



# RIP - RAP



Editor: Ken Hanson

RESTORATION & PRESERVATION  
THROUGH RESEARCH & PROJECTS

FEBRUARY 1995

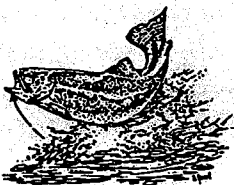
KIAP-TU-WISH CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED

## FROM THE PRESIDENT:

As you all know, we live in a litigious society. Unfortunately, the Kiap TU Wish Chapter is not exempt from potential liability associated with our activities. I therefore want to state the position of the Board of Directors on two issues related to our chapter stream improvement projects. While this has not been a problem in the past, we cannot allow alcohol at any chapter stream improvement project. Power tools, falling trees and alcohol are not a good combination, as anyone with common sense can tell you.

Secondly, at the urging of National, we will require all persons participating in stream improvement projects to sign a consent form indicating that they understand the risks involved with these activities. We have prepared a form which was implemented at the January 14th workday on the Kinni. Please do not let these developments discourage you from participating in chapter projects. Our stream improvement projects remain a vital part of our chapter and an enjoyable way to spend a winter Saturday.

*Gary*



## FEBRUARY

### MEETING NOTICE

**WHEN:** Wed. Feb. 1  
**TIME:** Dinner at 6:30  
Meeting at 8:00  
**WHERE:** Hudson House

Dan Koich of the Wisconsin DNR

Dan will be showing the Video "Champions of the Public Trust". This video highlights Wisconsin citizens who took the initiative to legally challenge past practices, resulting in landmark decisions in Wisconsin's water law. The video tells the story of the Wade ruling which was contested on the Willow River.

Please come to dinner at 6:30!!

## New On Video

A new children's video entitled, "Out of The Egg" teaches children about egg laying fish, amphibians and wildlife. The video is produced by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and is designed to instruct children about the environment. The video is 30 minutes and costs \$14.95. Contact the Maryland DNR at 1-800-784-5380 for more details.

## FISHWORKS '95

Our first Fishworks outing was a success. We are continuing to work our way upstream, from the point we left off last year, and after one day of work we can really see the progress. There were the usual chain saw break downs and as we got close to the noon hour we were down to one saw. A good time to take a break.

Thanks to Mike Trok for the hearty meal of hot chicken soup. Luckily a few more workers and saws showed up after lunch and we were able to keep everyone busy for the rest of the afternoon.

Workers who attended the January 14 work day included: Herb Lundberg, Corrine Lundberg, Bill Hinton, Murry Humble, Gary Albig, Jim Caspers, Bill Lovegren, Charles Bradham, Jon Jacobs, Marty Engle, Brian Spangler, Gary Horvath, Mike Trok and Ken Hanson.

Again we would like to remind you that if you feel comfortable handling a chain saw and have one, please do bring it: we will need them. Please also bring whatever sound and hard hat protection you may have. Bring your lunch. We will do our best to make sure that something hot will be there to help take the chill off.

*Fishworks continued on page 3*

## EXCERPTS FROM STREAM NOTES

By Perry Palin

July 1987 A POOL

Mid morning. Water high and slightly discolored. Fished downstream slowly. Shiners dimpled the surface in the slower currents. The narrow stream, only three steps across in the riffles, is overhung with brush and hardly gives room for a proper cast. Two big pools with no action. Finally, a shallow run slowing into a small, shallow pool. Nothing special to look at here. I roll cast the Black Nosed Dace across the water, let it sink, and began a jerky retrieve.

A broad fish, maybe fifteen inches, flashed behind the fly. On the next cast, the fish came for another look, then nothing on two more casts. I waited, changed to a black marabou leech that would sink deeper. The fish came for a look on the first cast, and nothing after. I waited again, and changed to a gray Muddler tied to resemble the chubs in the stream. On the first swing through the pool, a hard strike, and when I pulled back on the rod, a tremendous rush into the depth of the pool. A different fish, and not fifteen inches.

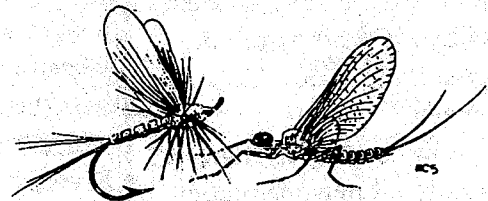
The fish circled several times, shaking his head. He ran into the shallow tail of the pool, dorsal fin cutting the surface. I couldn't control him on a long line, and he ran into a pile of sticks against the far bank. I knew then he was lost.

I worked below the fish and gave him slack line. The great fish came out of the stick pile, pulling thirty inches of dead tree branch in a pigtail of tippet. The fight lasted many more minutes and the tippet held until the fish was tired and an arm's length away. There was no gradual bank to beach the fish. Only half the fish would have filled my net. This fish was big and broad. A brown with spots as big as quarters. Bigger than any fish I had ever caught by any means, except Northerns. The tippet broke, and the fish slowly sank into the water. I sat at the foot of the pool for an hour, watching for signs of the fish, hoping it would recover, until Tom came up to me. Tom wanted to believe me, but I am sure he wondered. He fished through the pool with a small wet fly, and I

followed him, and caught a fifteen inch brown on a rubber legged nymph, size 6, and I killed the fish, which had four large crayfish in its stomach.

July 1987 SAME POOL

Dawn. Water clear. Fished the Muddler through the holding water, with no results. Fished through again and again. Saw a large swirl in the tail of the pool, and then a wake up into the water I was fishing. Switched to the leech. On the third cast, had a heavy strike from a heavy fish that fought doggedly, swimming in slow circles. When I went below the fish, he shot upstream and I followed. Came back down tired. I was not surprised it was not the big brown. I was surprised it was a carp, which measured twenty inches in length and an equal number in girth. I killed the fish, hoping to do the stream a favor by it.



September 1987 SAME POOL

Water low and clear. Mid afternoon. Fished with large sinking flies. Saw a trout of about seventeen inches. We scared each other.

June 1988 SAME POOL

Water at good summer levels, and slightly discolored. Early morning. No action with the Muddler. After resting the pool, fished up through the best water with a nymph, and caught one sixteen inch fish and one of fifteen inches, on successive casts.

Noticed lush undergrowth on a small portion of the other bank. Probably a spring seep from the hill above, which helps to hold the fish in this little pool.

August 1988 SAME POOL

Water high and slightly discolored. Early morning. Fifteen inch brown on the third cast with a Black Nosed Dace. Shiners chased the fly in the shallow, slow current above the main body of the pool.

September 1988 SAME POOL

Water clear, cold, and low. Afternoon. Fished here for a long time. No fish caught nor seen. Finally walked right up to the pool and looked down to the bottom. Nothing.

July 1989 SAME POOL

Water high and discolored. Dawn. Nothing caught nor seen.

August 1989 SAME POOL

Water high but clear. Dawn. Nothing doing. A tree has fallen into the best part of the water.

July 1990 SAME POOL

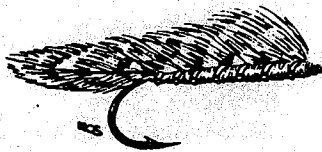
Tree gone. Water at normal fishing levels. Early morning. Caught one large chub, a seven inch brook trout, and a eight inch brown. No other fish seen.

August 1991 SAME POOL

Water low and clear. Mid morning. Pool shallow and desolate, silted in. Shiners and chubs chase the flies across the water.

Same day ANOTHER POOL

On the way back to the car, saw a trout rise in a pool I'd been walking past for four years. Narrow, tree hung, miserable place. No way to cast from below. Fished carefully from above with a size 12 soft hackle wet, and caught two browns in ten minutes: 12 inches and 14 inches. A third fish, a big one, broke me off after I changed to the Muddler. Have I learned anything here?



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*Fishworks continued:*

Remember to listen to the weather report at 8:00 a.m. on WCCO. If the windchill is 20 degrees or lower Fishworks will be cancelled that day.

Please mark your calendars for these remaining dates:

January 14 and 28

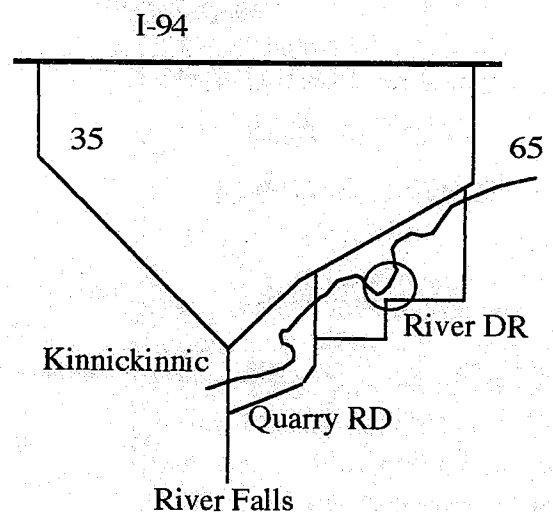
February 11 and 25

March 11 and 25

Scheduled work hours are from 9:00 to 3:00.

Directions from I-94:

- Take ST HWY 35 from I-94 (to River Falls)
- Turn LEFT on ST HWY 65 (just before the new HWY 35 bridge over the Kinni)
- Proceed approx, two miles to Quarry RD
- Turn RIGHT on QUARRY RD
- Proceed approx. 3/4mi. to RIVER DR
- Turn LEFT on RIVER DR to work area.

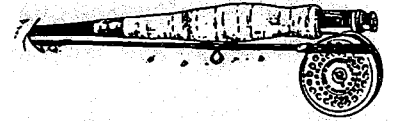


## Skip's Loose Threads

One of the most realistic materials to use in imitation of an insect's abdomen is a stripped hackle quill. There are several classic quill patterns: Ginger Quill, Cahill Quill, Blue Quill, etc., but this technique seems to have been forgotten in the hairy mess of antron, and other synthetic dubbing materials. Most mayflies have a definitely unfuzzy abdomen, with clearly defined segments. Those big neck hackles that you never seen to use from expensive Metz necks make perfect quill bodies. On tiny spinners and duns, try split microfibrets for tails, a quill abdomen, and a tiny bit of dubbing around the base of the wings to simulate a thorax. For super realistic flies, the ultimate quill is grizzly. The alternating bands of black and white accentuate the segmentation. Luckily, we can purchase dyed grizzly necks in brown, olive and dun. I buy cheap grizzly necks (\$7-\$10 each), just for the quills.

To prepare a quill, simply strip the hackle fibres from both sides of the stem with your fingers, leaving some at the heavy end to hold onto as you wind. Tie in the thin end, and carefully wind close wraps. The changing diameter of the quill will produce a very realistic body taper. Tie off.

Next month: Sizing parachute hackle.



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HUDSON, WI 54016



## Kiap-TU-Wish Meeting Schedule

### 1995 Meetings

Feb 1: Dan Koich WI DNR  
Mar 1: Business Meeting  
Apr 5: Fly Tiers  
May 3: Marty Engel WI DNR