



## The Drift: Words from our President.



Tom Schnadt photo

Jim Olive, an instructor with Chain Saw Safety Specialists; Mike Holst, landowner; and Randy Arnold, Kiap's volunteer coordinator

**Chainsaw Training:** Faced with the challenge of meeting new chainsaw training certification for volunteers working on habitat projects, Randy Arnold, with an assist from Nate Anderson with the WDNR, set up a training session Saturday, January 14. Mike and Suzie Holst agreed to host the training. Their heated maintenance garage served as the indoor classroom and their easement along the Trimble for the field training. Kudos to Randy for addressing this challenge in a thoughtful, direct manner and getting Kiap members certified for future habitat work.

### Holiday Conservation Banquet:

There are a few E-bay sales outstanding, but it is safe to say that the banquet will net over \$10,000. One of the reasons for the success was the popularity of the pre-banquet raffle sales for the Norling bamboo rod, as well as the generous donations of premium rods and other gear by Kiap members. The committee was saddened to learn that some guests were disappointed in their meals. We've had extensive conversations with the Lake Elmo Inn and are convinced that won't be an issue next year. Next year's banquet is set for Thursday, December 7th.

**Habitat Project Work:** This year's major project is the Trimble Holst easement. Funding for this project is provided by NRCS and expires in 2017. Gary Horvath is engaged in grant writing for the Parker Creek culvert project in Alden Township. Depending on our success in funding this project, it may happen in 2017. Loren Haas is active in grant writing for the Trimble Gutting easement which is targeted for 2018. Kiap has budgeted funding for the Parker Creek project and Gutting easement.

**WITU Youth Camp Scholarship:** The fourth annual Youth Fishing Camp will be Thursday, 7/20 to Sunday, 7/23. The location will be at the Pine Lake Bible Camp near Waupaca. The camp is open to youth ages 12-16 and teaches skills for fresh water fishing, sportsmanship and conservation. Kiap sponsors one youth each year to the camp. The next issue of RipRap will detail how to apply for the scholarship. So please

*{continued on page 2}*

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



**TROUT  
UNLIMITED**

Volume 10 | Issue 6  
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**Next chapter meeting:**  
KIAP-ON-TAP on February 1st

Join us for an evening of fly tying, storytelling and beer sipping on February 1st at Rush River Brewing in River Falls. Instead of an agenda and formal program we'll mingle and visit with local guides, fly tiers, writers, artists and each other.

6:30-8:30 pm  
Rush River Brewing  
990 Antler Ct, River Falls, WI 54022

### FRONT PAGE PHOTO:

*The photo above? Shelf ice on a Driftless stream in January 2017.*

### DON'T FORGET:

- Visit the K-TU website & Facebook page for news, announcements & updates.
- The next RipRap deadline is Friday, February 10th.
- Send info to: [manion.maria@gmail.com](mailto:manion.maria@gmail.com)

RIPRAP: Restoration, Improvement & Preservation through Research And Projects

{The Drift... from page 1}

share with girls and boys who you think would be interested in learning how to fish. Reviews of the program from past participants Joel Duncan and Grady McAbee have been very positive.

### Great Waters Expo 3/17 to 3/19:

The new location for the Expo is Hamline University. We need volunteers to staff Kiap's booth. This is a fun activity and a great way for new Kiap members to get involved. If you're interested in staffing the booth, please contact me by e-mail, [thschnad@hotmail.com](mailto:thschnad@hotmail.com) or by phone, 651-245-5163. ~Tom Schnadt

## Upcoming Events

### KIAP-ON-TAP

- Rush River Brewery
- 990 Antler Ct, River Falls, WI
- Wednesday, February 1st
- 6:30-8:30PM

### WI TU State Banquet

- Best Western Waterfront Hotel
- Oshkosh, WI
- Saturday, February 4th
- 4:30-9:00PM

### River Falls Fly Fishing Film Festival

- UWRF University
- Friday, March 3rd
- Doors open at 5:00PM
- The show starts at 7:00PM
- Tickets are \$15, available at Lund's Fly Shop
- Kiap-TU-Wish will have a booth in the concourse

### Great Waters Expo

- Hamline University
- March 17th- 19th
- Check website for hours
- [greatwatersflyexpo.com](http://greatwatersflyexpo.com)
- Kiap-TU-Wish will have a booth
- Booth volunteers needed

HELLO  
My name is...

Hotshot Volunteer

## Upcoming Board Member Election

Kiap-TU-Wish elects board members at their annual March chapter business meeting. At this year's meeting there will be three, 3-year terms open: John Carlson, Maria Manion and Tom Henderson who has decided to step down from the board. Tom has been a key contributor to the board for eight years. He served two years as chapter president, served as chapter treasurer and has been very active in all aspects of habitat restoration work, from writing grants to on-site field work. Tom has been a great resource for me in understanding the details and nuances of TU. He always provided a well-researched and reasoned opinion when the board needed to make difficult decisions.

I'm pleased to announce that two board members are running for re-election: John Carlson and Maria Manion. The board has nominated Perry Palin, a lifelong trout fisherman and author of two popular fly fishing books, to fill out the slate.

You can vote for candidates if you attend the March chapter meeting, so we hope to see you March 3rd.

*Background Information: Positions on the board are three-year terms elected by the general membership at the March chapter meeting and board members may be reelected. Officer positions are one-year terms elected by the new board of directors at the first March board meeting. The only limit on officer re-election is a maximum of three years for the treasurer and president.*  
~Tom Schnadt

### Kiap Board Member Candidates



<u>Name</u>	<u>Term</u>
John Carlson	3 year
Maria Manion	3 year
Perry Palin	3 year
Write in nomination(s)	

## River Falls Trout Fishing Clinic



*A happy attendee of last year's trout fishing clinic in River Falls.*

The Kiap-TU-Wish chapter will once again conduct a fly fishing clinic in River Falls. The date for this year's clinic is Saturday June 3rd. Mark your calendars; you'll want to be a part of this very friendly, very invigorating experience. Last year's clinic drew twenty participants and roughly ten or so K-TU members who served as instructors, mentors, lunch servers and fishing guides.\*

The clinic will run from 1:00-9:00 PM and will cover casting, knots, entomology, fishing strategy and wading safety. The chapter will provide supper and guided fishing in the evening. Some of last year's participants actually caught some trout!

So, after marking your calendars, make plans to volunteer for this once a year love-fest.

~Mike Alwin

\*Stupidly, I neglected to record the names of all the members who helped. My apologies. I will try not to let that happen again.

## Volunteers Wanted

Kiap-TU-Wish gets a lot of last-minute requests for volunteer help. Requests can be for activities like *Trout in the Classroom*, *Bugs in the Classroom* or habitat work such as seeding and mulching. If you have a flexible schedule, enjoy meeting and working with interesting people and get satisfaction from helping others, please e-mail or call me and we'll put you on our hotshot volunteer list. I can be reached by e-mail at [thschnad@hotmail.com](mailto:thschnad@hotmail.com) or via phone at 651-245-5163. ~Tom Schnadt



## Editor's Note

If you attend any of the chapter meetings and spend a few minutes listening to the general hum of conversation, you'll hear two, sometimes three, pronunciations for the first part of our chapter name: /kaɪ • 'æp/ versus /ki • 'æp/ versus /ki • 'əp/

Or think of it this way: kī (as in kite) yap (as in trap) versus kē (like a key) • yap (as in trap) versus kē (like a key) • yop (as in hop)

Some would argue for one pronunciation over another, looking to the derivation of our name as a guide (Kiap-TU-Wish = **KI**nnickinnic, **AP**ple — **T**rou**U**nlimited — **WI**llow, Ru**SH**), but does it matter? We're in it together after all, and as Ira and George said, if we ever part, then that might break my heart. (Full disclosure, I say "Kī-yap" Two Wish.)

We've got a busy spring coming up and plenty of volunteer opportunities. Please consider lending a hand. We'll need volunteers to staff the Kiap-TU-Wish booth at the Great Waters Fly Expo and Greg Olson will be scheduling release dates for the classroom-raised brown trout. At the releases, Kiap volunteers are on hand to answer trouty questions, give casting instruction and generally enjoy the excitement. Some TIC programs will be incorporating a Bugs in the Classroom session. This is great fun! Contact Ton Schnadt to volunteer and get your name on the hotshot volunteer list.

Finally, the next RipRap deadline is coming up fast this month: Friday, February 10. We'd (I'd) love to hear from you. Any journal entries out there? Things you'd like to see in the newsletter one of these months? Send me an email or grab my arm at the next chapter meeting.

~Maria Manion

*You say either and I say either  
You say neither and I say neither  
Either, either neither, neither  
Let's call the whole thing off*

*You like potato and I like potahto  
You like tomato and I like tomahto  
Potato, potahto, tomato, tomahto  
Let's call the whole thing off*

*But oh, if we call the whole thing off  
Then we must part  
And oh, if we ever part  
then that might break my heart*

~ Ira and George Gershwin lyrics from *Let's Call The Whole Thing Off*

**Next RipRap deadline: Friday, February 10**  
**Send info to: [manion.maria@gmail.com](mailto:manion.maria@gmail.com)**

*January 2017 / Hay Creek / MN  
~Greg Olson*

[art: the expression or application of human creative skill and imagination, typically in a visual form such as painting or sculpture, producing works to be appreciated primarily for their beauty or emotional power.]

Today I find myself replaying a cast from yesterday's fishing on Hay Creek over and over in my head. In the wide, deep pool I was fishing, Hay Creek makes a 90-degree bend and the current, after bouncing off the bank, slows down to next to nothing upon entering the pool. Brown trout were rising to midges in the clear, cold water.

I cannot sing (well, anyway), play a musical instrument, paint, sculpt, or whittle for that matter. In short, I have never considered myself an artist. Yet, to take into account the multiple slow currents and the wind, in order to send a size 20 Parachute Adams out onto the water, took some "creative skill and imagination." To watch the 12-foot 6x leader unfold and drop the fly gently in the bubble line, see it float that foot above the biggest fish in the pod, watch the fish rise off the bottom and take my fly—the scene framed by a barren cornfield, giving way to woods and beyond them, tall bluffs with snow falling—yes, it was beautiful and emotional; it was art.



Greg Olson photos



# A Lesser Stream of the Driftless Region

By Jonathan Jacobs

**"Where a man feels at home, outside of where he's born, is where he's meant to go." – Ernest Hemingway, Green Hills of Africa**

Tom Helgeson, a friend and mentor, once told me about a trip he'd made to an alleged trout stream in southeast Minnesota. He said that after a considerable amount of fruitless casting he thought to himself, "What a great place to fish, there are no fish here!" What he meant was that at least the lousy fishing produced some solitude, which was what he had been seeking in the first place. I wasn't deliberately seeking solitude when I fished the beat-up little creek pictured above this past July, but I wasn't necessarily expecting to catch fish, either.

I had fished this creek a few times several years ago and had done just OK. My assumption was—considering that trout populations in the "good" streams in the area had taken a severe beating the last couple of years—that I'd not have much hope for success in this backbencher of a creek. I headed there only after finding my primary destination, a river with a better reputation, surprisingly off-color. Water clarity was good on the creek, I had to admit, but the midday sun and summery air temperatures militated against success, I thought. Still, I had a month's worth of trout angling desire pent up and no better plan forming in my mind. I geared up and waded in. The water had the stinging cold feel of a good spring creek and recent gully-washing rainstorms seemed to have done more good than harm to the holding water. The bottom was firm, a mixture of gravel

and coarse straw-colored limestone cobble. There were places where the water, so transparent in the shallows, looked dark and mysterious. The fish, if they were there, were probably less happy than I was by the way that the high water had pushed the foliage back on the banks, which allowed me somewhere to put my often errant backcasts.

Beat up or not, the creek sure looked like a trout stream and like my kind of trout stream at that—the kind that I have been fortunate to live at the edge of and have come to love and perhaps begin to know after more than thirty years. In addition to casting room, it had a declivity that produced sparkling riffles that dropped into deep slots ("deep" being a relative term, of course; there was nowhere that couldn't be waded) and sufficient sinuosity to create some intriguing elbow pools. Best of all, there were billowy white clouds in a blue sky in a slot over a narrow valley edged by limestone bluffs. Recollecting another conversation with Tom Helgeson, he once told me that he never had to see or hear the phrase "bead-head gold-ribbed hare's ear" again as he regarded it as the worst sort of angling cliché, a failure of the imagination. I have similarly recoiled at the phrase "hopper-dropper" and yet, there I was, cinching a weighted pheasant tail nymph to a length of tippet that was, in turn, tied to the bend of the Chernobyl Ant on the end of my leader. This was uncharted territory for me, and a fall

farther from grace, but I rationalized that while terrestrial season was in full swing, it couldn't hurt to run a fly through the bottom of the deeper slots.

Once I began fishing, I found the setup a challenge to fish effectively. It didn't cast all that well and I had the haunting feeling that fishing deeper under a standard indicator would have been easier and more effective. I learned that I had to watch the ant intently, as even the slightest change in its behavior likely indicated that a fish had grabbed the nymph. But grab it they did, and with surprising frequency. The fish, fat buttery-colored browns, were feisty and fought above their weight. The biggest of them may have been an "angler's foot" long, a measurement equal to a standard American ten inches.

The fishing was fascinating. The blend of the familiar and the new compelled me upstream, curious about what might be around the next bend and what the slot below the next riffle upstream might hold. I did this until the insistent throbbing in my recently malfunctioning left ankle overcame my curiosity. I turned around and headed back downstream. It was my first time in a long time to be surprised by how far I'd gone. I was hot, thirsty and tired by the time I reached the car and my ankle was sore enough that I had a hard time getting out of my wading boots. Even so, I felt great. I was where I was meant to go. 🐟



# Trout in the Classroom

## 2017 Spawning Run

This year's "spawning run," as my wife has dubbed it, took place on January 6th and was much less eventful than last year when I drove to Seven Pines Hatchery in Frederic, Wisconsin, in a snow storm, and repeatedly got lost due to all road signs being plastered with snow. This year, however, I did witness the most intense sun dogs I have ever seen when the sun came out and -15 degree temps had made plenty of ice crystals in the air. I took that as a good omen. Upon arrival at Seven Pines, the hatchery owner informed me that someone from the Menomonie schools was coming that Monday to pick up eggs as well. It was satisfying to learn that the TIC system we have assisted them with was working for other school districts too.

The first stop after picking up the eggs was with Mr. Schieffer's Amery High School Class at 9 am. He was teaching chemistry at the time and invited me to guest lecture, which I turned down; after all, I was on a tight schedule.

My next stop was just down the road at Amery Intermediate School. Two students were waiting for me in the office and escorted me down the hallways to an open area in the middle of the school. Mr. Fisk is heading up the program here, and he had the tank set-up in this area, where the entire school can check in on the trout. I thought this was a great idea. I gave a presentation on TU and TIC to sixty 4th- and 5th-graders. Talking to some students afterwards, I was given the nickname "Groovy Greg," complimented on my Milwaukee Brewers hat (you don't get that in Minnesota!) and promised they would name one of the trout after me, which is quite an honor.

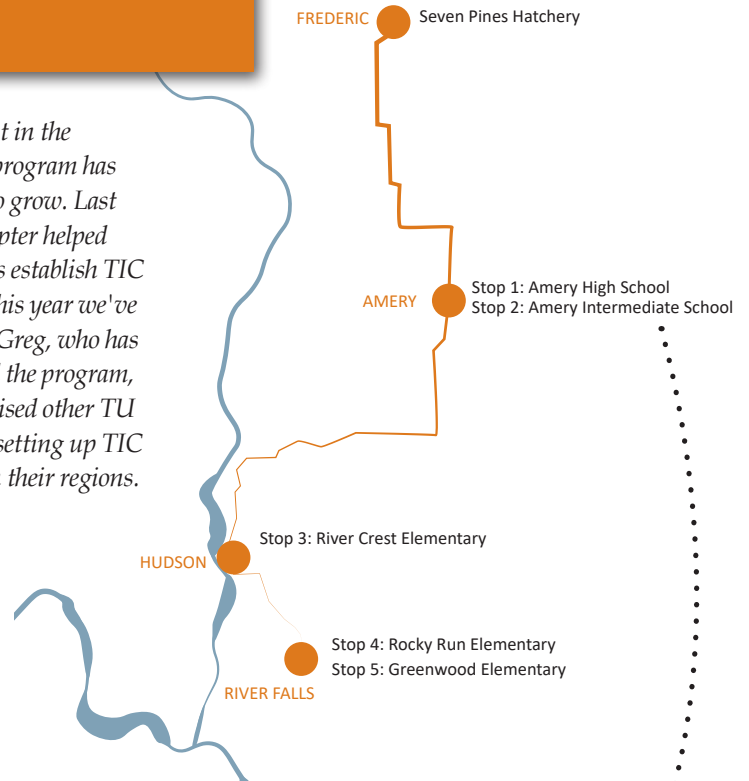
Next up was the ninety (yes, 90) 5th-graders at River Crest Elementary in Hudson. Mr. Mueller heads up this program and when I entered his room, 90 students started chanting "TROUT! TROUT! TROUT!" At this point Groovy Greg had goose pimples! So this is what a rock star feels like before taking the stage!

After the presentation in Hudson, it was off to River Falls to deliver eggs and a presentation to Mr. Young at Rocky Run Elementary and Mr. Follstad at Greenwood Elementary, each of whom are new to TIC and had around 20 kids in attendance. I am going to need to study up for the release parties this spring. Tons of great questions were asked, and I was stumped by a few: "How many eggs does a typical brown trout carry? What is the Wisconsin record brown trout? How many trout total live in the United States?"

Whew!!! It was a whirlwind tour, but I enjoyed every minute of it. These kids were really engaged, asked great questions, and we are getting our message out there to the next generation.

~ Greg Olson

*Kiap's Trout in the Classroom program has continued to grow. Last year the chapter helped three schools establish TIC programs; this year we've helped five. Greg, who has spearheaded the program, has also advised other TU chapters in setting up TIC programs in their regions.*



"Groovy Greg" Olson delivering trout eggs to Amery Intermediate School.

Jeremiah Fisk photos



This series of articles about caddisflies is a continuation of *Knowing Your Bugs* which Mike Alwin penned for RipRap last year. If you'd like a copy of last year's *Knowing Your Bugs* — which focused on mayflies — shoot me an email and I'll pass them along: [manion.maria@gmail.com](mailto:manion.maria@gmail.com).

## KNOWING YOUR BUGS: CADDIS Part I

By Mike Alwin

Last year we discussed the observation that there are approximately 700 species of mayflies in North America spread over 25 or so genera. We learned that this level of speciation allowed mayflies to occupy lots of different niches in our trout streams. Caddis, on the other hand, are a slightly different story. The last time I counted there were over 1,200 species of caddis in North America spread through 142 genera. This advanced level of speciation allows caddisflies to inhabit many more niches in many more habitats, from Canada all the way to Mexico. This is obviously great for caddis, but that diversity makes it tough for an angler to figure out what we're fishing over.

Entomologists (those folks who know stuff) consider caddis to be more sophisticated insects than mayflies because of their lifestyle. Caddis are complete metamorphisers, going through a pupation stage. Though they're related to moths, there is some evidence that they share common ancestors with alderflies and dobsonflies. Don't ask me how that's possible.

Most caddis are annual, with only a few species being bivoltine. The larva of most species are case builders. Cases are specific to species and are dependent on the benthic and riparian habitats. Translation: you are unlikely to find a

specific caddis in an area that lacks their required building material.

Larva typically go through five instars, shedding their exoskeletons that many times within a span of several months. A few weeks before emergence the larva seals its case or creates a cocoon and begins pupation, changing from a larva to a pharate adult. This process takes three or four weeks. When ready to emerge, the insect chews its way out of the cocoon and crawls, swims or, filling its exoskeleton with gas, rockets to the surface (depending on whose observation you believe). The pharate immediately splits its exoskeleton and is airborne, although some species are good runners and may run on the surface for several seconds. At this point caddis are sexually mature.

Adult caddis typically live 4-8 weeks and therefore, unlike mayflies, need to feed. They are called herbivorous feeders because they feed exclusively on water found on plants. When they've finally finished their indolent lollygagging they join a mating swarm. Copulation occurs in the vegetation or on the ground, neatly mimicking the proverbial roll in the hay. Oviposition occurs in a couple of different ways. Females of many species can be observed flying across the water surface depositing eggs by dipping their abdomen (sometimes repeatedly) in the

water. Some females may dive or crawl beneath the surface to release the egg mass.

As an aside, the prudent angler should take note that caddis are available for the trout's dinner at only three times during this life cycle: 1. when it exits the cocoon and drifts along the substrate prior to heading to the surface; 2. when it arrives at the surface as the pharate and before it takes wing as an adult; 3. when the adult returns to the surface for ovipositing. (The larva of some caddis are occasionally found drifting near the substrate and are a welcome addition to the trout's diet.)

Because mayflies are a simpler organism, many people have studied them and much has been written about them. An aquatic insect key can help we unscientific types identify and read about the various genera, making us better informed and forearmed when we head to the stream. Caddis are a different story. Because of their vast speciation (7000 worldwide) and the exceedingly wide variety of habitats and niches in which they can be found, it's no wonder that Gary LaFontaine referred to them as "the graduate school of an angler's education." (Caddisflies, 1981, p.153)

Our next few issues will attempt to make sense of this hash and send you down an enlightened path. 🐞



# FLY TIER'S CORNER: Ron's dubbed grub

Fly: Ron Kuehn

Recipe & Photo: Brian Smolinski



## Fly Recipe

Hook	Daiichi 1560 Size 10
Thread	Uni 6/0 136D – Olive
Bead	1/8" Black Nickel
Body	Microfiber Dust Mop "Finger"
Collar	Senyo's Lazer Dub – Dark Tan

*If tying flies is something you'd like to learn, there are plenty of people who can help. Check out these two groups for a start:*

- *Minne-Wisco Bar Flies*  
Find them on Facebook or contact Brian Smolinski for details
- *St. Paul Fly Tiers*  
[www.stpaulflytiers.com](http://www.stpaulflytiers.com)

## Instructions

- [1] Start the thread behind the bead and lay a base of thread back to the bend of the hook.
- [2] Place a drop of super glue or UV resin on top of the thread base.
- [3] Cut a "finger" from the dust mop and trim so it is a little less than one and a half times the length of the hook.
- [4] Place the mop "finger" on top of the thread base and lash down with a couple turns of thread and cured UV resin.
- [5] Wrap back and forth over the body with wide-spaced spiral wraps to secure it to the hook shank, and bring thread up to just behind the bead.
- [6] Take out a clump of the Lazer Dub, pull the fibers apart, and stack them together to get the ends to somewhat line up.
- [7] Tie the clump of dubbing fibers onto the fly with a loose wrap in the middle of the clump and work them around the body of the fly so half the clump is covering the body of the fly and the other half is sticking out over the bead.
- [8] Make a couple more wraps of thread to secure the fibers, then pull back the forward facing fibers and wrap in front of them.
- [9] Dub a small amount of dubbing fibers onto the thread and wrap just behind the bead to fill any gap left between the collar and the bead.
- [10] Whip finish to make a thin thread collar.

## Kiap-TU-Wish

### Board Members & Contact Info

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**Jonathan Jacobs** is a chapter member and de facto, monthly columnist.

**Brian Smolinski** is a chapter member and the proprietor of Lund's Fly Shop in River Falls.

**Greg Olson** is a chapter board member, the chapter's youth education coordinator, and Trout Unlimited's TIC coordinator for Wisconsin.

Questions? Stop in at Lund's Fly Shop or email Brian at [brian@lundsflyshop.com](mailto:brian@lundsflyshop.com)



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news . . .

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Next chapter meeting:  
KIAP-ON-TAP on February 1st

6:30-8:30 pm  
Rush River Brewing  
990 Antler Ct, River Falls, WI 54022



Take the Main Street Exit off of WI-35 to Paulson Road (the frontage road that runs adjacent to Shopko). Rush River Brewery is on Antler Ct., just off of Paulson Road.



Join us for an evening of fly tying, storytelling and beer sipping on February 1st at Rush River Brewing in River Falls. Instead of an agenda and formal program we'll mingle and visit with local guides, fly tiers, writers, artists and each other.

Hope to see you there!