



Wisconsin Trout

October 2014

Christiansen earns prestigious Mortensen Award

Former Southeast Wisconsin TU President, State Council Chairman and TU National Board of Trustees Chairman Jon Christiansen was honored with the Ray Mortensen Award for Outstanding Volunteer Leadership at the recent annual meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The award is granted annually to an individual who has made an extraordinary contribution to local coldwater fisheries conservation efforts.

As State Council chair, Jon was a successful leader who delegated duties to chairs and committees. Jon was also a popular and successful president of the Southeast Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Wisconsin's largest chapter.

Jon has been instrumental at the national level in increasing TU's business practices, and was heavily involved and a leader in the recently concluded and exceptionally successful CAST fundraising campaign. He was also a leader in the national bylaws revision, drafting, disseminating, and having new bylaws passed by all levels of TU. He was heavily involved in aiding TU in multiple instances of litigation nationwide, interacting with attorneys and staffers across the U.S., and generally receiving positive results for the organization.

Jon has also been very active here at home, in-

teracting with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and helping to work on large-scale issues, such as a National TU memorandum of understanding with DNR concerning TUDARE projects.

Jon has been a selfless advisor to chapter and State Council leaders, and many others, regarding all manners of leadership questions and issues. Current State Council Chairman Henry Koltz said "I consider him a role model and mentor, and I could not think of a more deserving recipient of the Mortenson Award. He has been active and successful in every level of TU, and we are, quite simply, a better organization because of his leadership."

Christiansen said he's very grateful to receive this award. "I have been privileged to be TU's chairman for the past four years and have seen the extraordinary contributions made by TU's staff and our energetic volunteers," he said.

"We have been very fortunate to have outstanding TU leaders in Wisconsin. I particularly want to thank Steve Born (also a Mortenson Award winner) for involving me in the State Council and for encouraging my involvement at the national level. Lastly, thanks to all Wisconsin TU members for all you do for TU."



Mr. David Armstrong, Esq.

PROUD MOMENT

TU President/CEO Chris Wood presented the prestigious Ray Mortensen Award to Jon Christiansen at the recent TU National Meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Silver Trout Award goes to Southern Wisconsin TU



Mr. David Armstrong, Esq.

SWTU RECOGNIZED FOR ITS MANY VARIED EFFORTS

SWTU Chapter President Matt Krueger (left) and Treasurer Kurt Osterby (right) accept the Silver Trout Award on behalf of their chapter. The award was presented by TU Vice President for Volunteer Operations and Watershed Programs Bryan Moore

By Matt Krueger

Last month, Southern Wisconsin TU was awarded the Silver Trout Award by TU National, and I had the honor of accepting the award at the TU Annual Meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the chapter's behalf.

In my mind, this award was as much about our chapter's rich history of coldwater conservation victories as it was about our recent successes, but both are worthy of recognition.

Since 1969, SWTU members have been making a splash in trout circles near and far, from the TU National level down to the local community, where we do so much of our good work. Our roster of past presidents, board members, and State Council reps reads like a who's who of Wisconsin TU personalities and characters. I'd attempt to list them all here, but a safer route would be to just tip the cap to them and give my thanks. You guys and gals know who you are!

SWTU hasn't rested on the laurels of our legacy, though, and in recent years we've prioritized bringing "nontraditional" audiences into the TU fold, including women, youth, and war veterans.

Our Wisconsin Women's Flyfishing Clinics serve as a national model for getting women meaningfully engaged with TU's work, via fishing. Laura MacFarland and Tina Murray have literally given countless hours to making this program the smash success it is and they deserve loads of credit.

We've also developed new and exciting relationships with youth at the college and high school levels, who have infused our chapter

events, particularly workdays, with a new energy...and strong backs.

Mike Burda has overseen the development of a robust Project Healing Waters program and support team over the past several years, which has brought the restorative properties of spring creeks and trout fishing to those most in need of them, and has brought new faces into our SWTU community in the process.

It wouldn't be a complete rundown of SWTU's recent successes without a mention of our work to restore the Wolf Run section of Black Earth Creek, near Mazomanie.

Many Wisconsin TU members probably either saw this project on last summer's TU National Conservation Tour, or have fished it independently. Either way, a free-flowing Black Earth Creek, once again coursing its original streambed, is something to behold. There's even a multi-use trail paralleling the stream, so accessing it is a breeze.

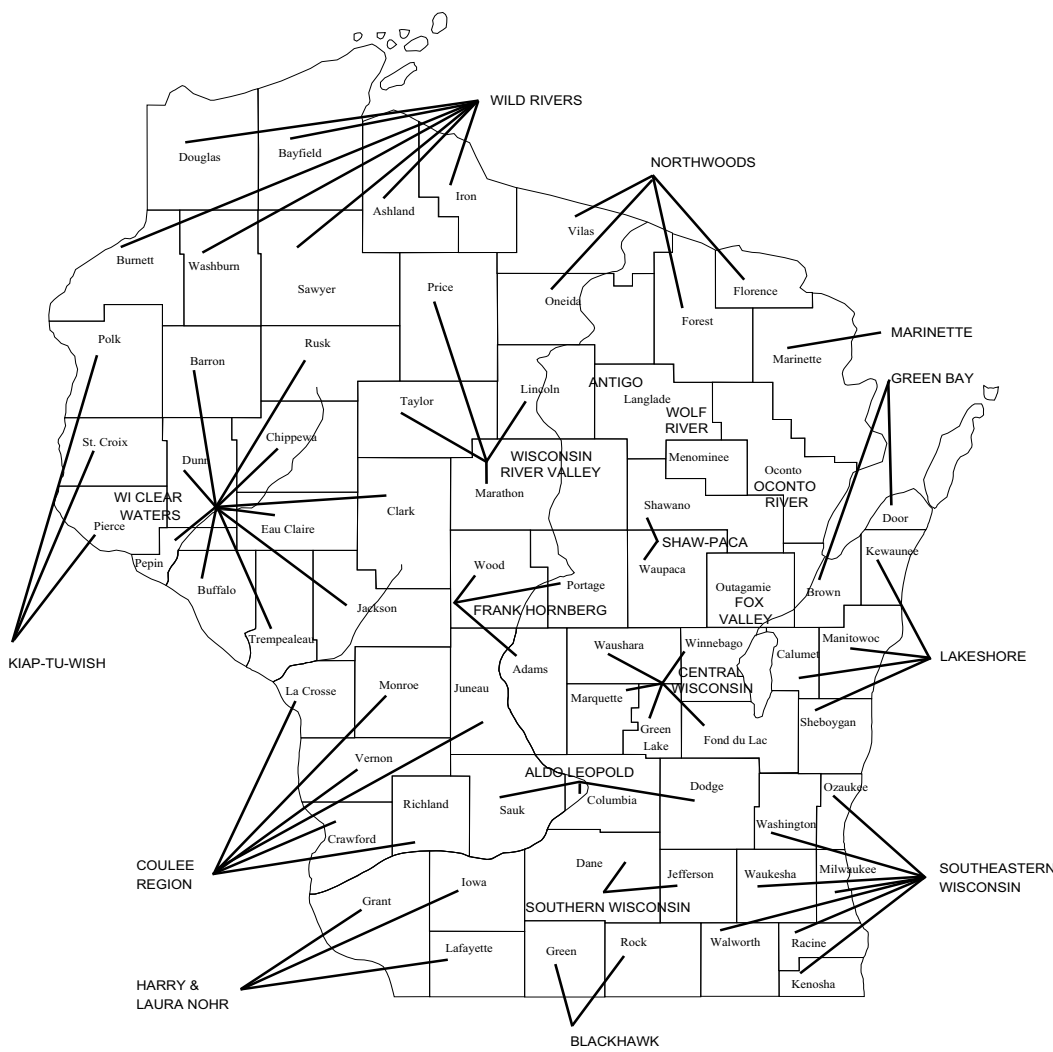
This large, complicated project wouldn't have happened without the dedicated efforts of SWTU members like Steve Born, Tom Krauskopf, Chris Long, and Bob Selk, who helped bring together a coalition of partners to rally behind the stream that connects the communities of the Black Earth valley.

I was proud to be a part of the Wisconsin contingent that ably represented our great state at the TU Annual Meeting in Santa Fe, and further, to do so as a representative of SWTU. Kudos to the other great chapters in this state that set a high bar for coldwater conservation and push SWTU to continually strive to be better. Just be forewarned that we are already planning on coming back for the Gold Trout Award!

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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.

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Executive Board includes officers and vice chairs

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Mike Kuhr, Secretary

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Chairman's Column

Looking forward

Thoughts on leadership, diversity and more

By Henry Koltz
State Council Chair

Perhaps the best thing about Trout Unlimited is that our members come from all walks of life and embrace various philosophies and doctrines. The total of our parts is more significant than our whole, and we are lucky to be a group which is diverse, and whose members welcome others who don't look, think or speak like they do.

How truly American that we are a melting pot where our common denominator is a concern for, and love of, coldwater resources. Regardless of how you look, how much you earn, your gender, your age, or your past, if you are supporter of these resources, then TU is for you.

Over the past several years the State Council has seen numerous new volunteers step up and take on leadership roles. From our Communications, Membership, Education and Policy Committees, to our Newspaper Editor, to our Friends of Wisconsin Trout and Watershed Access grant programs, to our Executive Committee, new faces abound.

At the same time, many of our experienced, existing leaders have remained on board and continue to serve as stars for the council. In short, we've strived to train and mentor new leaders. We are doing our best to "delegate and evacuate" duties to them, as long-time Nohr Chapter leader Dave Fritz would say. And, we are trying to achieve a healthy mix of existing and new leaders. I feel comfortable saying that we've succeeded in that goal.

Succession planning for a volunteer group like ours is an important duty. If TU is to have a good sense of where it is going, then it simply must have incoming leaders who know where we've been, and who

have been brought up within the TU culture. Ensuring that such individuals exist within the ranks of our council and chapters is not one person's job. It is a job *all* of us must undertake.

In a volunteer group like TU, it is often said that the first job of a leader is to identify a replacement. But if we want our council and chapters to do more than simply persist, we need to do more than find just *one* leader. We need to find *whole rooms full of leaders*. And we need to find whole rooms full of people who want to follow them. Most importantly, we need to make sure that the doors to that room are open to everyone, regardless of where they come from, what they look like, how they think, what they believe, what gender they are, how old they are, or how they choose to fish. We are a better organization when we are a diverse organization, with all of our varied members pointed in the same direction of coldwater conservation.

We all need to stand together, despite our differences, to carry our mission and vision forward. That means supporting new leaders in new positions, having faith in them, letting them run, and then being sure to acknowledge their successes. In a volunteer group, the value of simply saying "thank you" cannot be overstated. It is "mission critical."

The best thing our chapters and council can do is aim too high. It may sound absurd, but it leads to good things. By doing so we either achieve what we set out to do, or we'll accomplish a *great deal* of what we set out to do. Under both scenarios, a lot of good gets done, and a lot of new leaders are brought on and brought up and given authority and direction. That is exactly what TU needs, and what will make our chapters do more than simply persist, but



HENRY KOLTZ WITH HIS TWO FAVORITE TU MEMBERS: HIS DAUGHTERS
Henry and his two daughters check out a bridge pool.

instead grow and succeed.

The more we grow and succeed, the more work we'll get done on streams, the more access easements we'll secure, the more kids we'll work with, the more veterans we'll assist, and the greater the economic impact we'll have here in our home state. At worst, we'll uncover truths and learn about things that didn't work. Then we can use that knowledge to exceed our goals the next time around. In short, we need to be forward thinking, we need to act strategically, and we need to be outward facing. The impact and effect that our group has is incredibly positive. Our messaging, and the way that we communicate with each other and the general public (where new members come from) should be unwaveringly positive as well.

I'm asking Wisconsin's chapters to take the time this next quarter to think about strategic planning. I'm asking them to include in their strategic plans some initiatives that are aimed at increasing women members. I'm asking our chapters to include minorities in their plans. And

I'm asking that they make serious headway into putting women and minorities into leadership positions. I'm asking that they make realistic leadership succession plans. Finally, I'm asking that they think seriously about member retention, appointing a membership chair, and starting a membership retention program. In October, the State Council will be starting new strategic planning sessions, and I'll be pushing hard to make sure that we do all of the above.

If you are reading this, you care about TU at least enough to spend \$35 a year to be a member. You've likely also come to a meeting, volunteered at a workday, read *TROUT Magazine*, received a calendar, put a bumper sticker on your car, or fished a stream that TU helped protect, make accessible, or restore. There's a lot to enjoy about TU, and there is a lot here for future generations. Let's do all we can to make sure that the group we love so much is strong, so that what we hand off to those who follow us will be worth carrying forward.

Our Readers Write

I read with interest your July issue, which featured the "grand announcement" of the license plate deal and also featured information on the League of Conservation Voters. Kim McCarthy mentions the usefulness of the League's yearly legislative "score card" and encouraged our membership to ask for and look at this list. Henry Koltz's article on the passage of the license plate bill notes that we should be thanking Rep. Jim Ott, Keith Ripp, Robin Voss and State Senators Jerry Petrowski, Scott Fitzgerald, Paul Farrow and Mike Ellis for their efforts.

I went and put the two together and would encourage any active member of Trout Unlimited to do likewise. In the 2013-14 League of Conservation Voters scorecard every one of these guys was a bottom feeder. Looking at the Senate votes on the seven issues listed, if one drops the four non-partisan issues which passed with 100 percent of the votes, every one of the senators listed would have scored a zero. Same thing on the Assembly side: Take away the no-brainers or non-partisan issues and one sees a line of zeros.

A look at the 2011-12 Scorecard shows the same picture. Petrowski and Farrow were in the Assembly at that time. In 2011-12 there were

more issues at stake. The Assembly handled 14 issues and the Senate dealt with 10 issues. On the Assembly side there were three no-brainer/non-partisan issues that everyone voted for, which left 11 issues. The Senate had 1 non-brainer/non-partisan issue, which left nine issues. Once again each of these guys would have gotten a zero.

The issues that these scorecards measure are important issues to most members of Trout Unlimited. Those of us who have been around a while have spent years and years working to get the protections of our coldwater resources and in three short years many of the things we have held dear have been reversed. Almost all of the protections that we worked for and are now being reversed were passed with bi-partisan majorities. And a lot of them were passed by solidly Republican legislatures and signed by Republican governors.

I would suggest that when members write the "Thank You" notes that while thanking them for their efforts on the license issue we also thank them for spending the last three years giving TU and the coldwater resource the shaft every chance they got.

In closing, thank God I didn't get going on Henry's reference to

thanking Walker. I can't wait to see the future State Council banquet where these guys are "honored" for their efforts. My thought is that any publicity on giving any of these gentlemen an award would result in a noticeable, and very justifiable, drop in attendance.

Charles T. Steudel,
Mineral Point

We received a couple of letters voicing the opinion expressed above. The State Council wants to make the point that the license plate bill marks a great achievement in helping the State Council achieve its goals, and passage of the bill took several years of time-consuming hard work.

We do not endorse or oppose any candidates and nothing about the license plate bill should be taken as an endorsement. The State Council is simply very grateful that legislators from both parties like the good work that Trout Unlimited does in Wisconsin and were willing to come together in a bipartisan manner to further the work of Trout Unlimited.

Editor

We're sorry to report that despite the Frank Hornberg Chapter's best efforts, the village of Amherst board voted 4 to 2 on September 9 to retain and expand the Amherst dam and flood gates

and to keep the dying village pond. There was no aspect of addressing environmental issues in this decision.

The TU chapter's proposal and detailed plan for converting the pond bed to a manicured green space gained solid support with a 43 percent response supporting removal of the dam and pond in the non-binding village referendum. The plan was a very attractive concept, including creating deep separate ponds retaining private water frontage for the property owners surrounding the pond, restoration of this reach of the Tomorrow River and bike trails connecting the village with Cate County Park and the Tomorrow River State Trail just upstream of the village. It is a shame that our efforts failed by such a relatively slight measure.

In our opinion, the Village of Amherst has missed a rare opportunity to do something truly creative, environmentally responsible and economically productive.

It's also unfortunate that the Tomorrow River will continue to be degraded for years into the future.

Stu Grimstad
Board of Directors
Frank Hornberg Chapter TU

First WITU Youth Fishing Camp a success



By Bob Haase and Linn Beck

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited held its first ever Youth Fishing Camp in late July at Pine Lake Camp near Wild Rose, Wisconsin. Fifteen youths attended the camp, and by the looks on their faces and their evaluations of the program, it was a huge success.

The volunteers really made this camp the success it was. Without their help we could not have accomplished teaching all the different subjects, from trout fishing to sportsmanship and ethics. Many of the volunteers enjoyed the event as much as the students, and many of them stayed around on Sunday to participate in a review and evaluation, while the event was still fresh in their minds. They not only provided an objective evaluation of what we did right and things we could improve on, but they all said they couldn't wait to do it again next year.

The accommodations were great and provided a perfect setting for this camp. Meals were excellent, support of the Crossways Camp was outstanding, and we are trying to confirm reservations for next year during the same time period.

We were lucky to have 15 enthusiastic young men, sponsored by 12 chapters. Aldo Leopold – Jarod Sagal; Blackhawk – Noah Benson; Central Wisconsin (2) – Danny Esch

and Ethan Sullivan; Fox Valley – Zachery Klingseisen; Frank Hornberg – Joshua Deverell; Harry & Laura Nohr – Kaleb Pfohl; Green Bay (2) – Baldwin Framnes and Gabe Stelzer; Lakeshore – Zachery Weston; Marinette – Cody Kutz; Southeastern Wisconsin – Jonathon Kroll; Southern Wisconsin (2) – Reed Kochan and Shea Standing; Clear Waters – Clay Parmley.

Some chapters sponsored two students and others helped sponsor a youth from outside their areas. If a chapter cannot find a youth to participate, they can always consider sponsoring a youth outside their area.

The camp curriculum was well rounded and provided instruction on knot tying, introduction to different kinds of fishing equipment and how to rig up, fly casting and spin casting, fishing with live bait, spinners, and flies, fishing safety, fly tying, conservation and protecting our streams, where to fish and respecting private property, sportsmanship, ethics, and fishing etiquette, packing a fly vest, reading the water and identification of structure, wading safety and other related information.

The students also got a chance to tour the Wild Rose Fish Hatchery and received a demonstration on stream restoration work and fish monitoring by an electro-shocking demonstration. This was followed

by a water monitoring demonstration to show how we monitor the health of a stream. The program also included an evening and morning of fishing on the Pine River, where the students got a chance to apply what they had learned with the help of experienced volunteer trout anglers.

All the students were presented with a certificate of completion for attending and completing all the work that was part of the program. This was followed by a drawing for a Daiwa travel spinning and fly fishing combo that was won by Noah Benson, who was sponsored by the Blackhawk Chapter.

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited is fortunate that many talented individuals volunteered their time as camp counselors, mentors and instructors for the program. Some helped for a day and others helped through the entire camp. The volunteers made the camp run smoothly.

The following volunteers helped as counselors, mentors, or instructors: Linn Beck, Bob Haase, Ben Cheesman, Carmin Hardin, Heidi Oberstadt, Peter Geisel, Tim Lowrey, Tom Lager, Wayne Parmley, Matt Kochen, Mike Stary, Dallas Moe, Linda Lehman, Jennifer Erickson, Mike Shanley, Dave Smith, Dan Harman III, Don Putning, Ron Neuman, Dan Dondlinger, John Gremmer, John Tucker, Bob Joswowski, Mike Renish, Henry Koltz,

Mike Arrowood, Doug Erdman, Jack Koivisto, Ira Giese, Shawn Sullivan and Al Neibur.

A lot of work went into planning this event by the planning committee comprised of Linn Beck, Bob Haase, Ben Cheesman, Carmin Hardin, Peter Geisel, Bob Joswowski, Margaret LeBien and Heidi Oberstadt. Everyone worked together so well, and like any first-time event, we had to make some changes at the last minute, but things still went well.

We had some good comments and suggestions from the volunteers and students, and we are working to incorporate them into next year's program. We will let everyone know as soon as we have established a date.

If anyone from your chapter was one of the volunteers, you may want to have them provide a summary of this year's event at one of your meetings. We were unable to get any girls to participate in this year's program, so we will be working even harder next year to recruit some girls.

We hope you can volunteer with what should be an even better program next year. For more information contact Linn Beck at 920-216-7408 or chbeck@att.net, or Bob Haase at 920-579-3858 or flyticer@milwpc.com.

Youth Camp a memorable experience for this volunteer

They arrived Thursday afternoon, as eager and engaging as a basket of beagle pups. Fifteen kids, each chosen and sponsored by a WITU chapter, came for four days of instruction in how to fish: rigging tackle, spin and fly-casting, fishing tactics for flies, spinning lures and live bait, knots, reading water, fly tying, safety, ethics and – oh, yes – how to tell a good fishing story.

Of course, we also took them fishing, and each one received a TU membership. Like all young creatures in a new environment, they took time to check out their surroundings, each other and us. The organizers had wisely set aside time for this, and it was time well spent. We adults were volunteers from TU, each bringing his or her own supply of skills and experience to share. This is the first of what we hope will become an annual event and WITU tradition: the Youth Fishing Camp held at the lovely and well-appointed Pine Lake Camp near Waupaca, run by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

General George S. Patton famously said "take not counsel of your fears." He was right. These kids could not have been more polite, attentive or well-behaved during the entire four days we were together, not only towards us adults but towards each other. They arrived as strangers and left as friends. They were all boys this year, though we hope to have girls with us in the future. Their ages ranged from 12 to 16 – a potential issue in itself. The older ones, however, quickly became mentors to the younger ones and, in some cases, vice-versa. A few of the kids were experienced fly casters and fly tiers, and generously pitched in to help less-experienced ones regardless of any age differences. The chapters did an excellent job of judging character and eligibility in choosing the participants. All concerns about potential discipline issues vanished like mist on the river.

Planning was what made the camp so successful, and credit for that goes to Linn Beck and Bob Haase, the guys who transformed an idea in-

to a reality beginning months ago with telephone conferences with the planning committee. They were the event coordinators and "masters of ceremony" at the camp. Credit goes also to the many volunteers who gave of their time, talents and experiences to be instructors and mentors. The staff at Pine Lake could not have been more helpful, and the food was good, which is always a plus at camp.

One advantage of being at Pine Lake was that we had panfishing literally out the back door, and we took advantage of that each day. Although official wakeup wasn't until 7:15 a.m., not a morning went by but that at least a half-dozen kids and a couple or three adults were in waders and rigged for fishing at 5:30 a.m.

It's hard to single out a "highlight," but one of them has to be the time we spent with a DNR crew on Radley Creek, watching them pull trout after trout out of a single bend in the stream with shocking poles. We also got a demonstration of how they measure water quality/dissolved oxygen, and a tour of the nearby Wild Rose Hatchery, where we saw double-digit trout. That's double-digit in pounds, not inches! One part of the camp was particularly striking. Kids and adults all shared stories about our fishing experiences. Time and again the story wasn't about the biggest fish we've caught, but the most "memorable." Some of the stories were about a fisherman who taught us something that we've used ever since.

We finished on Sunday with each adult guiding a student on the Pine River. While few fish were caught, these new fishermen and TU members came off the river ready to carry home their experiences and enthusiasm. We look forward to next year and, as one volunteer said, "twenty or thirty years from now, some of you will be here telling a new group of campers that you were with the first, back in 2014." May it be so.

Benbow Cheesman
SEWTU

2014 WITU Youth Camp students give us their take

By Danny Esch

I have the best hobby in the world, I am a fly fisherman.

I have caught plenty of bluegills on my fly rod, and a few trout. I started fly fishing two years ago when Dr. Tom Poullette, a member of the Central Wisconsin TU chapter, started to work with me. It was hard at first, but then I started to get better. The first fish I caught was a bluegill on a prince nymph. I tied a lot of soft hackles, which are deadly for bluegills. Bluegills were very easy to catch and I wanted more of a challenge, so I started fly fishing for trout. The first place I tried was Emmons Creek in Central Wisconsin. I got a few strikes, but never hooked a trout.

My luck began to change when I was invited to the Wisconsin Trout Unlimited Youth Fishing Camp this summer. At TU Camp I learned a lot about fly fishing and other styles of fishing. At camp I learned everything that a person needs to know to start fishing for trout, like the equipment needed for fishing, fishing safety, fly tying, casting techniques and how to read the water.

Fly tying was one of my favorite activities at camp. I tie plenty of flies at home, but my counselors helped me perfect my techniques.

Another highlight of camp was the electro-shocking demonstration. I enjoyed seeing how many trout are actually in the stream. We fished twice on the Pine River while at camp, working one on one with the counselors, who are experienced trout fishermen. The first time on the river I didn't catch any trout, but we saw different kinds of bugs that live near or in the water. Although I didn't catch any fish on our second trip to the Pine River, I saw a few trout that swam away from my fly.

Four days after TU Camp my family and I went to Colorado. I caught seven trout in Colorado. The first two were a brown and a brook trout caught on an ant. I lost the ant so I switched to a copper soft hackle that I had tied. On the copper soft hackle I fooled a seven-and-a-half-inch brook trout. The next day we went back to the same area. I caught four more: a brown trout, two brook trout and a Rio Grande cutthroat trout - all on a caddis fly.

My opportunity to go to TU Camp was amazing. My counselors were awesome and taught me many trout fishing techniques. I was able to use those techniques in Colorado and now in Wisconsin. I love my hobby as a fly fisherman.

By Clay Parmley

My favorite things about the 2014 Wisconsin TU Youth Trout Fishing Camp was getting to fish with fellow campers at the lake, seeing the Pine River fish shocking and visiting the Wild Rose fish hatchery. I have become good friends with one of the fellow campers and we plan on trading different flies with each other through the mail. I really liked seeing the science behind the stream shocking and the fish hatchery. My plans are to study fish or reptile biology when I get to college.

I was interested in learning about bait fishing and how it can be less harmful to the fish than I originally thought. I enjoyed hearing the different opinions on styles and brands of spinners. Also, I now have a renewed interest in fly-fishing for different species.

Overall it was a great experience and I will enjoy using what I learned. I look forward to the chance to be a junior mentor at trout fishing camp next year.



Danny Esch (above) and Reed Kochan (right)

By Reed Kochan

One of the highlights of my summer was the Wisconsin Trout Unlimited camp in Waupaca, WI. It was very helpful in making me a better angler and it helped me to see that I am able to find my mistakes so that I am able to correct them.

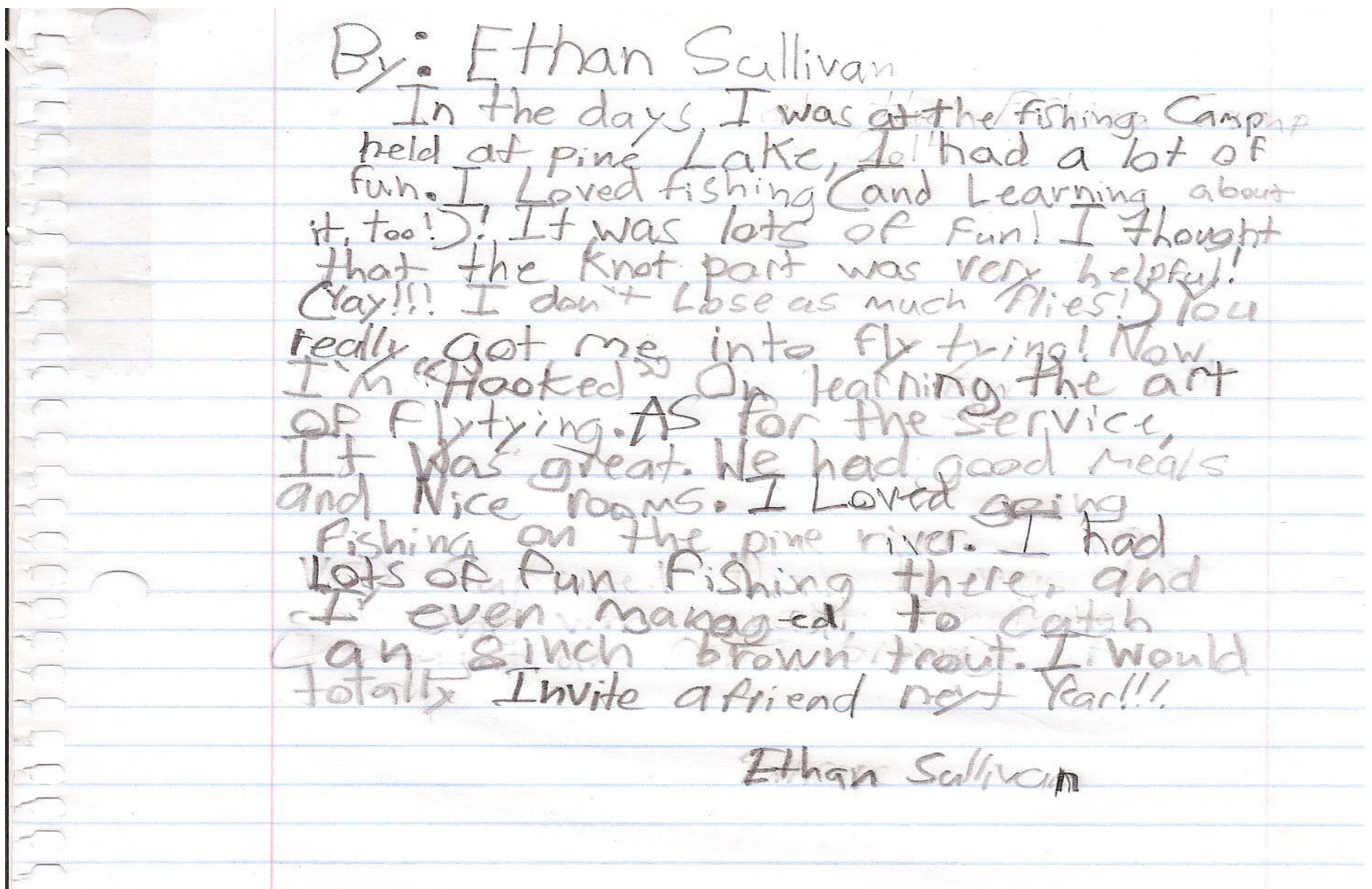
Through the camp I learned many new techniques for fishing trout streams. I also learned how dangerous trout fishing by yourself can be, so I will now think much more about fishing with a partner, so that the odds of injury can be decreased.

The camp also taught me how to be able to prepare off the water. This includes more techniques for fly tying and knowing which patterns to pack and use according to the conditions. I also learned what fly rod weight to use, what size reel to use, and what type of fly



line to use, based on the fish being pursued. This will help me know what to look for while getting a new fly fishing outfit.

NOTE: Reed created a wonderful Power Point Presentation, complete with photos of his activities during the Youth Camp.



2014 WITU Youth Fishing Camp photo highlights

Photos by Heidi Oberstadt



Fox Valley Trout Unlimited announces the



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TUDARE EARNS NATIONAL AWARD

TUDARE Project Manager Jeff Hastings accepts the Wild Trout Stewardship Award at the Wild Trout XI Symposium September 24. The award, sponsored jointly by TU and FFF, honors “an outstanding fishery program that makes a strong contribution to the conservation or restoration of a coldwater fishery.” Hastings, who became TUDARE project manager in 2006, was recognized for his efforts to expand restoration resources and capacity across the region. He credited the hundreds of volunteers who make these projects work as “the backbone of Driftless restoration.” Hastings told the group he plans to bring back the \$1,000 honorarium to the Driftless to celebrate with the partners the success of the project.

Increased fishing opportunities, simpler regulations among the changes

DNR proposes revised trout regulations

By Aaron Frailing, Legislative Committee Co-Chair

With the Wisconsin Legislature currently not scheduled to reconvene until the new legislature is inaugurated in 2015, there is little to report in the way of new legislation. However there are other items that will have bearings on trout fishing.

The first issue involves the upcoming changes to the statewide trout regulations currently being developed by the DNR. Wisconsin trout regulations were last overhauled in 2003 and in 2011 the Wisconsin DNR began the process of collecting stakeholder input in order to begin to set a direction for the update of the regulations. Subsequently, since 2011 the DNR has held 31 public meetings, three angler surveys, numerous Trout Regulation Task Force stakeholder meetings and presented a number of advisory questions at the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Spring Hearings.

Based on information collected from the surveys and meetings, the DNR identified that Wisconsin trout anglers are asking for more quality fishing opportunities, less-confusing regulations and fewer special regulations. In an effort to attain those goals, the DNR developed a trout regulation review process attempting to meet angler requests while not sacrificing the estimated \$1 billion-plus economic benefit that trout fishing brings to the state of Wisconsin every year.

The Wisconsin DNR is proposing new regulations, based both on

angler input and long-term biological research, that will simplify regulations and retain quality fishing by reducing categories and special regulations (management goals), provide more uniformity and clear boundaries, ensure the capacity to monitor and evaluate trout regulations and finally make it possible to improve maps and tools used by fishermen statewide. The DNR is looking to also increase opportunities by changing some trout seasons by extending the early season where it exists, extending the fall season, and eliminating the statutory five-day closure that currently exists between the early season and the regular season.

Trout regulations will be primarily changed to reflect three easily identifiable categories: 1) GREEN (GO FISH) – Any waters labeled green would mean no length limit, a bag limit of 5, and no bait restriction. Approximately 49 percent of the state's 13,000 miles of trout streams are being set as Green; 2) YELLOW (CAUTION) – Any waters labeled yellow would have an 8-inch minimum length limit, a bag limit of 3 and no bait restrictions. About 35 percent of the state's trout streams would have this designation; 3) RED (STOP) – All waters labeled red are special regulations, and any anglers should understand the regulations before fishing.

The bag limit, unless otherwise noted, would be a total of five, with a possession limit of 10 for inland lakes, streams and spring ponds for Brooks, Browns and Rainbows while Inland Lake Trout have a pos-

session limit of two.

Although the process has been in the works for quite a while, there are several steps to go before the regulations become effective. The regulations were first laid out to the Wisconsin Conservation Congress district meetings in August, 2014.

Public meetings and stakeholder briefings were held in September throughout the state. These meetings provided the first public rollout of the information regarding the regulations and to gather additional citizen comments. Those comments collected during the public stakeholder briefings will be brought back to the Trout Task Force and the final presentation of the new regulations will be made at the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Spring Hearings in April 2015, with the new regulations rolled out in Spring 2016.

Local DNR fish biologists are always looking for feedback on the proposed changes. You can find more information on the proposed regulations at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/outreach/TroutRegReview.html>.

The State Council is still reviewing numerous aspects of the proposed regulations and will provide more feedback to chapters and members as it becomes available.

Another aspect that will affect the legislative and regulatory outlook for Trout Unlimited will be the upcoming 2014 general election. Trout Unlimited is proud to be a non-partisan organization that puts science at the front of its work and which does not endorse candidates

for office. But we encourage everyone to review information on the candidates up for election nationwide in November. Several sources provide non-biased information regarding the stances candidates take on issues. These include Project Vote Smart (votesmart.org), Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters (conservationvoters.org), and the League of Women Voters (lwv.org).

If you need information on registering to vote, visit either myvote.wi.gov or gab.wi.gov for more information.

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.

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SIGN UP NOW FOR POPULAR FALL TOUR
Starting in LaCrosse, Wisconsin, this year's TUDARE Fall Project Tour will visit projects on both sides of the Mississippi River.

TUDARE Fall Project Tour October 15

Driftless project tours have been popular and full-to-capacity each of the past several years. In a comfortable charter bus and several trailing vehicles, we set out from a starting point along the Mississippi and visit project sites in at least two states. Costs are picked up by TUDARE (although contributions to cover expenses are always welcomed) and a sumptuous box lunch is provided.

October 15 is this year's project tour, and this year we will feature projects from the Southern Driftless Area in Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota. You'll travel with fisheries professionals, project designers, contractors, biologists, engineers, ecologists, landowners and volunteers. It's a great time for dialogue and questions, with the folks who worked on the projects fielding your questions.

Our tour will begin in LaCrosse, Wisconsin and straddle the river. Expect to see autumn foliage, migrating waterfowl and other birds, and a host of people who are skilled

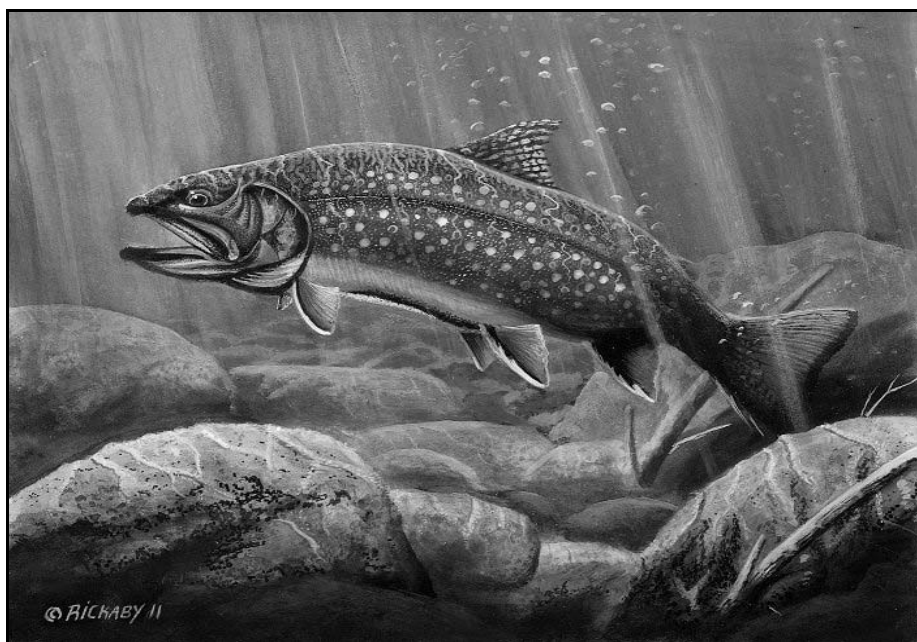
in the craft of watershed restoration as TUDARE moves into its second decade.

Expect a full day of travel, rain or shine. We should be starting by 9 a.m. and concluding by 5 p.m., but as veteran participants know, it sometimes takes a bit longer.

This year we have an added bonus: TU's Western Watershed staff will be joining us from their staff retreat site at Cedar Valley Resort near Whalan, MN. About 25-30 fisheries professionals will be adding their input as we travel, as they learn about these marvelous spring creeks across the Driftless Area.

All that means you should sign up early because there will be limited space. To sign up or if you have questions, suggestions, contributions or dishes to pass, contact Jeff Hastings at jhastings@tu.org or 608-606-4158. Or contact Duke Welter at dwelter@tu.org or 608-675-3184.

—Duke Welter



Support WITU with purchase of 2012-14 trout stamp prints

Wisconsin TU has 2012-14 trout stamps and prints for sale. WITU chapters can purchase prints for a reduced price of \$50 for their fundraising efforts.

Individuals can buy prints for \$125, plus shipping and handling. Print purchasers will also get a commemorative trout stamp at no charge.

Contact Tim Waters at MuddyWaters@new.rr.com.

Don't miss the 2015 State Council Banquet

By Kim McCarthy, Past Council Chair and Banquet Committee Chair

It's that time of the year again. Plans for the 2015 Annual Meeting and State Council Banquet are already well under way. The date and location have been confirmed, the banquet committee is in place, and a theme has been chosen.

The 2015 event will be Saturday, February 7, 2015. We will be returning to the site of last year's very successful banquet: the Oshkosh Waterfront Best Western Hotel and Convention Center. Everyone was very happy with the location last year and we are excited to return.

More good news is that the same group of dedicated members who served as the Banquet Committee last year have all agreed to return in their same roles this year. My thanks go out in advance to Bill Heart, Henry Koltz, Linn Beck, Heidi Oberstadt, Jim Wierzba, Mike Kuhr and Todd Franklin for agreeing to once again serve on the committee. Rich Vetrano has also agreed to give us a hand once again with advertising. The Awards Committee, once again led by Todd Hanson, will be honoring worthy

members in a variety of categories.

We are bringing back the Unsung Hero Award and will again be giving all chapters the opportunity to recognize one of their key members. You may recall that two years ago we honored Unsung Heroes, and chapters appreciated the chance to say thanks to one of their important volunteers. We know every chapter has many deserving volunteers, so we decided to offer this chance again. Please send the name of your chapter's Unsung Hero to Kim McCarthy at this email address: KMCCARTHY2@new.rr.com.

So mark the date on your calendar, and you'll see you there. The goal is to make the 2015 banquet the best State Council banquet yet. All of the pieces are in place. The one thing we need is your attendance. Ask anyone who's been to a recent banquet and you'll realize why it's become a "don't-miss" event. Tickets will soon be available through your chapter president or by contacting Council Secretary Mike Kuhr at mikek.trout@yahoo.com or 414-588-4281.

We look forward to seeing all of you in Oshkosh on February 7!

Every chapter has many deserving volunteers, so an "Unsung Hero" from each chapter will be recognized at this year's banquet.



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Northeast Trout Coordinator chosen

By Kim McCarthy

For the better part of two years the northeastern Wisconsin TU chapters have anxiously awaited the arrival of the new DNR Northeast Trout Coordinator. In June the position was officially filled by Jonathan Pyatskowitz, who will be based out of Shawano.

Pyatskowitz holds degrees in Water Resources from UW Stevens Point and Fisheries from Cornell University. He has been working in the DNR Bureau of Fisheries and is quite excited to be returning to his home area to work with the trout resource.

The position is the first of its kind in Wisconsin. The idea developed from discussions between the State Council and DNR about what could be done to enhance and increase trout work in northeast Wisconsin. For the first time a fulltime, trained biologist will be able to devote all of his efforts to trout enhancement.

Because the position is both new and unique, the exact role of the coordinator is just now taking shape. At this time a focus area has been established that includes parts of several counties in northeast Wisconsin. Within the focus area efforts will be concentrated on areas that now lack public land and access.

Pyatskowitz is working with biologists in the focus area to develop a list of streams that will be eligible for access acquisitions. Following approval of the list of target streams, landowner outreach will begin. Targeted mailings will be used to generate interest in easements and to educate landowners. Other conservation professionals from organizations such as the Natural Resources Conservation Service, county conservation depart-

ments and forestry departments will also help with the outreach effort.

The fact that \$6 million has been made available from the Stewardship Fund for buying easements means that access acquisition will be Jonathan's primary activity while the funding remains available. As easements are secured, Jonathan expects to spend up to half of his time doing habitat work on the acquired access areas.

All of the activity involved with the new position is about to create massive opportunities for TU chapters. Jonathan is anticipating TU being an active partner in making the new position a successful model for trout management. TU chapters and members will be more than welcome to help with the easement program by leveraging funding, guiding landowners considering easements to the program, and assisting with general outreach. As easements are obtained it is hoped that TU will be very active in the habitat improvement aspects of the program.

These are exciting times for TU in northeastern Wisconsin as opportunities for chapter involvement will significantly increase. Years from now we will look back and feel very good about helping to launch a new concept in trout management, based on the success of a similar program in the Driftless Area.

For me the filling of the Northeastern Trout Coordinator position is a very satisfying event. During my term as the State Council chair I attended regular meetings with DNR Fisheries personnel, and it was at one of those meetings more than two years ago that the idea for the position first surfaced. Later meetings covered where to base the coordinator and the coordinator's role. I was pleased to be offered a spot on the interview



PYATSKOWIT PICKED AS TROUT COORDINATOR

Based out of Shawano, the DNR's new Northeast Trout Coordinator Jonathan Pyatskowitz helps at a work day on Spring Creek with GBTU.

committee that eventually chose Pyatskowitz.

Additional thanks go out to Henry Koltz, who was in attendance at meetings with me, and TUDARE Project Director Jeff Hastings, who offered much advice about the new position and also offered his time to be part of the interview committee. Wisconsin TU has had a great partnership with the DNR Bureau of Fisheries, which is about to lead to a much greater focus on trout management in northeastern Wisconsin.

Chapter President Profile

Kiap President Tom Henderson an irreplaceable leader



SHARING THE OUTDOORS WITH FUTURE GENERATIONS

Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter President Tom Henderson at the helm of a wooden boat that he restored. His crew includes two grandsons.

By Hans Jung

During the past year and a half the Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter has been fortunate to have Tom Henderson serving as chapter president. Tom has only been a TU member since 2007, but he has made important contributions to the functioning of Kiap and the chapter's work in the protection of western Wisconsin's coldwater fisheries.

Tom is a native of northern Minnesota and grew up in Grand Rapids. He is a lifelong fisherman, which is not surprising since the yard of his childhood home extended to a lakeshore and a creek. When

he was young, he thought everyone lived on a lake, a notion those of us less fortunate have tried to dispel. He says that his father taught him how to fish, to row a boat, to plant trees, and instilled a sense of responsibility to give back to the community and to the earth. Tom learned those lessons well.

Although he has always been a fisherman, Tom did not take up trout and fly fishing until faced with retirement in 2004. He regrets this late start when he thinks back on having worked for a summer in Alaska and living in Washington and Oregon for several years in the early 1970's. Better late than never. Now

he looks forward to trout fishing locally in the Kinnikinnic and Rush rivers, but also in his wife's homeland of Chile, where her brother owns a cabin within walking distance of a "pretty fair trout stream."

Picking up new activities seems to have been a pattern in Tom's life. After college he taught math, physics and chemistry. He later sold commercial and personal insurance. At age 50 he earned a degree in mechanical engineering that led to a career in manufacturing and quality control.

His list of community service activities is long and includes service on a volunteer fire department, as president of his local Lions Club, treasurer of the curling club, and scoutmaster. His past prepared him well for his current role of active TU and Kiap member and chapter leader.

In 2009, only two years after joining TU, he was elected to the Kiap-TU-Wish Board of Directors. The following year Tom became chapter treasurer, returning the chapter's financial records to computerized spreadsheets, and making them consistent with the form 990 that nonprofits must now file with the IRS.

This was a much needed change, as the chapter was beginning to receive substantial funds from grants for its stream restoration efforts. He also began creating formal yearly budgets. With an approved budget, board meetings spent less time approving expenditures, other than requests outside the approved budget. At each meeting, his treasurer's report included a status report of how things were going compared to the plan.

Tom was elected chapter vice

president in 2011 and president in 2012. During these tenure's he established excellent working relationships with the DNR fisheries and habitat managers.

He works closely with other stakeholder groups such as donors, county officials and the Kinni River and Western Wisconsin Land Trusts. Tom has even made efforts to interact with local sportsmen's groups.

Thanks to Tom, Kiap has become much more involved with local schools, where he often serves as a speaker for stream ecology events.

Like his predecessors, he has guided the chapter as it undertook larger restoration projects and obtained competitive grant funding for these projects. Tom has written a number of successful grant applications, including one for more than \$100,000 in federal funds. Due to his experience and success in the grant process, he was asked to speak at the TUDARE stream restoration workshop.

If there is one criticism of Tom, it is that he has taken responsibility for too many chapter activities. It will be very hard to replace him when his term as president ends in March 2015. But the chapter has an active board and membership, and through his actions and leadership, Tom has strengthened the chapter's management and placed Kiap on a sound footing.

We do not expect Tom to fade away once his term as president ends. In fact we expect him to mentor his successor and continue to do more than his share to make Kiap a successful and vibrant chapter. But Tom does find time to fish...

Wild and unique recipes in two new books

By Duke Welter

All of us anglers, hunters and woods ramblers are, at base, opportunists. While others may simply observe the world around them, we find ourselves exploring opportunities, making our own adventures, questioning. My life in the outdoors began accompanying my grandfather as he picked berries or caught bullheads, his second favorite fish after the brook trout of his native Washburn County. I didn't know when I was five that my berry picking with him was anything but an adventure with Grandpa John, but my parents sent me because after his heart attack they wanted somebody to know where to take a rescue party if he had another one. So, we picked wild strawberries, blackberries and blueberries, and one of my favorite activities took root.

I'd like to acquaint you with a couple of recent Midwestern books indulging these non-angling opportunities for adventurers. In the first, "Cooking with Wild Berries and Fruits of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan," author Teresa Marrone offers a wide range of recipes for a surprising range of outdoor bounty.

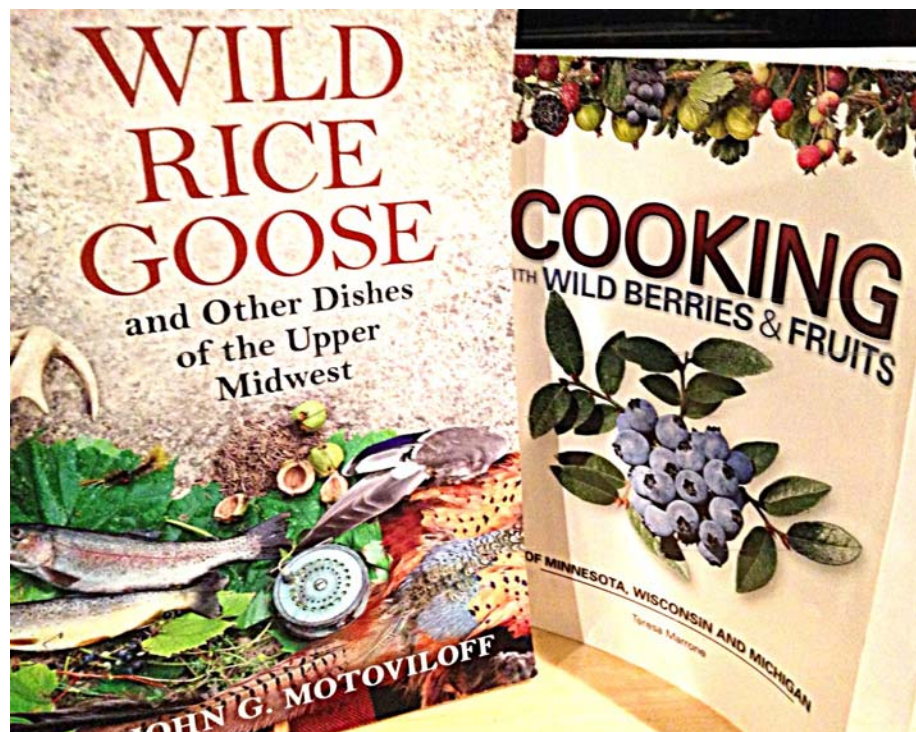
From fruit leather made from autumn olive to a malt made from wintergreen or snowberries, she has elevated these fruits way beyond any

other outdoor cookbook I've encountered. There's something especially satisfying about combining Wisconsin fruits with well-handled game and fish from our state. I am looking forward to combining Great Lakes whitefish with a thimbleberry sauce, and making a reduction for venison this winter with highbush cranberry juice from the headwaters of the Bad River in Iron County. Trying wild cranberries with wild rice and hazelnuts or black walnuts is also on the winter dining horizon.

If, like me, you find yourself a scrounger of wild berry and fruit bounty, do yourself a favor and take a look at this book. (Adventure Publications, Inc., Cambridge Minnesota, adventurepublications.net; 175 pages, \$12.95)

"Wild Rice Goose and Other Dishes of the Upper Midwest" features the writing and outdoor recipes of John G. Motoviloff of Madison, author of "Fly Fisher's Guide to Wisconsin and Iowa."

John is a hunter of small and big game, waterfowl and upland birds, berries and fungi. More than that, he must have an unending curiosity for collecting methods of game preparation from a wide range of cultures beyond his Eastern European heritage. He takes great satisfaction in combining our Wisconsin bounty with recipes from places like



Slovakia, Mexico and France. That appeals to me because for years I have been experimenting with Grouse au Vin, Pheasant Satay, an Upper Midwestern Paella, and French and German recipes that go well with local venison, rabbit and game birds.

While I am not sure his Coot in Gravy will be a surefire hit, I am eager to try his Duck Gumbo and a

takeoff on an old Spanish recipe, Trout with Ham. The recipes are well-organized and complete, and the ingredients are readily available across the region. (University of Wisconsin Press, Madison, 166 pages, \$24.95)

Together, these two books give me a road map for a winter's worth of varied and tasty cooking of our region's outdoor bounty.



HOOKING UP WITH A BROWN TROUT ON THE "FRESH" COAST

Zach Kinler of Crested Butte, Colorado fights a big Lake Superior brown trout on the northern rim of Chequamegon Bay in October, 2013. The fish hit an Umpqua Midnight Mullet baitfish pattern along the base of a sandstone cliff near deep water.

By Luke Kavajecz

Hooking a fish in the large, open water of Lake Superior on a fly or light tackle can seem like a nearly impossible feat at times, but the energy that this big body of open water creates is hard to ignore and rivals that of any river I've ever fished.

Learning to read and understand the movements of water on Lake Superior can open up a whole new world of angling and present a chance to fish for big, silvery salmonids in relative solitude. Besides, there's no better time to chase these open water fish than when the crisp weather of fall arrives.

Lake Superior is big. It's 350 miles from one side to the other. Its size can make it seem impossible to think that a fish could ever find your fly. But just like fishing a large river, if you ignore almost everything else and concentrate on a small piece of water, the fishing starts to make sense.

Chequamegon Bay is a relatively

small and shallow offshoot of Lake Superior and is a great place to begin the search for open water trout or salmon. At nearly 12 miles long and six miles wide, it's basically a lake within a lake. Though it's somewhat cut off from the main body of Lake Superior, it has all the elements of the big water condensed into a smaller space. Wind, waves, currents and even miniature tide events all effect the fishing.

Fall winds bring trout, salmon

When strong offshore winds of fall begin to cool the water, and favorable currents push that water towards shore, the trout and salmon follow. One of my favorite places to look for these fish is along the beaches and river mouths that border the northwest shore of Chequamegon Bay.

The predominant current tends to flow in from the open water of Lake Superior through the South Channel between Madeline Island and Long Island. This current push-

Fall fishing on the "fresh coast" of Chequamegon Bay

es right towards those beaches and river mouths, making trout and salmon available for surf casting and fly fishing.

When conditions are right and I make my way to the beach, I like to either post up on a ladder and blind cast for fish, or work down the beach in a skiff or small boat looking for moving fish or fish that are crashing bait. I've seen large brown trout in the early morning glassy water rolling just like tarpon. I've seen schools of coho salmon chasing baitfish out of the water like an east coast striped bass.

You'll be surprised at what you see if you just sit back and observe what's happening in the water when the conditions are right for these fish to be near shore. Just like showing up to a river and observing what's hatching or looking for rising fish, or checking out what kind of bugs are under the rocks, it pays to be patient and see what's going on before casting away with no confidence.

For instance, I've often seen groups of common terns hovering above the water and dive-bombing schools of baitfish. Just like the ocean, birds mean fish and it's pretty cool to end up hooking a fish after chasing down a group of birds on an unsalted body of water.

If you don't have a boat, the best way to get after these fish is to grab a step ladder and a pair of waders. The ladder allows you to fish out a little deeper, have a better vantage point, and your legs won't get chilled. A stripping basket is necessary if you're fly fishing, just to keep your running line in check.

For fly fishing, match a switch rod up with the right line, such as

RIO's outbound short shooting head. The casting won't be too accurate, but you can achieve great distance and efficiency.

I try to keep it simple with my fly selection. I usually carry a pocket full of Deceivers in hot colors like chartreuse or pink, and a few natural colors such as white or olive. Slim, sleek baitfish patterns are the best way to match the large school of smelt and lake shiners the fish prey upon. Spin fisherman can throw casting spoons or small spinners in a wide variety of colors.

It definitely pays to get to the water in the early morning. The fish tend to be up high in the water column and will often be the closest to the beach at this time. As the sun gets higher throughout the day, the fish will move off to the nearest break of deeper water, making them hard to get at without a boat. The winds are usually lighter in the morning, making it easier to see fish chasing bait or rolling, and it also makes it easier to hear fish crashing on the surface.

Whether using flies or light tackle, there's definitely something special about hooking up with a big, openwater steelhead, brown trout or coho along the shores of our state's greatest lake. These fish seem to embrace to vastness and raw, rugged beauty of the lake itself and can be a great reward for anglers looking to experience a unique fishing experience this fall.

Luke Kavajecz is an open water guide with Anglers All Guide Service and Tackle Shop on the shores of Lake Superior in Ashland, WI. Check him out at freshcoastangling.com.

Streambank Protection Program update

From the beginning of the Stewardship program in 1989 through the fall of 2013, the DNR has closed approximately 435 easement transactions affecting about 212 miles of stream.

Last fall the DNR drafted a roadmap for the acquisition of Streambank Protection (SBP) easements for the current biennium. This new strategy describes: 1) Three geographic focus areas; 2) changes needed to streamline the easement acquisition process; and 3) how local implementation teams will collaborate with partners to successfully accomplish our goal of providing angling access and protecting and improving habitat on many of our premier streams.

Three defined areas of emphasis include the Driftless Area, the North Branch of the Milwaukee River area, and trout streams of northeast Wisconsin. These were chosen based on the quality of the streams in the area, the potential to build partnerships with conservation partners and the importance of these areas to anglers.

The primary goal of this roadmap was to improve the DNR's ability to contact landowners, negotiate easements and close transactions resulting in increased angling access and habitat protection on 100 miles of stream corridor. To accomplish this, DNR staff revised the list of waters eligible for stream bank protection funding, updated land records software systems, developed

an outreach database of riparian landowners in the focus areas, created new mapping tools for DNR staff, completed sales studies in more than 35 counties so streamlined easement valuations can be conducted, and released a website, brochures and press releases.

This summer, fisheries staff began mailing outreach packets to eligible landowners. As of September, 2014 DNR staff have mailed more than 2,000 packets. Our cover letters to landowners provide some basic information about the Streambank Protection Program and asks landowners to complete and mail a prepaid postcard back to the DNR. The postcard invites landowners to check one of four boxes: 1) want more info; 2) want an SBP application; 3) want to meet with local biologist, or 4) not interested.

Landowner Response

Currently DNR staff are negotiating easements with 37 landowners with 17.25 miles of streams in 13 counties across the state. An additional 70 landowners holding 16.55 stream miles have requested stream bank easement applications, and another 59 landowners with 15.1 stream miles have requested more information or would like to meet with our biologists.

Paul Cunningham is a fisheries ecologist with the DNR Bureau of Fisheries Management. Contact him at 608-267-7502 or Paul.Cunningham@WI.gov



Wisconsin TU license plate update

As most know, a bill was recently passed allowing Wisconsin Trout Unlimited to sell a special fundraising license plate. The plate will feature a design which was conceived by nationally renowned illustrator Neal Aspinall (nealspinall.com), who grew up in Lake Geneva. He graduated from the Colorado Institute of Art in Denver in 1984, and has been working as a freelance illustrator for major clients since 1994. Just a few of his clients include The National Park Service, Pepsi, Target, Miller Brewing Company, Harley-Davidson, Ducks Unlimited and many more.

When TU's first attempt at a license plate bill was introduced in Wisconsin's Legislature about two years ago, Aspinall, on very short notice, provided a design which met the combined requirements of the Wisconsin Department of Motor Vehicles, Trout Unlimited's national office, and the State Council and its Executive Committee. In a stroke of true generosity, he donated his time, talents and design.

Currently, there is no firm timeline concerning when Wisconsin Trout Unlimited license plates will be available, although the Wisconsin Department of Motor Vehicles has indicated that plates may be available as early as this November.

Plates will require a \$15 first-time issuance fee (more if a motorist desires a personalized name plate, such as "BROOKIE," etc.), and a yearly \$25 donation fee. Wisconsin Trout Unlimited will receive the proceeds of each sale, each year. As such, the license plate will be a continual year-over-year fundraiser, and has the potential to be a very significant funding source for the State Council. We hope it will create a significant source of money to promote our mission.

We strongly urge our members and friends to purchase a TU plate. The more plates Wisconsin TU can sell, the more funds we'll raise. A funding source such as this frees the Council from being largely dependent on our banquet to sustain itself. The banquet could be significantly impacted by something as simple as a snow storm, for instance. Please do your part, pitch in, get a plate, support the resource, and put TU's logo and Wisconsin's brook trout on display whenever you go for a drive.

Once plates become available, the State Council will send email notifications to all Wisconsin TU members, and will place further information here within *Wisconsin Trout*. Start thinking of your own vanity phrase now!

Get a feel for 57 of Wisconsin's top Driftless Area trout streams...



...without leaving your armchair!

Two years in the making, this 2-disc DVD set gives you a guided tour of the top streams in Crawford, Vernon, La Crosse, Monroe, and Richland counties.

Includes 75-page ebook and casting tips. All for \$25.

COVERS: Ash Cr., Bear Cr., Billings Cr., Bishop Cr., Bohemian Cr., Bostwick Cr., Boydtown Cr., Buck Cr., Camp Cr., Cheney Valley Cr., Chipmunk Coulee Cr., Coe Hollow Cr., Coes Valley Cr., Cooley Cr., Coon Cr., Copper Cr., Crow Hollow Cr., Du Charme Cr., Dutch Cr., Elk Cr., Fancy Cr., Farmers Valley Cr., Gran Grae Cr., Hornby Cr., Kepler Branch, Kickapoo R., Knapp Cr., Lietner Cr., Little La Crosse R., McGraw Cr., Melancthon Cr., Mill Cr., Mormon Coulee Cr., NF Bad Axe R., Otter Cr., Picatee Cr., Pine Cr., Pine R., Plum Cr., Reads Cr., Richland Cr., Rullands Coulee, Rush Cr., Seas Branch Cr., Silver Cr., SF Bad Axe R., Spring Coulee Cr., Springville Br., Sugar Cr., Tainter Cr., Timber Coulee Cr., Warner Cr., Weister Cr., WB Mill Cr., WB Pine R., WF Kickapoo R., and Willow Cr.

ORDER FORM

Trout Streams of Southwest Wisconsin, North

Send your check for \$25 payable to Coppersmith Studios for your 2-DVD set. Price includes all taxes and shipping. Mail to:

Coppersmith Studios
3312 Olde Creek Trail
Matthews, NC 28105

Learn more by visiting us at
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City _____

State _____

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Wisconsin Women's Fly Fishing Clinics



Presented by Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited
http://www.swtu.org/wffc_womens_clinics.html
<https://www.facebook.com/SWTUWomensClinic>

**BY WOMEN FOR WOMEN
BASICS CLINIC**
June 19 - 21, 2015

Learn how to choose proper equipment, tie knots, cast, read water, select the proper fly and time on the water. You will learn new tactics, regardless of your level of ability. Equipment available for use.

**ON THE WATER SKILLS
INTERMEDIATE CLINIC**
June 17-18, 2015

Personalized instruction streamside. Tune up workshops by women instructors to refresh skills in casting, matching the hatch & reading the water. Fish WI finest trout streams with experienced anglers.



Location

Avalanche, WI (near Viroqua, in Wisconsin's Driftless Area)

Cost

\$195 until April 1st
\$225 after (+ reg fee)

For more information please visit the links above.

Registration: <https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/?eventid=1577962>
<https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/?eventid=1577961>

Nominations sought for 2015 State Council awards

The Wisconsin State Council of TU believes it is important to recognize the outstanding efforts of our members and the broader conservation community and has presented a number of awards since 1983.

Nominations are now being taken for the awards to be presented this February at the annual meeting and banquet in Oshkosh.

Award nominations come from the WITU general membership, so please take time to tell our awards committee of individuals, groups, or others you feel qualify for one of our awards.

Nominations should be submitted to the committee at least 60 days before the annual banquet. Successful recipients will be notified by the committee at least 15 days prior to the banquet.

If you have any questions about an award, feel free to contact an award committee member.

The awards committee is chaired by Todd Hanson and includes Kim McCarthy, Bill Heart, Todd Franklin and Henry Koltz.

Send nominations to Todd Hanson at twhanson@sbcglobal.net or 4514 Elgar Lane, Madison WI 53704

Wisconsin TU State Council Award Criteria

Resource Award of Merit

Recipient can be a person, corporation or organization and may be a nonmember. Award can be presented posthumously. Award is given for outstanding contributions to conservation (does not need to be given for trout or salmon contributions).

Joan and Lee Wulff Award for Outstanding Conservation Leadership

Recipient to be an individual who has demonstrated outstanding service in the field of conservation. Recipient to be selected by the Exec. Committee of the State Council. The award — a framed collection of flies tied by Lee Wulff — remains with a recipient for one year and then travels to the next year's recipient.

Gold Trout Award for Service

Recipient must be a member in good standing of Wisconsin TU. Award will be presented to any person who has been an officer of the State Council, a national director, or any committee chairperson. This individual must have served at least one year of his or her term.

Gold Net Award

Recipient must be an individual who has been a member in good standing of WITU for a period of at least five years. Recipient must have participated in at least one major state or chapter fundraising event in the last five years. Recipient must have worked on or attended at least five TU resource projects in the last five years.

Silver Trout Award for Chapter Merit

Recipient must be a WITU chapter that has restored, enhanced, or protected Wisconsin's trout or salmon resource. The end result of the project must demonstrate a long-term commitment or benefit to the trout or salmon resource. The total value of the project, including the value placed on man-hours and materials, must total at least \$3,500.

The project must involve trout and salmon resources available to the public to fish. Projects for private use only do not qualify.

Jeffrey Carlson Leadership Award

Recipient must be a WITU member who — following the example of Jeff's work over many years on coaster brook trout restoration — has taken a leadership role on a major project that either improved an entire stream, reach, or watershed, or which preserved or restored a species in a body of water.

Corporate Sponsor Award

Recipient must be a business or corporation that has shown outstanding support of the State Council through financial contributions or by providing other support for TU's activities.

Robert Hunt Resource Professional Award

Recipient must be a state fish manager or other conservation professional who has shown concern for the trout resource over and above his or her normal duties.

Certificate of Appreciation

Recipient can be a member of Wisconsin TU or be someone indirectly related to the trout and salmon resource (e.g., the recipient can be a landowner on a project, an educator, a media representative, a contributor of certain equipment, or a related conservation organization). Recipient can be someone in an organization for his or her efforts within that organization (e.g., a WDNR employee).

NOTES: All award nominations must be submitted to the awards committee as a written narrative describing the candidates' accomplishments, be that nominee an individual, chapter or other. Nominations should be submitted to the committee at least 60 days before the annual banquet. Successful recipients will be notified by the committee at least 15 days prior to the banquet. All award recipients will be asked to be present at the awards banquet. The judgment and selection of all award recipients will be made by the awards committee, and their selections will be final.

YEAR	AWARD OF MERIT	GOLD TROUT	SILVER TROUT	GOLD NET	JOAN & LEE WULFF	PROFESSIONAL	CORP./BUSINESS	CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION
1984	Harold Starkweather	Roger Fairbanks	Ojibseau	Bob Brunzell		Duke Andrews		Tom Flesch, Bob Maier, Tom Mertens, Bob Burnham, Bob Brunzell, Wally Cooper, Duke Andrews, Jim Spalding, Cap Buettner & Green Bay Chapter
85	Jim Addis	Ron Koshoshek	Shaw-Paca	Mitch Bent		Prof. Jack Heaton		Arling Erickson, Lee Parker, Cy Sendalbach, Tom Pouliett, Tom Sopkovich, Phil Orth, & Sheldon's (Mepps)
86	Bob Zimmerman	Larry Meicher & Bob Retko	Green Bay	Jim Bereza		Frank Pratt		Rep. Sharon Metz, Frank Pratt, Walli Arts, Larry Worth, Earl Little, Glen Cox & Tim Johnson
87	Tom Flesch	Dan Harmon	Antigo	Lowell Genrich		Max Johnson		Connie Rohlman
88	Richard Osborn	Kim McCarthy & Jerry Weatherwax	Fox Valley	Jim Bereza		Tim Larson		Rep. James Holperin, Jim Curray, Bud Jordahl & Joe Knight
89	Mitch Bent	Bob Heding	Southern WI	Bob Worth		Gene VanDyck		Jim Bereza, Herb Hintze & Gordon King
90	Bob Hunt	Jim Bereza	Aldo Leopold	Dick Krays		Scott Stewart		
91	Larry Cloggett	Rich Wachowski & Steve Born	Green Bay	Dennis Orgemen		Duke Andrews		Anne Dirkman & Tip Bagstad
92	Nash Williams	Herb Buettner	Wolf River	Marlin Spindler		Dave Vetrano		Mike Syverson, Carrol Besadny & Forrest Grulke
93	--	Jerry Weatherwax	Aldo Leopold	Jim Bereza		Tim Larson		
94	[No banquet this year]							
95	George Vukelich	Bob Eastlund, Harley Erbs & Jim Hlaban	Frank Homberg	John Cantwell				Bob Boucher
96	Richard Knitter	David Newhouse	Kiap-TU-Wish	Forrest Grulke	Bud Jordahl	Marty Engel		Bob Reynolds & Sen. Robert Cowles
97	Lee Kerns	Bob Heim		John Bethke	Duke Andrews	Duke Andrews		
98	Herb Buettner	Bill Sherer	WI River Valley	Herb Hintze	Kathleen Falk	Scott Stewart, Andy Morton & Ken Johnson		
99	Dr. Christine Thomas	Jeff Smith	Kiap-TU-Wish	Jeff Preiss	Jeff Carlson	Jim Holzer, John Nelson & Al Niebur		Stu Grimstad
2000	--	Tony Tremi	Harry & Laura Nohr	Larry Doebert	Martin Hanson	Roger Kerr		
01	Terry Kohler	Fred Young	Central WI	Greg Vodak	John Welter			Sen. Kevin Shibleski, Dick Prine, David Beckwith & Ron Seely
02	Elward Engle	John Bethke & Stu Grimstad	Coulee Region	Gary Stoychoff	George Meyer	Larry Kreise		John Sauer, Scott Watson, Steve Galoff & Connie Walker for WI Public Radio
03	Dave Ladd	Chuck Steudel	Ojibseau	Bill Pielsticker	Dan Flaherty			Kris Stepenuck, Peggy Compton & Mike Reiter
04	Mole Lake Sokaogon Chippewa & Forest County Polawatomi	Dave Fritz	Wild Rivers	Gordon Braun	Dale Druckrey	Jeff Hastings & Jim Radtke		Eric Schubring for WOJB-FM
05	Larry Meicher	Jeff Smith	Harry & Laura Nohr	Bill Heart	--	Al Stranz		Rep. Du Wayne Johnsrud & Sen. Neal Kedzie
06	Herb Behnke	Larry Kriese	Lakeshore & Ocooch	Don Pluemer	--			Ed Culhane
07	Dennis Vanden Bloomen	Bill Pielsticker	Blackhawk	Del Schwaller	Peg Lautenschlager	Scott Toshner		Green Bay Chapter, Cindy Koperski, & Rep. Tom Petri
08	--	Dan Wisniewski	Southeastern WI	Dave Patrick	Herb Hintze	John Sours		Jeff and Jenna Phillips family
09	Clint Byrnes	Todd Hanson	Southern WI	Tim Meyer	Jim Hlaban	Tim Larson & Dave Brum		Kathleen Falk & Ken Anderson
10	WI League of Conservation Voters	Bill Heart	Kiap-TU-Wish	Steve Hill	Chuck Beeler	Rob Herman		Paul Smith, Paul Krahn, & Greg Wahl
11	John Welter	Bob Haase	Central WI	Rick Kyte	Topf Wells	Henry Quinlan & George Boronow	Tight Lines Fly Fishing Co.	Alistair Stewart & Fairmount Minerals Co.
12	Dan Wisniewski	Henry Koltz	Aldo Leopold	John Gremmer	Paul Kruse	Shawn Sullivan	Fontana Sports Specialties	Save Copper Creek, Al Niebur, & Bob Micheal
13	Kim McCarthy	Dale Lange	Southern WI	Rich Vetrano	Scott Grady	Cliff Sebero & Brent Bergstrom	Hayward Fly Fishing Co.	Tom Gawle, Sen. Bob Jauch, & Sen. Dale Schultz
14	Bill Heart	Winston Ostrow	Oconto River Watershed	Rich Erickson	Tina Murray	Todd Mau and Pat Sutter	Cabela's	Al Noll, Rick Bauer and Brian Larson

OTHER AWARDS

- 1985 Scientific Contribution Award -- Steve Field
- 89 Scientific Contribution Award -- Eddie Avery
- 91 Headwaters Award -- Clint Byrnes
- 96 Aldo Leopold Leadership Award -- Todd Hanson
- 98 Most Unsung Valuable Trout Award -- Forrest Grulke
- 99 Most Unsung Valuable Trout Award -- Mitch Bent
- 2003 Jeffrey Carlson Leadership Award -- Roger Widner; Most Unsung Valuable Trout Award -- Jim Bereza
- 04 Most Unsung Valuable Trout Award -- Jim Hlaban; Reel Partners Award -- Oakbrook Chapter TU & Elliott Donnelley Chapter TU
- 05 Jeffrey Carlson Leadership Award -- Pete Esser
- 06 Most Unsung Valuable Trout Award -- Dan Holland; Reel Partners Award -- River Alliance of WI
- 07 Jeffrey Carlson Leadership Award -- Bill Heart; Aldo Leopold Leadership Award -- Bill Pielsticker
- 08 Jeffrey Carlson Leadership Award -- John Welter; Most Unsung Valuable Trout Award -- Sarah Sanford
- 09 Lifetime Achievement Award -- Larry Meicher; Most Unsung Valuable Trout Award -- Bob Genrich
- 10 Most Unsung Valuable Trout Award -- Randy Arnold
- 12 Most Unsung Valuable Trout Award -- Eric Rauch
- 13 Jeffrey Carlson Leadership Award -- Kent Johnson
- 14 Jeffrey Carlson Leadership Award -- Mike Barniskis; Reel Partners Award -- Wolf Run participants; Most Unsung Valuable Trout -- Ivan Nohavica

UNSUNG HEROES

A tribute to chapter volunteers long overdue for the recognition they deserve.

Wisconsin TU 2015 State Council Banquet

Saturday, Feb. 7, 2015

**Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel
and Convention Center**

1 North Main Street, Oshkosh WI 54901

Room Reservations may be made by phone at 920 230-6288.

Cocktails 4:30

Dinner Seating 6:30

Get your tickets now!

**Just \$35 per ticket, which includes
raffle tickets for use at the event.**

For tickets or more info, contact

Mike Kuhr at (414) 588-4281

mikek.trout@yahoo.com





Chapter News

Aldo Leopold Chapter

On Bear Creek many of the LUNKERS assembled in June with SEWTU and other friends have been put to good use. The contractor has completed just over half the project and will complete the second half early in the 2015 season.

The project has gone slower than previous sections due to the wetlands in the stream corridor, which has necessitated more careful equipment and materials movement. What has been completed looks very good as the formerly six-to eight-foot-high vertical banks have been tapered back and the box elder trees have been removed.

In July I mentioned that the Riv-erland Conservancy was seeking a

grant to mechanically de-brush Manley Creek within their management area. They were successful in obtaining the grant and will soon have a contractor on-site to complete the work. Manley is a gem of a brook trout stream and it is great to see it being maintained. I look forward to fishing it next spring without losing so many flies in the willow and alder.

This fall we'll be planning our chapter's winter activities, including our tying class as well as other opportunities to get together and talk trout. Keep an eye on our on-line calendar at aldoleopold.tu.org for class and meeting dates and times.

—Mike Barniskis



Tom Gawle

YEAR FOUR OF PROJECT WORK ON BEAR CREEK IN SAUK COUNTY

For a fourth year, LUNKERS built by a joint ALTU/SEWTU workday were installed on Bear Creek in western Sauk County.

Antigo Chapter

I hope everything is well with all of you. I can't believe that Labor Day is past. What happened to summer? I must be getting older. As of late we sure have been getting rain. If we could receive this kind of precipitation over the next few years, it would go a long way in helping the trout in northeast Wisconsin.

In June was our annual kid's fishing day at the city of Antigo's park. Everyone had a great time. We had our fishing tank loaded with trout for the kids to catch. More than 400 kids showed up and had a great time. They all won prizes, fished for trout and ate hamburgers and hot-dogs. Charlie Noskowiak donated a girls and boys bike and we held a drawing and gave them away.

Thanks again to the area DNR personal for coming and running a casting contest for all the kids. Also, thanks to the city of Antigo Fire Department for bringing their fire safety trailer to teach families fire safety at home.

Our chapter went to habitat project sites and repaired and painted signs to make them look like new. At one site we had to replace a sign that was broken off.

In early August our guys were north of Antigo on the East Branch of the Eau Claire River at Lion's Club Park. A number of years ago our chapter, with the help of Northwoods Sportsman Club and

the DNR, built a 120-foot fishing dock for the public. It has been our chapter's privilege to maintain this fishing dock, and we worked three days power washing and staining it. It now looks like new.

I've talked to Dave, our area fish manager, and we may go to the outlet of the Mayking Flowage and remove some more rocks from a dam site there. Last fall the DNR and Antigo TU removed a number of rocks from this site and lowered the dam about 12 inches. This will increase water flow upstream and help flush out the upper levels of the Mayking to help reduce the sediment buildup and deepen the channel.

In September we staffed an information booth at Kretz's Lumber Field Day. This was a wonderful way to talk to the public about the mission of Trout Unlimited. The people that attend were forestry department people and forest land owners. Many vendors were there to talk about good land, forest and water usage. In the past, Antigo TU funded a small project behind Kretz's on Spring Brook to show land owners what things could be done to help water and trout habitat. The show ran most of the day with lunch served. There was a speaker from the University of Wisconsin.

—Scott Henricks

Blackhawk Chapter

To paraphrase Garrison Keillor, it's been a quiet quarter-year for the Blackhawk Chapter. Projects to which we've committed funding and physical labor have not as yet be-

come reality.

Bereft of workdays, chapter members have found some solace in going "astream" in Wisconsin, Arkansas, Wyoming, Minnesota and

Montana. For example, Bud Hilgen-dorf reported that he had "the best day of my life" a few weeks ago, on an unspecified Wisconsin stream, "with many fish 14 inches or better." (Bud generally speaks truthfully, by the way.)

Broadening our interests and commitments, in June chapter member Joel Vaughn presented his enlightening program "Smallmouth Bass Fishing on Turtle Creek." In

August another chapter member, Ryan Schiferl, showed us his results from working on two projects in Idaho last summer. One involved research efforts to protect the existing population of Yellowstone Cut-throats in a tributary of the South Fork of the Snake River, and the other dealt with the effect of Pelicans on trout stream fisheries.

—Dave Hinde

Central Wisconsin Chapter

CWTU held summer board/picnic meetings at the homes of Bill and Mary Vance on Pleasant Lake, John and Laura Tucker on the Pine River, and Bob and Mary Haase near Eldorado. These picnic meetings are always a fun time and are as much social as chapter business.

After several years of persistence, Dan Harmon III received DNR approval for the chapter to place 4 memorial benches near area trout streams in memory of Arling Erickson, Tom Sopkovich, Nash Williams, and Richard "Ozzie" Osbourne. There are now two new benches on the White River, and one each on the Pine and Mekan. There may be several more benches in the future.

At our July Board meeting, R.J. Wickham, the DNR Wautoma Forestry Team Leader, gave a presentation regarding a timber sale from the land near the Mekan Springs, headwaters of the Mekan River. We

were concerned about potential damage to the banks of the springs that could lead to serious erosion. R.J. gave a very informative presentation and certainly reduced our concerns. It is still worth our attention.

Thanks to the efforts of Rick Fahrenkrug, our CWTU River Keepers organization received a \$5,000 grant to support water monitoring. Also, the Citizens Natural Resources Association awarded us \$500 for chemicals and equipment.

This year's CWTU Annual Fall Conservation Banquet will be Saturday, October 4, at the Wautoma WWII Memorial Hall, same as last year. We have some great items in the raffles and auctions, including a fishing kayak. Reservations and kayak raffle tickets can be obtained from our Banquet Chairs, Laura Tucker (920-540-5293) and Jeff We-gand (920-290-4522).

—John Tucker

Opportunities abound for promoting TU

Don't overlook unlikely places to promote trout fishing, fly tying and Trout Unlimited



By Bob Haase

Sometimes opportunity is found in unlikely places. Last year a few members of CWTU traveled to Boulder Junction to help the Northwoods Chapter provide a youth fly tying program at the local Musky Jamboree.

Even though signs indicate it is a youth fly-tying event, parents and grandparents would sometimes ask how much it would cost to have their kids or grandchildren tie a fly. We tell them it cost nothing. Just sit down and we'll show you how. This was met with such a positive response that some of the parents told the Boulder Junction Chamber how nice it was

that we were doing this. Subsequently, the chamber asked us to come back this year and do it again.

Bill Sherer from We Tie It fly shop helped make the arrangements with the chamber and we handed out literature to promote TU and the Northwoods Chapter. It is great when chapters can work together and promote youth fishing and fly-tying programs and promote TU, even at events like a Musky Jamboree. The kids were the real winners because they had so much fun tying that a couple of them stopped at We Tie It to show Bill the flies they tied, and he took the time to show them how to tie another one.

Chapter News



Jim Cox

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL TROUTFEST FOR THE COULEE REGION CHAPTER
About 150 kids enjoyed fishing during this year's Troutfest July 26 in Coon Valley. The Coulee Region Chapter provides all the equipment and assistance necessary for the kids to catch trout.

Coulee Region Chapter

The Coulee Region TU chapter helped host Troutfest on July 26 in Coon Valley. This event is led by the Coon Valley Business Association and is a fun summer event that brings people from all over the Midwest to the beautiful Driftless region.

Our chapter leads the kids fishing event at Troutfest, and this year we saw nearly 150 kids along the banks of Coon Creek having a lot of fun catching (or trying to catch) trout stocked in the creek for this event.

We provided fishing rods, tackle, bait and assistance to make sure the

kids and their families had a positive experience. Judging by the number of fish caught and the smiles on the faces of the young anglers, it certainly was a great experience for everyone involved.

The rest of the event was also very successful. The vendor booths were full, music played throughout the day, and the classic car show had about 75 cars on display. With great food, cold beverages and perfect weather, Troutfest 2014 was nearly perfect. Thanks to everyone who helped make this a great event.

—Curt Rees



Roger Genske

"TREE LINE" ON THE WHITE RIVER NEAR WAUTOMA
Bundled Christmas trees are hauled and installed at a recent FVTU work day. Below, the DNR's Shaun Sullivan and daughter Julia plan their attack.



Roger Genske

Fox Valley Chapter

The Fox Valley Chapter has been involved in plenty of activities this summer. These activities have included introducing youngsters to fly tying and fishing. We also worked on a couple of sites during our habitat day projects.

On June 7 Tom Lager, Al Johnson and Todd Calder were at Jefferson Park in Menasha for the Kids Fishing Day event sponsored by the Heckrodt Nature Center. Kids had a chance to tie a fly and they also were able to fish the Fox River in the park. There were some nice pan fish caught and there were even a number of walleyes that took spinners and garden hackle. The beautiful day and the success of the young anglers made for a great day.

Chapter member Sara Hans taught a summer school class at the Greenville Middle School that included assistance from former chapter president Joe Bach. Joe presented information about insect identification and water monitoring. Joe also gave some fly-tying lessons and had the students tie their own flies.

Our chapter president, Tom Lager, and new chapter member, Jennifer Erickson, assisted with the Wisconsin TU Youth Camp held in late July at Pine Lake in Waupaca County. FVTU sponsored a young man, Zack Klingseisen, who was an enthusiastic student and is just as enthusiastic about fishing.

Habitat days this summer were held at two sites and were joint efforts with the Central Wisconsin Chapter. Several members of the Elliott Donnelley Chapter, representing the Chicago area, also participated.

The June 21 and August 16 habitat days were on Chaffee Creek. We

partnered with the Central Wisconsin Chapter and DNR crews on both of those dates. The construction of overhead structures was the emphasis of the work on both dates. There were a significant number of feet of structure completed on each day. A number of members took the opportunity to do some fishing after the work was completed for the day.

The July 19 habitat day was on the White River near Wautoma. The DNR's Shawn Sullivan presented information about the creek and the importance of considering the total environment of an area when working to improve the stream for trout. Many bundled Christmas trees were placed to help narrow the stream and increase flow. Shawn had his children along and was getting them involved with the work also.

Our final habitat day for 2014 was September 20, and we returned to Chaffee Creek.

Our monthly chapter meetings started up again with a meeting September 18 at the Bubolz Nature Center. The event was a Social Night and a chance for members to share stories, pictures and videos of recent fishing trips. BoB Kinderman, our chapter chef, prepared a light lunch for those in attendance.

We are in the planning stages for our annual Cabin Fever Day fundraising event January 24, 2015 at the Grand Meridian in Appleton. Watch our website for details. Also check our website and the fly tying section created by Duane Velie. It is very informative.

Enjoy the last few days of summer and Wisconsin trout fishing. In the words of Tom Lager, our Let's Talk Bugs writer, "enjoy His creation."



John Vollrath

SUCCESSFUL TOMORROW RIVER CLEANUP DAY FOR HORNBERG
Jim Stephani, Mark Hinrichs and Mary Jo Patton help clear obstructions from the Tomorrow River at a recent work day co-sponsored by the Frank Hornberg chapter and the Friends of the Tomorrow/Waupaca River.

—Rich Erickson

Frank Hornberg Chapter

The Hornberg Chapter and the Friends of the Tomorrow/Waupaca River sponsored a river cleanup day on the Tomorrow River August 16. Teams organized by Stu Grimstad walked and canoed sections of the river, removing debris and cutting obstructing trees and limbs. Our chapter supplied chain saws and other tools, along with grills used for the preparation of a well-deserved hot lunch for all participants.

For many years our chapter has

used a field on Welton Road in Nelsonville as a staging area for work days on the Tomorrow River. We have used it with the permission of the local owners, the Anderson family. In the past we have had some concerns that this property might be transformed by residential development that would deny us access to the river. So we are pleased to report that the property is being purchased by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources



Chapter News

and will be classified as public fishing grounds. This is good news to all trout fishers who use this location to get down to the river.

Under the able leadership of Ken Pierce, we have had a successful season of monitoring the Tomorrow River at a location in Nelsonville as part of the Central Wisconsin Chapter's River Keepers program. In addition to Ken, members of the team this year were Rick Foris, Mary Jo Pfankuch, Ted Carapezza, Cathy Carapezza, Jean Klein, Brenda Gingles and John Vollrath.

The fate of the Tomorrow River dam in Amherst has been the main concern of our chapter for most of this year. Chapter member Stu

Grimstad took the lead in our efforts to educate the residents of Amherst on alternative outcomes if the dam was removed. Stu spent countless hours consulting with DNR personnel, community leaders and experts in landscaping design.

Matt Salchert, Wyatt Bohm and several other members of the chapter also spoke to members of the community. Our chapter contracted with the McKay Nursery Company to produce a master plan for development of the area covered by the present pond. This plan, along with a detailed article by Stu, was a prominent feature in the local newspaper, the Community Spirit. Unfortunately, in late September, the village board voted 4-2 to retain the

River in Marinette County. A large group of Green Bay TU members plus Cliff Sebero and Jonathan Pyatskowitz of the DNR cut out excess debris and growth within the river, while also pulling out old tires, cans and pretty much anything else you can imagine. The work was done at a campground within the village of Wausaukee. Thanks to the village for permitting us to do these improvements.

On July 9, for the 23rd year, Green Bay TU participated in Kids' Fishing Day at the Izaak Walton Environmental Center off of GV in De Pere.

About 70 children enjoyed catching many bluegills, several nice bass and a few other species, including turtles. The children are from various Brown County Social Service programs lead by Glen Tilot.

All total, 15 Trout Unlimited members showed up to help out, including Adrian Meseberg, Mike Renish, Pat Hill, Larry Mommarts, Roger Denil, Keith Pamperin, Bruce Duechert, Dave Ostanek, Harold Becks, Jack Koivisto, Lee Meyers, Grant Craig, Paul Kruse, Dennis Gusick and Aaron Frailing. This is always an exciting and rewarding experience.

GBTU remained active on the educational front this summer as well. Our new education chair, Dave Ostanek, held an Outdoor Pursuits class at Edison Middle School. The four-day class covered fly-casting and fly-tying. Several Green Bay TU members helped out, including: Mike Renish, Jack Koivisto, Adrian Meseberg, Randy Rake and Bill

Walton.

In other educational news, GBTU sponsored eight students attending a couple different conservation camps. We sponsored six students for the Sand Lake Conservation Camp at Camp Bird in June.

We also sponsored two students for the WITU Youth Camp in July. GBTU members Mike Renish and Jack Koivisto presented a unit covering the basic ingredients in fly rods, reels, backing line, variety of weights, and tapers in fly lines to match the type and size of fly being presented. Both volunteers then joined the rest of the state volunteers at the event in taking a kid fishing on the Pine River.

As far as comradery goes, GBTU held a couple events this summer. Our June 5 annual chapter picnic included BBQ pulled chicken and several sides. About 20 chapter members came by to get their fill. On August 1 chapter members got together for a fishing trip to the Evergreen River in Langlade County. Afterward we enjoyed lunch and stories at the Wild Wolf Inn. The group included Lee Meyers, Jonathan Pyatskowitz, Jack Koivisto, Doug Seidl, Jeff House, Tom Steffel, Adrian and Payton Meseberg.

Visit our website at greenbaytu.com for more detailed information and fantastic photo galleries. Good luck to all you trout anglers on behalf of GBTU!

—Adrian Meseberg



GBTU WORKS ON SPRING CREEK AND HELPS WITH KIDS FISHING DAY

This gang of volunteers tackled some brush bundling on Spring Creek in Langlade County. Below, a lucky angler with a nice smallmouth bass during the Kids' Fishing Day with GBTU, the Izaak Walton League and the Brown County



dam. (See "Readers Write" on page 3) —John Vollrath

Green Bay Chapter

The Green Bay Chapter of Trout Unlimited enjoyed a very beautiful and busy summer. For starters, we took part in four work projects from May through August. The May project, our cleanup of the NEW Zoo Trout educational trail and displays, was described in the last issue of Wisconsin Trout.

In June we joined forces with members of the Wolf River Chapter, Oconto River Chapter, trout habitat staff from Antigo, and the new Northeast Trout Coordinator, Jonathan Pyatskowitz, for brush bundling on Spring Creek in Langlade County. The goal was to narrow the stream channel and provide better living conditions for trout. Green Bay TU members who donated

their Saturday for the cause included Mike Renish, Adrian Meseberg, Payton Meseberg, Pat Hill, Paul Mongin, Dave Ostanek, Jeff House, Jeff Gross, Jeff Stone, Noel Craig, Bill Thorn and Lee Meyers.

July's work project brought us to the North Branch of the Oconto River. The objective here was brush bundling and stream bank reconstruction. We teamed up with the Oconto River Chapter, Tom Moris (USFS) and three Forest Service summer employees. Green Bay members on this trip were Pat Hill, Doug Seidl, Dennis Dugre, Lee Meyers and Paul Kruse.

In August we tightened our waders, put on our gloves and got to work cleaning up the Wausaukee

Harry & Laura Nohr Chapter

We had a very successful banquet this spring. We had some new participants and missed some old ones. We completed our stream work on Big Rock creek. We will be working

on some of our project on Six Mile Branch, but we are still waiting for the stream-access paperwork to be worked out on several other locations.



NOHR CHAPTER PLANS NEXT PROJECT, WORKS WITH TU TEEN SUMMIT

Above, the Nohr Chapter looks forward to restoration of Big Rock Creek. Below, Nohr members helped with the TU Teen Summit in July, and received some help as the teens helped build a fence crossing on the Blue River.



Chapter News



Tom Henderson

KIAP SEEDS TRIMBELLE PROJECT AND FINDS NICE FISH IN THE KINNI
Above, Trimbelle River Project Leader Dan Wilcox drives a six-wheeled ORV with a seed spreader mounted on the front, and a drag being pulled over the new seed. Below, this brown trout and many others were discovered during some electro-shocking on the Kinnickinnic River



Mike Alwin

We want to thank everyone who helped out at TU National's Teen Summit in July at the Sugar Creek

Bible Camp in Crawford County.
—Brian Larson

Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter

Frequent heavy rains this past summer significantly hindered restoration work. The Trimbelle River project site remained too wet and muddy for work by heavy equipment until late July. Fortunately, rock was delivered last winter when the ground was frozen. By the end of August, approximately 1,600 feet of the 1,800-foot project stretch was graded and armored. Meanwhile, volunteers spread seed and mulch.

The 2013 and 2014 projects are within state owned land. The private landowner downstream is very pleased with the work and is strongly considering an easement for the next quarter mile of stream.

On September 10, members Tom Schnadt, Mike Alwin, Sarah Sanford and Tom Henderson assisted the DNR with electro-shocking the Kinnickinnic River at the site of the planned 2015 project. This site is on North River Road, and has been known as the "Red Cabin Site." Don't look for a red cabin, it was torn down.

Because of the drought in 2012 and 2013, the trout population has changed. There are fewer small fish, but plenty of trout between 10 and

15 inches long. Their preliminary estimate for this reach is 2,500 trout per mile. All trout were browns. The Kinni has not been stocked for several decades, so all fish are wild. The planned project will open up the canopy so sunlight can encourage in-stream plant growth for habitat in the stream.

Kiap's chapter meeting on September 3 was held at the Valley House, a restaurant located 5 miles north of Hudson. Typical for September, attendance was light. Members present were pleased with the venue: the space is adequate for a large group, such as 50-plus attending meetings last winter and spring. The food was good, and prices reasonable. The October meeting will also be held at this location.

An additional meeting will be held on October 6 in Amery. Many Kiap-TU-Wish members who live in the northern portion of our territory are seldom able to get to meetings in Hudson, so this is a good way to provide a closer venue for them and hopefully attract members from our northern reaches.

One of the topics for discussion is the replacement of a perched cul-

vert on Parker Creek southwest of Amery.

Our annual banquet is scheduled for Thursday, December 4. It will

again be held at the Lake Elmo Inn Event Center.

—Tom Henderson

Lakeshore Chapter

A much belated thank you to all who helped with our spring cleanup on the Onion River. SEWTU was simply amazing with all the volunteers and hard work put in all day. Lakeshore Chapter greatly appreciates your hard work and we hope we can do it again!

Since the cleanup the Onion has been fishing very well. A nice array of hatches from Brown Drakes, Hendricksons, BWO's, caddis and tiny midges have all been getting better every year with all the work

we have been doing. The terrestrial fishing was great this summer. Ants, beetles and hoppers seem to get the bigger fish excited to come out and eat a big meal. I hope everyone had an enjoyable and successful season.

Our proposed work below the Highway U bridge is still in the works, but with all the rain and strange weather, our fisheries biologist is waiting another year to do any of the work. Once I know any info I will surely let everyone know. We will need volunteers for that project



Gordy Martin

ONION RIVER LOOKING GOOD AFTER ALL THE VOLUNTEER EFFORT

Lakeshore Chapter President Gordy Martin says the Onion River has been fishing well and thanks those who've helped with recent habitat work.

for sure. I will keep everyone informed.

Once again thank you SEWTU, especially Jim Wierzba, for all that

you and your chapter have done for the Onion. Greatly appreciated!

—Gordy Martin

Northwoods Chapter

Following our 40th Annual Conservation Banquet on September 18 in Minocqua, our chapter will resume our monthly meetings in Eagle River. On Monday, October 8 we will gather together to hear the tales of fishing guide Bill Sherer from this year's fishing season. Bill will share lots of photographs of muskies, smallies and trout that he and his clients caught on the fly this summer in our own backyard.

On November 10 retired fisheries biologist Duke Andrews will lead us in a discussion about the management of the Deerskin River, our fa-

vorite little stream. We will discuss the characterization of the brook trout population and their habitat, management issues, public access to the river, and our vision for the river.

Our meetings are held on the second Monday of each month in Eagle River, with locations to be determined. If you would like to receive our chapter e-newsletter, please email Laura at lauramacfarland@gmail.com to sign up. Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/NorthwoodsTU.

—Laura MacFarland

Oconto River Chapter

Our chapter continued to work on stream projects with the Green Bay, Marinette and Wolf River chapters. This year's projects include brushing, bundling and structure rehab work on the South Branch and the North Branch of the Oconto River.

The chapter set up a booth at the Oconto County Youth Fair Aug 14-17. The chapter displayed a "Trout-in-the-Classroom" set-up, complete with chiller and live trout donated by Silver Moon Springs. The TIC setup was taken to the Oconto Falls High School, which is the fifth school in the area to install and uti-

lize the Trout in the Classroom curriculum. Live fish are always a great draw. Five new members signed up as a result. To help pay for the equipment, the chapter ran a summer cash raffle.

We held our fishing day at Woodlands Village, a nursing facility in Suring, Wisconsin on September 12. Residents there were treated to a couple hours of fishing fun. Chapter members, along with the Suring Fire Department, set up a portable fish tank. Members help the residents fish, then clean up the trout for a fish fry at a later date.

Chapter members participated in



Chapter News

a northern pike eradication event held on the Oconto River Sept 6. High water greeted the participants, and the swift water and turbid conditions made for difficult fishing and undoubtedly limited the catch.

This is a fun event for members and friends to enjoy a morning on the river trying to catch northern, the biggest enemy of small trout in the lower reaches of the Oconto system. Members clean the catch and everyone shares in a fish fry afterwards. Bluegill fillets were served to those that didn't catch a northern. Tom Klatt organizes the event and is the official in charge of weighing and measuring the entries.

The annual fishing day for disabled anglers was September 20 at Brunner's Pond in Underhill. Participants were treated to a picnic lunch before fishing for the big one. Fish caught are cleaned and sent along with the fisherman and his or her caregiver for a fish fry at their home. Details of the event will be shared in the next issue of Wisconsin Trout.

Our membership meetings are held monthly, except May and November, on the first Wednesday of each month. Meetings are held at the Lone Oak Gun club, just north of Gillett, starting at 7 p.m.

—Dale Halla

Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter

Our chapter remained active throughout the summer months, yet many of our members found time to fish with friends and family. That is my definition of a good summer. Our focus this quarter was stream restoration, and we had an active work day schedule to support this mission.

With summer nearly behind us we are looking forward to the start of our monthly chapter meetings to be held at the Thunder Bay Grille. The programs we have lined up should continue to draw large attendance, which is a testimony to the quality of our speakers and the passion of our chapter members.

We spent significant time partnered with Orvis and their Bayshore store's Fisheries Manager Erik Helm to conduct a series of Fly Fishing 101 classes. Our volunteers helped mentor aspiring anglers with casting instruction and fishing conversation. As part of the program, Orvis provides a free, one-year membership to TU. We added more than 170 new members to our ranks this year through this program. We encourage other chapters to explore ways they can use this program to grow their ranks. The local presence provided by our volunteers goes a long way to help these newcomers connect locally. We have seen a sig-

nificant number of those attendees at our other events through the summer months.

A key characteristic of our summer schedule seems to be a "burst" of activity each month in a very small window of time. I guess this gives lots of other time to our members to pursue their own summer agenda, but it relies on the generosity of our volunteers as we "go back to the well" multiple times in a short period of time. Thanks again to those who time and again stepped up to the plate to support our summer activities.

A key event of June was our annual "LUNKER building" partnership with the Aldo Leopold Chapter of TU for a joint work day on Bear Creek. A large number of our members and our famous work day trailer made the trip west to the Driftless Area on Saturday, June 21. This is the fourth consecutive year we have partnered together and the question now being posed is "Will we ever run out of Bear Creek frontage for our LUNKERS?"

Special thanks to Scott Criqui and Ray Weiss of our chapter who spearheaded our participation and got the trailer safely on site. Scott was on site for the work day but arranged much of the prep work from afar as he and his family recently relocated to the Twin Cities. We will miss Scott's participation and enthusiasm locally but know Minnesota TU will benefit from his move.

Also, thanks to the Aldo Leopold Chapter and their dedicated band of volunteers who went out of their way to welcome us to their home waters. After the work was over, the two chapters gathered for a brat roast and some big fish stories. A number of our members remained in the area for the weekend to hunt for Driftless Area trout in hopes of adding to those stories.

June 28 saw our volunteers on the water with veterans for another Project Healing Waters fishing outing. Special thanks to George Batcha and numerous 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.

July activities were also "bunched" in a small window. Our July work day was conducted on Saturday, July 19 on Allenton Creek north of Milwaukee and in our chapter's home waters. A group of our volunteers worked with DNR biologist Travis Motl to significantly debrush and clean up a stretch of this brook trout fishery, which rumor has it has also been the recipient of rainbow brood stock plantings in the past. The sound of chainsaws and other power tools left their contribution and several of our members have already returned to the site to enjoy the fruits of their labor. Special thanks to Rick Frye of our chapter who lead our efforts that day.

A few days later we held our annual casting clinic and summer picnic at Greenfield Park. Pat Ehlers of The Fly Fishers was our guest instructor this year. He was capably supported by several of our chapter volunteers. Special thanks to Larry Wirth of our chapter who arranges the logistics and provides casting guidance to the attendees. The

weather did not cooperate as significant thunder storm activity challenged the outing and required a slight change of venue. By the end of the night however, much casting practice was accomplished and a significant dent was put into the food and beverages provided by a team of volunteers lead by Chuck Beeler, Mike Kuhr, Stan Strelka and Jay Zawerschnik.

Project Healing Waters veterans and volunteers were back on the water on July 24 for another fishing outing. This program probably means as much to our volunteers as to the veterans who participate. It was nice to see a lengthy article on the program appear this summer in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel courtesy once again of Paul Smith.

On to August. For our chapter it was a month of firsts. We sponsored a Boy Scout attendee to the State Council's first ever Youth Camp. Lest I forget, we also played a prominent role in TU National's Teen Summit, which in its third year came to Wisconsin and was held in the Driftless Area. Our chapter sponsored two teens that were among the 25 teens from across the US to attend. Several of our members volunteered their time, led by Henry Koltz, Jason Freund and Mike Kuhr.

Our chapter work day in August also established a first, and it is an event we will want to duplicate in future years. On August 16 Amy Koltz organized and led a "Women and Children" stream exploration day at Paradise Springs. More than 25 children ages three and up got wet in the stream, looked for bugs and learned about trout and their habitat.

Our volunteers were greatly assisted by the DNR and a team lead by Ben Huessner, who provided kick nets and other bug-screening tools. The highlight of the day for many was probably the DNR's shocking demonstration, as the children got to hold trout and learn where they hide in a stream. There was also work to be done by the older youth and the adult attendees, as gravel was added to the stream bed as part of our on-going restoration efforts at the site.

In August we also welcomed Abby Mertz to our board of directors. Abby has volunteered significant time to our social media efforts and our Women's Initiative and we were pleased to see her accept a board seat. It has been awhile since we have had a female board member and this move was overdue. We are always on the lookout for additional female members of our chapter who want to take a leadership position. If interested, please contact Jim Wierzba.

Project Healing Waters was also back on the water with their fifth outing of the year on August 23. Additional fishing outings are planned for September and Thursday, October 23. Please contact George Batcha if you would like to mentor a vet or help with the weekly fly-tying instruction.

That's a wrap on our summer activities. As we look forward we have much to keep us occupied. Beginning in September a group of our members will get together twice a month to tie flies and exchange helpful hints. Special thanks to Gregg Schick and the other volunteers who host this event at the Oak Creek Community Center.



SEWTU'S FIRST WOMEN AND CHILDRENS STREAM EXPLORATION DAY
Amy Koltz organized the first ever Women and Children's Stream Exploration Day at Paradise Springs. Above, the DNR's Steven Gospodarek shows some stream invertebrates to the curious trio of Kalan Hladiak, Adelaide Koltz and Hallie Koltz. Below, he shows insects to an excited Marley Conner.



Amy Koltz

Heidi Oberstadt

Chapter News



Our chapter members have also been mobilized and focused on the ongoing plans for the Estabrook Dam on the Milwaukee River. The original dam was severely damaged a number of years ago and options to remediate it have been discussed for a number of years without a decision being made. This topic is coming to closure with the completion of a study that identified four options, which range from replacement of the dam to complete removal with remediation to the industrial pollutants and sediment that accumulated behind the old structure.

Our board of directors was asked for their input, as was the State Council. Our board voted unanimously in favor of the removal option, as it represents the lowest cost in terms of one-time and ongoing maintenance, while restoring the river to its original condition. It also allows the free passage of numerous fish species, reduces flooding risks and directly ties to TU's mission components of "Restore" and "Reconnect."

The issue is politically charged and the local landowners would like the return of their "lake," with the replacement of the dam. We continue to encourage our members to offer their opinions to Milwaukee County leadership. Special thanks to Herb Oechler and Mike Kuhr, who have followed this issue for years, and to Henry Koltz and Jim Wierzba, who respectively solicited and provided input from the State Council and SEWTU.

We are excited to start up our monthly chapter meetings again and we held the first of our fall meetings

September 23 at the Thunder Bay Grille. This past year, our chapter sponsored two "Trout in the Classroom" programs for elementary school students. Boyd Roessler, an active member of our chapter and the teacher who lead one of these efforts, presented the program to our members. He was assisted by the DNR's Ben Huessner, who facilitated the necessary permits and trout for the program. That evening also saw a tribute to one of our recently deceased board members, John Knitter. John was a very avid and talented fly tyer and we will be hosting a silent auction that evening of his remaining fly tying material and other items.

Our habitat committee sponsored a work day September 27 on Whitewater Creek in Walworth County, again in our home waters. We teamed with Luke Roffler, the DNR biologist for that area, to create brush bundles and tree-drop habitat improvements in this fishery.

A very special date in October is Tuesday, October 28, our annual fundraising banquet to be held at New Berlin Hills Golf Course. As always, donations are much appreciated and help drive bottom-line results to support our many programs. No donation is too small and many of our members help by donating cash, fly assortments, fishing books or unused equipment for our prize raffles. If interested in making a donation please contact Jim Wierzba at hoke4me@aol.com.

For information about these upcoming events and other activities within our chapter, please visit our website or Facebook page for all the

Southern Wisconsin Chapter

SWTU had a wonderful summer that ended with a tremendous "catch" – the Silver Trout Award from National Trout Unlimited. (Check out the story on page 1!)

Like many chapters, we take it a bit slow during the busy travel months of July and August, but continued to engage members through our Facebook page and occasional activities.

June, though? June was bursting with activity as we sought to educate, award and engage those with a love of fishing and passion for cold water.

On June 2 members of SWTU's Education and Membership Committee teamed up with Theresa Stabo, Wisconsin DNR Aquatic Resources Educator, to teach an Introduction to Fishing Workshop. The workshop was hosted by the Water Sentinels, a joint project of the First Unitarian Society and the Four Lakes Group of the Sierra Club. The Water Sentinels are working to raise awareness among their respective memberships about water resource and conservation issues. The timing was perfect as participants learned the basics just in time for the DNR's Free Fishing Weekend.

Beautiful weather greeted our June 14 Special Needs Fishing Day. Once again, John Schweiger organized a wonderful outing for some very special people. More than 20 chapter members donated their time to make it a pleasant (and fish-catching) day for our forty-two guests, plus thirty-one caregivers or family members.

We are very proud to support the Wisconsin Women's Flyfishing Clinics, which also took place in June. These have become a national model for outreach and education. The success of the initial "beginner's clinic" led to the creation of a more advanced "on the water" clinic. Both clinics draw women from across the Midwest to learn new skills, sharpen old ones and, yes, catch some trout.

We thank Tina Murray and Laura MacFarland for once again doing an amazing job of making these events happen. The clinics for 2015



Marty Jenich

CATCHING A FISH AND A SMILE

SWTU has supported the Wisconsin Women's Fishing Clinics in Avallanche, bringing smiles like this to students each year.

are already set. Visit swtu.org and click on "Activities" and then "Women's Fly Fishing Clinics" to learn more and register.

The busy June was a perfect time for our Nash Williams Banquet, a celebration of trout and a time to recognize amazing individuals who have given deeply of their time and talents. Many thanks to Pat Hasburgh for organizing this year's event. The food was exceptional, thanks to chapter member Ben Lubchansky's 608 Community-Supported Kitchen, and we were pleased to honor a wide variety of people who have made extraordinary contributions to coldwater conservation.

Looking ahead, Saturday, January 17 is our annual Icebreaker event. This daylong event is inspirational and educational, and this year includes Mike Lawson as our featured speaker. Mike is a noted fly fisher, conservationist and author of the exceptional book "Spring Creeks." Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.

Stop by swtu.org for more, including news of our fall stream workdays. You can also stay in touch by finding us on Facebook.

—Drew Kasel

Wild Rivers Chapter

The Wild Rivers chapter took much of the summer off from meeting, but there are still things going on in Northern Wisconsin.

In continuation of the channel stream restoration work on Whittlesey Creek, a Wisconsin Conservation Corps crew worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and contractors to install approximately 200 logs in the section between the two Cherryville Road bridges just west of State Highway 13. This is the fourth consecutive year of log installation, resulting in more than 700 logs added to the lower 2.5 miles of the creek.

Pre- and post-installation monitoring results from last year's installation site are very encouraging. As would be expected, channel complexity and morphology have changed dramatically from the wide, shallow, sandy conditions that existed pre-installation. Post-installation aquatic macro-invertebrate surveys indicate more robust species diversity and abundance. Mark-and-recap-

ture fish surveys yielded brook trout, including one at 14 inches. Wild Rivers supports the work on Whittlesey Creek by purchasing and delivering trees, which are planted in the riparian zone of the creek.

Bill Heart volunteered to again assist the USFW in mid September with their yearly electro-shocking survey work that has been going on since about 2002. We surveyed both the main fork and north fork of Whittlesey Creek.

There seems to be more brook trout showing up this year. Any brook trout caught that was over five inches or so had a pit tag surgically inserted for biologists to track their movement in and out of Whittlesey Creek. Each tag has its own number and as the fish passes the tag reader at the mouth of the creek where it flows into Lake Superior, the tag number, the date and time is recorded. Even though brook trout numbers seem to be up a little, most fish captured were small cohos.

The chapter is working on a Me-



Jim Beecher

UNIVERSITY CLUB GETS SWTU AWARD

SWTU President Matt Krueger presenting an award to Khamsai Vang, a founding member of the UW-Madison 5 Rivers Club, and active chapter member.

details. 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 friends who will share their knowledge and help you

identify future fishing destinations. Tight Lines.

—Jim Wierzba



Chapter News



Mark Brouder

HEART HELPS SHOCKING CREW

Bill Heart assists DNR Assistant Project Leader Henry Quinlan and Fisheries Biologist Josh Schloesser. They shocked the main fork and north fork of Whittlesey Creek.

morial Bench that will be installed on the Montreal River in Iron County in memory of long time chapter member, Robert Fellman. Chapter board member Donovan Dums built the rustic log bench, and Bob Traczyk has arranged for its installation.

Another long-time chapter member, Charlie Gritzner, passed away earlier this year. Charlie was former president Dick Berge's brother-in-law from Iowa who has a cabin a few doors down from Dick's near Iron River. A group of us gathered at the slide-in on the White River at the beginning of the Hex hatch to do a

little memorial. It was the same place that we did a memorial for Larry Meicher. It was a special evening.

Earlier this summer, chapter supporter and friend Roger LaPenter was inducted into the Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame. Roger was instrumental in making the Chequamegon Bay of Lake Superior one of the premier smallmouth fisheries in the nation. He worked hard, even though there was much opposition, to change the size regulation for smallmouth to one 22-inch fish. Roger had the foresight to realize that protecting the breeding stock

could only improve the fishery. He certainly was correct.

Today the Chequamegon Bay is a

destination for those who love to fish for smallies.

—Bill Heart

Wisconsin Clear Waters

The end of the trout season is nearly upon us and I hope that everyone found the time and the conditions favorable to fish your secret trout stream. Wisconsin Clear Waters TU has been busy with a number of volunteer activities this summer. We participated in a one-day fishing seminar for youth held in July at Beaver Creek Reserve and partnered with the Chippewa Rod & Gun Club and the DNR with an electro-shocking survey of the Irvine Park reach of Duncan Creek in Chippewa Falls. Also, we helped with a post-restoration electro-shocking survey in August on Bear Creek near Durand, in partnership with the Durand Sportsman Club and the DNR.

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited held its first Youth Fishing Camp near Wild Rose in July, and we were fortunate to send a young person to the camp. This youth camp was very successful for a number of reasons and I strongly support this effort. These young people represent the future of angling and we will continue to send a person to the camp as long as it is offered.

The stream restoration projects slated for this summer were set back by the heavy rain in June and July. The Waumandee Creek project was completed, but the Gilbert Creek project in Dunn County will be pushed back to 2015. Hopefully Sand Creek in Dunn County and Duncan Creek in Chippewa County, as well as wild trout transfers, will be completed.

WI Clear Waters TU has four New Zealand mud snail boot/brush stations that will be placed on local streams. The first was placed on Bear Creek and the remaining three will find a home either on Sand Creek or Elk Creek. Please take the time to use the stations, as this is our effort to not spread this invasive species to the streams of western Wisconsin. This pest was brought from New Zealand and has turned up in Black Earth Creek west of Madison.

We are beginning to plan for the off season meetings and speakers. With the remodeling of Gander Mountain, we lost the meeting room where we have held monthly meetings the past several years. Our chapter meetings will now be held at the Eau Claire Rod & Gun Club. I want to thank the Eau Claire Rod & Gun Club for allowing us to use the club house.

Dale Dahlke's two-year term as vice president has expired and Al Noll has been nominated to replace him. Dale will remain on the board and I personally want to thank him for his strong leadership and steady hand the past two years. Mike Shanley has been nominated to fill a vacant board position and both Al and Mike will bring strong leadership skills and energy to our chapter.

A cleanup day will be held in October at the chapter-owned property on Elk Creek, and Al Noll will lead

this effort. Please join us for a morning of light cleanup and some good food.

Beaver Creek Reserve at Fall Creek hosted the third fly fishing clinic for 10-12-year-old kids. The class was taught by Beaver Creek personnel, including Jim Schwiebert and WI Clear Waters TU members Gary Welch, Al Noll and Dale Dahlke.

The day started with an introduction to TU, trout species, stream restoration and fishing ethics. The group then split up in order to achieve a better student-to-instructor ratio, with half of the group tying flies and the other group learning casting techniques.

The fly tiers were able to put the vises and materials provided by Clear Waters TU to good use. They tied a nymph and a couple of poppers. With excellent instructors, they all had a great time and are sure to put tying kits on their wish lists.

The casters learned safety, knots, basic casting techniques, roll casts and more. The rods we use are a part of our chapter's educational tools with one set of rods for casting practice and another saved for fishing.

Finally the group came together. The fishing set of rods came out and each student became an angler. A local farmer allowed us to use his farm pond to try out our newly tied flies.

While the pond may have experienced some winter kill and didn't have the usual density of little sunfish, it didn't dampen the spirits of the fly fishers. Everyone went home eager to visit their local stream and pond with a fly rod in hand. They will certainly become our new generation of TU members.

DNR trout stream restorer John Sours and his crew came to Bear Creek in Pepin County in August to do an electroshocking demonstration. About 70 adults and youth attended. About 1,300 feet of this stream was restored a year ago on the Spindler property on Highway 10 in Lima Township.

Everyone was intrigued by the fish-shocking process, which temporarily stuns fish, allowing them to be netted and measured. Lots of fish were found, both brook trout and some larger browns. Amazing what a difference creek restoration can do to bring life back to a once-highly-eroded stream.

Also, a boot-and-wader cleaning station provided by the River Alliance of Wisconsin was installed. The purpose of this station is to protect our fisheries from invasive species. Also present were members of the Wisconsin Clear Waters Chapter, which helped fund the project. Everyone truly enjoyed the evening. Thanks to John and his crew for a job well done.

—Bob Swanson, Dale Dahlke, Rick Bauer



Gary Welch/Dale Dahlke

CLEARWATERS CHAPTER HELPS WITH KIDS FISHING DAY

New fly fishers assembled their fly rods in the parking lot and eagerly waited to test their new flies at the annual fishing clinic for 10-12 year olds at Beaver Creek Reserve in Fall Creek. Below, an electro-shocking demonstration on the Irvine Park reach of Duncan Creek.



Wisconsin River Valley Chapter

I recently helped out at several youth events, including the Outdoor Education Expo in Poynette at the Mackenzie Environmental center

and the 8th annual Kiwanis Youth Outdoors Day in Wisconsin Rapids on the shores of Lake Wazeecha's Red Sands Beach Park. Both events

Chapter News



introduce youth and some parents to hunting, fishing, trapping and other outdoor activities. This will get them outside to learn about the natural world, the critters that live in it and how we can care for those critters by protecting and conserving habitat.

Next I volunteered at WITU's first Youth Fishing Camp in July. I enjoyed meeting all the students, instructors and chaperones that attended. It was a joy for me to be awake by 5 a.m., and head to the main lodge to see boys anxious and ready to try to catch fish before

breakfast. Kudos to Linn Beck and Bob Haase for all their work getting this event put together.

Thank you to Al Hauber, Henry Kanemoto, Bob Pils and John Meachan for their time in showing youngsters fly tying and casting at the Wausau School Forest at the annual Sporting Heritage Day.

We will soon be working with Dave Coenan from Wausau East High school for the annual Plover River Stream study. Dates will be coming and will be posted on the Wisconsin River Valley Chapter's Facebook page as soon they are set.

We will mainly be assisting biology students with identifying aquatic insects. Chemistry and physics students will also be there performing tests on water quality and flow rates. The final wrap on the day will

be a shocking demonstration by the DNR crew. Watch for the dates and location on Facebook and please join us.

—Linda Lehman

Wolf River Chapter

Our general membership meeting will be at 9 a.m. October 11 at the White Lake Community Center in White Lake. There will be a lunch held after the meeting. The agenda will include 2015 work days, brat

stand and regulation changes. Anyone interested in receiving our newsletter should contact us. For a hard copy, email Laurie at lznetzow@me.com. For a digital copy email muddywaters@new.rr.com. For details on any of our projects

TU National's Teen Summit comes to Wisconsin

If you were wondering what the future holds for TU, Wisconsin had a glimpse this past summer as the National TU Teen Summit was held at Sugar Creek Bible Camp in Crawford County.

Two dozen teens came from across the country to fish Driftless Area streams, learn spring creek ecology, do a service project and tour project sites. They squeezed all those activities in despite some wet weather. They also developed a teen leadership agenda to share TU's mission with other teens.

TU volunteers made great hosts. State Council Chair Henry Koltz flipped brats, a dozen volunteers showed teens around the nearby streams, and Harry and Laura Nohr Chapter President Todd Templen and other Nohr volunteers helped them

rebuild Blue River angler stiles damaged by spring flooding.

TUDARE Outreach Coordinator Duke Welter shared Driftless Area environmental and social history during a storm-dodging bus tour to Grant County. DNR Ecologist Mike Miller led them through an invertebrate study and stream shocking on Sugar Creek. They enthusiastically catalogued the stream creatures they seined up before hitting the stream again for some evening fishing.

The 2014 summit followed the inaugural 2012 event in Pennsylvania and 2013 event in Wyoming. Volunteers who have attended the first two events also helped TU National staff this year, and said they'd be attending every future summit.

—Duke Welter



HAPPY DOING A HARD DAY'S WORK

The Teen Summit crew worked on a fence crossing on the Blue River.

Watershed Access Fund

Strong start for 2014

By Doug Brown

The 2014 Watershed Access Fund campaign drive is ending soon, and we sincerely thank you for your financial support this past year. This has been one of the most successful campaigns yet, with nearly 100 donations from our chapters and many individuals and organizations. Thanks to your support we are approaching \$10,000!

Easements can be held/owned by the State Council, but not chapters. Chapters can engage in discussions with private landowners, and in situations where the DNR or other group is unable to pay for the easement, the Council can purchase the easement, with approval from National TU.

The current grant request limit is \$5,000, and two chapters may each request a grant for a single purchase or easement acquisition, and each chapter must match at 50 percent. That's \$15,000 that could be available for a single purchase or easement. All or part of the chapter matching portion can be in the form of volunteer hours. (Note: These numbers will be discussed at the October 11 board meeting and may change.)

Watch for the 2015 campaign letter in the mail in early December. Please consider helping WITU improve access on our trout streams with your generous contribution to the 2015 Watershed Access Fund.

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")

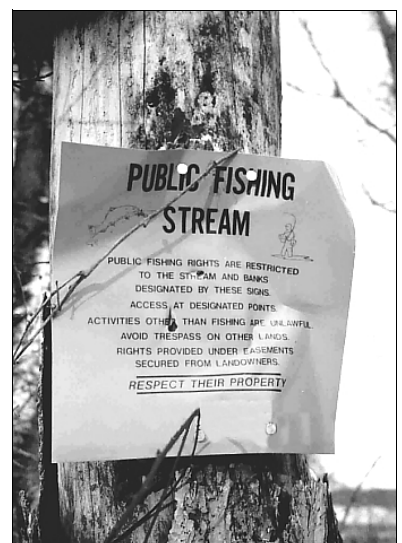
MAIL TO: TU Watershed Access Fund
% Doug Brown
R4800 Timber Ln.
Ringle, WI 54471

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____



From The Heart

News and views from Bill Heart

I write this column with a heavy heart. While on my trip to Santa Fe and the National Meeting, Ellie, my English setter, became quite ill and the day after I returned I had to take her to my vet and have her put down. It was one of the hardest things that I have ever done. Ellie was a rescue dog who turned into a wonderful hunter and even more, a special companion. She is buried on a small hill above my sugar shack, her favorite place. I do not think that I was ever at the sugar bush without her "helping."

This was the tenth meeting that I have had the opportunity to attend, and the last as the NLC representative for Wisconsin. It has been a pleasure attending these meetings. National staff, led by Nancy Bradley and Beverly Lane Smith, did a great job in planning the event and it seemed that everything ran smoothly.

Congratulations go out to Jon Christiansen for receiving the Mortensen Award and the Southern Wisconsin Chapter for receiving the Silver Trout Award for chapter excellence. It is very special to meet and talk to so many TU members throughout the country that have such a passion for trout and our coldwater resources.

In June I attended a Science on Tap program in Mercer, a small town near the Flambeau Flowage in Iron County. The speaker was Dave Neuswanger, the DNR Regional Fisheries Manager who has since retired. The discussion was mostly about bass and walleye issues, but in the question-and-answer period, I asked about the trout fishery in Iron County. Neuswanger stated that

when the Penokee Mine issue surfaced, he and his staff decided to spend much of their survey time working in the area that would be most impacted by the proposed mine.

What they found was very interesting. Many of the trout streams in the proposed mining area have been classified by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as either Class 2 or 3, meaning that they do not support a self-sustaining trout fishery.

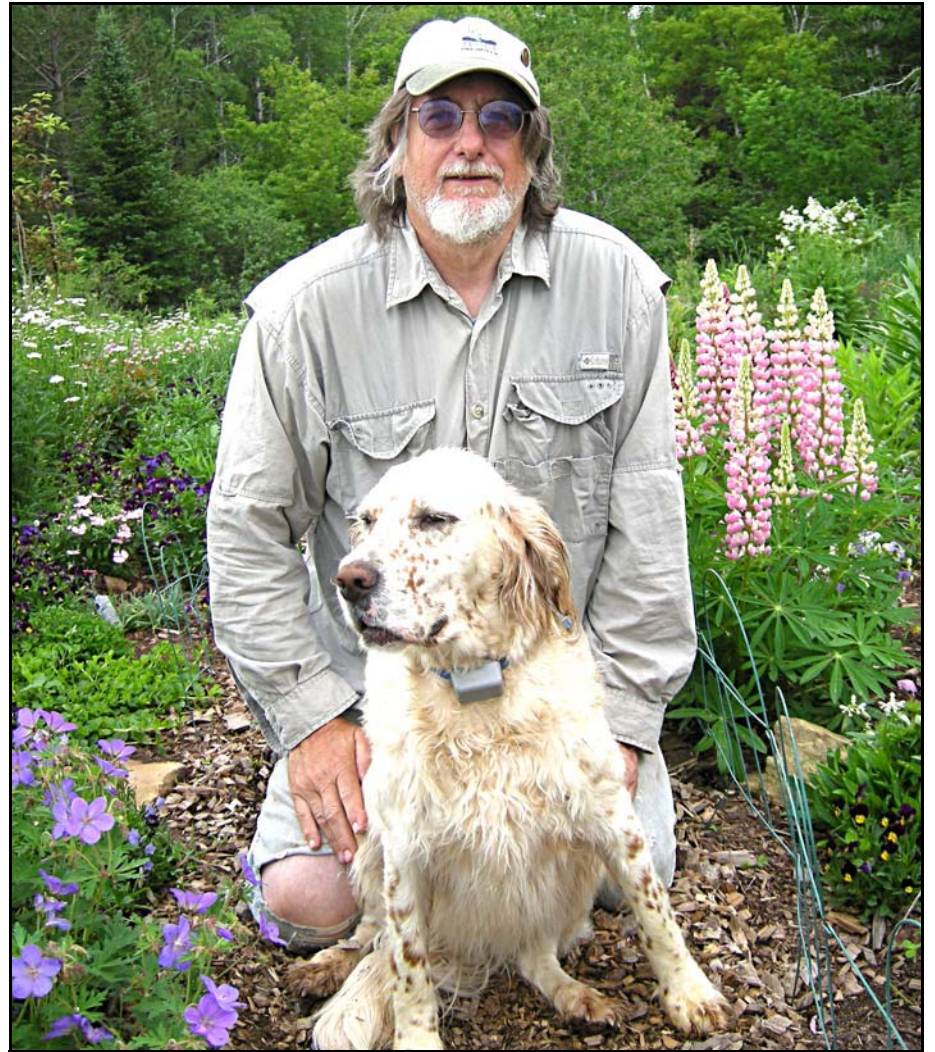
But Neuswanger noted that the these brook trout streams will all need to be reclassified. The DNR has not stocked any brook trout in any of the streams in question for many years. What they found is that most, if not, all of the classified streams and many unnamed small tributaries that have never been surveyed or classified as trout streams, contain young-of-the-year brook trout.

I have "surveyed" many of these trout streams with my fly rod and can verify the DNR's findings, including a pair of 12-inch brookies. I plan to continue those "surveys" until the end of September.

In August TU Manager of Government Affairs Zach Cockrum came to northern Wisconsin for an on-site visit of the proposed mine. We started with a boat tour of the Kakagon Sloughs at the mouth of the Bad River, which contain the historical rice beds of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

We went out with a number of tribal biologists, who gave us a biological and historical perspective of the watershed and rice beds.

We then spent the rest of the day



BILL HEART AND HIS BELOVED ELLIE

touring the proposed site and some of the trout streams and connected wetlands that are crucial to keep coldwater in the many trout streams.

Of course we did have a fly rod along and were able to catch some of the small brook trout. Most of what we looked at was the very headwaters of these trout streams in the area that is proposed for tailing piles and waste rock dumps. These are the areas that need to have the most protection. Zach was very impressed with the area and under-

stands why we need to continue to be involved with protecting this special place.

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 River Alliance, TU share common missions and objectives

Together watching over our rivers and streams, for nearly two decades



FIGHTING INVASIVES WITH WADER/BOOT CLEANING STATIONS

Jim Kanvik of SWTU helped lead a crew of volunteers during a Wisconsin River Alliance event to install wader wash stations and information signs at stream access points.

By Kim McErthy,
Past Council Chair

In today's world of conservation, no group attains success without forging strong partnerships

with like-minded groups. Wisconsin Trout Unlimited is no exception. We have forged relationships with a variety of people and groups that have been invaluable in helping us protect the coldwater re-

sources of Wisconsin.

In the previous edition we focused on WITU's relationship with The League of Conservation Voters. In this article we will look at The River Alliance of Wisconsin and the important help TU receives from this group.

The connection between TU and The Alliance goes back more than 20 years with several WITU members being instrumental to its formation in 1993. Shared leadership continues today with TU members serving on its board of directors and two Alliance staffers serving as TU chapter leaders.

The River Alliance of Wisconsin's mission statement reads much like that of TU's: "to advocate for the protection, enhancement, and restoration of Wisconsin's rivers and watersheds." Both groups share a common passion for rivers and the inspiration of moving water.

The Alliance is a champion for rivers in a variety of ways, but today the relationship between The Alliance and TU manifests itself in two key areas. The first is the important work The Alliance brings in the area of invasive species. Due to the ever-growing popularity and importance of Wisconsin's trout fishery, the angler's role in preventing the intro-

duction and spread of invasives has come into greater focus. River Alliance is leading Wisconsin in addressing the challenge of the transport invasives on rivers and streams, and is reaching out directly to anglers via a partnership with TU.

The second major area in which The Alliance provides important help for TU is in the area of advocacy. As chapters know all too well, resource challenges to coldwater resources spring up at the local level and chapters find themselves on the front lines of battles to protect the streams they love. The organization developed the "Advocacy for Coldwater Conservation" training program in conjunction with TU to train TU volunteers to be the best informed, most effective conservation advocates. At this point nine local TU chapters have been trained by The Alliance.

The River Alliance of Wisconsin and The League of Conservation Voters are two valuable and reliable conservation partners, with each group becoming stronger by being connected to the others. Wisconsin TU is fortunate to have the expertise, dedication and staunch support of these two great conservation groups.

Bob's Tying Tips

Advice from
the bench of
Bob Haase

Bob's Tying Tips

Hot melt glue flies

One of the nice things about fly tying is that there are always new materials and new tying methods to try. If you attend various fly-tying shows and demonstrations you will usually see one or more of the tyers demonstrating the use of a new material or a new tying technique. When you see this, don't just observe and pass on by. Instead, think about all the different ways you could use the technique or possibly combine it with other techniques.

Last spring when I was down at the Sowbug fly tying show in Mountain Home, Arkansas, a tyer named Joe Nicklo demonstrated how to tie flies using a temperature-controlled soldering iron and hot-melt glue. I was impressed with how real the flies looked and I spent time with him, observing and asking questions. I ended up purchasing one of the kits he was selling and have been using that technique for a few of my nymph patterns. If you would like to know more about Joe's hot-melt glue system, go to his website at hmgflysystems.com.

You can purchase the temperature controlled soldering iron on eBay and the colored hot-melt glue at most hobby shops, but his

kit provides a DVD on how to use the system, which is very helpful. You will also find Joe a great guy to talk to if you have any questions. With a little practice you can expand your tying skills to include using hot melt glue for your flies. It takes a little practice getting the best temperature settings, but after that it is pretty easy.

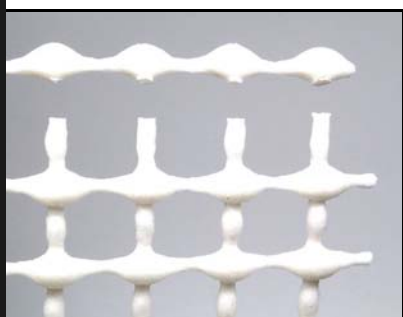
Terrestrials from shelf liner, foam mesh

I have had more than one accomplished fly fisherman tell me that most trout fishermen do not use enough terrestrials such as ants and bees. Because of this I have spent a little more attention tying various ant patterns and found a lot of new materials that work great for ant patterns. An example is shelf liner that can be pulled apart to form ant bodies. Another similar product is the foam mesh that is put between your floor and carpeting or between the box spring and mattress of your bed to keep them from slipping. Both of these are readily available and inexpensive.

For my fly pattern this issue I will show how to tie ant patterns using Joe's hot melt glue method and the foam shelf liner and non-slip mesh.



COMMON MATERIALS CAN BE USED FOR TERRESTRIALS
Hot melt glue kit, packing material and foam liner material



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.

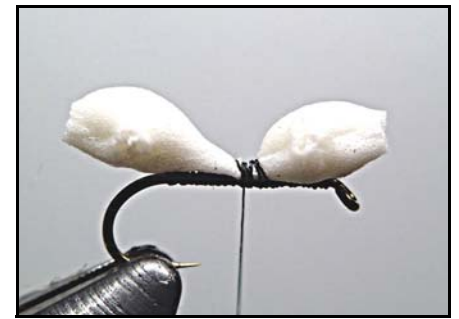
Bob's wet and dry fly ant patterns

By Bob Haase

I have seen some new ant patterns recently that use foam shelf liner material or hot-melt glue, so I decided to experiment with these.

Hot melt glue ant

This pattern was developed by Joe Nicklo from HMG Fly Systems in Texas. He uses a temperature-controlled soldering iron and colored hot-melt glue to make the ant body. He also uses this technique to create nymphs.



Step 1 - Take a scissors to cut it into ant body segments. You can color it while it is attached if you want and then you just have to touch up where you cut it apart once it is tied on the hook. Start the thread and wrap a thread base onto the hook shank so that it provides a better bond. Use a few drops of super glue. Just lift the head and body and apply a couple drops of glue.



Step 1 - Using a temperature-controlled soldering iron with a fine point, melt the hot-melt glue onto the soldering iron tip and then apply it and shape it onto the hook. Here I used red for the head and black for the body. You can blend colors to get whatever shade of color you want.



Step 2 - Use permanent markers to color the body. Then wrap a pair of CDC puffs on top so that it just hangs over the sides as shown in the first picture.



Step 2 - Attach an appropriate sized saddle hackle and wrap it to form the legs as shown in the first picture. This pattern sinks slowly and looks like a drowning ant floating just under the surface. You can make it in any size and color you want and it is great for bluegills as well.

Kent Walrath Crazy Ant

This ant pattern was created by Kent Walrath and shown by Tim Flagler on Midcurrents. The body is made from a foam shelf liner. It is tied just like the pattern above and I omit the hackle and just use the CDC puff for the reason mentioned above. This material comes in a number of colors, as well as white, and they can be colored with permanent markers.

This material works best on a size 16 hook. If you want a larger fly, use the material mentioned in the other pattern. You can cut the material apart into strips, noticing that this only works in one direction. Then, using your thumb and forefinger, pull the sections apart to form the head and body, with legs. Just tie it on the hook. You can also use fabric paint to put a hot-colored dot on the head for visibility or use a bright color CDC puff so you can see it better in the water.

Don't forget to use all the conventional ant patterns that have worked for years. You can add wings using raffia or other winging material. As a tier you have the flexibility to make them any way, any color and any size you want, and you are not limited to the patterns you find in a fly shop. Besides being a lot of fun, it is another reason to consider learning to tie your own flies.



Non-slip-foam ant

This ant body is made from the foam mesh material that is placed under a carpet or between a box spring and mattress. It floats well and the CDC puffs look like legs. A size 14 hook works well. I have only found it in white or cream, so use a permanent marker to make it any color you want. Tan makes a good cinnamon ant.

Note: If you wrap hackle as in the first ant pattern, the weight of the foam will cause the hackle to sink into the surface film and capillary action will draw the fly slightly under the surface film. When placed on the fly as I've shown, the CDC helps with flotation, and the fibers of CDC will look like legs moving on the surface. I feel that this kind of movement will help entice fish to strike.



Friends of Wisconsin TU summer 2014 update

Thank you! We're only half way through the year for the 2014 Friends of Wisconsin TU fundraising campaign and we have surpassed \$13,000! We have received donations from 122 individuals and seven from our chapters.

The Friends of Wisconsin TU program provides funding to chapters for habitat work, and several chapters have put this funding to work in the past several years. Kiap-TU-Wish was the last chapter to receive a grant, which wouldn't have been possible without your financial commitment to this program. Your donation literally goes right

back into our streams, improving trout habitat for generations to come.

Help us keep this grant program, and your trout streams, alive and healthy. Please consider a donation of any amount so WITU can keep funding the requests we receive to support chapter habitat work.

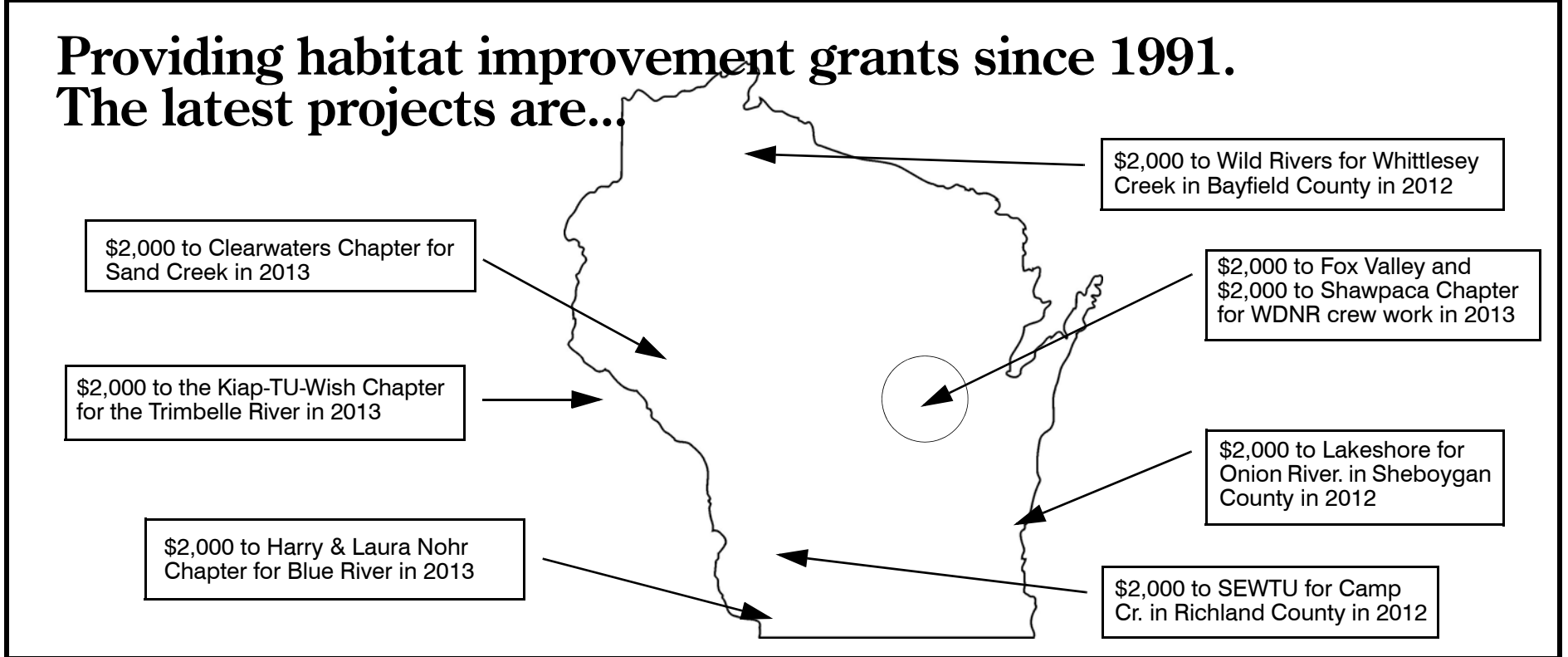
I hope you had a great summer season. Thanks again, and tight lines to you.

Doug Brown



A Friends grant recipient: the Trimbelle River

Providing habitat improvement grants since 1991. The latest projects are...



Here are our Friends of Wisconsin TU

- Mike and Sue Arneson
- Edwin Barnes
- Charles Barnhill
- Jeffrey Bartynski
- Jim Bayorgeon
- Blaine Biedermann
- Tim & Tara Bindl
- John and Susan Bleimehl
- Stephen Born
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- EllsworthWI
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- BrookfieldWI
- BerlinWI
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- NorwalkWI
- PhillipsWI
- WauwatosaWI
- Sister BayWI
- RhinelandWI
- WauwatosaWI
- GraftonWI
- North PrairieWI
- Eau ClaireWI
- GenoaIL
- MequonWI
- NeenahWI
- MadisonWI
- FremontWI
- HartlandWI
- HartlandWI
- CusterWI
- ColumbusOH
- MadisonWI
- AshlandWI
- RhinelandWI
- De PereWI
- Boulder JunctionWI
- Fish CreekWI
- SpencerWI
- RoscoeIL
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- RhinelandWI
- TomahWI
- Eau ClaireWI
- MiddletonWI
- De PereWI
- De PereWI
- FranklinWI
- AmherstWI
- RidgelandWI
- MertonWI
- CedarburgWI
- VeronaWI
- PrincetonWI
- HudsonWI
- Cottage GroveWI
- KaukaunaWI
- New BerlinWI
- MadisonWI
- MadisonWI
- HudsonWI
- WausauWI
- MilwaukeeWI
- GenoaIL
- PoynetteWI
- Green BayWI
- HudsonWI
- WatertownWI
- AppletonWI
- Lac du FlambeauWI
- AthelstaneWI
- Chuck Urban
- Jeff Vandenheuvel
- GregVodak
- Ken Voight
- Martin Voss
- Doug Wadsworth
- Don Wagner
- Donald Welhouse
- Stephen Wilke
- Donald M. Williams
- Paul Williams
- Christopher Willman
- Dan Wisniewski
- Nancy and Roland Woodruff
- Norb Wozniak
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- Frederic Young
- WauwatosaWI
- WausauWI
- StoughtonWI
- Sugar GroveIL
- Eau ClaireWI
- MadisonWI
- GillettWI
- KaukaunaWI
- MarinetteWI
- Fort AtkinsonWI
- MadisonWI
- AugustaWI
- MiddletonWI
- OshkoshWI
- Stevens PointWI
- Beaver DamWI
- RoscoeIL

TROUT UNLIMITED CHAPTERS

- Aldo Leopold
- Coulee
- Kiap-TU-Wish
- Lakeshore
- Oconto River
- Clearwaters
- Marinette Co.

IN MEMORIAM
 In memory of Nancy Voight by Ken Voight
 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 _____
 City, State Zip _____ Phone # _____