



RipRap

A Publication of the Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter of Trout Unlimited

APRIL, 2012 VOLUME 5, ISSUE 8

Restoration, Improvements and Preservation through Research and Projects

APRIL PRESIDENT'S LINES

BY KYLE AMUNDSON

Chapter news

Welcome new board members Tom Schnadt and Allison Jacobs; I know they will be a wonderful addition. I would also like to thank Jon Jacobs and Greg Dietl for their service and dedication to the chapter. From a personal perspective, Jon and Greg helped me immensely in my role as President. I am sincerely grateful.

Trimbelle River

Great news, we were awarded an Embrace-A-Stream grant for the Trimbelle River restoration project. This is the project that we will be doing below Hwy 10 this summer. We are waiting to hear from other foundations for possible grants to help complete the financing. Thanks to Greg Meyer and all his hard work for making this happen.

We will continue to clear brush and invasive species on the Trimbelle up by County Rd. W. The DNR work will not get started on this section until 2013.

April Meeting

April is our fly tiers meeting! Come see the talent that Jon Jacobs has lined up for this year, it's always a very fun meeting. Also in April is the Rush River Cleanup, don't forget to sign up with Sarah Sanford if you plan on going.

Fly Fishing Expo

The chapter will once again have a booth at the Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo, March 23rd -25th.

Stream Watch Program

This was set up by Hans Jung in coordination with the DNR. You have a chance to contribute to stream monitoring while you're fishing. Three locations on the Rush (Wonderland, Stonehammer Bridge, and Cave Creek), the KRLT access off Co. Rd FF on the Lower Kinni, and Pine Creek have already been nominated by Kiap members as monitoring sites. But info on any and all streams and locations are welcome. There will be some log books to distribute at the April meeting or interested folks should contact Hans Jung.

***Kiap-TU-Wish
meetings are held
at Bob Smith's
Sports Club, the
first Wednesday
night of the
month. The
April meeting is
on the 4th.
Dinner begins at
6 PM, Meeting to
follow at
7 PM.***



CONSTRUCTION ON COUNTY F BRIDGE OVER THE KINNICKINNIC RIVER TO BEGIN THIS SPRING

BY GARETH HORVATH

The aging County F Bridge spanning the Kinni is finally coming out and will be replaced with a structure deemed safer by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT). This will be achieved through an improved alignment and the addition of an additional lane on each side of the road as you exit the canyon. Anglers should note that access via the parking lot adjacent to the bridge will not be possible since both it and the road will be closed during the duration of construction.

The construction site possesses unique challenges to government officials charged with protecting the river. The extreme slopes in the canyon, when disturbed, have the potential to deposit large amounts of sediment into the river. Just such an event happened on the Rush River over a decade ago when highway 72 was reconstructed.

Kiap-TU-Wish contacted Nicholas Schaff of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources who is responsible to ensure the river is protected during transportation projects. The Chapter inquired about extra steps being taken to prevent erosion; plans for construction and stabilization staging; and plans for runoff control and sequestering of disturbed soil piles. Mr. Schaff confirmed that the DNR was very aware of the risks of this particular project. In his letter Mr. Schaff stated:

"We are now in the construction phase and I am happy to inform you that, in my opinion, we have an excellent master consultant in this part of the state to oversee our construction projects. KL Engineering in Menomonie is the master consultant for the area that includes Pierce County. I have talked to them extensively on this project and they are fully aware of the risk this project brings to the Kinni River. We have agreed on two items that are somewhat unique to this project that will help us to manage the sedimentation risk. First, once a contractor has been awarded the project after the bidding process, we will have a meeting as soon as possible with that contractor to discuss environmental concerns. We will also discuss strategies for building the project. The second item that is unique to this project is that DOT has offered the use of their Erosion Control and Stormwater Engineer. Normally this person only works on state system projects, not local roads. However, because of the value of the Kinni River and the steep slopes associated with the CTH F project, DOT will allow us to use this person's expertise in an effort to plan construction activities and manage runoff so as to avoid problems in the river."

Mr. Schaff also stated that The Special Provisions for project inform the contractor that the project must be built in stages. They will not be allowed to open the entire site from bluff to bluff at one time. Ultimately the contractor will have to design a staging plan to describe how they will build the project. This plan will have to be approved by DOT (with consultation from the DNR) prior to the contractor beginning construction.

Anglers frequenting this portion of the river will likely have to move elsewhere for the season, however if you manage to gain access nearby please keep an eye out for signs of significant erosion. Officials have to balance the safety of the traveling public, economics and the environment. This will be an especially challenging task on this project.

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DRY FLY DICK FRANTES MEMORIAL FLY TIERS

FEATURED AT APRIL MEETING

BY JONATHAN JACOBS

We commemorate the memory of the clever, curmudgeonly, cagey, cunning conservationist* Dry Fly Dick Frantes this April 4th with tying demonstrations by Duke Welter, John Goplin, Gabe Schubert, Brad Eaton and Tianna Eaton.

Duke Welter is a long-time friend of K-TU and of trout and trout anglers throughout the United States. He has held several critical volunteer positions with Trout Unlimited's national organization and has essentially become "Mr. Driftless" in recent years.

John Goplin is a trout angler and tier with decades of experience. He was president of the Twin Cities Chapter of Trout Unlimited when I first attended a TU meeting in the early 1980s.

Gabe Schubert is simply one of the most innovative and artistic tiers hereabouts. He's developed a penchant for chasing – and catching – very large Esoxids in recent years with his own cutting edge patterns.

Brad Eaton has been heavily involved with the Lew Jewett Chapter of the Federation of Fly Fishers for some time. In addition to being one of the most pleasant men on the planet, he's a fine tier.

Tianna Eaton proves that you don't have to be a crusty old guy to tie flies. She's Brad's daughter and niceness is apparently a genetic trait because she's at least as pleasant as her dad.

We hope to round up a surprise tier or two between now and the meeting, so come take a look at the work of the folks who've stepped up and helped us continue a long-standing tradition.

As always, the meeting is at Bob Smith's Sports Club at 601 2nd Street in downtown Hudson. Dinner is available from 6 PM and the meeting begins at 7 PM.

*Dick would approve of this phrasing. He had an enthusiasm for alliteration that bordered on mania.

SCOTT'S SCOOP

BY SCOTT HANSON, EDITOR

My first order of business this month is to thank Bob Bradham. As you may know, Bob is the guy who gets RipRap printed, which is enough reason to thank him. But I also need to thank him for his email that reminded me that RipRap needed to get put together. My mind had been elsewhere for the past few days, and I had completely forgotten that the deadline was fast approaching. Actually, to be honest, the deadline had already passed, but Bob was nice enough to give me an extension. Thanks Bob! RipRap, along with most of the other facets of life, had temporarily taken a backseat within my brain due to the fact that I had spent the past few days at St. Johns Hospital in Maplewood, for the birth of our 3rd child, Jessica Marie Hanson, who was born at 10:33 on the night of March 19th. Jessica and mommy are doing excellent, and our other two kids have welcomed her with open arms. Or, at least they haven't thrown anything at her yet, which is better than I was expecting! We're all home, trying to get back into the swing of daily life. Soon I will get out my fishing gear and teach Jessica the finer points of the double haul. Maybe we'll see you on the stream real soon.

Have a great month, and don't forget to head to the April Fly Tying meeting at Bob Smith's. See you next month!



Baby Jessica Marie Hanson, dreaming of a future Light Hendrickson hatch on the Rush

Rush River Clean Up April 21

The date for this year's event is April 21, starting time 9 a.m.

Please use Sarah Sanford's new address: rushclean2012@yahoo.com to let her know if you would like to be getting Rush River Clean Up emails.





CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB:

WWW.KIAPTUWISH.ORG



DON'T MISS THE APRIL MEETING!!!

Wednesday, April 4th
@ Bob Smith's Sports Club
in downtown Hudson, WI

The deadline to make submissions for the
May issue is Wednesday, April 18th.
Thank you!

