



# Wisconsin Trout

July 2007



Bob Haase photos

## KIDS LOVE BUGS, WHETHER REAL OR ARTIFICIAL

CWTU's Dick Pollock (top) found an interesting way to motivate kids to identify insects. Kids picked a WDNR "Wisconsin Wildcard" on aquatic insects from a box, and then Dick helped them key out and identify the insect. If correctly identified, the youngster got to keep the card. Meanwhile, WITU State Council Chair Bill Heart (below) helped an Expo attendee tie a fly.

## TU helps at WI Outdoor Expo

By Bob Haase

The Wisconsin Council of TU sponsored the fly tying, fly casting, and aquatic insect identification programs at the second annual Wisconsin Outdoor Expo at the Dodge

County Fairgrounds in Beaver Dam May 18-19.

The event exposed about 4,000 students from all over the state to a variety of outdoor activities.

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## How will VHS virus affect inland trout?

By Todd Hanson

Ever since the viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS) virus was confirmed in Lake Winnebago and Lake Michigan in May, Wisconsin trout anglers have wondered how the virus might affect the state's inland trout fishery.

WDNR fishery officials say there are causes for both concern and encouragement.

According to WDNR Coldwater Fisheries Research Scientist Matt Mitro, "The biggest concern is that VHS has been a disease that has been associated with trout. Also, the different types of the virus have been most active in colder water of up to 59 degrees F., so we have to take VHS very seriously."

Though typically a coldwater virus in Europe, Mitro says the U.S.

strain is showing it can affect fish in warmer water, too.

"One particular concern is that the VHS fish kills we've had here were at warmer temperatures (about 66-70 F) compared to the upper temperature limit commonly associated with [the European strain of] VHS (59-60 F)," says Mitro.

Mitro is encouraged by the fact that the disease in Europe has mostly been confined to hatchery trout.

"The VHS virus has been present in wild trout in Europe for a while," says Mitro, "and it seems to be in connection with trout farms that are connected to trout streams as sources of water or outflow. There has been a lot of transmission of the virus back and forth between trout farms and wild [trout] populations."

*Continued on p. 5*

## WI trout stamp turns 30

By Todd Hanson

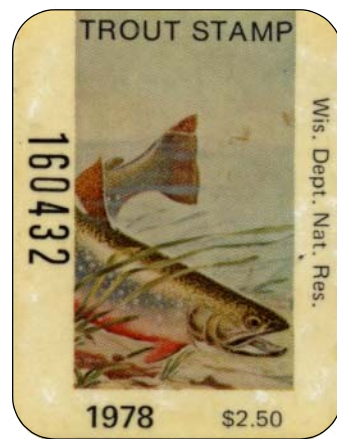
The Wisconsin trout stamp program — judged by many natural resources professionals to be the best in the country — turns 30 this year.

This time in 1977 the trout stamp was passed as part of the state's biennial budget for implementation starting Jan. 1, 1978.

The trout stamp concept began to get traction in the mid 1970s. Longtime TU member Dan Flaherty of La Crosse was an early supporter. At that time Flaherty was on the Natural Resources Board, and he mentioned a trout stamp in a January 1976 story in the old *Wisconsin Natural Resources Bulletin*.

"In West Central Wisconsin we have managed to ruin just about all of our clear, spring-fed, trout streams and small rivers with a combination of poor farming, unwise road building and maintenance, and thoughtless industrial and residen-

tial 'development'. Yet back at the headwaters of all these streams there still are the clear, cold, spring waters, and we can help God restore these streams with some money and elbow-grease and some time for healing. I am convinced that



*See p. 6 for some thoughts on the trout stamp's past and future.*

one of the things necessary to accomplish this is the willingness

of trout fishermen to saddle themselves with a Trout Stamp, the proceeds of which would be earmarked to acquire stream rights and improve stream conditions."

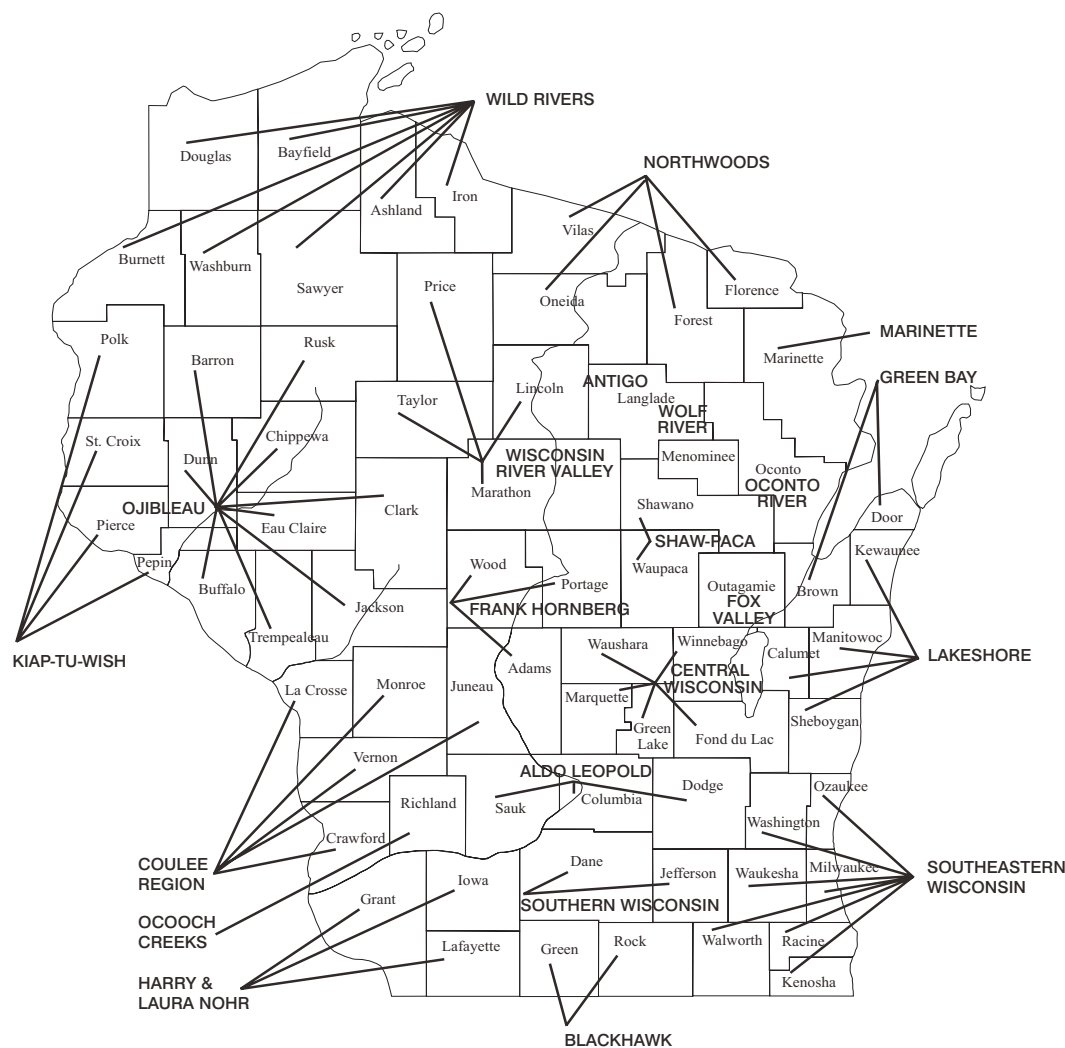
In Jan. 1977, Senate Bill 64 to create a trout stamp was introduced by Sen. Tom Harnisch (D-Neilsville).

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TU National manages WITU's mailing list, so members should contact TU National at 1-800-834-2419 to change addresses. Address changes can also be done on-line by going to [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org) and signing in with your member number, which is found on your wallet card or *TROUT* magazine label.

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

## WISCONSIN TROUT

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# Thoughts on my way to the Arctic

By Bill Heart

WITU State Council Chair

Things have been very hectic in my life. While in the middle of building a new house, getting ready to move — including a dreaded garage sale — I am also preparing for a month-long canoe trip on the Horton River which flows into the Arctic Ocean. The Arctic trip has been a dream of mine for 40 years. One of my life goals has been to catch a grayling. I will report on the trip in the next *Wisconsin Trout*.

There are many things happening in Wisconsin concerning trout issues. The access issue with TU National has caused some hard feeling with our grassroots members. An officer of one of our chapters resigned. We should all give this time for the committee to work this through. We are very lucky to have Duke Welter on this committee, and I am positive that Duke will represent the grassroots point of view very well. This should be over by the TU National meeting which takes place in mid September. I am sure that Duke will report on this at the September State Council meeting.

Another very serious issue is the infestation of viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS) virus. A brown trout from Lake Michigan has tested positive for the disease. All of you anglers that fish the Lake Michigan shoreline and tributaries need to be very careful to clean your boats and boots after every visit in order to

I am confident that we garnered some interest in fly fishing and the need to protect our resources. This group will be our members of the future.

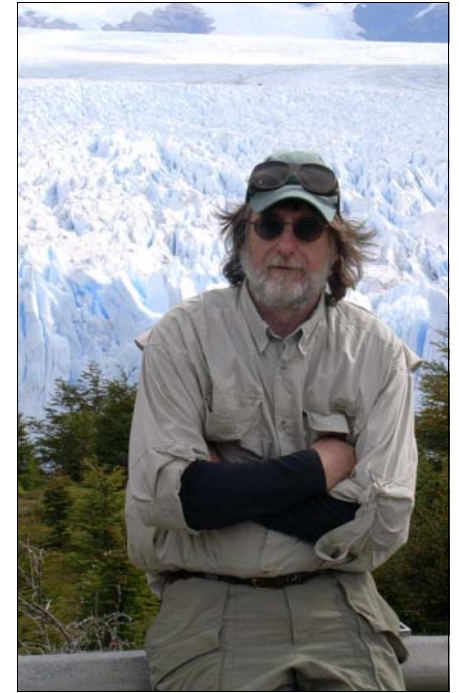
protect other streams in Wisconsin. Can you imagine what it would be like for VHS to show up in the Kickapoo Valley or the Lake Superior watershed?

On a brighter note, on May 18 I attended the Wisconsin Outdoor Education Expo in Beaver Dam. The State Council was represented by seven or eight members tying flies and another 10 or so helping with casting. It was really a great time. We assisted the youth of southern Wisconsin with tying somewhere between 900 and 1,000

flies. We worked pretty much non-stop from 8:30 to 3:00. There were a few kids that had tied before, but for the vast majority, this was a new experience. I am confident that we garnered some interest in fly fishing and the need to protect our resources. This group will be our members of the future.

The only negative part of this experience was the small number of TU members attending and helping. Next year, we need to double our volunteers. Thanks goes out to Bob Haase, our new WITU Education Chair, for coordinating this effort. He had it so well planned that we just arrived and started assisting with the tying. Thanks also to Dick Berge from the Wild Rivers Chapter for coming down with me to help at the expo.

Last night was the first time in over a month that I was able to get out trout fishing. A friend from Alabama and I were out in the Bibon Marsh on the White River. We had a wonderful night. The hex have just started, and there was only a light spinner fall, but the fish were really looking. We landed a number of



Bill Heart

very nice browns, but the best part was the paddle down about five miles and then paddling back up in the dark while listening to sippers. We did pick off a few.

We got back to the landing at 1:00 a.m., and I am very tired today, but there is something about spending the night canoeing in the Bibon that takes away all of the stress and worries that you may have.

## Habitat and biofuels top TU's concerns on the Farm Bill

By Bill Pielsticker

WITU Legislative Chair

The House Agriculture Committee has begun work on a proposed draft (markup) of the Farm Bill, which is up for renewal this year in Washington, D.C.

If you wonder just what the connection is between the Farm Bill and trout, consider that most of the trout stream degradation in Wisconsin has been caused by either agricultural practices or timber harvest and transport. The farm bill provides opportunities to remedy the first and to prevent a new source of degradation — inappropriate crop production for biofuels.

On the habitat issue, one of the larger Farm Bill conservation programs is the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). This program funds things like manure storage facilities and other cost-intensive practices. At the same time, it often provides funds for habitat restoration. Unfortunately, in some states this has been determined to exclude in-stream work. TU is working to include language that clarifies that habitat restoration includes aquatic habitats.

The biofuels issue presents us with a potential conflict between the

conservation provisions of the Farm Bill and the incentives to produce crops for biofuels. A letter from the Agriculture and Wildlife Working Group, of which TU is a member, addresses this problem:

“Carefully structured, Farm Bill energy provisions could help to foster the expedited development of biomass energy in ways that protect soil, water and wildlife resources. Yet if not carefully structured, incentives could support the destruction of native habitats and undermine the significant investment of taxpayer dollars, and gains achieved over the past 20 years through Farm Bill conservation programs.”

Members of Wisconsin TU have met with freshman Representative and House Agriculture Committee member Steve Kagen (D-Green Bay) to convey our concerns. Rep. Kagen has been very receptive to our interests.

At the same time, Wisconsin's Representative Ron Kind (D-La Crosse) is pushing a Farm Bill alternative that would emphasize conservation programs over production support, a position that TU National also supports. We encourage members who live in either Kagen's or Kind's districts to contact their

representative and encourage him to support TU's positions on conservation funding, EQIP, and biofuels.

The Farm Bill is a key issue for TU National, and Wisconsin stands to play a key roll in the outcome. Our members have already been called upon by TU National to con-

tact their federal legislators on this issue, and we can expect additional requests in the near future. The Farm Bill will set policy that will be in place for the next five years, and your help in pursuing TU's priorities can have an impact on the final outcome.

### WITU offers support for bill to restore independent WDNR

The State Council of Wisconsin TU recently offered its support of Senate Bill 15 which would restore the authority of the Natural Resources Board to appoint the secretary of the WDNR (*see letter below*). An independent WDNR has long been a priority for WITU.



May 22, 2007

8045 Crystal Lake Rd.  
Lodi, WI 53555-9539  
Ph: 608.592.4718  
billpiel@merr.com

Senator Mark Miller, Chair  
Senate Committee on the Environment and Natural Resources  
Re: **Senate Bill 15**, relating to the Appointment of the Secretary of Natural Resources

Senator Miller and all members of the Senate Committee on the Environment and Natural Resources, as former State Council Chair and Legislative Chair I know that the bill before you today has been, and continues to be, a top policy priority for members of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited.

Our members support returning the authority to appoint the Secretary of the DNR to the Natural Resources Board. Since Governor Thompson moved this position into the Governor's cabinet, our members have voiced concern about the apparent politicization of the agency. We recognize that natural resource policy cannot be completely divorced from politics, but returning the Secretary's appointment to the NRB will provide a buffer between potentially short-term political considerations and the long-term needs of our states' land and water and all those resources that depend on their proper management.

We urge you to move this bill to the Senate floor and to work for its approval there. We look forward to working with the Wisconsin State Assembly to approve this or similar legislation. Once this legislation is passed and signed into law, we will have taken a large step towards improving citizen confidence in the leadership of the Department of Natural Resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this issue.

Sincerely,

William J. Pielsticker, Legislative Chair  
Wisconsin Council of Trout Unlimited

*Wisconsin Trout Unlimited and its 4000 members work to preserve, protect and restore our trout and salmon fisheries and the watersheds they depend on.*

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### TU working on access issue

By John "Duke" Welter

A joint committee made up of TU National trustees and volunteers continues to examine TU's stream access policy this summer in a series of phone conference meetings.

The joint committee is charged with making a recommendation to the Board of Trustees at its mid-September meeting in Boise, Idaho. The committee is considering two issues.

- Should TU be involved in defense existing public stream access rights when they are challenged by a private landowner?
- Should TU undertake and lead an initiative for developing access rights by purchase or donation from landowners?

Any proposed change must be submitted to National Leadership Conference and the board by August 15.

## Chapter president profile

# CWTU's Bob Haase a tireless advocate for all things fish

By John Gremmer

Bob Haase is a tireless, advocate for fish. If heaven is run by fish, Bob will be in good shape. In a previous life, he must have been a fish. Not only is he, as the current President of Central Wisconsin TU, constantly promoting TU's mission and trout fishing, but he is also involved with walleyes and muskies. Bob has served CWTU as Banquet Chair and Vice President. He also is deeply involved with CWTU's water monitoring program, the Carpenter Creek WDNR/CWTU/SWIMS Project, CWTU's Master's Fly Tying Series (he even teaches a session), CWTU's Trout Outing, CWTU TroutFest, and CWTU's Fly Fishing School.

Among Bob's accomplishments as President has been his leadership in establishing better communications and cooperation with the WDNR in our area. He has helped focus our chapter's influence on the needed stream rehabilitation in our area. Before this initiative, we didn't have a designated WDNR trout person in our four-county area, and little was being done on our streams by the WDNR work crew. This has all changed. We now have a designated trout person and the work crew has a person trained in stream maintenance leading it. Much work has been completed in just the past year on area streams.

Bob is also actively involved in other conservation/environmental organizations. He is Executive Director of the Musky Clubs Alliance of Wisconsin (there are 24 musky clubs in the state), and he is a current member and founding father of Walleyes For Tomorrow. He also is a member of the FFF's Winnebago Streamer Fly Fishing Club and the Winnebago Musky Club.

Bob's philosophy has always been "don't just join a club, get involved in its activities." He leads by example — he makes all the meetings, participates in most activities,

and forms positive relationships with other members. He says that learning from others is one of the greatest benefits of being involved. He feels he has met many great people who have made outstanding contributions to fishing and conservation.

Bob would like to see all "fish" organizations work together. There is strength in numbers. Working together improves and protects our natural resources for future generations through joint projects and improved communications between organizations and the DNR. He sees

kids hooked on fishing. He is involved with the Get Kids Hooked On Fishing program held at the Fond du Lac Aquatic Center every year. He has organized a program for over 100 Boy Scouts in 12 troops to help them earn their merit badges in fishing and fly fishing. Bob coordinated the fly tying and fly rod casting program for TU at this year's Wisconsin Outdoor Expo, assists with fly tying classes at Green Lake High School, works with Winnebago Streamers to teach kids fly fishing and fly tying in the Fond du Lac area, and has

Thursdays," and it airs Thursdays from 9:10-9:30 a.m. He has a guest on every week to discuss outdoor sports, especially fishing.

After teaching high school industrial arts for three years, Bob worked for 31 years at Moraine Park Technical College in Fond du Lac as Manager of Media Services and for the last few years as Purchasing Manager. After retiring several years ago, Bob picked up a part-time job at Dutch's Trading Post, a sport shop in Fond du Lac. He has been involved in building and repairing fishing rods for over 40 years and started fly tying when he was

around 10 years old. Retirement has brought on a new focus for fly tying, and Bob is amazed at the new materials and patterns available today.

Bob has also been active in the field of photography. He did wedding photography for a number of different studios, sometimes shooting as many as 50 weddings a year. He also did industrial photography and served as program chair for the Wisconsin Industrial Photography Association. He was a member of the Professional Photographers of America and has taught photography at Moraine Park Technical College.

Bob and his wife, Mary, live in the town of Eldorado outside of Fond du Lac, and they own a cottage with 46 acres surrounding a nine-acre lake near Presque Isle, Wisconsin. He spends time on surrounding lakes hunting muskies with conventional tackle and fly rods. His goal is to hook a trophy musky on a fly that he has tied. Mary enjoys sewing and craftwork and has made many artful items such as her unique "fishing bears." Mary has adjusted to Bob's "dances with fish" during the last 40 years. She was even awarded the Sports Person Of The Year from the Winnebago Musky Club for putting up with Bob and his fish life. Mary and Bob have two children, a married son in Fond du Lac and a married daughter in Detroit.

(John Gremmer is a fellow CWTU member. He is happy to report that he actively recruited Bob to be CWTU Vice President and President. -Ed.)



### FISHING ACROSS THE GENERATIONS

Bob Haase believes in getting kids "hooked on fishing." That's what happened to him when his grandfather (above right) took him fishing as a child.

unplanned development, invasive species, fish diseases, pollution, and apathy as threats. Bob believes all "fish" organizations could benefit from its members being involved with water monitoring projects.

What made Bob a "fish guy?" Bob grew up in the Montello area and his parents and grandparents took him fishing regularly. This is all it took! There is a lesson here for all of us. Today Bob believes in getting

helped teach fly tying in the Oakfield schools.

Recently CWTU's Jerry Smet of Fond du Lac and Bob started a program for residents of the Markesan Care Center. They take residents out fishing every month during the summer. Bob says, "If you want to see someone that really appreciates what you do for them, get involved with a nursing home and take some of the residents fishing." Bob feels that we need to make more sections of our waterways accessible to the elderly and handicapped. These locations need to be at sites where people can actually catch fish.

Bob currently hosts a weekly outdoor radio program on KFIZ in Fond du Lac. It's called "Outdoor

## EXPO: TU helps out at second annual youth Outdoor Expo

Continued from p. 1

Bob Haase and Linda Lehman coordinated the program with the help of TU chapter volunteers.

Approximately 900 students tied a foam fly similar to a Woolly Bugger. Jerry Smet, Bob Estlund, Bill Heart, Dick Berge, Linda Lehman, Frank Bowman, Jerry Gorman, and Bob Haase helped with the fly tying.

There were hundreds of kids that also tried their hand at fly casting. Shifts of seven to ten kids at a time tried to learn the art of fly casting with the help of TU volunteers and volunteers from the Sheboygan County Conservation Alliance. Chuck Beeler, Todd Durian, Paul Kruse, Jack Koivisto, Dave Schober,

and Gene Ecklor assisted with the fly casting.

Dick Pollock added a new attraction this year with a display on the Water Action Volunteer Program and aquatic insects. After picking a WDNR "Wisconsin Wildcard" on aquatic insects, Dick helped kids use keys to identify the insect. If correctly identified, the youngster got to keep the card.

This was an excellent program to get kids involved in fishing, hunting, and other outdoor sports.

We could use more volunteers, so make plans now to help out next year. The date and information on the event will be posted in a future issue of *Wisconsin Trout*.



### A TURN AT THE BENCH

There were plenty of chances for kids to try fly tying at the Expo. Here Wild Rivers member Dick Berge shows a girl how it's done.

# VHS: will it affect inland trout?

Continued from p. 1

Mitro says another point of encouragement is that European researchers have found antibodies to the VHS virus in wild trout over time. This offers the hope that trout and other fish may build up tolerance to the virus over time.

"I haven't found any cases of

we can keep it out of most of the waters of the state."

Staggs says that DNR's newly adopted rules regarding VHS is having some negative effect on the state's trout hatcheries.

"Some [hatchery fish] are going to be OK, and some are not going to be OK because they either needed to be fed or stocked," says Staggs. "We are experiencing some loss-

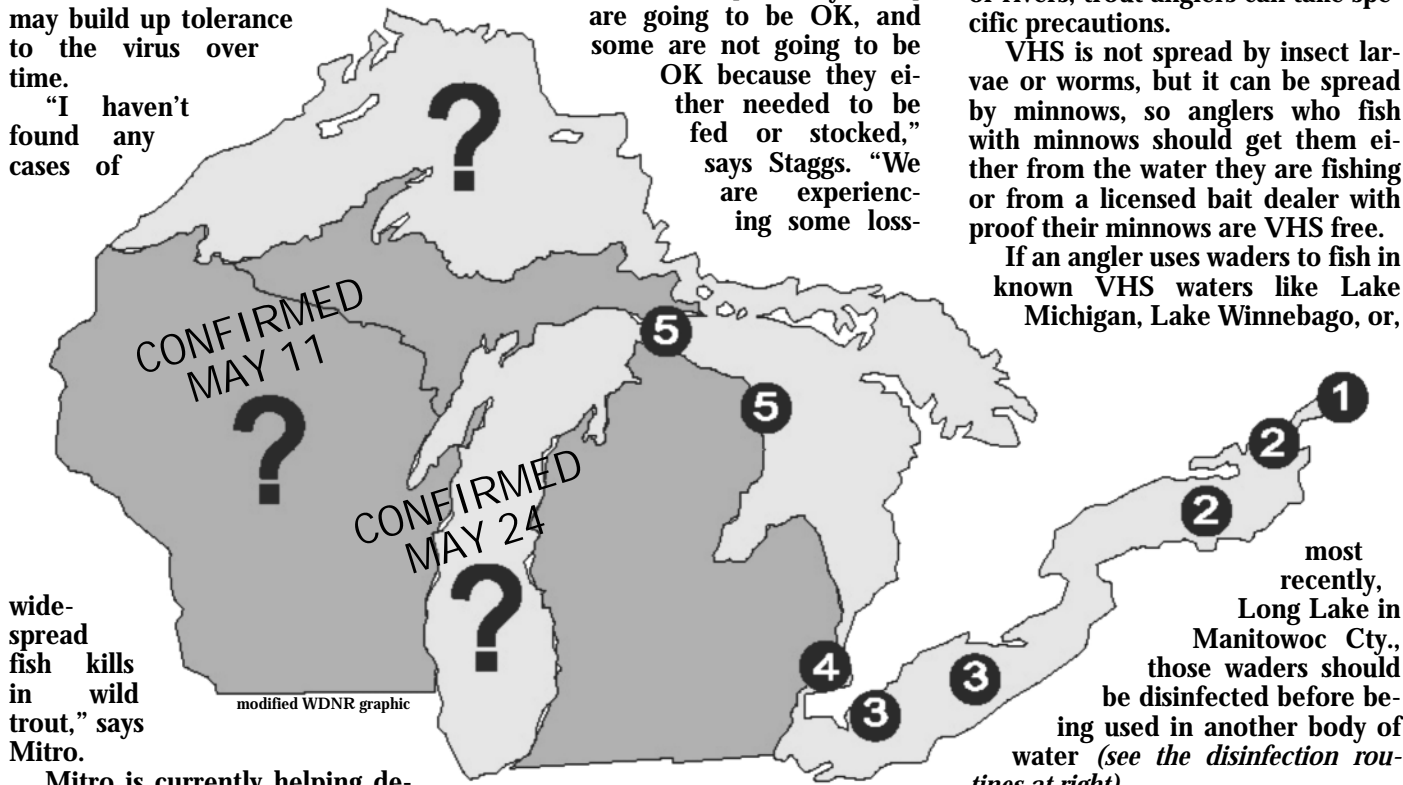
DNR will not know the final numbers of hatchery fish that had to be destroyed until later this year.

**Advice for trout anglers**

Because VHS is spread by infected fish or water from infected lakes or rivers, trout anglers can take specific precautions.

VHS is not spread by insect larvae or worms, but it can be spread by minnows, so anglers who fish with minnows should get them either from the water they are fishing or from a licensed bait dealer with proof their minnows are VHS free.

If an angler uses waders to fish in known VHS waters like Lake Michigan, Lake Winnebago, or,



wide-spread fish kills in wild trout," says Mitro.

Mitro is currently helping develop the DNR's research priorities with regard to VHS.

When DNR's research needs are determined, the agency plans to redirect funds from other DNR programs to conduct that research. A special funding request to the state Legislature is not expected at this time.

The DNR's point person on VHS is Fisheries Director Mike Staggs. He is expressing some optimism on controlling the spread of the virus.

"After it showed up in Lake Winnebago, there was a lot of pessimism that VHS would likely be all over the state," Staggs says. "Each week we're getting results back showing it's definitely not widespread in Wisconsin, so we have a very real hope

## VHS VIRUS CONFIRMATIONS IN 2006

1. St. Lawrence River
2. Lake Ontario
3. Lake Erie
4. Lake St. Clair
5. Lake Huron

es of some species in some places. We have been able to stock some fish on a case-by-case basis, specifically Chinook salmon into Lake Michigan which is already VHS positive."

## STU's Bob Zimmerman passes

By Larry Meicher

I lost one of my most precious friends when Bob Zimmerman, 84, passed away on March 17. I guess I should have said Trout Unlimited lost a real friend.

It was an honor and privilege to have been associated with Zim. He was one of my mentors in the 1950s when he and Paul Olsen worked with the Madison schools and the Boy Scouts where he took a special interest in me (I lived just across a field from him). He was one of the primary guiding lights that led me to become active in TU in my adult life.

Zim constantly reminded me of our duty as a conservationist and the importance of preservation and restoration, which began when we were planting the large white cedars you see growing along Black Earth and Mt. Vernon creeks.

In the late 1970s the Southern WI Chapter commandeered Bob into taking on the role of our project committee chair. His work for our chapter was just a continuation of the conservation work he'd always pursued as a member of the Dane County Conservation League.

His passion was the protection of the Sugar River and Black Earth Creek watersheds. From 1982 through 1986 our chapter undertook six major habitat projects. In all of these, Bob was the person

most responsible for the design, execution, and completion of them. They included three major fencing projects on Black Earth, removal of beaver dams that were choking Vermont Creek, and the headwater protection and restoration of Deer Creek.

The Deer Creek project brought considerable criticism from our national TU leadership because before it was started, there was very poor habitat there. The WDNR found no trout whatsoever in their census surveys. Bob's vision recognized that protection of the headwaters of Mt. Vernon Creek was the key to our resource and convinced us to go ahead anyway. The results were phenomenal. Today the WDNR and other agencies rate the habitat as "good," and there is evidence of successful reproduction of both brook and brown trout.

Bob also led us on to other projects including Badger Mill Creek.

During all this, Zim worked closely with landowners, the DNR, and others while he showed us how to tap into many sources of funding besides our own.

Bob's work was so elemental that the State Council of Wisconsin TU gave him its award of merit in 1986. Likewise our chapter gave him Southern Wisconsin's award of merit in 2000.

He will be truly missed.

most recently, Long Lake in Manitowoc Cty., those waders should be disinfected before being used in another body of water (see the disinfection routines at right).

Some anglers have decided to avoid wader disinfection by securing a second pair of waders for use exclusively on trout streams.

## How to disinfect fishing waders

There are numerous chemicals that kill VHS virus. Here are two common methods:

### Bleach

Add 1/3 cup household bleach to 5 gallons of water. Soak items for 5 minutes.

### Iodine

Mix iodine disinfectant using the container's directions to a concentration of 25 parts per million. Soak items for 5 minutes.

Iodine-based disinfectants (sometimes call iodophor) are commonly used in restaurants, food processing plants, dairies, breweries, etc. because they do not corrode stainless steel. When properly mixed, iodine disinfectant solution has the color of a new copper penny.

Many restaurant supply and Fleet Farm stores carry iodine disinfectant in gallon jugs. If you go to a Fleet Farm store, however, be careful not to purchase the iodine-containing teat dip which may be on the same shelf. Teat dip contains the waxy lubricant lanolin which will not wash off your waders.

## WI fish species susceptible to VHS

Some 45 fish species are known to be susceptible to VHS, including these species that are important in Wisconsin:

Black crappie	Rainbow trout	Freshwater drum
Bluegill	Redhorse sucker	Gizzard shad
Bluntnose minnow	Rock bass	Grayling
Brown bullhead	Round goby	Haddock
Brown trout	Smallmouth bass	Herring
Burbot	Turbot	Japanese flounder
Channel catfish	Walleye	Largemouth bass
Chinook salmon	White bass	Muskellunge
Coho salmon	White perch	Pike
Chum salmon	Yellow perch	Pink salmon
Emerald shiner	Rainbow trout	Pumpkinseed

## Driftless area symposium planned for Oct. 5 in Iowa

The second annual Driftless Area Symposium will take place October 5-6 in Decorah, Iowa, to share the results of research, management, and monitoring work in the Driftless Area.

The symposium is part of TU's Driftless Area Restoration Effort (TUDARE) with support from the various cooperating partners. The theme is "Science in the Driftless." The program committee is currently soliciting platform and poster papers for presentation. Invited papers will focus on the topics of riparian corridor restoration and management and in-stream ecology and management.

For more information, contact TUDARE Project Manager Jeff Hastings in Westby, WI, at (608) 606-4158.

## State Council to meet Sept. 29

By Bill Heart

The next WITU State Council meeting will be held at the West Fork Sportman's Club in Avalanche on Sat., Sept. 29.

I know that this is the last weekend of inland trout fishing, and I am hoping that will bring many chapter council representatives down to the Driftless Area for some fine fishing.

For those of you who are not familiar with the streams in the southwest, I will make an effort to line up some local "guides" for you to fish with.

June Widner, secretary of the Sportsman's Club, currently has two

cabins that are open and, of course, there will be camping. You can call June to make a reservation for a cabin or campsite at (608) 634-4512.

It is very important that we have a quorum for the meeting, and since there will not be a phone hookup, we need every chapter to make an effort to attend.

I will be e-mailing an alert for agenda items in late August.

We will again be having a drawing for all attendees at the close of the meeting. Since we will be in the coulee area, maybe I will be able to pick up a few of the famous pink rodents (squirrel and beaver) for the drawing. See you in September.

# Reflections



on the 30th  
anniversary  
of Wisconsin's



# Trout Stamp

A 1999 TU National report praised Wisconsin's trout management program largely on the basis of the state's trout stamp program. That report noted, "The cumulative effect of Wisconsin's half century of focusing on trout habitat is a reduced demand for propagated fish. Wisconsin's inland trout stamp program has enabled many trout habitat projects to be funded and completed — it is a model for acquisition, protection, and wild fish management nationwide."

Wisconsin's trout stamp program turns 30 this year. We are marking this anniversary by inviting some people who have been involved with the program over the years to offer their thoughts on the program's past, present, and future. There are some wonderful remembrances here, some of which have never been told in print. You cannot read these stories without being proud of what Trout Unlimited has done to promote and protect the trout stamp program in our state.

*"Because of the trout stamp and the good work that followed, Wisconsin is a leader in trout habitat restoration and evaluation."*

By Larry Claggett

Wow! The Wisconsin trout stamp has been around for 30 years. That's a long time. I guess I should know since 25 years of my 29-year career have been spent coordinating and overseeing the trout stamp program.

We've accomplished a lot in those 30 years:

- improved or restored over 750 miles of trout stream,
- maintained many miles of restored stream,
- kept over 700 miles of trout stream free of beaver dams,
- dredged over 25 spring ponds, and
- documented the results with trout surveys.

And we couldn't have done it without Trout Unlimited's help in passing the legislation, watching over the account, raising funds for additional work, and volunteering countless hours of work to stream projects.

You should also be proud that not one penny of trout stamp money has been used for other than its intended purpose. All the money was used for improving trout habitat until 1985 when maintaining habitat was added to the law and then again in 1995 when conducting trout surveys was added. Maintenance is becoming more important as the earlier work ages. Less than 10% (about \$100,000) of the funds each year have been spent on surveys, and in the last four years no trout stamp money has been spent on surveys because we have used federal Dingell-Johnson Act funds for surveys.

We have also honored our commitment to continue spending about the same amount of money each year that was spent on trout habitat before the stamp was enacted. Recently we have done that by committing permanent hours to work on trout habitat projects above the 9.34 positions that are funded with trout stamp.

Wisconsin has long been known for its trout stream habitat work, but before 1977 money was preventing us from doing much work. The trout stamp began with legislation in 1977, with the first stamps and revenue available in 1978. It was significant because up until that time we had used several different funding sources that averaged about \$140,000 per year. With the new \$2.50 trout stamp we had a steady and dedicated funding source of about \$425,000 per year. The price of the trout stamp was raised to \$3.25 in 1984, to \$7.25 in 1992, and to \$10 in 2005. Revenues have now reached about \$1.2 million per year.

Trout stamp sales averaged about 180,000 the first 10 years of the stamp, sharply declined to 110,000 in the drought years of the late 1980s, and have rebounded to an average of about 130,000 since then. Add to that a 50% share of the patron licenses that were increasing in the 1990s and we have steady number of 170,000 to 180,000 trout anglers contributing to the trout stamp fund.

See CLAGGETT on p. 8

*"The long-term evaluation at Lawrence Creek proved without question that money spent on restoring healthy trout habitat was worth it."*

By Bob Hunt

An invitation to contribute to this anniversary article immediately brought back recollections of that portion of my career as a trout research biologist that was most fulfilling.

During the 1960s I was assigned to the DNR trout research station at Lawrence Creek, a few miles west of Westfield. My major assignment was to carry out a long-term

evaluation of trout habitat restoration throughout the upper mile of stream, designated as study Section A. The evaluation would span a period of 10 years.

Three major data gathering tasks were implemented to carry out the planned evaluation. The first involved a precise electrofishing inventory of the wild brook trout population each April and September, bracketing the trout fishing season. The number and weight of trout in each inch group were quantified in Section A and in each of the three study sections below it that comprised the remainder of Lawrence Creek.

The second task involved a detailed field map of Section A and adjacent Section B. Physical features of each section were quantified, including substrate types, pools, hiding cover for trout, total area and length of each section, and average water depth.

The third major component consisted of a creel survey that required anglers to register at the DNR station to obtain a fishing permit for one of the four study sections and then return to the station when they were done fishing to provide data about their trip, including the number and size of trout creel. This season-long registration system remains the only one of its type on a Wisconsin trout stream.

The evaluation process was carried out in three phases: a three-year pre-restoration phase, a one-year interim phase when the habitat restoration work was carried out, and a six-year post-restoration phase.

At its completion, the 10-year evaluation set a standard as the best such analysis done to measure the value of restoring healthy trout habitat. Surprisingly, it is still the best of its kind, 37 years later.

Dramatic improvements in the abundance of brook trout were documented in Section A, the treatment study section. Angler use also increased significantly. Prior to habitat restoration this section was the least visited by anglers. After restoration it received almost as many fishing trips as the other three sections combined.

After several unsuccessful efforts to obtain legislative approval for an inland trout stamp, success was finally achieved, in part, because the long-term evaluation at Lawrence Creek proved without question that money spent on restoring healthy trout habitat was worth it.

(Bob Hunt was a WDNR fisheries research biologist for 33 years, retiring in 1992. During his career he authored 40 technical papers and contributed to many others. In 1993 he wrote the book *Trout Stream Therapy* which summarizes the restoration techniques developed over the years by Hunt and others on Wisconsin trout streams. -Ed.)

***"Every budget time since the trout stamp was introduced, I have harassed the department...to make sure that the department does not 'cheat' on the use of the trout stamp monies..."***

By Dan Flaherty

Before I was appointed to the Natural Resources Board by Governor Pat Lucey in May 1975, I had been trout fishing in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa.

I was very impressed with the fact that Iowa required the fisher to have a state trout stamp. Unfortunately, Iowa wasted most of its trout stamp money — at least at that time — by spending almost all of the proceeds for growing hatchery trout which had very little

lasting effect upon the Iowa trout fishery.

I expressed my hope that Wisconsin would adopt a trout stamp at the first DNR board meeting I attended. The coldwater people in the DNR had been thinking about this for some time, and they started working with me to implement the concept.

At the time Wisconsin adopted a trout stamp, everybody in our DNR agreed that the sole use of the money in the trout stamp would be for habitat improvement. There were two other understandings we had with the DNR at that time:

- the department would continue to expend the funds raised by the fishing license itself for coldwater fish management, including hatcheries and stocking, as it had before the trout stamp, and
- the department would continue to spend that portion of the basic fishing license that had been traditionally used in coldwater fish management, including habitat improvement.

Unfortunately, those two understandings were not incorporated into the trout stamp regulations. This failure to include those two agreements has been the source of continuing problems ever since then.

The DNR is always short of money, and having that trout stamp money set aside for one sole purpose has proven too great a temptation for the department to resist from time to time. Every budget time since the trout stamp was introduced, I have harassed the department through its secretary and fish management people to make sure that the department does not "cheat" on the use of the trout stamp monies and our understanding that other monies will also be used for coldwater management. My friend Dave Vetrano tells me that now trout stamp money is no longer used for fishing surveys despite the introduction of that exception some years back. He says now all of the money is used

See FLAHERTY on p. 8

***"I believe that never before in Wisconsin conservation history have so many groups been organized so quickly to take on a single issue such as we did with this one."***

By Tom Flesch

In early 1986, Gov. Anthony Earl attempted, via a "budget repair bill," to freeze for one year expenditures of revenues in the inland trout stamp, the Great Lakes trout and salmon stamp, and the Wisconsin migratory waterfowl stamp funds so as to mask deficits in the general purpose revenue (GPR) account.

Although the bill would not have directed the funds to be spent on items unrelated to

the purposes of the individual segregated accounts, many sportspeople were concerned that freezing the expenditure of those revenues for masking revenue shortfalls/budget deficits in GPR would be a dangerous precedent as related to the integrity of those segregated funds.

I called a meeting of representatives of at least nine statewide and local organizations on Super Bowl weekend to inform the groups of what was happening and to coordinate an effort to defeat the proposal. From this meeting, a letter opposing Gov. Earl's plan was drafted, and I hand-delivered it to the governor's office, DNR Secretary Carroll "Buzz" Besadny, and the Natural Resources Board. (See letter text on page 8).

While I was hand-delivering the letter to the governor's office and others, WITU State Council Chair Mitch Bent contacted Rep. Sharon K. Metz (D-Green Bay) about the matter. Metz, an ardent advocate for fish and wildlife conservation and environmental protection, then held a senior position on the powerful Joint Finance Committee. Bent explained the situation regarding Earl's budget repair bill proposal and the bad precedent it would set for segregated accounts.

Metz, who authored the act creating the Wisconsin Waterfowl Stamp in 1978, agreed that the Governor's plan to freeze those segregated funds to artificially balance the state budget was wrong, and she spearheaded an effort in the JFC to unfreeze those stamp fund revenues. Her efforts were successful, and the budget repair bill passed without those segregated funds being held back from funding projects for which they were intended.

I may be wrong, but I believe that never before in Wisconsin conservation history have so many groups been organized so quickly to take on a single issue such as we did with this one. It was imperative then —

See FLESCH on p. 8

***"[DNR] could train private contractors to do the in-stream work to DNR specifications, eliminating a key roadblock to completing projects in some areas."***

By John "Duke" Welter

The 1995 WDNR reorganization led to personnel reassignments and retirements and shifted the way the department did fisheries work. As a result, many experienced hands left the fish habitat field. Over the next couple of years a surplus of unspent trout stamp funds built up, totaling \$1.5 to \$2 million by 1998. This meant one and a half to two years worth of trout stamp income was sitting in a

pot, waiting for some opportunistic lawmaker to raid it (as was attempted with other stamp funds in 2005) to plug a hole in some other budget.

A special TU trout stamp committee — chaired by Ted Lauf of SWTU and including Duke Andrews of Northwoods TU, Roger Widner of Coulee Region TU, and Jeff Smith of SWTU — took a close look and made recommendations about both the process and policy handling of trout stamp funds by the DNR. Among those recommendations were:

- calling for improved accounting and an annual report of trout stamp expenditures (now done by DNR on a biennial basis);
- hiring of project specialists funded by Sportfish Restoration monies to put the surplus into streams (done);
- holding a DNR-conducted series of training programs on stream habitat restoration (done periodically);
- appointing of a trout stamp program coordinator as an in-house "hands on" advocate for projects who could track project activity and funding status (not done); and
- identifying a pilot project where DNR passes stamp funds through a qualified nonprofit for work done to DNR standards (not done).

Trout resources and habitat challenges vary across the state. So it's not a surprise that more trout stamp money gets spent in habitat projects in the central, west central, and southwest parts of the state, and more is spent for beaver control in the northeast. In the mid-90s and until the past several years, some regions would have trout stamp money allocated for projects each year and not use those funds. Now there's a re-allocation of unused project money if it's not being used for the original proposed project.

Some other things have changed, but again the extent of that change varies throughout the state.

See WELTER on p. 8

***"For the first and only time in my 30-year career, I was being criticized for not spending money fast enough!"***

By Max Johnson

I was asked to make a few comments about the advent of the Wisconsin trout stamp. These days my memory sometimes gets a little foggy, but not in this case. I certainly remember when the trout stamp came into being.

It is easy to remember because it was one, if not the most, significant thing that happened to me as a fisheries biologist.

As a fisheries biologist, of course, I know there are two major factors that dictate what a fish population can be. Those factors are water quality and habitat. Funds from the trout stamp certainly allowed us to address as never before one and sometimes both of those factors. Over many decades, the practices of agriculture, logging, and other issues such as land development and beaver damage caused many miles of trout streams and spring ponds to be severely degraded.

Early on we had many issues that needed to be addressed as we worked out the details of how and when trout stamp money could be used. When having to deal with a government bureaucracy, things did not move as rapidly as all of us would have liked. For the first and only time in my 30-year career, I was being criticized for not spending money fast enough! What a problem!

I always considered myself to be one of the most fortunate biologists in the whole country. I had the good fortune to work with several great TU chapters including Antigo, Wisconsin River Valley, Wolf River, Northwoods, and several others. Because of the trout stamp and the fund-raising ability of these chapters, money was never my problem. Only time and land ownership were limiting factors. Not many biologists can say that.

It took us a while to get geared up, but we did and many miles of trout streams and acres of spring ponds have and are vastly improved!

I have been out of Wisconsin (which I miss a lot) for 11 years now, but I understand the great work continues on. In those 11 years I have traveled extensively, and one thing I can say for sure is that habitat work being done in Wisconsin is head and shoulders above anything else I see. Another thing I can say for sure the Wisconsin trout stamp would have never become a reality had it not been for the extensive effort of TU! I certainly hope the program can continue on with little or no change.

See JOHNSON on p. 8

# REFLECTIONS: thoughts on the trout stamp's 30th anniversary

Continued from p. 6

*"When [Matty] kept running into brick walls in his attempt to undercut my testimony, he finally asked me if I myself had bought a trout stamp. I proudly told him that I'd purchased 16 inland trout stamps in 1978 and 17 in 1979."*

By Mitch Bent

I recall that in early 1979, only a year after the inland trout stamp had been implemented starting with the 1978 trout fishing season, there was an attempt in the Legislature to repeal the stamp. The effort was led by Rep. Richard Matty (R-Crivitz). Among the notable co-sponsors of Matty's bill was Rep. Tommy Thompson, who would later become Wisconsin's longest-serving governor.

A hearing on Matty's bill was held before an Assembly committee chaired by Rep. Joanne Duren (D-Cazenovia). I took off

from work in Wausau to drive down to Madison to attend that hearing and to voice my strong opposition to Matty's bill. I remember that after my presentation, Matty tried in vain to trip me up and to expose me as some type of "stool pigeon" for the DNR.

When he kept running into brick walls in his attempt to undercut my testimony, he finally asked me if I myself had bought a trout stamp. I proudly told him that I'd purchased 16 inland trout stamps in 1978 and 17 in 1979. He seemed stunned by my response and asked why I bought so many. I replied that it was because I believed in the trout stamp program and the beneficial stream improvement work that would accrue from projects funded by stamp revenues.

The bill never came to a vote in Duren's committee and died there. I don't think that there ever was another effort to repeal the inland trout stamp.

*(Mitch Bent was WITU State Council Chair from 1983-87, Vice Chair from 1982-83, and Treasurer from 1990-93. He was also a TU National Director from 1986-87 and editor of Wisconsin Trout from 1989-99. -Ed.)*

January 27, 1986

Dear Governor Earl:

I am writing to you on behalf of the following organizations: Trout Unlimited, Ducks Unlimited, Salmon Unlimited, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, the Wisconsin Chapter of the Ruffed Grouse Society, the Wisconsin Waterfowlers' Association, the Green Bay Duck Hunters Association, the Wisconsin Council of Sport Fishing Organizations and the Great Lakes Sports Fishermen's Association.

We are concerned that your "fiscal management bill," which deals with a projected \$330 million revenue shortfall in GPR, calls for cuts and deferrals in conservation programs which are funded by SEGREGATED FEES paid by sportsmen and sportswomen of Wisconsin. Specifically, almost \$615,000 in funds raised from the sales of Inland Trout Stamps, Great Lakes Trout and Salmon Stamps and Wisconsin Waterfowl Stamps would be deferred by this budget repair bill and would not be spent on the projects they were meant to be spent on.

Our talks with personnel from the Department of Natural Resources have convinced us that, in the short term, they will be able to utilize federal dollars plus volunteer labor to carry out projects normally funded by revenues from the above-mentioned stamp sales, thus minimizing any short-term damage to the programs.

However, we fear that your bill would set a very dangerous precedent. Wisconsin outdoors people have willingly supported the creation of, and purchase of, a variety of licenses and stamps so that conservation programs can be funded despite fluctuations in GPR. If these segregated funds can be cut or deferred whenever budgetary crises occur because GPR projections have proven inaccurate, the most fundamental reasons for having these licenses and stamps is violated. You yourself should be especially sensitive to the issue, since you served as DNR Secretary when two of these stamps (Inland Trout and State Waterfowl) came into being.

We also find it incredible that, in these days when the DNR claims to be interested in public input on important decisions regarding our resources, no one from DNR or your administration consulted with anyone from the conservation community on this matter.

In closing, we urge you to reconsider the cuts you have ordered in those DNR programs which are funded by segregated fees. We look forward to your immediate response.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Flesch  
Trout Unlimited National Director  
Rt. 2, Box 1010  
Poynette, WI. 53955

## FLESCH LETTER TO GOV. EARL

This is the letter former WITU State Council Chair Tom Flesch sent Gov. Tony Earl in January 1986. Flesch met with the leaders of several sporting organizations on Super Bowl Sunday that year to respond to the Governor's plans to freeze expenditures from several segregated stamp funds.

CLAGGETT: Cont. from p. 6

So what has this impressive amount of work accomplished? Wisconsin has the best record of evaluating its trout habitat work of any place in the world. Two notable early publications were White and Brynildson's *Guidelines for Management of Trout Stream Habitat in Wisconsin* in 1967 and Bob Hunt's series of publications on Lawrence Creek in 1969, 1970, and 1976. This work documented the increased numbers of adult trout due to greater overwinter survival from increased pool and protective cover. In 1988 Hunt authored *A Compendium of 45 Trout Stream Habitat Development Evaluations in Wisconsin During 1953-1985*. Following up on that work, Avery did a similar compilation in 2004 summarizing the results of 58 evaluations from 1985-2000.

Most of the evaluations showed improvements of 50% or more in one or more trout population variable measured, including a 65% increase in trout >6 inches, a 25% increase in legal-size trout, and a

63% increase in biomass. Beaver dam removal showed a very high success rate (92% of streams showed at least 25% increase in 4 population variables) in the northern region. Evaluations of spring pond dredging have also shown excellent short- and long-term fisheries benefits.

Because of the trout stamp and the good work that followed, Wisconsin is a leader in trout habitat restoration and evaluation. The Driftless Area of southwestern Wisconsin is currently one of five national fish habitat action plan pilot projects that are receiving federal funds to integrate watershed improvements and in-stream work.

I am proud to have had the privilege of managing this program and seeing the positive results of better fishing in restored trout streams of Wisconsin. I can truly say that I am leaving the resource in better shape for future generations to enjoy.

*(WDNR Coldwater Fisheries Ecologist Larry Claggett has directed the trout stamp efforts for 25 years. -Ed.)*

FLAHERTY: Cont. from p. 7

directly for Wisconsin trout habitat. But the problem is that the temptation to steal from the fund is always there, and after I am no longer around to keep the DNR's feet to the fire, somebody else will have to take over that chore.

*(Dan Flaherty says he is "now pushing 84 but still practicing some law in La Crosse." Dan is a member of the Coulee Region Chapter; still trout fishes when his wife lets him get away from the house, and encourages TU members to become Friends of Wisconsin TU. -Ed.)*

FLESCH: Cont. from p. 7

and it still is today — that outdoors people be vigilant about the use of the segregated funds that hunters, anglers, and trappers provide from the sale of licenses and user stamps.

*(Tom Flesch was WITU State Council Chair from 1982-83 and served as a TU National Director from the early 1980s to the early 1990s. These days he lives in Elcho, WI. -Ed.)*

JOHNSON: Cont. from p. 7

If we can keep politicians and bureaucrats from trying to fix something that isn't broken, that will be a good thing.

*(Max Johnson worked in Wisconsin for 28 years as a WDNR area biologist and area fisheries supervisor mostly in Spooner and Antigo. He now lives in Bend, OR. -Ed.)*

WELTER: Cont. from p. 7

As of the mid-1990s, many of the DNR trout stamp projects were mostly free-standing, carried out by DNR staff and summer limited term employee (LTE) crews largely without much volunteer help or outside funding. Now TU and the DNR have each learned the value of using trout stamp money as "seed money," leveraging it with other funds from other sources, and augmenting or replacing part of that LTE labor with volunteers. If there is a financial message to be found in the TU-DARE projects, that's it. Leveraging trout stamp (and TU funds as well, for that matter) makes the money go farther, and allows problems on more extensive reaches of streams to be addressed. It also allows communities to become more involved in nearby projects, to feel ownership in these projects and to expand the ability to hire local contractors and invest those trout stamp dollars locally.

In some parts of the state, notably the west and southwest, we now have many projects queued up with funding from a variety of sources and ready and willing volunteers eager to get into the water. If DNR would designate some of its experienced equipment operators/fisheries biologists/technicians as project coordinators, they could work to make sure everything was in place to enable those projects to move forward. At the same time, they could train private contractors to do the in-stream work to DNR specifica-

tions, eliminating a key roadblock to completing projects in some areas. "Hiring local" and "buying local" will be good selling points for communities in addition to the others.

In 1995, the DNR sought (and TU's State Council approved) legislative approval to spend up to 10% of its funds for survey work on streams. This may have diverted some funds from habitat projects, but at the same time it enabled DNR to identify streams where projects could be done, and streams which formerly had no trout but now did and were entitled to classification as trout streams. In 2003, the "Blue Book" of state trout streams was expanded to include over 1,000 miles of "new" trout water which had not been protected in the 1984 edition.

All in all, the trout stamp program has been one of the major reasons for the health of Wisconsin's trout streams over the past 30 years. Some tweaking could be done, and undoubtedly will, but we have hundreds of miles of waters where habitat work has provided long-term benefits because of the program and the foresight of the people who conceived it. And we can look forward in future decades to more progress, if we are diligent about improving the program and making sure it carries out its purposes.

*(John Welter was WITU State Council Chair from 1998-2001. He now serves the entire state of Wisconsin as a member of the Natural Resources Board. -Ed.)*





**CONTROLLING THE LEVEL OF LAKE SUPERIOR**

The Soo Locks at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, play a major role in how much water leaves Lake Superior.

# Where has Lake Superior's water gone?

By Lee Newman

Most Lake Superior region residents are now concerned with the extremely low water levels in the big lake. In fact, the water levels are nearing all-time record lows.

The effects of the low water levels are both dramatic and alarming. It is apparent to most of us now that the near-shore lake environment and the aquatic species that depend on it are undergoing severe damage.

**Wetlands impacted**

The most severely impacted resources are the Lake Superior wetlands. When water levels reach the extreme lows that we are now experiencing, most wetlands become dewatered. Plant and animal life both suffer. Aquatic vegetation dies out, and many species of wetland animals are negatively impacted. Muskrat and mink populations decline dramatically, waterfowl and shorebird habitats are altered, and critical spawning areas for northern pike and a variety of minnow species disappear.

**Fish populations affected**

In addition, fish populations that spawn in some Lake Superior tributary streams are impacted. Natural barriers of rock, sand, and debris at river mouths are common on streams, particularly in Minnesota, Michigan, and Ontario. At our current water levels, these barriers block access to many species.

Steelhead were affected in some streams this spring, and an even more severe problem (barring some huge precipitation events) can be expected this fall for runs of brook and brown trout and for Coho, Chinook, and pink salmon.

So why are Lake levels so low now? The answer given by state and federal agency personnel is generally that the cause is the drought of the past few years. That statement is only a small part of the actual cause.

**Soo Locks determining flow**

Lake Superior takes in about 28 billion gallons of water in an average year. About one third is lost through evaporation, and two thirds, or about 18 billion gallons, is discharged into the lower Great Lakes through the gates, sluices, and rapids at Sault Ste. Marie.

In effect, of the 4.2 feet or 28 billion gallons of new water added to the lake in an average year, about 2.7 feet is discharged into the lower lakes, and the remaining 1.5 feet return to the sky through evaporation.

So, to a large extent, the level of Lake Superior is controlled at the outlet at Sault Ste. Marie. The shipping locks — 16 floodgates and the natural river channel — are manipulated to control the rate of the outflow.

**Setting the discharge rate**

The rate of discharge is regulated by the International Lake Superior Board of Control and was originally intended to mitigate high water shoreline damage on Lake Superior and downstream Great Lakes.

The Board of Control has established a maximum water level for the Lake Superior of 602 feet above sea level. This arbitrary level was set many years ago, primarily in response to complaints of beach erosion from wealthy shoreland property owners.

The 602-foot level is NOT an extremely high level; it is much lower than historic, common high water levels. However, whenever water levels reach that point, the 16 gates are opened wide and all the "excess water" is dumped into the lower lakes. This happened just a few years ago and billions (that's billions with a b) of gallons of water were dumped.

The problem with this approach is that it leaves us with no reserve of water for times of drought. Even the relatively minor drought conditions we are now experiencing can bring water levels to record lows and trigger massive damage to Lake Superior natural resources.

**Other costs**

In addition to the environmental damage, huge expenditures of tax dollars are required to dredge shipping channels and harbors to maintain usable depths.

The total economic and environmental costs seem to far outweigh the benefits of protecting the shoreline property of those who chose to build or develop property too close to the natural shoreline.

So, where has the water gone? The real answer is complex and

# TROUT STAMP: 30 years old

*Continued from p. 1*

Senators joining Harnisch to introduce the bill were Kathryn Morrison (D-Platteville), Paul Offner (D-La Crosse), Michele Radosevich (D-Hudson), Roger Murphy (R-Waukesha), Scott McCallum (R-Fond du Lac), and Timothy Cullen (D-Janesville).

Harnisch's bill was co-sponsored in the state assembly by Representative Edward Jackamonis (D-Waukesha).

Bill 64 received a hearing before the Senate Natural Resources Committee on Feb. 8, 1977. No one spoke against the bill. Speaking in favor of it were:

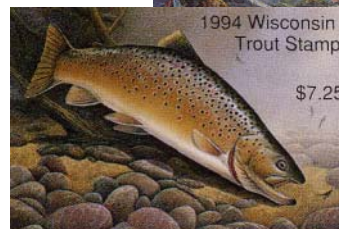
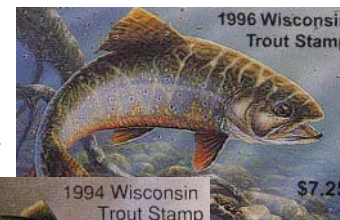
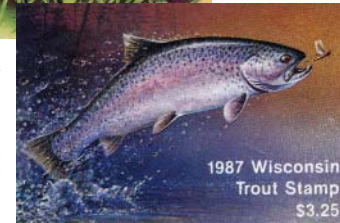
- Sen. Tom Harnisch,
- Verlin Peckham of Madison on behalf of Trout Unlimited,
- Ray Amble of Monona on behalf of the Dane County Conservation Congress,
- Keith Ackley of McFarland on behalf of the Yahara Fisherman's Club,
- Attorney General Bronson LaFollette of Madison on behalf of himself,
- John Lawton of Madison on behalf of himself, and
- Ray Piehl of Wautoma on behalf of himself.

The language of Harnisch's trout stamp bill was eventually rolled into the state budget bill rather than passing as a stand-alone bill.

"Wisconsin had been a leader in habitat protection and restoration and research before 1977, of course," notes former WITU State Council Chair and NRB member John "Duke" Welter.

"Fisheries scientists like Bob Hunt and Ed Avery and biologists like Max Johnson and Duke Andrews are all familiar names to Wisconsin TU members. But they and the TU State Council's leaders saw a need for a predictable, protected funding source to ensure trout habitat work would be done, rather than fighting over fishing license dollars with every other fish management program every two years." "Looking back at the impacts of Wisconsin's inland trout stamp program since 1977, we can see how we've benefited from the foresight of the original advocates in some ways they might never have contemplated," says Welter.

"But the fact remains that their vision of a future for trout management based on 'habitat before hatcheries' clearly benefited from the creation of the trout stamp. Unlike other states like Pennsylvania and Iowa, Wisconsin's trout stamp dollars didn't go into hatchery programs focused on put-and-take fisheries.



based far too much on political and economic benefits for a specific group, and far too little on the health and productivity of the Lake Superior ecosystem. In these times when global warming, drought conditions, and water shortages are be-

coming the norm, the policy of dumping vast amounts of Lake Superior water certainly should be reviewed.

*(Lee Newman is a member of the Wild Rivers Chapter and formerly worked with the USF&WS. -Ed.)*

## TU QUIZ

*According to the WDNR's "Wisconsin Trout Stream Maps" publication, which five counties in the state do not have any trout streams?*

*Answer: Jefferson, Milwaukee, Ozaukee and Winnebago*

Rent the

## Paulsen Cabin

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#### TIE NOW, FISH LATER

Jerry Smet (above right) from Central Wisconsin TU helps some Boy Scouts tie a foam bluegill fly that they later used to catch some fish.

## CWTU helps Boy Scouts earn fly fishing badges

By Bob Haase

The Central Wisconsin Chapter coordinated a program with area Boy Scout troops to help them earn their merit badges in fishing and fly fishing.

The program was held at the Discovery Center near Wautoma on May 19 and at the Boy Scout camp on Lake Virginia on May 20.

There were over 100 scouts from 12 different troops that came from areas such as Green Bay, Appleton, Fond du Lac, Ripon, Green Lake, Campbellsport, Oakfield, Eden, Randolph, and Mt. Calvary.

Central Wisconsin partnered with other fishing clubs to present programs on many of the areas needed to earn the merit badges.

Requirements that were not completed during the weekend program were scheduled to be completed during individual troop meetings.

Various TU members provided instruction:

- Tom Young, Tom Poullette, and Rich Mlodzik provided fly casting instruction,
- David Seligman presented an excellent program on sportsmanship and ethics,
- Dick Pollock put together a nice presentation on aquatic insects and the flies that represent them,
- Bob Haase presented programs on fishing safety and fly fishing equipment and tools, and
- Jerry Smet and Dr. Charles Wernberg taught fly tying.

Other programs were presented by volunteers from other fishing clubs and WDNR staff.

On Sunday, the boys spent the morning fishing Lake Virginia, and each scout caught and released at least one bluegill.

The scouts also kept and cleaned one bluegill. Some additional bluegills were kept and cleaned for a little fish fry before departing for home. Volunteers from other clubs helped the scouts fish and work on their casting and fishing skills.



## WITU Looking Back

From the Summer 1987 *Reflections*...

### Reflections Wins National TU Award

Our Wisconsin newsletter REFLECTIONS was the recipient of the 1986 Trout Unlimited Conservation Award for Communications at the National Meeting in Calicoon, New York June 27.

John Cantwell, editor, accepted the award and expressed thanks to the contributors and chapter leaders who send in reports, stories and material each quarter for making the award possible.

### Wisconsin Chapter Wins National TU Award

The Ojibléau Chapter was the winner of the 1986 Trout Unlimited Conservation Award for Membership Growth at the National Meeting in Calicoon, New York June 27. The chapter realized growth of 150 members from its 1986 Spring banquet. This was the highest increase of membership of any chapter, nationwide.

Dick Wachowski, State Council Chairman and National Director, accepted the award.

From the Summer 1997 *Wisconsin Trout*...

## New bill would gut fish farm regulations

New fish farming legislation would destroy Wisconsin's wild trout stocking programs, according to a Department of Natural Resources analysis of the legislation. Contrary to the established "public trust" doctrine, fish farmers would be able to use navigable waters as private farms under the new bill, which was attached to the state budget bill by the Joint Finance Committee.

The budget bill will be considered in a special session this month (July) by the Legislature.

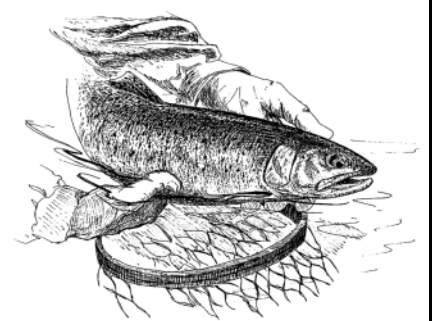
The Department of Natural Resources currently licenses and provides what oversight exists for fish farms. The current legislation would treat them like private deer farms, and disregards the constitutional treatment of public waters as public resources, according to a letter from Department

of Natural Resources Secretary George Meyer to Sen. Dale Schultz, R-Richland Center, a sponsor of the legislation.

Under the bill, fish farms would be defined as "agricultural uses". If that definition becomes law, the Department of Natural Resources would be prevented from regulating fish farms on spring heads or small perennial non-navigable streams which feed into trout streams, "resulting in adverse impacts to cold water resources, trout streams and water quality as this is not adequately addressed by the legislation," according to the Department of Natural Resources.

License fees of about \$20,000 per year now paid into Department of Natural Resources' fish and wildlife account would no longer be available.

## Consider Proper Release



The future of trout fishing is in your hands

Practice these CPR steps to help ensure the fish you release have their best chance of survival.

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

## Wisconsin Natural Resources Board Members

### David Clausen

Veterinarian  
Appointed February 2006.  
Term expires May 1, 2007.

1265 58th Ave.  
Amery, WI 54001  
(715) 268 8131

### Jonathan P. Ela

Conservationist, retired from the Sierra Club.  
Appointed January 2003.  
Term expires May 1, 2005.

2130 Chamberlain Ave.  
Madison WI 53726  
(608) 238 8187

### Gerald M. O'Brien

Attorney  
Appointed May 1, 1999.  
Term expires May 1, 2005.

Box 228  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
(715) 344 0890

### Howard D. Poulson

Farmer, retired President, Wisconsin Farm Bureau.  
Appointed August 1995.  
Re-appointed February 2001.  
Term expires May 1, 2007.

N795 Tamarack Rd.  
Palmyra, WI 53156  
(262) 495 2439

### Christine L. Thomas

Dean and professor of resource management at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point College of Natural Resources.  
Appointed March 2004.  
Term expires May 1, 2009.

UW-Stevens Point College of Natural Resources  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
(715) 346 4185

### John W. Welter

Attorney, former WITU State Council Chair.  
Appointed May 5, 2004.  
Reappointed May 1, 2005.  
Term expires May 1, 2011.

PO Box 228  
Eau Claire, WI 54702-0228  
(715) 831-9565

### Stephen D. Willett

Attorney  
Appointed June 1991;  
reappointed April 1999.  
Term expires May 1, 2003.

PO Box 89  
Phillips WI 54555  
(715) 339 2125

### Air, Waste, and Water Management/ Enforcement Committee

Stephen D. Willett, Chair  
Howard D. Poulson  
Jonathan P. Ela

### Land Management, Recreation and Fisheries/Wildlife Committee

Christine L. Thomas, Chair  
David Clausen  
John W. Welter

The seven NRB members are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the State Senate. Three members each must be selected from the northern and southern portions of the state and one member serves "at large."

# 2007 WDNR Fish Managers

County/Water	Name/s	County/Water	Name/s
<b>Adams</b> General	Scot Ironside	<b>Menominee</b> General	Al Niebur Dean Schoenike
<b>Ashland</b> Inland Waters Lake Superior	Jeff Roth Mike Seider	<b>Milwaukee</b> Lakes Streams	Matt Coffaro Will Wawrzyn
<b>Barron</b> General	Heath Benike	<b>Monroe</b> Inland Waters	Jordan Weeks
<b>Bayfield</b> Lake Superior and Tribs Inland Waters	Dennis Pratt Scott Toshner	<b>Oconto</b> Inland Waters	Justine Hasz Greg Kornely Cliff Sebero Mike Hawley Mike Donofrio Mike Donofrio
<b>Brown</b> Western 2/3 and Lake Michigan	Lee Meyers Rod Lange Steve Hogler Steve Surendonk	Lake Michigan Green Bay Coastal Shore of Green Bay	
Eastern 1/3		<b>Oneida</b> General	John Kubisiak
<b>Buffalo</b> Inland Waters, Northern Inland Waters, Southern Mississippi River	<i>vacant (Call 715-839-3709)</i> Dan Hatleli Brian Brecka	<b>Outagamie</b> Lower Fox River Wolf River	Lee Meyers Kendall Kamke
<b>Burnett</b> General	Larry Damman	<b>Ozaukee</b> Lakes Streams	John Nelson Will Wawrzyn
<b>Calumet</b> Lake Winnebago Eastern 2/3	Ron Bruch Steve Hogler	<b>Pepin</b> Inland Waters Mississippi River	Marty Engel Brian Brecka
<b>Chippewa</b> General	Joe Kurz	<b>Pierce</b> Inland Waters Mississippi River St. Croix River	Marty Engel Brian Brecka Marty Engel
<b>Clark</b> Western 1/3 Eastern 2/3	Joe Kurz Dan Hatleli	<b>Polk</b> General	Heath Benike
<b>Columbia</b> General	Tim Larson	<b>Portage</b> General	Thomas Meronek
<b>Crawford</b> Inland Waters Mississippi River	Jordan Weeks Patrick Short	<b>Price</b> General	Jeff Scheirer
<b>Dane</b> General	Kurt Welke	<b>Racine</b> Inland Waters	Doug Welch Rick Dauffenbach Pradeep Hirethota
<b>Dodge</b> General	Laura Stremick-Thompson	Lake Michigan	
<b>Door</b> Inland Waters Lake Michigan	Steve Hogler Paul Peeters	<b>Richland</b> General	Gene Van Dyck
<b>Douglas</b> Lake Superior, Brule River, and other Lake Superior Tribs All Other Inland Waters	Dennis Pratt Scott Toshner	<b>Rock</b> Lower Rock Basin	Don Bush
<b>Dunn</b> General	Marty Engel	<b>Rusk</b> General	Jeff Scheirer
<b>Eau Claire</b> General	Joe Kurz	<b>Sauk</b> General	Tim Larson
<b>Florence</b> General	Bob Young	<b>Sawyer</b> General	Frank Pratt
<b>Fond du Lac</b> Eastern Lake Winnebago	John Nelson Kendall Kamke Bob Olynyk	<b>Shawano</b> General	Al Niebur Dean Schoenike
<b>Forest</b> General	Bob Young	<b>Sheboygan</b> General	John Nelson
<b>Grant</b> South of Route 18 North of Route 18 Mississippi River	Bradd Sims Gene Van Dyck Patrick Short	<b>St. Croix</b> Inland Waters St. Croix River	Marty Engel Marty Engel
<b>Green</b> Sugar River Basin Pecatonica Basin	Don Bush Bradd Sims	<b>Taylor</b> General	Jeff Scheirer
<b>Green Lake</b> General	Dave Bartz Dave Paynter Scott Bunde	<b>Trempealeau</b> Inland Waters Mississippi River	Dan Hatleli Dave Heath
<b>Iowa</b> South of Route 18 North of Route 18	Bradd Sims Gene Van Dyck	<b>Vernon</b> Inland Waters Mississippi River	Jordan Weeks Dave Heath
<b>Iron</b> Inland Waters Lake Superior	Jeff Roth Mike Seider	<b>Vilas</b> General	Steve Gilbert
<b>Jackson</b> General	Dan Hatleli	<b>Walworth</b> General	Doug Welch Rick Dauffenbach
<b>Jefferson</b> Lower Rock Basin Upper Rock Basin	Don Bush Laura Stremick-Thompson	<b>Washburn</b> General	Larry Damman
<b>Juneau</b> General	Scot Ironside	<b>Washington</b> Lakes Streams	John Nelson Will Wawrzyn
<b>Kenosha</b> Inland Waters	Doug Welch Rick Dauffenbach Pradeep Hirethota	<b>Waukesha</b> General	Sue Beyler Steve Gospodarek
Lake Michigan		<b>Waupaca</b> General	Al Niebur Scott Bunde Dean Schoenike
<b>Kewaunee</b> General	Steve Hogler Steve Surendonk	<b>Waushara</b> General	Dave Bartz Dave Paynter Scott Bunde
<b>La Crosse</b> Inland Waters Mississippi River	Jordan Weeks Dave Heath	<b>Winnebago</b> General	Ron Bruch Kendall Kamke Bob Olynyk Doug Rinzel
<b>Lafayette</b> General	Bradd Sims	<b>Wood</b> General	Scot Ironside
<b>Langlade</b> General	Dave Seibel		
<b>Lincoln</b> General	Dave Seibel	<b>Other Management Areas</b>	
<b>Manitowoc</b> General	Steve Hogler Steve Surendonk	Treaty (East)	Mike Coshun
<b>Marathon</b> General	Thomas Meronek	Treaty (West)	Jamison Wendel
<b>Marinette</b> Inland Waters	Justine Hasz Greg Kornely Cliff Sebero Mike Hawley Mike Donofrio Mike Donofrio	Forest Service Liaison	Skip Sommerfeldt
Lake Michigan		Lake Michigan: Kenosha, Racine & Milwaukee Counties	Pradeep Hirethota
Menominee River		Lake Michigan: Sheboygan & Ozaukee Counties	<i>vacant (Call 920-892-8756)</i>
Green Bay		Lake Michigan: Manitowoc & Kewaunee Counties	Steve Hogler
Coastal Shore of Green Bay		Lake Michigan: Door	Paul Peeters
<b>Marquette</b> General	Dave Bartz Dave Paynter Scott Bunde	Lake Michigan: Brown	Lee Meyers Rod Lange Mike Hawley
		Lake Michigan: Oconto & Marinette Counties	Mike Seider
		Lake Superior: Main Lake	Dennis Pratt
		Lake Superior: Tributary Streams and Rivers	



## Chapter News



### KIDS, TROUT, HAPPINESS

Antigo TU member Dave Gregrich helps two of his grandchildren show off their catch at the chapter's annual Kids Fishing Day.

### Aldo Leopold Chapter

A dozen hearty souls met April 14 to clear brush from **Rocky Run Creek**. We moved upstream from the section we cleared last year and made great progress in removing the streamside brush. "**Chainsaw Justin**" led the way on one bank while **Mike Grimes** sawed his way up the other. When the sawdust settled, the tired workers enjoyed lunch and agreed that we'll be back for more.

Our project with the DNR and the **Columbia County Land and Water Conservation Dept.** on the **East Br. of Lodi Spring Cr.** is now com-

plete. On June 2 chapter members installed the decking on the walk bridge over the creek. Seeding has been completed, and now that we've finally had some rain, it is greening up nicely. It will be interesting to see how the trout respond to the new habitat. With this section complete I hope we can move forward on other adjacent section in the next few years.

As part of the **City of Lodi's** efforts to establish a storm water utility, they are developing an "Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination" ordinance which I have reviewed. On top of the ordinance, they hope to establish a goal of eliminating all storm water discharges into Lodi Spring Creek within 25 years. This sounds like a long time, but over the decades, literally dozens of inputs have been installed, many of them under and around existing buildings. Removing them will require careful planning and execution.

Our chapter picnic on May 16 went very well. Rain threatened but



### BLACKHAWK EVENTS

Bill Zieman (top, left) and Dick Alfors welcomed guests to the Blackhawk Chapter's recent banquet. Meanwhile, members took advantage of the nice weather to do some casting on the lawn at the DNR building before the chapter's May 16 regular meeting.

held off, allowing us to enjoy the evening. Almost \$1,000 was raised, as donations from **The Fly Fishers, Cabela's, Korbel,** and others helped sell many raffle tickets. The highlight of the evening was the raffling

of three guided fishing trips: **Allistair Stewart, Len Harris,** and **Kevin Searock** each provided a trip, for which we are very grateful.

—Mike Barniskis

### Antigo Chapter

Our annual **Kids Fishing Day** was held on Sat., June 2. We had a GREAT turnout of about 475 kids. Local **WDNR** reps were on hand with a casting contest.

We went through 800 fish and fed everyone hamburgers and hot dogs. Prizes were given to every kid, and we gave away a girl's & boy's bikes.

**Pete Curran**, a local taxidermist, will mount the largest fish caught. By the way, it was over 16 inches long.

We are getting work projects set for this summer. Our stream brushing and maintenance projects are already done.

—Scott Henricks

### Blackhawk Chapter

We had our most successful banquet ever in that we had 244 people buy tickets with four corporate sponsors, enabling us to raise approximately \$20,000. This money will be spent on stream work and outdoor activities involving youth, in-stream ecology, and fishing.

Some 55 businesses and 24 individuals/couples donated to our banquet. We want to thank the people and the businesses for their donations. Because of their generosity, Blackhawk TU was able to have 109 door prizes, 65 bucket prizes, and 75 silent auction items. Thanks to **Dan Boggs, Dick Alfors, Dave Patrick** and all of those who contributed. A special thanks and to **Marianne Skinner** for help with the program.

We participated on April 28 in a workday on **Elk Creek** in **Richland Cty.** and provided equipment that helped build approximately 50 lunger structures. This event was sponsored by the **Ocooch** and the **Southeastern WI** chapters.

On May 19 another workday was held on **Camp Creek** in **Richland**

**Cty.**, and 15 of our members showed up for this workday. Again we provided equipment. The objective was to build 100 lunger structures. The **Wisconsin Beef Producers** sponsored the Noon lunch of ribeye sandwiches. This is being sponsored by one of the TU clubs from the **Chicago** area. A note of special thanks to **Paul Hayes** for storing and transporting the equipment to the work sites.

We are looking forward to working on upcoming projects in **Green Cty., Brush Creek,** and **Reads Creek** in southwestern Wisconsin.

The **Rockford Park District** recognized our chapter and some other groups on April 12 at the **Trailside Centre** in **Rockford, IL.** This was to acknowledge those people and organizations who worked on and contributed to the **Kent Creek Project.**

At our May meeting we had **Pat Ehlers** help our members with their fly casting skills. He also gave a presentation on the fishing opportunities in Wisconsin.

—Arlan Hilgendorf

### Central Wisconsin Chapter

At our March meeting we replaced two board members who decided not to run for another term right now. We would like to thank **Tracy Moran** and **Dave Johnson** for the work they did while serving on the board. We appreciate the time they gave us and look forward to them serving on the board again when their schedules permit. **Russ Bouck** and **Gary Herlache** volunteered and were elected to replace them, and we thank them also for volunteering.

**Jim Humphrey, Shawn Sullivan, Allistair Stewart,** and **Bob Haase** attended the **TUDARE** stream restoration workshop in **Westby.** It was a great program, and we learned some new things to try on our area streams. We also had a little time to fish, and I watched Allistair show me how to catch a pretty nice brown.

**Jim Humphrey, Bob Hunt,** and **Bob Haase** also attended a meeting with the **DNR** at **Wild Rose** on their work plans for area trout streams. They had a list of the streams for which work was planned for both this year and next year. I was impressed with the planning they have done and the work they have accomplished already. Our chapter may be providing the major work of maintenance on **Lawrence Creek** this year and 2008 as well as beginning work on **Parson Creek** in 2008.

We held our annual **Fly Casting Workshop** in April at **Marble Park** in **Winneconne,** and it was a great success thanks to all the members who showed up to help teach others how to fly cast or improve their casting skills. **Linn Beck** provided brats and burgers from **Beck's Meat Market** for a cookout before the event, which was a great new addition to the program. I would like to thank **John Gremmer** for coordinating the program and **Tom Young** from the **Fox Valley Chapter** for helping.

We had our annual **Trout Outing** at the **Dakota Inn** near **Wautoma** on May 14. We had around 50 people participate in the program where we match up an experienced trout fisherman with one or two less experienced fisherman and spend the morning fishing area streams. Members teach basic skills like knot tying, reading the water, use of different kinds of flies, and fly casting skills. The program was followed by brats and burgers at the **Dakota Inn,** fly casting demonstrations, and identification of aquatic insects. I would like to thank **John Gremmer** for coordinating the program again this year, and all the members who showed up to help introduce some new people to the art and fun of trout fishing.

Members of the **Elliott Donnelley Chapter** from **Chicago** joined us for a workday on the **Little Silver Cr.** on May 19. There were around

# Chapter News



30 people at the workday, and a lot of good work was accomplished. I would like to thank **Jim Humphrey** and **Allistair Stewart** for coordinating the workday and all the members from both chapters that attended. The workday was followed by an afternoon of fishing.

On May 18 and 19, **Dick Pollock**, **Jerry Smet**, **Jerry Gorman**, and **Bob Haase** traveled to the **Wisconsin Outdoor Expo** at **Dodge County Fairgrounds** near **Beaver Dam** to help 4th thru 6th graders tie flies and learn to fly cast. We had a good turnout of volunteers from other TU chapters and other organizations. This enabled us to help over 900 students tie a fly and hundreds of students try their hand at fly casting. **Dick Pollock** put together a nice display to help students key out aquatic insects which they seemed to enjoy.

On May 19 and 20 many of our members were also involved in a program to help **Boy Scouts** earn their merit badges in fishing and fly fishing. The program was held at the **Discovery Center** near **Wautoma** and the **Boy Scout camp** on **Lake Virginia**. **Tom Young** from the **Fox Valley Chapter** volunteered to help teach the fly casting and **Dick Pollock** helped with identification of aquatic insects and the flies used to represent them. **David Seligman** presented an excellent program on sportsmanship and ethics, and **Jerry Smet** and **Charles Wernberg** helped teach them how to tie some flies. **Bob Haase** did a program on fishing safety and fly fishing equipment and rigging. **Rich Mlodzik**, **Tom Poulette**, and **Jerry Smet** also helped with fishing activities and a fish fry on **Sunday** on **Lake Virginia**. Members from **Lighthouse Anglers** in **Fond du Lac**, **Walleyes for Tomorrow**, and the **Winnegabogoland Musky Club** also assisted in putting

on the program. It was a group effort, and the scouts really enjoyed it.

Many of our members also traveled to **Avalanche** to help out with the **Madison Shabaaz Green Teen** program by taking students fishing on area trout streams along with members of other TU chapters.

Our water monitoring program is going strong this year with all the teams out working hard to collect and document the necessary data to help monitor the health of our streams. I think the importance of this program will be documented in future years as the data is used to protect our streams and plan stream restoration efforts. I would like to thank all the members who volunteer their time to help in this program.

**Jim Humphrey** has more workdays planned for this year, so if you were not able to make any workdays so far, there is still a chance to help out. Our workdays play an important role in maintaining and improving our streams, as well as providing an opportunity to get better acquainted with other members. We logged over 500 volunteer hours of stream work last year, and we are trying to top that number this year. I would also like to again thank the **DNR** for all the work they have been doing on our streams this year. Together we are making a difference.

We have a very active chapter, and this would not be possible without the leadership of our board members and the extra effort put in by the rest of our members. We spend a lot of time on the various activities of our chapter, and I encourage members to get out and spend some time on our streams because without their work and the work of other TU chapters and the **DNR**, we would not have the quality streams and fishing that we do today.

—*Bob Haase*

## Coulee Region Chapter

The Coulee Chapter participated in two youth events recently. On April 14 we participated in the **4-H Super Saturday** teaching 125 kids how to catch trout at the ponds in **Esofea Park** near **Westby**. The organizers of this event have been invited to give a presentation describing the event at the **2007 North Central Region Volunteer Forum** with participants from 11 states and three Canadian provinces. This event will take place October 12-14 in **Milwaukee**.

On May 10 we gave fly fishing lessons to 60 students from **Summit Elementary School** in **La Crosse** as part of their annual **Earth Day** celebration at **Norskedalen** near **Coon Valley**. The event was organized by **Colleen Pulvermacher**, youth development agent for **Vernon County 4-H**, **Shawna Stringham**, **Vernon County conservation warden**, **Donna Leum**, an advisor for **Youth Ambassador**, and **Cy Post** of Coulee Region TU. Some 124 kids participated, ranging from Kindergarten

## Fox Valley Chapter

Our **Cabin Fever Day** was held on March 24. Our guest speaker was the legendary **Lefty Kreh**. He had many excellent slides and stories for his morning presentation. The afternoon presentation was a casting seminar held in the parking lot of the **Grand Meridian Banquet Hall**

to 6th grade. Our chapter paid to stock the ponds with 250 rainbow trout.

Our chapter recently received a generous gift of \$2,000 to be used on **Hornby Creek**. The donors are **Olaf Borge** of rural **Vernon Cty.**, **Betty C. Borge** of **Cambridge, WI**, and **Sigrid B. Brooks** of **Chicago**. The project, which will include both maintenance and development to be done by the **DNR**, is scheduled to begin this fall or next spring.

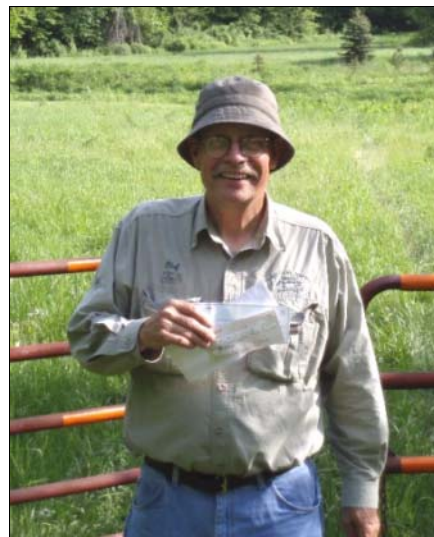
We were also awarded a \$2,500 grant from the **La Crosse Community Foundation** to continue stream improvements on **Mormon Coulee Creek**. Thanks go to **Eric Rauch**, our chapter's project coordinator, for writing this grant proposal.

On June 2 we helped the **DNR** construct 18 lunger structures to be installed on the lower section of **Mormon Coulee Creek**. We have been doing stream improvement on **Mormon Coulee** since 1998.

—*Rick Kyte*

on a beautiful March afternoon. **Lefty** also gave some one-on-one casting tips to those attendees who were brave enough to ask for help.

The day finished up with a banquet and an interesting and humorous presentation by **Lefty** entitled "Why We Fish." There were many



**SMILING COULEE FACES**

Olaf Borge (above left) holds a \$2,000 check from him, Betty Borge, and Sigrid Brooks for the Coulee Chapter's restoration work on Hornby Creek. Meanwhile, a happy girl holds a trout from one of the youth fishing days the chapter helped with in recent months.



happy winners of the excellent bucket raffle items, and the silent auction items drew many bidders. Thanks to all who attended, participated, tied, donated items, ran a booth, bid, purchased raffle tickets, and just enjoyed an early spring day. We are in the planning stages for **Cabin Fever Day 2008**. The date will be March 15, and the main presenter will be **Bob Clouser**, so mark it on your calendar.

The election of officers and board members was held at the April general membership meeting. Officers include:

President — **Jim Jenkin**

Vice Pres. — **Mark Peerenboom**

Treasurer — **Gene VanAsten**

Secretary — **Rich Erickson**

The two new board members elected this year are **Greg Swanson** and **Jim Cuhel**. The following individuals are also on the board — **Kris Oates**, **Ryan Borowicz**, **Steve Heuser**, **Roger Genske**, **Jim Oates**,

**Bob Omba**, **Bob Kinderman**, and past president **Tony Trembl**.

The **Fox Valley** chapter sponsored our 29th annual **Special Needs Fishing Day** at the **Main Creek** ponds on April 28. This is an event that was first started by chapter member **Del Schwaller**, and it has grown into a very successful event. There are several corporate sponsors who provide funding for the food, beverages, cake, and prizes. Our **FVTU** members have as much, if not more, fun as the fisher kids, women, and men (*see the great note of thanks from one of this year's attendees on this page.*)

Many of the people who attend the fishing day only have that one chance to fish each year, so for those of us who can fish just about any time and place we choose, this is also an important chance for us to donate our time for an afternoon.

*Continued on p. 14*

Dear Fox Valley Trout Unlimited,

I want to thank you and the TU group for such a wonderful day. This was my second time with your group. And I want to say Thank You. Thank You.

I had a great time. And the fishing was great I caught my 5 trout and I even got some bluegills. I was so thrilled to get some fish I went home and cleaned them and had 2 bluegills for supper. And they tasted great.

The people in the TU group are so kind to us, and what a great help by all of them. I was so impressed with the way everyone jumped in to help. With netting and measuring them to bagging to everything. I am unable to get into the lodge so my lunch was brought to me. How nice for someone to be so helpful. I know GOD has a special place for people like you and your group.

Last year you gave me a fishing pole and reel. This year I was hoping for a boat and motor!!!! Just a joke!! But again Thank You.

You can't believe how nice it makes a person like me know that there is a group out there willing to help the handicap!!! Bless you all.

Ivan Craig



## Chapter News

Continued from p. 13

**Jim Hlaban** has been working with **Al Niebur** from the DNR to establish our stream work schedule for this summer. Much of our work this year will be maintenance work on projects that the chapter was in-

involved with years ago. Our first project will do maintenance work and brush bundling on **Radley Creek** near Hwy. 22 in **Waupaca Cty.**

Our **Habitat Days** are held the second Saturday of the month from April through September.

We also have a trout planting on the first Saturday of October. The chapter will also hold a picnic after the Habitat Day Aug. 11. Please check our web site for more information at [www.FoxValleyTU.org](http://www.FoxValleyTU.org).

Our past prez would conclude his remarks with, "Until then, we'll see

you on a trout stream." **Tom Lager**, writer of "Let's Talk Bugs," always reminds us to "enjoy His creation." It is that time of year to get out and enjoy our great rivers and streams.

—*Rich Erickson*

### Frank Hornberg Chapter

The final general meeting of the chapter was held on Thursday, March 8, at **Shooter's Supper Club** in **Plover**. The featured speaker was **Tom Young** who gave a video presentation on emerging insects. The event was attended by some 20 people who found it extremely informative in the ways of invertebrates.

On April 21 we partnered with the **Friends of the Tomorrow-Waupaca River** to do site preparation work for the installation by the DNR of a prairie along the bank of the **Waupaca River** immediately west of **Waupaca**.

May 12 was the date of our first workday. The FHC "faithful" put in a productive day repairing a brushmat that was damaged by high spring runoff, widening a large brushmat directly across from the staging area, and extending the island we installed last year to connect with a wing dam upstream of the island. We also added a wing dam across from the "island" to take pressure off the far bank and to deepen the channel around the island. The Hornbergers were again treated to **Paul Peck's** delicious barbecued smoked pork sandwiches. We are grateful to Paul for his culinary contributions to the chapter.

The chapter's annual **Fly Fishing Workshop** was held at the **Bible Camp** on the banks of the **Tomorrow-Waupaca River** May 18-20.

Enrollees were treated to a first-rate educational experience. Special thanks are in order for **Stu Nelson** and **Mike Mather** for organizing the entire affair and to **Bob Juracka** for securing the fine facilities. Excellent instruction in entomology, reading the water, casting, knots, and fly tying was provided by **Jan Tully**, **Jeff Dimick**, **Stu Nelson**, **Roger Nelson**, **Dave Engerbretsen**, **Tom Young** and **Dan Holland**.

We also are grateful to **John Tally** who machined and anodized custom hair stackers for the enrollees. **Jim Gitter** prepared a sumptuous dinner on Saturday night. The chicken cacciatore was the equal of any restaurant in America! **Mary Holtz**, **Wayne Duecker**, **Louise Juracka**, **Mary Liturski**, **Don Ebberts**, and **Bud Nehring** provided able and much-appreciated help preparing meals on both Saturday and Sunday. In short, our first two-day fly fishing workshop was by all accounts a great success. Moreover, we learned enough this year to enable us to improve upon it next year.

—*Dan Holland*

### Green Bay Chapter

WOW! Thanks to a dedicated banquet committee and a whole lot of support from TU members and conservationists from around the state, the Green Bay Chapter had our most successful fund-raising banquet ever. **Banquet 07**, held March 30 at the **Stadium View Banquet Hall**, raised in the neighborhood of \$25,000 to be used to preserve and protect our coldwater resources.

Much of the proceeds are already earmarked for use in fighting beaver that harm area streams, hiring a fisheries technician to work on area streams, and performing habitat improvement on trout waters. Additionally, we are looking at other projects to possibly help with funding.

Our chapter has new officers:  
President — **Paul Kruse**  
Vice Pres. — **Jessica Garrels**  
Sec./Treas. — **Gary Stoychoff**

As the summer season approaches, the chapter has become active with work projects. We've teamed with the DNR and the **Oconto River Watershed Chapter** to install a weir on the **Oconto River** that will allow fish passage to be monitored as trout move upstream seeking colder water. This will also provide information about the effectiveness of the wild trout stocking program. We

will be there when the weir is removed in early June.

Other stream improvement plans include completing the fence repair along the **Oconto River**, finishing the rock placement on the **First South Branch** of the **Oconto River** and working on habitat improvement with the **US Forest Service** in the **Chequamegon/Nicolet National Forest**.

We are also going to stage our very successful **Kid's Fishing Day** in July, help fin clip brook trout raised by the **Oconto Chapter** for the wild trout stocking program, and help the DNR collect the brood stock needed for that program.

The chapter is continuing its search for an area stream to concentrate its habitat improvement efforts upon. A presentation by **Stuart Cogswell** of the **US Fish & Wildlife Service** about the **Beaver Creek** watershed at our May meeting made that watershed a strong candidate for that designation. Finally, the chapter will hold its summer picnic in June at the **Barkhausen Game Preserve**. This popular event sees members and guests get together and share some camaraderie and learn more about one another.

—*Gary Stoychoff*

### Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter

Kiap-TU-Wish continues to work on the **South Fork of the Kinnickinnic R.** project along Hwy 29 east of **River Falls**. DNR work has been progressing rapidly with very favorable weather conditions.

The chapter will be working on a major stream project beginning in July. **Pine Creek** east of Hwy 35 near **Maiden Rock** will be a joint project with the DNR, **Kiap-TU-Wish**, **Ojibseau**, and **Twin Cities TU**



Gary Richardson photos

#### THE JUNK KEEPS ON COMING

The Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter held its third annual spring clean-up on the Rush River under the direction of Sarah Sanford (top right). Kiap-TU-Wish President Greg Dietl (top left) filled a bag. Duke Welter (bottom right) wondered whether he'd need a lawyer by virtue of having a road sign in his possession.

## Kiap-TU-Wish gets tough on Rush River trash

By Sarah Sanford

Some 99 souls showed up for the Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter's third annual Rush River cleanup. About 1,200 lbs. of junk was collected by the recycling van, of which an estimated 300 pounds were recyclable cans, bottles, and jars. The bulk of that 1,200 lbs. consisted of tires, scrap metal, and general weirdness.

Speaking of weird, a jar of Becky Bersch's Rush River Honey went to the Fly Fishing Women of Minnesota who found a waffle iron that qualified as the "weirdest item found." Another jar went to Dana O'Brien for being the private party who recruited the largest clean-up team.

Other helpers came from UW-Stout, UW-River Falls, Star Prairie Fish and Game, Eau Galle Rush River Sportsman's Club, Ojibseau TU, and Twin Cities TU. Big thanks to Laughing Trout who prepared, cooked, and served lunch. Roger Nunn of Laughing Trout and Coleman Natural Meats donated much of the grillable treats.

Lastly, thanks to the Ellsworth Rod and Gun Club for the lovely facility, only outdone by Mother Nature herself who provided the beautiful Rush River and a grand day for our enjoyment.

# Chapter News



of **Minneapolis**. TCTU has contributed \$5,000 to the project and has pledged volunteer help. We are looking forward to this project partnership with TCTU and thank them for their financial and volunteer contributions. On a recent work night, volunteer help was received from the **Keeping Youth Involved (KYI)** organization from **Star Prairie, WI**. Organizer **Ernie Shores**

brought two young volunteers with him to help with seeding and mulching. Ernie plans to continue involving youth in stream projects. Kiap-TU-Wish looks forward to working with these young people and we're grateful for the help.

The KYI organization also joined in on the 3rd annual **Rush River Cleanup** (see story on p. 14).  
—Greg Diel

## Lakeshore Chapter

Lakeshore TU held our **annual banquet** on April 14. There were 203 people in attendance, and we raised a little over \$8,700 to help us continue our work improving our coldwater resources.

Thanks to all of our workers and sponsors for their contributions to the banquet's success. Special thanks go to co-chairmen **Jeff Preiss** and **Jeff Yax** as well as the evening's MC, **Ron McCormick**.

We had our first workday of the year April 21. There was a great turnout of workers (17), and by 10:00 a.m. we ran out of wood and had 10 lunger structures built. Since it was still early, we moved on to the **Onion River** and spent a couple hours removing debris and deadfalls that had landed on some of our structures. The river is now much more fisherman friendly. We also planned workdays for June 30 and July 14.

Last year, **Onion River** project chair **Larry Doebert** collected money from interested Lakeshore members to buy the materials to build **Leopold benches** for placement along the **Onion River**. Larry has completed the benches, and there are now several places along the river where you can sit down and rest or just watch and listen to the river.

We have learned that Lakeshore member **Dave Zerger** has been se-

lected by the **Sheboygan County Conservation Association** as their **Youth Conservationist of the Year**. Dave and his wife **Patti** have started the **Reel E'm Inn Club** at **Longfellow Elementary School** in **Sheboygan**. The club has been exposed to a variety of experiences including spin casting, fly casting, fly tying, fishing etiquette, fishing history, a trout boil, and raising trout in a classroom. They have also been on two fishing trips. Lakeshore TU members have helped out with some of the activities, but Dave and Patti are the reason for the club's existence. They even plan on doing it again next year.

A group of Lakeshore members spent parts of two days at **Plymouth High School** teaching fly tying and fly casting to students there. Club members helping with these activities were **Jeff Preiss, Mike Heibing, Tom Mockert, Ken Zimmermann, and Bruce Balisterri**.

Our May meeting concluded with election of officers for the coming year. Results are:

Pres. — **Wayne Trupke**  
Vice Pres. — **Ron McCormick**  
Sec. — **Jeff Yax**  
Treas. — **Jeff Preiss**

Board of Directors members include **Jerry Bauman, Larry Doebert, and Dave Zerger**.

—Wayne Trupke

## Marinette County Chapter

April was a very busy month for our chapter. We conducted our **24th Annual Banquet** on April 16 at **Schussler's Supper Club** in **Peshtigo**. With over 250 people attending, the banquet was once again very successful. Thanks are due to **Dale Lange, Marty Lund, Jim Bereza, Roger Prestine, Lloyd Lange, Lyle Lange, Pete Kurtz, Dave Larson, Steve Wilke, Allan Lemke, and John LeBeau**.

Our chapter also conducted a membership drive in conjunction with our banquet and signed up 19 new members.

Also in April, elections for officers were held. Officers are:

President — **Dale Lange**  
Vice Pres. — **Marty Lund**  
Sec./Treas. — **John LeBeau**

Members have approved funding of the following:

- beaver control in **Marinette County**,
- contributions to beaver control work in the **Nicolet National Forest**,
- the hiring of two seasonal forestry technicians for habitat work in the **Nicolet National Forest**,
- the purchase of an **ATV** in conjunction with **Green Bay TU** to donate to the **DNR** to make their beaver control efforts more effective,
- a contribution to the planting of brown trout in the **Lower Oconto River**,

- two scholarships to the **UW-Stevens Point Career Workshop Camp**, and
- kid's fishing days in **Peshtigo** and **Marinette**.

—John LeBeau

## Northwoods Chapter

The Northwoods Chapter held our **33rd Annual Banquet** on May 7 at the **Rhineland Café and Pub**. We had some fabulous donations this year, including a guided full-day float on the **San Juan River** with **Fly Fish Team USA** captain **Brian Cap-say**, a two-day guided trip in **Florida** with **Bill Sherer**, a **Thomas and Thomas** fly rod, and custom-built fly rods by **Aaron Nelson** and **George Langley**.

A **Certificate of Appreciation** was presented to **Don Olcik** for all the volunteer time he has devoted to the chapter helping with the banquet and stream workdays. Without Don, our stream work crew would go hungry.

The banquet helped us raise the funds to support our projects for the upcoming year that include:

- the replacement of a culvert on the **Tamarack Creek**,
- beaver control on the **Pine and Popple** wild rivers,
- funding for a seasonal fisheries technician and a two-person summer fish habitat crew for the **US Forest Service**, and
- providing subscriptions for **Trout** magazine and **Wisconsin Trout** to 11 community libraries.

The chapter held our welcome spring picnic on May 21 at the **Perch Lake Campground**. There we discussed banquet results and activities for next year. Elections were postponed until next fall, as a quorum of officers and board members was not present for elections to be held.

We held our annual **Youth Fly Fishing Conclave** at **Kemp Research**



### ATV FOR THE WDNR

**Marinette County TU** President **Dale Lange** (left) hands over the keys of a new **ATV** to **WDNR Peshtigo Fisheries Supervisor Michael Donofrio**. The **ATV** was purchased in a joint effort with **Green Bay TU**. It will be used to move material from roadways to project sites for trout stream improvement projects and beaver control activities.

**Station** on July 7. It was a full day of activities for kids age 12-16 to learn about the fine art of fly fishing. Classes were taught on fly tying, knots, entomology (bugs), and fly casting. Lunch was provided, and everything was free of charge.

This summer our chapter has already completed a stream workday June 9 on **Elvoy Creek** removing brush to prepare for **DNR** stream habitat crews.

On July 14 we continued our brush bundling project on the **Bearskin Creek**, and on August 18th we will assist the **US Forest Service** with brushing on the **Deerskin Creek** to prepare for the **US Forest Service** crew. Call **Josh** at (715) 482-9619 for details on our stream projects.

—Carole Linn

Continued on p. 16



### JUST TRY TO GET BY THIS BABY

Members from the **Oconto River** and **Green Bay** chapters recently helped the **WDNR** construct a trout weir on the **Oconto River**. The captured fish help gauge the effectiveness of the **Oconto Chapter's** annual trout stocking efforts.



# Chapter News

Continued from p. 15

## Oconto River Watershed Chapter

The Oconto Watershed Chapter elected officers this April. They are:

President — **Dennis Hagman**

Vice Pres. — **Ben Prince**

Treasurer — **Dawn Sunnicht**

Secretary — **Jim Trochta**

We continue to have successful banquets, raising \$12,000 for the good of the resource this spring.

We present our trout fishing tank at the county fair, **Copperfest at Peshtigo**, and to large numbers of the community at the **Fourth of July** celebration. It is well received and presents a great opportunity for community outreach and education.

We fund and work with our fishery biologists, **Justine Hasz** and **Greg Korneli**, on the weir across the **Oconto R.** just outside of **Suring**. It consists of 1/8-inch steel rods placed at 3/4-inch intervals across the river,

guiding fish into a cage for capture during the migration from deeper winter habitat downstream to cooler upstream summer feeding habitat. We empty the cage daily, counting and measuring fish. They migrate most heavily as water temperatures approach 60 degrees, caught 180 fish on our best day. Our largest brown trout was 28 inches, and our best brookie was 18 inches, with many fish over 20 inches captured.

We annually raise 30,000 trout to fingerling size for fall release and clip their adipose fins. When you catch an Oconto trout with a clipped adipose fin, it's one we raised. Checks of adipose fins in the weir show that 15 percent of Oconto fish come from our hatchery.

—*Bob Obma*

## Ojibseau Chapter

In recent newsletters we asked if there was any interest in changing the name of the chapter. We got several suggestions — Chippewa Valley Chapter, Clear Waters Chapter, Northern Driftless Area Chapter, West Central Wisconsin Chapter, or name it after a member who deserves such recognition.

The chapter board reviewed the comments and votes at the chapter banquet and at the **Brat Feed** on

May 16. The winning new name was **Clear Waters Chapter**, but it turns out that name is already taken by another TU chapter in the U.S., so we will continue the search.

The chapter established awards to be presented to deserving individuals at our annual banquet. The first award was named in honor of long-time member and chapter benefactor **Don Cheney**. The **Don Cheney Conservationist Award** was present-

ed to **Tim Meyer** for his work as chapter project manager and for his work on **Gilbert Creek**.

The second award was the **Willie Wilson Education Award**. Willie has done much for the chapter over his many years. The first recipient of this award was **Jeff Bartynski**. Jeff has planned and conducted the multi-session fly tying classes over the past several years. We were pleased to recognize the contributions of recent chapter members in the names of these awards.

The **Free Fishing Day** was June 2. This was the eighth year the event has been held in Eau Claire's **Carson Park**. Over 70 kids aged 5-13 caught some bluegills and bass under the expert direction of **Jim Klees**, **Dave Carlson**, and others. **Joe Knight** and **Dave Vollmer** provided a fly fishing demonstration and helped **Boy Scouts** catch panfish on a fly. **Dennis Woodford**, **Mikelene Malone**, and **Dennis Vanden Bloomen** assisted with fishing and conducted a casting contest with Zebco 202s as prizes.

Drawings were held throughout the morning, with lots of prizes provided by **Wal-Mart**.

About 20 **Boy Scouts** from western Wisconsin earned their **Fly Fishing merit badge** at **Coon Forks Lake**. **Dave Vollmer** and **Joe Knight** participated in a merit badge clinic on May 17-18. Scouts did the classroom skills portion on Saturday and fished on Sunday. Some 40 scouts did the general fishing merit badge at the same outing. The chapter provided free first-year TU memberships to scouts completing the badge.

Chapter Board members **Dennis Woodford** and **Dennis Vanden Bloomen** helped **North and Memorial** high school cognitively disabled classes participate in two fishing clinics. A clinic on May 23 had 31 students and one on May 25 had 19 students. Students fished from the accessible dock at **Braun's Bay** in **Carson Park**. An end-of-year picnic was also part of the festivities. This was the ninth year the program has been conducted. They hope to add the **Altoona High School** to this program.

The chapter's spring fishing outing allowed anglers to explore the heart of the Driftless Area May 18-20. A group of chapter members camped at the **West Fork Sports**

**Club** near **Viroqua** where they fanned out into trout streams across **Crawford** and **Vernon** counties. Secret trout maps showing the best spots in the area were available, but no one needed one because there are so many good fishing opportunities around the area. The weather cooperated by not drenching us, and fishing was generally steady, with some trout encountered in the 17-18 inch range. Available cuisine included porterhouse steaks with morels, venison bourguignon, and a variety of thirst-quenchers. Participants included **Steve Josephson**, **Tim Valentine**, **Lon Christianson**, **Tom Looze** and **Duke Welter**.

The seven-member **Natural Resources Board**, the state body that sets policy for the **WDNR**, toured our **Gilbert Creek** restoration area on May 22. **Tim Meyer** and **Dennis Vanden Bloomen** represented the chapter. Also present was chapter member **Duke Welter**, a member of the **NRB**.

**Marty Engel**, **DNR** fish biologist for **Dunn Cty.**, and his crew demonstrated electro-shocking for fish. Marty estimated that current numbers have gone from 20 fish per mile to about 750, and he expects populations to reach 1,000/mile by season's end.

**Scott Humrickhouse**, **District DNR Director**, reviewed how the many partners and **DNR** cooperated to plan, obtain easements, finance, and complete each summer's restoration efforts. Funding is in place to do 4,000 more feet on **Gilbert** this summer and an equal distance in 2008.

The chapter applied for \$29,250 under the **DNR River Grant** program for **Elk Creek**. Previously under this program we received two grants totaling \$59,000 in 2003 and 2004 for work on **Gilbert Creek**.

**Altoona High School** applied for a **National Physical Education** grant and got \$3,000. **Dennis Vanden Bloomen** helped teacher **Jamie Oliver** in applying for funds to integrate fishing and fly fishing into their physical education program!

Finally, the **Red Cedar River Chapter of Pheasants Forever** gave us a check for \$400 for native prairie seed and plantings in the **Gilbert Creek** area in 2006 and 2007. Thanks for your support.

—*Dennis Vanden Bloomen*

## Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter

**SEWTU** will resume our regular chapter meetings September through May at the **Thunder Bay Grille** located just off the intersection of Hwy. 94 and **Pewaukee Rd.** at N14 W24130 Tower Place, in **Waukesha**. A calendar of events is available at our web site at [www.sewtu.org](http://www.sewtu.org).


From March 9-18 **SEWTU** manned a booth at the **Milwaukee Journal Sports Show**. The booth, at which **SEWTU** ran its annual raffle fund-raiser, is also a prime educational activity for **SEWTU** where members introduce the public to TU's ideals and provide them with information concerning **SEWTU's** projects, accomplishments, and mission. As our former Sports Show Chair **John Gosz** put it, we tie "tractor patterns" in order to lure the public to our booth and spread our mission. This year's booth also featured a multi-day visit from **TU-**

**DARE** National Coordinator **Jeff Hastings**.




Our March meeting featured **Rich Osthoff** and drew well over 100 attendees. Rich is a well known and respected fly fishing author who has written on subjects ranging from fly fishing the **Rocky Mountains** to his most recent work concerning "active nymphing."



At March's meeting, **SEWTU** drew the prize winners for our 2007 Sports Show Raffle. **Dave Beckwith** won the grand prize, a handmade cedar strip canoe, sponsored by **Stan Strelka** and **Professional Insurance Services**, while **Ashok Bhatia** won a **Stoeger** shotgun package from the **Germantown Gander Mountain**. **Kathy Snow** won an **Orvis** fly rod and reel combination from **Laacke & Joys**, and **Ron Wojak** won a dinner and show combination from **Potawatomi Bingo & Casino**.

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# Chapter News



In April, SEWTU was treated to a tremendous presentation from our own SEWTU political liaison **John Knitter**, along with **Tom Berzynski** of the WDNR. John and Tom spoke about the salmon and trout runs on Milwaukee's rivers and provided some excellent "how to" fishing information.

In May, SEWTU welcomed **Susan Beyler**, WDNR's inland fisheries team supervisor for the Southeast Region. Sue spoke about one of our chapter area's most beloved trout waters, **Paradise Springs**. Sue's talk focused on the deterioration of the springs and what work SEWTU could undertake in order to restore it. Following Sue's talk, SEWTU set up a workday and will aid the WDNR later this summer. Sue also provided some excellent information about further WDNR work at **Scuppernong Creek** in the **Kettle Moraine's Southern Unit**.

In addition to its busy meeting schedule, SEWTU has continued to maintain its exceptional restoration pace. On February 17, a crew of nearly 20 SEWTU and WDNR volunteers and employees turned out, despite arctic temperatures, to perform brushing work at **Bluff Creek**. Bluff Creek is located in south central Wisconsin, and is one of the few coldwater streams in its region.

On April 21, led by **John Knitter**, about 30 SEWTU volunteers took part in the **Milwaukee River Cleanup**. The cleanup is a yearly event run by **Friends of Milwaukee's Rivers**, and a part of the **Earth Day** celebration. Hundreds of volunteers from numerous organizations attend and participate in the event, and its impact on the watershed is truly incredible.

On May 19 over 60 volunteers turned out to work at **Camp Creek** outside of **Viola** in **Richland County** as part of the **Smith Family Project**. The project is a joint TUDARE effort between SEWTU and our good friends, the **Ocooch Creeks Chapter**. At the workday, volunteers from seven different TU chapters from and at least two states constructed 93 lunger structures. As always, it seems, the **Blackhawk Chapter** arrived with vital tools, know-how, and instruction. Exceptional support was received from **Richland County Land Conservation** and project head **Ken Anderson** as well as the entire Anderson family and their beef operation in conjunction with the **Richland County Beef Co-Op**. Incredible support was also received from **George Smith** and his family (the landowners involved in this project) and **S & S Cycle**. Additionally, a great deal of logistic and preparation support was received from SETWU's **Ray Weiss** and his company, **Max Weiss Steel**. The project, when completed in 2008, will result in approximately one mile of stream being restored.

SEWTU ventured to the **Driftless Area** and joined forces with **Dick Peters**, **Allon Bostwick**, the **Ocooch Creeks Chapter** in order to perform restoration work at **Elk Creek** on June 23. This workday also involved **Pheasants Forever** and the **Friends of the Prairie**, and featured some prime fishing opportunities afterwards.

July 21 found us returning to **Nichols Creek** in **Sheboygan Cty.** in order to perform further restoration and riparian maintenance work at the site. SEWTU has worked at Nichols Creek before, and has es-

tablished a good relationship with WDNR fisheries biologist **John Nelson**. At this workday, we'll continue to help maintain a headwater of the Milwaukee River, one of our chapter's home waters.

SEWTU will return to **Paradise Springs** on Saturday, Aug. 18. We'll perform brushing work and will help to remove low-hanging foliage which is depositing material into the pond, causing sedimentation and warm water. This will mark our first return to Paradise Springs in over 10 years.

On Sat., Oct. 20, we will return to **Genesee Creek** just outside of **Genesee Depot** in **Waukesha Cty.** We'll continue our restoration efforts along with **Carroll College** volunteers led by Professor **Jason Freund** (who is also a TU member). Let's turn out a good crew.

Aside from its workdays, SEWTU has other fun-filled events planned for this summer. On June 26, SEWTU stalwart **Jim Folda** held SEWTU's annual **Hex-Hatch Outing** in southwest Wisconsin.

On July 24 we held our annual **Casting Clinic** at **Greenfield Park** run by longtime chapter member and casting virtuoso **Larry Wirth**.

On Thurs., Aug. 16, SEWTU will hold its second annual **Habitat Restoration Raffle Fundraiser**. Last year, over \$2,000 in prizes were raffled off, and a great time was had by attendees. Most importantly, over \$2,000 was raised for use in 2007 stream restoration projects. Location and ticket information will be provided in the near future, under the **Calendar of Events** section of our web site.

SEWTU has continued to be politically active. SEWTU members traveled to Madison Feb. 21 to meet with legislators during **Conservation Lobby Day**. Political Liaison **John Knitter** was also featured on the cover of *The Conservation Voter* for his involvement at the Conservation Lobby Day. John was pictured speaking with a legislator, and while they properly spelled John's name, they misspelled that of the legislator!

As part of our education program, we sponsored **Megan Malovec**, a Milwaukee student, for this summer's **Lake Superior Pathfinder's Program** in **Ashland**. The project aims at teaching conservation ideals to young leaders. Education Director **Chris Weber** and **Dan Asmus** have been busy jump-starting SEWTU's education program. In May, Chris and Dan attended a meeting with the WDNR concerning the **Youth Fishing Clinic** project held each spring. This event focuses on having outdoors organizations lead free public fishing clinics, and SEWTU plans to become involved in 2008. Chris was also pleased to announce that he has secured a number of fly fishing outfits for use by our chapter at future casting education events. Most notably, Chris and **John Knitter** have lined up three teachers for **Trout in the Classroom** projects in 2008. Trout in the Classroom focuses on having coldwater aquariums in local biology classrooms so children are exposed to the lifecycle of trout and salmonid species. We are currently seeking funding for these projects, and if you can help, please contact Vice President **Henry Koltz** at [hek@sdelaw.com](mailto:hek@sdelaw.com).

Finally, led by board member **Todd Durian**, SEWTU has also



## COASTER BROOKIES FOR THE WHITTLESEY

Wild Rivers members helped the US Fish & Wildlife Service with a coaster brook trout planting in Whittlesey Creek in Bayfield County on May 13. The crew included (front row, l to r) Dan Grigas, Henry Quinlan, (back row l to r) Darrien McNamara, Bob Rice, Jessica Krajniak, Chuck Campbell, Nick Grueneis, Sandy Peterson, Dwayne Simpson, and Mike Mlynarek.

made inroads into setting up an incentives program wherein a local fly fishing retailer may soon agree to donate a percentage of any purchases made by our members at his store back to our chapter. Stay tuned for more details concerning this pro-

gram. Likewise, former president **Rich Vetrano** has been busy establishing a hat and t-shirt program for our chapter, and apparel should soon be available.

—Henry Koltz

## Southern Wisconsin Chapter

The **March Madness Auction** was another unqualified success due particularly to the generous bidders who found bargains in the piles of donated items. Over \$3,300 was added to the chapter coffers. Some of the auction items actually pertained to fishing. However, ever mindful of the needs (?) of our members and guests, SWTU does its best to provide merchandise to meet any and all occasions. Special thanks to the corps of auctioneers — **Larry Meicher**, **Topf Wells**, and **Mark Maffitt**.

The past year has found **Bob Selk**, **Jack Way**, and **Sue Fey** immersed in revising the chapter by-laws. After considerable discussion by the board of directors, Bob Selk presented a final draft which to the membership for review and comment. This yearlong process ended when the revised by-laws were approved at the May meeting.

Our annual meeting featured the election of board members and officers, including:

President — **Jack Way**  
Vice Pres. — **Dave Sanders**  
Secretary — **John Serunian**  
Treasurer — **John Schweiger**

Re-elected to the board were **Bob Selk** and **Derek Scheer**. New to our board is **Mike Mahalas**. Mike is a relatively new resident in the Madison area and has had extensive leadership experience with TU chapters in the east. His experience and background is a valuable addition.

The annual **Casting Clinic** was held in April. Some 30 attendees

took advantage of the morning to learn casting skills, stream entomology, reading the water, and line and knot tying. The clinic was ably led by organizer and casting instructor **Jeff Smith** (widely known for his spoon and towel method of teaching fly casting). He was joined by **Steve Born** (master entomologist), **Mark Maffitt** (water reader), and **John Strauss** and **Doug Wadsworth** (knotters). All attending benefited from the experience. Many chapter members, including **Mike Mahalas**, **Jack Way**, **Dave Sanders**, **Greg Erickson**, **Mark Rhinerson**, and **Ted Lauf** helped out at the various stations.

About 10 chapter members benefited from the expertise of **Jason Borger** at a casting clinic on May 12. Jason donated his time and generously shared his skill to improve the ability of the members. The fees collected for this event were contributed to the chapter.

SWTU was pleased to help support the **Malcolm Shabazz High School** environmental educational program, **Project Green Teen**. Capably led by **Tina Murray**, this effort provides a hand-on learning experience in natural resource management. SWTU members assist in teaching fly tying, fly casting. We also attend the week-long field trip to take the students out for a real taste of fly fishing.

SWTU is grateful to **Bob Genrich** for his generous contribution in memory of his wife Geri to our endowment fund.

—Ted Lauf

## Wild Rivers Chapter

The Wild Rivers Chapter extends thanks to **Larry "Dr. Sausage" Meicher** for his help with the **Fishing Expo & Auction**, the chapter's main fund-raiser. Larry, **Henry Haugley**, and **Duke Welter** have served as the auctioneer team for the life of the event. This year Larry made the trip to the expo just days before his

scheduled cancer operation. His special effort is much appreciated and led to the best result in the five years of the event.

**John Casperson**, chapter treasurer, reports that the event netted over \$7,200.

Continued on p. 22

## Wisconsin Trout book excerpt

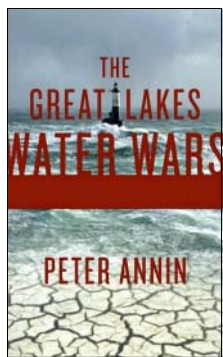
# Annin asks: Who will win the water war?

Just over seven years ago, word first surfaced of a proposed Perrier water bottling plant to be built along one of central Wisconsin's top trout streams, the Mekan River. A huge public outcry forced Perrier to back away from the Mekan site within a year, but the company then pursued a location on Big Spring Creek in southern Adams County. Perrier finally gave up its plans to bottle Wisconsin spring water in September 2002.

Against this contentious backdrop, the governors of the eight Great Lakes states and the premiers of Ontario and Quebec signed Annex 2001 on June 18, 2001. The Annex was a commitment to developing an

By Peter Annin

**WATER IS THE FOUNDATION** of life. It is a key driver of ecosystems and economic development. From remote wetlands to Wall Street, water availability is often the determining factor between prosperity and deprivation.



Citizens in the Great Lakes Basin — who have traditionally taken water for granted — learned that lesson late, but just as bitterly as anywhere else. Since the mid 20th century, water quality and the introduction of exotic species have been the chief ecological concerns in the Great Lakes Basin. But in recent years water quantity has emerged as an important environmental worry as well. Prior chapters in this book have shown that the Great Lakes region is blessed with abundant water resources, but cursed by an era of water conflict. That era began in 1900 with the reversal of the Chicago River, and it reached a new and

contentious stage as the twentieth century came to a close.

### Water conflicts permanent?

Most experts believe that water conflict has become a permanent fixture of life in the Great Lakes region. Polluted tributaries that once caught fire now host water battles resembling those of drier climes. Along the southern rim of the Great Lakes Basin, water skirmishes will be a regular feature of the future — and that will be particularly true in places like the southwest shore of Lake Michigan where the edge of the Basin lies so close to the water's edge. What's more, the effects of climate change on the Great Lakes could dwarf the impacts of human water withdrawals, raising regional water tensions to unprecedented heights. That people are fighting over water in one of the wettest regions on earth is an ironic sign of just how precious potable freshwater has become.

"If the Great Lakes are going through this struggle, imagine what more arid parts of the world are going through," says Cameron Davis, executive director at the Alliance for the Great Lakes in Chicago. "Nobody's immune from this tension. The entire world is struggling

with it." Are the Great Lakes ready for their acrimonious water future? Not yet. The release of the Annex Implementing Agreements in December 2005 was just one stage in the process of creating a modern water-management system in the Great Lakes Basin. Negotiators of the agreements persevered despite a merry-go-round of governors and premiers, divisive regional differences, conflicting water philosophies, and merciless mission fatigue. They survived battles over the Illinois diversion, the improvement standard, and the last-minute protestations from Indiana. Completing the process was an impressive collaborative feat that bound together ten different jurisdictions that cross an international boundary and stretch from the Iron Range of northern Minnesota to the rushing waters of the St. Lawrence in Québec.

Now Peter Annin — a member of TU's Southern Wisconsin Chapter, by the way — has written *The Great Lakes Water Wars*, a book examining the challenges involved in using and protecting Great Lakes water. We are excerpting the book's final chapter entitled "Who Will Win the War."

with it." Are the Great Lakes ready for their acrimonious water future?

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### Agreements need force of law

While the accomplishment was notable, it was only the halfway mark. The documents, while extensive, remain toothless — lacking the force of law. Technically speaking, the Great Lakes remain as legally vulnerable as before. "The question," says Professor Dan Tarlock at the Chicago-Kent College of Law, "is whether there is sufficient pressure from the governors or [environmental groups] to take the next step and turn this into a compact." Mr. Tarlock's point is that for the Great Lakes Compact to be binding it still has to be adopted by all eight Great Lakes legislatures and the U.S. Congress — a task that makes the drafting process look easy. *The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact* was designed to help officials manage regional waters in an era of heightened tension, but they'll never get to use it if the legislatures fail to act. "It will be very challenging to get the Compact ratified by each of the eight state legislatures, and also consented to by Congress," warns David Nafziger, executive director at the Council of Great Lakes Governors. "[But] there is momentum. It's building and our hope is certainly to see quick action." The Compact was finalized seven years after the Nova Group's controversial water-diversion proposal roused the region to action.

Following the Milwaukee signing ceremony, many were predicting that it could take at least that long to move the Compact through all the various assemblies required to make it law. "There's a fair amount

of enthusiasm for [the Compact]," says George Kuper, president of the Council of Great Lakes Industries, the Basin's leading corporate lobby. "It will be interesting to see how long that can be sustained, and how it translates into support in the legislatures. It's going to be tough. There's nothing easy about what has to happen." As the document transitions

*That people are fighting over water in one of the wettest regions on earth is an ironic sign of just how precious potable freshwater has become.*

from the negotiating room to the floor of the legislature, skeptics and special interests are bound to pick at it from all sides. No doubt, a key goal of the critics will be to stall,

and stall, and stall — until the momentum wanes — with the hope that the Compact will slip into the graveyard of untested ideas. Mr. Kuper's organization is one that has already begun to question sections of the Compact — the infamous compromise he forged with the National Wildlife Federation notwithstanding. His concerns? That seemingly obscure language in the document could possibly leave regional industries vulnerable to harassing antibusiness litigation because the Compact allows citizen lawsuits to challenge water applications. And because the Compact is designed to allow regional water-management policy to evolve over time, Mr. Kuper worries that it could give the Compact Council unchecked power at some undetermined point in the future.

### Bottled water provisions

Mr. Kuper also says that despite the bottled-water exemption in the Compact, even water bottlers are worried that the document doesn't go far enough in protecting their industry. "We support the direction — the fundamental underpinnings of the document," he says. "But there are some things here that [legislators] have to pay attention to because they are going to have a long-term effect on the economy and the stability of sustainable development." But opponents of the bottled-water industry are unhappy with the Compact as well, arguing that the document doesn't go far enough in protecting the waters of the Great Lakes region. "This whole thing began with the Nova Group and the concern was about tankers of water going to Asia and then you end up with an agreement that allows the same or greater amounts of water to go anywhere in the world in bottles? It just doesn't make sense to me," says Dave Dempsey, Great Lakes policy advisor for Clean Water Action.

"[That] is essentially conceding that the waters of the Great Lakes

## Wisconsin's status on the Annex Implementing Agreements

Peter Annin's book was published last year. At that time he wrote, "In the weeks and months that followed the release of the Annex Implementing Agreements, key water officials from all eight Great Lakes states were contacted for their prognostications." Here is what Annin wrote about Wisconsin's adoption progress:

"Even before the Annex Implementing Agreements were released in Milwaukee in December 2005, a bipartisan group of Wisconsin legislators pledged their support for the Compact's rapid approval. At a press conference following the Compact's release, Governor Doyle was equally bullish. "I think this is a very, very good thing for Wisconsin," he said, "and I would expect that it would find very, very strong support from both parties." Despite this bipartisan support, a Compact bill was not even introduced during Wisconsin's 2006 legislative session."

A more recent summary of the state of affairs in Wisconsin comes from the nonprofit organization Great Lakes United in a report dated April 6, 2007:

"After a good start, Compact consideration has slowed in Wisconsin. In 2006, the legislature formed a study committee to work on drafting legislation to adopt the Compact and implement changes to state laws to bring Wisconsin into compliance with Compact commitments. The committee was scheduled to have finished its work by now, but has not. As in Michigan, water law in general — specifically groundwater removals — has recently been a matter of intense legislative interest, putting the Compact in the middle of a fierce, pre-existing debate with aroused constituencies. Legislation is still expected to be introduced sometime in 2007."

can be turned into a product.... We may well look back on this Compact as having been the white flag that surrendered the Great Lakes." Others argue that the Compact, as well as its companion International Agreement, lost their way once they veered from the Lochhead doctrine (see chapter 11). Yes, banning diversions was politically popular, these critics argue, but they find it particularly ironic that after all these years of research and negotiations, Basin water policy pretty much returned to where it started before the Nova proposal — a ban on diversions with limited exceptions.

**Compact criticism**

"What it did is come full circle. I'm extremely disappointed with what they've come up with," says Dennis Schornack, U.S. co-chair of the International Joint Commission and a former aide to Michigan governor John Engler. "What the hell have we been doing for six years? We said we had a weak policy, a flawed policy, one that was risky because Congress could overturn it with a majority vote, and the courts could overturn it if a case ever came before them. So we spent six years grinding paper and giving speeches and in the end we're not going to change anything? Give me a break."

What recourse do these Compact critics have? Those that want to weaken the agreement are in a tight spot because the Compact represents the minimum standard that each state legislature must pass. But environmentalists who would like to see the rules strengthened have the option of lobbying legislators to pass water regulations that are even more restrictive than those stipulated in the Compact. There is nothing in the Compact language that prevents politicians from doing that, which is why lobbyists from both sides of the aisle are going to be following the Compact legislation intimately as it passes through various regional legislatures in coming years. Then the package needs to clear Congress.

Others have tried to remind the public that the Compact will not be the last chapter in Great Lakes water policy. It has been crafted in a way that, drafters hope, will allow it to evolve over time. "I don't think this is a perfect document," says Cameron Davis, who nevertheless supports the Compact's passage. "I think it's a strong first step to have all the states on the same page. That in itself is an achievement. And there are some good provisions to this. But we still have some work to do in the future to make sure that the document is truly protective of the Great Lakes." Several Compact negotiators agree. "Personally it's not everything I hoped it would be," says Cathy Curran Myers, deputy secretary of the Pennsylvania Office of Water Management. "[But] having this framework is a start, and even if it isn't perfect...the Compact will grow and evolve to fit the needs of the Basin." Few if any observers see a return to the negotiating room as an option. "The reason it's taken so long, and been so difficult to get here, is the [talks] have been much more on the order of UN negotiations," says Andy Buchsbaum, head of the National Wildlife Federation's Great Lakes office. Mr. Buchsbaum worries that if the Compact fails to pass, the U.S. federal government will exert itself over Great Lakes water-management

policy like never before. "The stakes are incredibly high. It's not just the diversions aspect, [but] whether the region will retain control over the region's water — which also happens to be 20 percent of the world's fresh surface water," he says. "And if we can't jointly agree on how to manage it ourselves, then we don't deserve that control." Others worry that if the momentum falters — particularly if many of the signatory governors leave office before the Compact passes — that the document runs the risk of sliding onto a slow track in regional legislatures that could lead to a fatal stall in the process. "Some of these compacts have dragged on for decades," warns Professor Tarlock. "It would only take one spoiler state to put a damper on things."

UNTIL THE COMPACT IS PASSED, the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1986 — with all its faults and vulnerabilities — will continue to serve as the key, binding anti-diversion backstop on the U.S. side of the border. But many legal experts agree with James Lochhead that WRDA is so flawed that it will only serve as a legal barrier to diversions until it is challenged in court, where most expect it to fall.

There are some commerce clause concerns (see chapters 4 and 11), but most experts agree that WRDA is most vulnerable to allegations that it is arbitrary and

*"I think it's a strong first step to have all the states on the same page. That in itself is an achievement.... But we still have some work to do in the future...."*

capricious. Because the thin two-page statute contains no rules or standards by which governors are to judge diversion applicants, state officials have been forced to make up the rules as they go along. In addition, the law provides no means for due process; diversion applicants have no rights under the statute to plead their case — or even appeal — and that, many legal experts say, is the statute's greatest weakness.

**Possible legal challenges**

"What is the basis for a decision under WRDA?" asks one Great Lakes official rhetorically. "It's a fundamental right under the American jurisprudence system that people have an opportunity for due process and appeal and there's no guidelines or process for that under WRDA, which is where the concern lies." In fact, the legal challenges to WRDA have already begun.

During the summer of 2005 Nestlé Waters North America Inc., one of the largest water-bottling firms in the country, filed a federal water lawsuit in Michigan that challenged WRDA on a wide variety of grounds. Bottled water is controversial in much of the Great Lakes region, and Nestlé has been besieged by opponents for years.

**Perrier in Wisconsin**

The controversy started back in the late 1990s, when Nestlé's Perrier division planned to mine spring water in a rural area of central Wisconsin. Citizen opposition — fueled by concerns that groundwater pumping would harm a local trout stream — eventually chased Nestlé out of the state. The company shifted its focus to Michigan, where Nestlé built a plant and began bottling spring water under the Ice Mountain brand name-only to be served with a citizen lawsuit in that state. The lawsuit argued Nestlé's groundwater pumping was negatively affecting area lakes, rivers, and springs. While key parts of that suit have been settled, the case continues to work its way through the courts.

While that Nestlé suit was underway, company opponents began arguing that sending bottled water out of state was actually a diversion, and they pressured Michigan governor Jennifer Granholm (elected in 2002) to ban bottled water sales outside the Great Lakes Basin. These critics argued that if Nova's proposal to ship drinking water by tanker was a diversion, so was the export of bottled water. In response, Nestlé — and others — argued that bottling and selling water was not a diversion but was rather a "consumptive use" that turned water into a product. They said that if states prevent the sale of bottled water they would have to include other water-based items in the ban as well, such as beer, soda — or even potatoes (because agricultural crops consume water too). But water-bottling opponents like Jim Olson, an environmental attorney who has been battling Nestlé for years, argue that water belongs in a special category all its own and should not be mixed together with value-added goods like fruit juice or a can of cherries. Society has long recognized water's special status, he argues, which is why there are so many laws devoted to it. "There is no potato law, or Coca-Cola law," he says, "[but] there is water law."

**Michigan stops water bottler**

In May 2005, Governor Granholm took action in the debate. She ordered a temporary moratorium on new or expanded waterbottling operations in Michigan unless those operations certified that their product would only be sold to customers inside the Great Lakes Basin. In her directive the governor complained that Michigan law "lacks clarity" on how the state should regulate water bottlers, so she imposed the temporary moratorium until the legislature enacted more comprehensive water laws. "Despite on-going debate over whether or not bottled water for sale represents a diversion of Great Lakes water," her directive said, "the Michigan legislature has failed to seriously debate and act on this issue. Based upon this and the recommendations of the Department of Environmental Quality, I have

determined that the imposition of a moratorium on the permitting or approval of new or increased bottled water plants, processors, or operations is the appropriate course of action for state government."<sup>1</sup>

Nestlé responded to the moratorium by suing the governor in federal court. While Governor Granholm didn't invoke WRDA once in her directive — concentrating her authority on state statutes instead — Nestlé focused on WRDA heavily in its legal challenge. Of the twenty-two pages in the suit, ten were devoted to an attack on WRDA. Not surprisingly, among Nestlé's chief criticisms were the allegations that WRDA was arbitrary and that it violated Nestlé's right to due process. The suit immediately attracted the attention of water managers and environmentalists around the Basin, who wondered whether it was the long-anticipated beginning of WRDA's end. The concern, of course, was that if a federal judge agreed with Nestlé and found WRDA to be unconstitutional, the Great Lakes would become vulnerable to unregulated diversions.

The lawsuit created an odd dynamic in the Great Lakes region. While the governors were pursuing

*"You will see action in Congress to do something in this area.... We are more at risk for that than we've ever been if we don't go through with this...."*

a compact to replace WRDA, Nestlé was pursuing a lawsuit to have WRDA thrown out. The question everyone wanted to know? Who would get there first? "If [the

Compact] doesn't pass," said Andy Buchsbaum in late 2005, "then the backstop against diversions is essentially WRDA, and our protection against diversions is only as strong as WRDA is legally — and WRDA's being challenged now." Business leaders who sympathize with Nestlé's position worry that if WRDA falls before the Compact is enacted, regulatory chaos will ensue in the Great Lake Basin, creating an insecure climate for regional industry and capital investment. "[If] WRDA is determined to be unconstitutional, we'll be naked and the resource is there for the taking," says George Kuper at the Council of Great Lakes Industries. "That, to me, would be terrible."

*Continued on p. 20*



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# WATER: book examines Great Lakes water issues

Continued from p. 19

## Michigan's new water law

Those concerns have been appeased however — at least for the time being. When Michigan adopted its new water management law on February 28, 2006, the state set off a series of events that ultimately took pressure off of WRDA. Not only did Michigan's law finally follow through on commitments that the state made when it signed the Great Lakes Charter twenty years before, but it also permitted the export of bottled water as long as the water was in containers smaller than 5.7 gallons. So when Governor Granholm signed Michigan's water law, she also withdrew her ban on the export of bottled water. Nestlé, in turn, withdrew its federal lawsuit against the governor and suddenly the assault on WRDA evaporated.

## Possible challenges ahead

Fine. But the point is that sooner or later someone is going to challenge WRDA — or so many Great Lakes water managers believe. If not Nestlé, then perhaps Waukesha. If not Waukesha, then some other spurned water applicant — unless, of course, the Compact is adopted before that day comes and WRDA becomes superfluous. But what if the Compact never makes it through all

eight legislatures and Congress? If the Great Lake states can't prove themselves worthy stewards of this globally significant resource then the U.S. federal government is likely to step in and do it for them. "If they don't adopt it, then what's at stake is what's always been at stake," warns Kate Bartter, chief policy advisor to Ohio governor Bob Taft. "You will see action in Congress to do something in this area...we are more at risk for that than we've ever been if we don't go through with this. We'll lose control of the resource."

Others argue that the situation just isn't that dire. James Lochhead got it all wrong on WRDA, they say. While the federal law isn't model legislation, these observers argue

that because Congress adopted WRDA and specifically delegated water-management authority to the Great Lakes states, the law is not as vulnerable as Mr. Lochhead and other Great Lakes legal experts have led regional decision makers to believe. "I'm guilty along with other people of trashing the Lochhead Report," confesses Professor Tarlock, who thinks WRDA should be able to withstand a legal challenge whether it be from Nestlé, Waukesha, or whomever. "Congress has said, 'This is for the Basin states to decide.'" Some environmental advocates don't find the arguments about WRDA's vulnerabilities to be all that convincing either. "I really strongly object to the whole Lochhead analysis because I think it was deeply flawed, but it seems to have been effective in suckering a lot of people into believing that WRDA is vulnerable," says Dave Dempsey at Clean Water Action. "The legal experts that I've talked to...really believe that Congress was well within its powers to delegate that decision-making authority to the states and that there is enough of a narrative

history of WRDA, as amended in 2000, that it would stand up in court." The problem with that analysis, counters Cameron Davis at the Alliance for the Great Lakes, is that it

ignores the political realities that lie behind the debate. "Nothing prevents Congress from changing its mind on WRDA," he warns. "What was given by Congress can also be taken away especially if the Great Lakes states keep losing congressional seats."

WITH WRDA, or the Compact (or without either of them), the Great Lakes Basin has entered a period of accelerating water conflict that will change the face of regional water relations forever. "There's no doubt about it, there will be increasing water tension in the region and it's not going away," predicts Andy Buchsbaum. "The earlier we put in place good protective standards and good protective laws, the better, because if you wait for the water tensions to worsen before you try to address them, then it's much more difficult to put a rational system in place." While many experts see an era of increased conflict on the horizon, there is debate about how those

water tensions will be borne out. "There are a lot of people who feel that once you fire one shot it will be all out war — it will be scorched earth," Professor Tarlock says. "I'm in the camp that believes there will be an endless series of small guerilla acts.... There are going to be more conflicts. They just aren't going to be big ones."

Large or small, most of those battles will be fought in the courts. Many observers believe that if and when a minutiae-laden Compact is passed, water law will be a budding new profession in the Great Lakes region as attorneys set upon the Compact to test its weaknesses. That's a scenario that regional water managers have been expecting from the beginning. "Everything gets refined by litigation," says Chuck Leddin, chief of the Great Lakes office at the Wisconsin DNR. "That's just the way the system works. So I'd say somewhere along the line it will happen [to the Compact]."

## Unknowns abound

As regional leaders consider the future of water policy in the Great Lakes Basin, they need to remind themselves that they are heading off into the great unknown. Think back to the time of the Illinois diversion for a moment (chapter 5) and the mindset of city leaders more than a century ago. At the time the diversion was launched, its primary purpose was to solve Chicago's abysmal sewage-disposal problem. Local officials never imagined that, decades later, the Illinois diversion would be transformed into a water crutch for one of the world's greatest metropolitan areas. They never imagined that fears would one day arise that the waters of the Great Lakes might be siphoned off to the Ogallala or Las Vegas. They never imagined that communities like Pleasant Prairie, Lowell, Akron, or Waukesha would become the front lines in the Great Lakes water war. They never imagined that the negative effects of the Illinois diversion would be more than offset by a much larger pair of diversions on the north side of Lake Superior. They never imagined that half a world away in Central Asia, an inland sea would be ruined by ignorant water policies. And they certainly never imagined that a phenomenon like global warming would one day emerge to potentially transform the Great Lakes more than anything has since the last ice age.

This long view raises an obvious question for regional leaders in the twenty-first century: What's out there in the Great Lakes' water future that we are not imagining today? What unknown water crises — local, regional, national, international, or climatological — lie ahead? What undiscovered technologies might make large-scale, long-range water diversions more cost-effective — or even obsolete? Predicting the future is not an option. All one can do is implement the most comprehensive, adaptable, binding water-management system imaginable and hope it helps navigate the region through the insecurities of an unpredictable world. Regional leaders have spent years crafting such a mechanism. As imperfect as it may be, it's the best they have been able to put forth. That may, or may not, end up being enough. Regardless, something must be done in order to preserve one of the world's great treasures. The Great Lakes belong to everyone, and to no one. And as other experts have already pointed

out, if the region can't figure out a way to protect and manage the waters of the Great Lakes Basin, someone else will step in to do it for them. Rightly so. The Great Lakes are far too precious to be left in the hands of the incompetent and incapable.

## Time to rise to the occasion

Time and again throughout Great Lakes history the people of the region have risen to ensure that the lakes are protected. During the heavy pollution years of the early and mid-1900s, the public roused late, but brought about historically significant changes in water policy that — generations later — have made the lakes a cleaner, healthier ecosystem (though more work definitely needs to be done). Once again the Great Lakes find themselves at a pivotal moment in history. This time policymakers are attempting to resolve an issue before it becomes a crisis. Will regional residents rise to the occasion and make sure that modern, binding water policies are implemented? Or will they turn their attention elsewhere?

On December 13, 2005, when the Annex Implementing Agreements were released in Milwaukee, and regional officials gathered at a press conference afterward, the most eloquent remarks came from Premier Dalton McGuinty of Ontario. In essence, he was saying that the governors and premiers had done the best they could to create a plan for protecting the waters of the Great Lakes Basin. Now it was up to the people of the region to help complete the task. Speaking to the press corps that day, Premier McGuinty said, "You have raised legitimate questions about the what-ifs...[but] you know there's a way that we can all take out a little insurance against those things, and that is quite simply to enlist the people to our cause," he said. "If the forty-three million who are the immediate beneficiaries of the Great Lakes waters don't understand how important it is for us to assume our responsibility — if we can't protect this water, not only for ourselves but for future generations — who else will? So it's now up to all of us [to] drive this in our own respective jurisdictions and make it a reality.... If we don't protect this water, we're going to compromise our quality of life, and we're going to compromise our ability to generate prosperity. That's what it's all about.... It's [up to] the forty-three million. It's their water. It's their future. It's their quality of life that is at stake here.... It's a matter of the forty-three million people saying, 'This is important to us, we want it done, and we won't suffer any opposition.'"

Times change. Circumstances evolve. Compact or not, the job of protecting and managing the Great Lakes will never be complete — it will always be a work in progress. And what about failure? What if adequate protections for the lakes do not evolve? Who will be the winners and losers then? As of this writing the winners are impossible to predict. The losers, however, are not.

There are five of them, and they have been around for ten thousand years. Who among us wants to be associated with their demise?

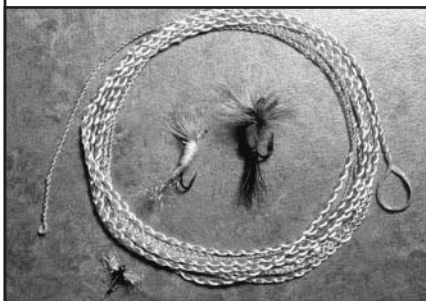
<sup>1</sup> Governor Jennifer Granholm, State of Michigan, Executive Directive No. 2005-5, May 26, 2005.

(From *The Great Lakes Water Wars* by Peter Annin. Copyright © 2006 by the author. Reproduced by permission of Island Press, Washington, D.C.)

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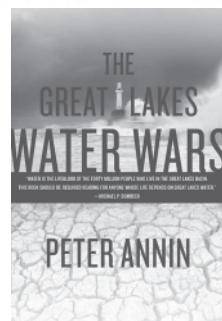


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Chapter president profile

# Dan Asmus leading an energized SEWTU

By Henry Koltz

Genesee Creek is a hidden cold-water gem located in southeast Wisconsin. The stream was the beneficiary of a roller mill dam removal accomplished as a joint effort between SEWTU, WDNR, and Carroll College. It now runs colder and more free (and with more trout) than at any time in 100 years.

If you've been fortunate enough to wade into Genesee Creek and see the work accomplished there, then you've seen a bit of what SEWTU's Dan Asmus has accomplished. Dan was the leader of SEWTU's project work at Genesee Creek and is SEWTU's newest president.

Outside of TU, Dan is employed by Charter Business, which is the commercial division of Charter Communications.

At Charter, Dan is responsible for fiber optic network sales to large corporations. A father (to a son Michael, age 27) and a master (to a 100 lb. chocolate lab named Norman), Dan was born in Brookfield, squarely within the heart of SEWTU's chapter area.

Though Dan was born in Brookfield, he has lived all across the United States. From Clearwater, FL, to Ann Arbor, MI, to Chicago, IL, to Alpharetta, GA, Dan has laid his head to rest in many states.

Despite his travels, Dan's interest in conservation began right here in the badger state.

"I was fortunate," says Dan. "My father was avid fly fisherman and tyer, and I think that I had my first fly rod in hand around age 10. My father would take my two brothers and me on outings, place us in the river, and not return until well after dark." As a result, Dan notes, "I never stop fishing at dark — I grew up knowing that when fishing, good things tend to happen after dark."

Growing up Wisconsin, Dan enjoyed regular outings on the Prairie River near Rhinelander, the Mecan and Pine Rivers in central Wisconsin, and trips to the Bois Brule, White, and Pike rivers in northwest Wisconsin. He was exposed at an early age to some of Wisconsin's most picturesque wild areas. It was the memory of such areas that led Dan back home.

While living abroad, Dan found himself regaling others with countless stories that began, "Back in Wisconsin..." and expounding on the beauty of our state. Heeding his own advice, Dan decided to get "back to Wisconsin." As such, he packed up and returned to Hubertus near Holy Hill.

After returning to our fair state, Dan began attending SEWTU meetings in the early 1990s and became a TU life member in 1996. Since then, Dan has been a stalwart within SEWTU and has served in nearly every SEWTU leadership capacity available, including board member, secretary, project leader, vice president, and now president.

Dan recalls that his involvement with SEWTU started when he began attending meetings and was asked by then-president Chuck Beeler to become a board member. Dan accepted, and began his climb to SEWTU's highest position.

Intimately involved with the chapter, Dan says his biggest source of pride is "watching all of the new and enthusiastic people we've recruited becoming more active." Dan continues, "We've improved in the last several years in virtually every measurable area: membership, fundraising, habitat restoration, education, and political activism." Most importantly, Dan notes, "I feel that we've cultivated enough talented and skilled individuals to effectively staff and lead our chapter for the next 10 years to come."

Individually, Dan notes that he has personally enjoyed watching the habitat improvement work he led at Genesee Creek take hold.

"I enjoy seeing how well Genesee Creek has recovered. The dam we removed was in place for 158 years, and two years later, it is

becoming increasingly difficult to tell that it ever existed."

Dan is becoming a fan of the Coulee Region due to the groundswell of restoration activity occurring in that area. Dan is most fond of fishing a secluded, "completely unspoiled" stream with "tremendous water quality," and "brook trout as long as your leg more beautiful and brightly colored than any others one can imagine" in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Ask him to name this heavenly stream, and provide its location and GPS coordinates, however, and Dan's memory becomes hazy. "I just can't seem to remember," he laughs.

Dan has twice ridden his motorcycle from Wisconsin to Yellowstone, fishing and camping en route.

"Riding a motorcycle through Yellowstone, on a beautiful day, while donning waders, and stopping to fish wherever and whenever you feel the urge, is truly memorable," he notes. "Top that off with a rib eye steak and few cold beers at the Silver Dollar in Ennis, MT, and you have a truly unforgettable experience." Waking up each morning on such trips, Dan notes that he can hardly contain his excitement for the day ahead. Dan plans to someday undertake a similar motorcycle trip across New Zealand.

For SEWTU, Dan plans "to continue the incredible increase in activity and accomplishments that our chapter has achieved over the past few years, and to further establish SEWTU as a respected and effective voice for coldwater resources within our region."

He notes, "Activity creates more activity. Our largest assets are our membership and the relationships we have forged with the WDNR and other public and nonprofit organizations. Opportunities for work projects and educational involve-

ment grow as we continue to prove ourselves as a chapter. That's a great feeling, and it's a great compliment to our members."

With Dan as its driver, the future of SEWTU looks very bright. (Henry Koltz is vice president of the SEWTU Chapter. -Ed.)

"Activity creates more activity. Our largest assets are our membership and the relationships we have forged with the WDNR and other public and nonprofit organizations."



DAN ASMUS ON THE WATER

SEWTU has passed its top leadership on to Dan Asmus. Dan has held nearly every leadership position in the chapter before becoming president.

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# Finding big brookies in Wisconsin lakes

By Bob Obma

The idea of lake fishing for brook trout calls to mind stories of the old Nipigon fishery, cockatouche sculpin flies, Ojibwa guides, or the Ranglely lakes of Maine, all many generations back. Paradise lost; the original daily bag limits of 25 pounds and two good fish totaling 15 pounds are akin to the Lake Superior coaster brook trout history. What happened isn't all agreed upon, but the big Maine fish look to have been in marked decline by 1865 when large dams were constructed for log drives and some enthusiastic amateur fish stockers introduced Atlantic salmon that ate all of the local blue "bull trout" char that the brookies fed on deep in the lake.

The Nipigon was noted to be "in decline" by 1870. The inevitable hydro-power dam built on the river is lamented by many anglers as well as anglers who noted the opportunity to kill large numbers of large fish and did so.

We do have 16- and 18-inch wild brook trout swimming about Wisconsin lakes today. Big, lake-dwelling brook trout have specific habitat needs, just as the 16- and 18-inch brookies of the Oconto and Prairie rivers do. The habitat requirements are

not a secret and are generally agreed upon by the fishery biologists we work and meet with regularly with our TU chapters. Larger brook trout require the right genes, excellent forage base, and a complete habitat. The habitat needs include perpetual availability of well-oxygenated water (over 5 parts per million dissolved oxygen) at temperatures between 34 and 73 degrees. Good genes, good food, good cool water, a long enough life to grow, and a suitable place to spawn. The big fish formula doesn't change.

That combination of temperature and dissolved oxygen is a tall order that is seen in a small percent of our lakes, hence most lakes don't have brookies in them. Early in the season, with cool surface temperatures, surface feeding is common, and it persists all summer in some of lakes, particularly those kept cooler by abundant spring flows. I recorded a 56-degree surface temperature on the Moose Spring end of Moose Lake on a 95-degree evening last summer when the water on the other end of the lake was in the high 80s.

On other lakes, as surface temperatures rise in summer, trout abandon the insects of the littoral to go deeper to or below the thermocline. Some of the more compact ultrasound locators recently available are now seen in canoes. They are effective at showing suspended pods of trout eating ascending chironomid hatches. There isn't a standard trout lake model. Maximum depths vary from the 350-foot deep Wazee Lake of Jackson County to the five-foot deep Spring Creek Springs of Washburn County.

Spawning, feeding, and refuge habitats differ, and larger fish require them all. A beaver or human dam that cuts off spawning habitat eliminates the fishery. Restrict the good feeding areas and you have a runt population. Cut off access to good winter and loafing depths and you get a low size ceiling. Brook trout need enough lake depth to provide some food diversity and protection from winter kill and herons. Fish don't start out big, so they need

to survive predators and anglers long enough to grow to size over five or more years. Angler harvest, competition from other fish species, and innate habitat limitations are all factors. Since these are often small fish populations, one is selective where he takes subsistence fishing friends with fish for breakfast in mind, going to stocker ponds designed for this. The 18-inch largemouth bass in Silver Lake at Fort McCoy routinely regurgitate recently planted 10-inch trout when they are caught, a good illustration of fish interspecies competition problems.

Some of the quality brook trout only lakes have been visited by amateur bait bucket stockers over the years with bass and northerns. This devastates the young trout population. Remediation is costly and takes years. Some suggest we should reconsider our opposition to capitol punishment for amateur stockers, but that seems a bit harsh.

Despite the many hurdles, big brookies do exist. Those blessed lakes with large fish that I know of are scattered from Ashland County to Monroe County. All are publicly listed in Wisconsin *Trout Fishing Regulation and Guide* and the DNR web site. There are more

big fish lakes to be found.

The lake-dwelling brook trout's forage base includes fish since brookies over eight inches or so are piscivorous as much as they can be. Brook sticklebacks, mottled sculpins, and mud minnows are on the menu. Mayflies come to the trout's mind, but are much less prominent than chironomids in most of our lakes. The mayflies are most often callibaetis with nymphs swimming about aquatic weeds. I rarely find a single hexagenia spinner in this cold water. Chironomids are everywhere, tend to be large (think deerfly size), and present the best opportunity to match the hatch. Caddis flies should be in your fly box as well. Damselfly hatches are well received by the fish that enjoy the nymphs as they migrate from deeper vegetation to emergent vegetation or shoreline brush. Leeches are common and often large. We have some marl bottoms yielding calcium for abundant scud and snails populations, all nutritious and apparently tasty.

Lake access varies from full, comfortable boat ramps to roadsides, trails, and wilderness. Wilderness is perhaps the most sporting in terms of the challenge of getting there. My experience is that they are findable, but may require some scouting while grouse hunting after the leaves are down. Belly boats help a lot; many have reached the age where dragging a kayak containing rods and flies appeals more than carrying an aluminum canoe on your shoulders for a mile. Do what it takes.

In the summer, the low light of morning and evening fishes best and offers the best hatches, mostly chironomids. September is a great time of year, and hatches are commoner at midday. The leaves look great and life is good then.

(Bob Obma is a 20-year member of Trout Unlimited and serves as chair of WITU's Water Resources Committee. The photo is one of Bob's brookies from 2006. -Ed.)



## CHAPTER NEWS

Continued from p. 17

John also wants to thank his wife Nancy, and Phil Wallace, who traveled once again from Spooner to help out in the kitchen. Most years Sue Wallace is also there as well. Special thanks to Jim Emerson who made the effort to get the log furniture donated by Chase Cabinetry of Phillips to the expo.

Since our last meeting, I received a call from chapter member Jim Groves of Webster. Jim talked about his lifelong love for fly fishing and tying, and how he had collected

more than the usual amount of quality equipment over the years. Much of it was to be donated to the Wild Rivers Chapter one day. Recently, Jim and his wife suffered a devastating total loss home fire. While insurance will eventually replace his gear, Jim fears that this season will be a problem, and he is asking for help from the chapter. I offered to put his appeal before the chapter and *Wisconsin Trout* and invited him to the June meeting to meet and fish with chapter members. He wants to fish the White and the Brule, and will need help in getting an assortment of nymphs. Jim's number is (715) 791-0161

Laura Hewitt of TU National hosted a regional meeting on Lake Superior coaster brook trout restoration on May 12. Chapter members Bill Heart, Dick Berge, Lee Newman, Martin Hanson, and Chuck Campbell attended. Mark Brouder of USFWS, Wally Bock and Ed Michael of the Illinois Council, Dave and Mary Cella of the Copper Country Chapter, and Duke Welter of the Ojibbeau Chapter also attended. Each of the chapters present provided short updates on recent coaster-related activities they have been engaged in. Copies of *The Coaster Challenge* written by Lawrence Wiland, Seth Moore, and Laura Hewitt were distributed and

are available from Laura or the chapter.

On May 23, Bob Rice and Chuck Campbell spent the morning with the FWS planting coasters in Whittlesey Creek.

Martin Hanson will be speaking at the June meeting on his vision for a state effort to expand protection for the Brunsweler Creek area south of Highbridge in Ashland Cty. Many of our better conservation and restoration projects in this region — be it elk or coasters — have been moved forward through Martin's work. I am looking forward to hearing him. Thanks again to Larry & Wendy at the Hayward Fly Fishing Co. for donating a full-day guided trip as an incentive for attendance at meetings. A drawing for the trip is planned for the June meeting. Chapter members receive a chance at the trip for each meeting attended.

Wild Rivers Chapter members volunteer at several area Kids Fishing Day events to assist DNR and Whittlesey Creek Refuge staff with fly tying and casting. There were 235 people attending the Brule River Hatchery event where Dick Berge demonstrated tying flies and Cord Manz worked with the kids showing them fish. The fly tying was extremely popular. Dick worked with John Holter, Patrick Moore, and Brad Bohlen of the Brule River

Sportsmen's Club. About 250 people attended the event at the Bayfield Hatchery. Chapter members Weston Their and Chuck Campbell helped almost 100 kids tie flies before they fished the ponds. Lots of large splake were landed. This location is very popular because the kids learn to tie flies, cast, and then are allowed to fish for the large lake-run trout in the hatchery ponds. Probably the largest event is held at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center near Ashland. Chapter members Bob Rice, Bob Stanley, Deb Dryer, and Bill Heart were busy all day demonstrating fly tying and casting at the center.

One of the chapter's favorite missions is fast approaching. Our annual "Whack-A-Northern" Day will be August 11 on the White River in Bayfield Cty. Northerns are targeted to both help trout and to introduce people to the White River. It's an all-day paddle with a fresh northern picnic at Jeff Carlson's place on Bibon Road at 7:00 p.m. We gather at the Delta Diner at 8:00 a.m. and then start down the White around 9:00 from Westlund's. A lunchtime stop at the campground half way down the river offers a break from the paddling and fishing. If you are in the area, be sure to help Wild Rivers Chapter "Whack-A-Northern" this August.

—Chuck Campbell

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# CANOE: raffle to benefit Friends program

*Continued from p. 24*

The canoe will be raffled off sometime in 2008. Details of the upcoming raffle will appear in the Friends column in *Wisconsin Trout* in coming months.

This is an impressive 20-foot square-backed canoe. It comes with an 8-horse Johnson motor and can be operated from the motor's tiller or from a front center remote console.

*Start saving your change for what will surely be the nicest boat on the lake.*

A canvas cover and trailer is included with the canoe.

The canoe was built in 1990 by the J. A. Leavitt's Canoe Company of Newburgh, Maine, and it is in mint condition. The boat's brass hardware is in perfect shape.

A special Friends canoe raffle committee is being formed to handle details for the upcoming raffle.

If you would like to be a member of this committee, contact Friends Chair Steve Hill at (920) 261-4005.

And start saving your change for your chances to win what will surely be "the nicest boat on the lake."



## Foam overwing gives an elk hair caddis a new twist

By Bob Haase

Various elk hair caddis patterns have always worked well for me, but I was always looking for something just a little different.

*A thin foam wing over deer hair...helps make the fly a little more durable and changes the way it floats.*

By putting a thin fly foam wing over deer hair, it helps make the fly a little more durable and changes the way it floats.

When this fly first lands on the water, it floats similar to an elk hair caddis, but as it gets wet, the lower part of the fly sinks into the surface



film while the foam keeps the fly buoyant and on the surface.

The optional mono eyes are more for the fisherman than the fish, but it dresses up the fly, and I like using eyes where appropriate.

Begin by tying in the thread and wrapping it across the shank. Using fox squirrel dubbing or something similar, dub about two thirds of the way to the eye of the hook. Leave space for tying in the hair, mono eyes, and head. Pick out the dubbing with Velcro or a picking tool.

Take a clump of deer hair, stack, and tie in as shown. You can use different colors (lighter or darker) to match different caddis hatches.

Then trim the ends of deer hair as shown and tie down. Wrap the

thread forward to level a base to tie in the mono eyes. Then tie in the mono eyes, leaving enough room to tie in the foam wing.

Now cut a piece of 1/16" fly foam as shown. When you purchase Wapsi brand fly foam you get two 1/8" and two 1/16" pieces of foam. This closed-cell foam floats better than the craft foam you get in the discount stores.

Tie on fly foam as shown, first tying down behind the eyes and then tying down in front of the eyes.

While pulling slightly on the front of the foam, clip off the foam and then make a few wraps of thread to form a small head and whip finish. Add a few drops of head cement and you are done.

### MATERIALS LIST Foam-hair Caddis

- Hook: Mustad 94840 or equivalent in sizes 12-14
- Thread: Color to match hair/foam, 3/0
- Body: Dubbed fox squirrel
- Underwing: Deer hair in desired color
- Wing: 1/16" Fly Foam (Wapsi) for size 12; 1.0 mm for size 14.
- Eyes: Mono eyes

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# Friends get canoe to raffle off

By Steve Hill

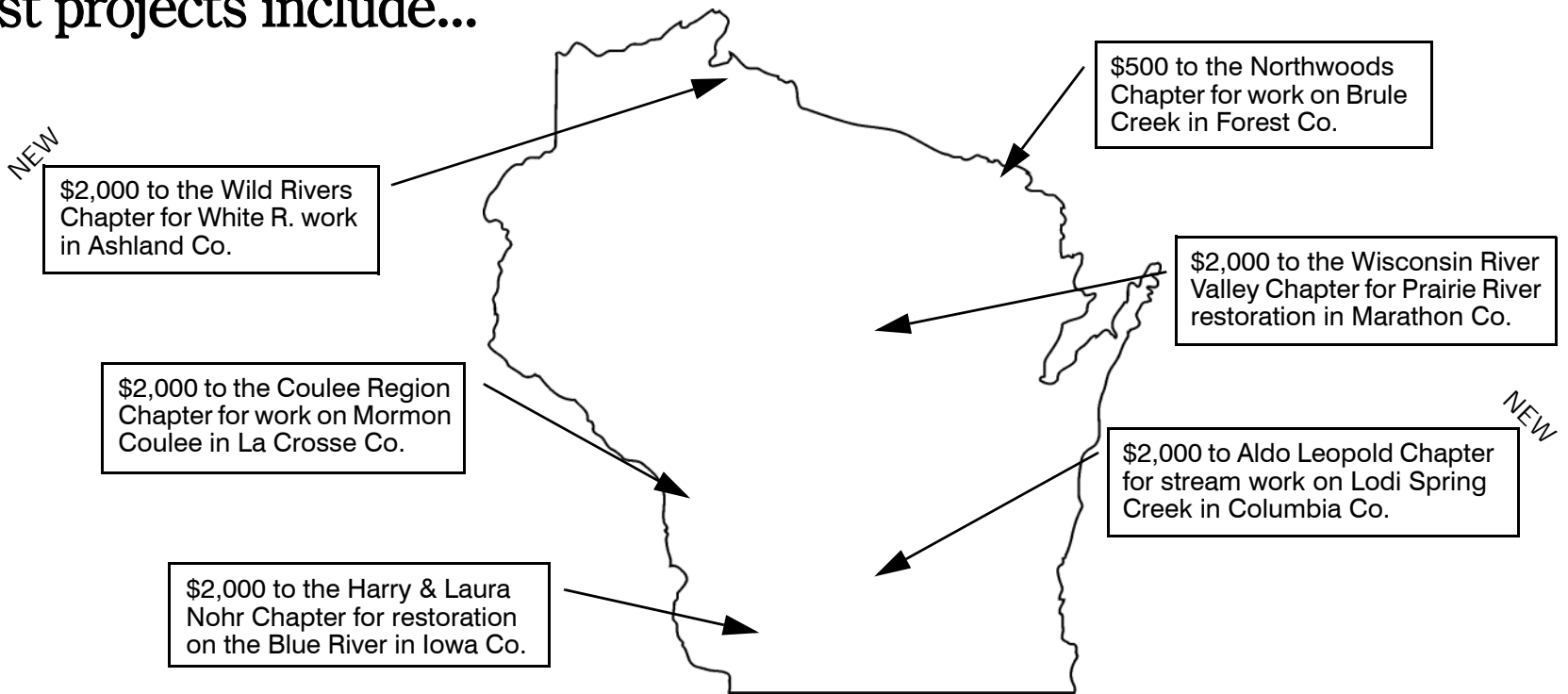
Friends of WITU Chair

We couldn't wait to show you the wonderful wood strip canoe a generous benefactor has donated to the Friends program for us to raffle off.

Continued on p. 23



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