the Echo Rod company and the North American distributor of Airflo fly lines. This event attracted attendees from several TU chapters.

Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter

Our chapter remained active throughout the late winter and spring months, although the supposed “spring” months felt more like an unwanted extension of winter. We had a clear focus on “membership” this quarter and were able to take advantage of tried-and-true methods and some new programs to aggressively build our membership ranks. Our regular monthly chapter meetings, held at the Thunder Bay Grille, continue to draw large attendance, which is a testimony to the quality of our speakers and the passion of our chapter members.

March sees a significant upswing in our activities. A number of volunteers manned our table at Cabela’s during their Great Outdoors event, where they distributed SEWTU information and signed individuals up to get connected to our chapter. Special thanks to Chuck Beeler and Jim Folda for leading that effort.

March 5 saw the return of the Fly Fishing Film Tour, sponsored by The Fly Fishers. More than 250 individuals participated in a night of short films, while Pat and his suppliers provided a significant number of raffle prizes.

Of special note was a special raffle of a Loomis rod, Lamson reel and Rio line, going directly to our chapter. More than \$2,000 was raised that night. We also gained a number of new members and contacts by manning the hospitality desk that evening. Special thanks to Kyle Klamar and Jim Wierzba and a host of volunteers for their efforts that evening.

Our chapter’s first ever Women’s Initiatives events were launched in March, in partnership with Orvis. These “women only” events introduced nearly 30 women to fly fishing and TU’s conservation mission. Each woman who attended a session received a free one-year membership to TU, courtesy of Orvis.

We are now considering mentored fishing outings with these attendees, along with other women from our chapter. Special thanks to TU National’s Heidi Oberstadt and Jen Ripple of Dun Magazine for their help.

In March we also launch a second new initiative as we teamed with the Urban Ecology Center of Milwaukee for an eight-week series of Saturday-morning sessions, which introduced their membership to the basics of fly fishing. Special thanks

to Mike Kuhr, George Batcha, Rick Frye and other volunteers who lead these sessions. The last session, held on April 26 saw those students team with our chapter at our annual Menomonee River clean-up work day.

Our March chapter meeting featured Orvis Fishing Department Manager Erik Helm, who gave a presentation on spey-casting techniques and their applicability to Wisconsin fishing.

In April we again teamed with Orvis on the Fly Fishing 101 sessions. The Orvis Bayshore store and Erik Helm selected 14 dates to conduct these introductions to fly fishing, and SEWTU volunteers have assisted with the fly casting instruction and other topics at each session to date.

Orvis donates a free membership to each attendee, and last year we added about 150 new members through this program, and we’re on track to exceed that number this year. We find that by meeting the students, we can get them excited about what we do, and we are seeing them show up at other SEWTU events.

Special thanks go to Don Putning, who has participated in many of these events, as well as all the others who volunteered.

Our April chapter meeting featured well-known angler and entomologist Ann Miller, who presented the topic “Understanding Hatches: The Key to Better Fly Fishing,” based on her recent book. She autographed copies of her latest book, “Hatch Guide for Upper Midwest Streams.” Thanks go out to Scott Criqui for organizing a women’s casting clinic at a local park prior to the presentation.

On April 24 we were on the water with U.S. military veterans for our first Project Healing Waters fishing outing of the year. Special thanks to George Batcha and the other volunteers who mentor the veterans. George and the team have a total of eight fishing outings planned for this season, so there will be many opportunities to mentor a vet. In addition to our fishing outings, our fly-tying sessions continue with the vets twice a week.

April 26 was our first official work day of the season and we maintained a long standing tradition of participating with a number of other groups for a Menomonee Riv-

er cleanup near Miller Park. This event is dedicated to John Knitter, a recently deceased member of our chapter who spearheaded this effort for years. Special thanks to Rick Frye and Todd Durian who lead our chapter’s efforts that day.

May was another busy month. Although the Orvis Fly Fishing 101 sessions continued, the real eye-catcher of the month was our partnership with another great corporate partner, Pat Ehlers and The Fly Fishers. Pat sponsored the visit of Tim Rajeff to Milwaukee on May 14, based on his business relationship with Tim. Tim confided to us that he has not presented to another TU chapter in a number of years and without the sponsorship of Pat, it would not have been possible for us.

Many of you may know Rajeff’s background as a champion competitive caster and his role as a fishing host on OLN. He also is the owner of the Echo Rod company and the North American distributor of Airflo fly lines. This event generated tremendous interest and the attendees included several from other TU chapters in the state. Special thanks to Pat Ehlers and Tim Rajeff for donating additional time for a special hands-on “performance” casting clinic, a special experience for a number of our members.

That same evening Rajeff made a presentation at our chapter meeting, and wowed the attendees with his skill and approachability.

Also in May we teamed up for the first time with the Lakeshore Chapter for a joint work day on the Onion River. A large number of our members and our famous work day trailer made the trip to this rapidly

emerging trout stream. Special thanks to Lakeshore Chapter President Gordy Martin and his dedicated band of volunteers, who went out of their way to welcome us to their home waters. After the work was over, we gathered for a brat roast and some casting instruction.

On June 21 we held our fourth annual LUNKER-building day with the Aldo Leopold Chapter on its long-term Bear Creek Habitat Improvement Project. Those LUNKERS will be placed in the stream this year, during phase four of this project. We also held our first fishing outing that weekend in Avalanche. Also in late June we provided help for the National TU Teen Leadership Summit.

Special dates to keep in mind for the rest of the summer include our annual summer picnic and casting clinic at Greenfield Park. We have a planned work day on Mole Creek for July 19. There are a number of Project Healing Waters fishing outings, and our volunteers will support the first ever WITU Youth Fishing Camp in July.

For information about these upcoming events and other activities within our chapter, please visit our website at sewtu.org. If you would like to receive SEWTU email alerts with details associated with our events, please contact us at sustain@sewtu.org.

If you get involved, we can guarantee you will make a difference, have fun and meet and make new friends who will share their knowledge and help you identify future fishing destinations. Tight Lines.

—Jim Wierzba



Jim Wierzba

GORDY GOOFING OFF ON THE ONION RIVER

SEWTU and Lakeshore Chapters shared a work day on the Onion River. While Lakeshore Chapter President Gordy Martin shows his dance moves, SEWTU member Kyle Klamar and Trout, his English fox-red labrador, try to ignore him. Kyle says Trout thinks she’s a fish.

Southern Wisconsin Chapter

Progress! That’s a one word summary of SWTU’s first six months of 2014.

The most satisfying progress is of course accompanied by the roar of chain saws and lopping of box elder. Our stream team workdays were a huge success thanks to great help from a variety of groups, including the UW-Madison Student TU Chapter and local high school fishing clubs.

It’s also been a time of progress and change for our Board of Directors. Matt Krueger is our new presi-

dent, replacing Steve Wald, who finished up a terrifically productive year at the helm. Many thanks for your leadership and direction, Steve!

Our Board also saw the “retirement” of Jim Beecher, longtime Treasurer Tom Thrall and State Council Representative Dave Sanders. Dan Jansen also stepped down as secretary to focus his efforts as chair of our Conservation Committee. Many thanks to Jim, Tom, Dave and Dan for their past service ... and we’ll surely be leaning on their



Chapter News



Jim Beecher

ONE GIANT WISHBONE?

An enthusiastic young volunteer helps clear brush at a recent SEWTU work day on Deer Creek.

expertise in the future!

That means we're very excited to have five new members of our board:

Amy Klusmeier, vice president

Tristan Kloss, secretary

Kurt Osterby, treasurer

Chris Long, chapter delegate to the State Council

Mary Ann Doll, board of directors

We had a fun, tasty and different fundraiser this spring. SWTU member and chef Ben Lubchansky of 608 Community-Supported Kitchen slow-roasted a batch of pork ribs from Black Earth Meats and froze

them in easy-serving packages. Patrick Hasburgh organized and ran the rib sale, which raised more than \$1,500 for our coldwater resource.

Spring also brought some of our great long-time events, including our annual Free Casting Clinic and the Project Green Teen outing to Avalanche. These events exemplify the type of outreach that is so important to the long-term preservation of our resources.

Please visit swtu.org for more news about our chapter and to check out our calendar of events.

—Drew Kasel

Wild Rivers Chapter

The Wild Rivers Chapter held its board election in March. New officers for 2014 are: Bill Heart, president; Peter Freiburger, vice

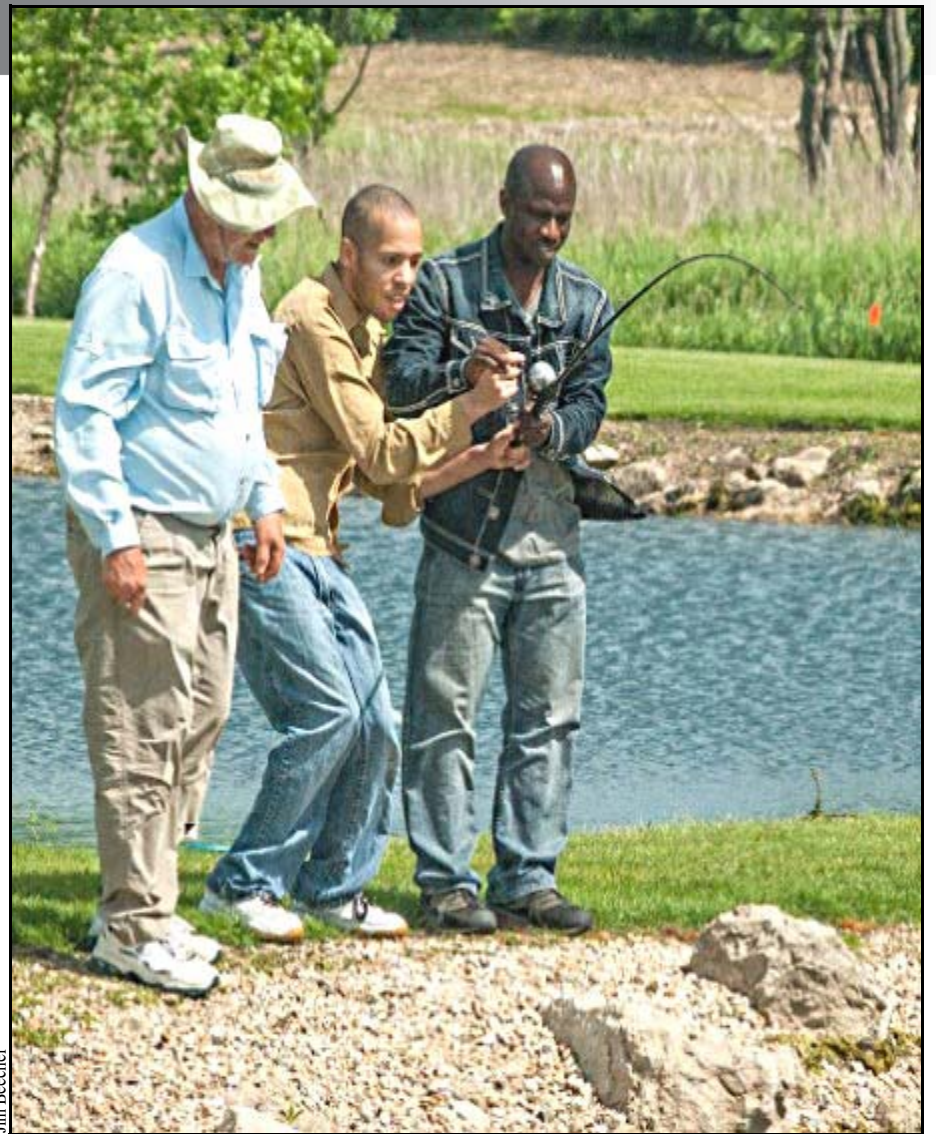
president; Dan Bloomquist, secretary; Jim Emerson, treasurer. New to the board of directors are Bob Traczyk, and Jim Enigl. Past board



Bill Heart

WHITE RIVER BROWN

Fish Manager Scott Toshner with a nice brown trout captured during the White River Survey recently



Jim Beecher

REEL! REEL! REEL!

SWTU recently held an event that gave many special-needs individuals a chance to hook into a real live fish...or two.

members still serving are Chuck Campbell, Frank Pratt, Donovan Dums, Jason Stewart and Past President Dick Berge. The chapter owes a huge thanks to Dick for his three years of service as our leader. Much was accomplished during his tenure. Rest assured that he will continue on the board and doing his fly patterns for our newsletter.

In March new board member James Enigl developed our own Facebook page. It can be found at www.facebook.com/wildrivers.tu. We are hoping to use this social media site to increase our membership, advertise our events and maybe to do a little bragging.

On June 7 many chapter members were involved with the Kids Fishing Day at both the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center and the Bayfield Fish Hatchery. Even though it was windy and rainy, the visitor center hosted more than 400 kids and the hatchery hosted about 100. The good thing about the weather being that bad was that the fish were really biting. Just about every kid was able to at least have a fish on. It's so cool to see the excitement in their eyes as they pull in a fat perch or a nice brook trout. Some of the brook trout took a beating so the birds and turtles at the pond had a good dinner that evening.

I volunteered in late May to assist DNR Fish Manager Scott Toshner with the yearly population surveys on the White River. We ran

electro-shocking boats from Pikes Bridge down to Sutherland, about eight miles, logging more than 200 fish. Each fish was measured for length and about half were weighed. Toshner and the crew were out again the next day to do a "recapture run" on the same river sections. They continued downstream from the Sutherland Bridge to the campground.

After all the data was analyzed, Toshner gave a presentation and it seems brown trout numbers are really down this year. There seems to be small numbers in a couple of year classes, probably due to a couple of drought years a few years ago. Another factor may have been the fish kill last summer, which occurred after a large rain event, immediately after a lengthy hot spell.

We'll see how the hex hatch goes in a few weeks. Along with the population surveys, the DNR is doing an angler creel survey again for two years. It is very important that you give the creel clerks the information they need.

To get more women involved in our chapter, Wild Rivers is hosting our second Women's Fly Casting Clinic on July 12. Wendy Williamson from the Hayward Fly Fishing Co. will again be leading the class. Registrations are free and the chapter will be giving each woman a free TU membership.

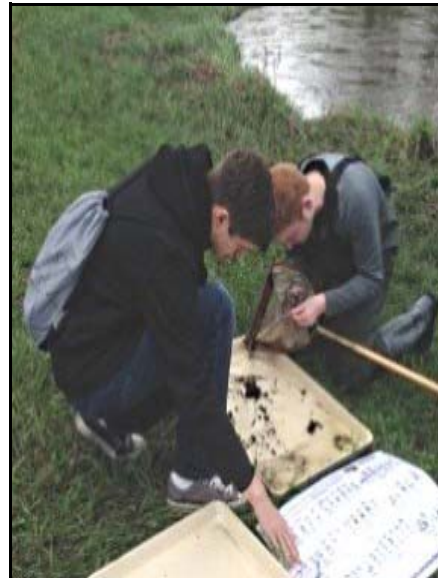
—Bill Heart

Wisconsin Clear Waters

The WI Clear Waters TU Chapter has a long history of providing educational opportunities for the community, as our latest activities show.

Dennis Vandenbloemen continues to provide a popular spring-semester course at UW-Stout entitled "Introduction to Fly Fishing." The

class culminates with four fishing sessions on a restored section of Gilbert Creek. He also offers an enrichment opportunity for UW staff with a one-day class on fly casting and fishing. Members of WI Clear Waters TU offer assistance as needed and Dale Dahlke provides an aquatic invertebrate lesson.



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS "BUG OUT" TO ELK CREEK

Wisconsin Clearwaters TU and DNR staffers taught students about stream restoration, ecology, habitat and much more at a recent field trip.

In early spring Tim Meyer, Duke Welter and Dale Dahlke provided an educational seminar at the Red Cedar Watershed Symposium at UW-Stout in Menomonie. This annual workshop provides both residential and agricultural landowners valuable information about the condition of the watershed, possible land practices to improve the water quality, and future plans to tackle the phosphate and sediment issues. Our TU session provided information on what our restoration practices involved, the importance of partnerships (DNR, local Dunn County Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, NRCS, Pheasants Forever, West Wisconsin Land Trust, WI Clear Waters TU), and the before and after data gathered from restoration sites.

Upcoming events slated for sum-

mer include Introduction to Fly Fishing to middle-school-aged students at Beaver Creek Reserve and Education Center in Fall Creek. This third annual event will feature fly casting, fly tying and fishing in a local pond.

Memorial Students "Bug Out" to Elk Creek

May 13 started out overcast with the promise of some sun later in the day. After postponing two previous dates due to thunderstorms and high water, it looked like the students from Memorial High School, led by their environmental science teachers, would be able to experience a rare field trip and get their hands wet and dirty.

Educator Niki Anderson, with help from other Memorial High School teachers as well as Rebecca

Spaeth from North High School, had planned this trip with the help of the local WI Clear Waters TU chapter and Wisconsin DNR employees. Once the students arrived at Elk Creek, they spread out across the area to observe, photograph and record a nature journal that would be required as part of the field trip.

Dale Dahlke and Tim Meyer from WI Clear Waters TU chapter then gave a short history of the project, briefed the students on the background preparation that went into choosing this creek section for bank stabilization and trout habitat improvement, and also discussed all the partners that became involved to finance, design, and carry out the construction necessary to complete the project.

The DNR's John Sours explained the habitat structures and techniques used to provide secure under-bank cover and winter holding areas, increase the velocity and overall depths of the creek, provide habitat conducive to invertebrates and other trout forage, and finally to create the necessary creek bottom substrate and oxygen levels for optimum success with trout reproduction.

Sours showed how these restoration projects can incorporate habitat for other wildlife species at the same time as the trout habitat work is taking place. Shallow scrapes and cut-off oxbow channels provide ideal habitat for invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, waterfowl, shorebirds and furbearers. Native grass plantings at some sites provide nesting and cover for songbirds. Snake and turtle hibernaculum are also built to provide over-wintering areas for these species.

An electro-shocking demonstra-

tion was next on the agenda. While DNR staff operated the equipment and directed the operation, Tim Meyer and Dale Dahlke probed along and under the banks with the electrodes to stun and capture trout and other species. A good representation of Elk Creek critters were collected, even though the creek was still fairly high and stained from recent rains. We collected brown and brook trout, brook lampreys, white suckers, as well as mud, stickleback, and darter minnows, plus a few other species. Both young-of-year (YOY) brown and brook trout were found, which indicate that both species are spawning successfully. Students took many photos and everyone got hands-on experience.

Additional school work days for area students, in conjunction with DNR personnel, included:

DNR personnel and area students started a brushing project on Swinns Valley Creek, cutting willow. The project is 75 percent completed. Plans were to have the Arcadia FFA finish the project. DNR employees, along with the landowner, and Arcadia Sportsmen's club volunteers completed the first 1500 feet of brushing the stream.

On May 21, a group of Alma School students participated in a shocking demonstration on Trout Creek.

On May 22, a group of Arcadia FFA students participated in a shocking demonstration on Swinns Valley Creek. The students completed brushing by the end of May.

On May 29, the Whitehall FFA held its stick pick up and final clean up at the Engevoid easement on the North Branch Elk Creek.

On May 30, a group of Osseo-

Watershed Access Fund

Strong start for 2014

By Doug Brown

The 2012-13 fundraising has come to an end and the response was amazing again this past year. WITU can't thank you enough. We raised nearly \$8,200, with 81 private donations and 5 donations from chapters.

Within the first few months of the 2014 campaign we have already exceeded all of last year's donations, and are nearing \$9,000.

Your contributions go good use, as all grants are used solely for improving access on Wisconsin streams. Thus far we have awarded four grants, helping to secure access to Pine Creek in Pepin County, the Kinnickinnic River in St. Croix County, and the White River in Waushara County. The current grant request limit is \$5,000. Because two chapters may each request for 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. Please consider a generous contribution to the 2014 Watershed Access Fund. The need for access is critical for anglers to continue their passion for trout fishing. Access is also critical for Trout Unlimited to continue its successful stream improvement work.

2012/13 Contributors

- | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Jason Anderson | Mukwonago WI | Tim & Anne Connor | Fitchburg WI |
| Dale Bakke | Plover WI | Thomas Crabb | Monona WI |
| Edwin Barnes | Middleton WI | Terry Cummings | Rhineland WI |
| Carlton & Diana Beduhn | Oshkosh WI | Richard Duplessie | Eau Claire WI |
| Blaine Biedermann | Fitchburg WI | Robert Feldman | Mayville WI |
| Barton & Colleen Blum | Waupaca WI | James Flesch | Fox Point WI |
| Stephen Born | Madison WI | Dan Geddes | Appleton WI |
| D. Scott & Linda Bruce | Iron River WI | Chuck Geiger | Baileys Harbor WI |
| Will Burlington | Madison WI | Terry Geurkink | Belleville WI |
| Linda Buzzar | DeForest WI | Donald Grade | Mosinee WI |

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Dan Grauer | Wausau WI | Dennis Presser | Madison WI |
| Jeanne Grodevant | Tomahawk WI | Randall Rake | De Pere WI |
| Roger Gustafson | Iron River WI | Carl Rasmussen | Neenah WI |
| Hugh Gwin | Hudson WI | Steve Robertson | Verona WI |
| John Halbrehder | Sparta WI | Michael San Dretto | Neenah WI |
| Stephen Hawk | Madison WI | Paul Schleif | West Bend WI |
| Ashton Hawk | Madison WI | Jeff Schmoeger | Cottage Grove WI |
| John Hawk | New Holstein WI | Daniel Schultz | Appleton WI |
| Bill Heart | Ashland WI | David Seligman | Ripon WI |
| Jan & Mark Heifner | Appleton WI | Chuck Sethness | Land O' Lakes WI |
| Cline Hickok | Hudson WI | John Shillinglaw | Madison WI |
| Charles Hodulik | Madison WI | Jeffrey Smith | Madison WI |
| Andrew Holverson | Wauwatosa WI | Michael Spittler | Minneapolis MN |
| Mary & Doug Hudzinski | Sun Prairie WI | Charles Steudel | Mineral Point WI |
| Daniel Jansen | DeForest WI | Wayne Stockman | Spring Valley WI |
| Andrew & Victoria Jicha | Green Bay WI | Ann Tisdale | Milwaukee WI |
| William Jordan | Appleton WI | Robert Towns | King WI |
| Chris Kerbaugh | La Crosse WI | Tim Van Volkinburg | Whitefish Bay WI |
| David Kinnamon | Bayside WI | Marten & Karen Voss | Eau Claire WI |
| Paul Mack | New Richmond WI | Dick Wachowski | Eau Claire WI |
| Brian Madsen | Ellsworth WI | John Wahlers | Berlin WI |
| Maria Manion | Minneapolis MN | Donald Welhouse | Kaukauna WI |
| Kim McCarthy | Green Bay WI | Paul Wiemerslage | Hudson WI |
| Tom Mertens | Oncida WI | Steve Wilke | Marinette WI |
| Gary Mueller | Monona WI | Dr. Donald Williams | Fort Atkinson WI |
| Cris Meyer | Middleton WI | Dan Wisniewski | Middleton WI |
| Mark Mille | Milwaukee WI | | |
| Eric Nelson | Chili WI | Kiap TU Wish TU | |
| Micheal Niemczyk | Oshkosh WI | WI ClearWaters TU | |
| Herb Oechler | Wauwatosa WI | Shaw-Paca TU | |
| Winston Ostrow | De Pere WI | Marinette Co. TU | |
| Jay Pare | Mazomanie WI | Wild Rivers TU | |

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

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

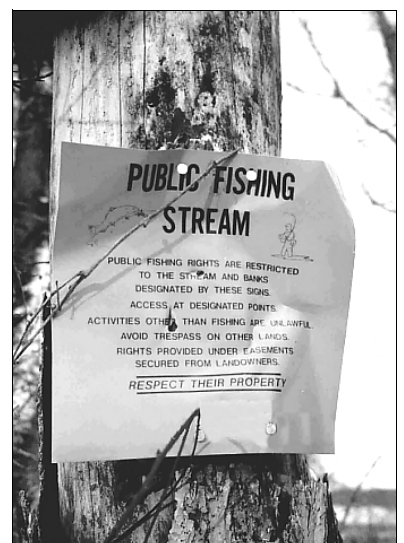
MAIL TO: TU Watershed Access Fund
% Doug Brown
R4800 Timber Ln.
Ringle, WI 54471

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____



Fairchild eighth-grade students participated in brushing and maintenance of old habitat work. The work was conducted on the South Branch of the Buffalo River, located in the Osseo School Forest. On June 3 a group of sixth-grade students from Osseo-Fairchild continued to work on the South Branch of the Buffalo River.

Trout Day

Buffalo County Driftless Area stream restorations were featured June 7 near Arcadia and Waumandee. Conservation leaders and policy makers toured Swinns Valley to discuss future stream restoration prospects and funding.

Then, despite some weather challenges, more than 100 people visited Danuser Valley Creek. It is a

tributary of Waumandee Creek near Montana, where 2014 and 2015 work is improving water quality and trout habitat. A DNR fisheries crew electro-shocked the stream as some of the many kids in attendance watched eagerly. They saw various fish species, including young-of-year

and adult trout, and every kid in attendance left with a new fishing rod outfit. The Trout Day celebration was sponsored by the Waumandee Rod & Gun, Fountain City Rod & Gun, Alma Rod & Gun and WI Clear Waters chapter.

—Bob Swanson and Duke Welter

Wisconsin River Valley Chapter

The Wisconsin River Valley Trout Unlimited chapter held its 31st annual fundraiser banquet on May 1. Although the crowd seemed rather undersized, the atmosphere and activities provided much fun and entertainment. Attendees enjoyed bucket and gun raffles, silent and live auctions, and a special "Fish for the Beast" raffle package that included a Sage Method fly rod, an Orvis reel, plus other tools and tackle and an assortment of big game flies provided by Bill Sherer's We Tie It Fly Shop.

The chapter awarded Linda Lehman with multiple fish- and cookie-themed items for her dedication and commitment to Trout Unlimited, and for the wonderful treats she frequently brings to board meetings and events.

Thanks to our board members, who provided the organization, logistics and labor necessary to put on such a grand event. Those board members include Doug Brown, Pat-

rick Esselman Jr., Betsey & Patrick Hager, Al Hauber, Joe Krznarich, Linda Lehman, John Meachen, Bob Pils and Kirk Stark.

Special recognition goes to the Hanger Lounge and Restaurant for hosting our fundraising event and providing a great dinner.

Thank you to the volunteers who sell tickets and assist in other miscellaneous duties, including Annika Brown, Mark Habeck, Jackie Krznarich, and Lisa Mattson. A special thanks goes to Julie Leist, owner and operator of Just Picturing It, for providing the wonderful photography.

Last but not least, the WRVTU Chapter is extremely thankful to those individuals and sponsors who donated and attended the fundraiser. Their generous contributions support our coldwater conservation efforts.

—Patrick Esselman Jr.

Wolf River Chapter

During Memorial Day weekend we held our first brat stand of the year at Mike's Service Station in Langlade. Thanks to all those who helped out, including Tom and Barbara Richardson, Stan Zarnowiecki, Lu Ann Killoren, Laura Killoren, Clyde Park, Linda Anderson, Bill Livingston and Andy Killoren. Most of all, thank you Mike & Alice Klimoski for letting us set up at the service station in beautiful downtown Langlade, Wisconsin.

We also have plans to run the brat stand July 4-5, August 1-2, and August 30-31. We will set up in Langlade on the corner of Highway 64 and 55. If you are in the area, please stop down and support our tiny chapter's only fundraiser.

On May 31 I joined Green Bay forester Zack Buchanan to explore the thick jungle on the west side of the Wolf during the largest mosquito hatch of the year. We were searching for suspected beaver activity and found a huge flooded area filled with dead trees. Further investigation turned up an old dam with

fresh activity. It can actually be seen on satellite maps. It is located one mile south of East Wolf Road, on the south side of the river. The dam is blocking a trout stream, which is a tributary of the Wolf River. The area is owned by the DNR, and after the DNR traps the beavers, we will plan an outing to remove the dam.

On Saturday June 21 we held our first work day, on Spring Creek. On August 16 we will be working on Ninemile Creek. Please contact Andy Killoren at AKilloren@Centurytel.net if you are interested in helping out.

Andy Killoren and I began water testing on May 10, when we placed temperature monitors and tested the water at seven locations. The water testing is done every month until fall. On June 10 I tested the water at the seven locations. All temperatures look good, including the Wolf, as of this writing.

For details on any of our projects or contact information, please visit our web site at WolfRiverTU.org.

—Tim Waters



WISCONSIN RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER HAS SUCCESSFUL BANQUET

A happy group of WRV Chapter member enjoying their recent banquet (top). The chapter awarded Linda Lehman with multiple fish- and cookie-themed items for her dedication and commitment to Trout Unlimited, and for the wonderful treats she frequently brings to board meetings and events.

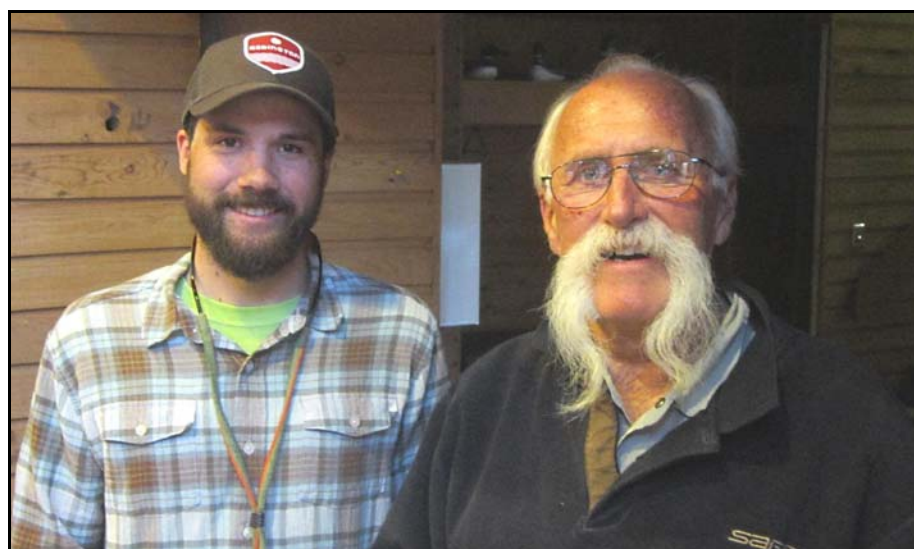
Guide Kavaczeck compares fresh water fishing to salt water fishing

Wild Rivers Chapter members got a fresh perspective on one of their favorite fisheries at the May chapter meeting, when Luke Kavaczeck presented a program entitled "Everything but the Salt, Fly Fishing Chequamegon Bay."

Luke is a native to the bay, a fly-fishing guide at Anglers All in Ashland, a writer, photographer and blogger. Luke's relationship with Roger LaPenter goes back to when Roger taught the nine-year-old Luke how to tie a Clouser minnow, and led the young fisherman to a zeal for fly fishing and a love for the Chequamegon Bay fishery.

Salt refers to his main theme, which is finding parallels between saltwater and freshwater fly fishing. The program moves through the seasons, following the seasonal patterns of smallmouth, trout and salmon. Using images from satellite, and his excellent photography, Luke showed the impacts of the tides, seiches, winds and current on the fishing. From an early season shallow water beginning, to a late season hunt for large trout and salmon, we all saw the resource in a new light.

The presentation carried another message, regarding the history of special regulations to protect smallmouth on the bay. In 1994 the minimum size was increased to 22 inches, with a one-per-day limit. Luke credits the work of Roger LaPenter in advocating for this change, and for much of the success of the trophy smallmouth fishery. Fish are now allowed to live a complete life span and grow to an average 18-inch length. Luke stressed three main points in closing; reading the water and its flows, spend time searching for active fish,



Guide Luke Kavaczeck and Anglers All's Roger LaPenter

and appreciate this unique and challenging fly-fishing opportunity. Check out Luke's blog at freshcoastangler.com, and the Anglers All site at anglersallwisconsin.com.

—Chuck Campbell

Monarchs to benefit from milkweed plantings

By Duke Welter, TUDARE
Communication Director

In its continuing effort to broaden wildlife impacts of Driftless Area watershed restoration projects, TUDARE will be offering free milkweed seed to participating groups this season. A package of an estimated 288,000 seeds was ordered from Monarch Watch at Kansas University in Manhattan, KS.

Milkweed is an essential host plant for monarch butterflies and is used by other species as well. Both common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) and swamp milkweed (*A. incarnata*) seeds will be available. Swamp milkweed seeds should be used within 10 meters of the water's edge; common milkweed further from the stream. If seeds are available after Driftless projects are supplied, they'll be sent to other

chapter projects across the region on request. An ounce of seeds can plant about eight acres.

Habitat losses and agricultural chemicals pose serious threats to Monarchs, according to Chip Taylor of Kansas University, director of Monarch Watch. "Chemically intensive agriculture that utilizes insecticides and herbicides also eliminates monarchs and their milkweed hosts. The use of "Roundup-Ready" soybeans, genetically engineered to resist Roundup (glyphosate, the world's most widely used herbicide) has resulted in the loss of at least 100 million acres of monarch habitat in row crops (corn and soybeans) since 1997," said Taylor.

"In our Driftless Area projects, we are glad to try to improve habitat for as many species as possible. This fits right in," explained TUDARE Project Manager Jeff Hastings.



Monarch Watch

A Monarch butterfly caterpillar on its host milkweed plant.

"We're already including habitat for snakes, turtles, frogs, minnows and birds. Where we can plant native species, like these milkweeds, we can expand the benefits. Our flowering prairie plant species already

provide nectar for butterflies, but with these milkweeds we can provide reproductive habitat as well."

For more information, contact Duke Welter at TUDARE, dwelter@tu.org.

Tackle Box an amazing resource for members, volunteers, leaders

Continued from page 11

A 35-page Strategic Approach to Fund Development workbook to help chapters create a robust and forward-looking fundraising strategy.

A banquet guide and planner, as well as a template banquet program are included in this section, which chapters can use to solidify their own events. Additionally, a memo regarding managing on-line banquet registrations is found here.

Finally, a memo regarding how to apply for National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grants is contained here, explaining how TU chapters and councils must coordinate such applications with the national office.

Conservation resources

The second-to-last section within the Tackle Box is a compilation of documents intended to help volunteers understand and actualize TU's conservation mission. From documents on running effective workdays to writing grants to conservation advocacy, this section has it all.

First, the conservation resources section has a section dedicated to conservation training materials. Dating back to 2009, this section has videos and on-line presentation training materials covering an incredible variety of materials. Covered topics include youth education coordinators, veterans' programs, addressing climate change in projects, work in Yellowstone Lake, helping disabled anglers, running workdays, working with land trusts, and much more.

This is a great resource that is worth investigating, and which will undoubtedly help any volunteer looking to find an area in which to concentrate his or her efforts.

Second, the conservation resources area has an entire link dedicated to the Embrace-A-Stream grant program. EAS is a great program that has helped numerous chapters launch stream restoration projects. This area has grant guidelines, applications, follow-up final reports, a list of grant recipients, and an example of a solid application.

Any chapter wishing to start a large-scale restoration project should definitely consider submitting an EAS application, and should

review this section to learn how the process works.

Then there's an advocacy documents area. This link includes a grassroots guide to Bristol Bay, TU's largest current advocacy issue, which will explain all that any TU member needs to know about Bristol Bay, and the proposed Pebble Bay mine, including information about how all chapters can help.

This area also includes a guide on how TU members can speak for trout and salmon, which provides incredible direction for TU members regarding environmental law and advocacy issues. Also included in this section is TU's North American Salmonid Policy, which specifies advocacy positions for salmonid resource issues using the best available scientific information. An advocacy planning worksheet is found here, to help chapters and councils plan and enact effective advocacy positions, and finally a search engine is included to help any member determine who their elected officials are, from local municipal officials to state legislators to federal legislators.

A restoration document section follows, which includes links to a primer on stream temperature monitoring. Another link within this section provides information about how free elm trees can be acquired for stream restoration projects, when needed and proper. Another link provides a link to Colorado TU's water law resource library, which includes a user-friendly guide on water law, and a primer on basic water law terminology.

Finally, a River Keepers volunteer manual is available in this section, containing a guide regarding temperature monitoring, in-stream habitat types, macroinvertebrate water quality indicators, flow and fishery population information.

The conservation resources section contains an area on land protection resources. In this section users will find two reciprocal documents: A guide for TU chapters regarding how to work with land trusts, and a guide for land trusts regarding how to work with TU.

Both documents provide infor-

mation to both sides of the TU/land trust equation, about how both groups can work with each other for the benefit of coldwater resources. A document detailing land protection project success stories and case studies is also included, as are links which help volunteers find land trusts, to the Land Trust Alliance, technical resources from NC State University's Stream Restoration Program, and Land Trust Alliance case studies.

Youth education projects and programs

Last but not least, the TU Tackle Box contains a section dedicated to youth education projects and programs. As TU strives to both fulfill its mission of coldwater conservation, and to double its membership, there can be little doubt that youth will be a key ingredient.

This section includes a link to the One-TU Youth Education Report. This document exhaustively details the various youth education and outreach activities that chapters and councils undertake across the nation. Make no mistake about it, this report is a veritable encyclopedia for volunteers wondering how they can become a TU education leader, and how a chapter or council can get kids involved.

Following the youth education report, a TU 5 Rivers Guide is found. 5 Rivers is TU's program aimed at establishing TU chapters at colleges and universities. This is a how-to guide for chapters and volunteers looking to start a Five Rivers program.

Next, the youth education section includes a link to TU's Trout in the Classroom page. This page details how a volunteer, chapter or council can work with a local grade school to place an aquarium in a classroom where kids can raise trout from eggs to fingerlings, monitor water quality, study stream habitat, learn to appreciate water resources, and understand ecosystem connectivity. This section contains a how-to guide and a wealth of information about running a successful Trout in the Classroom project.

A link to the Stream Explorers

Youth Membership page is also found here, where kids can view a youth-oriented TU web-page, and kids can enroll in TU as Stream Explorer members.

Another link leads members to the Boy Scout Fly Fishing Merit Badge Program page. Here, volunteers can use a council locator to contact their local Scouts, learn about the fly fishing merit badge, what it requires, and how chapters can work with Scouting groups to put on a program.

Finally, a memo offering tips on how to plan and run a meaningful youth education event is found under this link. This memo provides a start-to-finish guide for volunteers, chapters and councils looking to involve youth in TU.

A remarkable resource

The national office has gone to great lengths to provide resources for members in the Tackle Box. More than just how-to guides, the documents within the Tackle Box are incredible fodder for creative thinkers, and reading through what other chapters and councils have done often leads to new ideas, new ways of doing things, and in the end, success.

Trout Unlimited thanks its volunteers, and realizes that they are the foundation upon which our group is built. The Tackle Box is TU's effort to arm its members with a significant amount of resources aimed at producing engaged members and active chapters and councils. Please use the Tackle Box, and wield it to your chapter's advantage.

If, after going through any of the resources above, you've still got questions, please contact one of the following national staffers:

- Beverly Smith, Director of Volunteer Operations: bsmith@tu.org; (307) 734-2814
- Rob Keith, Volunteer Operations Coordinator: rkeith@tu.org; (703) 284-9425
- Jeff Yates, Volunteer Operations Communications Manager: jyates@tu.org; (703) 216-7078
- Mallory Ennis, Membership Services Manager: mennis@tu.org (703) 284-9424
- Danielle Russo, Membership Services Coordinator: drusso@tu.org; (703) 284-9414

*The documents
within the Tackle
Box are
incredible fodder
for creative
thinkers.*

Threatened and endangered species volunteers sought

By Jeff Hastings
TUDARE Project Coordinator

The existence of threatened and endangered (T&E) species such as the northern cricket frog can potentially delay or even stop a stream restoration project. The Natural Resources Conservation Service, NRCS is no longer helping landowners with obtaining the necessary permits for their projects. One of the results of this policy change means professional biologists, or others who have been trained and certified, need to monitor and/or remove T&E species.

For example, each morning before work begins on some stream restoration projects, at least one person certified in species removal training needs to walk the site where the work is planned for the day and remove any threatened or endangered species. Fortunately, volunteers who are willing to undergo some minimal training, can be certified to do the monitoring and species removal during restoration projects.

Recently TUDARE, the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Wisconsin Bureau of Natural Heritage have developed various

training programs to certify volunteers to do this type of T&E removal. Chapters are encouraged to cover this cost for their members or other volunteers who are willing to take the training. Clearly, having one or more certified members in your chapter would be a great asset, as hiring a professional biologist can be costly to a project.

Separate "monitoring" training on determining the presence or absence of a species can also be very helpful. In the case of the northern cricket frog, a trained person needs to be employed to go to the restoration site up to five nights to listen for the frogs.

Recently I purchased two sonic song meters, which we hope to utilize in lieu of certified persons. I am currently working with the University of Platteville and a herpetologist on developing the protocol for the use of this device, but for now a certified individual is required.

If you are aware of threatened or endangered species in your chapter project area, which could potentially slow your stream project, contact me and I will gladly help you make the necessary arrangements for training your volunteers. jhastings@tudare.org or 608-606-4158.



LEARNING TO LOOK FOR THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES
Students of a recent certification training program learn where to look for threatened or endangered species, such as the ornate box turtle, below.



Highlights of May's State Council meeting

October meeting planned in Fox River Valley

By Mike Kuhr, WITU Secretary

Representatives from 17 of our 21 chapters convened in Viroqua May 17 for our quarterly State Council meeting. Meeting highlights included discussions regarding the results of the Spring Hearing questions relating to trout seasons, the announcement of the DNR's new Northeast Grant Coordinator, a pledge of support for TUDARE and the League of Conservation Voters, and several issues relating to restoration project requirements.

Spring Hearing results

The State Council received a complete recap of the Spring Hearing results from Aaron Frailing. Aaron is the new co-chair of the council's Legislative Committee and also a member of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress (WCC) Trout Study Committee. The WCC met the week prior (May 9-10) to formally make recommendations to the Natural Resources Board regarding questions asked at the Spring Hearings.

Several advisory questions were asked this year to gauge the public's opinion about possibly changing the trout season structure. A question asking for uniform regulations on put-and-take trout lakes passed. This was supported by the council. Another question aimed at extending the regular catch & keep season until October 15 also passed. A similar question proposing a two-week catch-and-release season in October was rejected.

Other questions regarding extending the early catch-and-release season were rejected. One would have opened the current March and April season statewide. Another would have started the early season on January 1. One proposal would have done away with the five-day closed period before the May opener.

Any proposed season changes will be part of the new proposed trout regulations package which will appear on the Spring Hearing ballot in 2015. Given the results of this year's questions, we don't expect many changes to the seasonal structure, aside from the two-week extension in the fall.

DNR hires grant coordinator for northeast Wisconsin

After a lengthy review process, the DNR has selected Jonathan Pyatskowitz as the first northeast grant coordinator. He will be based in Shawano County and the job will focus on grant writing, easement and public access acquisitions, and project planning. The goal will be to mimic the success of TU's Driftless Area Restoration Effort and make that model work for central and northeast Wisconsin. Past Council Chair Kim McCarthy represented WITU on the review panel that ultimately hired Pyatskowitz. We thank Kim for his work and look forward to seeing more trout stream projects in northeast Wisconsin.

Support for TUDARE and League of Conservation Voters

The council also showed its commitment to restoration projects in the Driftless Area by approving a \$2,000 donation to TUDARE. TUDARE Project Coordinator Jeff Hastings thanked the council for its support and reported that TUDARE projects received more than \$2.5 million in funding from Farm Bill programs.

The council also approved a \$2,000 donation to the Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters. The league does a great job of evaluating the potential effects of bills that are introduced in our state legislature. Over the years, they've proven to be an outstanding ally in our efforts to protect our coldwater resources.

Changes that may affect restoration projects coming

Several changes are coming which may impact projects in the future. First, for any project receiving funds from the NRCS, they will no longer monitor work sites for endangered species such as blanding's turtles or cricket frogs. This is still a requirement on these projects and volunteers are being trained to accomplish this task.

The DNR will also be requiring Vegetative Use Agreements on all future easement purchases. These agreements will spell out how the plant life on eased lands will be managed. The actual rule language is still being drafted and the council will update chapter leaders when it's released.

The deadline for River Protection Planning Grants has been moved from May to February. Unfortunately, this caught several chapters by surprise and some funding opportunities were missed. Guidelines for these grants will be updated later this year.

Chapter Effectiveness Index to get an overhaul

Chair Henry Koltz informed the council that changes to TU's Chapter Effectiveness Index (CEI) are on the way. Henry is currently serving on the committee tasked with updating the CEI. The new index will track veterans programs, women's initiatives, and membership retention. The complete proposal will be presented to the National Leadership Council (NLC) at the annual meeting in Santa Fe, N.M. in September.

National Leadership Council update

Bill Heart, who co-chairs the NLC Great Lakes Committee, said TU National is hiring an intern to work on mining issues in the Upper

Midwest. The role of the NLC will also be reevaluated as part of TU's new strategic plan. Because of term limits, this will be Bill's last year on the NLC. We thank you for your service, Bill.

October meeting

Plans are to hold the next Wisconsin State Council meeting in the Fox River Valley area in October.

Keep an eye out for emails announcing the exact date and location. We hope to see you there.

Donate to council via Thrivent Lutheran Financial

If you are a TU member and have investments with Thrivent Lutheran Financial, you may have the ability to make charitable donations to groups of your choosing through Thrivent Financial's Thrivent Choice program.

The Wisconsin Council of Trout Unlimited is now a listed entity within the Thrivent Choice program.

If you are a Thrivent member and have the ability to make Thrivent Choice donations, we would be honored if you'd consider including the Wisconsin Council of TU within your charitable planning, and making a donation to our cause.

From The Heart

News and views from Bill Heart

TU held its second annual Upper Midwest Regional meeting in May near Grayling, Michigan. About 40 volunteers from the Michigan, Illinois, Ohio and Wisconsin councils joined 10 TU staff members to discuss issues concerning the Midwest and TU in general. The first day concentrated on Women in TU and was primarily led by TU National's Heidi Oberstadt and Beverly Smith. The seminars included: "Tips on How to reach out to Women in the Community," "Planning and Executing a Women's Event," and "How to get Women Members to Step into Leadership Positions."

Some of the Saturday and Sunday morning conservation sessions covered dam removal, stream restoration, climate change, and a TUDARE session lead by Duke Welter.

Several sessions focused on improving chapters and councils. Communication seems to be a key to success in Trout Unlimited. Using social media and developing an effective website at both levels is important for membership development and retention of new members.

There was also a session on youth education and outreach, and a fundraising session. You can check the Tackle Box on the TU Website for more details on all of the seminars. Here is that direct link: [http://www.tu.org/member-services/welcome-to-my-tu/tackle-box/business-practices/regional-meetings/midwest-meeting-resources/2014.]

Connecting with leaders from other states is one of the most important aspects of these meetings.

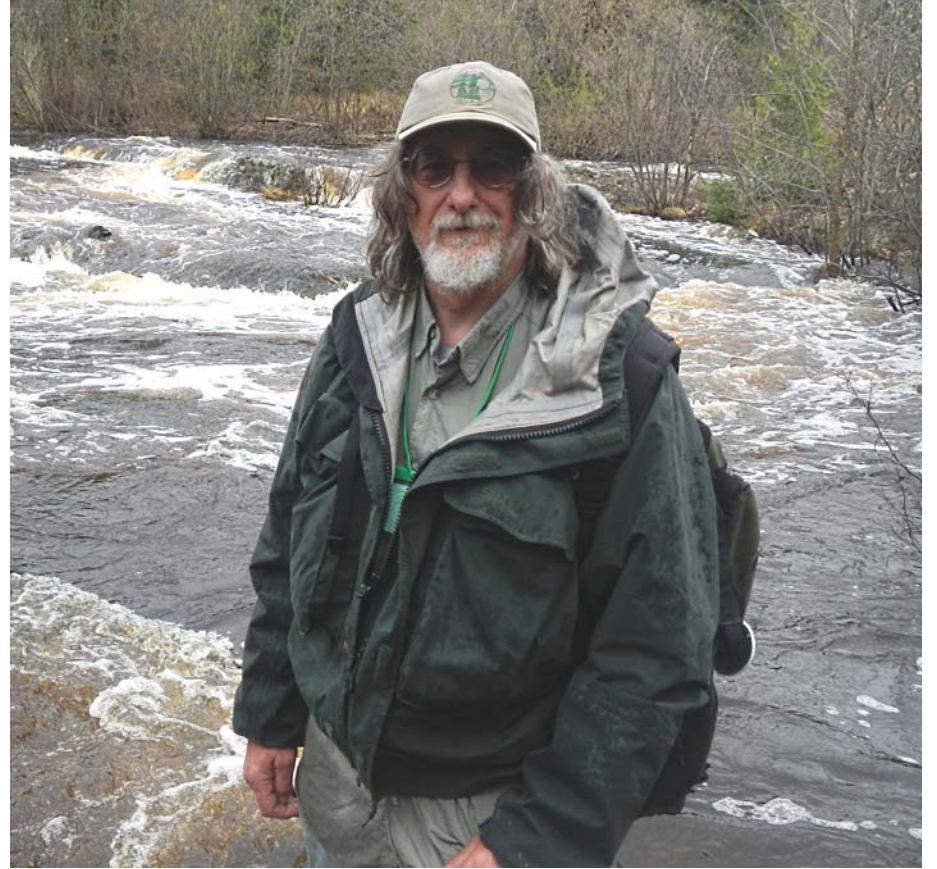
We all have our unique problems, and it's interesting to hear how others deal with challenges. It's well worth the time to attend these meetings, as they enable us grassroots leaders to make Trout Unlimited a better conservation group than it already is. We are now planning next year's meeting, so stay tuned.

Keep in mind that all these meetings also involve fishing. However, spring arrived late in Michigan, too. Even though we were near the famed AuSable River, the water was high and cold. I tried fishing for a few hours, but was shut out. I have an invitation to go back sometime this summer and I hope to do that during the cherry season.

Mine update

Here in Wild Rivers country, we are still dealing with the threat of a potential iron mine in the Penoque Hills. The mining company did bulk sampling during the winter and started drilling more ore sampling holes, along with many water wells, this spring. It's difficult to monitor their work since the legislature changed the Manage Forest Law to allow the company to close the land on the ridge to keep people out of the area.

I have been leading many tours of the area that will be affected, including a recent group of 33 graduate students from UW-Madison. I am also working with Tracy Hames from the Wisconsin Wetland Association to document the many very intact wetland complexes on land owned by Iron County, which has an option to lease their land to the



Bill Heart and his beloved Tyler Forks River

mining company. This is the area that the company has designated for their tailing and over-burden piles, which would be hundreds of feet high. These high-quality wetlands are where the Tyler Forks River and other trout streams in the area get the cold water that enables brook trout to survive.

It is important that as many people as possible come here and see what is at risk. If anyone would like to see this very special area of northern Wisconsin, I would be glad to take you on a tour.

At the TU National level we have hired an intern to work on the mining issues in the Lake Superior Basin. I have been sending her

information on the Penoque site and there is talk about a site visit this summer for National TU staff.

I would love to hear any feedback from you, or any suggestions you might have for future topics in this column. You can email me at wwheart@centurytel.net.

Bill Heart has been an active member and a leader with TU at the local, state and national level for many years. A former State Council chairman, he has served as chapter president and in many other roles for the Wild Rivers Chapter. He is currently nearing the end of his term as Wisconsin's representative on TU's National Leadership Council.

Wisconsin authors offer us three new books

By Duke Welter

Three books by Wisconsin authors have come in over the past month. They are all very different in their focus, but all three have a good bit to offer anglers in our state.

In the interest of full disclosure, I personally know most of these folks, and I have fished and shared a drink with several of them. One features a couple of my photos, and one of the authors is nearly a neighbor.

Field Guide To Wisconsin Streams

The primary fun of angling, for me, is answering the countless questions that crop up while I fish. What's that tunnel coming out of the bank? Will that turtle/snake/water beetle/plant bite me? What are those bugs I can see, and why are the fish taking the ones I can't see? Regardless of your fishing skill level, fishing is often about solving riddles.

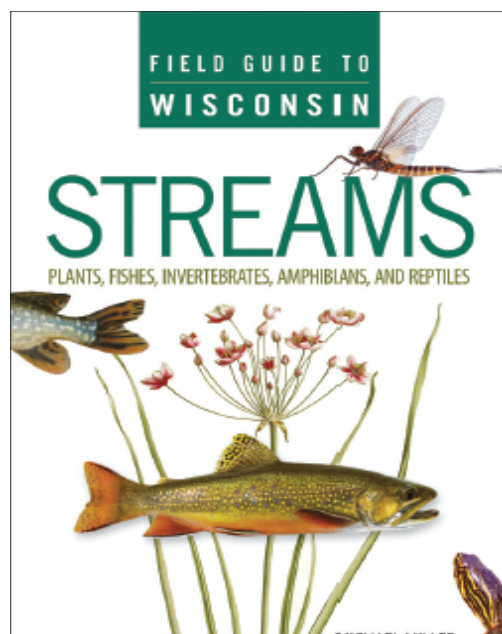
The new "Field Guide to Wisconsin Streams: Plants, Fishes, Invertebrates, Amphibians and Reptiles" will answer a lot of those questions. It's the product of three experienced scientists who all have experience in our streams as DNR conservation professionals. Mike Miller, DNR's cold-water stream ecologist, joined Katie Songer and Ron Dolen to author the book.

It covers streams and their denizens statewide, so you'll find out about the range of minnow, herp, plant, bug, mussel and other species in those streams. This isn't the exhaustive encyclopedia like Prof. Pat McCafferty's classic "Aquatic Entomology" (which you should also have in the library), but a wide-ranging survey.

Valuable sections will inform you about invasive species and their impacts, and our various threatened and endangered resources found in and near our streams. This book is sure to teach you something valuable. (UW Press, Madison, 2014, 312 pages, \$29.95, uwpress.wisc.edu)

Exploring Wisconsin Trout Streams

A new edition of a 1997 book by four Wisconsin TU members has been revised, updated, reorganized and reissued. "Exploring Wisconsin Trout Streams: The Anglers Guide (Second Edition)" takes the big picture of our trout resources, their



attractions and their threats, and features snapshots of representative and notable rivers across the state. The authors are all thoughtful types who've worked hard for our coldwater resources over the years, and they challenge us to put some of ourselves into it, too.

Two noteworthy chapters on "Wisconsin's Trout Fishing Heritage" and "Environmental Management Legacy" will help you understand what we had, what we have, and how we got there. They have co-author Steve Born's decades of knowledge written all over them, and also a deft

editing touch that's kept them concise. If you don't have this book, and want to get the big picture in a straightforward way, or want to keep up with emerging issues, it will be a good addition to your library. (Born, Mayers, Morton and Sonzogni, UW Press, Madison, 2014, 283 pages, \$24.95)

Spring Creek Reward

Finally, a Viroqua neighbor who's probably the most regular trout-fishing columnist in a Wisconsin newspaper, Jay Ford Thurston, has issued his third book of fishing stories, tips and his specialty, cluing us in to how temperatures affect trout fishing.

"Spring Creek Reward" (Nightengale Press, 2014, 304 pages, \$19.95, www.nightengalepublishing.com) offers some favorites from his regular columns in the Vernon County Broadcaster. He's also a regular on "Trout Central" radio broadcasts via WDRT radio in Viroqua. For a retired school principal and longtime canoe racer, he's finding retirement anything but staid.

Jay keeps close track of the trout he catches, when and where he catches them and conditions at the time of each catch. He's kept journals of this information for decades, and works to reach some conclusions we can put to work. There's plenty of good advice here about the best and worst times and conditions.

For years he has focused on the Driftless Area streams near his home, and he ascribes to the theory that rivers can't have too many friends and names quite a few of the larger ones on the map for their merits or their challenges. This book will be valuable to both fly and spin anglers—Thurston usually favors the latter—and is more informational than literary.

In all these books, the authors are putting their long experience with the state's coldwater resources into books for our benefit. We can't help but wonder who's next.

Former *Wisconsin Trout* editor Hanson named WWF Communicator of the Year

The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation (WWF) recently recognized former *Wisconsin Trout* Editor Todd Hanson as 2014 Conservation Communicator of the Year. The following is from the WWF's Conservation Awards Celebration program

"Wisconsin Trout was named best newsletter by TU National in 2001. Several years ago, Todd served as executive director of

the Wisconsin Stewardship Network, an umbrella organization serving various hunting, fishing, conservation, environmental, and other groups working to preserve and protect Wisconsin's natural resources. Todd holds a B.S. in communications and philosophy from UW-Stevens Point and an M.S. in broadcast journalism from Boston University."



PROUD FORMER EDITOR

WWF President John Wagner, former *Wisconsin Trout* Editor Todd Hanson and WWF Executive Director George Meyer.

Trout and salmonid treasure awaits your visit

By Tom Lager, FVTU President

Many of us travel west to Montana each year in search of experiences on new rivers, or to revisit favorite reaches of spring creeks and isolated alpine lakes. On your next trip, seriously consider making a stop at the Trout and Salmonid Collection at Montana State University (MSU) in Bozeman.

I learned of this library collection from Marinette, Wisconsin native James Thull, the MSU special collections librarian, and a professor of library science at MSU. I first heard of the collection through advertisements in Trout magazine and from James, who also happens to be my wife's cousin.

I have come to realize the treasures that this collection contains, and how I can use it to improve my fishing experience. We all buy the "how to and where to fish books." But why not read the journals and papers of western fishers and fly tyers like Bud Lilly, Sylvester Nemes and George Grant or read the books by mid-westerners Ross Mueller or Christopher Deubler?

For those with a more technical interest, there are personal papers and project research donated by the late Robert Behnke, long-time contributor to Trout Magazine, and one of the most respected conservationists and advocates for native trout in modern times.

Thull readily admits his dairy-state bias, and actively collects anything related to Wisconsin and the Midwest. A quick search just for books with Wisconsin in the title returned 153 records.

Why is this library and its mission of interest to TU and its members? Thull introduced the collection this way: "We collect anything that relates to trout and salmonids. We do not limit by region, language, format, etc. Our goal is to have the most comprehensive collection of materials held anywhere in the world, and then take those materials and disseminate them, through digital collections, to anyone, anywhere for free. We have children's books, dissertations, fiction, fishing regulations, DVDs, personal papers, and nearly anything else you can think of that provides us with information on trout and or salmonids.

"The collection spans from the 16th century to the present. Many items, like regulations and children's books, are more valuable as research tools when they provide a view of how they have evolved over time. We want this collection to capture our past, but also present a glimpse of angling in Izaak Walton's time, as well as our own."

Thull welcomed us to the collection, as he does many visitors. We

were fortunate to be there when Bud Lilly, renowned as a river and trout conservationist and West Yellowstone trout shop owner, was also visiting. He was a friendly and engaging personality, who with former MSU dean, Bruce Morton, made their common vision of the collection a reality in 1999. Bud Lilly's enthusiasm for the collection is contagious, and has netted many contributors to join the effort.

Can you imagine viewing a copy of the famous treatise The Compleat Angler from 1797 or a copy of De Romanis Piscibus published in 1531.

"While we have rare books, we are not a rare book collection. We collect based on informational value. So if I can buy a 2013 reprint of a 1647 book for \$30 that offers the same information as an original for \$3,000 I'm going with the reprint every time. That being said, the rare books we do have, mostly through donations, are great and offer us a tangible connection to our shared angling history.

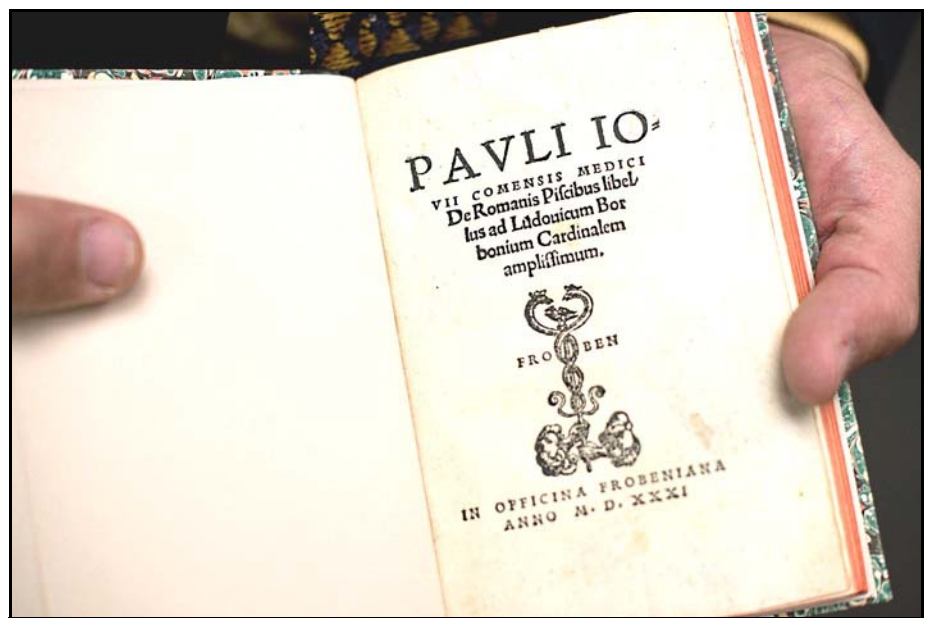
"Just holding De Romanis Piscibus in your hands and knowing that it has the first mention ever of fishing in the new world in print, that only 12 copies exist anywhere in the world and that it has been sitting on someone's bookshelf since before our country was even conceived of is a pretty cool thing."

The collection is open to the public for use on the premises and is housed in a secure and climate controlled archival environment.

James says these materials, and any materials TU newsletter readers donate, will be kept and housed for hundreds of years to come. The idea is that any book, correspondence, fishing diary or copies of periodicals that you donate can be viewed and held by your great-great-grandchildren, who you may never meet, yet they, through those materials, can have a visceral and tangible connection to you.

Thull is currently working on an oral history project, which he hopes will capture the impact of angling in our time. He plans to collect responses on several questions, such as "tell us your favorite trout fishing story" or "tell us what angling has meant to you," from anglers around the world. He will then create a free, open-access database of those stories that can be accessed by anyone with an internet connection.

Capturing these stories, so that they can be preserved and viewed by future anglers and researchers, is something we can help do. For many of us, just the thought that our grandchildren will be able to view and show their grandchildren videos of us telling the story of them catching their first trout is just an incredible thing.



TROUT AND SALMONID COLLECTION AWAIT YOUR VISIT

On your next trip west, seriously consider making a stop at the Trout and Salmonid Collection at Montana State University (MSU) in Bozeman. Montana State University Special Collections librarian James Thull shows a trout anatomy reference book (below) and an original copy of "De Romanis Piscibus" (above) published in 1531, containing the first mention ever of



ble thing.

Trout Unlimited has plenty to offer to this collection, and Thull requests items including TU chapter and council publications, project reports, symposia proceedings, fishing diaries, periodicals, books, fishing regulations and other documents that can provide information on trout or salmon.

Archives of these materials have been useful in countless initiatives, and often provide the background and context for current laws, regulations and reintroduction efforts. The Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, removal of dams, reintroduction of native species and restoration of streams, rivers and lakes could not have occurred without archives preserving the knowledge of what once was.

So as you plan your western trips,

consider spending time enjoying the collection. You can also expect local fishing tips and discussion of global fishing experiences. Thull is a world traveler and has fished many locations around the world, from his native Marinette, Wisconsin home waters to catching trout in Montana, Mekong catfish in Thailand, losing a fishing hole to a hippo while fishing tigerfish on the Zambezi, or trying his luck at catching snakeheads (tomman) in the jungles of the Philippines.

To arrange a visit or tour of the collection, contact James Thull, jjthull@montana.edu or 406-994-5305. To send him documents for his collection or add him to your chapter's mailing list, send them to James Thull, Associate Professor/Special Collections Librarian, Montana State University Library, PO

Bob's Tying Tips

Advice from the bench of Bob Haase

The following are some tips that I found useful and might make your tying easier and more fun.

Pill bottle sponge

I often moisten my fingertips when dubbing, rather than using dubbing wax. I use dubbing wax when I need to, but I prefer to moisten my fingers with water, as this does not mat down the dubbing like dubbing wax can. I also blend different kinds of dubbing to meet my requirements and often use squirrel dubbing to make a dubbing more "buggy" looking. I have been known to use the body hair from squirrels that I have shot or obtained from a road kill. For that reason I prefer not to get in the habit of licking my fingers to moisten them.

I also use this to wet my fingers to moisten marabou or

the hole of my Renzetti Block tool holder so it is always handy.

Razor blade stand

Razor blades used for trimming deer hair are difficult to pick up if laid on a flat surface. Tom Steinberg from Manitowoc, Wisconsin gave me this tip about using the center support used in some pizza boxes to hold the razor blade. It works great and is much safer than trying to pick it off a flat surface. Just glue a magnet under the stand and it will help keep the razor blade there.



Head cement jar tips

Most tiers wipe or drag the bodkin or applicator on the lip of the jar of fly head cement or other coatings and adhesives. After a while you get a build-up of cement on the lip of the jar which can cause the cap to seal so tight it is difficult to get off. If you get in the habit of dragging your bodkin on the inside of the jar it allows excess cement to flow off and it doesn't gum up the lip of the jar. I usually keep my head cement jar about one-half full, which helps give space to do the above and

zonkers to make them more manageable. It also works great to moisten your fingers when pulling the underfur out of different kinds of fur, such as deer hair or elk hair, before stacking. Wet finger tips make it easier to remove underfur while also reducing static electricity, which improves stacking. Try removing the underfur with and without wet fingers, and you will notice the difference.

Take a pill bottle and cut a piece of sponge to fit in the bottle height. I bend the sponge around most of the way and bend it to fill the space in the middle as shown. The sponge should be wet to make it easier to bend and fit inside the bottle. I found a pill bottle to fit in



doesn't put as much cement on the bodkin. As the cement level goes down I just add some from another jar.

CDC gives life to Bob's CDC tent wing, hackle dries

By Bob Haase

Every once in a while you come up with a fly that really works and then you have to wonder why so you can repeat that technique on other flies.

A few years ago I designed a PMD pattern using one or two CDC puffs to form a tent style wing and then I hackled in front of the tent wing as shown in the Adams variation shown. I had success with the fly and gave a few to a good friend David Seligman. He used it on a trip to North Carolina and had great success with it and has been using it ever since.

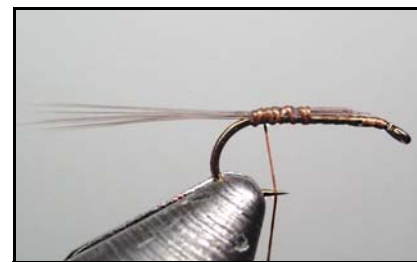
After a lot of time analyzing the fly in a dish of water I realized that the CDC fibers gave a lot of movement in the water as the fly settled into the surface film and I think this is one of the things that causes the fish to take it. I then started tying an Adams and a BWO using the same technique or style and found that worked good also. I use it as shown above and sometimes I clip the hackle off the bottom to allow the CDC to have more movement in the water. Note: I find a dry fly desiccant such as Frogs Fanny works best on combination CDC flies like this.

MATERIALS LIST Bob's CDC tent wing, hackle dries

- Hook:** Mustad 94840 or TMC100; #14-20
- Thread:** brown 14/0
- Body:** adams dry fly dubbing-
- Legs:** brown and grizzly dry fly hackle
- Wing:** 1 or 2 CDC puffs



Step 3 - Take one or two CDC puffs depending on the thickness or density of the puffs and tie them in to form the tent-style wings. Here I used a tan-colored CDC puff.



Step 1 - Start your thread and tie to the bend of the hook. Tie in a tail using dry fly hackles or Microfibtets. All colors used here are for the Adams. Use the appropriate colors if tying a PMD or BWO using this style or technique.



Step 4 Tie in two hackles for the Adams version. One should be natural grizzly and the other brown. In this case I used a brown grizzly but a solid brown is fine. Use the appropriate colors for a PMD or BWO.



Step 2 - Dub the body using the dry fly dubbing of your choice. For the Adam pattern shown here use Adams Gray. Stop the dubbing just a little over half way to the eye of the hook to allow room for the CDC and the hackle.



Step 5 - Wrap the first hackle and tie off. Then take the next hackle and weave it through the first hackle as shown. Make a few wraps to form the head and tie off with a whip finish.



A PMD tied using the same technique. This is the fly that started the whole thing. Tie a few and give them a try. I think you will be tying a few more for your next fishing trip. They float well and the fish really seem to like them.

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Consider Proper Release

It's working...so let's keep up the good work!

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 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.

Friends of Wisconsin TU summer 2014 update

By Doug Brown, Friends of Wisconsin TU Chair

The 2014 fundraising campaign is in full swing and the donations have been fantastic. We have already received more than \$12,000! 116 private donors and seven TU chapters have graciously supported this program.

These donations are critical for quality habitat work to be done throughout the state. Quite a number of Wisconsin TU chapters have been awarded grants this past year, and that money has already been invested in your streams. Multiple streams in Langlade, Waupaca and Waushara counties are having DNR stream crews busily

brushing and doing maintenance projects, with financial support from the Friends of Wisconsin TU program.

We hope you'll consider supporting this grant program, so we can continue to support work on streams throughout the state. Your donation goes right back into the stream, to benefit our trout for generations to come.

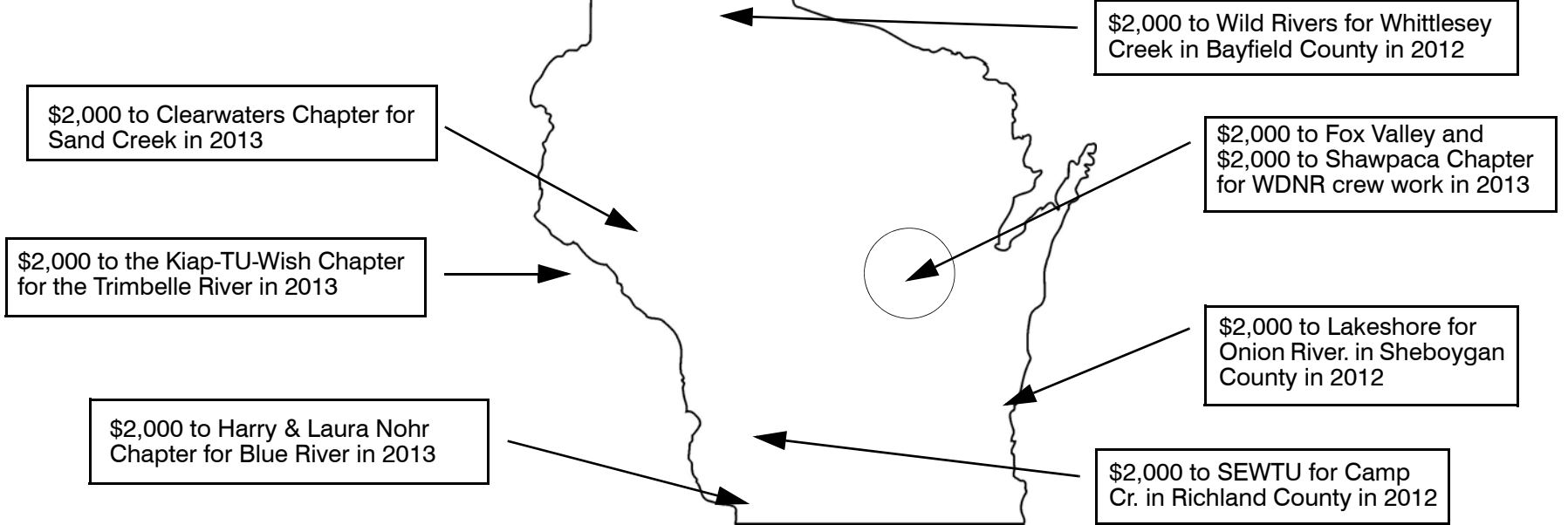
Please consider any amount of a donation, as the requests from chapters continue to come in for doing habitat work. I wish you a terrific 2014 trout season.

Tight Lines.
Doug Brown



A Friends grant recipient: the Trimbelle River

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



Here are our Friends of Wisconsin TU

- Jason Anderson MukwonagoWI
- Mike and Sue Arneson Big SkyMT
- Edwin Barnes MiddletonWI
- Charles Barnhill MadisonWI
- Jeffrey Bartynski Eau ClaireWI
- Jim Bayorgeon AppletonWI
- Blaine Biedermann FitchburgWI
- Tim & Tara Bindl LaCrosseWI
- John and Susan Bleimehl VeronaWI
- Stephen Born MadisonWI
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 - In memory of Dale W. Vreeland by Kenneth Vreeland
 - In memory of Bob Hunt by the Harry and Laura Nohr Chapter
 - In memory of Janet Moldenhauer by the UW-Oshkosh Foundation
 - In memory of Theron Meyer by Tim and Tom Meyer
 - In memory of Peter Cullen by Kathleen Poster

*Yes, I want to join the "Friends" of Wisconsin TU.
Enclosed is my check, payable to Wisconsin Trout Unlimited.*

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

Name _____

Address _____

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