

Rip Rap

March Meeting

When: Wednesday, March 5
Where: JR Ranch, Hudson
Dinner: 6:30
Program: 8:00

Annual Business Meeting
(see back page for details)

President's Lines:

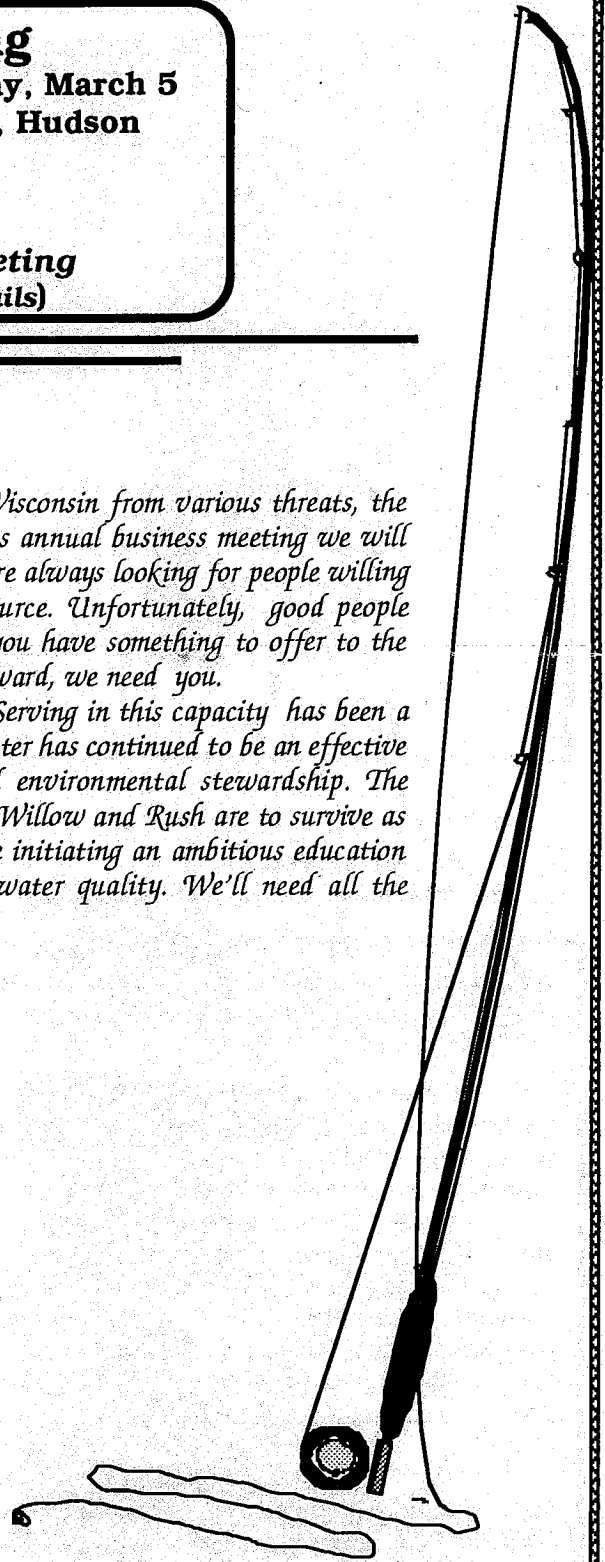
In order to continue protecting the streams in Western Wisconsin from various threats, the chapter needs enthusiastic and capable leadership. At this month's annual business meeting we will elect two new Board members to help lead us into the future. We are always looking for people willing to volunteer their time and effort for the good of the trout resource. Unfortunately, good people sometimes go unnoticed by nominating committees. If you feel you have something to offer to the chapter I encourage you to attend this month's meeting and step forward, we need you.

As for me, I will be stepping down as Chapter President. Serving in this capacity has been a very rewarding experience for me. During my term of office our chapter has continued to be an effective force in the local community and a strong advocate for sound environmental stewardship. The challenges ahead will require a doubling of our effort if the Kinni, Willow and Rush are to survive as quality trout streams far into the future. Soon, the chapter will be initiating an ambitious education effort to increase awareness of the impact of development on water quality. We'll need all the volunteers we can get, so please join us at this month's meeting.

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Sincerely,
 Gary Horvath



A picture is worth a thousand words.....

A hearty thanks to fishworkers Bob and Dan Bradham, Scott Clark, Mark Dostal, Chuck Goossen, Murray Humble, Jon Jacobs, Skip James, Ted Mackmiller, Brent Sittlow, Bill Skinner, Tony Stifter, Paul Wright, and Twin Cities Chapter members Joe Fierst, Bill Hinton, Mike Hodgens, and Clint Miller. Remaining work days are March 1, 15 and 29. Workers should park on Cemetery Road .2 mile north of Hwy J and walk east to the Kinni.



Puppy Love....
Bill Hinton and Flea

Down and Dirty....

Goossen and Engel rejoice in the knowledge that water can't get any colder than 32



FERC Orders River Falls Municipal Utility To Upgrade Lower Dam To Minimize Fluctuations in Flows

Complaints from the Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission officials over fluctuating flows on the Kinnickinnic River led to an audit of the River Falls Municipal hydro facility in the fall of 1995. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources fisheries personnel and Kiap-TU-Wish President Gary Horvath were invited to the audit which was held on September 7th, 1995.

Results of the audit led the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to order the River Falls Municipal Utility to submit alternative cleaning procedures for their trash rack which would eliminate or minimize flow disruptions to the river. After review of the proposed alternatives FERC has concurred with the WDNR preferred option. This option, which was also supported by our chapter, calls for a modification of the waste gate and installing a waste gate trashrack on the Powell (lower) dam. The waste gate would release a comparable amount of water from a location similar to the turbine outflow with no lag time. FERC also stated that the utility could not lower the reservoir to effect these changes. This position was also supported by our chapter.

The River Falls Municipal Utility has 90 days from January 23, 1997 to submit the waste gate modification and trashrack installation plan. The plan is to be prepared in consultation with the DNR, National Park Service, Trout Unlimited and the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust. Installation must be completed by September 1, 1997.

Sulfide Mining Moratorium Bill Needs Your Support...

The Wisconsin State Senate Environmental Resources Committee is taking public comment on Senate Bill 3, the Sulfide Mining Moratorium Bill. Sulfide mining threatens ground and surface waters through acid runoff and heavy metal contamination. The tailings from this mining activity once exposed to air and moisture leaches sulfuric acid which in turn dissolves heavy metals into solution. The resulting mix poses an immense environmental threat.

There has not been a sulfide mine closure that has not resulted in environmental damage. The proposed Crandon mine on the head waters of the Wolf River will be no exception. The Wolf River is an exceptional water resource and the State of Wisconsin should not roll the dice on its future by permitting the mine to be built. Other waters of the state also face this peril since there are numerous plans in the hopper for other sulfide mines.

Until improvements in mining technology occur which will guarantee environmental protection for surface and ground water, a moratorium on sulfide mining in Wisconsin should be enacted. The Wisconsin State Senate Environmental Resources Committee needs to hear from you. Please take the time to write supporting passage of (SB 3), the Sulfide Mining Moratorium Bill. Send your comments to:

Senator Kevin Shibilski
P.O. Box 7882
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708-7882

Interested in Smallmouth Bass?.....

A meeting will be held at the Interstate Park auditorium Tuesday, March 11 at 7pm to discuss proposed special regulations (catch and release) for the upper St. Croix smallmouth bass fishery. The DNR's of both Minnesota and Wisconsin will be there to take testimony and gauge angler sentiment. The meeting and proposal are sponsored by The Smallmouth Alliance. Such regs have had a very positive effect on the Mississippi River and should greatly increase the numbers of trophy smallmouth in the St. Croix. The special regs zone would be from St. Croix Falls Dam upstream to Hwy 48 (Hwy 77)

The Second Annual "Angler Concert"

Last year's concert at the Phipps Center For the Arts in Hudson was such a success that it will become an annual event. Fly tiers, casting instruction for all comers, booths and exhibits by Kiap-TU-Wish and the DNR is just the beginning. A one hour concert by professional musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra and Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra will feature Schubert's "Trout Quintet" and other music in praise of Spring. Soprano Maria Jette will perform Argento's Spring Songs, and P.D.Q. Bach's hilarious "Trite Quintet" will keep you in stitches. Ever seen musicians playing instruments in waders? Kinky, huh! Don't miss this outstanding family event.

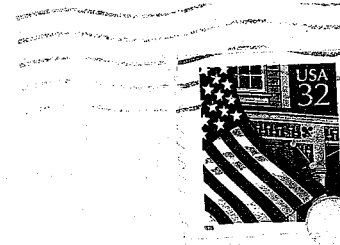
When: Sunday, April 20, 3pm
Where: Phipps Art Center, Hudson
Admission: \$5 children, \$8 adults

The work of a beaver? No, just Fishworks...





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DEADLINES

APR 3/15
MAY 4/15

Now on the Internet at:

<http://www.spacestar.com/users/lambcom/kiap.html>

Annual Business Meeting: Wednesday, March 5th

Once a year we elect officers, take stock of our finances, discuss plans for the future, and give recognition for outstanding service to the chapter.

This year we will vote on Jon Jacobs' proposed bylaw change, and elect two new board members. Nominees are Ellen Clark (MN) and Brent Sittlow (WI). Other nominations can be made from the floor. We will review improvement work done on local streams and our capacity to do more. Has our chapter grown over the past year? Are we solvent? What new directions will we take? To many of our members, this is the most interesting meeting of the year. Be sure to be there!



Father and son...Teamwork on the Kinni