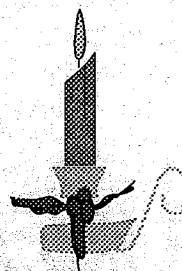




Rip Rap

Holiday Banquet

When: Wednesday, Dec. 3
Where: JR Ranch, Hudson
Social Hour: 6:30
Dinner: 7:30
Speaker: Angler/Photographer/Guide Bob White
 presents a slide show:
 Beautiful Places Fishing Takes Us



President's Lines:

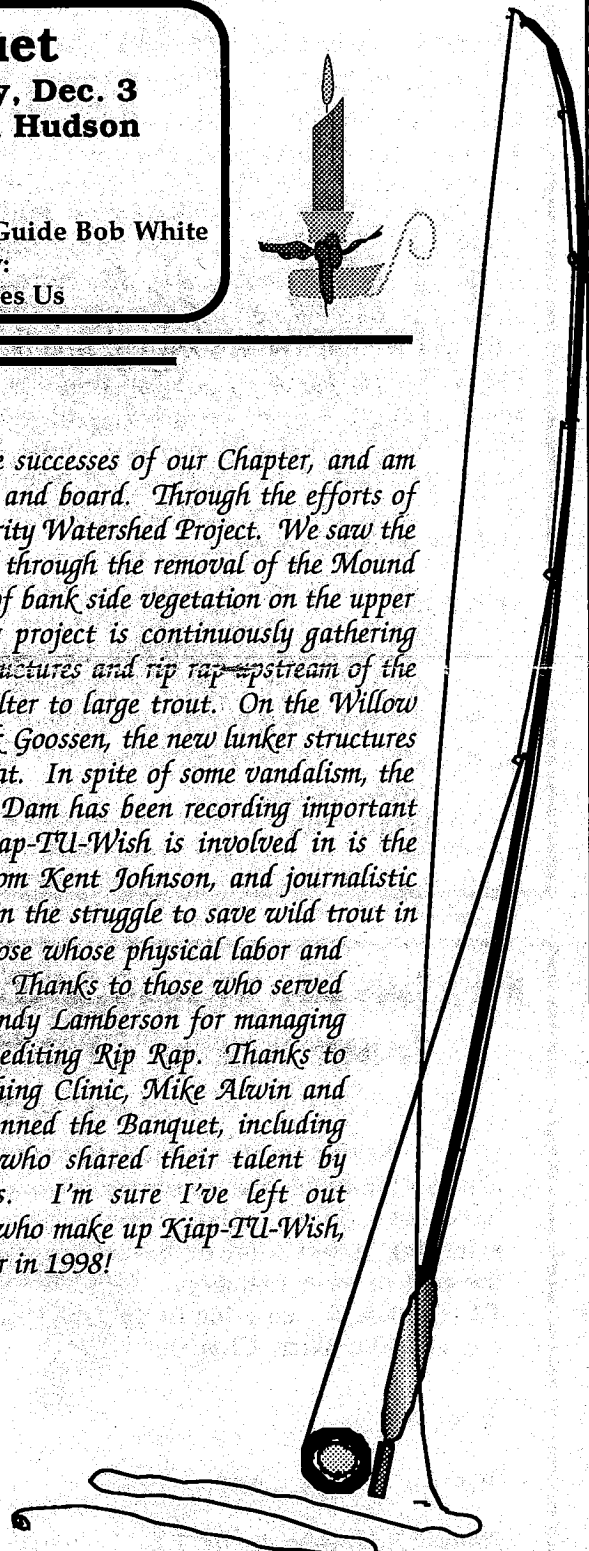
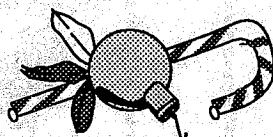
When we get to this season of the year, I think of all the successes of our Chapter, and am thankful for all the efforts on the part of the membership, officers, and board. Through the efforts of people like you, we helped save the funding for the Kinnickinnic Priority Watershed Project. We saw the restoration of the Willow River above Burkhardt to its original bed through the removal of the Mound Pond Dam. Our Winter work project cleared several hundred yards of bank side vegetation on the upper Kinni. In cooperation with KRLT, the Kinnickinnic monitoring project is continuously gathering important data on the health of that stream, and the new lunger structures and rip rap upstream of the Rocky Branch bend will prevent erosion of the banks and offer shelter to large trout. On the Willow Race, in addition to the recent stocking under the leadership of Chuck Goossen, the new lunger structures and rip rap below the bridge have provided more stability and habitat. In spite of some vandalism, the monitoring equipment in the small building below the Little Falls Dam has been recording important information. One of the most exciting ongoing projects that Kiap-TU-Wish is involved in is the production of an educational video. With the scientific input from Kent Johnson, and journalistic expertise of Cathy Wurzer, the film project should be a potent tool in the struggle to save wild trout in the face of encroaching development.

Thank you all! Thanks to those whose physical labor and time was given so generously. Thanks to those who served the Chapter in other ways: Andy Lamberson for managing the web site, Skip James for editing Rip Rap. Thanks to those who organized the Fishing Clinic, Mike Alwin and Jon Jacobs, to those who planned the Banquet, including Karen Stifter, to all those who shared their talent by providing monthly programs. I'm sure I've left out someone, but with the people who make up Kiap-TU-Wish, I'm sure we'll have a great year in 1998!

Sincerely,
 Tony Stifter, President

Table of Contents

President's Lines	
Tony Stifter.....	1
Bulletin Board	2
Holiday Banquet	
Letter from Stephen Born	
KRLT News	
Thanksgiving	
Skip's Loose Threads...	3
Lessons Learned	
RifRaf.....	4
The Angler's Song	



Kiap-TU-Wish Bulletin Board...

Holiday Banquet Reservations Due...

You won't want to miss the chapter's annual fundraising event on December 3rd, but the deadline for reservations (November 27) is almost upon us. Social hour and auction begin at 6:30, and dinner will be served at 7:30. This year's gourmet choices are carved roast beef or chicken in champagne cream sauce. The featured speaker is **Bob White**, artist, writer and guide, who will present a slide show on "The Beautiful Places Fishing Takes Us." Contributions to the silent auction will be accepted until Dec. 1st. Please bring perishable auction items to the Ranch the night of the Banquet. For reservations (\$20/person), or to deliver auction items, contact **Mike Alwin** or **Jon Jacobs**.

Mike Alwin 612-770-5854
Bob Mitchell's Fly Shop
3394 Lake Elmo Ave No.
Lake Elmo, MN

Jon Jacobs 715-386-7822
703 Summer St.
Hudson, WI

Praise for the chapter from State TU...

"Just a note of congratulations to your Chapter for all the fine conservation work you have been doing. The victories you are achieving reflect a lot of 'sweat equity' on the part of your members. The Wisconsin T.U.ers should take pride in the fine work of the Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter."

Sincerely,

Stephen M. Born, Chair

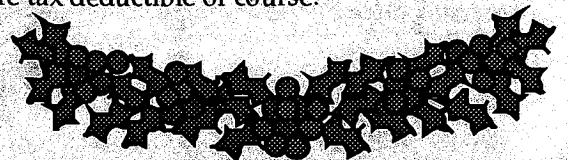
Natural Resources Board, T.U.

News from KLRT...

During the month of October, the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust completed five new conservation easements, adding 510 additional acres to lands already protected. All these easements were contributed by members of KLRT, families who own land along the river. This will add 3/4 mile of public access to the Kinni. The Land Trust also received a matching grant of \$200,000 for land and conservation easement acquisition. This will allow it to act quickly to secure property along the river when it becomes available. Given by a nationally known conservation organization, KLRT must raise \$2 to leverage each \$1 of the grant. Seen as a healthy challenge, KLRT officials are certain that the money can be raised. This will make a total of \$600,000 available for preserving the Kinnickinnic.

Time to say Thanks...

At this season of the year, many of us count our blessings for the good things in our lives, and one of those things is the opportunity to fish for wild trout in clear, cold local streams. Express your thanks in the form of a card or letter, or perhaps a small gift, to those landowners who graciously allowed you to cross their land, to the DNR staff who look after the health of our rivers, and to fellow conservationists both local and national. Perhaps this would be a good time to make a financial gift to Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter of Trout Unlimited, so that our ongoing stewardship will not falter. All gifts are tax deductible of course.



Skip's Loose Threads...

Bankers take risks and raise interest...

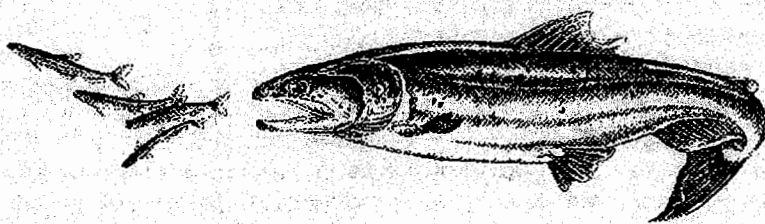
Got cabin fever? Can't seem to concentrate at work? Too cold outside? If any of these symptoms afflict you, you're not alone. Most trout fishermen suffer similarly at this time of year. One of the things I do to help ease the pangs is to study my fishing log to see if there are any lessons I can deduce from my season's interactions with trout.

When I looked back over the season just passed, and read my notebooks, I was surprised to find references to spooking several large trout hiding at the edge of the bank on the inside of bends. When approaching these places, I would usually assume that the most and biggest fish would be along the bank on the outside of the bend where the water is quickest and deepest. That's logical: lots of protection, good food supply, oxygenated water. But four times this season, when I've approached upstream into the shallow, inside part of the bend in order to cast to the best looking water, I've disturbed fish that for some reason had preferred the shallow water. In most of these cases, an eddy had formed, so that the current actually moved upstream near the shallow bank. Also, there was overhanging grass that provided a little shelter, even though the water was only a few inches deep. Most interesting of all, the trout in these places were not just tiddlers, but healthy, robust fish.

What were they doing there? Most of them would be vulnerable to Herons and Kingfishers, but evidently the living was good enough to overcome those natural drawbacks. In any location that an eddy is formed, food does not continuously move downstream, but simply goes round and round, often gathering in the center of the pool in a foam patch which contains all sorts of insects and larva in addition to leaves and twigs. The wariness of a trout in shallow water was evident by the quickness with which the fish scooted away when I approached. I supposed that the fish had found a little cover under the grass bank, and from there would dart out at intervals to snatch a morsel. I thought that perhaps the fish had been hunting for terrestrials which might drop off the grass, but the first fish I spooked in shallow water was in early May, and the last was in late September, when few terrestrials were about.

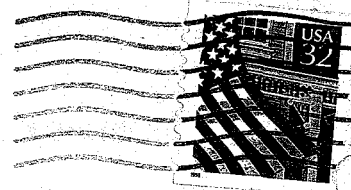
I didn't catch any of these fish, of course. I simply noticed that they came from an unexpected place when they quickly swam back into deeper water. I wonder how I could approach and tempt one of these 'bankers.' Would an ant drifted in the film work? Facing upstream, I could deliver a slack line cast as if I were fishing downstream and get a foot or two of float in the eddy current next to the bank. A conventional cast would drag almost instantly with the current going away from me.

I find the unanswered questions of trout fishing endlessly fascinating, and I feel that I learn more from my failures than from my successes. Maybe I'll form a theory of fishing for 'bankers' this winter, but even if I don't, I'll remember to approach those bends a lot more carefully next year.





**KIAP-TU-WISH
TROUT UNLIMITED
P.O. BOX 483
HUDSON, WI 54016**



KIAP-TU-WISH OFFICERS:

President: Tony Stifter	715-549-5708
Vice President: Ross Nelson	715-386-9752
Treasurer: Chuck Goossen	715-386-5137
Secretary: Richard Lindholm	715-386-5394

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ellen Clark	612-426-0147
Chuck Goossen	715-386-5137
Skip James	612-436-1565
Kent Johnson	715-386-5299
Andy Lamberson	715-386-7568
Brent Sittlow	715-386-0820

RIP-RAP EDITOR

DEADLINES

Skip James	Jan. 12/15/97
16323 St. Mary's Drive	Feb. 1/15/98
Lakeland, MN 55043	Mar. 2/15/98
Fax: 612-436-8555	
E-mail: kplmstr2@aol.com	

Now on the Internet at:

<http://www.spacestar.com/users/lambcom/kiap.html>

Visit our expanded and enhanced website

RifRaf...

Poetry, Fiction, Humor, Reviews, Music?

"The Anglers Song"

Henry Lawes, arr. Skip James

1. Man's life is but vain; for 'tis sub-ject to pain, and sor-row and short as a bubble;
2. But we'll take no care if the wea-ther proves fair, nor will we vex now, though it rain.

'Tis a hodgepodge of business and mo-ney and care, and care, and mo-ney, and trouble.
We'll ban-ish all sor-row and sing 'til to-mor-row, and an-gle and an-gle a-gain!

Henry Lawes was the leading English songwriter of the 17th century. (b. 1596-d. 1662)