



RipRap

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

JANUARY, 2011 VOLUME 4, ISSUE 5

JANUARY MEETING INFORMATION

We aren't sure what's going to happen at the January meeting, but it looks like one of our local trout guides will be speaking to us. Check out the Chapter's awesome website, at www.kiaptuwish.org to find out more details. Two things we do know are the date and time: Wednesday, January 5th, 2011, at 6PM (dinner) and 7PM (meeting). See you there!

*Kiap-TU-Wish meetings are held at Bob Smith's Sports Club, the first Wednesday night of the month. The January meeting is January 5th.
Dinner begins at 6 PM, Meeting to follow at 7 PM.*



Photo by Bethany Olson



Thanks again to everyone for contributing to another successful Holiday Banquet. These are the very contributions that fund our yearly budget.

Welcome new members: Don Fritz from Prescott; Michael Johnson from Hudson; William Johnson from Hudson; Jason Komarek from Hudson; and Anthony Madsen from Ellsworth. I invite you all to visit the Kiap-TU-Wish web site, and, to attend our monthly meetings.

A reminder for all interested, the Wisconsin State Banquet is being held in Stevens Point on Feb 5th. This year is a special event with a huge fundraiser, special vendor booths, and a visit from TU National President, Chris Wood.

January's meeting is on the 5th and while an agenda has not fully been determined yet, it looks as if we will get a presentation from one of our local guides. Stay tuned!

TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

A HOLIDAY POEM BY TOM HENDERSON



Twas the night before Christmas, and down by the bridge
Not an insect was hatching. Not even a midge.
My waders were hung by the chimney with care
In hopes that next season no leaks would be there.

The children were nestled all snug in their beds
While visions of Wii games danced in their heads.
With Mom in the kitchen and me with my cap
I glanced at the waders and spread out a map.

I'm sure there are brook trout in upper Cave Creek.
The map should reveal the access I seek.
When, what to my wandering eyes should appear
Streams in Polk County that are equally near.

Wolf Creek and Cowen, McKenzie and Clam
Trade River, the Apple. Did they take out that dam?
Marquee Springs (mentioned in Jim Humphrey's book).
Wagon Landing, where Frantes got stuck in the muck.

Most of those waters are probably skinny
Not nearly the size of the one called the Kinni
Each one with pools where the wild brookies lie
And never are spooked by an Adams dry fly.

I carried my coffee to my lazy chair
Sat down, leaned back, and out the window did stare.
Soon with eyes closed I dreamt of the season just past
And the fish that I caught on my very last cast.

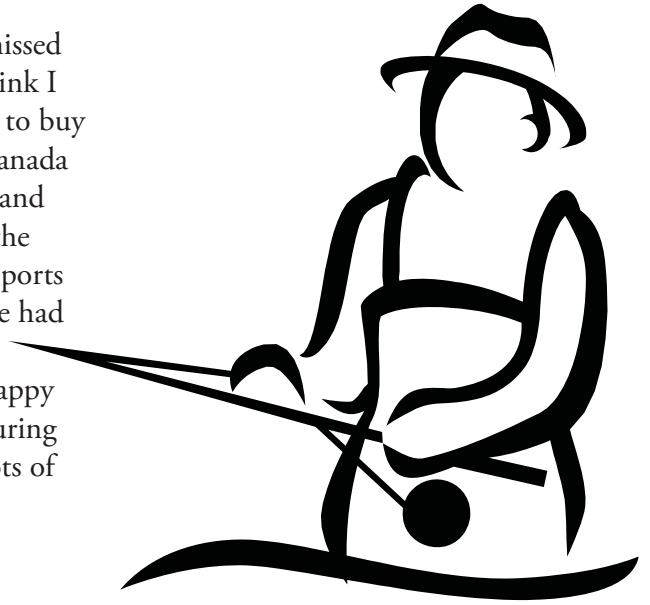


SCOTT'S SCOOP

BY SCOTT HANSON, EDITOR

If you missed our Holiday Banquet in December, you really missed out on a lot of fun. There was great food (I should know, I think I filled my plate 3 times), great camaraderie, lots of cool things to buy in the silent auction, and a great presentation on fishing in Canada by Emily Wemlinger and Sarah Sanford. It was a wonderful night, and a great kick-off to the Christmas season. If you did not make it to the Banquet, I hope you come to the January meeting at Bob Smith's Sports Club. It won't be quite as lavish of an event, but a good time will be had by all. We'll see you there!

I hope you had a very Merry Christmas, that you have a Happy and safe New Year, and, if you are brave enough to try your luck during the winter season in Minnesota, I hope you stay warm and catch lots of trout! See you next month!



FLY SWAP

BY GREG MEYER

Have you ever participated in a fly swap? Curious to know what exactly happens in a swap?

It's pretty simple really.

Once a month, participants in the fly swap will tie a dozen or so (depends on number of participants) of a favorite fly pattern that coincides with a pre-determined theme for the month (could be terrestrials, or bluewing olives, or streamers, etc.) You then send your flies to the swap administrator (me) and I will send back to you one or two flies from each of the other participants. It's a great way to fill up your fly box with local patterns, while saving you time.

If you are interested in participating in a fly swap, please let me know by January 15th. If we get enough participants, I'll administer the swap, and post additional info on our web site.

You can get hold of me at: kiaptuwish@hotmail.com



FLY TYING CORNER

BY BRIAN SMOLINSKI, MANAGER OF LUND'S
HARDWARE & FLY SHOP IN RIVER FALLS

A fly never to be without while fishing one of the many trout streams around River Falls, WI.

I have lost track of how many times anglers have come into the shop and told me that they were getting skunked out on their favorite stretch of trout water, until they pulled out one of these beauties. They consistently seem to produce trout of all sizes on the Rush, Kinni, Trimbelle, and many other streams right around this area. With hundreds of new patterns coming out every year, this is a pattern that always seems to be a staple in our customers' fly boxes.

For the Lund's HOT pink squirrel, use black dubbing for the abdomen, UV Fluorescent hot pink Ice Dub for the thorax, and gold wire for the rib. This varies from the original pattern tied by John Bethke. We've had these two versions custom-tied for us for a few years now and sold thousands of them. They continue to be one of the most productive nymphs for many anglers.

Lund's Pink Squirrel

Hook: TMC 2457, size 12, 14, or 16

Bead: Brass in appropriate size

Thread: 8/0 in gray or tan

Tail: Two strands of krystal flash

Rib: Red wire

Abdomen: Fox squirrel dubbing

Thorax: A blend of shell pink & fluorescent shell pink dubbing



Lund's HOT Pink Squirrel

Hook: TMC 2457, size 12, 14, or 16

Bead: Brass in appropriate size

Thread: Black 8/0

Tail: Two strands of krystal flash

Rib: Gold wire

Abdomen: Black squirrel dubbing

Thorax: UV Fluorescent Hot Pink Ice Dub

Photos by Scott Hanson



DREAMING OF PINE CREEK

BY GREG OLSON, PH.D.

As I write this, a couple feet of snow is now on the ground and it has now been one month since I wet a line during the final weekend of steelhead fishing on the Brule. One month?! It seems so much longer! I am seriously thinking that I am going to have to fish Minnesota on January 1st, to preserve my sanity, regardless of temperature. In the interim, I am fishing constantly in my head, replaying past fishing trips, especially during meetings at work, lines at the stores, long sermons at church, etc.

One fishing episode that I often replay in my brain is a late September trip to Pine Creek with my 11 year old son, Brian, and 9 year daughter, Bethany. Having my kids as fishing partners has actually increased my fishing time. Although many chores were on my list at home that day (a list, I might add, that only my spouse gets to add to and subtract from), once again my standard line, “but honey, the kids really want to go fishing”, paid dividends.

Almost two years earlier on a chilly, blustery, late fall, Kiap-TU-Wish work day, the kids and I were on the bluff above Pine Creek collecting various prairie seeds in garbage cans, and, later, we spread the seed on the improved stretch of the river. I was a bit skeptical, as we spread the seed out on the bare ground, if it would grow. On this past September day, I knew my fears were unfounded, as I scanned the beautiful prairie flowers along the river. The kids always refer to it as the “prairie they planted” and I must admit I take a good measure of personal pride in the prairie, as well. I am glad I helped make a difference on this incredible fishery, in an area I spent a lot of time in. My dad grew up on a farm in Maiden Rock, and my grandparents and most of my nine uncles and aunts still lived in the area when I was young.

While we were rigging up, Beth was distracted by the prairie flowers and multitudes of butterflies upon them. She decided then and there that she would be “team photographer” and not fish, which does happen from time to time. She got many great photos of flowers and butterflies and was often nowhere near the stream when I got a good brookie (no really!). She did capture a few on film, however.

Anyone who has fished Pine Creek is aware of the crystal clear water and spooky brook trout. To tromp along the banks usually results in trout flushing wildly in every direction. A better method is to take a round-the-way approach, coming in from the prairie to a pool that you want to fish, walking lower and lower as you approach the water until you are on your knees streamside.

On this particular day, the prairie was filled with hoppers, so that as we came in from the prairie to a particular pool or run, we essentially chummed the water we were about to fish. We herded dozens of hoppers before us, most of which were not adept enough flyers to make the 3-4 foot stream crossing, and so wound up in the water. If Brian and I could get in position to cast without detection, as soon as our hopper pattern splashed on the water, it resulted in an aggressive strike.

It is memories such as these (and the beginning fly tying class that Brian and I are taking at Bob Mitchell’s) that will hopefully get me through until spring.



Photo by Bethany Olson



WISCONSIN TU CELEBRATES WITH 40TH ANNUAL BANQUET

BY JONATHAN JACOBS

The state council of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited is celebrating 40 years of working to protect and improve Wisconsin's coldwater resources with a sure to be memorable banquet weekend February 4 through February 6 in Stevens Point at the Holiday Inn Convention Center, 1001 Amber Avenue. A hospital room event is scheduled for Friday evening. Chapters, including Kiap-TU-Wish, will have displays summarizing their conservation accomplishments. There will be seminars throughout the day on Saturday, along with the State Council meeting. The banquet itself is Saturday night. The featured speaker is Chris Wood, the new Chief Operating Officer for Trout Unlimited National. The banquet features raffles, silent and live auctions and an impressive array of door prizes.

Tickets for the event cost \$35, which includes complimentary raffle tickets. Tickets may be purchased by sending a check to:

Henry E. Koltz
c/o 2300 Mayfair Road, Suite 1175
Milwaukee, WI 53226

I've attended the banquet with several other members for a number of years and have always enjoyed myself; the trip helps break the grip of the midwinter doldrums of February. The Holiday Inn is the nicest I've seen and Stevens Point is within easy driving distance on good roads. I encourage you to attend this year. The Council will appreciate your support and I think you'll have a good time. For more info on the banquet, see the ad to the right.

**Where We've Been
and Where We're Going**

2011 TU All-State Annual Banquet
Celebrating Wisconsin Trout Unlimited's 40th Year!

Featured guest speaker Chris Wood, Trout Unlimited's new national Chief Operating Officer.

FEBRUARY 4TH 5TH & 6TH
HOLIDAY INN CONVENTION CENTER, STEVENS POINT, WI
1001 AMBER AVENUE, STEVENS POINT, WI, 54481

We've incorporated lots of new things into the 2011 Banquet. Here are just a few:

- Friday night hospitality room party, featuring brewery representatives (and beer) from around Steven's Point
- Displays from Wisconsin's Trout Unlimited Chapters, showing their history, projects, and activities!
- Cocktail hour with live music on Saturday, before the Banquet!
- Presentations throughout Saturday, February 5th by:
 - Simms wader company, from Bozeman, MT (concerning the elimination of felt souled wading boots)
 - Sage rod company, from Washington State (concerning fly rod and line maintenance and other topics)
 - Becoming An Outdoors Woman
 - Boy Scout Fly Fishing Program
- Great prizes from Orvis, Cabela's, Sage, Gander Mountain, and more!

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!
Just \$35 per ticket, which includes raffle tickets for use at the event. For tickets or more info, contact Henry E. Koltz, c/o 2300 North Mayfair Road, Suite 1175, Milwaukee, WI 53226 hek@sdelaw.com, 414-331-5679.

Early bird bonus (10 extra raffle tickets if checks received by Dec. 15, 2011)

There is no better way to appreciate the incredible amount of volunteer effort put forth by Wisconsin TU and its members than to attend our annual All-State Banquet. You don't want to miss this one!

Will The Wolf Survive
Mystery. But You Must Act Now!
Enter to Win \$1000
Orvis Conservation Education

Catch and Release
Committee Form

TU study praises DNR's trout management

Groundwater bill passes Legislature

TROUT UNLIMITED



Did you know?

The Kiap-TU-Wish web site is the place to go for all of our chapter related information.

Not only do we have the latest information on stream improvement projects and chapter news-- we have interactive hatch charts for insects of western Wisconsin, we also have great fly pattern pages that we add to monthly. To top that off check out our fishing report page to get caught up with what is happening on your favorite stream.

Make sure to check it out often 'cause we update monthly and you can download our award-winning RipRap and other valuable information.

If you have photos, fly patterns, site recommendations or stories you'd like to submit, please contact me at www.kiaptuwish.org

Have a great New Year!

Greg Meyer
KiapTUWish
Board of directors and chapter web master



RIPRAP: REAL OR VIRTUAL?

The Board is kicking around the idea of sending out RipRap via email, but only to those of you who would prefer that. The rest of you can still get the paper version mailed out to your house. Below is a survey box that you can send in stating your preference. You can also email the Board and let them know how you feel. That address is kiaptuwish@hotmail.com.

Name: _____

Yes! I would rather have RipRap sent to me via email. My email address is:

No, I like getting RipRap in the mail, and want to continue to do so.

Please mail to:
Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter of Trout Unlimited
PO Box 483
Hudson, WI 54016-0483

Or email your preference to:
kiaptuwish@hotmail.com





CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB:

WWW.KIAPTUWISH.ORG



DON'T MISS THE JANUARY MEETING!!!

Something fishy will be taking place at the January meeting, we just don't know exactly what it is. Check out the website for further updates, www.kiaptuwish.org.

Wednesday, January 5th

Dinner at 6PM

Meeting at 7PM

The deadline to make submissions for the February issue is Wednesday, January 19th.

Thank you!

