



# WISCONSIN Trout Unlimited

*Fall 1980 Newsletter*

## Ojibseau Chapter Presented Award

The Ojibseau Chapter of Trout Unlimited has been presented the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Recognition Award for its contributions to conservation in 1979.

The award, one of six presented around the state this summer, notes the chapter's efforts to improve trout habitat conditions in streams around the Eau Claire area last year.

Ojibseau Chapter members undertook several projects in 1979. One of the first was on Spring Brook near New Auburn in April. Brush that had grown up along about 1,000 feet of the stream was cut and removed by chapter volunteers. Members worked 75 manhours on the project at the stream which is being managed for cold water research. April, members were out on McCann Creek in Chippewa County cutting woody plant growth that had grown up after the stream was brushed a couple of years earlier by the chapter. Here, 45 manhours were put in.

In June, 84 manhours were spent on Duncan Creek north of Bloomer. Members rebuilt wing dams constructed in the stream. The structures had been damaged by flooding last year. Some 4,500 feet of Duncan Creek has been improved.

In July, Elk Creek was electrofished by T.U. volunteers and Depart-

ment of Natural Resources personnel. The project enabled fishery researchers to count the trout population of the stream in preparation for other stream improvement work that followed. Some 70 manhours were put into the survey.

In August, McCann Creek was shocked to complete a five-year study of trout populations. There, some 3,700 feet of stream was electrofished in connection with a previous brushing project on the creek in which tag alders were removed to stimulate insect production in the creek. Volunteers put in 100 manhours of labor.

All year long, the chapter was involved in planning this year's brushing project on Elk Creek. Landowners along the stream were contacted to gain permission to clear trees, stream maps were reviewed and previous survey work was incorporated into plans. About 125 manhours were put into preparation.

Also all year long, the chapter was involved in the August dam issue. Chapter representatives met with Augusta officials, legislators and DNR personnel to discuss the project. The dam, proposed for construction on Bridge Creek, would be detrimental to trout habitat in the stream.

For all you members who haven't heard, a new Council Chairman has taken over the helm as of August 1, 1980.

Personally, as of one of our major State Council's objectives in 1981, I want to welcome each and every one of you to send us your point of view; we want to solicit this opportunity to meet with each of you personally, if possible, during the coming year. Your inquiries and correspondence are most encouraged and welcomed. You, our members, are the most important tool we have in our organization. National Trout Unlimited recognizes this fact by expressing its appreciation in your efforts of making your organization the best of its kind in the Nation. National Trout Unlimited is Well; it is sound physically, financially, and is headed in the right direction. Since returning directly from the National Board membership and annual meeting, I can personally vouch for the responsibilities of our National Organization. Our 1981 objectives are quite simple, but very critical to all of our members and our local chapters' well being.

As many have heard, Trout Unlimited is an action organization, primarily with its main thrust and emphasis on the protection of Trout, Salmon, and Steelhead habitat. We also have a very close affection for the fish themselves. The resource can better be served with your continued active participation in our cause from all its levels, Nationally, Statewide, and here where it really is, locally in your community.

You Trout Fisherman have something personally at stake, as well as a specific voice in the future destination of our Cold Water Resources. The immediate rewards you may get from your personal efforts can't be measured materially, but only in the satisfaction you feel from your personal commitment to the most precious adversary, the "Trout" or "Salmon". This is a far greater reward.

Our National Boards' personal objectives for 1981 is to put all the problems we have had behind us. Through our mutual efforts, any problems that we may have felt National had can be considered gone. We are now the single most important factor in support of the resource in the country.

1981 will be an action year for Wisconsin Trout Unlimited. We now have a solid statewide membership of some 800 or more dedicated people. However, to really become a major factor on critical issues of national significance, issues like Acid Rain, Non-Point Pollution, Energy, Dams, Drainage, we need to enlist the help of many more fishermen. By simply increasing our membership in 1981, we can become even stronger. Through your personal efforts, we will become that one major factor to reckon with when our precious cold water resource is in jeopardy.

We must protect the resources we have for ourselves, our children, and others who share our common goals.

Each of you must give us a personal commitment to seek the allegiance of a fellow Trout fisherman.

1980 saw Wisconsinites purchase over 175,000 trout stamps. This, in itself, is a commitment for the resource. It shows us that we have concerned fishermen out there. These funds will continue to go towards the restoration and development of the Trout and Salmon habitat of Wisconsin. However, until each fisherman is personally aware of what threatens his most "revered" resource, the "Trout", these stamp funds are only a drop in the bucket. There are major problems developing out there. We can finally measure some that are awesome in scope, deadly in direction. Acid Rain itself could destroy our complete fishery. It's a fact that in some foreign countries, fishing which was once a livelihood is completely gone. In some lakes and watersheds of the United States, this threat is now a reality. Present pollution rates, together with legislative indifference and the overall misuse of our resources, is the challenge we face in the coming year.

Although the outlook may look gloomy, we can see success in our efforts. We have come a considerable distance already and with your increased support and continued awareness, we can win the battle. Your efforts and help in the past were necessary but your commitment for the future is essential. We appreciate your support.

Your State Council of Trout Unlimited,



Ronald L. Ahner  
Chairman

# State Officers Elected

Council Chairman- Ron Ahner, Southern Wi.

Vice Chairman - Jim Kalkofen, Antigo

Secretary - Ryan Hagen, Fox Valley

Treasurer - Bob Heim, Green Bay

## National Council Directors -

Ron Ahner - Southern Wi.

Tom Sopkovich - Milwaukee

## Committee Chairmen:

### Water Resource Mgt.

Arling Erickson, Central

### Publicity - Public Relations

Tom Flesch, Southern

### Membership

Tom Lepley, Milwaukee

### Legal

Verlin Peckham, Southern

### Fund Raising

Chris Doyle, Milwaukee

### Scientific Information

Stan Kmiotek, Southern

## CARTER SIGNS SYNFUEL BILL, ACID RAIN STUDY INCLUDED

President Jimmy Carter signed the energy Security Act June 30, creating a new U.S. Synthetic Fuels Corporation and providing for studies of acid rain and buildups of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. The legislation also establishes a task force to carry out a 10-year, \$50 million study of acid rain and earmarks an additional \$3 million for a National Academy of Science study on the buildup of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. The acid rain task force, which will be co-chaired by the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Secretary of Agriculture, is charged with preparing a coordinated research plan to identify the causes of acid precipitation and ways of limiting its harmful effects. EPA and the Electric Power Research Institute are each conducting research projects and EPA is investigating its authority to regulate acid precipitation under the provisions of the Clean Air Act of 1977.

## Tom Sopkovich Elected

## Midwest Regional V.P.

Tom Sopkovich, long active in Trout Unlimited, has been elected Midwest regional vice president at the just completed national directors meeting in Snowmass, Colorado. The regional vice president is a position which acts to coordinate both the problems and accomplishments within the region and represent the region on the national executive committee.

Tom is certainly qualified to coordinate the chapter and council activities within the Midwest region. Some of his past chapter and council efforts include watershed coordinator for Southern Wisconsin Chapter, president of the Southern Wis. Chapter and also the Southeastern Wis. Chapter, state council water resources manager, treasurer, chairman and council national director.

Tom stated that membership recruitment and service as well as resource enhancement would be the areas which he plans to give the most emphasis. He said "Of course the resource will always be our number one concern but with each new member and each old member retained our ability to positively affect the cold water resource is increased. Members doing the resource projects help to keep old members and to bring in new members and more members mean bigger projects in the future. Clearly, resource enhancement and membership recruitment are closely connected in a complimentary manner."

All of us extend a helping hand and wish Tom the best of success in his new position.



# National Director—Profile



Philip W. Orth is one of three at large directors from Wisconsin. Phil has long been active with conservation and ecological interests in both the National Audubon Society and the Milwaukee Zoological Society. As a long time director and past president of the Zoological Society Phil was instrumental in the acquisition of the site now used by the Milwaukee Zoo. Recently he traveled to India to successfully purchase a pair of rare white rhinos for the zoo. Not to be overlooked is the fact that he is recognized as an authority on African Antelope.

While Phil has only recently become fully active in Trout Unlimited, he has been a member since 1960, having joined at the first annual meeting in Chicago. So small was T.U. in 1960 that Phil joined as a member of the Wm. B. Mershon Chapter in Michigan.

Phil currently serves on the T.U. national awards committee. He also is able to serve T.U. as an unofficial P.R. man. Activities on behalf of the baking and food processing industries have afforded Phil the opportunity to establish first name relationships with many senators and congressmen as well as other government people in Washington. These contacts can be invaluable when the need arises to put forward Trout Unlimited's ideas and philosophy to key lawmakers in Washington.

Fund raising is another of Phil's strength's. He is well established in the Milwaukee and southeastern Wisconsin areas and is therefore well positioned to help raise funds for Trout Unlimited. Good faith and commitment are always necessary in fund raising and Phil showed his by donating \$1,000 to Trout Unlimited at the just completed annual meeting in Snowmass, Colorado.

Phil also brings to the national board sound analytical and financial skills. Having graduated from the Harvard Business School and having run a successful business for over 35 years attests to his keen business skills and judgement. Such attributes are always welcome on a board of directors and the National Trout Unlimited board is no exception.

It should also be mentioned that Phil is a very accomplished caster and all around fisherman. (He does fish flies almost exclusively, but old habits being hard to break we can't, in all fairness, hold this against him. Ed.)

CONGRESSMAN DINGELL INTRODUCES BILL TO  
PROTECT SPORT FISH IN THE GREAT LAKES

Congressman John D. Dingell (D-Mich.) introduced legislation, designed to protect lake trout and other sport fish in the Great Lakes. The legislation is co-sponsored by 14 Members of the Michigan Congressional Delegation and supported by the State of Michigan and the Michigan United Conservation Clubs.

"Since the establishment of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission in 1956, the Federal Government and Great Lakes States have expended millions of dollars attempting to rehabilitate the Great Lakes fisheries," Dingell said. "This effort has focused on lamprey control technology and the stocking of hatchery produced lake trout, Pacific salmon, and other salmonoid fish. The goal of these programs has been the establishment of self-perpetuating stocks of these fishes," he said.

"In spite of these successes, the massive stocking of lake trout for over 20 years has failed to produce self-sustaining populations. The primary reason for this incomplete success has been the continued excessive and premature harvest of the stocked fish before adequate spawning stocks have become reestablished and before the stocks have become self-perpetuating," Dingell said.

"This largely unrestricted harvest has retarded the development of a fully self-renewing population and, if continued, could lead to the total destruction of the fishery resource," he said.

"I view this legislation as a means of ensuring the restoration of Great Lakes fish populations that can be maintained at the highest level of productivity allowable by environmental conditions," Dingell added.

The legislation would apply to all waters of the great Lakes and would make it illegal under State and Federal law for any person to catch, kill or sell, for commercial purposes, any species listed in the bill as "protected fish species." The species include: lake trout, brook trout, Atlantic salmon, brown trout, rainbow trout, coho salmon, chinook salmon, northern pike, largemouth and smallmouth bass, walleye, muskie, and yellow perch (except in Green Bay, Wisconsin, Saginaw

Bay, Michigan and Lake Erie in Ohio). The bill would not affect the taking of these species for personal or family consumption or for sporting purposes.

The legislation also would allow a state having jurisdiction over Great Lakes waters to designate any protected fish species as available for commercial catch, as it deems appropriate, one year after enactment of the bill. The bill contains provisions to allow the Great Lakes states to use appropriate conservation methods to protect populations of sport fish included in the legislation.



\$5,947 Distributed for Operation Restore

During the past month, four of the Operations Restore: 1980 Competition grants have been approved by the Project and Research Committee. They are:

Overall winner - Leon P. Martuch Chapter in Michigan under project leader Dr. George A. Lane for habitat improvement on the Cedar River;

Northeast Region winner - Berks County Chapter in Pennsylvania under project leader Pat Reppert involving Tultenhocken Creek to reverse damage to 3/4 mile of stream below a dam (narrowing of the stream is the basic aim of the project);

West Coast winner - Northshore Chapter in Washington under project leader Walter Rose for building a holding pond on a feeder stream of the Skykomish River to aid in their continuing project to imprint summer run steelhead by holding the smolts for a few weeks in different parts of the river so that spawning and resultant fishing will be spread out along the river;

Midwest winner - Ojiblean Chapter in Wisconsin under project leaders S. K. Van Gorden and Ron Koshoskek for bank stabilization and channel narrowing of 6,800 feet of Elk Creek.

NATIONAL DIRECTORS MEETING - SNOWMASS

The national directors met for two days of hard work in committee of the whole plus numerous committee meetings. What follows are the highlights of the meeting.

Membership development was emphasized in 1980 and will be again in 1981. As of the end of July T.U. had 16,869 members which represents an increase of almost 14% over last year. Chapter presidents can expect more membership information from the national office.

Financially the health of T.U. is rather sound especially when recent history is taken into account. Currently, we are looking at an anticipated small surplus at the end of the year.

Nash Williams reported on the funding by the Research and Projects Committee. Among the awards was \$1,500 to the Ojibseau Chapter for the work on Elk Creek, and \$1,500 to the Wisconsin Council for the beaver/trout stream video project. (This was Nash's last report as committee chairman as he is stepping down from that post effective January 1st.)

The Resource Management and Protection Committee reported on two topics of continuing interest for all of us. On or about October 1st all chapters and councils should be receiving fact sheets concerning the problems associated with the use of chlorine in sewage treatment plants which discharge into trout water. Also included will be an analysis of alternatives with cost comparisons. The purpose of this information is to provide direction to chapters and councils so the problem can be addressed and corrected at the local level.

Acid rain has been a topic of discussion at national for several years. This is a problem of global importance and may well prove to be THE environmental issue of the 1980s. The directors viewed a most interesting acid rain slide presentation. This same presentation will be shown at the October 18th State Council Meeting, which is reason enough to come.

The board also approved an Annual Christmas Card Program to begin this year. For a

Geographic boundaries of several U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) regions will be changed October 1, 1980.

The realignment will change FWS regional boundaries in the Midwest. Iowa and Missouri will be added to the Service's North Central Region, which presently includes the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois.

Resources integral with Upper Mississippi River, the Mississippi Flyway, as well as the states' geographical proximity to one another makes the realignment a logical move from the standpoint of consolidating management of fish and wildlife resources and related environmental problems, according to FWS.

Elsewhere in the North Central Region, the FWS area office at St. Paul, Minnesota, will retain administrative responsibilities for Service programs in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

The regional changes will not involve additional personnel funds.

STATE COUNCIL MEETING

Place: U.W. - Stevens Point

Date: October 18, 1980

Time: 10:30 - 4:00

Room: Red Room - University Center

Please be prompt. All membership invited.



donation of \$5.00 per box a member will get 15 cards by three different artists. The purpose of this project is to spread T.U.'s name and philosophy and raise some money. The cards will be sent out in October. Here is an excellent opportunity to help Trout Unlimited and also give our friends a respite from seeing our kids and dog one year older.

## CHAPTER REPORTS

### GREEN BAY CHAPTER

We installed 50 half-logs on the South Branch of the Oconto River, south of Breed. The stream improvement project was a big success with 20 workers on the stream. A fencing project on the South Branch of the Oconto was also scheduled for August.

Reminder: Cap Buettner will have the annual fall planting of Brown Trout on the Wolf River about the 3rd weekend of September. Last year our chapter had a father-son outing there and everyone had a good time.

### SOUTHERN WISCONSIN CHAPTER

Our latest project is the Rocky Run Trout Stream in Columbia County. We have three basic objectives: (1) Brush 2,000 feet of stream bank; (2) Place in-stream brush deflectors, and (3) Install 50-60 half-logs for cover. To date, we have had three project work-days exerting over 325 man-hours brushing and placing deflectors. In September, we plan to complete the project by installing the half-logs.

### ANTIGO CHAPTER

A crew cut, hauled, placed, and sweated over a sod project on the Hunting River. The chapter finished about half a mile of placing sod on structures and wing deflectors. These devices were installed with Trout Stamp funds by the DNR last year.

This year, another mile stretch of the Hunting was improved; and we will go at the sod again. This work, in cooperation with the local fish manager, frees up his people to work on other projects. I think these types of activities should be considered by other chapters. Find out how we can assist and stretch the habitat dollars, so the money goes farther.

Also, we've received our permits to accomplish half-log installation on the Eau Claire. We plan to place 100-200 logs. We are working with Langlade County Forestry Committee for funding and with about 30 individual property owners who have granted easements.

In addition to all of the presidential candidates, you will find an important referendum question on your ballot this November. It concerns voting rights at Public Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation Districts. The Legislature has said "okay." So has Governor Dreyfus. Now it's your turn. The question is this: "Shall state law be amended to permit persons who own property in a public inland lake protection and rehabilitation district and who are U.S. citizens and who are 18 years of age or older to vote at meetings of the district?" That's a lot of words that basically mean this: Should seasonal residents be allowed to help manage the affairs of the lake districts? If a majority of voters favor the referendum, the law change is effective next January 1. If the referendum fails, some lake districts which have virtually no permanent residents may have to dissolve. No voting rights, other than the right to have a voice in lake district affairs, are involved.

### GOLDEN AGE PASSPORTS

A total of 1,795 Golden Age Passports were issued in Wisconsin last year.

The Golden Age Passport is a federal permit issued free to persons aged 62 and over. It permits entry to national parks and other federal properties where entrance fees are charged.

In Wisconsin, the passports are distributed by DNR and permit entry to federal Ice Age Reserve properties in Northern Kettle Moraine, Mill Bluff, Devil's Lake, and Interstate parks.

### 16MM Projector Needed

The National office maintains a free distribution film library with 33 films; however, we must rent a projector every time we view or check these films. Does anyone have a 16MM projector they would be willing to donate to National?

# Raffle License Requirements by Verlin Peckham

An excellent way some chapters have found to raise funds for their stream improvement projects is through regularly held raffles. However, Chapter 163 of the Wisconsin Statutes sets strict licensing requirements and limitations which, if ignored or violated, can subject a person to criminal penalties (up to \$1,000 fine and/or 30 days in jail).

Basically, there are two types of legal raffles in Wisconsin. A "Regular Raffle" means a raffle for which a single drawing for prizes is held on a specific date after the sale of tickets has been completed. Tickets may not be offered for sale more than 120 days preceding the date of the drawing. No organization may conduct more than two regular raffles during a year, and a separate license is required for each regular raffle. Some TU chapters have used this raffle in conjunction with their annual banquets.

A "Special Raffle" means a raffle for which one or more drawings are held and prizes awarded on the same day as the tickets are sold. No organization may conduct more than one special raffle during any week. A special raffle license is

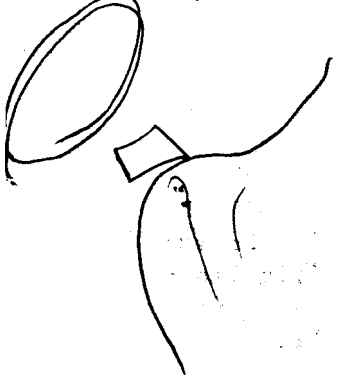
valid for twelve months. This type of raffle generally is used at regular meetings.

The license fee for each license is \$5.00 and must be sent with the application to the Bingo Control Board. A copy of the Chapter By-Laws also must be sent with the first application (National TU and State TU documents already are on file).

A financial report must be filed with the Bingo Control Board by April 15 of the year following the conduct of raffles. Therefore, strict financial records must be kept regarding the cost of prizes and printing tickets as well as the gross proceeds from the sale of raffle tickets.

Other requirements such as the form and numbering of tickets and how raffles are to be conducted are contained in a pamphlet "Guidelines for Raffles in Wisconsin" which is being sent to each chapter president along with copies of raffle application forms. Further information can be obtained by contacting Verlin Peckham, Legal and Legislative Committee chairman for the State Council, at (608) 251-7242.

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