



RIP - RAP



Editor: Ken Hanson

**RESTORATION & PRESERVATION
THROUGH RESEARCH & PROJECTS**

MAY 1994

KIAP-TU-WISH CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED

FISHWORKS FINALE

by Mike Alwin and Gary Horvath

On March 26, this year's final work date, the crew accomplished most, but not all of the work needed to be done. All but two of the brush piles were burned, no mean feat, since there were about fifteen of them to contend with. Because of the distance involved, some of the crew members worked on one or two piles far removed from the rest of the workers. All fires were extinguished by 5 PM.

Workers involved in this last date were: Mark Dostal, Chuck Goossen, Al Kiecker, Orv Johnson, Bob Danny, Jean and Jackie Bradham, Marty, Lee and Jeff Engel, Gary Horvath, Mike and Kevin Stanton, Bob Christenson, Craig Mason, Bill Hinton, Bill Lorenzen, Mike Alwin, Jon Jacobs, Bill Zelm, Tony Stifter and Denny McGinn.

Long-time Kiap-TU-Wish member and friend Arlan Ducklow passed away on April 15th after a long battle with leukemia. Arlan served on the Board of Directors during the years 1980 - 1988 and loved the lower Willow River. Our deepest sympathy to his wife Ruth Ann and sons Brad and Brian.

MAY MEETING NOTICE

WHEN: Wed. May 4
TIME: Dinner at 6:30
Meeting at 8:00
WHERE: Hudson House

Ken Schrieber and Marty Engel with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will be talking about the water quality monitoring on the the Willow River.

Please come to dinner at 6:30!!



NEW MEMBERSHIP FORMS

Our membership is the chapter's greatest strength. While your out this season take along some copies of our latest membership application and invite someone to become a member of Kiap-TU-Wish.

Enclosed is a copy of the form which includes the new address for TU Membership Services. Please take the time to make a few copies and store them in your fishing vest or your car glove box.

Pocket Water Casts

in honor of
The Ascerbic Angler

"The first desideratum is to find time to go fishing. There is the rub in the case of most of us. We are so tied down to the pursuit of the essential dollar that we lose the best and most innocent pleasures that this old earth affords. Time flies so fast after youth is past that we cannot accomplish one-half the many things we have in mind, or indeed one-half our duties. The only safe and sensible plan is to make other things give way to the essentials, and the first of these is flyfishing."

Theodore Gordon, 'Fishing Gazette',
August 20, 1904

MOVING?

If you are moving please do not send change of address notification to the chapter address. Please send changes to:

Trout Unlimited
Membership Service Center
14101 Parke Long Court
Chantilly, VA 22021-1645

On your notification, please include the eight digit TU identification number located in the upper left hand corner of your newsletter label.

A GAME OF NODS

by Perry Palin

In his 1976 book *In the Ring of the Rise*, Vincent Marinaro describes a process for developing new fly patterns called "a game of nods." A fly pattern is tied to imitate an insect upon which the fish are feeding, and then many variations of the pattern are tied, each a little different from the others. Each is shown to a visibly feeding fish. The number of positive responses (the number of "nods") that the fish gives to each is recorded. The characteristics of the best variations are tied into fewer patterns and the game is repeated, until one best fly emerges from the game.

Marinaro was fishing on clear, slow limestone streams, where the fish have plenty of time to look over your offerings. The game is difficult to replicate in our faster, freestone streams, but it is still an effective way to develop new patterns, and it gives the best reason to tie your own flies.

I played a variation of this game in the 60's when I developed a new brook trout fly on the North Shore. Brook trout are easier to fool than rainbows or browns, but even they prefer some flies over others. Over a period of two seasons I played "nods" and developed my own local pattern that outfished any other in the neighborhood. I couldn't have done this if I was buying my flies.

And it isn't good enough to adopt someone else's work, unless you fish in the same places under the same circumstances. My fly was very good on three local streams, excellent on two, and almost worthless on the rest. I tried

it off and on for two years in Western Wisconsin, and having never caught a fish there on that fly, I put it away and began working on a new set of patterns for my new surroundings.

There are many reasons to tie your own flies. Many tie for the satisfaction of catching fish with something they made themselves. A better reason, a more satisfying reason, is catching difficult fish with something they create themselves, after careful research of a fishing problem.



BUDDY TUBING

by Ken Hanson

I highly recommend using the "Buddy System" when float tube fishing. It's not only a good idea for safety reasons but it could also double your chances of finding fish. When the fishing is slow, you and your partner should spread out enough to cover different areas of water. Each of you should try different fly patterns until you can determine what the fish are hitting. Well, most of you have probably heard this advice before and have even tried it a time or two.

One problem with buddy tubing is moving too far out of ear shot from each other. Curiosity starts to get the best of you and you start to wonder about things like: "Has he had any hits? What fly is he using? How deep is he fishing? Do I have a leak in my waders or is it my imagination?". When you are tubing there isn't much else to do but wonder about things like this. You almost hate to leave the area you have been working but finally you paddle all the way over to your partner and ask "anything doing?". The answer is usually no (remember the fishing is slow) and you head over to another area.

Last summer Jay, my long-time long-distance fishing buddy, and I came up with a fun solution for this problem. We were on our way out of town for a weekend of lake fishing in eastern Washington and had stopped at a local strip mall near Jay's house to stock up on beer and other essentials. For some strange reason we went into the local electronics store and picked up a pair of toy walkie talkies for about \$20.00.

While on the lake we decided to keep them turned off until one of us waved to the other signaling that they wanted to talk. If one of us had a question or any significant information we could share it without having to get too close to each other. It also allowed us to keep an element of secrecy when other tubers were lurking nearby. You can't be too careful about these things. We were also very impressed by the good reception we had across the water. The best part was how handy it was for calling Jay over to take pictures each time I hooked a fish.

FLIES I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT!

by Skip James

Here are the flies that caught fish for me during the 1992 season: there aren't many of them, and several of them imitate more than one insect. With only these, I would feel comfortable on the stream about 95% of the time. First, the mayfly nymphs. I carry only two patterns: the Goldribbed Hare's Ear in sizes 12-18; and the Pheasant Tail in sizes 16-20. Caddis pupae are represented by only one pattern, the Mother, in sizes 10 and 16. I carry one stonefly nymph, a black one in size 10. My only other underwater pattern is a Skip's Skud, in two sizes, 12 and 16.

Floating patterns are more numerous. I carry a modification of the Adams which serves to imitate several medium mayflies: the Hendrickson, Stenonemas, and Callibaetis. For a dark mayfly imitation, I have always liked the Quill Gordon. This imitates Baetis, Isonychia and Paraleptophlebia. These are tied in sizes 10-20. The lighter mayflies are well matched by a Pale Morning Sulphur pattern, (PMS?) sizes 14-18. I carry Wet-Dry flies, a Gary Borger emerger pattern, in olive and sulphur yellow, (as well as hare's ear, pheasant tail, and Peacock herl) all with dun hackle. A Rusty Spinner, 14-18, and a Trico spinner, size 20, complete my mayfly imitations. The Caddis flies, which are so abundant around here, are represented by a light and dark Elk-hair Caddis, sizes 16-18, and the Henryville Special, same sizes. I carry one midge pattern, the Brush-cut Midge, in several colors in sizes 16-20. Like most flytiers, I modify the standard patterns to fit local conditions. The following recipes will make these modifications clear.

Gold-ribbed Hare's Ear

Hook: Regular shank, downeye

Thread: 8/0 dark brown

Tails: Three fibres from pheasant tail

Rib: Fine oval embossed gold tinsel

Abdomen: Dubbing blend of hare's mask, gray squirrel back, and clear antron.

Weight: Fine lead wire over the front half of the hook

Wingcase: Dark turkey wing segment, one third of the hook shank

Thorax: Same fur blend as abdomen, but fatter, and well picked out.

Pheasant Tail

Hook: 1x fine, dryfly hook, downeye

Thread: 8/0 dark brown

Tails: Three fibres from pheasant tail

Rib: Fine copper wire

Abdomen: Three pheasant tail fibres twisted on tying thread.

Weight: Fine copper wire (after ribbing abdomen, build up thorax with wire)

Wingcase: Three or four strands of pheasant tail fibres folded twice over thorax

Thorax: Peacock herl (not green, but copper colored)

Mother

Hook: 1x stout, 1x short shank, downeye

Thread: 8/0 dark brown

Tails: none

Body: Muskrat dubbing, well picked out

Weight: Lead wire wound over the entire hook shank

Hackle: Soft hackle from the back of a Ruffed Grouse, two turns only.

Skip's Skud

Hook: Tiemco 2457, or Daiichi 1130 or 1140

Weight: Fine lead wire over the middle third of the hook shank

Thread: 8/0 Tan

Tail: Tuft (very short) clear antron

Body: Sparkle dubbing; one half pink, one half tan, brushed out

Carapace: Large pearlescent mylar tinsel, laid over the dubbing

Rib: Fine copper wire

Black Stonefly Nymph

Hook: Tiemco 200R long curved shank hook, straight eye, or Daiichi 1270

Thread: 6/0 black

Tails: Black Goose biots

Abdomen: Black Sparkleblend, or Haretron

Rib: .013 Maxima (rib more closely than normal)

Weight: .020 lead wire, laid on either side of the hook shank to make flat body

Wingcases: Dark brown turkey, folded back twice to make a double wingcase

Thorax: Black Sparkleblend, well picked out

Quill Gordon

Hook: Regular shank dry fly, down eye

Thread: 8/0 gray

Tails: Dark dun hackle fibres

Body: Stripped hackle quill from red brown rooster neck

Wings: Lemon Woodduck flank, tied divided, Catskill style

Hackle: Dark Dun

James Adams (tied as a variant)

Hook: Regular shank dryfly, downeye

Thread: 8/0 tan

Tails: Grizzly and Brown hackle fibres a little longer than normal

Body: Hare's ear blend or other dirty tan dubbing (like Flyrite 27)

Hackle: Best quality dryfly grizzly and brown, one size larger than normal

Wing: Gray Orvis Sparklewing, tied X-wing style (Gary Borger)

(Optional treatment: Mallard flank wings, tied divided Catskill style)

Pale morning Sulphur

Hook: Regular shank dryfly, downeye

Thread: 8/0 primrose

Tails: Sandy dun hackle fibres

Body: Golden olive (Flyrite 8)

Hackle: Sandy dun

Wing: Gray Orvis Sparklewing, tied X-wing style (Gary Borger)

Rusty Spinner

Hook: light wire dryfly, 2x short, straight eye (Daiichi 1480)

Thread: 8/0 Red

Tails: Six or less blue dun hackle fibres, fanned out

Body: Rusty brown dubbing (Flyrite 28) around wings only, the rest of the body is only thread.

Wings: Gray Orvis Sparklewing, tied sparse and spent.

Trico Spinner

Hook: 2x short, 1x fine dry fly hook, straight eye (Daiichi 1480) (If you use the Daiichi hook, you need only one size: 20)

Thread: 8/0 tan

Tails: Blue dun hackle fibres (3), or microfibbets

Abdomen: thread

Thorax: Dark olive brown dubbing (Flyrite 42)

Wings: Gray Orvis Sparklewing, tied sparse and spent.

Dark Elk-hair Caddis

Hook: Regular shank dryfly, downeye

Thread: 8/0 brown

Abdomen: Hare's ear/antron blend, very sparse

Hackle: Medium dun, palmered over the first third of the shank, trimmed flat on the bottom

Wing: Dark elk-hair, sparse

Light Elk-hair Caddis

Hook: Regular shank dryfly, downeye

Thread: 8/0 primrose

Abdomen: dirty tan

Hackle: Grizzly, palmered over the first third of the shank

Wing: Tan elk-hair, sparse

Henryville Special

Hook: Regular shank dryfly, downeye

Thread: 8/0 olive

Abdomen: medium olive, with grizzly hackle palmered over it

Wing: Under wing of gold antron yarn or woodduck flank, overwing of mallard wing slips, matched and tied downwing,

tips pointing down

Hackle: Red brown

Little Green Thing

Hook: Regular shank dryfly, downeye

Thread: 8/0 olive

Body: medium olive dubbing (or peacock herl, pheasant tail, or hare's ear)

Hackle: Soft hackle from a dun rooster's breast, two turns only. Hackle fibres should be equal in length to the body.

Little Yellow Thing

Hook: Regular shank dryfly, downeye

Thread: 8/0 primrose

Body: Orange sulfur dubbing (Flyrite 23)

Hackle: Soft hackle from a dun rooster's breast, two turns only.

Brush-cut Midge

Hook: Tiemco 2487 or Daiichi 1130

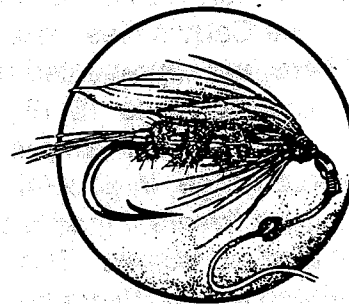
Thread: 8/0 to match dubbing color

Body: Thread, overlaid with clear .008 monofilament

Siphon / gills: Gray Orvis Sparklewing, tied in at the thorax, and pulled over the eye of the hook, so that it extends forward half the length of the shank.

Thorax: Buoyant dubbing to cover the base of the gills, color to match naturals

(Most useful colors: Red, green, black, tan, and 'pearl with herl')



I hope you have as much fun with these patterns as I have. With only a few flies to choose from, you become much more conscious of the delivery of your fly, the position of the fish, the currents, and their effect on your leader. You worry about how deep you're getting with your fly, rather than what fly you have on. You worry about drag, rather than fly pattern. As in music, the restriction of materials

FLIES continued on page 5

MN DNR Studies Big Brown Habitat

Big brown trout need more than just a place to hide, according to a recently completed study by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. The study report, "Summer Habitat Requirements of Large Brown Trout in Southeastern Minnesota Streams," concludes that what brown trout need to grow big (longer than 15 inches) is a wide variety of cover types, especially deep pools and undercut banks.

The study was conducted in response to frustration by Minnesota trout managers who were finding that their traditional habitat improvements, which were supposed to help all the trout, weren't producing big browns, according to the DNR's Charles Anderson. The improvements were primarily lunger structures built of wood and steel rods that were set into stream banks underwater.

"On the assumption that the more cover the better, we even tried putting in lots of lunger structures in pools, but we still didn't get many big browns," said Anderson, a DNR coldwater research scientist who co-wrote the report.

Although installing underwater lunger structures and placing boulders on eroding stream banks often produced more total trout in improved stream sections, the fish rarely grew over 15 inches.

"If big browns had unique habitat requirements, we didn't know what they were," said Anderson.

Now they do. The study of 511 pools on 21 streams found that pools with the most variety of cover - such as undercut banks, deep pools, large boulders, root wads and submerged trees - were most likely to hold big trout. For example, pools with three different cover types were up to 47 times more likely to hold a large brown trout than were pools with only one cover type. Those findings came as a surprise to the researchers.

"We didn't expect the combinations of habitat to be so important," said Anderson. In addition, the study found that deep pools and undercut banks were the two most important cover types for producing big browns.

Anderson said the study results could change the way trout managers improve stream trout habitat. "The streams in Southeastern Minnesota could produce larger trout, but in many places the habitat isn't there,"

he said. "If we want more big browns, we'll need to make pools deeper, increase overhead bank cover, and make sure there are several cover types in pools."

Anderson added that the lack of cover variety in pools could explain why experimental regulations, although successful in producing more trout, have failed to increase the number of lungers.

For more information, contact:

*Bill Thorn, DNR Fisheries, Lake City, (612) 345-3365 or
Charles Anderson, DNR Fisheries, St. Paul, (612) 296-0794*

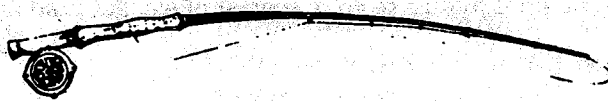
SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE ?

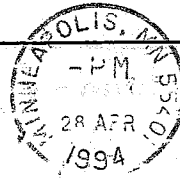
On a recent business trip to Seattle I found myself in quite a jam. Our computer system we were installing wasn't behaving quite right and I needed to extend my stay for another week. Not too bad considering that I brought my fishing gear along and could do a little more fishing over the weekend. The problem was that it was also the same weekend that I needed to work on the April issue of Rip-Rap. I put in a call to my pal Andy who graciously bailed me out (for a small fee of some hares ears). Thanks again Andy!

Ken

FLIES continued from page 4

forces one to become more creative with the resources you have, and simplification does not mean a reduction in beauty or effectiveness, but merely a clearer focus on the task at hand. Obviously, these are not the only flies you will ever need, or the most perfect patterns, or the ultimate killer fly that a certain group of people keeps searching for. I learn about fish and about my fishing technique from my failures, not my successes. I have failed miserably so many times, I try not to remember them all. But each time, I learn what the fish don't want, and so, by rejecting fly patterns after they have failed, by modifying them a little, here and there, I have come up with a few that I have lots of confidence in, that work for me. October 12, 1992





**Kiap-TU-Wish
1994 Meetings**

May 4: Marty Engel & Ken Schreiber

- Sep 7:
- Oct 5: Member's Slide Show
- Nov 2:
- Dec 7: Holiday Banquet

1995 Meetings

- Jan 4:
- Feb 1:
- Mar 1: Business Meeting
- Apr 5: Fly Tiers
- May 3: Marty Engel WI DNR

**KIAP-TU-WISH
TROUT UNLIMITED
P.O. BOX 483
HUDSON, WI 54016**

[Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

Kiap-TU-Wish

President: Gary Horvath (715) 425-8489
Treasurer: Tom Battey (612) 456-0889

Vice President: Tony Stifter (715) 549-5708
Secretary: Ken Hanson (612) 774-8807

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Jon Jacobs (715) 386-7822 | Kent Johnson (715) 386-5299 | Andy Lamberson (715) 386-7568 |
| Mark Dostal (715) 749-3205 | Mike Alwin (612) 439-8159 | Skip James (612) 436-1565 |

From The President:

"I don't want to belong to any organization that would have me as a member"

Groucho Marx

How has it come to this? Arguably the worst fisherman to ever sit on the Kiap-TU-Wish Board of Directors is now Chapter President. It's a funny world. All I can promise is to work hard for the chapter and the resource, just don't ask me for help with your back-cast. This is the last newsletter until September which means the opener is just a few days away. Just a reminder that as you are out this summer, be alert for items for our silent auction and take some slides to share with the chapter this fall. And as always, watch for threats to your special places on the stream. The recent setback on the stormwater management plan in River Falls and the subsequent reversal two weeks later, proves that concerned people can make a difference. I would like to thank Kent Johnson for all of the hard work and time spent on this project. Special thanks to Rob Chambers of the Kinnickinnic Landowners Association for the successful lobbying on behalf of the revised plan. And finally, as we look forward to another successful season on the stream, let us all resolve to make a difference. Pick up that stray can, recruit a new member, let a kid cast your rod and if you see an injustice to your special place, get mad and get involved. See you next fall.

Gary