



# RIP - RAP



Editor: Ken Hanson

**RESTORATION & PRESERVATION  
THROUGH RESEARCH & PROJECTS**

OCTOBER 1995

**KIAP-TU-WISH CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED**

## Notes From The President:

Its apparently open season on environmental protection efforts and common sense in Wisconsin. This past summer saw major setbacks to environmental stewardship with the elimination of the Office of the Public Intervenor and the politicization of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Locally, the St. Croix County Personnel Committee threatens the future of priority watershed status for the Kinnickinnic River by recommending that the needed administrative personnel, not be hired. Residents of New Richmond have voted to repair their dam on the Willow River while our efforts at removing the Mounds Dam meet with stiff political opposition. The old saying about when the going gets tough is certainly appropriate today. But there is some hope. Representative Spencer Black will be introducing legislation to restore the Office of the Public Intervenor and to restore the political independence of the DNR. St. Croix County Supervisors will be meeting on Tuesday, October 17 to decide whether to overrule the Personnel Committee and staff the position required to administer the Priority Watershed Program for the Kinnickinnic River. Both of these issues need our support. Once details of representative Black's proposal are known, members should contact their legislators in support of this legislation. We also

## OCTOBER MEETING NOTICE

**WHEN:** Wed. Oct. 4th  
**TIME:** Dinner at 6:30  
Meeting at 8:00  
**WHERE:** JR Ranch

Our program for October will feature Joe Marcino. Joe is a fisheries pathologist with the Minnesota DNR and an expert on fish diseases.

Hope to see you at dinner.

need residents of St. Croix County to contact the County Board Supervisor for their district and voice support for the Kinnickinnic River. If you are unsure of who your District Supervisor is, please give me a call at 715-425-8489.

*Gary*

## ***Water Resources Conference Scheduled***

The University of Minnesota and the American Society of Civil Engineers, Minnesota Section, will be sponsoring a Water Resources Conference at the Earle Brown Center, St. Paul Campus on October 24th. Concurrent sessions are offered on fen management issues, modeling, stormwater treatment, trout streams, and groundwater. Featured speakers at the trout

*see Conference on Page 4*

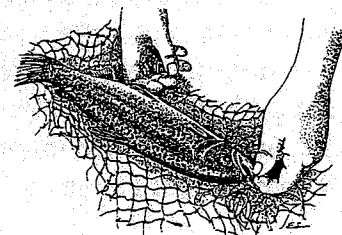
## **Wisconsin DNR Considering \$2,000,000 Price Tag To Repair Aging Dam**

The Governor and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will soon decide whether to spend nearly \$2,000,000 on repair of their aging dam on the Willow River in St. Croix County. Governor Thompson and DNR Secretary Meyer wish to maintain the dam as a sediment trap in an effort to protect the Little Falls Lake located just downstream. Both the Mounds Dam and Little Falls Lake are located within the Willow River State Park.

The Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter of Trout Unlimited favors removal of the structure which would supply only limited protection to the lake for 20 to 30 years. Removal costs are estimated at \$800,000. Trout Unlimited believes a portion of the money saved could be used to fund a previously postponed plan to correct the current water quality problems, stemming from siltation, in Little Falls Lake.

Chapter members are encouraged to contact Secretary Meyer and Governor Thompson and voice their opposition to repair.

*Gary Horvath*



## ***Skips Loose Threads***

On hot, August days like that one, I envy the trout their deep, cool tunnels between the weeds. My sweat soaked shirt attracted hordes of blood thirsty deer flies. The six foot thistles behind me deviled my back cast.. How satisfying it would be to simply immerse myself in that cooling stream, sending the residents scurrying for cover...the cows do it all the time.

Mike and I were fishing Trout Creek that Sunday afternoon, to the amusement of local boys swimming below Bucksnot dam. Fish were sporadically rising between waving fields of weed. Some rises were slashes, others extremely chaste, but there were no insects at all that we could see. It was nearly impossible to get a float of more than a few inches in that almost current less water. Gently moving mountains of greenery created such turbulence that a tippet was tugged in all directions at once. The final technical book about fly fishing for trout will explain how to succeed in the Summer.

I've had some success in the hot months with a beetle pattern that is simple to tie. Maybe you will too. The addition of the flash chenille makes the fly look so realistic that my wife Karen attempted to kill one with a fly swatter!

### **Dog Day Beetle:**

Hook: 14 dry fly (Mustad 94840, Tiemco 100, Daiichi 1190)

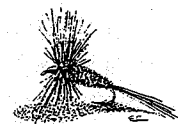
Thread: 6/0 black

Body: Three or four turns of black short flash chenille

Shell and Legs: Black deer hair.

Attach thread and wind just past the bend of the hook. Then spiral back to the midpoint. Align the tips of a small clump of black deer hair in a stacker, and tie in the tips starting at the midpoint of the hook. Don't let go! Continue wrapping the deer hair down tightly back to the hook bend. Now, you should have an unsightly tail of deer hair butts sticking out behind the hook. After attaching the chenille, spiral your thread forward to the hook eye. Take three or four turns of the chenille and tie off at the head. Using a dubbing needle, lift all those deer butts and hold them in your right hand. Then, bend them over the top of the hook and tie down with three or four wraps at the head.

This will flair the butts. Push the flaired butts back from the eye, and tie off with a whip finish. Then, take your scissors and cut off all but a few of the deer hair butts. I leave three on each side for legs, and two out the front for antennae. Make the legs short, and then, crumple the fly in your fingers. It will put joints in your legs! Be sure to use lots of floatant. If you cant see this fly, incorporate a bit of white or pink poly yarn when you form the head. Trout take this imitation very quietly, so watch carefully!



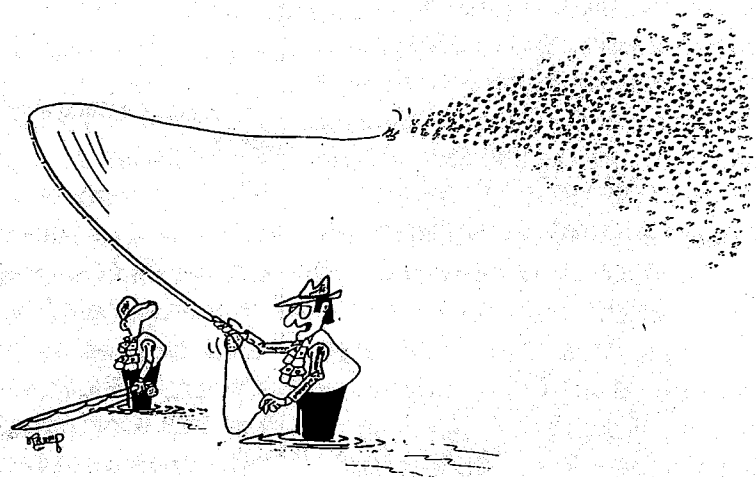
## ***Lost Spool***

A Hardy #6 spool containing a SA DT 4wt line was lost either on the Kinni or Rush. The spool was stored inside a green Orvis case. If found, please contact Forest Middleton at 612-593-1280.

## **Articles and Stories Needed For RIP-RAP**

For all you writers out there, I could use some help with material to keep the Rip-Rap going this season. I'm open to any kind of subject matter that you think the chapter members would find interesting: stories, articles, tips, reports, book and video reviews, etc.. Give me a call.

Ken Hanson 612-774-8807



"Yep... new pattern. They call it a Queen Bee..."

## THE JOURNEY: GIFT TO THE FISHERMEN

*N. Irv S. Waters*

The path winds across the open field, under a wooden fence,  
down a steep dirt rut, which twists through the timber,  
and onto an open grass plain with high limestone bluffs on one side.

The fishermen stop at the shrine  
and pay homage to the Trout God who smiles contently,  
knowing there can be no failure,  
for the beauty of the path precludes failure,  
while the beauty of the journey filters into the soul.

What does the circling hawk say?  
Has she seen the big greenback trout?  
What does she know about the river that we don't know?  
What does she know about life that we will never know?

The river, the rippling jewel, finally emerges,  
connecting the towering limestone bluffs,  
like the trout connect the fishermen.

\* \* \* \*

Fishing was good this day, the final day of the season.

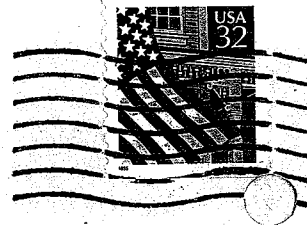
On the return trip the shrine is revisited  
to gratefully thank the Trout God for a successful fishing season.  
Memories flood with days of beauty,  
solitude, and companionship.

Thoughts of future seasons begin their birth.  
While the path remains fixed in space,  
the journey continues with anticipation and hope.

The fishermen's vision is directed into the sky,  
where a vacuum remains from the hawk's pathward flight.  
Does the hawk's journey continue,  
or is this the Trout God's gift to the fishermen?



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#### DEADLINES

NOV 10/20  
DEC 11/24  
JAN 12/22  
FEB 1/19

*Conference continued from Page 1*

the trout stream session will be Elliot Olson, Trout Unlimited, Minnesota State council chairman, Peter Dahm, Community Development Director, City of River Falls, Stephen King, Administrator, City of Savage and Dirk Peterson, Minnesota DNR Habitat and Development Coordinator. The respective topics covered will be: Goals for Protection of Trout Streams in Minnesota, Stormwater Management Plan, City of River Falls, City of Savage Alternative Urban Area Wide Review (AUAR) Process and DNR Approach to Trout Stream Management. Conference fees are \$110 before October 10 and \$120 at the door. For more information contact Lori Graven at (612)625-9023.

*Gary Horvath*

## HELP NEEDED WITH PROGRAMS

The chapter is in need of a Program Director. This person would be responsible for lining up speakers for monthly chapter meetings and writing up program descriptions for the newsletter. The Program Director would also be responsible for lining up fly tiers for our annual fly tying demonstration at the April meeting.

We are also looking for some help with ideas for future programs. Let us know if there is a subject you would like to know more about. If you travel and happen to have some slides you would like to present, or if you know someone who does this sort of thing, please contact Ken Hanson or Gary Horvath.

## Welcome To New Members

John Hollenbach  
Steve Kennedy  
Chris Willett  
Dan Corning  
Ron Lansverk  
Nathan Scottum  
Andrew Urban  
Cathy Villas Horns  
John Weaver  
Paul Weium

Total membership: 160

## Membership Dues Increase

Members are reminded that annual Trout Unlimited membership dues will increase effective October 1, 1995. Regular membership will be \$30 and Family membership will be \$35. Student and senior dues will remain the same. Membership questions can be referred to:

Membership Services  
1500 Wilson Boulevard #310  
Arlington, VA 22209-2310