



## The Drift: Words from our President.

**Project work:** It was a busy winter on the upper Kinni. At least 63 volunteers put in more than 1000 hours, cutting and burning trees and brush. The Red Cabin site is open for casting! Habitat work is scheduled to begin in late summer or early fall. In addition to the Red Cabin, rock is already being delivered to the next stretch of the Trimble River. This stretch has virtually no trees nor brush to remove. Watch for opportunities to seed and mulch.

**Board of Directors:** Our governing board has 11 members. Each term of office is three years; elections at the March meeting. This year, Hans Jung retired. Loren Haas was elected to replace him. Tom Schnadt and Allison Jacobs were re-elected. There is some turn-over nearly every year, so there are always opportunities.

**Meetings:** 43 people attended the March meeting in River Falls. 22 people attended the meeting in Amery on February 23. The April 1 meeting will be our annual fly tying meeting; come and learn. Contact Jon Jacobs if you wish to demonstrate.

**Regional:** There will be a REGIONAL Trout Unlimited meeting in Minneapolis on March 28-29. The region consists of several states including MN and WI. Here's the link: [www.tu.org/get-involved/national-events/2015-upper-midwest-regional-meeting](http://www.tu.org/get-involved/national-events/2015-upper-midwest-regional-meeting). There will be seminars, speakers, and a dinner.

### K-TU's Hap Lutter Spring Appeal



Hap with his grandson, Tate.

photo courtesy of Judy Lutter

By now you should have received a brightly colored envelope in your mailbox—the Hap Lutter Spring Appeal letter.

The spring appeal is the primary source of K-TU's discretionary funding, allowing the chapter to invest in education, outreach, and habitat projects. Please consider a tax-deductible donation. Your past help is greatly appreciated; your future help is greatly needed.

**Little Falls dam:** For some time the gates in the dam within Willow River State Park have been inoperable due to cracking and shifting. This year the reservoir will be drawn down to inspect the dam. Depending on what's discovered, the lake may be down for two or three years. Fishing will not be impacted upstream, and should be OK downstream on both branches.

**Fishing Season:** Let's hope the weatherman gives us better stream conditions than the last couple of years. Enough said. ~Tom Henderson

The KIAP-TU-WISH CHAPTER's  
almost monthly publication

Volume 8 | Issue 8  
April 2015



The April 1st meeting—the annual fly tying event in honor of Dry Fly Dick Frantes—will be held at Junior's Bar & Restaurant in River Falls. Junior's is located inside the Best Western Hotel on the corner of Main Street and Cascade Avenue.

Junior's Bar & Restaurant  
414 South Main Street  
River Falls, WI 54022  
715-425-6630

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## K-TU Board Member Elections

On March 4th, the general membership elected the following members to board positions: Loren Haas, Allison Jacobs and Tom Schnadt.

During the subsequent board of director meeting on March 16, officers of the board were named.

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Thank you so much to all those who came out to the River Falls Fly Fishing Film Tour event. With your help we raised over \$12,000 for the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust. ~Brian J Smolinski

## Editor's Note

## Weigh in on Proposed Trout Regulation Changes

Each spring, individuals interested in natural resources management have an opportunity to provide their input by non-binding vote and testimony on proposed rule changes and advisory questions relating to fish and wildlife management in Wisconsin. This year's Annual Spring Fish & Wildlife Public Hearing & Wisconsin Conservation Congress Annual Spring County Conservation Meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Monday, April 13, 2015 at locations around the state.

In our area meetings are scheduled at:

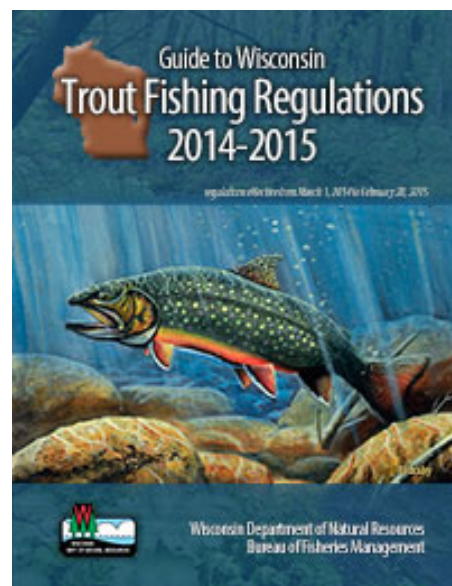
**St. Croix County:** St. Croix Central High School, Commons, 1751 Broadway Street, Hammond, WI 54015

**Pierce County:** Ellsworth High School, Auditorium, 323 Hillcrest Street, Ellsworth, WI 54011

**Polk County:** Unity High School, Auditorium, 1908 State Hwy 46, Balsam Lake, WI 54810

This year there are three questions on trout regulation changes that anglers should note. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has conducted a review over the past four years of Wisconsin's inland trout fishing regulations using input from trout anglers and fisheries biologists. Through public stakeholder meetings and surveys, the department reached out to trout anglers and the broader community to better understand the public's perceptions and desires for trout angling opportunities in Wisconsin. The department has reviewed the public and scientific input to develop new regulation proposals that address the following goals: (1) retain or improve traditional opportunities for quality trout fishing, (2) expand seasonal fishing opportunities for all anglers, and (3) simplify regulations. The questions as written are:

11. For lakes and ponds, including put-and-take lakes and ponds stocked with trout, do you favor a statewide open season from the



first Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March, which matches the general game fish open season, and a daily bag and size limit that matches the county base regulation?

12. Do you favor expanding seasonal trout fishing opportunities on inland streams by:

- beginning the early catch and release season (on streams where it currently exists) on the first Saturday in January and ending on the Friday preceding the first Saturday in May, and
- extending the end of the trout open season by two weeks from September 30 to October 15?

13. Do you favor the proposed changes to inland trout regulations that pertain to size limits and bag limits as listed above in order to improve opportunities for quality trout fishing and simplify regulations?

A complete list of questions can be found in Portable Document Format by going to the WDNR website and searching for "Spring Hearings". All attendees are allowed to vote on the questions regardless of residency. Everyone receives electronic ballots, which may be completed and turned in at any time during the meeting. The Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter strongly encourages members to participate in this year's meeting and balloting. If you don't vote you can't complain, at least not to me. ~Gary Horvath



# Come Fly Away

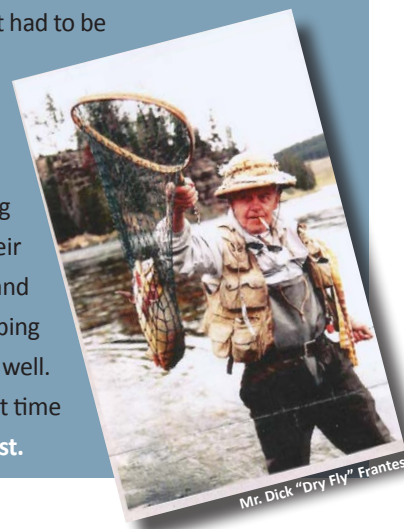
We are kicking off the Spring K-TU meeting schedule with our annual tribute to Dry Fly Dick Frantes and the art of fly tying at the April 1st meeting (It's nothing more

than a horological coincidence that the meeting falls on All Fools' Day, I assure you). This meeting is a tradition nearly as old as Kiap-TU-Wish itself. For the first twenty years or so of it, the redoubtable Mr. Frantes coerced practitioners of the fly tying art to display their skills. Like many things about him, his skills at coercion were legendary. To detail the legends would require a quantity of paper more appropriate for a book than a newsletter so I will provide just this bit of information: Dick operated what had to be

{Words} Jonathan Jacobs

West St. Paul's only combination plumbing shop and fly fishing emporium. The former was John M. Frantes' Sons' Mechanical Contractors and the latter Frantes Fine Flies & Folderol. The yin and yang in those two names is inescapable and speaks volumes about our man Richard.

Dick liked to have themes for these meetings. After many years of wandering far afield, we are going back to our roots with this year's theme, which is "Trout flies for use on local waters." Volunteering their skills this year as of this writing are Michael Alwin, Kline Hickok, Ron Kuehn, Jim Kojiis, Maria Manion and your obedient correspondent (Although in the last instance, "skills" may be a bit of a stretch. I am hoping to lure a couple of other local luminaries out of their lairs and to put them behind the vise that night as well. Come one, come all, please. I guarantee you'll come away with some useful information. Details about time and place for this event may be found elsewhere in this issue. **We look forward to seeing you on April 1st.**

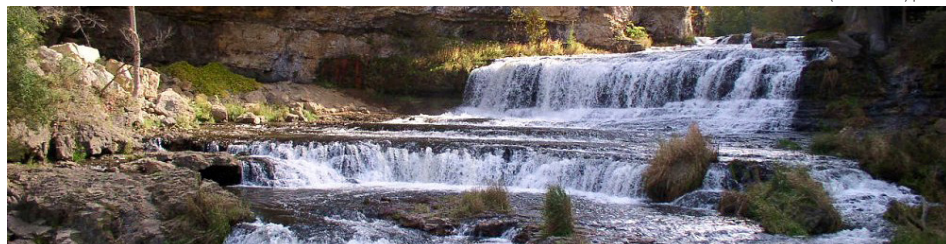


Mr. Dick "Dry Fly" Frantes

## Little Falls Dam on the Willow River Faces Uncertain Future

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources convened a meeting on Tuesday, February 24th at the Hudson Town Hall to discuss issues surrounding the safety of the Little Falls Dam on the Willow River. A thorough inspection of the dam in 2013 revealed serious concerns about its structure and subsequent ability to withstand and safely pass a 1000-year flood event downstream. Portions of the original 1916 structure are still in place and there is concern as to the dam's condition. Craig Thompson, a Land Program Supervisor from our region led the meeting for the agency. Mr. Thompson informed the assembled that the DNR would begin a total drawdown of the impoundment beginning in April or May of this year. This drawdown would continue until the end of the project, which could last up to three years.

The DNR is looking at all options including dam removal and river restoration; partial repair; and total removal and rebuild. Park Manager Aaron Mason stated that the Park System favors keeping the dam and explained that Willow River is the major revenue genera-



Wikimedia Commons (McGhievr) photo

tor for the entire Wisconsin park system. Gordon Stinson an engineer with the DNR said the agency would prepare options for the Department of Administration who will ultimately make the final decision on how to proceed. The state of Wisconsin is facing a large budget shortfall so repair or rebuild is not a given.

Additional speakers included Area Fish Manager Marty Engel who gave an overview of how the project would impact resident fish populations and what the plans for restoration would look like under the various options being considered. Also present was Michael Rogney from Dam Safety who fielded questions on the need and timing of the project.

An estimated crowd of about 50 people attended the meeting. The DNR staff fielded questions for about 30-45

minutes. Mr. Thompson concluded the meeting by stating that once the Department has more information on the options under consideration there will be another public meeting at the same location in late April to solicit input from the Public. Interested people may submit written comments to Park Manager Aaron Mason.

### Send Comments to:

Aaron Mason, Park Manager  
Willow River State Park  
1034 County Rd. A, Hudson WI 54016  
[aaron.mason@wisconsin.gov](mailto:aaron.mason@wisconsin.gov)

### Copy of comments to:

Craig Thompson, Regional Land Program Supervisor  
WDNR West Central Region  
3550 Mormon Coulee Road, La Crosse WI 54601  
[Craig.Thompson@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Craig.Thompson@wisconsin.gov)

# The Gift of an Extended Season

{Words} Mark Peerenboom

Finally I was on them. Fish feeding on the surface of the stream told me that the tiny Blue Wing Olives were there. They were bringing up fish constantly at the tail of the plunge pool and the run that followed. Fish were rising both mid-stream and tight up against the grassy banks. I couldn't believe my luck. It was like locating May Morels or a ripe August blackberry patch. Here they were, a gift from the Minnesota DNR.

In 2014 an enlightened Minnesota DNR had extended the trout season in its Southeast counties until mid-October. Although the minute Blue Wing Olive mayfly is always present, my chances of finding them were upped considerably when the DNR extended the season. A noted Midwest fly-fishing author, Tom Wendelburg, calls them the "Duns of Autumn." And here I was on a warm autumn afternoon ready to dry-fly fish like I only had dreamed about.

Earlier planning had told me that I wanted to fish the extended season and that I wanted to fish Trout Run because of its good reputation. I had intended to fish terrestrials on a meadow section Google Earth had helped me find, unless stream and fish told me differently.

I parked the car in a wide spot on a road parallel to Trout Run and next to a power line cut and took the trail down a steep incline. I followed its switchbacks to the river bottom. On my way down the hill a large black turkey vulture startled as I approached the gut-pile of a harvested deer. My "catch and release" trout fishing felt like play compared to the serious business that the gut pile represented. I was happy to walk past it. I crossed the stream and walked the edge of a harvested bean field to the meadow section I'd researched on Google Earth.

Fall is terrestrial fishing unless Blue Wing Olives appear. Although hopper patterns seemed to be preferred in Wisconsin, I rigged up with a cricket pattern following the advice of a native Minnesotan. In fall trout usually hold close to shore and start to key in on the matured ants, beetles, crickets, and hoppers who make the mistake of landing in the stream. This is opportunistic feeding and not the wonderful constant feeding of a Blue Wing Olive hatch.

Excited to spot the fish rising, I clipped off my cricket pattern and tied on a tiny Blue Wing Olive parachute as the fish continued to break the pool's surface with their feeding. For the next hour and a half I caught fish. I used 3-foot 5X fluorocarbon tippet on a twelve-foot leader on a 3 weight rod. At times the wind had made for difficult casting but bad casts never put the fish down for a very long. I was guessing the heavy hatch and the broken water allowed for that margin of error.

After fishing the hatch for that hour and half I retraced my steps and hiked back to the car parked on the top of the ridge. I took off numerous layers of insulating clothing and put on a fresh cotton t-shirt for the 2 hour ride home. But I held on to the idea that in future years I might again be blessed by the "Duns of Autumn" and silently thanked the Minnesota DNR for extending the season.

*In Wisconsin this April 13th at the Spring Hearing, Wisconsin Anglers will have an opportunity to vote yes on Question # 12 which, supports extending Wisconsin's trout fishing season into mid-October. I suggest voting your support and enjoy your extended Wisconsin October trout season in 2016. I don't think regrets.*



## From the Field: Red Cabin winter wrap-up



Over the past **3 months**, nearly **70 volunteers** contributed just over **1100 hours** to brushing and burning at the Red Cabin project site. Only a few trees remain and will be removed with the help of an excavator once the actual restoration work begins this summer or fall. We don't know the exact number of trees cut or hot dogs consumed, but we do know how much we value your effort, commitment and comradery—A LOT. Thank you for a great brushing season!



# Troutlings

A Trout-In-the-Classroom (TIC) update from two students in Brian Burbach's 5th grade class at North Hudson Elementary

{Words} Lauren Scott & Racheal Rick



As we stare intently at our giant fish tank, we see the trout swaying their tails side to side. We imagine that they are dreaming of their future life in the river. It won't be long and they'll begin their new journey in the Willow River.

At the moment, these little troutlings have spots on their back and stomach. They might be small but we know that's not for long! We conducted a random sampling on 10 Trout. Their average length is 3 centimeters long.

We've worked hard to maintain the perfect growing environment for our swimming friends. Every two days some of our classmates test the water to make sure that the Ph., Nitrate, and Ammonia levels are safe. Then we add the appropriate chemicals to ensure safe levels for our fish. We also have to change out 5 gallons of waters two times each week.

We've learned that they need cool water to survive. This means we must keep the water at the 54 degrees Fahrenheit. (This may sound easy, but it's not! It means our teacher even has to come in on the weekends to take care of these swimmers!) It's a big job for our class because their lives are counting on us doing our assigned work.

Our class discovered that our trout like to lie at the bottom of that tank. It's a little scary because sometimes they look dead. But the good news is that, they are usually just resting. We've discovered it's hard to count all of them. In fact, it is downright impossible because they move around a lot.

Sometimes, we have a few die. So, we have to get the dead fish out of the clean water environment quickly. Don't worry we've found another use for that kitchen turkey baster (yep, it works perfect for sucking up the dead fish!).

We are working hard to do our part to help the trout population. They are important to river life. Even though, it's a lot of work, it has been worth it. We'll be proud parents (all 22 of us) when we let them start their new lives in the Willow River.



Brian Burbach photos

## Tying Season

{Words} Perry Palin

Last fall I looked at my flies and decided I didn't need anything for next year. But it's the tying season, so I began to tie flies.



There was a time when I would count how many dozens of flies I would tie in a year. I don't count anymore. I have a lot of hooks on hand, but not always the right ones. I bought a few hundred more this year, for special applications. Why the retailers went away from the boxes of 100 hooks to the little bags of 25 I'll never know.

I'm particular about my materials. They don't have to be expensive, but they have to be right for the pattern. I can't make a nice fly unless I have the right materials. When we lived in St. Paul I collected a lot of stuff for making flies, and I've supplemented my stores in later years with hunters' kills and purchases from farmers. I won't buy tying materials by mail or over the internet. I have to see the material to know that it is right for the intended purpose. I am always looking for soft furnace hackles for the Horse Flies. I have several good necks now, but I'll need more.

I've read that it's better to tie one good fly in an hour than to tie several poor ones, and I think that's true. But it's better still to make more than one good fly in an hour's time. I am not a fast tier, but my patterns are simple, and I tie most of them at eight to eighteen per hour.

The winter tying season is for those patterns that have worked in the past and will work again in the new year. I tie variations of some of these, only when the variations are supported by field trials. Truly experimental patterns are best tied during the fishing season, when they can be modified after trying them on the stream.

*{continued on page 6}*



{Words} Margaret LeBien

It is not uncommon to make one beautiful false cast into the far bank that unrolls my freshly tied fly just above the target, and then on the delivery cast, watch as it overshoots the bank by 3 feet. I hate when I do this. It is always the first cast of the day and it always happens because I forget to stop and let the fly fall to the water before I extend my arm and lay the rod down. I always resolve to practice my bow and arrow cast first thing tomorrow (not) as I splash across the pool to untangle my leader...

Other than drilling your fly through the middle of a plastic hula-hoop on the lawn, without some target practice there is no way to be consistently accurate in a real streamside scenario. But there are a few things to keep in mind if you want to improve your short game marksmanship:

🎯 Assuming you are fishing blind, decide exactly where you want your fly to land and focus on a tiny detail: a flicker of light on the water or a piece of floating grass, like the left ¼ inch of a stump where it meets the water rather than the whole stump. Keep your eyes staring intently at that point. The harder you fo-

cus and the more detailed your target, the more accurate your cast will be. Without concentrating on that exact spot until the fly lands, you are going to miss. Guaranteed.

🎯 Set yourself up for success. Look behind you for fly-eating obstacles. Mark your line at 20 and 30 ft. and know how long your leader is. Pull off enough line to reach the target area. False casting off to the side of your target to gauge distance is risky.

🎯 Kneel down, with your right knee up, or stand square to the target. Point your knees, shoulders, nose and toes at the target. Place your casting side foot slightly forward to eliminate shoulder and body rotation through the cast.

🎯 How you hold the rod is up to you. Use a thumb on top, forefinger on top, V-grip or 3-point grip, whatever feels right and reduces wrist twist.

🎯 The most accurate casts are made in one plane, straight back, straight forward. Nice if you have room for that, but when you don't, recall that the Belgian back cast does not have to be in the same plane as the forward cast. Even when you do make a sidearm back cast, try to make the forward cast in front of your face so your dominant eye, your rod hand, elbow, reel and the rod tip can all be lined up in the same vertical plane pointing straight toward the target. The only consideration then is how **far to cast**.

**Good luck!**

{Tying Season from page 5}

Below are the patterns I've tied since the close of last season. They will be ready to move to the stream boxes as flies are chewed beyond usefulness by the trout, or more likely, lost in the trees or grasses that clutch at my back casts.

🦋 Horse Flies, both Black and Red. These are my most used soft hackles. They hypnotize the trout into eating them. I've had good reports from the Driftless, the North Shore, NW Wisconsin, the American West, British Columbia, and New England. My buddy Alan put one on his tippet at a small lake in Washburn County against my instructions, and he caught a trout.

🦋 Coachman Wet Fly. A standard pattern. It catches some fish, and it's good to have something to show to other anglers if they ask what the trout are taking.

🦋 Pass Lake Wet. Like a Coachman, but with a black rather than peacock body, and a calf tail wing. I have better luck with this one than with the Coach-

man. I make these as small as 14s, and as large as a long shank number 6. The bigger ones are really bucktails, not wet flies.

🦋 Picket Pin. Similar to the Pass Lake. In small sizes, this fly has saved the day on many trout streams.

🦋 Arrowhead. A good Northern Minnesota and NW Wisconsin fly for brookies and browns. I cast it out and let it float in the film. When it sinks, I fish it like a traditional wet fly. A couple of false casts will shake off enough water so it will float again.

🦋 Flymphs. These are damp dry flies, or not too wet nymphs. They're emergers. I like these where the gentle currents won't wash them under right away. They often work when dries will not.

🦋 Pass Lake Dry. The fish hit these. They look like nothing in nature, but the fish hit these.

🦋 Nalle Puh. A Finnish caddis dry, scaled down for our streams. I've never seen a natural fly like it. It bounces through riffles on its heavily palmered hackle.

🦋 Gray Fox Variant. This is a green drake pattern from Art Flick's Streamside Guide, downsized to be a general attractor on our Midwestern streams, and to fish the mayfly hatches.

🦋 Burnt Wing BWO. I carry a few of these, and some larger burnt wing duns too, for that one rising fish that won't take the standard patterns.

🦋 Male Dace. A Lew Oatman streamer pattern from New England. Elegant, colorful and effective in small sizes.

🦋 Thunder Creek Bucktail. An easy fly to cast even in the big sizes, and it sinks to where the big fish live.

🦋 Vihree. A Finnish salmon fly pattern scaled down for stream trout. It's unweighted, but sinks fast with a heavy hook and sparse materials. I cast this one to deep pools with big browns on the bottom. 3x tippet is not too large.

🦋 Pattern That Will Not Be Mentioned in the Fly Shop. And not to be described here either, it's that good.

When I fished the Rush regularly, I

## FLY TIER'S CORNER: Utah killer bug

{Words & Image} Brian Smolinski

**Hook ::** Umpqua Competition C280BL Czech Nymph Hook

**Thread ::** UTC 140 Denier – Fluorescent Shell Pink

**Weight ::** Lead Wire .020" - .030"

**Body ::** Jamieson's Shetland Spindrift – Oyster

**Rib ::** Small Ultra Wire – Fluorescent Pink



- [1] Start the fly with 4-6 turns of heavy lead wire in the middle of the hook shank.
- [2] Cover the hook shank and lead with thread wraps and tie rib material while wrapping to the rear of the hook.
- [3] Tie in a 4-6" piece of the yarn over the top of the lead wraps, creating a little extra bulk over the middle of the fly.
- [4] Wrap back to the bend of the hook with tight touching wraps to securely lash the yarn onto the hook shank.
- [5] Wrap the thread back up to just behind the eye of the hook and put in a half hitch to lock the thread in place.
- [6] Grab the other end of the piece of yarn with a hackle pliers and spin the yarn until it is tightly wound up.
- [7] Using the hackle pliers, wrap the yarn forward, creating a tapered body, and tie off the yarn just behind the eye of the hook.
- [8] Counterwrap the wire rib over the yarn body up to the head of the fly. Tie off the wire by making several wraps behind and in front of the wire.
- [9] Trim excess wire and create a head of thread while whip finishing the fly.

The Killer Bug by Frank Sawyer has an interesting history. The fly was named by Lee Wulff and originally tied with nothing but fine copper wire and the original Chadwick's 477 wool yarn. Chadwick's wool, which has been out of production for about 50 years, has been known to have some amazing supernatural fish catching abilities and can fetch ridiculous amounts of money in auctions among fly tyers. Thank goodness for the Utah Killer Bug, which uses modern day materials that are found in abundance!

Even though this newer yarn might not have any super powers, it still looks pretty cool. It seems to have a rainbow of micro fibers woven into it, so the fly appears to be always changing color under different light conditions. The bug itself also has a slight chameleon effect as it imitates a wide array of aquatic trout food. The Killer Bug could certainly be a close representation of scuds, sow bugs, crane fly larvae, caddis pupae, and many types of terrestrial larvae.

Questions? Send them in an email to [brian@lundsflyshop.com](mailto:brian@lundsflyshop.com).

carried many bead head nymphs. Now I'm fishing lower gradient, slower streams and I use very few beadheads, no weight on the flies, and no strike indicators. I've tied from one to five dozen of each of these patterns since October. These are not all of the patterns I will use in 2015. My stream boxes hold a lot of flies. Some of the patterns are in several sizes, or several variations. There's a reason for this.

Some of my friends have a few favorite patterns that catch fish for them. But then they have days when their few favorites don't work. Others think one fly is as good as another. I don't think so. I have a use for each of my flies. The larger trout can be especially particular about what they will eat. When I'm only catching the little guys, I know I need to make a change. I like to think I have the pattern I need, and I like to think I know when to tie it on my tippet.

There's too much to learn about trout fishing. None of us will ever know it all. That's the way it should be. That's what makes fly fishing for trout so interesting.

### Kiap-TU-Wish Board Members & Contact Info

#### Tom Henderson

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[tomhenderson136@comcast.net](mailto:tomhenderson136@comcast.net)

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Chapter Treasurer  
[magshorvath@comcast.net](mailto:magshorvath@comcast.net)

#### Loren Haas

xxx  
xxx

#### Allison Jacobs

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#### Tom Schnadt

Board Member / Banquet Chair  
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#### Bob Trevis

Board Member / Spring Appeal  
[troutchaser@comcast.net](mailto:troutchaser@comcast.net)

### Next RipRap deadline: Friday, April 10

RipRap is **ALWAYS** on the lookout for writers, photographers, story suggestions, etc. Please feel free to shoot me an email, tap me on the shoulder at chapter meetings, or even send me a bona fide letter. Any way you choose, have your material, comments or suggestions to Maria Manion by the second Friday of the month for submission. [manion.maria@gmail.com](mailto:manion.maria@gmail.com)





Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter #168  
P.O. Box 483  
Hudson, WI 54016

Jane Doe  
123 Anystreet  
Hudson, WI 5401

Check us out on the web:  
[www.kiaptuwish.org](http://www.kiaptuwish.org)

## **DON'T MISS** the **APRIL 1st MEETING!** at **JUNIOR'S** in River Falls

**Junior's Bar & Restaurant** is located inside the Best Western Hotel on the corner of Main Street and Cascade Avenue. It's not usually busy on Wednesdays, so you should find parking without trouble.

You can find parking:

- In the basement garage (50 spaces)
- In the surface lot behind the hotel
- In the surface lot across Main Street

**Junior's Bar & Restaurant**  
414 South Main Street  
River Falls, WI 54022  
715-425-6630

Dinner begins at 6PM (your dime).  
The meeting begins at 7PM.