



# Wisconsin Trout

July 2009



Bob Haase

## FLYING TYING A HIT AT WI OUTDOOR EXPO

Fly tying continues to be a hit with youngsters attending the WI Outdoor Expo. Here Chuck Knoeck of FVTU helps a girl tie her first fly.

## WI Outdoor Expo to add a second Wausau site in 2010

By Bob Haase

Despite heavy rains that fell the day before the event and strong winds on Thursday, over 3,000 students and teachers attended this year's WI Outdoor Expo from schools all over southern and central Wisconsin.

The expo was held May 14-15 at the Dodge County Fairgrounds in Beaver Dam. It provided fourth and fifth grade students an opportunity to participate in and learn about many outdoor skills and activities, such as archery, hunting dogs, trail recreation, fishing, firearm safety, and wildlife conservation.

Event organizers are also planning a second expo to be held near Wausau next year, so TU will need additional volunteers for that.

When we arrived Thursday morning to set up, we were greeted with standing water in a lot of areas, including the tent in which we were supposed to tie flies. There was just enough area at one end of the tent to set up our tables to keep out of the strong winds. The winds were so strong on Thursday that we decided to cancel the fly casting part of TU's program, but the winds eased up enough on Friday to let us help many students try their hand at fly casting.

Continued on p. 4

## DNR Board eliminates early season barbless-only rule

By John Welter

Barbless hooks will no longer be required of early-season trout anglers beginning in 2010.

The Wisconsin Natural Resources Board was presented with a proposal to change the rule at its June

24 meeting in New Richmond, and it approved the change.

Since the present early trout season structure was adopted in 2001, anglers have been required to use only barbless hooks. Barbless hooks have been thought by some anglers to be a conservation measure to re-

duce hooking mortality. But research results in numerous studies have shown the difference in hooking mortality is not statistically significant.

One study showed a 4.3% hooking mortality for barbless-hooked fish versus a 4.6% mortality for barbed flies.

Quite a few anglers have been fined for inadvertent or intentional use of barbed hooks, with the forfeiture and costs for such violations total over \$200 per case.

Some questions have also risen about the consistency of enforcement of this regulation from region to region.

The proposal to eliminate the barbless requirement came from the Trout Study Committee of the WI Conservation Congress. In 2008, it was approved as an advisory question at the spring hearings.

Then last April, the DNR asked whether the barbless hook requirement should be ended, and voters again approved its removal in both the statewide vote and in a majority of counties.

### Barbless hook question results

The 2009 Spring Hearing asked the following question: "Do you support allowing the use of barbed hooks during the early catch-and-release trout season in Wisconsin?" The results were:

3,379 Yes votes  
3,031 No votes  
43 Counties for  
27 Counties against  
2 Counties tied

## WITU starts new land access fund

By Todd Hanson

A highlight of the May 9 WITU State Council meeting in Eau Claire was the formation of a new land access fund the council hopes will complement the successful Friends of Wisconsin TU habitat program.

The new fund is designed to provide money to public and nonprofit entities to help them purchase land or easements if trout fishing access is made a part of the purchase agreement.

The fund would be available to TU chapters, WDNR, land trusts, and others who need money to make land deals along trout water.

Discussion of the new fund was started by Kim McCarthy at a special WITU Executive Committee meeting in Viroqua in April. McCarthy said the WDNR had made a financial request to the northeastern Wisconsin chapters to sweeten a potential DNR land purchase in northern Wisconsin.

The DNR cannot pay landowners anything above a property's appraised value. When a landowner asked the DNR for more than the appraised value of this parcel, the agency contacted McCarthy to see if TU could help make up the difference given there was a trout stream running through the land.

Similar financial requests have been made of the State Council and individual chapters over the years, and all of them have been dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Many remember requests of chapters to contribute toward

the purchase of key parcels of land that later became part of the Mecan River Fishery Area in Central Wisconsin. More recently, TU contributed toward a property that later enlarged the White River Fishery Area in Ashland County.

The State Council hopes that a separate fund for land access will encourage more trout fishing acquisitions. The fund could al-

so get contributions from non-TU members because it will be restricted to purchases that benefit all trout fishers.

Banquet to help seed fund

State Council Banquet Chair Bill Pielsticker suggested that all the proceeds from our upcoming State Council Banquet in Stevens Point go into the new fund. A resolution amending that amount to 50% of the proceeds was introduced and passed.

In addition, the council voted to also seed the fund with the \$5,000 settlement WITU got from the recent Graul Farms lawsuit.

Continued on p. 7

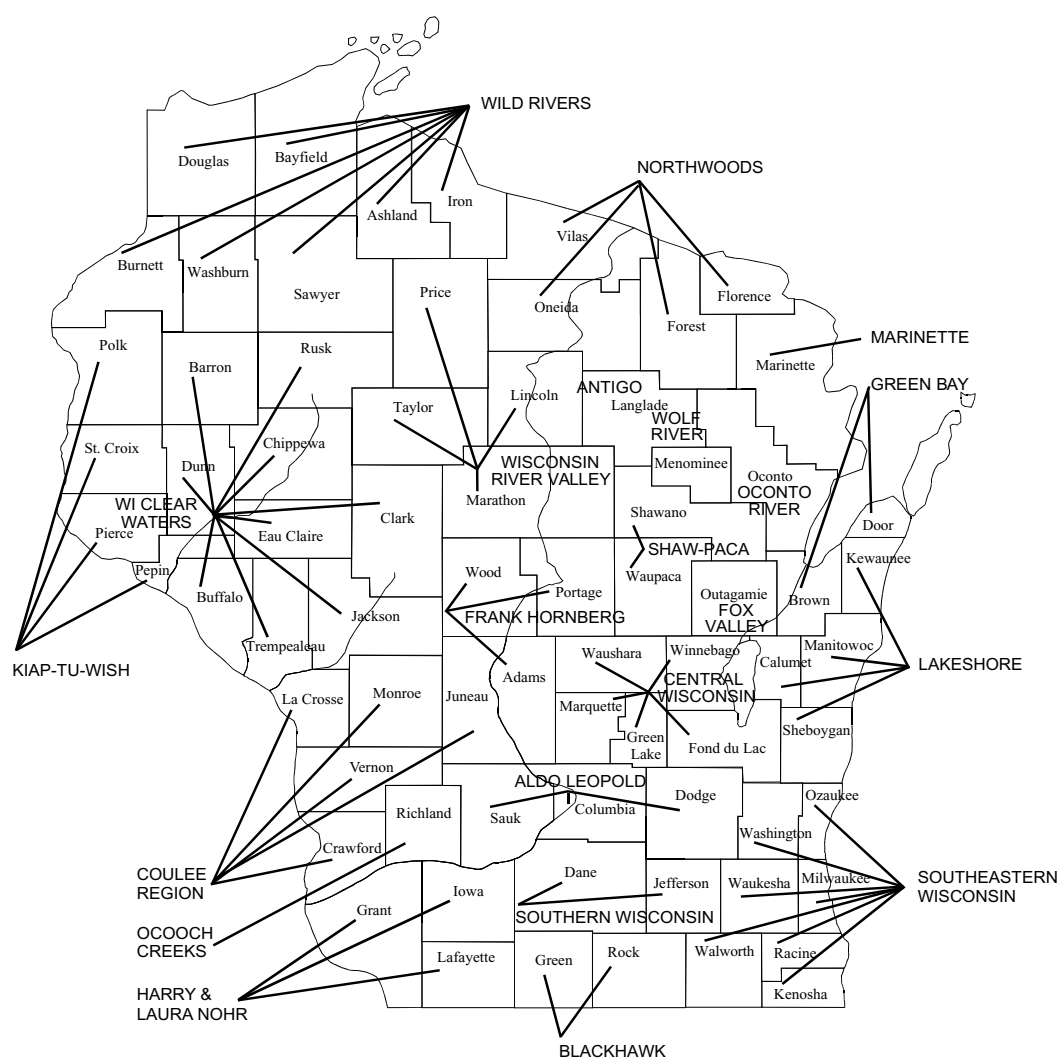


Bad things can happen when habitat work is done without a long-term easement. Read the sad case of Crystal Creek on p. 7.

### In this issue...

- State Council meets in Eau Claire. . . . . p. 5
- TUDARE program publishes habitat guide . . . . . p. 6
- Crystal Cr. saga shows importance of access . . . . . p. 7
- No endangered status for coaster brook trout . . . . . p. 9
- SWTU's Gordon Cr. work continues. . . . . p. 16
- Two chapters teach skills to special ed. kids. . . . . p. 18

## Wisconsin TU Chapters, Presidents, and Web Sites



Visit WITU online at:  
[www.WisconsinTU.org](http://www.WisconsinTU.org)

- Aldo Leopold (#375):** Mike Barniskis, 805 S. Center St., Beaver Dam, WI 53916 (920) 356-0081; barniskis@yahoo.com
- Antigo (#313):** Scott Henricks, 213 Mary St., Antigo, WI 54409-2536 (715) 623-3867; Henricks51@verizon.net
- Blackhawk (#390):** Dan Boggs, 3409 Kingsbridge Dr., Janesville, WI 53546 (608) 290-2585; dbguideservice@yahoo.com
- Central Wisconsin (#117):** John Tucker, 540 Riford Rd., Neenah, WI 54956, (920) 725-8219; jtucker1@new.rr.com; www.cwtu.org
- Coulee Region (#278):** Richard Kyte, 1900 Main St., La Crosse, WI 54601; rkyte@viterbo.edu; www.CouleeRegionTU.org
- Fox Valley (#193):** Mark Peerenboom, 1509 S. Outagamie St., Appleton, WI 54914 (920) 738-0228; markp@new.rr.com; www.FoxValleyTU.org
- Frank Hornberg (#624):** Wyatt Bohm, 4367 Kubisiak Dr., Amherst, WI 54406 (715) 340-2977; wyattbohm@yahoo.com www.HornbergTU.org
- Green Bay (#083):** Paul Kruse, 500 Saint Jude St., Green Bay, WI 54303 (920) 494-4220; PaulKruse@tds.net; www.GreenBayTU.com
- Harry & Laura Nohr (#257):** Brian Larson, 5913 Dietrich Hts, Cassville, WI 53806-9703 (608) 725-5570; blarson@pcii.net; www.NohrTU.org
- Kiap-TU-Wish (#168):** Greg Dietl, 10758 Falling Water Ln., Unit D, Woodbury, MN 55129 (651) 436-2604; grdietl@hotmail.com; www.lambcom.net/KiapTUWish/
- Lakeshore (#423):** Wayne Trupke, 10723 English Lake Rd., Manitowoc, WI 54220 (920) 758-2357; ctrupke@yahoo.com; www.WisconsinTU.org/Lakeshore
- Marinette (#422):** Dale Lange, N2095 County BB, Marinette, WI 54143 (715) 582-1135; dhlange@centurytel.net
- Northwoods (#256):** Brian Hegge, 2898 Oak Ridge Circle, Rhineland, WI 54501 (715) 482-2898; lostskier@charter.net
- Oconto River (#385):** Dave Brunner, 5473 Cardinal Rd., Gillett, WI 54124 (920) 855-6669; dbrunner@plbb.us; www.WisconsinTU.org/OcontoRiver
- Ocooch Creeks (#729):** Allon Bostwick, 226 Ledgewood Dr., Fond du Lac, WI 54935 (920) 933-2531; allonbos@yahoo.com
- Shaw-Paca (#381):** Dave Ehrenberg, 324 East Fourth St., Manawa, WI 54949 (920) 596-3089; adehrenberg@wolfnet.net; www.WisconsinTU.org/ShawPaca
- Southeastern Wisconsin (#078):** Henry Koltz, 2300 North Mayfair Road, Suite 1175, Milwaukee, WI 53226 (414) 258-4300; hek@sdelaw.com; www.SEWTU.org
- Southern Wisconsin (#061):** Dave Sanders, (608) 843-7125; daveandcheri@charter.net; www.swtu.org
- Wild Rivers (#415):** Chuck Campbell, 30 E. 4th St., Washburn, WI 54891 (715) 373-0671; souper@ncis.net
- Wisconsin Clear Waters (#255):** Tim Meyer, PO Box 822, Eau Claire, WI 54702-0822 (715) 579-6795; apacheroad@charter.net; www.WisconsinTU.org/ClearWaters
- Wisconsin River Valley (#395):** John Meachen, 1111 Marquardt Rd., Wausau, WI 54403 (715) 675-4920, pastorjohn@gswausau.org; www.wrvtu.org
- Wolf River (#050):** Barry Climie, PO Box 96, White Lake, WI 54491 (715) 484-7714, bclimie@solarus.biz

## Wisconsin TU State Council Leadership

**State Chair:** Bill Heart, 29450 Verners Rd., Ashland, WI 54806 (715) 682-4703 (H), (715) 209-0431 (C); wwheart@centurytel.net

**Vice Chair:** Kim McCarthy, 736 Meadowbrook Ct., Green Bay, WI 54313; KMcCarthy2@new.rr.com

**Secretary:** Jeff Ware, 14092 Spring Valley Rd., Fennimore, WI 53809 (608) 822-4646; jcware@tds.net

**Treasurer:** Gary Stoychoff, 1326 14th Ave., Green Bay, WI 54304 garystoychoff@att.net

**Past State Chair:** Bill Pielsticker, 8045 Crystal Lake Rd., Lodi, WI 53555-9539 (608) 592-4718 (H); bill@pielstickerphotos.com

**Vice Chair, Central Region:** Bob Haase, W7949 Treptow Ln., Eldorado, WI 54932 (920) 922-8003 (H); flytier@dotnet.com

**Vice Chair, Northeast Region:** Kim McCarthy (see above)

**Vice Chair, Southern Region:** Henry Koltz, 18225 Hoffman Ave., Brookfield, WI 53045 (414) 331-5679 (C); hek@sdelaw.com

**Vice Chair, Western Region:** open

**Education:** Bob Haase (see above)

**Fund Raising & Friends of WITU:** Steve Hill, 107 S. 5th St., Water-

town, WI 53094 (920) 261-4005 (W) budgetprint@charter.net

**Legal Counsel:** Winston Ostrow, 335 Traders Point Ln., Green Bay, WI 54302 (920) 432-9300 (W); waostrow@gklaw.com

**Legislative Committee:** open

**Membership:** John T. "Jack" Bode, W312 N6434 Beaver Lake Rd., Hartland, WI 53029 (262) 367-5300 (H); (262) 951-7136 (W) jbode@gklaw.com

**National Leadership Council Representative:** Dan Wisniewski, 6816 Aldo Leopold Way, Middleton, WI 53562 (608) 824-8621 (H); DanWisniewski@tds.net

**National Trustee:** John Welter, 2211 Frona Pl., Eau Claire, WI 54701 (715) 831-9565 (W); (715) 833-7028 (H); jwelter@ameritech.net

**Publications:** Todd Hanson, 4514 Elgar Ln., Madison, WI 53704 (608) 698-3867; twhanson@sbcglobal.net

**Water Resources:** Bob Obma, 12870 West Shore Drive, Mountain, WI 54149 (715) 276-1170 (H) pobma@new.rr.com

**Webmaster:** Jim Hlaban, webmaster@WisconsinTU.org

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

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

Vol. 21, No. 3 — July 2009

*Wisconsin Trout* is the official publication of the Wisconsin Council of Trout Unlimited and is distributed to the members of Wisconsin's 22 TU chapters. Nonmember subscriptions are \$12.50/year. Publication and distribution dates are the first weeks of January, April, July, and October. Deadlines for articles and advertisements are the 10th of December, March, June, and September. Contact the editor for a current advertising rate sheet.

**Contributions and letters** to the editor are welcomed. Submit articles and returnable photos (color or b&w) to the editorial office:

Todd Hanson, editor  
 4514 Elgar Ln.  
 Madison, WI 53704  
 (608) 698-3867  
 twhanson@sbcglobal.net

**Bill Heart, Chair**  
 29450 Verners Rd.  
 Ashland, WI 54806

**Kim McCarthy, Vice Chair**  
 736 Meadowbrook Ct.  
 Green Bay, WI 54313

**Jeff Ware, Secretary**  
 14092 Spring Valley Rd.  
 Fennimore, WI 53809

**Gary Stoychoff, Treasurer**  
 1326 14th Ave.  
 Green Bay, WI 54304

## Of CAFOs, municipal waste, and an offer to Alliant Energy

By Todd Hanson

Some of you may remember an editorial of mine after Trout Unlimited's battle with Perrier eight years ago in which I recounted a phone prank I played on the supervisor of the Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona. I called the park saying I wanted to buy a couple of their petrified trees to cut up for a TU fund-raiser. Like Perrier said to Wisconsin of its plans to permanently diminish the flow of the Mekan River, I told the supervisor, "If I take a couple trees, you'll still have a lot left." She wasn't amused.

That was fun. Let's do it again.

You've heard about the Rosendale Dairy CAFO by now, but do you know how big that operation truly is? Observers say that if that CAFO were a city unto itself, its sewage output would be the third largest in the state after Milwaukee and Madison! The Rosendale CAFO has the ability under Wisconsin law to reject calls from concerned neighbors for it to install a manure digester to process their waste. Instead, they will be spreading a major city's worth of manure onto area farm fields which some say aren't geologically suited for this kind of spreading.

It's too bad Madison can't just close down its sewage treatment plant and hire a bunch of contractors to scatter its waste around farms in Sun Prairie, Cottage Grove, and Verona. In these hard economic times, land spreading would surely save Madison a lot of money. I think I know how it could all work. Join me now as I call a few local and state officials, all of whom I greeted with the following:

"Hi, this is Todd Hanson with Wisconsin Trout Unlimited. I'm calling to see if you can help me get a permit application rolling for TU. We'd like to start a small, nonprofit farm outside of Madison. Then once we're a farm, we'd like to buy all of the municipal sewage from the City of Madison. And because we're a farm, we will then be able to spread that waste on area farm fields. This will generate some money for Trout Unlimited for our conservation work, and it will save the City of Madison hundreds of thousands of dollars. What kind of DNR permit is TU looking at to make this happen?"

Before telling you how the three people I called responded, let me say that all of them were very calm and respectful. I expected at least one of them to blurt back, "What, are you nuts?" But they all had very nice public relations skills, so congratulations to all three on that front. (You should know that I also told all three at the end of my calls that this was a prank, and I explained the tie-in with the Rosendale CAFO.)

First up was Madison Metro Sewage District Chief Engineer Jon Schellpfeffer. "There'd be quite a few regulations," he sighed. "Giving our waste to a farm might be a little complicated." Maybe he thought he could save TU all this work by noting that most of the solids from Madison's treatment plant wind up on farms anyway as a "soil amendment." He suggested I call Mark Cain.

Next was WDNR Wastewater Engineer Mark Cain. I think he sensed something was fishy, because his first utterance was a long "Ummm." Cain didn't buy my argument that I could turn municipal waste into farm waste with the wave of an invoice. He told me the rules were written so someone couldn't try that trick — once municipal waste, always municipal waste. TU's hypothetical farm would have to get a WPDES permit and at least give Madison's sewage some kind of pretreatment to kill various pathogens before spreading it on farm fields, he said. "Cow manure doesn't have the pathogens found in human waste," he said, "though cow manure does have a lot more nutrient content." Our trout already know that, I thought to myself. He suggested I call Larry Benson.

WDNR Wastewater Engineer Larry Benson didn't have much to say. I think he was on to me from the start. It was also right after lunch. He suggested I call Fred Hegeman, but I didn't.

On second thought, I don't think this idea is one TU should pursue. But now I'm thinking of calling the president of Alliant Energy. I could pretend I'm a farmer in Rosendale who would like to offer Alliant a whole lot of free methane gas for converting into renewable energy to power 1,000 homes if Alliant builds the generating facility on their dime. Think that would fly?

## WITU looking for new Legislative Committee chair

By Jeff Smith

I was appointed Legislative Chair by Duke Welter (then State Council Chair) about 16 years ago. I believe TU has as strong a legislative presence as any organization in the conservation and environmental community.

I resigned about two years ago for a number of reasons we don't need to go into here.

The program was continued by Bill Pielsticker who enhanced the program due to his unsurpassed knowledge of the issues. However, Bill had to resign recently due to a



## Watch out — Moffett System illegal in WI

Editor:

Recently many major fly fishing publications have run ads touting the "Moffett System" as a fishing method intended to increase hook-ups and decrease hooking mortality. The problem for Wisconsin anglers is that it's likely illegal here.

The system employs a fly pattern tied on a tube that's suspended a few inches above a small circle hook. According to the company's web site, when a fish takes the fly in its mouth, the line comes with it. The line runs through the fish's mouth and the hook most often enters the outside of the fish's mouth or jaw. It doesn't appear very different from an Alaskan rig using a bead on the line above a trailing hook.

The Moffett approach has some laudable goals. Using circle hooks makes it very difficult to deeply hook a fish, which reduces mortality of released fish. And it appears quite sensitive to bites, so anglers can set hooks effectively. Hooksets with a circle hook require a smooth movement rather than a traditional movement, but observers report that once you get the hang of it, the hookset is very effective.

Wisconsin banned snagging fish a couple of decades ago. Wisconsin's fishing regulations require that fish be hooked *inside the mouth* to be legal. A fish hooked outside the mouth, or elsewhere on the body, is foul-hooked and must be released to be legal.

Concerned that Wisconsin anglers might run afoul of the rules if they used the Moffett approach, I asked WDNR Chief Warden Randy Stark and Bureau of Law Enforcement policy specialist Tom Van Haren to look at the Moffett web site description and see if it looks legal under state rules. It wasn't a tough call.

Under Natural Resources rule NR 20.06(6), no person may "fish by

snagging, foul hooking or attempting to hook fish other than in the mouth." A method that hooks fish on the outside of their mouth or face, Van Haren said, violates that rule. To be legal, he said, "a fish must bite the hook itself and get hooked IN the mouth as a result for it to be a legal catch."

"It appears that this hookless fly method of fishing is in fact designed to snag the fish (albeit in or at least near the outside of the mouth) instead of the fish striking the hook," Van Haren said. "To allow this practice would open the door to other methods of drawing hooks into the body of a fish, instead of the fish hooking itself upon striking the hook, bait or lure."

"It would not be appropriate to tell anglers that a fish which they hook on the outside of the mouth or side of the head as a result of drawing the hook into the fish would be legal under current law. The reason for this law is to keep anglers from trying to snag fish, even if they are only trying to snag them in the head or mouth. It is not uncommon for wardens to observe anglers drawing hooks through the water or drifting them past or under the head of a fish attempting to hook the fish," Van Haren explained.

Flies can be tied on circle hooks, which have to date mostly been used for bait fishing in salt waters. Some inland fly anglers are now experimenting with circle hooks and developing new patterns. If under the wardens' analysis, a fish must hit the fly and be hooked to be legal, this method would be preferable to using a trailing circle hook.

Van Haren said fish hooked on the body by the trailing hook of a two-fly rig would not be considered a violation if the leading hook had lodged in the mouth of the fish.

John "Duke" Welter  
Eau Claire, WI

potential conflict of interest since Bill's wife, Kathy, is in charge of some of the programs TU has a stake in at the WI Dept. of Agriculture.

Currently the State Council has no Legislative Chair and no legislative program or agenda. I agreed to continue to work on some issues that we simply cannot ignore, but we need someone to step up and volunteer to be chair. Here is the job description:

- communicate our position on issues with legislators, legislative staff, state agency staff, and the Governor's office;
- collaborate with other environmental and conservation organizations on forming a unified position on issues;
- organize TU member testimony at legislative hearings;
- work on various legislative or agency committees organized to investigate issues; and
- prepare articles on legislative matters for *Wisconsin Trout* as needed.

The ideal candidate will have state government experience, knowledge of the legislative and budget processes, and be retired.

Understanding that these are not common backgrounds for TU members, someone who has an interest in the above will qualify if you are willing to be trained by me.

Training will consist of learning how to understand budget documents, how to review legislation, and how to attend government meetings.

TU's legislative presence has been nothing but effective. We can take credit for numerous issues such as the current groundwater legislation, current nonpoint pollution funding, and our nonpoint pollution rules.

We really need to continue this program and need someone to step up. If interested, contact me at (608) 836-5974 or riversmith@charter.net.

You can also contact Bill Heart at (715) 682-4703 or wwheart@centurytel.net

# Thanks to all of us on TU's 50th birthday

By Bill Heart

WITU State Council Chair



Most of you probably already know that July 18 is the actual birthday of Trout Unlimited. This happened in 1959 when a group of fishers led by George Griffiths assembled on the banks of the Au Sable River near Grayling, Michigan to find some way to protect our coldwater streams. TU was officially incorporated on September 22, 1959.

I would think that these 16 fishermen would be very surprised and pleased with how their organization has grown into a leading conservation organization with over 150,000 members and 400 chapters throughout the nation. Take some time this summer to reflect on how the vision of a few concerned sportspeople can

affect so many. The health of our coldwater resources would not be where they are now without all the work TU has done over the past 50 years. But the work never ends, so please keep involved.

Although I have known about TU for a long time, I have only been a consistent member since 1997. At last year's TU National meeting, Stephanie Davidson, TU's membership services manager, gave me a list of Wisconsin members and their longevity with TU. Mind you, this list is only since you have been a consistent member and is from September 2008. If your membership has ever lapsed, as I am sure that mine did at some time, your oldest date is from when you rejoined.

I would like to acknowledge the top 10 from this list. They are, in order: David Everett, Eagle River, 1961; W.J. Pence, White Lake, 1963; Gerald Bristol, Ellsworth, 1967; Richard Tedesco, Flagstaff, AZ, 1968; Charles James, Milwaukee, 1969; Grant Craig, Green Bay, 1969; Ri-

chard Ela, Madison, 1969; William Flader, Madison, 1969; Lee Kersten, Marion, 1969; Lloyd (Duke) Andrews, Minocqua, 1969. The only person on this list that I have the privilege of knowing is Duke Andrews. Please accept a huge THANK YOU from your local chapter and the State Council for your longtime support.

Of the top 100 on the list, I only know a few, and they are: 16 Clint Byrnes, 19 Bob Hunt, 25 Gary and Janice Stoychoff, 36 Larry Meicher (who recently passed away), 57 Dick Berge, 66 Ross Mueller, 67 Dick Kraus, 86 Jim Hlaban, 88 Herb and Genie Buettner, and 89 Henry Haugeley. Thanks also to all of you.

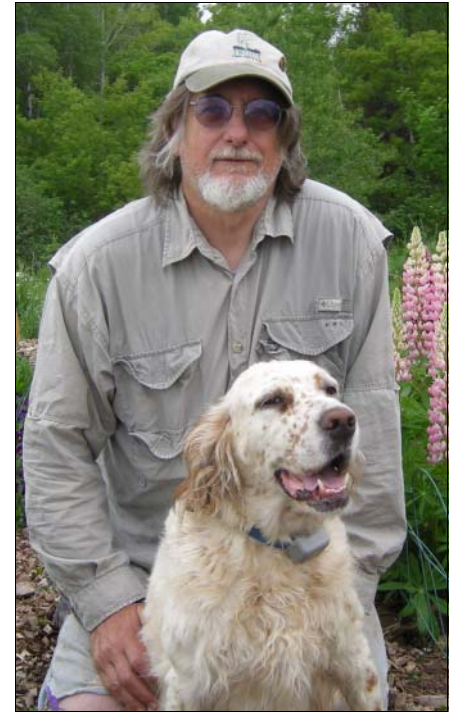
In September of 2008 we had 3,511 members. By the way, my number is 1,224. If you want to know when you became a member, send me an e-mail.

Many of our Wisconsin members will be attending this year's TU National meeting. With the meeting being held in Traverse City, Michigan, it is a great opportunity for us to have a large contingent of members present. There is time yet to register, so check on-line at [tu50.org](http://tu50.org) for more information. These meetings really get everyone re-energized. It's great to see all of the energy by the membership throughout the nation.

\*\*\*

As you can see in other articles in this newspaper, our Wisconsin TU leadership has been very busy this spring and summer. We held very productive executive committee and regular State Council meetings. As always, the full minutes are posted on the [wisconsitu.org](http://wisconsitu.org) web site.

The Graul Farms lawsuit results were disappointing, but the settlement does help us start our new watershed access fund. Watch for a mailing this fall asking for donations to expand the funds. It doesn't matter how much you donate. If we



Bill Heart with dog Ellie

could get half of our membership to send in \$10, that would generate \$17,000 to buy access to our Wisconsin trout streams. Combined with the proceeds from next February's 2010 banquet, we would be able to start off next year with over \$25,000 in this fund. So please consider donating when you receive your letter.

\*\*\*

I hope that everyone is enjoying the start of summer. It has been very cool in Bayfield County, but the weather is looking better for the hex hatch on the Brule, Namekagon, and White rivers. I have heard that on the southern White, the hex have already started. This is probably my favorite hatch of the season. What can be more fun than being in the Bibon Marsh or on Big Lake of the Brule, in the dark, with a million mosquitoes and latching on to a 20+” brown trout? You rarely catch many, but when you do, it's a hoot.

## EXPO: TU members teach casting and fly tying skills at annual event

*Continued from p. 1*

We did not keep track of the number of kids that tried their hand at fly casting, but when it came to fly tying, we estimate that around 1,100 kids tied a fly.

Volunteers from the Southern Wisconsin, Southeastern Wisconsin, Central Wisconsin, Fox Valley, Shaw-Paca, and Wisconsin River Valley chapters helped teach kids how to fly cast and how to tie various kinds of flies from wooly buggers to little bluegill flies.

Various members of the Winnebago Streamers FFF club from Fond du Lac also helped tie flies.

With a group this big, it takes all the help we can get, and we sure appreciate everyone that volunteered to help this year.

Plans to expand in 2010

I would like to expand this effort next year to include informational displays on stream restoration and water monitoring. We could also demonstrate other activities, such as knot tying, but we would need more volunteers to make this possible.

There are a lot of things competing for our time, but getting kids involved in fishing, TU, and outdoor sports should rank high on our list of priorities.



### NORTHEASTERN WI BRUSHING CREW UP AND RUNNING

WITU Vice Chair Kim McCarthy (below right) hands WDNR Fisheries Team Supervisor Mike Donofrio a check from the NE region's chapters to help fund a three-person brushing crew over the next two years. That crew is now up and running. Shown at a recent DNR/TU workday on Beaver Creek in Marinette County are (above, l to r) Nathan Stewart, Phil Lubke, and crew leader Lawrence Eslinger.

## Bruch named fish manager of the year by Conservation Congress

The Wisconsin Conservation Congress named Dr. Ronald Bruch their Fisheries Manager of the Year at the group's annual conference.

Bruch is the WDNR Fisheries Team Supervisor based in Oshkosh. He has authored numerous studies and papers and is an internationally recognized authority on sturgeon. Most contemporary books on the subject will include him as a contributor or refer to his work.

According to the Congress, "He is a Wisconsin native, and in his 32 years with the DNR has provided outstanding service to the sportsmen and women of Wisconsin and to the Wisconsin Conservation Congress. In the process, he has expanded the world's knowledge and understanding of the Lake Sturgeon."

# State Council holds spring meeting in Eau Claire

By Kim McCarthy

Representatives from 11 chapters attended the spring WITU State Council meeting May 9 at the Sleep Inn in Eau Claire.

Dave Ehrenberg requested a clarification of the minutes from the last State Council meeting regarding the Chapter Effectiveness Instrument (CEI) re-chartering process. Duke Welter said chapters must submit a CEI report annually along with their financial statement. Actual re-chartering will take place every four years based on composite results from the accumulated CEI reports.

## Graul Farms lawsuit update

Chair Bill Heart reported that the Graul Farms easement case has been settled. We lost the easement due to a decision that some procedures were not followed in obtaining the easement. As a part of the settlement, Graul Farms will make a \$5,000 donation to the council.

Information will be forthcoming to help chapters get future easements, and chapters will be encouraged to work with counties when getting future easements.

Welter and Henry Koltz said the Graul case was very unusual, and there is nothing in it that would jeopardize other TU easements.

## Ocooch Chapter update

Bill Heart reported that Dave Barron will be working to keep the Ocooch Chapter active. SWTU will continue to work actively in Richland County and will help the Ocooch Chapter.

## TU's 50th anniversary

Chapters are reminded that TU's 50th anniversary celebration and national meeting will be Aug. 19-23 in Traverse City, MI. Chapters wishing to display chapter histories or highlights should attend the event or get their displays to Bill Heart so he can take them to the meeting.

Many activities are planned for the national event. Please check the TU web site for additional information. Bill hopes Wisconsin will be well represented in Traverse City.

## Award nomination committee

Chair Heart explained that he would like to form a committee to oversee the annual awards that are presented annually at the winter State Council meeting. Members are being sought for the committee.

## BMP forestry committee

It was noted that John Konkel from the WI Clear Waters Chapter may be interested in serving on the Best Management Practices Forestry Committee replacing Larry Meicher. Bob Obma also expressed an interest in attending some of the meetings.

## Trout stamp report

The WDNR's trout stamp report was not available at the time of this meeting. Chair Heart said TU will examine it and comment on how we feel the account is being managed.

## Executive committee report

The State Council's executive committee met in Viroqua on April 18. Bill Heart said the meeting dealt with many issues and was very productive. Copies of the minutes were e-mailed to chapter presidents.

Discussion took place on how to best distribute minutes for this kind of special meeting. The important points will be posted on the council's web site or published in *Wisconsin Trout*.

## NLC report

Dan Wisniewski conveyed his NLC report to Duke Welter who spoke on his behalf. Dan said TU

National has formed a Great Lakes working group to deal with concerns from the Great Lakes area.

Dan noted how the Stream Access Working Group is overseeing access issues around the country.

Dan also reported that TU is now encouraging chapters and state councils to make every effort to partner with land trusts on purchases, easements, and stream improvements. Our success in Wisconsin in obtaining access and easements has made us a national leader in these areas.

Dan said about 80 people attended the TUDARE Stream Improvement Workshop at the end of March in Westby. People from groups other than TU are now attending the workshop to see if they can partner with TU on projects. Some of those groups are from areas in which TU does not currently have chapters.

## Legislative report

Bill Heart announced that Bill Pielsticker has resigned from his position as Legislative Chair. Jeff Smith has agreed to fill the position strictly on an interim basis. (See separate story on this position on p. 3.)

## Rosendale CAFO

WITU has asked Gov. Doyle to appoint an executive committee to review and audit the issuance of the Rosendale Dairy CAFO permit. A letter has also been sent to Rep. Black and Sen. Miller asking the same thing. The purpose of the audit would be to assure that proper procedures were used in granting the permit and to identify any process flaws.

Jeff Smith reported that a survey tool is being developed to look at farms to see if they are properly handling the waste they generate. TU has knowledgeable people who will be able to assist in this process. The survey will be helpful in assuring that funds designated for waste management plans are being properly spent.

Central Wisconsin TU plans to monitor areas around the Rosendale CAFO. They were advised by Jeff Smith to seek help from experts at local universities. The expert help would be to make sure that people doing the monitoring are trained properly and to standards that will withstand legal challenges.

## Treasurer's report

Gary Stoychoff was introduced to the council as the new treasurer. Gratitude was expressed for his willingness to take on the duties following the recent death of Larry Meicher.

No formal treasurer's report was given as the transition to a new treasurer is still in progress and will take some additional time. State Council accounts either have been moved or are in the process of being moved to institutions in the Green Bay area.

A discussion was held about the council's endowment funds. The National Resource Foundation manages endowment funds for conservation groups, and we will be looking into the possibility of having them manage our endowment funds. This will be further discussed more at the September State Council meeting.

It was also noted that if stock is received, an immediate decision should be made by the board as to whether to hold the stock or liquidate it. In the past, that decision was made solely by the treasurer.

A discussion was also held about how often the council's financial records should be audited. A finan-

cial committee will oversee financial records and decide on audits.

## Banquet report

Bill Pielsticker reported that the 2009 banquet netted about \$2,300. This is down about \$3,000 dollars from 2008.

The 2010 banquet will once again be held in Stevens Point, but it will be moved forward to the second weekend in February, or Feb. 13. Tom Helgeson of *Midwest Fly Fishing* magazine will be the featured speaker. Bill will try to arrange a Becoming An Outdoor Woman program the day of the banquet.

Concern was expressed about having chapter presidents and voting chapter representatives leaving the annual meeting to attend concurrent offerings. Those absent representatives are missing important discussions and votes. It was decided that chapter presidents and voting representatives will need to remain at the annual meeting. Other chapter members should be the ones to attend pull-out sessions.

Discussion was held about giving free tickets in return for supporting the banquet at a certain level or attending designated pull-out sessions. Discussion was also held about using the pull-out sessions to attract people who have potential to become valuable TU members.

In addition, it was observed that in the future, more chapters will be encouraged to participate in the running of the banquet, and we should have an active banquet committee to enhance future banquets.

## Streambank land fund

The Board of Directors meeting in April brought about the idea that the State Council could benefit from having a funding mechanism



**GARY STOYCHOFF**

Green Bay TU member Gary Stoychoff was named new State Council treasurer replacing Larry Meicher. Stoychoff has performed treasurer duties for GBTU for many years.

to work with various groups to buy land or fishing easements.

The council voted to start such a fund, and Kim McCarthy and Bill Pielsticker volunteered to co-chair the development of its operational guidelines. Duke Welter suggested the fund be called the Streambank Fund. (See separate story on p. 1.)

## TU National report

Duke Welter said the re-chartering process is now about 95% complete nationally. The next step will be to evaluate the process to see how it could be better utilized to strengthen chapters. Chapters will be asked to help identify weak areas in the process, and then the TU National and the State Councils will take a look at how to deal with process weaknesses.

*Continued on p. 6*

## Regional Vice Chair reports

Here are the regional highlights from WITU's regional vice chairs as reported at the spring State Council meeting.

### Henry Koltz (Southern Region):

- Blackhawk will have a new president in the near future;
- Hefty and Reads creeks are being worked on;
- SWTU recently hosted a fly fishing movie fund-raiser;
- Fly tying and casting activities are occurring in the region;
- A special fishing day is being planned for challenged individuals;
- SEWTU has launched Project Healing Waters in cooperation with the VA and is working with two Eagle Scout projects plus continuing to work on the removal of the Estabrook dam.
- SEWTU will also be changing to a committee structure in an effort to get more people to participate in the chapter.
- A Google calendar has been set up to highlight all regional events.

### Bob Haase (Central Region):

- The Central Region continues to emphasize water monitoring with more workshops planned. The monitoring has helped to locate habitat projects.
- Central Wisconsin is exploring Project Healing Waters, has had a casting clinic, and conducted their annual Trout Fest.

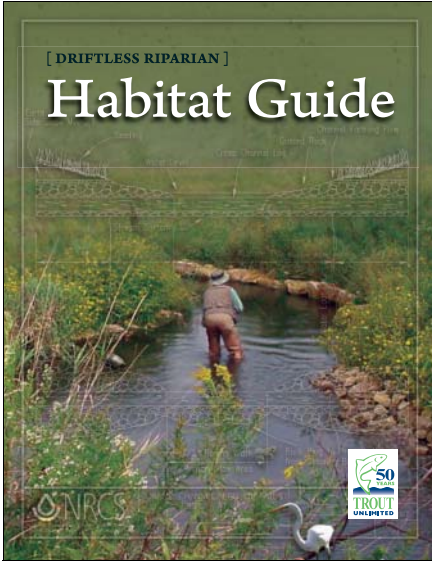
### Kim McCarthy (Northeast Region):

- The region's habitat crew will begin work May 18 and do nothing but trout work for slightly more than three months. This will give the NE Region some good baseline data on the amount of work that can be expected for the dollars spent on the project (\$22,500).
- The DNR Antigo office will be using the equipment purchased for them to do trout work this summer. This work is expected to have a more natural look and will not involve the use of lunger structures.
- The Antigo office will also be working on project plans for the summer of 2010 when they will be the major recipient of NE Region funds.

# TUDARE Driftless Area habitat guide available

By Jeff Hastings

Each year, nonprofits and federal, state, and county conservation agencies spend millions of dollars to stabilize streambanks and create habitat for trout.



However, past stream restoration projects in the upper Midwest have often failed to incorporate habitat for non-game species such as snakes, frogs, turtles, and birds. Habitat help for these animals have been omitted primarily because of a lack of knowledge of habitat needs.

Developing habitat for other non-game species at the same time that construction equipment is be-

ing used for trout stream projects is efficient and cost-effective, especially since some of these habitats require extensive excavation (see p. 17 for a diagram and pictures of a snake hibernaculum). Not combining habitat for these species is a missed opportunity.

The new guide is an attempt to compile information about the amphibians, reptiles, and birds that utilize the riparian corridors in the Driftless Area and provide examples of habitat practices that would benefit these species.

By integrating one or more of these practices into a project, you will be able to make a positive contribution to protecting, preserving, or increasing habitat that is a limiting factor for reptiles and amphibians.

This guide reflects all of the input we received from the "Wild & Rare Committee" that met several times a year for the past three years to tour projects, develop the monitoring plan, and provide input to this guide.

The guide is available by contacting Jeff Hastings, Project Manager, Trout Unlimited Driftless Area Restoration Effort, at [jhastings@tu.org](mailto:jhastings@tu.org).

(See the separate story on p. 16 on how Southern Wisconsin TU's Gordon Creek project included habitat for snakes and turtles.)

# COUNCIL: meets in Eau Claire

Continued from p. 5

Duke reported that TU is weathering the current financial situation fairly well. There has been some drop-off in contributions, but it has not been as severe as what some other organizations have experienced. Government stimulus funds will provide fish passage grants which would probably include culvert situations in Wisconsin. There is likely to be other stimulus money available for fisheries projects, but no specifics are available now.

TU National will be electing three new grassroots trustees to its board of directors. None are expected to be from this part of the country. That will change in a couple of years when the terms of some trustees from our area will be expiring.

Videos available on DVDs

Todd Hanson said that the council's 1996 *Consider Proper Release* video has been transferred to DVD by Jim Bucholz of TV 11 in Green Bay. Todd is also having a 1981 State

Council beaver control video transferred to DVD. Both videos will soon be available to chapters.

Other TU videos may also be candidates for editing and transfer to DVD. The idea was put forth by representatives from the Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter that these transferred videos could be put on YouTube for public viewing. This will be explored.

Announcements

Duke Welter said there will be a stream improvement workshop in Waupaca on July 25. He and Henry Koltz will be presenting a program about legal challenges and responsibilities for chapters engaged in habitat work. This program was presented earlier at the Westby workshop in March.

Fall council meeting

The fall State Council meeting will be held September 19. The location is not yet definite, but it will be somewhere near Black Earth Creek in Dane County.

# Council holds special executive committee meeting

By Bill Heart

We tried something different this spring. The WITU Executive Committee held an all-day meeting/retreat April 18 in Viroqua.

The executive committee consists of 12 members, and we were able to have seven present, including Todd Hanson, Bob Haase, Bill Heart, Henry Koltz, Kim McCarthy, Bob Obama, and Bill Pielsticker.

One of the main topics was to try to replace past treasurer and council leader Larry Meicher. The group decided appointed Gary Stoychoff of the Green Bay Chapter as our new treasurer. Gary accepted and has taken over our finances.

We also formed an awards committee to do the work that was also performed in recent years by Larry Meicher. Members of this new committee include Todd Hanson, Henry Koltz, Bill Pielsticker, and the current chair.

Of course, there are many other things that Larry did for Wisconsin TU, and we all have to take up the slack.

We had a great discussion on forming a committee to document and catalog easements of WITU and our chapters. With the problem we had with the Graul farm situation, we need to make sure that all of our easements are written and recorded properly. We also must work to extend or convert expiring easements into conveyances in perpetuity. We plan to establish a protocol for all new easements.

While talking about easements, it was brought up that TU needs to facilitate greater involvement with land trusts throughout Wisconsin. Stream access easements are not necessarily common in land trust transactions right now, and it would be a good goal to strive to include stream access easements when land is being placed in trust. If access easements are impossible, perhaps streambank buffer zones and setback requirements could be made part of more land trust purchases.

A good discussion was had concerning the State Council banquet. It was noted that there were some areas that he would like to improve. First, we need to ensure that when we have workshops that run concurrently with the annual meeting, chapters make sure that the presi-

dent and one chapter representative remain in the very important business meeting. At the meeting in February, we discussed important business while many chapter leaders were attending workshops. We need this annual business meeting to be well attended. The workshops are for chapter members and potential leaders who are attending the banquet.

We had a very lengthy discussion on CAFOs, especially the one located in Rosendale. The last *Wisconsin Trout* had many articles on this issue. We are still involved with resolving these issues, and a number of leaders will be meeting soon with DNR Secretary Matt Frank.

WITU would like to involve more women and youth in our activities and leadership, and we developed a list of ideas for chapters to be thinking about, including

- Promote a special issue of the *Wisconsin Outdoor Journal* where youth events are featured;
- Hold a state-sponsored "Kids Fishing Week" (versus just one day), where chapters are encouraged to have a significant youth-related event;
- Get greater involvement with scouting groups (boys and girls);
- Get more involved with female outdoors organizations; and
- Get more women involved at the State Council, including as speakers.

We also talked about developing a list of fly tying and casting instructors to call on for volunteer events.

This was our first discussion about establishing a fund for chapters, the State Council, and others to be able to purchase of land bordering trout streams. This account will be funded by money raised at the State Council banquet. It was felt that directing banquet funds in this way will give the banquet a driving force. As seen in article on p. 1 of this issue, the fund was approved at the most recent State Council meeting.

It's interesting that as I went over the minutes of this special meeting, it was nice to see that a number of the topics that we discussed were brought up at the May State Council meeting held in Eau Claire. You can view the complete minutes on our web site at [www.WisconsinTU.org](http://www.WisconsinTU.org).

## TU habitat workshops planned

Through a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and a Wisconsin State Wildlife grant, Trout Unlimited will conduct three workshops in Wisconsin for DNR officials (waters and regulations, fisheries, and endangered resources), county and federal conservationists, and private contractors.

The workshops will be conducted during the construction of a stream restoration project so that conservationists and contractors will see first-hand how to install the various habitat improvements.

Time will be allotted for participants to ask questions and for agency staff to discuss details of the installation of both trout and non-game habitat.

All participants will receive a free meal and a copy of the new non-game habitat guide for amphibians and reptiles of the Driftless Area.

As soon as the dates are known, they will be posted on the home page of the Driftless Area Restoration Effort web page at [www.tu.org/driftless](http://www.tu.org/driftless), or contact Jeff Hastings, TUDARE, [jhastings@tu.org](mailto:jhastings@tu.org).

Elevate your fly fishing to a new level with the Original BlueSky Furred Leader. Sizes for all fish & fishing conditions. Amazing casting.

The Leader in Furred Leaders.™

Learn more at [FurredLeaders.com](http://FurredLeaders.com)

BlueSky@netnet.net • Ph/Fax 920-430-1239  
1163 Garland St., Green Bay, Wis. 54301 USA



## TU QUIZ

*Catch-and-release is not just popular with trout fishers. According to the WDNR's latest angler survey results, what percentage of largemouth and smallmouth bass are anglers releasing in Wisconsin? A: 65%, B: 75%, C: 85%, D: 95%*

Answer: D: 95%

# Crystal Creek: the story of how a trout stream came to life and then slowly died

*Wisconsin TU has just formed a new fund with the mission of purchasing land and easements along trout streams. To see the value of such a fund, consider the case of Crystal Creek in Dodge County. Once a degraded class 3 trout stream, Crystal Creek underwent extensive habitat improvement by TU and the WDNR and became quite the trout fishing hotspot for a number of years.*

*But then things started to unravel. TU failed to get long-term easements along the stream, and when the property changed hands, the new landowner posted the stream. With no access, the stream's improvements fell into disrepair. This is a cautionary tale we can still learn from. Though this story could have been written today, but it was actually penned over 20 years ago.*

By Kevin Kirsh

Until a few years ago, Beaver Dam area fishermen only needed to travel two miles to reach a trout stream where trophy-size trout were able to be reeled in.

Instead of traveling to places like the Brule River in Douglas County, the Wolf River in Shawano County, or the Mecan in Waushara County, or any one of Wisconsin's 9,650 miles of trout streams, area sportsmen could go to Crystal Creek in Dodge County, two miles east of Beaver Dam, and find trout ranging upward to the 17-inch size. But since 1980, the creek has been neglected.

Although it is still listed in the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) *Wisconsin's Trout Streams* book, Crystal Creek has been abandoned by the many groups and individuals responsible for the earlier restoration of the creek area and the replanting of many hundreds of trout.

Crystal Creek has a long history of restoration and deterioration, and the current story of its present state is one of a stream's slow death.

Sixty-five years ago, Crystal Creek regularly yielded brown trout weighing three pounds or more. The trout and fishing interest faded after cattle from a past state prison farm eroded the streambanks. The deterioration of the banks caused the creek to widen, making the water too warm and silted for the trout to survive. The creek stood neglected, becoming nothing more than a watering hole for cattle.

However, interest in Crystal Creek was revived in 1968. In that year, because of an excessive carp population in Beaver Dam Lake, the DNR chemically treated the lake and its tributaries. The treatment killed the carp living in the deeper pools of Crystal Creek. Interest was then revived in the creek as a trout stream, but actual work in restoring the creek didn't begin until 1973 when a Wayland Academy student studied the creek for a school project and found that the water temperature and food supply was suitable for trout survival.

Then Trout Unlimited (TU) took over. Under the direction of Clint Byrnes, the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of TU obtained easement rights, built fences, and cleared the creek of debris. By-

rnes received restoration help from the Beaver Dam Lake Fisherman's Club, senior high school students, the Future Farmers of America, and prisoners from Fox Lake Correctional Institute. After some of the work was completed, the DNR stocked the creek with 1500 fingerling and yearling trout.

In 1975, additional work was done on the creek by two more Wayland Academy students. Spearheaded by Clint's son, Kevin, the two continued the stream improvement by building wing dams, installing half logs for trout habitat, and installing fences and fence stiles.

Since 1973, Byrnes and the rest of TU fenced in 7,900 feet of the creek, built three cattle crossings, installed 11 stiles, planted trees, erected birdhouses, and generally improved the trout habitat. The DNR has stocked the creek with at least 500 trout every year since that time.

The trout grew to unbelievable size, some in the 17-inch range, and provided trophy class trout fishing within two miles of Beaver Dam.

Crystal Creek became, according to a Dodge County Parks Commission 1968 report, a clean, bubbling trout stream.

Today, Crystal Creek is in danger of becoming a "rare feature," but in a negative way. Since 1980, the creek has been neglected again. The banks are deteriorating, stiles are falling over, and brush clogs some of the main channels. Although it is still listed in the DNR's book *Wisconsin's Trout Streams*, the creek has not received any further fingerling and yearling trout plantings since 1984.

What has happened to Beaver Dam's trout stream? According to Byrnes, TU made a mistake by only securing a five-year easement right to Crystal Creek. After the easement was up, the land around the creek was purchased by Clarence Slager of Beaver Dam in 1980. The new owner then posted the land against public use.

Slager said insurance costs were too high to allow fishing. "I cannot give permission," he said, "because the liability is prohibitive. However, the land is up for sale. Just put in a bid."

But putting in a bid is a problem for all concerned. Byrnes wants Trout Unlimited to buy the land, but said it doesn't have the money. The

DNR can't buy it either because there is not enough money in the budget for the purchase.

According to DNR fish manager James Congdon, "It is not a natural reproducing trout stream, but the trout do have good survival and growth rates. It is just not a high enough priority with the DNR."

Byrnes agrees with Congdon.

"Let's face it. Crystal Creek is a marginal stream," he said. "Congdon once asked me if I wanted the DNR to spend money on the creek or use it on really excellent trout streams. Crystal Creek is difficult to fish. You almost have to use minnows or be a worm dunker. But it has fantastic potential."

His dream is for the county to purchase the land and have the Parks Committee run it. "It would be a great educational tool for the students," Byrnes said. "The county could also turn the area into a park. I talked to the committee some years back, but unfortunately, there is no money in the county, either."

Byrnes added that if a private party would buy it and donate the land to the county, the TU chapter would fix up the stream again.

"I would really like to see the public be able to use the creek before we lose our listing in the DNR's book *Wisconsin's Trout Streams*."

Also according to Byrnes, there have been no hard feelings among the parties concerned. "Congdon has cooperated in every way possible in restoring Crystal Creek," he said. "And Slager has been very nice in our negotiations about payment for the land, but, there just is no money."

Crystal Creek is dying a slow death. What was once a promising trout stream is destined to become, once again, little more than a watering hole for cattle. Muddied and slow moving, the creek may no longer be able to hold trout without some help.

That help, in the form of funds, is proving hard to come by. But if help is found again, Dodge County might again have its "rare feature" back — a clean, bubbling trout stream for all to enjoy.

*(This story originally appeared in 1988 in the Beaver Dam Daily Citizen and is reprinted with permission. Crystal Creek is still listed as a Class 3 trout stream in Dodge County. -Ed.)*

## White River property to be purchased by BRC

By Bill Heart

This is more of a Wild Rivers Chapter issue, but it is an example of a very good model of working with a land trust, and I wanted to bring this to the attention of all state TU members. It may also be a blatant abuse of power to request your help. But that's later.

Late last winter, I heard about this parcel of land that was coming up for sale on the White River in Bayfield County. I am sure that you have read about the Wild River Chapter's work on the White River and the great hex hatch there.

This parcel is located next to a big block of state property at the upper end of the Bibon Marsh, which I have been fishing since 1968. This is the old Art Hanson farm, and I have always coveted this property.

When I first heard of the possible sale, I told my wife about my feeling

for the land, and I was thinking that maybe we should purchase it. Her words were something like, "Are you nuts. We do not need to purchase land now that we are retired." Well that ended that pretty quickly, so I thought about what would be the next best option.

I contacted the land owner, who lives in London (I just wanted to go see him, but Cindy stopped that also) to see if he'd be interested in selling to a conservation group. He was, and the land was taken off the market.

After much work, the offer to purchase the 80-acre parcel of land on the White River owned by Tom Walker has been accepted, and the closing will take place on June 30.

The Bayfield Regional Conservancy (BRC) has graciously agreed to purchase the land and hold it until the WDNR is able to acquire it with Stewardship Funds. Hopefully

this will be done in July 2010. Wild Rivers TU has donated \$5,000 to the BRC for a down payment.

The best part of this whole deal is that the BRC is developing a White River Fund (WRF) which will restrict any money that is put into the WRF to be only used for acquisition of White River property. When the WDNR does purchase this property from the BRC, all of the funds received, \$150,000, will be put into the WRF for further acquisitions. How cool is this!

Now the difficult part! The BRC is planning a number of fund-raising efforts this summer. The total purchase price for this 80-acre parcel is \$150,000. The BRC will be present at many local events, have their own fund-raising event, offer river floats for a certain donation, and will be sending out personal requests.

This is where my misuse of power comes in. If you are

interested in donating, you can call Ellen, the BRC executive director, at (715) 779-5263. or check out their web site at [www.brcland.org](http://www.brcland.org). Be sure to e-mail the BRC to designate the money for the White River, or contact me for any information.

## ACCESS: new fund started

*Continued from p. 1*

A financial appeal letter to members is also in the works, and members are encouraged to be as generous with the new Streambank Program as they have been with the Friends program.

McCarthy, Pielsticker, and Dan Wisniewski are preparing operational guidelines for the new fund. When OK'd, they will be printed in *Wisconsin Trout* and posted on-line.

WEATHER • 13A

TODAY 56°/43°  
Clouds and sun;  
breezy, cooler

SUNDAY 57°/41°  
Cool with  
some sun

# The Janesville Gazette

Saturday, May 9, 2009 • Our 164th Year

## Nursing gets booster shot

Funds will help students get degrees in Janesville

By Frank Schultz  
fschultz@gazettextra.com

### JANESVILLE

Usually, it's the nurses giving the shot in the arm.

In this case, future nurses are getting the shot. And it shouldn't hurt a bit.

This shot is a pledge of \$90,000 for a Janesville-based, bachelor's



Pillard

degree nursing program.

The program could provide people with good-paying jobs at a time when those jobs are desperately needed locally, said Diane Pillard, dean of UW-Rock County.

Pillard has been guiding the development of a partnership between UW-Rock, Blackhawk Tech-

nicol College, UW-Oshkosh and the local health care community to provide the program.

The first pledge in the effort comes from Dean Health System and the promised but not-yet-built St. Mary's Janesville Hospital.

"We are going to need many skilled nurses to provide exceptional care to the community when we open the doors of St. Mary's Janesville Hospital and Dean Clinic Janesville," hospital President Kerry Swanson wrote in a news release. "There is no better way to fill

those positions than with people who understand the local need. Kudos to everyone involved for laboring and investing in the city's future."

The donation will be \$60,000 over three years plus \$30,000 in kind contributions.

"This is very encouraging news," UW-Rock Dean Diane Pillard said. "Given the state of the economy, we were very worried about our ability to raise the necessary funds to start this program because

Turn to **NURSING** on Page 1

## Some warned to boil water

E. coli bacteria found in Janesville's north, east sides

By Frank Schultz  
fschultz@gazettextra.com

### JANESVILLE

Grocery stores reported a rush on bottled water Friday after the city of Janesville issued a boil-water advisory for about a third of the city.

The city had found E. coli bacteria in a routine test of the city's water. It was the first time E. coli had been found in city water in about 30 years, said Dan Lynch, city utilities director.

E. coli comes from the intestinal tracts of warm-blooded animals, and it's a sign that dangerous fecal bacteria such as salmonella, giardia, hepatitis and other harmful organisms might be there as well, said Tim Banwell, environmental health officer for Rock County.

The fecal bacteria can cause short-term diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches or other symptoms, according to the city's advisory. These bacteria may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

The affected area contains about 24,000 residents, Banwell said. It included much of the north and east sides.

Daniels Sentry on East Milwaukee Street reported it ran out of bottled water Friday afternoon but that more was on the way. A spokesman for Woodman's Food Market said supplies appeared to be sufficient.

The city flushed water mains and increased chlorine levels to fight the possible contamination. It also took new water samples, both at the site

Turn to **WATER** on Page 13A



Janesville's Arlan Hilgendorf displays a fly that he whipped up in a few minutes in his east-side basement. An avid fisherman, Hilgendorf got serious about tying his own flies about a decade ago.

Photos by Bill Olmsted  
bolmsted@gazettextra.com



Top: Arlan Hilgendorf's flies come in a wide variety of shapes and sizes. Bottom: These flies are meant to mimic insects.



## Fly-fishing fanaticism growing among Rock County anglers

By Ted Sullivan  
tsullivan@gazettextra.com

### JANESVILLE

Sitting at his fly-tying desk, Arlan Hilgendorf leaned forward, squinted his eyes and steadied his hands as he wrapped red thread around a fishing hook.

He shined a lamp over the hook pinched in a vise and then wound turkey feathers into his thread.

Hilgendorf was tying a woolly buggler, a fly pattern that mimics a leech or minnow. The streamer fly can be used in fast or slow water, murky or clear

streams. Trout love it.

"Guys accuse me of tying more flies than a fly shop," Hilgendorf, 69, said. "It's the satisfaction of tying a fly and catching a fish on it. The fact that you tied the fly yourself makes it more rewarding."

Hilgendorf is one of hundreds of fly-tying and fly-fishing enthusiasts in Janesville and the surrounding area. About 220 people belong to the Blackhawk Trout Unlimited chapter.

They fish in the famous trout streams in southwestern

Turn to **FISHING** on Page 14A

# Parties agree to major changes to Wisconsin's shoreland zoning rules

WDNR Secretary Matt Frank announced an agreement to modernize the state's shoreland protection rules on June 10.

The proposal was taken up and passed at the June 24 Natural Resources Board meeting in New Richmond. The new rules represent the first major statewide shoreland protection revision in over 40 years.

Joining Frank to make the announcement were representatives of the River Alliance of Wisconsin, the WI Assn. of Lakes, the WI Realtors Assn., and the WI Builders Assn.

The new rules will increase flexibility for property owners to manage their land while improving environmental protections for lakes and streams.

The changes accomplish three important goals:

- More flexibility for shoreland property owners to make improvements to their homes, while reducing the environmental impact of shoreland structures and hard surfaces.
- Enhanced protections to preserve water quality, habitat, and scenic beauty.
- Streamlining the process to administer the rules.

"This proposal achieves a solid balance between the public interest in protecting Wisconsin's beautiful lakes, rivers, and streams, and the rights of private shoreland owners to enjoy their property," Frank said.

"Modernizing these rules ensures that as Wisconsin grows and develops, we are protecting our most precious natural resources so fundamental to our economy, recreation, and our quality of life," said Frank. "This proposal reflects the improvements in our understanding as to what is most effective in protecting our waterways from storm-water runoff, improving both water

quality and promoting healthy wildlife and fisheries habitat."

Wisconsin's shoreland protection rules were first created in 1968. They largely apply to unincorporated areas — those areas outside city and village boundaries.

Under the proposal, basic provisions of the shoreland protection rules would remain unchanged, including the 75-foot setback from the shoreline for new structures and minimum lot sizes of 20,000 square feet (10,000 square feet for sub-standard lots).

The new rule will implement a 35-foot limit on the height of shoreland structures.

"We know so much more about how development affects our lakes and rivers than when the shoreland zoning rule was approved back in the 1960s," said Lori Grant of the Wisconsin River Alliance.

"The new rule responds to years of research across the country and addresses the core issues head-on: limiting hard surfaces that produce runoff and maintaining natural vegetation on the shoreline," said Grant.

"As realtors who work every day with buyers and sellers of waterfront property, we know first hand the important role shoreland zoning regulations play in protecting water quality, the scenic beauty of our waterways, and the ability of waterfront property owners to use and enjoy their property," said Mike Mulleady, Wisconsin Realtors Association Chairman of the Board.

"Without clean lakes and rivers and reasonable shoreland zoning regulations, Wisconsin's quality of life and waterfront property values would suffer," said Mulleady.

The updates reflect the 50,000 public comments DNR received over several years and more than a dozen public hearings.

## Key provisions of the rule changes

The new runoff rules apply only to land in unincorporated areas — areas outside city and village boundaries. Existing homeowners would not be affected until they remodel their home or make a major change in how they manage their property, like clear cutting trees, mowing new areas, or paving over areas.

### 1. Building setbacks and minimum lot sizes stay the same:

- Structures must be at least 75 feet from the ordinary high water mark.
- Minimum lot size will remain 10,000 square feet with 65 feet of frontage for lots served by sanitary sewers and 20,000 square feet and 100 feet of frontage for lots not served by sanitary sewers.

### 2. Rules on legal nonconforming structures made clearer and more flexible. Legal, nonconforming structures (those built before their counties adopted shoreland standards and now closer to the water than standards allow) can be maintained and repaired more easily. The proposal will:

- Eliminate dollar limits on the maintenance and repair of legal, nonconforming structures.
- Allow some expansion of buildings at least 35 feet from the water if the owner takes offsetting steps like restoring native plants or taking measures to reduce runoff.
- Set height restrictions for those portions of buildings within the first 75 feet from the water's edge.

### 3. The rules will cut runoff pollution by limiting hard surfaces.

- Construction or expansion of buildings, driveways, or other areas which prevent water from soaking into the ground is limited to 30 percent of the lot to reduce runoff and protect water quality in lakes and streams.



Peshtigo Times June 25, 2008

**FISHING DERBY** — The annual Peshtigo Parks and Recreation Department fishing derby proved to be a huge success as 29 kids tossed in a line on Saturday morning. Prizes were awarded in four categories for the young fishermen ages 2-14. In the side photo, the Mech brothers show off their catch as 9-year-old Aden displays a 14-inch small mouth bass while his 5-year-old brother Tobey holds the pole. Other winners included Dustin LaPlant for trout fish (3), two-year-old Megan Bloch for first fish and four-year-old Collin Engmann for smallest fish. Two local individuals, Darren Jacobson of Angling Promotions and Dale Lange of Trout Unlimited, helped make the event special by giving each of the participants free fishing equipment. Jacobson is shown in the top photo handing out some of the 35 poles his company donated to the event along with a small tackle box. On behalf of Trout Unlimited, Lange provided every kid with a bag that included lures, candy and tackle. City recreation director Dave Manquardt said "the event was very well received and he thanks Jacobson and Lange for their help and donations."

## TU IN THE NEWS

The Blackhawk Chapter got half of the front page of the May 9 *Janesville Gazette* (plus another half page inside the paper) for a story focused on the growing interest in fly fishing and fly tying. The piece featured a cover shot of Arlan Hilgendorf and some of his flies. Also quoted were Dan Boggs, Don Studt, and Jim Erickson. The Marinette County Chapter got a nice picture and story on their youth fishing work in the June 25 *Peshtigo Times*.



# USFWS rejects coaster brook trout endangered status

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has found that a petition to list the coaster brook trout, a form of brook trout found in the Great Lakes and its tributaries, as endangered is not warranted.

On March 1, 2006, the USFWS received a petition from the Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter and the Huron Mountain Club asking the Service to list the coaster brook trout as endangered and to designate critical habitat. Additional information was received on May 25, 2006.

The Service announced in 2008 that it would study information on coaster populations to determine whether they should be listed as endangered.

The Service's finding, which appears in the May 19, 2009, *Federal Register*, determined that coaster brook trout in the Great Lakes are not a distinct population segment and therefore are not eligible for listing under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The ESA allows listing of species, subspecies, and distinct population segments of vertebrate animals.

The Service also found that the coaster brook trout does not make up a significant portion of the range of the brook trout, another measure used to determine whether to list an animal as endangered or threatened under the ESA.

The Service's finding, which appears in the May 19, 2009, *Federal Register*, determined that coaster brook trout in the Great Lakes are not a distinct population segment and therefore are not eligible for listing under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

Although the Service did not find that coaster brook trout can be listed under the Endangered Species Act, the agency decided to begin a native brook trout status assessment to better understand the brook trout in its entire range. This would help determine whether any brook trout population meets criteria as a distinct population segment or constitutes a significant portion of the species' range.

"We know coaster brook trout in the Great Lakes face a number of challenges, as do many Great Lakes fisheries," said Tom Melius, the Service's Midwest Regional Director. "The Service is committed to its ongoing coaster brook trout conserva-

tion and rehabilitation efforts."

Coaster brook trout are brook trout that spend a portion of their life cycle in the Great Lakes. At one time, there were more than 50 coaster runs in the U.S. waters of Lake Superior. They were also found in Lakes Huron and Michigan, where they are now extirpated.

Today, there are four known populations in the U.S. waters of Lake Superior, all in Michigan: one

in the Salmon Trout River in the Upper Peninsula and three on Isle Royale.

The Service helped lead the development of a multi-agency brook trout rehabilitation plan, which calls for protecting coasters from over-harvest; restoration of stream habitat; and redesign or removal of dams blocking stream access.

Melius also pledged to continue working with states and other partners on fisheries management activities that will benefit coaster brook trout. The Service conducts surveys to examine coaster population status; provides technical fishery assistance to partners working to rehabilitate coasters; developed and maintains coaster brood stocks for stocking and preservation of genetic material of remaining populations; and stocks fish in waters with suitable habitat in cooperation with partner fishery agencies.

For more information on the coaster brook trout, visit the Service's Midwest web site at <http://www.fws.gov/midwest>.



## WITU Looking Back

From WITU's very first State Council newsletter dated September 1970...



As TU celebrates its 50th birthday, here's a look back at the formation of the State Council of Wisconsin TU.

Pictured with Gov. Warren Knowles are (l to r) Richard Ela, Jack Walworth, Ray White, Jim Stewart, Jim Simpson, Nash Williams, John Lawton, and Ed Lloyd.

TU's 50th anniversary is being celebrated in Traverse City, Michigan. Consider attending the conference. Events run from Aug. 17-23. Visit [www.TU50.org](http://www.TU50.org).

### Governor Knowles Joins T.U.

Governor Knowles participated in the State Council formation by accepting a membership in TU. He was photographed in his office receiving the membership along with several T.U.ers. We are hoping to receive club publicity in the state and local newspapers and magazines featuring the Governor Knowles photo and a news release covering the State Council formation. The photograph was made compliments of Madison Chapter member, internationally famous photographer, Bill Wollin.

### Doug Hart, Green Bay Packer, Attends State Council Formation.

Defensive halfback, Doug Hart, from the Packers assisted in getting the State Council off to a good start. Good luck to Doug and his teammates for the '70 season (football that is).



## Chapter News



Jerry Strom

### CWTU AND ELLIOT DONNELLEY ON LAWRENCE CREEK

The Central Wisconsin Chapter got some help from Illinois' Elliot Donnelley Chapter to place recycled Christmas trees along Lawrence Creek to narrow the channel on May 16. A Noon lunch was served, and many participants enjoyed an afternoon of fishing. Pictured are (l to r) Bill Wobbekind, EDTU; Alistair Stewart, CWTU; Art Kempf, Spring Creek Chapter TU, State College, PA; Dan Postelnick, EDTU; and with back to camera, Larry Erenberg, CWTU.

### Aldo Leopold Chapter

Our May 13th fund-raising picnic and raffle was a great success, even if the weather had its mind set on soaking **Dave Barron** during his casting demonstration. Thank you to Dave for helping us out, and next year I promise drier weather.

Thank you also to all the Board members who made the picnic happen, with a special notice to **Eric Lorenzen** for his excellent smoked pulled pork. Yum! The list of people who donated to our raffle is long, and I will miss someone I am sure, but we want to thank **Tom Gawle, Clint Byrnes, Ron Benish, Eric Lorenzen, Steve Hill, John Doucette, Russ Bouck, Todd Franklin, Bill Pielsticker, L.L. Bean,** and the **Korbel Company**. Because of their generosity, we raised over \$1,000. Thank you!

Also during May, board member **Michael Stupich** oversaw a fund-raising appeal letter that raised over \$500. To all those who donated, thank you as well. The money raised through the letter and the raffle will help us as we move ahead on our next stream project.

That stream project, on **Bear Creek** in Sauk County, is moving along nicely. The DNR easement is now in place. **Eric Lorenzen** has done a great job enlisting the assistance of the **Sauk County Land**

**Conservation Department**, along with the DNR, in planning this project. A survey of the stream will soon be made, so that over the summer plans can be drawn up. After the plans are in hand we will begin the funding process.

Even while this first project is being planned, two additional land owners have expressed interest in habitat restoration, so the future looks good for Bear Creek.

On April 18th, 19 chapter members and supporters hit the trees and brush along upper **Rowan Creek** with a Stihl vengeance. Piles of timber and brush were the result. After a vigorous morning of work, we retired for a lunch of sub sandwiches and **Michael Stupich's** home made chili. Thanks to everyone who helped, and mark September 19th for our return to Rowan — while we cleared a lot, trees and brush remain.

**Eric Lorenzen** and **Tom and Sally Gawle** attended water monitor training in Lodi May 9th. Along with the **Friends of Scenic Lodi Valley**, who organized the training, they will be monitoring **Lodi Spring Creek** on a monthly basis, helping build a database for the creek that will help us identify areas of concern.

—Mike Barniskis

### Antigo Chapter

Boy, like everyone else, it would be nice to see the weather a little more like summer! The cooler weather is OK for our trout.

Back to business, our annual fund-raising banquet was held on March 28 at the **Knights of Columbus** hall with 240 people attending. A great time was had by all, and we raised some money for the trout.

This report finds our chapter getting ready for our annual **Kid's Fishing Day** to be held on Saturday, June 13. We are looking forward to about 400 kids showing up. The event will include a trout tank filled

with fish for all to catch, a casting contest run by the local **DNR** person, and food and prizes for all (including a boy's and girl's bike). The largest fish caught will be mounted free by **Curran's Taxidermy**.

This past week we had a Chapter meeting and had our local fisheries people **Dave** and **Tanya** present. We had a great discussion on projects that could be done in our area, including brushing on the **Evergreen** and **Embarrass** rivers.

Tanya will let us know of a work-day where our members can help.

We also discussed the possibility of Antigo TU getting land easements on the **E. Br. of the Eau Claire River** where we placed half logs 25 years ago. This stretch of the river would be a good place to do an in-stream habitat improvement project.

This spring the Antigo TU Chapter has helped fund our share of the NE region project of hiring two **DNR technicians** to perform work in the eastern half of our region. We

also voted to give the Antigo DNR office \$4,000 for equipment to be purchased for work projects and for local beaver control. We have also donated \$1,000 to the **Forest Service** for beaver control in our national forest in NE Wisconsin.

We again provided a scholarship to the **College of Natural Resources** at **UW-Stevens Point** for junior **Angela Grosskreutz**.  
—Scott Henricks

### Blackhawk Chapter

Blackhawk TU has a new web site that has just been developed by **Jim Erickson** of our chapter. Check it out at [www.BlackhawkTU.org](http://www.BlackhawkTU.org).

On April 4, 18 members built 51 lunkers on **Hefty Creek** in **Green County**.

We had another very successful annual banquet again this year, rais-

ing nearly \$13,000. The banquet was held at the **Pontiac Convention Center** in Janesville.

Several of our members worked with a group of **Shabazz High School** students on clean-up work on the **Kappler** property on **Reads Creek** near Viroqua.  
—Terry Vaughn

### Central Wisconsin Chapter

All nominated officers were unanimously approved at the March 16 board meeting:

President — **John Tucker**,

V. Pres. — **Linn Beck**,

Treasurer — **Scott Grady**, and

Secretary — **Mike Schaefers**.

The annual CWTU casting clinic was held Tuesday, April 29 at **Marble Park** in Winneconne with an excellent turnout of mentors and novice casters. Special thanks to **Russ** and **Sue Bouck** for organizing the event, and to **Tracy Moran** for his chefsmanship, fish painting, and fish targets, and also **John Gremmer** and **John Nebel** for fish targets. **Scott Grady** orchestrated a unique fly casting game using magnets and metal fish. Novice casters made tremendous progress in casting skills with just one evening of one-on-one instruction.

The **33rd Annual Fly Fishing School** was a great success and a fun time for both students and staff. It was held May 29-31 at **Camp LuWi-SoMo** located on **Round Lake** near **Wild Rose**. We had a full complement of students signed up at one time, but due to illnesses, schedule conflicts, and maybe the economy, we ended up with just 17 participants. Most of our students came from Wisconsin, but some came from as far away as **Iowa** and **Kansas**. Six prospective students are on the waiting list for 2010, with several more quite interested.

Students were eager to tackle any subject and every phase that required dexterity, timing, or finesse. With the amount of information that was presented, it was rewarding to see how much fun everyone was having, applying and learning these new skills.

The purpose of the school is not only to introduce people to trout fishing with a fly rod, but also to partially fund graduate university students in the environmental sciences. That in itself would be rewarding enough.

We are looking forward to another great school next year, and with the support of our chapter and staff, how can we lose? (Submitted by Dan Harmon III, School Director.)

**John Gremmer** and four members and friends helped out at the **Heckrodt Wetland Reserve's Annual Kids Fishing Day** held at **Jefferson Park** in **Menasha**. It was a cold and rainy day, but all had fun and were busy all morning teaching kids how

to fish and tie flies. One kid caught a 30-pound carp! Bet he was excited.

The **Lawrence Creek** workday was May 16. Members of the **Elliot Donnelley Chapter** from **Illinois** worked very hard with our chapter members cutting brush and placing recycled Christmas trees and brush along Lawrence Creek in **Marquette County** to control the channel. A Noon lunch was served, and many participants enjoyed an afternoon of fishing. **Tom Poulette, Dan Harmon III,** and **Dick Kraus** were among our members who guided EDTU members that afternoon. Many thanks to our Illinois friends for all their hard work at this special annual stream day, and thanks to our **Jim Humphrey** for planning and organizing the project.

Our next stream day will be June 20 at **Cedar Springs Creek** in **Waushara County** near **Red Granite**.

CWTU has donated \$500 to the **Oshkosh Public Library** for the purchase of books related to trout, trout fishing, fly fishing, coldwater ecology, fly tying, and related subjects. These books will be available throughout the **WinneFox Library System**. **John Gremmer** and CWTU received a very nice letter of thanks from the Oshkosh Public Library director thanking us for the donation and stating that each book will have printed on the book plate our chapter name and web site address. Also, through the continued efforts of John Gremmer, we now have a list of 22 area libraries that have requested subscriptions to **Trout** magazine. Arrangements are being made to provide those subscriptions.

Several of our members have been visiting area CAFOs. Our next visit will be to the **Central Sands Dairy** near **Nekoosa** on June 18. This came about through an invitation to the CWTU board by the managing partner of this 3,800-cow operation, **Dr. Gordie Jones**. I believe we will have 8-10 members making the visit.

On April 25, CWTU held our annual **Water Action Volunteers** workshop. There were 18 volunteers in attendance, many of whom were first-time water monitors. This was primarily for level 1 training, but level 2 and level 3 were also introduced. A big thank you goes to **Bob Haase, Dick Pollack,** and **Lynn Drucke** for their part in covering the level 2 and 3 introductions, and also

# Chapter News



to John Gremmer for covering the invertebrates section. **Tracy Moran, Chris Northway, and John Gremmer** took care of the hands-on portion of training and were able to get it all done before the thunderstorm hit. Thanks again for that effort.

## Coulee Region Chapter

Coulee Region Chapter members **Jim Kobs, Rice Spann, Lou Olivitt, and Rick Kyte** taught elementary and middle school kids how to tie flies, cast a fly rod, and identify insects in streams at the annual **Environmental Education Days** May 8th and 20th at the **Norskedalen Nature and Heritage Center** near Coon Valley.

## Fox Valley Chapter

Fox Valley TU has started the spring/summer activities, and we have had the support and assistance of several other groups on our habitat projects.

Our April general membership meeting was a very informative narrative and slide presentation by **Edward Engle** dealing with stream restoration and improvement. He also shared some very interesting stories about land acquisition and protecting some of our favorite streams from big business.

The April meeting was also election night, and the following individuals were re-elected as officers:

President — **Mark Peerenboom**,  
V. President — **Jim Oates**,  
Secretary — **Rich Erickson**, and  
Treasurer — **Gene Van Asten**.

Two new board members were also elected — **John Hammond** and **Greg Haasl**. John helped form the Fox Valley TU chapter almost 40 years ago.

April 18 was our first habitat day of this year, and we had a beautiful 70-degree day. A dozen **Boy Scouts** helped us reinforce and rebuild bank structures on **Davis Creek**. **Edward Engle** was again the leader of the crew. After lunch he also took time to point out and name some of the early spring flowers that were in bloom.

April 25th was a cool and rather damp day, but the chapter's **31st Annual Fishing Day for People with Disabilities** at the **Main Creek Farm** was still a successful day. The weather kept some of the fisher people in the lodge, but the fish were very cooperative for those who did spend time on the dock. A special thank-you goes to the **Killoren** family for allowing FVTU to use their pond and lodge. **Del Schwaller** organized the event again for the 31st year, and he had some great assistance from **Tom Beyer, Barb Bernel**, and other chapter members.

Our May 16th habitat day was the start of our summer restoration work on the **South Branch of the Little Wolf River**. We will be working on this project for several years, and we will be looking to have other TU chapters help us complete the project. On that particular Saturday, we had members of the **SEWTU** Chapter and the **Wisconsin River Valley** Chapter working with us to form a crew of 26. Thanks to those chapters, and please consider joining us on June 20th, July 18th, or August 8th. Check our web site for additional information.

We had a special chapter meeting on May 21st. **Dr. Brigid O'Don-**

We ended up with 10 new water monitoring volunteers and added a couple to existing teams that were short handed. It was a very wonderful and productive day. Thanks to all who were involved, staff and attendees. (Submitted by Linn Beck.)  
—*John Tucker*

At the May chapter meeting, **Eric Rauch, Bob Hubbard, and Rick Kyte** were re-elected to serve another term as officers, **Mary Olivitt** was elected as secretary, and **Nels Nelson, Lou Olivitt, Steve Freuchte, and Cy Post** were elected to serve one-year at-large board member terms.  
—*Rick Kyte*

**nell**, who is doing post doctoral work at **Lawrence University**, gave an excellent presentation on "Mayflies of Wisconsin."

Ten chapter members took a road trip to **Fort McCoy** from May 18-20 to fish and to take part in some stream work on **Sparta Creek**. **John Noble**, fishery biologist at Fort McCoy, kept the group busy with brush cutting, bundling, and placement of the bundles in the stream.

We have been busy, but as the chapter president states, our chapter efforts at the local level are to continue to protect our natural resources and preserve our important green spaces and the life in it.

Our past prez, **Tony Tremel**, would conclude his remarks with, "Until then, we'll see you on a trout stream." It is that time of year to get out and enjoy the great streams, rivers, and ponds that we have here in Wisconsin.  
—*Rich Erickson*

## Green Bay Chapter

The Green Bay Chapter is embarking on what is expected to be a busy and productive summer season working on trout habitat in Northeast Wisconsin. Led by stream improvement chair **Lee Meyers**, and assisted by **Pat Hill** and **Jack Koivisto**, we began the summer by performing needed maintenance on our **Educational Trout Stream** at the **Brown County Reforestation Camp**. About 20 years ago, the chapter used **Hallers Creek** as a setting for these displays which show various aspects of a trout stream and threats to them. One of the displays is a working farm showing how polluted runoff which can harm a stream can be controlled. Other displays are a working cattle crossing and a pasture pump, a beaver dam, an overhead bank cover, and more.

The chapter also participated in **Earth Week** activities by helping

kids fish at the ponds at the **Izaak Walton League** facility in **Green Bay** and giving fly casting instructions. Future plans include at least three workdays with the **LTEs** hired by the DNR to work on area streams. This will include rock placement and brushing, along with in-stream habitat improvement.

These **LTEs** are being funded with money received from the chapters in the **Northeast Region** and **trout stamp** monies.

Additionally, the chapter will spend one day working with **Tom Moris** and the **US Forest Service** on a stream in the **Nicolet Forest**.

Finally, the chapter will stage its annual **Kids Fishing Day** on July 15, again at the **Izaak Walton League** ponds for an expected 50 kids from the **Brown County Social Service's PALS** program.

*Continued on p. 12*



## BIG GATHERING ON THE LITTLE WOLF

TU members from several chapters (above) installed brush bundles and deflectors on the site of FVTU's multi-year project on the S. Br. of the Little Wolf River. Taking a lunch break from the work were exchange students in the Natural Resources program at Fox Valley Technical College, including (top, l to r) **Mario Hernandez, Ana Cristina Hernandez, and David Canizalez**. Joining the students was **Del Schwaller** on the far right of the plank.



# Chapter News



Gary Stoychoff photos

## GREEN BAY TU HARD AT WORK

Lee Meyers (top) plants some of the DNR's trout in Hallers Creek for the opening day of kid's fishing in the ponds at the Brown County Reforestation Camp. Meanwhile, hauling rocks by wheelbarrow and skiff was the order of the day on a recent workday on Beaver Creek in Marinette County to repair bank covers that were originally installed 20-25 years ago.

*Continued from p. 11*

This event is co-sponsored by the **Green Bay Exchange Club.**

Good luck fishing this summer!  
—Gary Stoychoff

## Harry & Laura Nohr Chapter

We have three stream projects planned for completion in 2009:

- a 3,800' section on **Bronson Cr.**,
- a 3,300' section on **Blue R.**, and
- a 5,400' section on **Big Spring.**

These three projects will use techniques similar to those in last year's projects. We will be scheduling workdays in the future to build some lunkers as well as spraying,

prepping, and broadcast seeding and mulching some additional riparian areas. We may also conduct a burn of the prairie area on upper **Big Spring.**

Big Spring is getting a lot of media attention. It was featured in a segment on the **Outdoor Wisconsin** TV program there with **Joe Schmelz.** Then the TU show **On The Rise** did a segment that should have been aired in June (again with Joe's participation). In August, we should have a visit by **Rep. Ron Kind.** The **USFWS** wants to set up a site visit for Rep. Kind to talk about the **National Fish Habitat Action Plan** legislation he is sponsoring and plans to re-introduce in Congress.

A program from the past is our **Fish-Alongs.** We are going to start out by trying a new approach. If you are new to trout fishing and would like to go out with a guide/mentor, we will line you up with a fishing buddy for a trip or two out this summer. We will cap it off with a cook-out potluck gathering.

This is for any type of fishing, so if you want to learn about bait fishing, spin fishing, or fly fishing, we will find a guide/mentor for you. Likewise if you would like to be a guide/mentor, contact **Claude Kazanski** at [ckazanski@charter.net](mailto:ckazanski@charter.net) or (608) 257-3101

—Brian Larson

## Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter

Kiap-TU-Wish volunteers have been working on a stream restoration project with the **DNR** on **Parker Creek** in **St. Croix County.** Parker is a tributary of the **Kinnickinnic River** north of **River Falls.** Parker Creek flows into the upper reaches of the Kinni.

The project began this winter with brushing and is now in the structure building, placement, seeding, and mulching phase and consists of approximately one mile of stream. The project should be complete by the end of June.

In July the chapter will move back to **Pine Creek** near **Maiden Rock** in **Pierce County.** This will be the third year of this project. The Pine Creek project was selected by

the **National Fish Habitat Action Plan** as one of the 10 "Waters to Watch" for 2009. Thanks to all the partners who have helped put this project in the national spotlight: **The West Wisconsin Land Trust, National Fish Habitat Action Plan, DNR, Embrace-A-Stream, Kiap-TU-Wish, Twin Cities TU, WI Clear Waters Chapter, Friends of Wisconsin Trout, Fairmount Minerals, TU-DARE, and many neighbors of the Maiden Rock area.**

This beautiful brook trout stream has responded superbly to all the work and is teeming with brookies and insect life. For more information on 10 "Waters to Watch," go to [www.fishhabitat.org](http://www.fishhabitat.org).

—Greg Diel

## Lakeshore Chapter

On March 28, the Lakeshore Chapter held its 26th annual conservation banquet at the **Club Bil-Mar** in **Manitowoc.** The banquet was attended by 169 people and raised \$5,500. The profits from the banquet are used for stream project work and for donations to deserving conservation projects and groups. Our thanks go to banquet co-chairmen **Jeff Preiss** and **Jeff Yax**, as well as banquet MC **Ron McCormick** and all other chapter members who helped out at the banquet and who donated prizes.

Board of directors member **Jerry Baumann** announced that the chapter has met its goal of raising \$25,000 which will be matched by the **Charlotte and Walter Kohler Charitable Trust.** This money has been placed in the **Onion River Keepers Trust.** This trust was set up to ensure that money will be available to maintain the Onion River in future years.

The four Saturdays in April we held workdays on the B. During these workdays, we did basic maintenance which consisted of removing fallen trees from the river as well as removing several other areas where the stream had become blocked and was hampering stream flow. Rock was also used to back-fill areas where the backs of lunker structures had washed out during the high waters of the past two

years. I am happy to report that the river is now back in very good shape.

Since Sheboygan County (where the Onion River is located) lost its fish manager last summer, and the **DNR** will probably not replace him in the next few years, our chapter was wondering who we would work through to continue our work on the Onion River. Project chair **Larry Doebert** arranged for **Sue Beyler**, the **DNR** Southeastern Regional Fish Manager, to come up and walk a stretch of the river with him and several other chapter members. This meeting resulted in us getting permits and a **DNR** work crew to help with the work on about 1,500 feet of the river.

As a direct result, we held a workday on June 6, and with the help of 15 members, we constructed 20 lunker structures. These will be placed in the river during our work week beginning on June 15.

Our May meeting always features the election of officers and board members. The results of this year's elections are:

President — **Wayne Trupke**,  
V. President — **Ron McCormick**,  
Secretary — **Jeff Yax**, and  
Treasurer — **Jeff Preiss.**

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

—Wayne Trupke

## Northwoods Chapter

The Northwoods Chapter has taken a long summer vacation. Well, not really.

We finished up our activities this spring with our banquet on April 4th in Rhinelander. Given the tough economic times, our faithful sup-

porters showed up and, through their generosity, we are able to fund our summer projects.

Those projects include support of the **Forest Service** and **NE Region** to TU's work crews and beaver control activities.

## Chapter News



Our chapter will be funding fuel for the dredge for the **Trout Springs Project** in Vilas County for the next two summers.

The chapter will also hold our **Youth Conclave** on Saturday, July 25th at the CAVOC in Rhinelander. The conclave is a fly fishing session to introduce youth to the nuances of fly fishing. We have FFF-certified casters, entomologists (well, maybe just bug crazy TUers), knot tyers,

and fly tyers show the kids what it's all about.

And finally, we have a workday scheduled for August 15th on the **Deerskin River** at the old hatchery site near **Eagle River**. We will continue to brush the stream and construct brush bundles in the area we have worked the past two summers.

For additional information on any of these activities, contact **Brian Hegge** at (715) 482-2898.

—*Brian Hegge*

### Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter

The Southeast Wisconsin Chapter is happy to report that it has continued and maintained its busy schedule over the past quarter. Since our last report, we've had an excellent slate of meeting speakers. As always, our meetings are held at the **Thunder Bay Grille**, located just off of the intersection of I-94 and Pewaukee Road in **Waukesha**. As always, dinner starts at 6:00ish, with our meeting and speaker at about 7:30. Our meetings run from September through May. We take off June through July and "meet on the water."

March's all-chapter meeting featured the **Milwaukee Journal Sentinel's Paul Smith**, the paper's lead outdoor writer. Paul gave a tremendous presentation on Fly Fishing in **New Zealand**, where he had recently traveled. New Zealand is home to some monster trout and relatively untouched waters, as well as some exceptionally gorgeous scenery. Anyone who has met Paul or who has read his writing knows he's an avid fisherman, and he can definitely spin a fine tale. His talk followed in like fashion.

March also marked SEWTU's annual raffle drawing, associated with our yearly booth at the **Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Sports Show**. Led by ex-president and current sports show coordinator **Chuck Beeler**, SEWTU maintains a booth that has become a fixture at the show. The booth is used to spread TU's message of coldwater conservation, provide fly tying exhibitions, sell raffle tickets, and sometimes serve as a forum for SEWTU to gain support for our unique issues (last year, for example, it was involvement **TUDARE**, and this year it is our support of the **Estabrook Dam** removal).

The booth features a raffle, with the grand prize being a handmade cedar strip canoe donated by SEWTU board member **Stan Strelka** of **Professional Insurance Services** in Elm Grove. Other prizes are provided by **Gander Mountain**, **Sportsmen's Warehouse**, and **Cabela's Richfield** location. As always, SEWTU owes a debt of gratitude to Chuck, as well as **President Dan Asmus**, who regularly transports the canoe and other prizes to and from the Sports Show and other raffle ticket sale locations, as well as all of our volunteers who helped to make the booth a smashing success for yet another year.

April's meeting featured **Mat Wagner** of the **Driftless Angler Fly Shop** in **Viroqua**. A longtime friend of SEWTU, Mat spoke on fishing in muddy water conditions. As most of us have encountered this scenario during one trip or another, this talk was especially helpful. We learned that just because it has rained, that doesn't mean that a trip has to be over.

May's all-chapter meeting featured **John Dettmers**, the **Senior Fisheries Biologist** for the **Great Lakes Fishery Commission**. John spoke about various issues which are confronting the Great Lakes and what is being done to promote healthy waters. John was also good enough to field a variety of questions on a variety of topics, from lamprey to perch, and on issues from bilge water to water use. A great and educational time was had by all.

On the workday front, SEWTU has been as busy as ever. On April 18, we manned our yearly station at the **Estabrook Park and Ride** for the **Milwaukee Riverkeeper's Milwaukee River Cleanup Event**. Led by political liaison **John Knitter**, SEWTU once again help removed hundreds of pounds of trash from the **Milwaukee River**. This year's prize find was a fully intact toilet, with second place going to a slightly used SFP banner. As you might imagine, the toilet generated quite a few photo opportunities, with the prize photo going to John Knitter, in a photo captioned "The Stinker."

On Saturday, May 16, SEWTU joined forces for the second time with the **Fox River Valley Chapter** on their ongoing project on the **Little Wolf River** north of **Iola**. Members were also present from the **Gary Borger Chapter (IL)**, the **Shaw-Paca Chapter**, and the **Wisconsin River Valley Chapter**. Volunteers performed a great deal of work removing encroaching vegetation, and bundling it into brush bundles for in-stream use. Volunteers also jetted piers, which were used to anchor deflector logs and hold used Christmas trees, in order to narrow the stream channel, increase velocity, and flush out accumulated choking sediment. At the conclusion of the workday, all volunteers were treated to a veritable feast by Fox Valley TU mainstay **Jim Hlaban**. SEWTU thanks the **Fox Valley Chapter** for allowing us to lend some labor to their ongoing project.

On Saturday, June 6, SEWTU had an incredible workday at the headwaters of **Elk Creek** outside of **Viola**, along with the **Ococh Creeks** and **Gary Borger (IL)** chapters. Crews reset a previously installed cross-channel log which had been literally removed from the stream by past flood events, rebuilt two rock vortex weirs which had also been displaced by past flooding events, cut willows from the stream channel, cut and burned multiple slash piles which had been created during the headwater restoration project's initial undertaking, and mowed acres of willow growth.

This workday simply would not have been possible without the incredible assistance of **Amy Staffen** of the **Prairie Enthusiasts** and the **WDNR**, and **Ken Anderson** of the



Jeff Preiss

#### ONION RIVER LUNKER BUILDING

Lakeshore TU members held a lunker building session along the Onion River this spring. With the recent retirement of fish manager Larry Nelson, the chapter is working with Southeastern Regional Fish Manager Sue Beyler to plan future work on the river.

**Richland County Land Conservation Department**. Both provided a huge amount of assistance and labor at the workday.

SEWTU's upcoming workday schedule is busy as always. On Saturday, June 27, we'll aid the **Gary Borger Chapter** in the Southern District of the **Kettle Moraine**, installing mini-lunker structures that we built with them last summer in the **Scuppernong Creek**, where it flows away from **Paradise Springs**. As most SEWTU members know, we've done a whole lot of work in the Southern District over the past several years, and now that Gary Borger is working in this region as well, more work than ever is getting accomplished.

In July and August, we have tentative workdays with other chapters and an **Eagle Scout** project which are being considered. Details are not yet set in stone. Please stayed

tuned to the "Calendar of Events" at [www.sewtu.org](http://www.sewtu.org) for details as they become available.

On Saturday, September 19, from 9:00-Noon, we'll join forces with the **Blackhawk** and **Gary Borger** chapters to complete our work at **Van Slyke Creek**. As many know, Van Slyke Creek is a coldwater stream located in **Fontana, WI**. It runs in to **Geneva Lake**. This stream is within SEWTU's chapter area, and it is one of our rare coldwater gems.

Last summer, we aided the **Village of Fontana** and **Blackhawk** members and project leaders **Wes Milner** and **Jill Wegner** in restoring a huge stretch of river. This included removing impoundment, obstructions, downed timber, and encroaching vegetation. We also replaced a culvert that had been an absolute barrier to fish passage.

*Continued on p. 14*



Gary Richardson

#### KIAP-TU-WISH RUSH RIVER CLEANUP

The Rush River got a spruce-up again this spring by members of the Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter and other local friends of the river.



## Chapter News

Continued from p. 13

This year, we'll complete our work, and work downstream through the **Abbey Resort**, which has generously agreed to partner with us on this project.

In October, SEWTU will work at **Genesee Creek**, which has been the site of long-running work by our chapter. Under the leadership of **Carroll College Professor Jason Freund**, a crew of college student volunteers will help us perform more in-stream and riparian work.

As always, we'll take off November, and will have information about our December workday on line when available.

On the education front, SEWTU has remained incredibly busy. Over the last quarter, SEWTU has manned conservation education booths featuring mission information, fly tying, and casting instructions at local retailers including **Sportsmen's Warehouse**, **Cabela's**, and **Gander Mountain**. These events have been under the supervision of past president **Chuck Beeler** and have relied heavily on the volunteer efforts of **Al Dalfonso**, **Joe Valcoun**, **Herb Oechler**, and **John Knitter**, who also continue to teach fly tying classes as the **Milwaukee Veterans Administration**.

With respect to the ongoing **Project Healing Waters** program, SEWTU board member **Mike Kuhr** has completed the program's establishment with the **Milwaukee Veterans Administration**. The project launch meeting, held at the VA, had nearly 100 people present, and was a huge success. Moreover, from the stories this author has been told, there was nary a dry eye in the room when the sacrifice our soldiers have made for us was discussed. In short, SEWTU's contribution couldn't seem more insignificant in the face of such sacrifice, but it likewise couldn't be made to a better group.

In addition to the above, SEWTU members have volunteered to act as stream stewards as part of the 2009 **Casting for Recovery** program, which provides on-stream fly fishing instructions for breast cancer survivors. Our helpers were selected from a pool of volunteers to lend

support at a camp in northwest Wisconsin this July.

On June 13, **Dan Asmus** will man a booth at the **Lakeshore State Park**, located near the **Summerfest Grounds** in Milwaukee, as part of its **Gathering Waters** summer kick-off festival. The event will feature health and wellness displays, as well as other events sponsored by local Milwaukee-area retailers and organizations. SEWTU will man a booth to provide education about our coldwater conservation mission, as well as provide fly tying demonstrations.

On June 20, we will man a booth at **Cabela's Kids Fishing Day**, at Cabela's Richfield location at the junction of highways 41 and 45 to discuss TU's mission of coldwater conservation, our activities, and provide children with fly tying and casting demonstrations. Cabela's has been a very strong partner of SEWTU, and this is a great opportunity to get our message out, educate children, and give back to a consistent chapter contributor.

On August 22, SEWTU will sponsor a **FISTA** chainsaw certification program, which will be held at **Carroll College**. Set up by **Dan Asmus**, this program will allow members to learn how to safely use their chainsaws. SEWTU members will have a portion of their admission fee paid, but will be responsible for bringing their own safety equipment. Enrollment is limited, so in the event you are an SEWTU member and interested in attending, please contact **Henry Koltz** as soon as possible.

The **River Alliance of Wisconsin** and the **Milwaukee Riverkeepers** will host a free "Project RED" training on August 15 at the **Wauwatosa Library** from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. As most know, invasive species threaten the health of our rivers. Project RED (which stands for "Riverine Early Detectors") is a citizen monitoring project that trains paddlers, fishermen, and amateur naturalists to detect invasives within river corridors. Early detection of these species increases the success of confining or eradicating them be-

fore they spread downstream, saving our rivers and our money.

On the membership front, SEWTU had an exceptional all-chapter outing in the Driftless Area the weekend of June 4. Over 20 SEWTU members or friends were out and about, fishing, working at **Elk Creek**, and gathering at night to eat, drink, and be merry on the grounds of the **West Fork Sportsman Club**. The weekend concluded with a \$500 donation to the WFSC, and a good time was had by all. Some of us even caught some fish...well, if you can call a chub a fish.

At our May meeting, SEWTU brought back our name tag, meet-and-greet table. We will have formal name tags created in the near future. SEWTU will also be seeking to reach out and contact new members, and to contact those members whose memberships are up for renewal, to discuss what we are, and what we're accomplishing, and why new or lapsing members should stay involved. If you are interested in helping out, contact **Todd Durian**.

On the political front, **John Knitter** has been active in calling for the removal of the **Estabrook Dam** on the **Milwaukee River**. After careful consideration of the four options presented for the dam's future (do nothing, temporary repair, full repair, or removal), and in light of our mission and vision statement, SEWTU has taken a strong position in favor of the dam's removal, allowing the Milwaukee River to flow freely once again. Removal will benefit fish migration and movement in the Milwaukee River, benefiting seasonal salmon and trout runs.

SEWTU will also keep a close eye on a proposal to privatize Milwaukee's water supply. Removing this region's largest water supply

from public control is, for reasons which seem apparent, an issue which SEWTU believes requires close monitoring.

On the fund-raising front, SEWTU's fund-raising committee has been working feverishly to get the location, food, and prizes set for our annual **October Habitat Fund-raiser**. Multiple guided trips, fishing equipment, and other prize donations have already been garnered. If you have a prize that you can donate, it will certainly go to a great cause.

Over the past three years, we've had over 35 workdays, worked literally all across the state, and have completed over 2.5 miles of habitat improvement projects. Please contact **Stan Strelka** if you can help.

Finally, in May SEWTU conducted its biannual elections with these results:

President — **Henry Koltz**,  
V. President — **Todd Durian**,  
Treasurer — **Ivan Nohavica**, and  
Secretary — **Chris Weber**.

SEWTU also voted to undergo a significant transformation by breaking into a committee structure. As such, habitat, education, fund-raising, and membership committees were established. All committees have already met to further increase our chapter's capacity. If you are an SEWTU member interested in becoming a part of a committee, please contact **Henry Koltz** for information. This is a great chance for any and all to get involved. Together we are making a great impact on the resource — getting more work and education accomplished than ever before — and we're honestly having a great time doing it. Step up and be a part of the progress. You'll be glad that you did.

—Henry Koltz

### Southern Wisconsin Chapter

SWTU has had a busy and successful quarter on many fronts.

Our annual "March Madness" fund-raiser was renamed the "**Meicher Madness Auction**" after the late TU stalwart and chapter member **Larry Meicher**. The auction was a tremendous success, with more donated items than could be sold in an evening! Larry's legacy will live on in this renamed annual event.

In the next issue, we'll report the results of another unique event. By the time you read this, the Meicher Garage Sale will have taken place at our June chapter meeting. Dorothy Meicher is sharing half of the proceeds of the sale of Larry's extensive outdoors and fishing equipment collection with the chapter.

A wide variety of fly fishing neophytes young and old, male and female, joined us at **Salmo Pond** on a lovely April day to learn about casting, gear, bugs, and how to read a stream. It was a fun and educational day, and we hope our attendees have gotten out and had some successful time on the water.

We once again assisted Madison's **Malcom Shabazz High School** "Project Green Teen" program. Chapter members provided ongoing instruction throughout the school year, and then helped students with their week of project work and fishing at the **West Fork Sports Club** in **Avalanche**. This year, the chapter also provided funds for additional teachers to make the Avalanche event possible.

Our **Permanent Easement Campaign** has raised nearly \$23,000 thus far through generous contributions from our members, local conservation groups, the **WITU State Council**, and numerous **Illinois TU chapters**. Thanks to all for your assistance in helping to permanently protect and preserve our coldwater resource.

Our stream workdays this spring encountered rain and high water at every turn, but our work from last year has proven to be very effective in defining **Black Earth Creek** and providing habitat. **Mike Grimes**, project chair, has several workdays planned for the fall. Details can be found on our chapter calendar.

Our work also continues on **Gordon Creek**, which has been a very popular fishing stream this spring. See the separate article in this issue for information on our innovative maintenance, monitoring, and educational programs.

Chapter elections were held in April. **Bob Selk** has stepped down from our board after many years of tremendous service and thoughtful input. We will miss Bob, but look forward to the contributions of our two new board members, **Mike Schmidt** and **Craig Amacker**. **Jeff Smith** was elected chapter delegate to the State Council, taking over for **Greg Vodak**, who has done a marvelous job representing our chapter the past several years.

**Laura MacFarland** has taken on the newly created post of Educational Chair. Her first task will be to



**Mike's Service in Langlade**

**We have what works!**

EVEN MORE IN STOCK — We carry necks and saddles, hooks, and other fly tying supplies! Don't get caught empty-handed! Most flies custom tied to order...must provide pattern.

**We have all the sports licenses**

Stop and ask Mike what's working. Or call ahead for info on where and how to fish the famous Wolf River.

**715-882-8901 • Hwy. 64 & 55, Langlade**

## Chapter News



review and document all of our chapter's various educational events and initiatives. We are excited about this new role and Laura's assistance with improving and expanding our educational offerings.

Also on the topic of education, SWTU President **Dave Sanders** and board member **Frank Kosmach** re-

port that they had tremendous fun holding a casting clinic at the **Women in the Outdoors** annual event in **Watertown**. Stop by [www.swtu.org](http://www.swtu.org) for more news about our chapter and to check out our calendar of events.

—Drew Kasel

### Wild Rivers Chapter

The **2009 Fishing Expo & Auction** turned out to be one of the most successful ever thanks to a big turnout for the **Martin Hanson** wildlife films. **State Senator Bob Jauch** warmed up the crowd of about 100, and many stayed after the showing to enjoy the rod building and fly tying demonstrations, food, and agency information.

Lots of people came forward to help make the event successful, including **Lee Newman**, who edited the films, **Glen Miller**, **Cindy Heart**, and **Katie Casperson** in the kitchen, and **Mark Maffitt**, who helped **Henry Haugley** and **Duke Welter** handle the auctioneering. The auction was aided by the many excellent donations the chapter received. Treasurer **Jim Emerson** reports that we took in \$5,341.50 selling tickets and auction items, and we took in another \$496.50 in the kitchen. After expenses, the chapter netted \$5,329.95 for the event.

Thanks to the generosity of the donors and bidders, the fund-raiser was successful, and the chapter will be able to continue to fund area stream projects. **DNR Fisheries Biologist Scott Toshner** brought the result of one of those projects to the Expo event for distribution. The chapter has helped the DNR in a study of the **White River** brown trout fishery titled "Biological and Social Dynamics of the White River Brown Trout Fishery, 2003-2005." The study (35 pages) is available in a pdf format, and some hard copies are available.

Thanks to **Lloyd Kalfs**, the **Northland College** student in Natural Resources who made an excellent presentation at the April chapter meeting in Ashland. Lloyd's topic was **Fish Creek**, including the natural history of the North Fork, problems associated with the stream, the restoration work that has already been done, and other restoration efforts that could be done to help improve Fish Creek. Other key points from the presentation were slowing the flow of runoff, submerged veins, beaver control, and how flooding affects fish habitat on the stream. As a result of Lloyd's project, a discussion of Fish Creek and the **Iron River** will be added to the May meeting agenda.

The Wild Rivers Chapter has a history of working closely with state and federal agencies like the **DNR** and **FWS** on coldwater projects. The chapter has also benefited from a partnership with the area land conservancies to accomplish land conservation projects.

**Jane Anklam**, land protection coordinator for the **West Wisconsin**

**Land Trust**, gave the chapter an update recently. They are working on a project on the **Vietmier** property on the **Bark River** where the chapter has a donation pending. Also, a proposal to the FWS would initiate a project for land protection agreements on the **Bark, White, Maren-go, Cranberry, Brule, and Nemadji** rivers. With funding, they will work with TU and others to focus on areas for protection.

The chapter highway clean-up day at Delta Cty. H went well, thanks to **Roger Gilbertson**, who cleaned the section near his Delta residence. At the **Bayfield Regional Conservancy**, Executive Director **Ellen Kwiatkowski** has been working on the acquisition of the **Walker** property (**Hanson's Farm**) on the **White River**. This parcel is highly prized by the chapter, and due to the efforts of **Bill Heart** and Ellen, the BRC offer to purchase has been accepted. Bill has proposed that the chapter donate \$5,000 to BRC for the land purchase, and that the BRC return half to the chapter after the land is sold to DNR. The chapter board is in favor of the donation. The chapter will be working with BRC on a fund-raising plan for the Walker property on the White River.

The chapter had volunteers at **Kids Fishing Day** events at three locations:

- **Dick Berge, Dale Bast, and Don Sutliff** at **Brule**,
- **Dr. Bob Stanley, Bill Heart, Jim Emerson, and Roger Gustafson** at the **Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center**, and
- **Rolland Kiel, Rob Kemkes, and Chuck Campbell** at **Bayfield**.

More volunteers will be needed later in the summer for the Beginner Fly Fishing class to be held at the **NGLVC**. This will be a new event for the chapter, but one that we have been asked to provide. **L.L. Bean** has furnished five fly fishing outfits for the activity.

Wild Rivers chapter members will participate in "A Celebration of **Martin Hanson's Life**" at the **NGLVC** on June 27. Video recordings produced by Martin Hanson will be shown in the center's theater. Martin's friends and family will host an evening event celebrating stories of Martin's life.

The annual Whack a Northern event on August 8 is coming up fast. This canoe adventure has drawn TU members from across the state in recent years. The day-long trip ends with a picnic and meeting in **Mason**. Contact me for more information.

—Chuck Campbell

### Wisconsin Clear Waters

The chapter will be supporting three ongoing stream restoration projects in 2009 — **Gilbert Creek** in **Dunn County** (our 7th year working there) and **Elk Creek** (2nd year) and **Trout Creek** (2nd year) in **Chippewa County**.

Our chapter banquet was held April 22. Seventy-seven people showed up to celebrate our accomplishments, and the **Holiday Inn Campus** provided a great setting for our annual fund-raiser. Silent and live auctions (by **Jim Severson**),



### FIRE IN THE HOLE!

As part of the Wolf River Chapter's Ninemile Creek Restoration Initiative, 12 beaver dams were blown on June 4th along a three-mile stretch near the creek's coldwater springs.

**Abel Reel** and **St. Croix Rod** raffles, fabulous door prizes, and a great meal were enjoyed by all who attended.

The chapter honored several members for their service. **Jack Kins** was named Outstanding Volunteer and **Rob Herman** was our Outstanding Professional. **Neil Kruschke, Tom Looze, Larry Jolivet, Dennis Woodford, and Dennis Vanden Bloomen** were recognized for their service on the chapter board. Next year's banquet will be at the same location on Thursday, April 23, 2010.

Nine students attended the April 6th and 8th **Beginning Fly Fishing Class** at **UW-Eau Claire**. Each student was provided with a one-year TU membership. Instructors were **Duke Welter, James Fulkerson, Steve Josephson, John Higley, and Tim Meyer**.

Fifteen students attended the eight session evening fly fishing program at **UW-Stout**. Stream nights were on **Cady Creek** in Pierce County. Each student was provided with a one-year TU membership. As these students graduate, they return to their home towns and hopefully continue membership in their new local TU chapter. Instructors were **John Higley, Chuck Bomar, Dale Dahlke, Steve Josephson, James Fulkerson, Duke Welter, and Dennis Vanden Bloomen**.

**Fish Fest for Kids** was held May 15 at **Scheel's** in Eau Claire. Basic Zebco 33 casting, knot tying, and fish identification were taught. Some strong winds and cold weather forced the program inside the Oakwood Mall. Scheel's handed out small tackle boxes and tee shirts to the first 100 kids. This was the our chapter's first effort with Scheel's, and we hope to build on the relationship. Volunteers were **Joe Knight, Mike Malone, and Dennis Vanden Bloomen**.

North and Memorial High Schools' **Cognitively Disabled Fishing Day** was held May 21-22 at **Brauns Bay** in **Carson Park, Eau Claire**. Twenty-nine students from **North High School** and 18 students from **Memorial High School** participated in this program. Lots of bass and a few bluegills were caught un-

der ideal weather conditions. The picnic after the fishing was a great way to spend the day. TU members that volunteered were **Mike Malone** and **Dennis Vanden Bloomen**.

**Lakeshore Elementary School Fishing Days** were held May 28-29 on the shores of **Half Moon Lake** in **Eau Claire**. The school took advantage of the efforts of many volunteers to catch some bass and a few bluegills. This annual school event has taken place for more than 15 years. TU volunteers were **Mike Malone, Barb Flom, and Dennis Vanden Bloomen**. They re-tied over 150 hooks and replaced numerous red-and-white strike indicators. In groups of 50 per hour, about 450 kids participated in two days.

Our **10th Annual Free Fishing Day** took place at **Braun's Bay, Eau Claire**, June 6 from 9 a.m.-Noon. Kids 6-13 were supposed to do some bluegill fishing. While they caught some bass and a few bluegills, the rain soon started. The 13 kids and their parents stayed out in the light drizzle for awhile, but eventually rain closed down the event (and it continued raining for next 36 hours). TU chapter volunteers were **Mike Malone, Steve Josephson, Tim Meyer, Joe Knight, and Dennis Vanden Bloomen**.

Our chapter submitted a grant requesting \$3,100 for stream monitoring from the **Wisconsin DNR Citizens Based Monitoring Program**. We should be notified in late June about this funding request.

The chapter also submitted a **Friends of WITU** \$2,000 grant request for 2009 summer work on **Traverse Valley Creek** in Trempealeau County. This grant will continue our support to the trout habitat restoration groups in the southern part of our chapter area, including the **Black River Falls DNR office, Elk Rod and Gun Club, and the Northfield/York Sportsman's Club**.

The chapter is working on a Phase III **North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA)** grant under the larger grant submitted by the **Western Wisconsin Land Trust**. This is a two-year grant for 2010-11.

Continued on p. 18

# SWTU's work on Gordon Creek to continue long after last summer's digging is done

By Drew Kasel

The deep tracks left in the soft earth by massive machinery were dulled by rain and thickening grass before being wiped clear entirely by heavy winter snow and spring rains.

You're standing next to Gordon Creek in Iowa County. The snow is now gone, and the creek is a lively band of blue dodging this way and that through the gentle green landscape.

It all looks very natural now, but it was the site of a complete restoration effort undertaken in 2008 by the

Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited (SWTU). It is the chapter's first major stream project.

Last summer the big machines were here, and it was not nearly as pretty nor as peaceful as it is now.

It's pleasant today, though, and one might presume that the trout like this stretch of water better now, too.

Looking to the future

This is not an article about what was done here. You've no doubt



## GORDON CREEK GETS MAJOR OVERHAUL

Like many trout streams in southwestern Wisconsin, Gordon Creek suffers from deeply eroded banks. The wide easements obtained for this project allowed for the restoration work to include backwater slues and take a much more natural approach to shaping the banks.

read many an article and heard many a speaker cover the construction aspect of stream restoration. This is an article about what will continue to be done here — about what happens after the backhoe and

bulldozer lumber back onto their trailers and wind their way to their next project.

"The project was always envisioned as being 'big tent,'" says Jim Gentry, an SWTU member and one



SWTU President. "Right now, the stream is wonderfully accessible and we're hoping to keep it that way. If the reed canary grass is left unchecked, NBA centers will be the only ones able to wade in there and keep their lines over the top of it."

Reed canary grass is an invasive species that chokes out native grasses with its thick, tall growth. Controlling it is difficult. Getting rid of it entirely is probably out of the question. Ecologists across the country are seeking solutions, and one of the most advanced real-world at-

tempts at control is going to take place alongside this stretch of Gordon Creek. We hope that what's learned in Iowa County can be used to save other threatened sites.

In addition to controlling invasive species, there will be additional seeding and mowing to maintain bank integrity. In the event of a flood, the tapered banks are designed to work *with* nature to allow the roar of water to rise and dissipate as it washes through, so a wide and stable turf is important.

"The nature of nature is change," says Gentry. "And that's a good thing. The natural forces of the area will certainly provide us with some direction going forward. But we're part of nature, too, and have our own role to play to maintain it. We're going to spend money on contractors for maintenance, and our chapter volunteers will put some sweat and muscle into it, too."

Who is the "they" we're talking about? Fish...trout specifically, for certain. And where you have trout, you have people fishing for them. And circling high above is the neighborhood eagle who needs neither a license nor a \$600 graphite rod to catch fish. Nearby you might also see and hear the local sandhill crane.

We also hope snakes and turtles are in the cozy wooden caves we built for them (*see separate story on next page*). And bugs...numerous fishermen can attest to hatches coming off.

Seeing all of that is well and good, but it doesn't scream *scientific*.

of the driving forces behind the project. "And the big tent extends well into the future.

"One of our watchwords from the beginning was 'holistic,'" continues Gentry. "It wasn't just us on the project; we worked with the DNR, NRCS, Land Conservation District staff, local politicians, landowners, engineers, and ecologists. And it wasn't just trout habitat; we also built hibernacula for snakes and turtles and made spaces for waterfowl and other animals."

This big picture approach was aided by the unusual fact that the permanent easements on the stream extend 66 feet out from each stream bank. This is double the normal easement width, allowing the restoration to incorporate gently tapered banks that relate more to the floodplain.

"The wide easement allowed us to do things with the restoration that you don't normally see, like including backwater slues and taking a much more natural approach to shaping the banks," says Mike Schmidt, Chair of the SWTU Gordon Creek Committee. "And they'll also help us do some very unique things with maintenance, monitoring, and education going forward."

Maintenance is more than just mowing

Left to its own devices, the fish and turtles and snakes would do just fine post-restoration. But fishermen are part of the picture, as well, and the reed canary grass could choke out all access.

"Left uncontrolled for a couple years, you'd have more fun casting in a four-man tent than alongside the stream," says Dave Sanders,

*Continued on next page*

[www.fontanasports.com](http://www.fontanasports.com)

ROSS REELS USA  
SIMMS  
Scientific Anglers  
EX-OFFICIO  
LIMPQUA  
SAGE

Southern Wisconsin's best hex selection.

Gear up for your summer trout, smallmouth and destination needs.

Musky on a fly! Hayward, Wisconsin.  
Oct. 14-17, 2009.  
Contact Craig for details.

ORDER OVER THE WEB OR TOLL FREE (800) 257-7666  
LOCAL GUIDE SERVICE AVAILABLE

Visit our web site for our fishing report:  
[www.FontanaSports.com](http://www.FontanaSports.com)

Visit our west side fly fishing department:  
7948 Tree Lane  
Madison, WI  
(608) 833-9191



Continued from p. 16

That is why the chapter is seeking to use a portion of the DNR's River Management Grant funds to purchase equipment to monitor water quality in the floodplain and stream, benthic communities, and trout populations.

With help from Mike Miller, a stream ecologist with the DNR, we will monitor the newly improved water and also get a synoptic overview of the whole Gordon watershed.

What will happen with all the various factors (oxygen, salinity, turbidity, temperature, bug and fish counts, etc.) over the next decade? We don't know! But we will.

**An open-air classroom**

We have a beautiful site near to several large cities (including Madison) with a fair amount of parking and easy access right up to the edge

of a state-of-the-art stream restoration project. Which is another way of saying we have the perfect education opportunity!

We are already working with Shabazz High School in Madison to have their "Project Green Teen" students come to the site for hands-on work and stream ecology studies.



a class trip and say their love of the coldwater resource started there. If we don't seize every chance to inspire the TU members of tomorrow, we are not doing everything we can to make a difference in the stewardship of our natural resources."

Continuing maintenance, monitoring, education, and more — as you can see, the work is just beginning on Gordon Creek for the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

It's worth your time to swing by the site. You'll

find places to park and even more places to drift a lure through. Take a look and check out what's been done, but please also keep checking in to see what we're doing. The work continues!

*(Drew Kasel is the secretary of SWTU and edits the chapter's News-casts newsletter. -Ed.)*

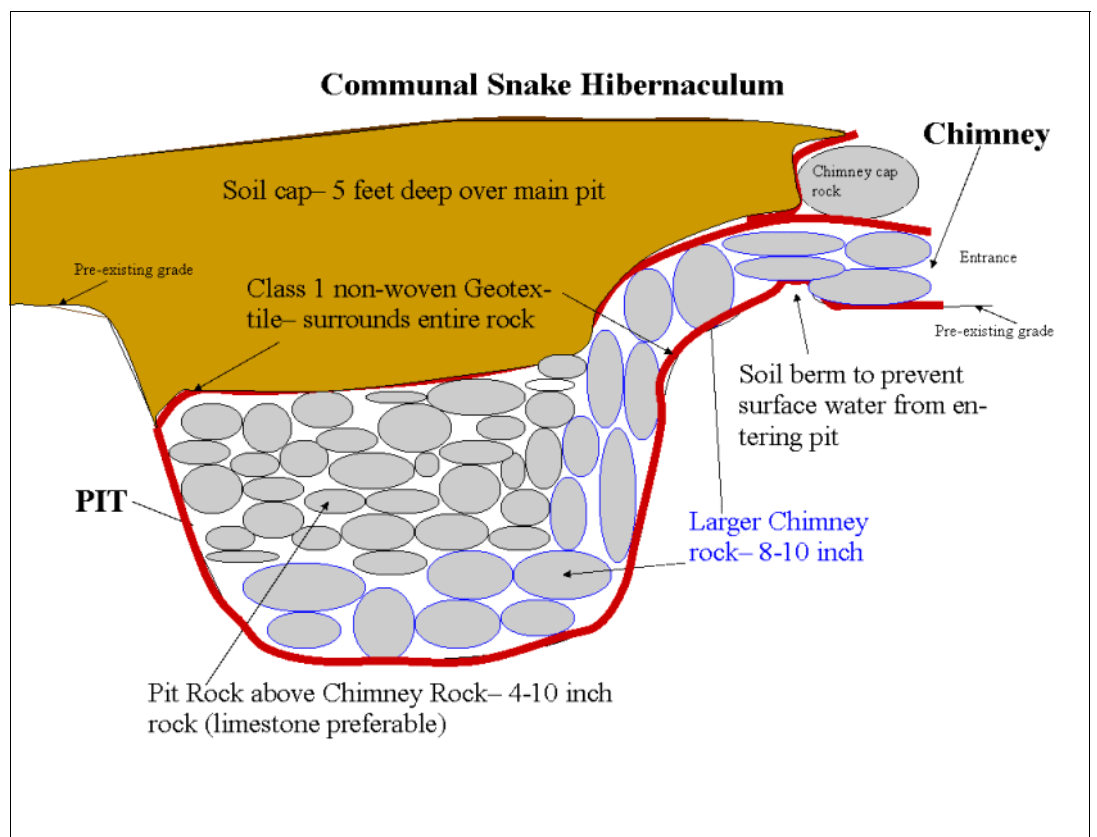


## Gordon Cr. project includes habitat for turtles, snakes

The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture's WHIP program provided the lion's share of the funding for the Gordon Creek project, and they wanted the work to include habitat improvement for more than just trout. They gave SWTU guidance and specifications for installing habitat structures for

turtles and snakes. The snake hibernaculum shown here is a rather complicated below-ground structure.

For more information on building these structures, contact TUDARE Project Manager Jeff Hastings at (608) 606-4158.



**THE SNAKE HIBERNACULUM — MORE TO IT THAN MEETS THE ANGLER'S EYE**

If you see one of these rock formations (above left) along Gordon Creek, you're seeing just the opening, or "chimney," of one of two snake hibernacula (overwintering dens) that are part of the project. The drawing above shows the chimney in relation to the extensive below-ground "pit." The pit (below left) is built above the water level so the inside always stays dry, and it is filled with rocks of a size that snakes find appealing.

## Shaw-Paca and Wisconsin River Valley teach “Fly Fishing 101” class for Rosholt High School students

Anyone who says school isn't fun should ask 22 Rosholt High School students what they thought of their 4th hour class during a four-week stretch in April and May.

Those students participated in a Fly Fishing 101 class made possible through a grant from Marathon County Special Education. The class was taught by Rosholt teachers Randy Berndt and Corey Opper, with members of two Trout Unlimited chapters adding their expertise.



### HANDS-ON INSTRUCTION IN THE CLASSROOM AND ON THE WATER

Shaw-Paca TU member Lee Kersten (left) helps a student tie a fly during a visit to Rosholt High School on April 28. Wisconsin River Valley Chapter President John Meachen (right) shows another student how to put one of those flies to work on the Rosholt Mill Pond on May 7.

“There was a collective groan when I informed the class that the unit was ending,” said Berndt, a Shaw-Paca TU member. “The kids were so engaged. There were days you could have heard a pin drop in the classroom because the students were so intent on what they were doing.”

The idea to teach the class came when Berndt and Opper applied for and received a \$1,500 grant to create a unit that would involve both regular education students and students with special needs.

Opper taught the basics of fly casting, while Berndt taught students to tie a variety of flies. Three Shaw-Paca members joined the class on April 28 to teach the class to tie dry flies, and five members from the Wisconsin River Valley chapter helped mentor students on May 7. That day was dedicated to fishing on the Rosholt Mill Pond.

“I can't say enough about the support we received from the Shaw-Paca and Wisconsin River Valley chapters,” said Berndt. “The members went above and beyond the call of duty to help our students. They helped make memories that will remain with these students for the rest of their lives. At least three students have already purchased fly tying vises and materials and are well on their way to having a life-long skill. One student told me he has sold 50 flies he tied.”

In addition to instilling an appreciation for the environment, students covered topics addressed in WI Department of Public Instruction math, science, language arts, art, and physical education standards. The class ran daily from April 14 to May 7.



Randy Berndt photos



## Chapter News

*Continued from p. 15*

The final grant request for the chapter will be \$46,000 for **Gilbert Creek** and \$72,000 for the **DNR Trout Crew**. We should be notified in late summer of this award.

Did you know that if you send a check to the **Orvis Company**, they will match your dollar and it will be matched again by a **Federal Nation-**

**al Fish (NAFHAP) Grant**. You should specify the money to go to “TU 50th Projects, Project AR-4 (Driftless Area)” and send it to 178 Conservation Way, Suderland, VT. 05250. Each dollar you contribute gets \$2 for streams in the **Driftless Area**. Contact me for more details about this program.

—Tim Meyer

### Wisconsin River Valley Chapter

The last few months have been fairly busy for the chapter. Our annual banquet was held on April 11 at **Memories Ballroom** in **Marathon City**. Even with the current economic times, we were pleased with the turnout for the banquet and the money raised for our coldwater resources.

The highlight of the event was the live auction by our President, **John “Auctioneer-Extraordinaire” Meachen**. Some of the items included a guided float for two donated by **Pat Pierce Guiding Services**, a handcrafted fly tying bench created

by **John Meachen**, a mega-fly collection of over 100 flies covering every facet of fish here in Wisconsin, from bluegills to steelhead, and a half hog, completely butchered and wrapped, graciously donated by **Dayland Meats of Athens**.

With any event like this, those who helped in setting up and planning the event are the backbone of a successful banquet. Those donating their time included **Bob Pils, Al Hauber, Linda Lehman, John Meachen, Henry Kanemoto, Bill Mahony, Pat Hager, Gene & Cheryl Koshak, Mike Pierce, Larry Marn-**

**holtz, Brian Marnholtz, and Doug Brown**.

On May 7th, **Gene Koshak, Patrick Esselman, Don Houseshell, Paul Martorano, and John Meachen** went to the **Rosholt High School** to help our future fishing members in Flyfishing 101 (*see separate story above*). Students were taught fly casting and the basics of fly fishing. The outing was well attended by the students.

On May 16th, our attention was split between a couple of events. Although the weather was less than agreeable, members **Judy Pendergast, Henry Kanemoto, Gene Koshak and John Meachen** were on hand to teach fly casting at a **Women in the Outdoors** event. With the cold, high winds, teaching proper casting was a chore, but our members were also able to teach how to untangle the infamous “bird's nest.”

Even with the tough weather conditions, many of the women attending picked up the casting quite quickly.

Also on that day, **Doug Brown** went to a **Fox Valley TU** workday on the **South Br. of the Little Wolf** in **Waupaca County**. He was put to hard labor hauling the boat and some supplies up the river to the beginnings of the work site, then to cutting tag-alder for brush bundles.

With summer in full swing now (although you couldn't tell by the weather), we held a river clean-up day on Saturday June 13.

In August, we will be participating in a **Youth Outdoor Day** where we will teach casting and fly tying.

We will also be looking into our fall speaker schedule as well as a strategic plan for the chapter. There are high hopes of getting some fishing in also.

—Doug Brown

### Wolf River Chapter

The **Ninemile Creek Restoration Initiative** has entered its second year with a bang, literally. A total of

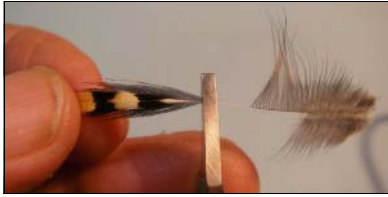
106 beavers were trapped from Nine Mile Creek last trapping season.

*Continued on p. 19*

## Bob's Tying Tips

Advice from  
the bench of  
Bob Haase

### Flatten feather stems so they lay flat



Many people have problems tying in certain feathers such as jungle cock nails. It seems like they have a mind of their own and want to twist at various angles rather than lay flat like you want them to. A simple solution is to take a flat-bladed pliers

such as the Dr. Slick Scissor Clamp and flatten the stem by compressing slightly where you are going to tie the feather in. Do not smash the stem, just squeeze lightly with the pliers to take the round (oval) off the feather's stem. I usually add a drop of super glue where the feather is tied in to compensate for any weakness caused by slightly flattening the stem. This works for most feathers that have a mind of their own, especially where you are layering different kinds of feathers.

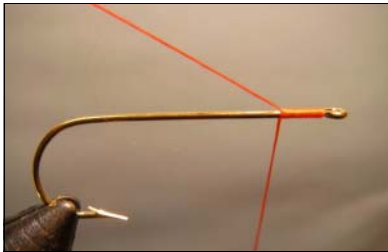
### Check electrical cords for fine copper wire



A good source of copper wire for ribbing or other uses in fly tying can be obtained from old or damaged electrical cords. Most electrical cords use stranded wire and have

three wires which include the hot (black), neutral (white), and ground (green). Simply cut sections the length you want (usually 6 to 8 inches long) and strip the plastic insulation off of one end of the wire. This makes it easy to take with you or store, and it is also easy to grab one strand at a time. Don't throw your old electrical cords away...just tie a few flies with them. (This tip was provided to me by Rich Mlodzik.)

### Angled tag end helps lay down thread base



Laying down a thread base helps secure materials such as foam to the hook. Whenever I tie foam to a hook for patterns such as hoppers or foam bluegill flies, I lay down a base of thread and then place a few drops of super glue on the thread base before tying down the foam.

This keeps the foam from turning on the hook. An easy way to lay down an even thread base is to hold the tag end of the thread at an angle as shown and let your wraps of thread slide down to form an even layer of thread. This not only makes for an even layer of thread, but it also allows you to do it much faster.

### Get organized with Craftmate containers



You can find Craftmate brand storage containers in many of the craft stores such as JoAnne Fabrics.

These storage containers are ideal for storing beads, hooks, and other small items because they are curved on the outside which makes it easier

to get beads and hooks out of the container. They also have locking lids which are released by sliding the release bar while opening the lids. Because you can open each section individually and securely lock the remaining sections, there is less chance of spilling the contents. You can see what's in each section, and it is easy to label the contents of each section or the ends of the container to track what's inside. They also stack well. These are the best containers I've found for storing items like hooks and beads. I highly recommend them.

## CHAPTER NEWS

Continued from p. 18

In addition, 12 dams were blown on June 4th along a three-mile stretch near the coldwater springs. Kelly Thiel from the US Department of Agriculture was assisted by trapper Duane Fronek and WRTU board members Jim Waters and Bill Livingston.

The Nine Mile Creek Restoration Initiative is a five-year project and involves the help of many people, including the WDNR, USDA, and TU members from many different chapters.

None of this would be possible without the consent and cooperation of five major landowners.

Several brush and bundling days on Nine Mile Creek are planned for

the coming weeks. Workdays are set for June 27, July 25, August 22, and September 26. If you are interested in volunteering, call Jim Waters at (920) 740-1840. Work begins around 8:30 a.m. and wraps up by Noon, with a free lunch afterwards. Please check out our web site for more details at [www.WolfRiverTU.org](http://www.WolfRiverTU.org).

The best news from the chapter is the great fishing so far in June. This year's brown drake hatch was the best I've seen in years with regards to feeding fish, including big browns and brookies! If you are in eastern Langlade County on any weekend this summer, be sure to stop by our brat fry at Mike Service Station on the corner of Hwy 64 and Hwy 55.

—Tim Waters

# Advice on carrying rods and coiled indicators

By Henry Kanemoto

The World Championship of Fly Fishing does not allow any objects on the line or leader such as traditional strike indicators or split shots. From these rules came the development of beadhead nymphs. What is lesser known is the development of a strike indicator method that conforms to these rules.

European fly fishers have developed a monofilament strike indicator that is integrated into the leader system. This is how it works.

Use a two-foot section of high-visibility, stiff 15-20 lb. test monofilament line (such as red Amnesia or even optic yellow Stren) and tie a perfection loop on each end. Coil the line around a wooden dowel about a half inch in diameter, and heat it gently with a disposable lighter. This will set the monofilament into a coiled spring. Use a thinner or thicker dowel depending on how tight you want the coils.

Place this coil between the end of the fly line and your nymphing leader and it will detect the subtlest of strikes. If it twitches or uncoils, set the hook.

### On-stream rod carrying

Here's a quick tip that will save your rod and your fishing. Most beginning — and even some seasoned fishers — carry their rod in their dominant hand with the rod tip facing forward.

This is the worst way to carry a rod when traveling to or from the river. When facing forward, the rod can catch on tree branches, tangling the rod tip and line. Even worse is when the rod tip hits the ground, and the sudden bend breaks off the tip.

Instead, turn the rod around and carry it so that the rod butt is forward and the rod tip trails behind. The rod will naturally follow you through the trees and is less likely to catch on branches. If the tip hits the ground, it will not bend and break.

I have observed fishermen who follow this rule of travel, then turn the rod around and walk with the rod facing forward along the stream bank. In fact, this is how you probably carry your rod on the river. I hope to change your mind.

Most right-handed fishers like to fish from the left side of the river,

and left-handers like to fish the right side.

So right-handers will generally walk the left bank and vice versa for lefthanders.

If we carry our rods facing forward, our rods will angle forward over the water's edge. Even if we are stealthy in our approach, the rod waving low over the water will spook the fish. These fish then spook fish that are even further up the river.

The best way to carry the rod is always with the tip facing backwards. If you must carry the rod facing forward, at least

do it with the hand that is away from the water. When walking the riverbank, the hand that carries the rod should always be the hand that is away from the river. This will keep the rod from waving over the water and spooking the fish.

(Henry Kanemoto is a charter member of the WI River Valley Chapter. This story originally appeared in his chapter's The Riffle and Pool newsletter. -Ed.)



Scott W. Grady  
Rodmaker

Split Bamboo Rods  
new & repairs

Bamboo Rodmaking Classes  
makes a great Xmas gift!

Call or email Scott for details at  
920/687-0987 or [oooss@vbe.com](mailto:oooss@vbe.com)

**Budget.**  
print

Environmentally Responsible Papers  
and Soy Base Ink. We care about  
our environment!

- 25 Years -

Family Owned and Operated  
Quality Instant and Commercial Printing

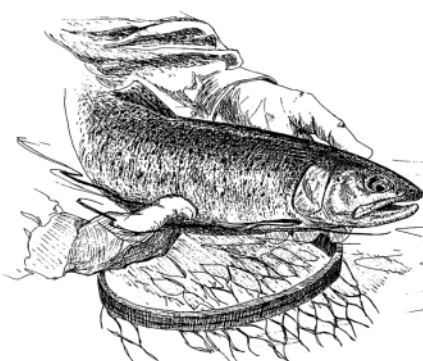
Call Steve Hill

107 S. Fifth Street • Watertown, WI 53094  
1-800-729-0728 • Fax: 920-261-6353  
Email: [budgetprint@charter.net](mailto:budgetprint@charter.net)  
[www.budgetprintonline.com](http://www.budgetprintonline.com)

## 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.

# Still time to become a 2009 member of the Friends program

By Steve Hill

Friends of WITU Chair

There's still time to contribute to and become a 2009 member of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited's Friends of Wisconsin Trout program.

Everyone knows that we are in the middle of a bad economy, but the trout don't know that. They still need our help, so please send as much as you can!

I can't think of one of our chapters that hasn't used Friends money at one time or another over the

years to help pay for their local habitat projects. They've appreciated having this money ready and waiting for their restoration projects.

Your annual contribution of \$100 or more means you will be listed with all the other "Friends" in four consecutive issues of *Wisconsin Trout*.

Also, this year we are sending all Friends a very special hat. The hat not only has the Friends of Wisconsin TU name on it, but also TU's 50th anniversary logo. It will become one of your favorites.

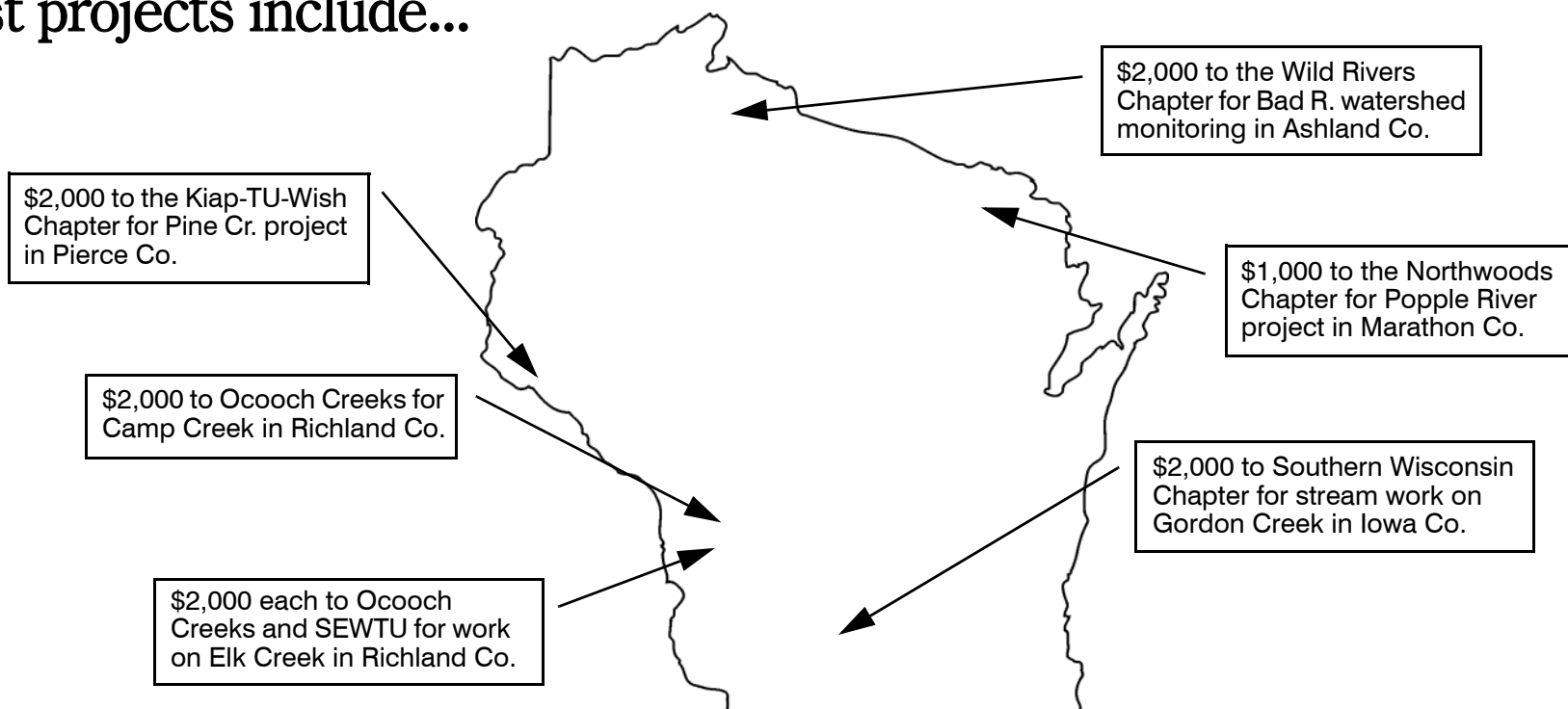
Just as importantly, though, you'll receive the satisfaction of knowing that you donated to a cause that has made a difference in Wisconsin's trout fishery.

Like any solid investment, your donation will pay dividends down the road for you and future generations.

So, as you get ready for another great Wisconsin trout fishing season, please consider becoming or renewing your membership in the Friend of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited.



## Over \$150,000 devoted to trout resources since 1991. The latest projects include...



### Friends of Wis. TU

Meet your new and renewing 2009 Friends!

- Dick Prine
- Dick Vanden Bloomen
- Gordon King
- Richard M. Evans
- Bob Obma MD
- David Ladd
- John Wahlers
- Bob Retko
- R. Chris Halla
- Gretchen Vanden Bloomen
- Don & Judy Price
- Randall & Doris Montague
- Thomas Janssen
- Alan Finesilver
- Andrew Cook II
- George Magnin
- Delmar Schwaller
- Stephen Born
- Paul Wiemerslage
- Tom Helgeson
- Alvin Greason
- Charlie Sanders
- William Flader, MD
- Walter Hellyer
- Lawrence J Paplham
- Jack Manley MD
- Peter J Hickey
- Mike Magers
- Greggar Isaksen
- Ron Rellatz
- Mr. & Mrs. Frederic Young
- Anita & Don Vaughan
- Robert Wyman
- James Scheibl
- James Kostenko
- Glen Cox
- Leslee Timm
- Bob Martini
- Ronald Klimisch
- Edwin Barnes
- John & Susan Bleimehl
- James J. School
- Richard J. Pfiffner
- Dan Geddes
- Jon P. Wilcox
- Tom Raabe
- Bob Gennrich
- Jim & Billie March
- W. Stuart Parsons
- Rick Christopherson
- John Shillinglaw
- Mike Stupich
- John Serunian
- James Engel

- Ridgeland WI
- Eau Claire WI
- Merrill WI
- Mequon WI
- Mountain WI
- Dodgeville WI
- Berlin WI
- Cedarburg WI
- Appleton WI
- Eau Claire WI
- West Bend WI
- Madison WI
- Appleton WI
- De Pere WI
- Sister Bay WI
- Marshfield WI
- Appleton WI
- Madison WI
- Hudson WI
- Minneapolis MN
- Crivitz WI
- Madison WI
- Madison WI
- Fish Creek WI
- Franklin WI
- Milwaukee WI
- Brussels WI
- Fond du Lac WI
- Brule WI
- Merton WI
- Roscoe IL
- Roscoe IL
- Beaver Dam WI
- Racine WI
- Milwaukee WI
- Rhineland WI
- La Crosse WI
- Rhineland WI
- Schofield WI
- Middleton WI
- Verona WI
- Kaukauna WI
- Amherst WI
- Appleton WI
- Wautoma WI
- New Lisbon WI
- Deerfield WI
- La Crosse WI
- Cedarburg WI
- Norwalk WI
- Appleton WI
- Watertown WI
- Fitchburg WI
- Racine WI

- Dean Martin
- George Bereza
- Roland & Nancy Woodruff
- John Nebel
- Ray D. Piehl
- Stephen Pinkowsky
- Steve Robertson
- Dean Hagness
- Jonathan Levine
- Anne & Tim Connor
- Bill Heart
- Charles Studel
- Chris Heikenen
- Lawrence J Clowry
- Greg Vodak
- Kevin Braden
- Donald R Welhouse
- Allon Bostwick
- Jeff & Lynette Moore
- Douglas MacFarland
- Herb Oechler
- John Clark
- Daniel Kehoe
- Robert Tabbert
- Richard Duplessie
- Al Wernecke
- Bruce C Davidson
- David L Douglas
- John H Saemann
- Stephen Wilke
- Jeff Schmoeger
- Harley Whitmarsh
- Christopher Willman
- Gregory A Jensen
- Daniel Simon
- Lowell Lutter
- Charles Hodulik
- Bill & Kathy Pielsticker
- Harold Miller
- N. E. Wozniak
- Daniel Flaherty

- Blair WI
- Marinette WI
- Oshkosh WI
- Menasha WI
- Wautoma WI
- Grafton WI
- Verona WI
- Custer WI
- Milwaukee WI
- Fitchburg WI
- Ashland WI
- Mineral Point WI
- Junction City WI
- Wauwatosa WI
- Stoughton WI
- Palatine IL
- Kaukauna WI
- Fond du Lac WI
- La Crosse WI
- Dousman WI
- Wauwatosa WI
- Wisconsin Rapids WI
- Madison WI
- Lafayette LA
- Eau Claire WI
- Trempealeau WI
- Wauwatosa WI
- Bloomington MN
- Union Grove WI
- Marinette WI
- Deerfield WI
- Grafton WI
- Augusta WI
- Hartford WI
- Oregon WI
- St Paul MN
- Madison WI
- Lodi WI
- Stone Lake WI
- Stevens Point WI
- La Crosse WI
- Brian Hegge
- Randal Rake
- Mike & Sue Arneson
- Gordon King
- Don A. Wagner
- Terrance Cummings
- Jerome Fox
- William Rogers
- Gilbert Herman, Jr
- Frederick Seybold
- Joseph Steuer
- Joey Jantz
- Roger Wangen
- Jon Hanson
- Dale Sevig
- D. James Fruit, Jr
- Gordon Grieshaber
- Jack Lenox
- Jim Hill
- Mike Wenner
- Jeff Jackson
- Michael Funk
- Glen Ringwall
- Gerald Campbell
- Dexter Defnet
- Dennis Presser
- R. J. Wilson
- WI Public Service Corp.
- Where Am I Publications, Inc.
- Aldo Leopold Chapter
- Antigo Chapter
- Central Wisconsin Chapter
- Coulee Region Chapter
- Green Bay Chapter
- Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter
- Lakeshore Chapter
- Lee Wulff Chapter (IL)
- Marinette County Chapter
- Shaw-Paca Chapter
- Wild Rivers Chapter

- Rhineland WI
- De Pere WI
- Brookfield WI
- Merrill WI
- Gillett WI
- Rhineland WI
- Two Rivers WI
- Superior WI
- Stoughton WI
- Madison WI
- Naples FL
- Sheboygan WI
- Nekoosa WI
- Madison WI
- Lakeland FL
- Hartland WI
- Mineral Point WI
- Rockford IL
- Oregon WI
- Tigerton WI
- Oconto Falls WI
- La Crosse WI
- New Berlin WI
- Madison WI
- Three Lakes WI
- Madison WI
- Madison WI

Yes, I want to join the "Friends" of Wisconsin TU.

Enclosed is my check for \$100, \$250, or more payable to Wisconsin Trout Unlimited.

MAIL TO: Friends of Wisconsin TU  
% Steve Hill  
107 S. 5th St.  
Watertown, WI 53094

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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