



# RIP - RAP



Editor: Ken Hanson

RESTORATION & PRESERVATION  
THROUGH RESEARCH & PROJECTS

MAY 1995

KIAP-TU-WISH CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED

## Notes From The President

This issue marks the end of another season of Rip-Rap. Thanks to Ken Hanson for putting together a fine publication. This also marks the end of my first full year as president and I would like to take a moment to editorialize. It is easy to get depressed about the continuous threats to the rivers we all cherish. It seems that in an age of commercialism, we are loosing touch with the land and water. I have heard people who I greatly admire and who have given of themselves to the chapter, state that we should "fish like hell" because it will all soon be gone. I must admit that I often feel that way myself.

I recently had the opportunity to talk with Middle School students from River Falls. After the meeting a young girl asked, "how could this be happening" to the Kinni. She had fire in her eyes and a resolve to make a difference. We must continue the fight, if not for ourselves, for that young girl, and all future generations.

Have a pleasant summer and a successful season.

Gary



## MAY MEETING NOTICE

**WHEN:** Wed. May 3  
**TIME:** Dinner at 6:30  
Meeting at 8:00  
**WHERE:** JR Ranch

Marty Engle, Area Fisheries Manager for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will be giving his annual presentation to the Chapter. This year Marty plans to share information on what projects he has in the works.

Marty's presentations are always well attended so please come early for a good seat.

Hope to see you at dinner.

## *St. Croix To Begin County Wide Planning*

St. Croix County will begin its planning and zoning initiative with a kickoff meeting Thursday, May 4, 1995 at 7:30 P.M. at the Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College in New Richmond. The meeting will feature Harvey Jacobs, Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at UW-Madison. Topics include Planning and Property Rights; Protection or Taking?; and Planning Truths and Consequences. The public is encouraged to attend. Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College is located on Hwy. 65 South in New Richmond.

## Willow River Regulations Likely To Change In 1996

As a result of voting at the April 10th Fish and Wildlife Rules Hearings, regulations on the Willow River will likely undergo changes in 1996. The Willow River above Mounds Dam including Anderson Springs will change from category 3 to 2. Below Mounds Dam the river will become category 5 with artificials only and a 1 fish over 16" bag limit. The proposed April 1 opener was defeated and is being removed from the proposed changes. While not yet official, these rule changes would offer the protection needed for this heavily fished section of the Willow River.

Another item of interest was the proposed early season for the southern part of the state. This proposal was defeated by a 3 to 1 margin statewide. While the vote is non binding, it constitutes a major obstacle to early season proponents. Public hearings on this issue will be held in May and June in the cities of Dodgeville, LaCrosse, Madison, Milwaukee and possibly Prairie du Chien.

Two advisory questions from the Conservation Congress were also acted on. The first dealt with potential trout hatchery closings. The statewide vote was 12 to 1 against closing any hatcheries. The second advisory question asked if the DNR could use 10% of trout stamp money to fund inland trout stream surveys. This passed by a 2 to 1 margin statewide.

## Skip's Loose Threads

The flyshop has recently increased its stock of multi-hued materials: barred ginger capes, Arizona sparkle yarn, dyed grizzly, new fur blends. These wonderful items brought to mind the precepts of color and light I first learned from Jack Atherton's 1951 book, *The Fly and the Fish*. Atherton, an artist by trade, was trying to give the "semblance of life" to his artificial flies by using the principles of the impressionist school of painting, which insisted that pure color applied to canvas was far less vibrant than dots of complimentary and relative colors, which, together, would create the impression of a solid color. The impressionists, principally Monet and Degas, found natural examples for their theory in the coloration of birds and animals, plants and flowers.

As a fly tier, Jack Atherton

brought the impressionist theory full circle, in promoting the use of materials with a "color breakup" to make his imitations more lifelike. Some common materials with this built in quality are hares ear, with its multiple colors, wood duck flank feathers with their almost invisible barring, peacock herl with its iridescence, and grouse hackle, both multi-colored, and barred. Of course there are many others, including grizzly hackle, pheasant tail fibers, muskrat and beaver fur. Isn't it amazing how many perennially productive flies are tied with these few materials.

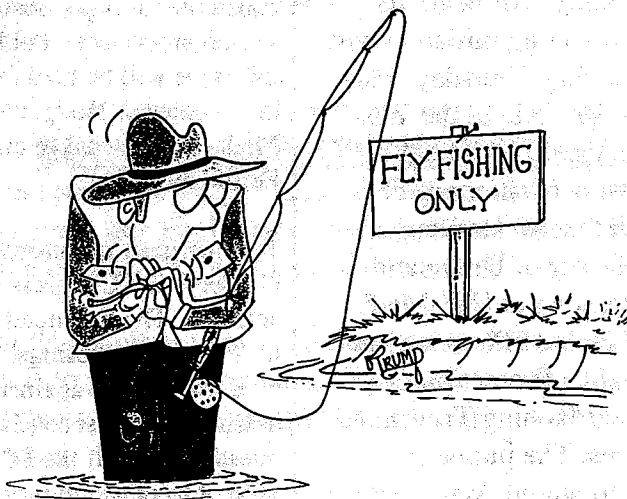
Recent years have brought a plethora of fine synthetic materials which have greatly increased the spectrum of possibilities for fly tiers. Unfortunately, however, many of these materials are made only in solid colors. Clear antron can give some sparkle to a drab monohued dubbing, but the final

result would be much more lifelike if many different colors were blended together to produce the effect. So many brands of synthetic dubbing proudly offer twenty to sixty different colors!. I would much rather have ten colors and produce intervening shades by blending.

Chicken farms produce magnificent quality rooster necks that make the India necks of twenty years ago look pitiful, but, unfortunately, most fly tiers buy necks in solid colors. The finest dun necks are not a solid color, but have a rusty tinge at the tips of the barbs, and perhaps a slightly darker center stem. Most purveyors of genetic necks advertise their consistent color. I'd rather have a barred neck, a cree, a furnace or a badger, than a solid color. The "semblance of life" that Jack Atherton sought at his bench a half century ago is what I aim for in my fly tying. It's no accident that the Adams is such a 'killer' fly. The red and grizzly hackle mix makes it look more alive.

In conclusion, try to use more multihued materials in your flytying, and you will catch more fish. And, in case you have some time to spend reading, a first hand acquaintance with *The Fly and the Fish* will pay great dividends.

Atherton, John; *The Fly and the Fish* 1951, Macmillan Co, New York (reprint)  
1971, Freshet Press, New York.  
LC number 74-175052



With a daring push of the envelope, Larry tied on a San Juan Worm as a dropper for the egg pattern



## JOIN TROUT UNLIMITED AND HELP PROTECT THE RESOURCE

Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter  
Chapter #0168

The Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter of Trout Unlimited was founded in 1972 for the purpose of protecting, improving and restoring the trout habitat in western Wisconsin. We derive our name from local rivers of particular concern to us: the **Kinnickinnic, Apple, Willow and Rush**. Over the years we have worked closely with private citizens, local governments and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on various projects such as storm water monitoring and management, bank stabilization, stream bank debrushing, fish population surveys, placement of in-stream habitat structures, fishing clinics, and fish stocking. Conservation minded persons can find rewarding work within our chapter ranging from preparing mailings to streamside projects.

There are also pleasant social experiences with Kiap-TU-Wish. We hold regular meetings from September through May on the first Wednesday of the Month. Meetings are held at the *JR Ranch* located just north of interstate 94 (exit #4) in Hudson, Wisconsin. Meetings begin at 8pm with dinner starting at 6:30 (reservations are not needed). Our meetings feature presentations on angling, flytying, stream ecology, and water quality as well as latest issues that are affecting our local, regional and national resources. Of course there are the usual fishing stories and tall tales and we would be very interested in hearing yours at the next meeting! Please join us!

Membership includes a subscription of the national magazine *Trout* and the state council newspaper Wisconsin Trout, both published quarterly. The chapter also produces a newsletter, *RIP-RAP* published monthly, September through May.

### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

**YES!** Please begin my one year membership to the Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter of Trout Unlimited #0168

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

Trout Unlimited  
Membership Services  
14101 Parke Long CT  
Chantilly, VA 22021-1645

☐ Regular Membership (\$25)

☐ Family Membership (\$30)

☐ Payment Enclosed

☐ Please Bill Me

☐ Mastercard# \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Visa # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

April 15, 1995

Mr. Gary Horvath  
President  
Kiap-Tu-Wish Chapter  
Trout Unlimited

Dear Gary,

I hope that you can take some time away from the Stormwater Management Plan to address a current and serious problem. If you are not aware, it has been 197 days since the end of trout season and there are still 22 days to go before the new season starts. Some of us are having major withdrawal problems, and your counseling and intervention is desperately needed.

I didn't realize how serious my personal problem was until last week. After a long weekend of rereading six-year-old issues of *American Angler*, I stumbled into Bob Mitchell's Fly Shop as soon as it opened Monday morning. After one half hour, Mike Alwin's trout fishing theories started to make sense. It was only then that I realized the severity of my problem.

As you may remember, this is when I called for your assistance. We both thought that your suggestion to call the 1-800-ASK-HELP, advertised in the back of *Fly Fisherman* seemed like a logical course of action, but I regret to tell you that it did not help. After a 20 minute wait (it appears that many of us are in the same distressed position), I finally reached the publication's psychiatrist, Dr. Backcast. His first idea was to take a month-long trip to New Zealand. However, after a long discussion, it was agreed that this was only available to the leisurely bourgeoisie, such as our friend Mike Spitler.

His second suggestion of planting rainbow trout in the bathtub seemed to be making progress until I ran into a major obstacle. My wife was starting to accept the concept until I insisted on having hellgrammites, sculpins and crawfish for forage. This pushed her over the edge, and her rancorous diatribe is still ricocheting around my skull. I don't know how many times she mentioned that she should have married Bill, the intelligent, handsome, exciting doctor who occasionally went walleye fishing. As soon as she settles down, I intend to let her know the truth about Bill. She needs to know that "an exciting walleye fisherman" is a ridiculous oxymoron.

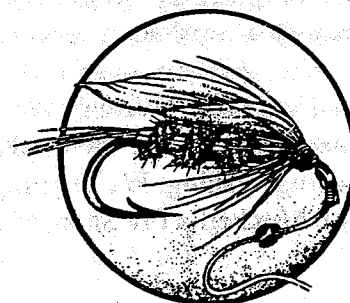
Gary, how many flies can someone tie during a winter? I now have a complete set of crippled emergers; each one with a different broken leg and damaged wing section, covering every combination and permutation of wind direction, water speed and humidity. I even tied a combination fore/aft caddis and sulphur for the compound hatches. As it looks like entomological perversion, I am not sure that I can ever expose it in public.

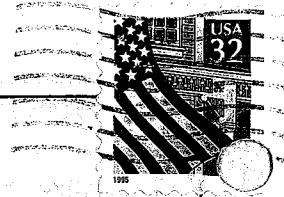
Forget the social security shortfall and the budget deficit. Is this winter ever going to end? Is the season ever going to begin? These are the only meaningful questions!

As usual, your prompt attention to this matter is appreciated.

Best regards,

N. Fro. S. Waters





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



### Meeting Schedule

1995

May 3: Marty Engel WI DNR

Sep 6:

Oct 4: Members Slide Show

Nov 1:

Dec 6: Holiday Banquet

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### KIAP-TU-WISH SPONSORS TROUT FISHING CLINIC

The Kiap-TU-Wish chapter of TU, working in conjunction with the River Falls Parks and Recreation Department, is presenting a one day Fly Fishing Clinic in River Falls. The date is Saturday, June 17th and the location is Glen Park and the beautiful Kinnickinnic River below.

The motivation for this clinic is to provide the citizens of River Falls with a reason to care about this beautiful resource. Our goal is to get the participants physically and emotionally involved with the Kinni. It is our belief that an aroused citizenry will cause the city administration to provide the kind of protection the Kinni deserves as a priority watershed.

We need your help. We call ourselves conservationists: Now's the time to prove it. We need volunteers to serve as guides and teachers. We need folks to help serve a light supper. We need people to volunteer some flies for the evenings fishing. We're going to help the Kinni and we want you to help us. To offer your support, simply call Bob Mitchell's Fly Shop, 612/770-5854. This is the time and this is the way.