

Kiap-TU-Wish Trout Unlimited April 2002

Tying Flies and Remembering Dick

If you've attended April fly tying demonstrations over a period of years, you've seen a pattern develop: We like to invite folks who somehow bring a fresh perspective (In some cases "fresh" can be translated as "different." And if you speak Minnesotan, you know very well what that can mean). For example, when I called **Scott Dickens** of Stillwater and asked him if he'd favor us with his presence, he asked in return, "Can I tie Butt Monkeys?" You've got to admire that attitude. We'll also have **Marshall Bullis** who, despite his tender years, produces some very nice variations on standard flies. **John Koch** will be on hand to demonstrate tying woven-bodied flies, which are both beautiful and real fish catchers. Now here's where it gets even "fresher", if you get my drift: Current president **Andy Lamberson**, who ties some of the nicest Comparaduns on the planet and his own Better Than Bait pattern, will join four former K-TU presidents at the tying tables. **Chuck Goossen**, in a bit of a departure from our theme, will be demonstrating how he hand crafts all those beautiful nets he's donated to chapter silent auction. **Gary Horvath** will build some balsa bodied bass bugs for us. **Tony Stifter**, who relocated to Minnesota from Wisconsin to the detriment of both states a few years ago, will be with us to share both secret flies and secret fishing locations. And last and most certainly least, I'll be on hand to tie a couple of heretical terrestrials (foam bodied flies) and a couple of more traditional ones, too.

Dick Frantes, who rounded up tiers for this meeting for many years, operated what I'm fairly certain was to only combination plumbing and fly shop in West St. Paul. At the bottom of his business stationery was this Henry David Thoreau quote: *In Wildness is the preservation of the world.* On April 3 come celebrate both the glorious art of fly tying and join us in our effort to preserve wild trout in western Wisconsin.

Jon Jacobs

RIPRAP

Kiap-TU-Wish Receives Wal-Mart Grant

By Kent Johnson

In March, Kiap-TU-Wish received a \$500 grant from the Hudson Wal-Mart Store and the Wal-Mart Foundation. The chapter applied for the grant to assist in its purchase of a new desktop computer that will be used to manage and interpret our temperature data for the Kinnickinnic River. The temperature database on the Kinni has blossomed into 10 years of information, nearly exceeding the capacity of Kent Johnson's fine 386 computing dinosaur. The new computer, purchased in late March, will not only meet our data storage needs years into the future, it will also enable us to conduct some high-powered scientific interpretation of the database to determine if growth in the Kinni Watershed is adversely affecting stream temperature.

Kiap-TU-Wish would like to sincerely thank the Hudson Wal-Mart Store and the Wal-Mart Foundation for their generous donation of \$500. We also appreciate the personal assistance of Gary Melin, Assistant Store Manager, to help make this happen. Any questions about the Wal-Mart grant should be directed to Kent Johnson.

Volunteer Thank You

By John Koch

Kiap-TU-Wish would like to thank the following volunteers for their commitment and hard work during last season's workdays. We were able to help with the initiation of habitat work on the Eau Galle River by building 36 lunger structures, and we continued the chapter's on-going war with Box Elders on the Upper Kinnickinnic River through our annual brushing project. Without our Chapter's volunteer efforts, the WIDNR would be hard pressed to complete the many projects that our creeks and rivers so badly need. My personal thanks go to the following individuals:

Bruce Maher, Gerard Haines, Andy Lamberson, Ted Mackmiller, Sarah Sanford, Pete Ellis, Mark Waschek, Mark Leyde, Loren Haas, Loren Carver, Jon Jacobs, Jim Brewer, Jeff Kaphingst, Greg Dietl, Gary Horvath, Craig Aschenbrenner, Chuck Goosen, Bruce Lechband, Brent Sittlow, and Bob Bradham

Each of these individuals is eligible to have their name drawn to win one of several prizes, to be given away at Kiap-TU-Wish's Gala Fly Tier's meeting in April.

Trout Crew In Peril

By John Koch

As many of you know, the chapter has supported and worked closely with the DNR Trout Crew for the last several years on a variety of projects, including the Cady Creek project, the Eau Galle River project, and the Kinni Brushing project. It is also well known that this may be the last year of the Trout Crew's existence; it is very likely that the crew will be disbanded at the end of this season due to a seemingly overwhelming combination of budgetary cuts and state hiring rules. Despite this, our chapter, along with representatives from all of the other conservation organizations in the Lower Chippewa Basin, is working to let the DNR and our representatives know how important the crew has been to our cold water resources. A petition will be circulated for your individual signature at the April Chapter meeting - please make sure to attend and show your support

St. Paul Fly Tiers Club Celebrates Fifty Years

By Jon Jacobs

St. Paul Fly Tiers Club members are celebrating their club's fifty year anniversary in grand style with a banquet at Tartan Park on Saturday, April 27. Featured speaker for the event is prolific author, flyfishing video pioneer, innovative fly tier and trout conservationist Dr. Gary Borger. The event begins with refreshments and a silent auction at 5 PM. Dinner is at 7 PM and Dr. Borger's presentation will follow. Tickets are \$25 each. To make reservations or for further information, contact Bob Anderson during the day at 651-776-7064 or evenings at 651-774-7717. Mr. Anderson may be contacted via e-mail at Rander8947@aol.com.

Additionally, Dr. Borger will appear at Bob Mitchell's Fly shop in Lake Elmo from 1:30 PM to 4 PM where he will tie flies and present a casting demonstration.

RipRap salutes the club and congratulates the organization for maintaining a tradition spanning several generations.

RF Clinic Needs Volunteer Support

By Jon Jacobs

This year's Flyfishing Clinic is scheduled for Saturday, June 1st in River Falls Glen Park. This clinic, produced in cooperation with the River Falls Parks and Recreation

Department, has become one of the chapter's most effective community outreach tools and has enabled us to bring our message about the conservation and preservation of the Kinnickinnic River to literally hundreds of students over the past several years. As always, we need volunteers to help make this year's clinic a success. You can help by providing flies (Sulphurs are in high season in early June), by helping with meal preparation, by helping Bill Hinton teach casting or by serving as a guide for the evening's fishing. Everyone who has participated by volunteering in previous year's clinics will tell you that it's an enjoyable and rewarding way to spend a day. For more information about how you can help, contact the chapter's education committee chairman, Mike Alwin, at 651-770-5854. Mr. Alwin will also present more details at the April meeting.

Odors

Editorial by Jon Jacobs

The Villages of Roberts and Hammond have sewage problems. Their current wastewater processing systems are nearing design capacity and don't work very well anyway. The two governmental entities have formed the Central St. Croix County Sewerage Commission in an attempt to work cooperatively to solve their mutual problems. Unfortunately, their proposed preferred "solution" has the potential to vastly alter the nature of the Kinnickinnic River. This solution involves the construction of a modern, high-tech sewage treatment plant. Effluent from the plant would be discharged into the groundwater via absorption cells. At first glance, all of this sounds pretty good. After all, the current setup isn't working and technology can work near-miracles. Or can it? While I believe that the commission is comprised of good people trying very hard to do a good job, this whole thing stinks like, well, sewage. The proposed plant would set in the headwaters of the Kinnickinnic River. In fact, there's a dry run immediately to the west of the site that, according to the Ayres Associates engineer at the meeting, would have flow more often during a typical year than it does now, would be wetter in a wet year than it is now and would not be as dry during dry periods as it is now. More than one person at the meeting suggested that this was tantamount to surface discharge to the Kinnickinnic, something that would not be allowed under the law.

The site has been chosen from among eleven under dubious circumstances, too. The commission makes much of the fact that it's located directly between the two communities and has the right kind of soils and sufficient topsoil above bedrock for this kind of plant. Less – much less – is made of the fact that of eleven possible sites, many of which would be more remote from the river's

headwaters, this one was the only one to have test borings or other siting testing done on it. It also seems a little smelly that a developer who has an option on a large parcel has offered to sell part of that parcel to the commission. Does this mean that the developer unloads land not suitable for housing, reduces his overall investment and puts money in the bank in one fell swoop? Or that a desire to help the developer has scuttled an open-minded search for the best possible property? It's food for thought, that's certain.

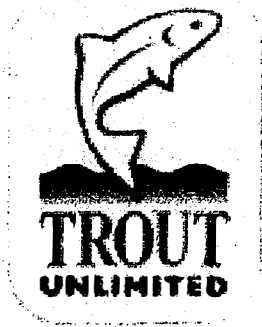
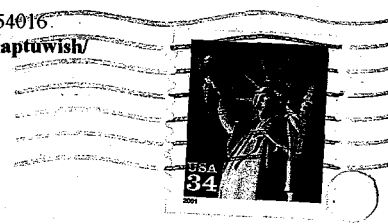
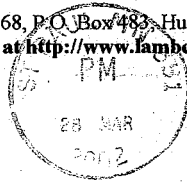
Several of my TU colleagues and I attended a public hearing conducted by the Commission on Tuesday, March 19. Kent Johnson and Brent Sittlow addressed the commission in the public comment segment of the meeting and both spoke eloquently and effectively on behalf of preservation of the Kinnickinnic. Rick McMonagle of the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust did an excellent job, too.

I was greatly heartened to see that every area resident who offered comment expressed an ardent and heartfelt desire to see the Kinnickinnic and its groundwater supply protected. One lady, who said that her family farm could be worth "zillions" if the area developed according to projections, said that that fortune would be worthless to her if development damaged the environment. Another gentlemen took the commission to task for using outdated studies that failed to take into account the scientifically documented possibility that pharmaceuticals and viruses might be introduced enter the local aquifer through the absorption cells.

On the other hand, I was greatly disheartened to learn that the commission projects that the two communities, which currently have a combined population of around 2,400, may have more than 11,000 residents within their village limits by the year 2025. That population would send a million gallons of water per day into the Kinnickinnic watershed through the treatment plant. Of course, that doesn't reflect the water draw for non-sewered purposes, e.g. irrigation, car washing, filling swimming pools, you name it. That figure doesn't reflect the amounts of water that exurban residents, a group of unknown but likely considerable size, would use either.

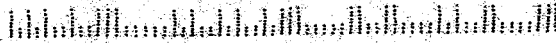
By the way, the commission did mention, in one sentence, a "no growth" option that would take care of the problem for relatively little money and with minimal environmental impact, but that isn't the American way, I guess.

The commission will collect public comment until April 18. If you would like to tell them what the Kinnickinnic and its preservation mean to you, write them at: CSCSC, 106 East Maple Street, Roberts, WI 54023



**Join us at Bob Smith's Sports Club,
601 2nd Street in Hudson on
Wednesday, April 3 at 6 PM for dinner.
The regular monthly meeting will
follow at 7 PM.**

54022+2036



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RIPRAP EDITOR:

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MEETING AND PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

APRIL 3: Dick Frantes Memorial Fly Tying Extravaganza
MAY 1: WiDNR on local conservation issues
JULY: DATE, PLACE AND TIME TBA

DEADLINE FOR MAY RIPRAP: FRIDAY, APRIL 20.