

Kiap-TU-Wish Trout Unlimited December 2002

# BANQUET DEADLINE LOOMS!!!

By Jon Jacobs

If you have not yet made reservations for the special 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition of the Kiap-TU-Wish Holiday Banquet and wish to attend this exciting event, you must call Michael Alwin at Bob Mitchell's Fly Shop (651-770-5854) or Jon Jacobs (715-386-7822) immediately to let us know of your interest. The absolute deadline for reservations is Monday, December 2, but things will go much smoother for everyone involved if you can make your call no later than Saturday, November 30.

The banquet will be held at the 3M Company's **Tartan Park Clubhouse** located at 11455 20th St. North in Lake Elmo on **Thursday, December 5**. Social hour begins at 6 PM and the banquet begins at 7 PM. This is our second year at Tartan Park. The menu is unchanged from last year's excellent fare and the price remains the same as last year, too, at 25 dollars per person.

This year's speakers are Jim Humphrey and Bill Shogren, co-authors of *Wisconsin and Minnesota Trout Streams*. If you have ever had the pleasure of seeing a presentation by either of these gentlemen, you know that you are in for a double treat with both of them sharing the dais, speaking on the *Romance of Trout Streams*.

The fund-raising portion of the banquet promises to be among the best ever. Headlining the items available is a specially commissioned Winston fly rod commemorating the chapter's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It's an 8' 6" 3 piece rod for a 3 weight line, an ideal instrument for fishing nearby Wisconsin spring creeks. Other items that promise to bring brisk bidding are a fly plate crafted by Bill Hinton featuring several local fly tier's work mounted in concert with an original Ginnie Adams watercolor of the "Frustration Pool" on the upper Kinnickinnic, a Folsom vintage cane rod and a woodcut by the multi-talented John Koch. Additionally, one of our members has donated six memberships to the American Museum of Flyfishing to be given away as door prizes. And this list is just a short summary!

Kiap-TU-Wish wishes all of you a safe, festive and joyous holiday season!

## State of Wisconsin Sues Jon De Farms To Stop Threat To the Rush River

By Jon Jacobs

**F**actory farming, as practiced with the operation of "CAFOs" (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations), is one of the most dire threats menacing Midwestern trout streams. In an effort to halt a threat to the Rush River in St. Croix and Pierce Counties, the Wisconsin Department of Justice has filed an environmental lawsuit in St. Croix County against Jon De Farms of Baldwin. In a November 12 news release, the office of Attorney General James Doyle stated:

The state's lawsuit is against Jon De farm, Inc., Baldwin, for allegedly violating its Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) permit by allowing manure to be discharged into an unnamed tributary to the Rush River on several occasions in the past two years.

According to the Department of Justice's complaint, Jon De Farm owns and operates a concentrated animal feeding operation near Baldwin. The complaint alleges that on November 10, 2000, January 9 and 10, 2001, March 15, 2001 and April 11 and 12, 2002, Jon De Farm violated the terms of its permit by allowing manure or manure contaminated leachate or washwater to flow into an unnamed tributary that travels across the Jon De Farm property, through a wetland and into the Rush River. In addition, on April 17, 2002, the dairy operation allegedly allowed manure it was spreading on a field to run off the field into a ditch, a short distance from a dry run of the Rush River.

The complaint also alleges that sometime between July and September of 2001, Jon De Farm constructed a bridge across the Rush River tributary that runs through its property, without the required permit from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

The state's lawsuit seeks penalties for the alleged violations. The state also seeks a court order requiring

Jon De Farm to comply with the terms and conditions of its permit pertaining to manure management at its facility and to apply to the DNR for a permit for the bridge that was constructed in the tributary.

The Department of Justice filed the lawsuit at the request of the DNR in St. Croix County Circuit Court. The case has been assigned to St. Croix County Circuit Court Judge Scott Needham.

## January Meeting Rescheduled

By Jon Jacobs

**N**ot wishing to compete with college football bowl games, holiday travel plans, family celebrations and a plethora of other logistical considerations, Kiap-TU-Wish has rescheduled its January meeting to the **second Wednesday** of the month, January 8. Other factors remain unaltered; it's still at Bob Smith's Sports Club with dinner at 6 PM and a 7 PM meeting. Please mark your calendars accordingly. If you're a PDA user, do whatever it is you do with those things.

## Chapter Seeks Computer Compatible Projector

By Andy Lamberson

**S**hort, Elliot, Hendrickson has generously agreed to allow me to utilize a company projector at our chapter meetings...BUT....it sure would be nice if we could find a permanent solution. Following is the text I used in my e-mail to IT at SEH to find out if they had any old ones (While they are looking, it looks as though they may already disposed of them. DRATS!):

The Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter of Trout Unlimited needs to enter the computer age and we are looking for a projector to attach to the chapter's laptop for speaker presentations. Since this unit would be to a large degree stationary, we would be able to utilize some of the old technology units (the big, heavy ones.) Does SEH have any old units lying around unused that they would be willing to donate to K-TU? It would be a tax-deductible contribution.

It might be worthwhile to contact the IT department at your company with a similar message.

## The Great Circle Route

By Jon Jacobs

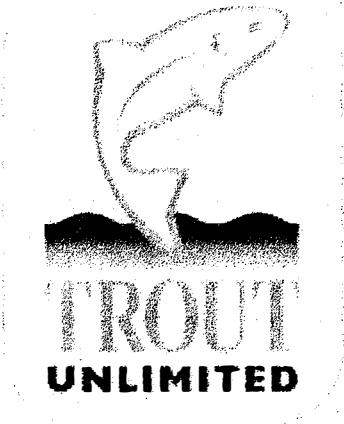
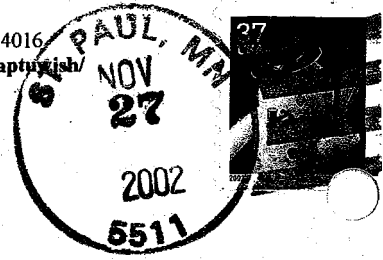
About half a century ago, I was a schoolboy in Buckingham, Iowa. The town's post office was located inside an old fashioned general store, a rambling wood-framed building with a high false front intended to make it look larger and more imposing, I suppose. The master of both the store and the post office was a fellow named Roger Messerly. I never knew anything about his personal history or family life, but I knew from casual conversation with him that he had a strong interest in outdoor matters. He came to our elementary school one time to show slides of an automobile trip he'd made to Alaska. This might have been before Alaska had achieved statehood. It had to have been quite a trip across the Alcan Highway. Even getting to that road was probably a high adventure in that time before Interstate highways. I held the man in high esteem for having undertaken such an arduous journey, but what really I really found intriguing about him was that he was a trout fisherman, the first one I ever met. I like to think he was a fly fisherman, but I have no idea if that's so. He did his fishing in northeast Iowa's Driftless Region, mostly around Devil's Backbone State Park, if I recall correctly. We talked vaguely a time or two about going up there together, but it never happened. Even though I've chased trout in a half dozen states since I left Iowa, I never fished for trout there, nor did I ever shed some small sense of regret about an opportunity not pursued. That all changed this year when my daughter enrolled at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, which lies near the western edge of Iowa's unglaciated area and has a trout stream within its city limits.

It all began last April when my wife and I accompanied Allison to Luther, where she was scheduled to attend an event for students who had gained admission to the college. There were events for parents, too, but I had already determined that my primary function in my daughter's higher education was to write checks payable to the college and that I could make better use of my time by checking out the lay of the land – and water – where my daughter would be spending the next four years of her life. I drove a few miles east to the Trout River, did a little reconnoitering and found a parking lot near a stretch of state-controlled land with access to the stream. There was a big, bluff, jolly fellow taking a lunch break at his truck there. He told me that biologists with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources were conducting an electrofishing survey on the stream that day and were turning up "lots of big, wild browns." He said that the stream had not been stocked with brown trout for several years, although brook and rainbow trout were regularly stocked. He also told me in a big, excited voice that he had broken off a "brute" of a rainbow. This news made me all the more eager to fish,

even though I wondered if the electrofishing would have thrown the fish off their feed. I geared up and walked down to the stream, finding a watercourse about the size of the upper end of the Trimbelle River. Fishing was tough, I think partly because the electric currents had disturbed the fish and partly because I had a very hard time reading the water. I did have several takes while fishing a little pheasant tail nymph on a greased leader, but I didn't bring a fish to hand until I cast a dry fly to a rising fish in a flat above a beaver dam. It was a handsome little brown trout, an embodiment of a boy's dreams.

I went fishing again in Iowa early this October (Iowa has no closed season for trout, a real gift for an angler suffering from post-September withdrawal symptoms). I fished a stream further east of Decorah, one with a more substantial reputation than Trout River. There were good numbers of blue-winged olives on the water, but it was much too windy for dry fly fishing. I did take several modest sized browns on a small nymph fished under a strike indicator. They were fine looking fish and if they weren't wild, I couldn't tell it. In November I scouted a third stream system after driving my daughter back to school at the end of a weekend visit home. Trout were rising lazily to midges in the flat water below a bridge. I was much impressed with both streams and am much impressed with Iowa's increasingly enlightened resource management. To be sure, the state is still responding to many anglers' established desire to take home a limit on every outing and hatchery trucks and published stocking schedules remain a constant. On the other hand, the state is buying or leasing rights to riparian lands at an impressive rate. There are several special regulation streams and special "put and grow" waters that hold the potential to produce very large fish. The streams themselves are surpassingly lovely, packed with watercress and flowing crystal-clear. Iowa remains an intensely agricultural state, but improving land use practices are resulting in cleaner streams with more even flow. I'm no hydrologist, but I'd wager that the streams I've seen have a better groundwater component than most of the streams in southeast Minnesota. The area is extraordinarily rural and uncrowded, too, a bonus for those of us beset by the grasping tentacles of the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

If you wish to learn more about trout fishing in Iowa, I suggest that you purchase a copy of **Iowa Trout Streams** by Jene Hughes. A critically important tool is the Iowa Trout Fishing Guide published by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Additionally, the DNR web site is informative and well organized. It can be found at: <http://www.state.ia.us/government/dnr/organiza/fwb/fish/>



*..this much is crystal clear: our bigger-and-bigger society is now like a hypochondriac, so obsessed with its own economic health as to have lost the capacity to remain healthy. The whole world is so greedy for more bathtubs that it has lost the stability necessary to build them, or even to turn off the tap. Nothing could be more salutary at this stage than a little healthy contempt for a plethora of material blessings.*

*Perhaps such a shift of values can be achieved by reappraising things unnatural, tame and confined in terms of things natural, wild, and free.*

*-Aldo Leopold, A Sand County Almanac*

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<b>MEETING AND PROGRAM SCHEDULE:</b>
<b>THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5:</b> HOLIDAY BANQUET FEATURING JIM HUMPHREY AND BILL SHOGRAN AND THEIR PRESENTATION <i>Escenes Romanticas</i>
<b>JANUARY 8:</b> NOTE THAT THIS IS THE SECOND WEDNESDAY! WE DIDN'T WISH TO COMPETE AGAINST YOUR FAVORITE BOWL GAME. PROGRAM: FEEDING WILD BIRDS
<b>FEBRUARY 5:</b> TBA
<b>MARCH 5:</b> ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
<b>APRIL 2:</b> DRY FLY DICK MEMORIAL FLY TIERS
<b>MAY 7:</b> WISCONSIN DNR

<b>DEADLINE FOR JANUARY RIPRAP: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20.</b>
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