



A Publication of the Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter of Trout Unlimited

APRIL, 2013 VOLUME 6, ISSUE 8

Restoration, Improvements and Preservation through Research and Projects

APRIL PRESIDENT'S LINES

BY KYLE AMUNDSON

Chapter News

I write this as my presidency comes to an end at Kiap-TU-Wish. The journey was a long and rewarding one as we continued to accomplish most of our goals, especially the stream project work. I want to thank everyone for their support, their volunteerism and their dedication to bringing our plans to fruition as was exemplified by our receiving two national awards, the Bollinger Award and the Silver Trout Award.

I'd especially like to thank the board members that I have worked with and the tremendous job that they did. They are an extremely talented group and they will continue to accomplish our objectives under the guidance of new president, Tom Henderson. Please reach out and support Tom just as you did me. Thanks again everyone.

Fly Fishing Expo

Don't forget that we will have our booth again at the Great Waters Expo in Blaine. Try to make it as it is really a good show.

Project Activity

Board member and stream project coordinator Randy Arnold has been scheduling days for brushing. Please check the web site for updates and watch for emails.

Welcome new members:

Gail Behr (Spring Valley), Joshua Mattila (Minneapolis), Nolan Prohaska (Hudson), Jerry Solum (River Falls).

Kiap-TU-Wish meetings are held at Bob Smith's Sports Club, the first Wednesday night of the month. The April meeting is on the 3rd. Dinner begins at 6 PM, Meeting to follow at 7 PM.



SCOTT'S SCOOP

BY SCOTT HANSON, EDITOR

There are quite a few changes going on around here. Not only within the Chapter, but also with life, in general. First of all, we have a new Chapter President and Vice President. Kyle Amundson's tenure ended, and he chose not to run for another term. So, former Vice President Tom Henderson has been elected to take over, and Hans Jung was elected to fill Tom's old shoes. I would like to say that, personally, it has been a pleasure to work with Kyle over the past three years. And I look forward to working with Tom, as well.

But, and here is the next bit of change, I will only have the chance to work with Tom for one month. That's because I have decided to step down as the Editor of RipRap after the May issue. There were a lot of factors that went into my decision, including the fact that, with three young kids in the house, I haven't had as much time as I would like to put into RipRap. And the fact that it is almost a certainty that my family will soon be moving from Oakdale to a home in the New Brighton area, and the act of moving will cut down on my time even moreso. I will write more about this in next month's issue.

We also have three new Board Members within the Chapter. John Kaplan, Bob Trevis, and Greg Olson were all elected to the Board in March. Next time you see them, give them a firm slap on the back to welcome them to their new positions.

Other than that, I think everything is about the same as always. I have heard that there has been some excellent fishing so far this Early Season. I haven't had the chance to get out yet, and with the snow and extremely cold temperatures, I probably wouldn't go out even if I had a chance. I have become an enormous wimp in my old age, and refuse to go fishing unless the air temps are above freezing. Catching fish is always fun, but I would rather be comfortable while I'm doing it. You can ridicule me if you want. I'm OK with that.

The Annual Dick Frantes Fly Tying Meeting is coming up. There are always greatly talented tyers at this meeting, demonstrating their prowess in front of a room-full of adoring fans. Make sure you bring a notepad so you can write down all the great info you are sure to learn.

Have a great April! See you next month!

APRIL MEETING NEWS BY TOM HENDERSON

As in past years, the April 3rd Kiap-TU-Wish meeting at Bob Smith's will feature fly tying. Be sure to attend and learn some fabulous flies to fool fish with fluffy feathers. 6:00 dinner on your own dime.

Save The Date!!!

This year's Rush River Clean Up is April 20th.

From 9 AM to Noon, at the Ellsworth Rod & Gun Club.

For more info contact Sarah Sanford at thesjsanford@gmail.com or look for Rush River Clean Up 2013 on facebook

BOARD MEMBERS

| | | |
|----------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Tom Henderson | President | tomhenderson136@comcast.net |
| Hans Jung | Vice President | hansjung@gmail.com |
| Gary Horvath | Treasurer | magshorvath@comcast.net |
| Allison Jacobs | Secretary | allisonmjacobs@hotmail.com |
| Bob Diesch | Board Member | bob@etestinc.com |
| Greg Meyer | Board Member/Webmaster | kiaptuwish@hotmail.com |
| Randy Arnold | Board Member/Volunteer Coordinator | rarnold@augbiomed.com |
| John Kaplan | Board Member | jmk8990@comcast.net |
| Bob Trevis | Board Member | troutchaser@comcast.net |
| Greg Olson | Board Member | greg.olson@diasorin.com |
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| Tom Schnadt | Board Member | thschnad@hotmail.com |
| Scott Hanson | Newsletter Editor | scott@yes-tech.com |



THE DRIFT

BY TOM HENDERSON

Board of Directors activity: At the board meeting on March 18, I was elected chapter president. Thank you for the opportunity. I hope that I can find ways to improve our organization and the work that we do. Suggestions are welcome at tomhenderson136@comcast.net. New board members are John Kaplan, Bob Trevis, and Greg Olson, who were elected by members at the March 6th chapter meeting.

After three years, Kyle Amundson has stepped down from the presidency. During his tenure, the chapter has received some very impressive awards including the Silver Trout Award from TU National. We have completed some major stream work along with smaller river clean-ups (Sarah Sanford's Rush River CleanUp, and Trimble River tire removal). The chapter has begun using annual budgets to better plan and control spending, and developed a strategic plan. In some ways we are becoming a more professional organization.

Hans Jung was elected vice president. Gary Horvath and Allison Jacobs were re-elected treasurer and secretary, respectively. I believe that we have a strong team for the coming year.

The restoration project on the Trimble above Beldenville is on schedule. Many tons of rock have been delivered. The next volunteer work will be needed approximately in mid-summer, to build lunger structures and then mulching and seeding. Stay tuned.

Tree cutting is virtually complete along Parker Creek just below Cty Rd J, but there is still plenty of need for volunteers to pile brush and limbs. This one is not a large restoration project, but elimination of invasives, such as box elder, is important for the maintenance of the entire stream.

Letters are being mailed for the Hap Lutter Spring Appeal. This appeal and the auction at our banquet are the primary internal ways to fund the chapter, so both are important.

Deadline: Articles for the next issue of RipRap are due in mid-April. The May issue is the last before the summer break. If you ever wanted to be an author...send your manuscripts to both scott@yes-tech.com and kiaptuwish@hotmail.com. Send them as a word document attached to an e-mail, with the subject "RipRap article." If you want to include photos, please send them as attachments, as well.

Rumors have it that fishing has been GREAT on the Kinni. Last weekend there was a significant hatch of midges. I heard of someone who had good luck with a larger dry fly; maybe the trout wanted something different from all the small stuff. One combination that worked was a size 20 midge below a Smoke Jumper. There were even reports of larger fish than what are typical in the upper Kinni.

April 3 meeting: fly tying. May meeting: Marty Engel, DNR fish biologist.

WHAT ARE WE?

BY TOM HENDERSON

Fly shop conversation occasionally turns to the nature of Trout Unlimited: are we a fishing club, or a conservation organization? I believe we are both.

Our mission is to preserve, restore, and reconnect cold water fisheries. Our members are mostly fishermen (and increasingly fisherwomen) who go to meetings and talk about fishing (fishaholics?) That sounds like a fishing club.

I attend a meeting on Wednesday so I can catch more fish on Saturday. I listen to a speaker and eavesdrop on a conversation hoping to learn of a special hole or a more effective fly or technique. If I catch more fish or bigger fish on Saturday, that is as close as it gets to instant gratification. Great fishing club; I'll pay my dues again.

...but what about the long run? I want better fishing next year, and for many future years, and for my granddaughters. Will there still be good water? Can we maintain the quality we have? Or make it better? That's where conservation comes in. When there's project work to do, I'll grab a shovel and pay my dues again.





TROUT UNLIMITED

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CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB:
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DON'T MISS THE APRIL MEETING!!!

April brings us the
annual Fly Tying Meeting.
Come watch some local mas-
ters of the craft.

Wednesday, April 3rd
Dinner at 6PM
Meeting at 7PM

The deadline to make submissions for the
May issue is Wednesday, April 17th.
Thank you!

