



The Drift: Words from our President.

The young guns seem to have it. Two months ago I wrote about fishing with RipRap's Contributing Editor, Joseph Duncan, who had cat-like reflexes and an ability to sling nymphs into faraway tight places. This month I need to tell you about another young gun who, like Joseph, is 18 years old. Will and his father, Paul, took me spinner fishing in a couple of local spots in western Wisconsin. But while those spots were familiar to me, I had never fished them with spinners. I was about to, but only after knocking down the barbs on our Panther Martin spinners, rigging our short, ultralight spinning rods and then hiking through thigh-deep snow down to the river.

My memory of casting 1/8-ounce spinners is that you launch them with all the wrist power you can muster at about a 45-degree angle to get maximum distance. The spinner then travels in a high, broad rainbow arch and, after all that effort, lands about 20 feet from you. Maybe far enough for panfish, but not for trout. Not so with young guns like Will. While I was trying to remove my spinner from an overhead branch which had snagged on my first rainbow arch cast, Will calmly walked up the river slinging his spinner horizontally across the water. Will could sling them sideways, underhand and backhand, nearly always with the same result: the spinner traveling horizontally across the water would land 30-40 feet away in the spot he had chosen.

I tried but couldn't do it. The only difference I experienced in my efforts was that instead of getting stuck in overhanging trees, I was getting stuck in streamside bushes. I asked his dad, Paul, about this and he said that it was a unique skill Will had taught himself over the years. Finally, I asked Will how he did it, especially with such light spinners. Will was a little bit surprised and simply said it was a combination of a soft rod tip, an open-faced reel and a lot of wrist action. Typical young gun behavior. They do something they technically shouldn't be able to do and then humbly think nothing of it.

I'm starting to think there's a lot we can learn from younger anglers. For starters, they don't always know that some things just can't be done. Rather, they keep trying new ways of doing them until they can be done. As these young anglers turn their attention toward trout fishing, they don't have all the preconceived notions of how to "properly fish" as say the over-50 angler does. Young anglers are much more willing to innovate and experiment with new techniques. They catch

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



Volume 12 | Issue 8
April 2019

WHAT

Don't miss the Kiap-TU-Wish annual fly tying meeting. Started in memory of Dry Fly Dick Frantes, this year's theme is "Young Guns." See Page 2 for details.

WHEN

April 3rd, 2019
Dinner begins at 6PM (your dime).
The meeting begins at 7PM.

WHERE

Junior's Bar & Restaurant
414 South Main Street
River Falls, WI 54022

Cover photo: Joseph Duncan, high school senior and RipRap's contributing editor, took a photo of his young sport (Peter Anderson) attempting to catch his first trout last weekend—and he did!

DON'T FORGET:

- Visit the K-TU website & Facebook page for news, announcements & updates.
- The next RipRap deadline is **Friday, April 12.**
- Send info to: manion.maria@gmail.com

RIPRAP: Restoration, Improvement &
Preservation through Research And Projects

fish in ways and places that haven't occurred to the rest of us. Sure, there's a lot we can and should teach younger anglers, but there's a lot they can teach us too—in particular, the fresh way they look at each new fishing challenge. They look at these challenges as being exciting, conquerable and full of life and fun. Then they set about doing them. That's why we call them young guns.

And speaking of young anglers innovating and experimenting, young fly tyers are much the same way. They use a wide variety of new materials, approaches and techniques that many, if not most, of us have never heard of. That's why we're giving the young the fly tyers the floor at our Chapter's annual fly tying meeting in April. Come and enjoy the fun as our Chapter's young guns show how they combine both the new and the old to tie trout, smallmouth and musky flies that really work!

Until then, Happy Fishing! — *Scott*



Kiap-TU-Wish Annual Fly Tying Event

Wednesday April 3rd: Young Guns

As Oscar Wilde famously said "With age comes wisdom, but sometimes age comes alone." Yes, experience is probably the single greatest tool in an any fly tyer's kit. But often we become set in our ways and too comfortable with what we already know. The best way I know of to break that habit is with experimentation, and no one have I seen more experimentation from than today's younger tyers. With new materials coming out every day, fly tying videos exploding at an exponential rate, and an infinite amount of fly photos and recipes on social media, it's no wonder folks who are tied in more to technology are exposed to so many more ideas and techniques. See for yourself what youthful fly tyers bring to the bench, at the next Kiap-TU-Wish monthly meeting! — *Brian Smolinski & Josh Mattis*



Rush River Cleanup

Covia (formerly Fairmount Santrol) will be hosting a Rush River Cleanup on Saturday, May 11, 2019. Volunteers will meet at the Ellsworth Rod & Gun Club (on Highway 72) at 8:30a.m., sign up for locations, and disperse to various stretches of the river after that. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please email to let them know how many will be in your party so they can order enough food.

lauren.evans@coviacorp.com

2018-2019 EVENTS CALENDAR

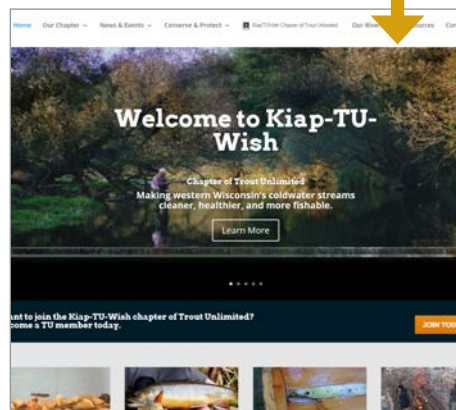
- **Chapter Meeting**
April 3, 2019 / 7pm
Annual Fly Tying Night
Junior's Restaurant, River Falls, WI
- **Chapter Meeting**
May 1, 2019 / 7pm
Chapter Social & Trip Planning Night
Details TBA
- **TIC Bugs in the Classroom**
April-May 2019 / Details TBA
- **TIC Trout Release Days**
May 2019 / Details TBA
- **Rush River Cleanup**
May 11, 2019 / 8:30am
Ellsworth Rod & Gun Club
W3930 Highway 72
- **Belle Rivière Book Club**
May 2019 / Details TBA
- **River Falls Fly Fishing Clinic**
June 1, 2019 / 1-9pm
Glen Park, River Falls, WI



Online Updates

Sometimes solidifying the details to our upcoming events doesn't coincide with publication of the newsletter, as evidenced in our calendar above.

However, you can stay in the loop by watching for updates on the Kiap-TU-Wish website, Facebook page or Instagram feed. Spring is a busy time for the Chapter and you don't want to miss any of it.

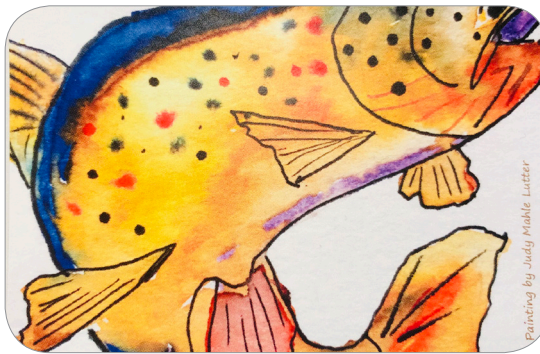


www.kiaptuwish.org

Editor's Note

Look for this sticker—a watercolor painted by Judy Mahle Lutter—on an envelope in your snail mail box. It's the annual Hap Lutter Memorial Spring Appeal letter asking you to make a contribution to help us protect, conserve and restore our coldwater resources. The appeal was conceived of and started by Hap and is one of our largest fundraisers each year. I've written this in past years, but I remember getting hand-written spring appeal notes from Hap and Judy, the personalization of which struck a chord. My support, my donation, was important—no matter what the dollar amount. Sometimes it's easy to feel like an anonymous cog in a wheel, even a good intentioned wheel, but their handwriting reminded me that our Kiap-TU-Wish community is a group of people whose contributions, both in time and money, are significant. So here's my plea: please contribute to our spring appeal. It really matters. Thank you! —Maria Manion

See page 4 or www.kiaptuwish.org for more information about Hap and the annual spring appeal. And heads up: if you contribute \$150 or more, you just might find an original watercolor from Judy in your mailbox as a thank you.



Leverage Your Volunteer Hours

Kiap-TU-Wish volunteers logged more than 5,000 hours in 2018 including time spent on habitat work, youth education, monitoring, fundraising and more. Those hours aren't just interesting factoids; they help us in grant applications to fund future projects.

There's also a way to leverage those hours even more: workplace giving programs. Check with your employer to see if they have workplace giving programs that match employees' financial donations or volunteer hours. Your hard work supporting our coldwater resources could have an even greater impact.

Maria Manion photo



River Falls Fly Fishing Clinic

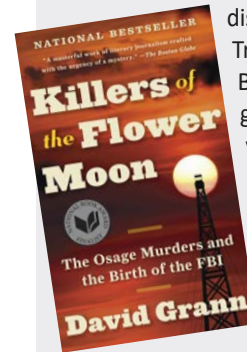
This year's Fly Fishing Clinic, sponsored jointly by Kiap-TU-Wish and River Falls Parks and Recreation, is set for Saturday, June 1st, from 1:00-9:00pm in Glen Park, River Falls. We've been conducting this clinic for years and we know that it's always popular; we expect about twenty students.

The clinic will cover casting, knot tying, entomology, fishing strategies and wading safety. The Chapter will provide supper during a break at 5:00pm, and guided fishing in the evening.

Our chapter members are invited to join us as instructors, mentors, guides and supper servers. Mark your calendars for June 1st and volunteer by contacting Mike Alwin at mikealwin@gmail.com or Brian Smolinski at brian@lundsflyshop.com. I guarantee you'll have fun. —Mike Alwin

Belle Rivière Book Club:

The next book club gathering will be held sometime in May—details to follow in the next issue of RipRap. There's been talk amongst the book club members of taking the last meeting streamside—a riparian book soiree, of sorts, with BYOPI (Bring Your Own Picnic Items). It seemed appropriate to end our year of book discussions along the Trimbelle from which Belle Rivière Book Club gets its name. Keep your fingers crossed for good weather.



The group will be discussing *Killers of the Flower Moon* by David Grann. You can find it online

and if you shop via Amazon Smile, the Chapter gets a small donation from the purchase.

As we've said before, you don't have to be an angler, fly tyer, casting phenom or trout nerd to join the gathering. You just need an interest in reading and chatting with others who like to read too. If you know of any women who might be interested in attending, please contact Jennifer Medley at jennifer@turningleafstudio.com.

Women's Fishing Trip

TU is offering a women's fishing trip to Hubbard's Yellowstone Lodge this summer as a fundraiser for StreamGirls. For trip details, see www.tu.org/tuwomenstrip. It's a fantastic trip for a worthy program. Stream Girls gives Girl Scouts the opportunity to earn a patch and work on badges as they serve as citizen scientists, anglers, and artists, in order to build an appreciation for watershed conservation and the environment. For information about Stream Girls, see www.tu.org/streamgirls.





If you would like to learn more about Hap Lutter and the Spring Appeal, please visit our web site: www.kiaptuwish.org. Click on any of the pages - OUR CHAPTER, NEWS, CONSERVE & PROTECT, OUR RIVERS, RESOURCES - to find this link.



Hap Lutter Memorial Spring Appeal

Hap Lutter was a Kiap-TU-Wish member (and chapter treasurer) who passed away in 2009. The Kiap-TU-Wish Spring Appeal is part of his legacy.

Hap recognized the need for a funding source beyond our annual Holiday Conservation Banquet to supply the dollars needed to reach beyond sometimes limited grant funds. Hap launched the initial Spring Appeal because annual dues go to TU National, but little of that money ever comes back to the Chapter to benefit the waters we love to fish.

If you fish the trout streams of western Wisconsin or have another interest in keeping these waters healthy and productive for generations to come, we hope that you will consider making a generous donation to this year's Spring Appeal. Money raised will go directly toward funding current and future habitat work on the Trimbelle River and Plum Creek, as well as restorations still in the planning stages. Monies will also help support Kiap's stream monitoring

efforts, education efforts and operating costs. Last year the Spring Appeal raised over \$12,000 from generous donors.

2019 plans to be an active year for the Chapter. We need your financial support in order to continue our habitat and education work and to ensure the longtime health and care of our coldwater streams.

Watch for the Spring Appeal envelope in your mailbox. Please support your passion, and Hap's legacy, with a contribution. Whether a check, an employee match, or a stock gift, your support will be greatly appreciated. And don't forget, your contribution is tax deductible!

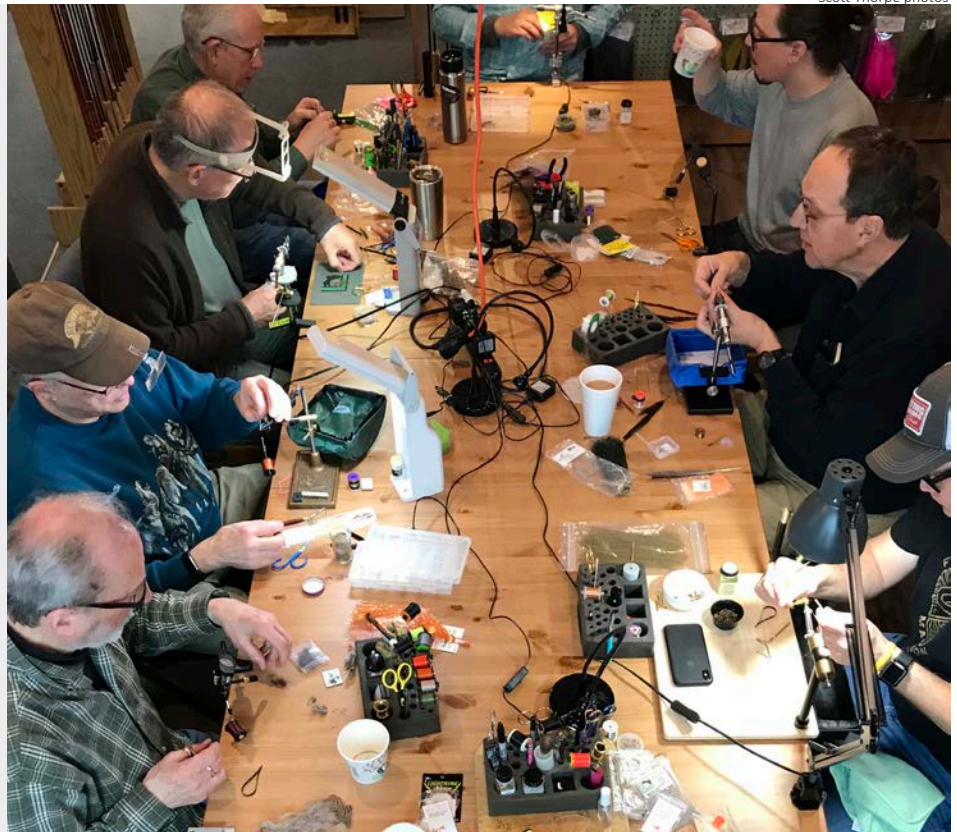
Thank you for sharing Hap's vision by supporting Western Wisconsin's coldwater fisheries!

To make a donation more tempting, we are offering first-time donors a half-dozen nymphs, tested and proven to work on the Rush and Kinni. If you contribute \$125 or more, a half-dozen specially-tied dry flies will come your way.

Fly Tiers At Work

Volunteers worked hard at the Kiap-TU-Wish tie-a-thons to restock the Chapter's dwindling fly library, tying flies for use at two big events this spring: the River Falls Fly Fishing Clinic in June and the Hap Lutter Memorial Spring Appeal. If you are a clinic participant, first-time donor to the spring appeal, or contribute \$125 or more to the spring appeal, you'll likely receive flies tied at the tie-a-thon events. Hand-crafted, locally-sourced, artisan-made, free-range flies guaranteed to catch fish.

This photo was taken at the first of two tie-a-thon. Starting at the lower left and moving counterclockwise, tyers include Mike Alwin, Bob Trevis, Jonathan Jacobs, Jeff Rivard, Brian Smolinski (his hands and vise, anyway), Ryan Meyers, Bob Torres and Chad Borenz.



Scott Thorpe photos

WiseH2O mApp: Project Update

by John Kaplan (Kiap-TU-Wish Monitoring Coordinator) & Kent Johnson

Trout Unlimited's national science team is currently partnering with MobileH2O, LLC to develop a customized mobile application (WiseH2O mApp) that can be used by anglers to monitor water quality and habitat conditions in Driftless Area trout streams. Before launching the WiseH2O mApp for angler use on a broad regional scale, Kiap-TU-Wish members have been invited to participate in a pilot project that includes Pierce County, Wisconsin. The project is all set to kick off on April 1; but before then, there are several ways for you to get involved:

Angler Survey

We'd like a broad cross-section of our membership to complete a short survey on the WiseH2O mApp, as a means to gauge interest in use of the app and assess the support needed for users. Our thanks to those who have already completed the WiseH2O mApp angler survey! If you have not yet had the opportunity to complete the survey, could you please take a few minutes to do so? The survey link is posted on the Kiap-TU-Wish website and Facebook page. Project participant or not, we value your input on use of this app for angler science and crowdsourcing data that can be used to improve coldwater resource management.

General Angler Participants

Thanks to those of you who have already signed up as target and general anglers! Note that we have much more capacity for general angler participation, so please contact John or Kent if you are interested. The general angler commitment is pretty minimal (1-5 observations during the entire course of the project, from April to October); and these anglers will have the flexibility to monitor stream sites of their choice throughout Pierce County.

Want to participate? Contact John or Kent:

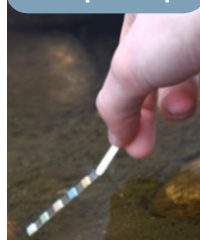
John Kaplan K-TU Monitoring Coordinator jmk8990@comcast.net 612-963-1699 (cell)	Kent Johnson d.kent.johnson@gmail.com 612-845-7258 (cell)
---	--

Training

A training workshop on use of the WiseH2O mApp was held at UW-River Falls on March 16, but it's not too late! You can still participate in the project; we'll make sure that you receive the necessary training and monitoring supplies.

So far, 31 people have volunteered to participate. Thank you to all; we look forward to working with you.

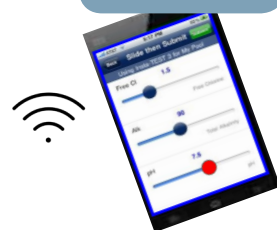
1. Dip a strip



2. Snap a pic



3. Get results



My Friend Roger

By Herb Lundberg

Roger is an interesting guy. We worked together in the business world. His work involved contacts worldwide. He made friends of them and treats them as such in our respective retirements. Roger has retired in his place on Lake Nebagamon in northern Wisconsin. He generously shares his place with his large body of friends and treats them well, often preparing fresh fish recently caught. When he visits he brings flowers for the Wife. Fake! She loves them.

Roger loves to fish...but not much for trout, fortunately. He often sends images of the largest fish he catches, always of the dead fish. And big ones. His specialty is showing the crappies caught from his lounge chair at the end of his dock. But his prizes also include small mouth bass and even salmon caught from charter boats up in Alaska. Pics are generally in cold and stormy weather and always interesting. His dead salmon are huge and they have never spawned, and never will. They won't even make it up those pristine rivers to be caught by predators, or at least, spawn, die, and fertilize the surrounding forests.

I frequently try to discourage Roger from killing the biggest fish he catches. It doesn't seem to help when I explain that, among other reasons, killing the best and biggest of anything might drastically affect the genetic base. Doesn't work. The pics of big dead fish continue decade after decade. More on fishing later.

Roger is a crack shot with a shot gun. We've invited him to hunt grouse on our property when he wishes. On one of the earlier ventures we were out on "the farm." In the first hour I had heard "bam!" five times. Checking in with him I found only four dead grouse. My first question was "How come only four? There were five shots." A disgusted look. I then asked him how many he had ground swatted. There was always scorn on his face but never a direct answer. He has hunted our former property

for a couple of decades by now, and the grouse population has drastically declined from at least four flushes per hour down to "hope we see a couple today." Could there be some causal connection to Roger?

One of the reasons for Roger's hunting success was his fine dog, Samantha. Sam was a beautiful, fragile, brown and white Brit. A great pointer. Sam was a very sensitive dog and Roger treated her

in the bow and the oldest guy took the stern. Roger brought along his canoe seat and sat on the bottom in the middle looking like a royal in a sedan chair. When we got to the mouth of Johnson Creek there were some guys standing on the bank planning the evening. We stopped to chat and one of them said to Roger, "What's that thing ya got there?" Roger proudly explained that it was a fish finder. The guy pauses and says, "Ya

"Roger loves to fish...but not much for trout, fortunately."



like...well...a dog. Sam needed love and would quiver while slowly crawling up on my lap and just cuddling there for an hour or more. I miss Sam.

Roger is an idea guy. One of his great ideas was use of a fish finder he acquired for the purpose of catching and killing more and bigger fish. It was operated by an acid lead battery that weighed a ton. We tested it a day or so after ice-out on the northeast bay of Lake Nebagamon, using waders. It was cold, real cold, ice cold! No fish in the bay. So the next test was trout fishing at night during the hex hatch on the White River.

We arrived at the parking lot in early evening and unloaded the canoe, wheeled it to the river with its heavy load of equipment and supplies, and launched downstream. Son Bart was

ain't gonna need that thing here."

We continued downstream a bit but could still hear the guys upstream as the hatch began and spinners started to fall and cover the river. It was obvious those upstream guys were catching fish. We were not doing so well but we did catch one nice brown.

When the action stopped after midnight we packed up, paddled and pushed our way upstream to the landing and slogged back to the truck. We arrived there at 1:30 a.m., about the same time we usually conclude this tiring but satisfying trip.

I just wish Roger would quit flapping his lips about the monstrous trout he caught that night. Well, just thankful he didn't kill it. That's progress! 🐟

The Association Of Pure Sportsmen *By Mike Alwin*

Way back in the early 1980's I met a guy at Bob Mitchell's Fly Shop named Roger Johnson. I think Jean Mitchell introduced us but I could be wrong; it wouldn't be the first time. Anyway, Roger and his stepson David fished the Willow and the Kinni often and they both tied some very interesting and creative flies. They were frequent visitors to the shop and we were easily on a first name basis.

After some time, Roger invited me to join a club he was starting. He called it the Association of Pure Sportsmen. It had no rules, no by-laws and no agenda. The idea was that you showed up at his house on the evening of the club meeting and tied flies for awhile. Roger had appropriated a room on the main floor of his house and converted it to a tying room by building tying benches attached to the walls all the way around the room. It was a nice set-up. On your first night you received a cloth patch in the shape of a triangle with Association of Pure Sportsmen printed on it. That was your initiation. When you showed up for a

second evening you received the very nice embroidered Association of Pure Sportsmen patch to sew on your vest. If you wanted the nice patch you had to show up.

OK, if there were no rules, no by-laws and no agenda, what the heck

"OK, if there were no rules, no by-laws and no agenda, what the heck was the point? For that matter, what's a pure sportsman?"

was the point? For that matter, what's a pure sportsman? So I asked, and this is how Roger explained it. "Suppose you're fishing some evening in one of your favorite spots and some other angler walks up the middle of the stream and starts fishing right where you're already fishing? Your immediate reaction is to get mad and holler at the guy to get out of your space. You might even sound threatening. Maybe what you want to do is pick up a rock and plant it on him. Of course, his response is to holler back and pretty soon you're both angry and your evening is ruined. The better response is to say something

like, 'You fish here often? Is this your favorite spot? I like it here, too. But I don't like crowding other anglers and I've got some other spots that I like so, why don't you take this spot and I'll go up stream to one of my other places?' If you do it this way you've

accomplished three things. First, nobody's angry and nobody's fishing is ruined. Second, you've taught the other

angler that it's best not to crowd others on the stream. Third, you've maybe planted the suggestion that there are many other places to fish."

Roger was right about de-escalating situations like that; when you're standing next to the offending angler you have plenty of time to calm down and speak respectfully. Believe it or not, but I, Mr. Sarcasm, have used this simple technique several times with great success. It's possible to come away from these encounters with a new almost-friend and possible TU recruit. That, and your evening won't be ruined. 🐟

Trout & Bugs in the Classroom

website announcements that detail upcoming volunteer opportunities. We'll need people to help out with Bugs in the Classroom (BIC) sessions and Trout in the Classroom (TIC) release days. Bugs in the Classroom will be in late April/early May and the trout releases will be in late May. Volunteering for BIC or TIC is a blast; you won't want to miss it. — *Greg Olson & Tom Schnadt*

All eight classrooms are busy tending to their trout with the goal of releasing them this spring. **Be on the lookout for emails or**



Left: Greg Olson, Kiap-TU-Wish member and WI Council TIC Coordinator, with a wagon of trout to be released into the Willow River. Right: Students examining the various forms of insects that trout eat.

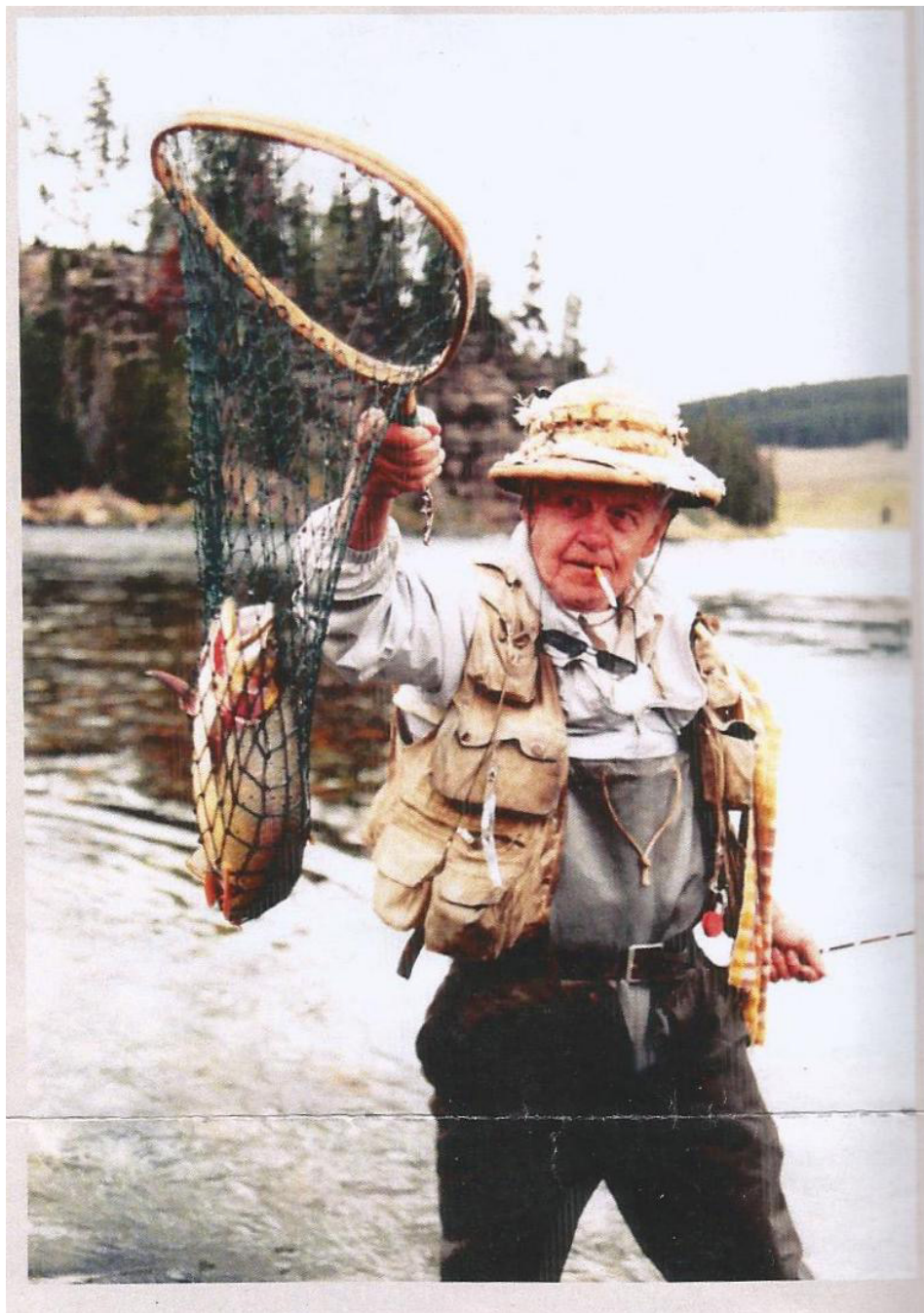
Tom Schnadt photos

That Time I Went Fishing with Dry Fly Dick

By Jonathan Jacobs

First, a little background: While Dick Frantes was a pleasant and even jolly fellow in many respects, he was serious, as in all-caps, boldface serious, about his angling. In the pre-internet age in which he operated, he took extraordinary pride in ferreting out information about places to fish and was parsimonious about sharing it. (There are stories, possibly apocryphal, about him requiring his guests to wear a blindfold on the way to secret waters.) Dick was generous enough to share two of his spots with me and the mere passage of thirty-one years is insufficient reason for me to name them here. Also, I was surprised when he called and offered to take me angling as he had a tight angling coterie of which I was not a part. Looking back, I think his invitation was in some way an acknowledgment of my efforts as a K-TU chapter officer. Further, one of his angling chums had recently fished around the last bend and another, Jim Humphrey, perhaps his closest collaborator, was unavailable because he was out of town attending his fifty-year high school class reunion and I wonder if the sainted Mrs. Frantes had forbidden Dick to go out alone.

Dick rolled into my driveway at mid-afternoon on Wednesday, June 29, 1988, a sunny and temperate day. He was at the wheel of his Forrester-class Chevrolet Suburban, which bore the Minnesota vanity plate DRI FLY. (A few years later the plate appeared on a humbler vehicle, a Chrysler K car of some sort, if I recall correctly. When I saw this, I told Dick that I was disappointed to see that the Suburban



"While Dick Frantes was a pleasant and even jolly fellow in many respects, he was serious, as in all-caps, boldface serious, about his angling."

was no longer. He replied that he had sold it, "more or less by the pound," an ignominious end for such a noble example of vehicular excess.) He was wearing his standard angling getup—beat up tennis shoes, ancient khaki pants, long-sleeved shirt with the phrase "Save A Worm's Life—Fly Fish" emblazoned across the back,

and his trademark pith helmet, the one festooned with about as odd an assortment of flies as one could imagine.

We drove eastward on the Interstate with the truck's air conditioning on its "Meat Locker" setting. As we motored along Dick told me how he had come to find the creek where he intended

to have me fish. It started at a TU meeting where a WDNR employee had presented a slide show on brook

". . .on the way, we drove over three or four tiny creeks that Dick said held brook trout. He offered me a pen and paper in case I wished to take notes."

trout. There were slides that contrasted "bad" and "good" brook trout habitat. The slide showing "good" habitat had been taken from a highway bridge and in the background a railroad trestle was visible. With that to go on and the knowledge of the county where the slide had been taken, Dick proceeded to sift through topographic maps until he found a likely match. An exploratory trip confirmed his findings. We were headed there and, on the way, we drove over three or four tiny creeks that Dick said held brook trout. He offered me a pen and paper in case I wished to take notes.

We stopped at a bridge and Dick described in detail the layout of the creek as I'd find it while moving upstream. These descriptions proved to be dead accurate. This was a small creek with room for but one angler, so Dick intended to fish elsewhere. He was uncertain of the route to his intended destination, so he reached under the rear seat and retrieved from a stack of maps that would have done General Patton proud the relevant one and laid in a course. He wished me good luck, said that he'd return in three hours and motored off. It did not occur to me at the time that I was forty miles from home and had placed my chances of returning there that night in the hands of a fellow who wasn't sure how to get where he wanted to go.

It did occur to me to go fishing. I'd been trout angling for only a few years then and had never fished waters so small previously. Despite Dick's excellent instructions, I mostly waded where I ought to have been fishing and fished

where I ought to have been wading, as evidenced by the number of brook trout that I kicked out from their cover.

Brookies can be a cooperative fish, though, and once I adjusted to the rhythms of the little creek, I caught a couple of willing risers.

These were the first brook trout I'd caught in at least five years and I was thrilled.

Time slipped by rapidly and I had to hurry to be back at the bridge within the three-hour time limit. Dick

"He was uncertain of the route to his intended destination, so he reached under the rear seat and retrieved from a stack of maps that would have done General Patton proud the relevant one and laid in a course. He wished me good luck, said that he'd return in three hours and motored off."

had already returned and was seated on the tailgate of the Suburban eating a sandwich. I dug my supper out of a cooler and joined him. The warmth of the early evening summer sun felt good and I slipped into a sort of reverie as I soaked in the view of the handsome countryside.

I snapped to when Dick informed me that we were off to another stream to try our hand at some brown trout fishing. He showed no uncertainty about our route and the big Chevrolet carried us quickly to a small town where he deposited me in a little roadside park that abutted our target stream. He gave me a general idea of where I might find him upstream at the end of the evening and motored off again. I tied a parachute Adams to my leader's tippet and had at it. I caught two modest-sized browns in the first pool

I fished but caught nothing but chubs after that. Even though the fishing was slow and I was tired, I hesitated to quit the stream until darkness forced the issue. I felt a bit embarrassed walking through a residential neighborhood while decked out in wading gear, but when I finally found Dick sitting in the truck with the dome light on while he listened to a tape of polka music on a small boombox I determined that my appearance and behavior were well within acceptable social norms for a fisherman.

The ride home was a long one, but the trip went quickly as Dick told me about his experiences in trout fishing, a sport he'd taken up more than forty years earlier, not long after the end of World War II.

While I often ran into Dick astream after that, particularly on the Kinnickinnic in Glen Park, that was the only time we ever fished

together, and he was gone forever five years later. Writing about this has not made me melancholy, but I am struck with the thought that time is both linear and cyclical. The calendar says that thirty-one years have come and gone. That's the linear. The cyclical is this: There's a guy of a certain age with a vintage SUV with vanity plates. His fifty-year high school class reunion has come and gone. He's edging up on forty years as a trout angler. Like Dick, he tends to ramble and take too long to make his point when he speaks at TU meetings. And as it was with Dry Fly Dick Frantes, his passion for the sport has cooled not at all, so he knows that the only thing better than the memory of going trout fishing is the prospect of going again. 🐟

Headed West

WYOMING FISHING AREA MAPS

By Joseph Duncan



Maps, Driving Directions and Access

side presents Wyoming fishing information in the five drainage areas of the state. Driving directions to favored in each area accompany the maps.

ps show the five areas as follows:

- 1 River drainage in the northwest
- 2 River & Big Horn River drainage in the north-central
- 3 River & Belle Fourche River drainage in the northeast
- 4 River drainage in the southwest
- 5 Platte River drainage in the southeast

ing fish species and facilities at each fishing company each drainage map on the following sections in this guide are general.



Wyoming Fishing Guide 9

As summer approaches, the time for trip planning and preparation is upon us. As much as we all love the spring creeks and limestone studded rivers of the Driftless Area, many of us will try to make the migration to western states like Wyoming, Colorado, and Montana during the summer. Before you actually leave on these trips though, there are a few important things you need to check off your list.

✓ The first is to set your dates. Unfortunately, it's not nearly as simple as it sounds. Runoff is your primary concern as it is nothing like the week-long dirtying of the streams we typically experience here. Runoff in the western states creates unimaginably turbulent and dangerous rivers making them unfishable. These stream conditions often last through June and into July but it varies by location. It's

extremely important that you monitor the snowpack in the area you intend to fish and plan your dates accordingly. Late July is often best in my opinion but it's important to be flexible because you really don't want to drive 15-plus hours to see water running outside of its banks with zero visibility.

✓ Next, you will have to iron out the details: what rivers you will

fish and where you will stay. You will need a gazetteer to use as a basic road map for the state, and a BLM/DNR map so you can find prime access for public water. When selecting rivers to fish, the internet and local knowledge are your friends. You will find more popular rivers mentioned on forums and websites so that is a solid starting point. From there you can scour maps for streams in that area and start calling local fly shops to gather information from them. They will be the ones to offer some other location options and fly recommendations so be sure to stop in during your trip and support them a little bit.

✓ After you've picked some rivers you'd like to fish, the maps mentioned above come into play as they provide a lot more detail on back roads and campgrounds which is invaluable for us fishers. I recommend camping to fully immerse yourself in the experience but it's a good idea to stay in a hotel for a night or two so you can clean yourself up after a few days of camping. When it comes to selecting campgrounds, the closer you are to the river, the better. Besides the obvious benefits like being able to fish right next to camp and listening to the water flow by as you sleep, being close to water typically prevents swarms of mosquitoes from infesting your campsite.

✓ Once you are actually on the trip, remember to stay flexible in your movements. If a river isn't producing like you thought it would, there is a simple solution: move. You will never be able to will a river to produce for you so it is best not to waste your limited fishing time and just move on to another river. By staying flexible, picking your trip dates wisely, and gathering information as much as you can, you increase your probability of success substantially. Western fishing trips can be complex but awesome, so plan ahead and get ready to enjoy some great fishing! 🐟

FLY TIER'S CORNER: Rough Water Sparkle Caddis

Fly & Recipe by Ron Kuehn; Photo by Brian Smolinski



Hook: Daiichi 1100 – Size 14

Hackle: Grizzly Saddle

Thread: Uni 8/0 72D – Light Olive

Body: SLF Red Squirrel Nymph

Tail: Deer body hair

Instructions

1. Start thread on the hook and wrap back until about even with the barb.
2. Cut, comb and stack a bunch of deer hair about the size of a matchstick.
3. Tie deer hair in to create a tail that is about the length of the shank of the hook.
4. Wrap the thread forward tying the deer hair bundle to the top of the hook shank. Stop right behind the eye.
5. Pull the butts of the deer hair bundle up and wrap in front of it. Trim the butts to create an Elk Hair Caddis style head.
6. Return the thread to behind the newly formed head and tie in a sized grizzly hackle by the butt of the feather.
7. Dub the body going from behind the head back to the tail.
8. Wrap the hackle back to the tail using about 5 turns of hackle.
9. Tie the hackle off at the tail, trim, and then wrap the thread forward taking care not to trap too many hackle fibers.
10. Whip finish in front of the deer hair head.
11. Trim hackle flush on the bottom of the fly.

Kiap-TU-Wish

Board Members & Contact Info

Randy Arnold

randyca999@gmail.com

Suzanne Constantini / Treasurer

smcon26@gmail.com

Loren Haas

loraud2@gmail.com

Gary Horvath / Vice President

magshorvath@comcast.net

John Kaplan

jmk8990@comcast.net

Pete Kilibarda

pkilibarda@spa.edu

Maria Manion

manion.maria@gmail.com

Greg Olson

Greg.Olson@diasorin.com

Perry Palin

perrypalin@hotmail.com

Linda Radimecky

liradimecky@comcast.net

Tom Schnadt / Ex-Officio Board Member

thschnad@hotmail.com

Scott Wagner / President

jswagner@bremer.com

Diversity Liason: Sarah Sanford

sarahsanford@yahoo.com

KiapTUWish.org

Website Administrator: Ken Hanson

Website Design: Meyer Creative

RipRap

Editors: Maria Manion & Joseph Duncan

Printer: Bob Bradham

Proofreaders: Bob Trevis & Judy Lutter

Stamps/Seals/Mailing: Deb & Mike Alwin

RipRap Contributors:

Mike Alwin is a long, long, longtime chapter member and former proprietor of Bob Mitchell's Fly Shop.

Jonathan Jacobs is a longtime chapter member and de facto, monthly columnist. He's also the guy who introduces everyone by name at chapter meetings. You can contact him at turiprap@hotmail.com.

Kent Johnson is a longtime chapter member and a water resources professional who was instrumental in establishing numerous water quality monitoring programs in Western Wisconsin.

John Kaplan is a chapter board member and Kiap-TU-Wish Monitoring Coordinator.

Herb Lundberg is a longtime chapter member who asked me if truth is required for all RipRap articles or whether there's room for embellishment. Read his story and decide for yourself.

Questions? Stop in at Lund's Fly Shop or send an email: brian@lundsflyshop.com



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

www.kiaptuwish.org



April 3rd, 2019
Chapter Meeting

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



April 3rd Chapter Meeting = Fly Tying

Started to honor the memory of chapter member "Dry Fly" Dick Frantes, Kiap-TU-Wish dedicates each April chapter meeting to the art of fly tying. This year's theme is "Young Guns." See page 2 for details. Hope to see you there!

Dinner starts at 6pm (your dime).
The meeting starts at 7pm.