



RIP-RAP

Restoration, Improvement and Preservation
Through Research and Projects

Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter of Trout Unlimited

November 1990

POST SEASON THOUGHTS BY THE ACERBIC ANGLER

The following letter from the secretive Acerbic Angler was sent to me from Chapter President Jon Jacobs. The thoughts expressed here are strictly those of this mysterious angler and do not necessarily reflect the views of Kiap-TU-Wish...One question remains... Who is the Acerbic Angler??-CM

Priority No. 1: Nov.6, election day: See "The Trout Wars" in Sex, Death and Fly Fishing, the latest book by the very talented and popular John Gierach. More and more people realize and agree that we need open primaries, limited terms (it is impossible to limit campaign spending by devious politicians). 98% incumbents is a cancer. I recommend voting anti-incumbent at least 90% of the time. Otherwise the politicians will continue to "study" our environmental problems for another 10 years. They count on our short memories. The Dems and Repubs are like two lawyers putting on a good show in court. The next day they have lunch and golf together with fat checks in their wallets. Examples: Dems: World Traveller Perpich is all environment in an election year. He counts on voters forgetting he did not have one penny for the environment in his huge budget proposal last year. Reps: "Read my Lips Bush" promised over and over "no net loss of wetlands" but recently okayed, mostly along rivers, to opening 60 MILLION acres of wetlands to farming and development: See Washington Post article reprinted in the St. Paul Pioneer. Press a few weeks ago.

Using the DNR as a whipping boy in Mn. and Wi. I find extremely frustrating and irritating. If you walk in their waders enough, they become your heroes. For example: Twin Cities TU had 727 paid members by recent count. Kiap-TU-Wish about 150. Volunteer turnout on two recent projects was very disappointing: the "olibus": Too short a notice and not doing projects on weekends. The politicians made the laws that a DNR employee can no longer trade days, they can no longer work Saturdays at straight time and take a week day off. And the DNR can no longer afford overtime with shrinking budgets & ever expanding duties.

The results of the volunteer short notice calling lists have been disappointing. Two recent examples: Friday, Sept. 28, 10,500 Browns were planted in the Willow: Frantic last minute calling produced 9 volunteers: Three were 68-70 years old & one believed close to that, and one was not a TU member. Fortunately the river was in good shape, if three more younger stronger bodies were there, it is believed a more thorough job would have been done, and two volunteers probably would have not got a wet behind. #2: Oct.5: Mike Hayes & Dave McCormick of the Mn. DNR shocked Trout Brook south of Miesville, Twin Cities TU's adopted stream. Four elderly volunteers showed up, but two had no boots, at least one was a Twin Cities TU member. Mike & Dave carried 40 lb packs on their backs, dragged a long large "sausage" behind

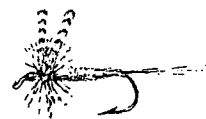
them and a shocker in one hand and a net in the other. A 69 year old and a 68 year old Volunteer carried the large pail full of water and small trouts & the measuring board. Mike & Dave strenuously fought their way through large log jams, brush tangles, etc. How the hell they managed without help I don't know.

So, at least get off your butts, strongly support your interests & vote, same as other groups. This is a week day, not short notice. And don't bitch about the DNR to me, I can be far more acerbic than this article.

And Minnesotans: Be absolutely sure you vote for the Environmental Trust Fund as 77% of the voters did 2 years ago. Remember, if you forget, you are counted as a no. And knowing politicians, it may be on the back side of the ballot & election officials have been known to forget to tell you that.

Ed "Boomer" Palmquist of El Paso, Wi. an active member of the Eau Galle Rush River Club was killed in a tractor accident Oct.4. He enthusiastically welcomed both Trout Fishers & the DNR on his property on the Rush River. He will be sorely missed by Rush River Regulars & many others

A.A.



HERESY NIGHT

This month's guest speaker is Tim Holschlag, a founder and current president of the Smallmouth Alliance, a conservation organization dedicated to protecting and enhancing the smallmouth bass fishery in the Midwest. Mr. Holschlag, a writer, is a contributor to several regional outdoor magazines and is the author of the just released book, *Stream Smallmouth Fishing: A Comprehensive Guide*.

Dinner starts at 6:30p. We need more members to attend Dinner!! Act 2 has been nice enough to let us use the Meeting Room FREE on the assumption that many of us will be eating dinner there. The food is great and the prices are very reasonable and the stories are questionable! Please attend. It's a GOOD TIME!

Meeting starts at 8:00

Place: Act 2 in Downtown Hudson

Notes From the Pres:

Our most sincere thanks to Brian Lowey for his efforts as the newsletter editor for the past several years. Brian did a tremendous job on a difficult project and we are beholden to him. Brian did such a remarkably competent job that will take two people to replace him: Craig Mason as Editor and Andy Lamberson as Production Assistant (grunt Typist)

One of our more outspoken members called me during this transition and said that the newsletter is a vital link in maintaining both communications and chapter identity. He's right of course, and to that end I'd like to remind you that this is your newsletter and that Craig welcomes your contributions to it. You may send them to him at the chapter address: Kiap-TU-Wish Box 483, Hudson, Wi. 54016

We thank Bob Mitchell for his captivating presentation on the Bighorn, his river of dreams, at our October meeting. Bob and Jean are among the very best friends this chapter has.

Recently, while visiting the Orvis Gorkey's store in St. Paul, I met the store manager, Melanie Dittman. She said that they sometimes "hire" members of conservation organizations such as ours to help them take inventory, with the collective wages paid to the organization. This sounded both fun and profitable to me, I hope we get the opportunity.

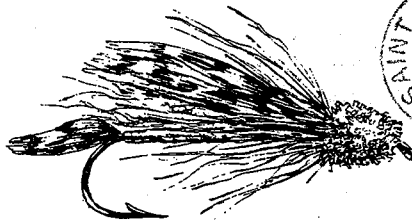
Jon Jacobs

Strohl Backs 'Adopt-A-Stream'

Madison(AP)- A proposal to encourage groups to protect a portion of natural habitat-through litter cleanup, erosion control and fish development-will be introduced in the next legislative session.

Senate majority leader Joseph Strohl says he will suggest the initiative, called Adopt-A-Stream, that currently is used in eight other states. Under the program, a school class or youth organization would "adopt" a portion of a stream. The group would then become involved in a water quality improvement plan.

Currently eight states including Minnesota have a similar plan.



MEETING SCHEDULE

- Nov.7- Small Mouth Alliance
- Dec.5- Holiday Party
- Jan.2- Tom Helgeson-
Missouri River
- Feb.6- Tom Anderson- Nymphs
- March 6- Business Mtg.
- April 3- Fly Tiers
- May 1- Marty Engel Wisc.
DNR

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