

President's Lines

Changes

We have certainly seen changes in the last few weeks and are sure to see more in the weeks and months ahead. Some of them will be major and will have significant impact on our lives. Others will be minor and may even be just annoyances and inconveniences. Most are very hard to understand and it's very difficult to know just how much more change they will cause.

The change that needs your immediate attention is the location of the chapter meetings. The JR Ranch is apparently closing and we are, for the time being, moving our meetings to the Nature Center at Willow River State Park. The meetings will start at 8:00. The Nature Center is at the end of the State Park access road...on your right...just before the dam. You will need a State Park admission sticker. If no one is at the gate, you can fill out a self-registration form there.

We will actively discuss plans for a long-term meeting site at our October meeting.

Kiap-TU-Wish and the Kinnickinnic are also facing changes that need your attention. There is a proposal for a new, large Hans Hagen development on the upper Kinni that needs our attention.

There are planned changes to the operation of the Eau Claire Dam which may result in significant improvements to the river below and will present us with an opportunity to help by making stream improvement structures (the focus of this winter's stream improvement Project).

The other change for Kiap-TU-Wish is our new "Events Management Site" on MSN Communities. We will utilize this site to communicate to all of our members and anyone else who is interested in our chapter's activities (e.g., meetings, stream improvement dates etc.). You can view the site .. And then sign up at:

<http://communities.msn.com/KiapTUWish>

If you were already on our email list you should have received an invitation via email. ANYONE may join this list. You do not need to be a Kiap member to participate in our meetings or stream improvement projects.

You will then be on our e-mail list for any e-mail communications from the chapter. Make sure you sign up with messages sent to your e-mail vs. reading them on the Bulletin Board (assuming you want to be on the Kiap e-mail list). Our previous e-mail list will be discontinued.

I wish you good luck with all the changes

we will be experiencing over the next year and let's all try to keep in mind what really matters and what are simply inconveniences.

Regards,

Andy Lamberson
Chapter President

Whirling Disease: An Update

By Jon Jacobs

Whirling disease has had a substantial negative effect on many trout fisheries in the West. Last year RipRap reprinted an article (RR, Dec. 2000) from **littoral drift** by John Karl on the possibility of this disease spreading to Wisconsin waters. Now, **Chris Lemmon**, a research specialist in conservation biology at the University of Minnesota, is appearing at our October meeting to give us the very latest information on this important topic. Please make plans to attend.

Note in Andy Lamberson's column that **THE MEETING PLACE HAS CHANGED!** The October meeting will be held at the Nature Center at Willow River State Park. Unfortunately, the park admission fee could not be waived for this event. Many of our members do make use of Wisconsin's excellent state park system. By placing a phone call or two, it should be possible to form car pools to the park. Chapter president Andy Lamberson has promised us a discussion on where we might find a new long-term home. Please come ready to join in. An ideal setting would have a central location, a private meeting room, beverage service, restaurant service and, in an ultra-perfect world, the capacity to host our annual holiday party.

River Falls Clinic A Success

By Michael Alwin

On June 2nd the Chapter hosted another successful fly fishing clinic at Glen park in River Falls, WI. Eighteen students learned to fly cast, munched sandwiches, listened to our pleas to help save the river and then plied their newly acquired craft on the banks of the Kinnickinnic.

Many stalwart volunteers helped make this clinic the success it was: **Bill Lovegren** taught a section on equipment, **Bill Hinton** led our casting sessions, **Clarke Garry** introduced the students to aquatic invertebrates, **Skip James** covered imitations, **Gary Horvath** discussed the effects of thermal pollution and **Ted and Renate Mackmiller** dished up food for the students and staff. Serving as guides and mentors were **Bob Bradham**, **Jim Rees**, **Ken Scheurman**, **John Kaplan** and **Brett Edstrom**. A thousand thanks to **Jon Jacobs** for accepting the role of lead teacher again this year. Each one of these volunteers made a unique and invaluable contribution to the success of this clinic.

The Education Committee is looking for volunteers to continue the fine work that this year's clinic exemplified. Interested members should seek out Jon or me at a chapter meeting.

Michael Alwin is the proprietor of Bob Mitchell's Fly Shop in Lake Elmo, MN and the Chair of K-TU's education committee.

Postcard from The Edge

By Mike Edgerly

"I in these flowery meads wou'd be,
These chrystal streams should solace me;
To whose harmonious bubbling noise,
I with my angle wo'd rejoice..."

"The Angler's Wish" from Izaak Walton's THE COMPLEAT ANGLER.

I chose not to fish on September 11.

Like most citizens and anglers, I was pole-axed by the horrors in New York and Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania and hurried home to my wife to sit in front of the television to watch the images over and over again.

Two days later, a cool evening alongside a tall green ridge of trees, the faded blue sky marked by contrails of military aircraft: Beneath this sky and hills, I stood in a stream and watched trout rise to the evening emergence of olive

mayflies. I shared the river with a kingfisher, swallows and some sparrows in the tall brush along the bank.

The solitude and the scenery and the feeding fish were out of a devoted angler's prayer book. I fished upstream with the smallest dry fly in my box, the no-nonsense Adams. A couple hundred yards upstream I turned and fished down with a soft hackle emerger.

I landed trout coming and going.

The casting of a fly to rising fish on a quiet evening near the end of a fishing season was an insignificant act. No life was saved, no killers brought to justice.

But I found peace. Imagine that.

Mike Edgerly of St. Paul is the News Director of Minnesota Public Radio

09/11/01

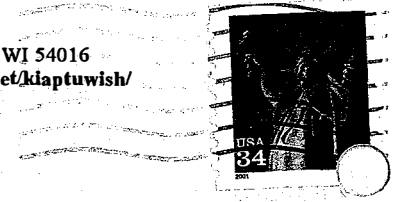
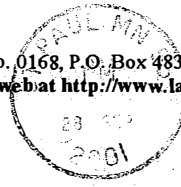
Editorial by Jon Jacobs

Crisis defines our way of life, but there is still a little time to ponder gently which mayfly a trout favors. It is a season to become aware of these contradictions and to understand what they mean.

from Fly Tackle by Harmon Henkin

The horrific acts of terrorism perpetrated against our country and all of peace loving humanity on September 11 are beyond my capacity to understand or interpret. The pages of a Trout Unlimited newsletter make a poor forum for the discussion of tragic world events, I know, but please indulge me just this once.

It has been difficult in the aftermath of the attacks to place much importance on chasing fish. Yet, in an odd way, I think we can help to win the impending, awful battle against terrorism by continuing to fish and, more importantly by far, to show our concern for the environment. The hellish brutes behind the cowardly acts understand full well that a good part of this battle has to do with crushing our spirits and our will to continue. Our interest in the environment is a part of the fabric of the American psyche, just as a concern for social issues or an interest in a profession is. If we back away from participation in any of the parts of our lives that we value, the evildoers have begun to win. Please, please continue to lead your lives to the fullest. Do the best possible work that you can in making your livelihood. Continue to participate fully in the American economy. Don't cancel your travel plans. Keep up your hard work on behalf of the environment. And, above all, hold your family, friends, co-workers and all of your fellow Americans dear.



*Oh, brothers, let's go down,
Let's go down, come on down,
Come on, brothers, let's go down, down in the river to
pray.*

*As I went down in the river to pray,
Studying about that good old way,
And who shall wear the robe and crown,
Good Lord, show me the way.*

-From DOWN TO THE RIVER TO PRAY, Traditional



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MEETING AND PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

OCTOBER 3: Chris Lemmon on Whirling Disease
NOVEMBER 7: Dave Ballman on Argentine Troutling
DECEMBER 5: Holiday Banquet
JANUARY 2: Clarke Garry on Kinnickinnic Entomology
FEBRUARY 6: Bonefishing in Cozumel
MARCH 6: Annual Business Meeting
APRIL 3: Dick Frantes Memorial Fly Tying Extravaganza
MAY 1: WiDNR on local conservation issues

DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER RIPRAP: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21.