



# RIP - RAP



Editor: Ken Hanson

RESTORATION & PRESERVATION  
THROUGH RESEARCH & PROJECTS

SEPTEMBER 1995

KIAP-TU-WISH CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED

## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome back to another season of the RIP-RAP. After the hot summer we can all look forward to a beautiful fall. Please join us at the September 6th meeting at the JR Ranch where we will be discussing this past summers activities and upcoming projects for the fall and winter.

On Saturday, September 9th the Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited will be meeting in Hayward at the Northern Pine International Inn located on Hwy 27 just south of town. There is a full agenda including a discussion on the proposed early season for Wisconsin with Larry Claggett of the DNR and Mike Reiter, chairman of the Conservation Congress Trout Committee. There will also be a talk on the local trout fishing in the Hayward area. All interested chapter members are encouraged to attend. For more information give me a call at 715-425-8489.

*Gary*

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Since our last issue of Rip-Rap, back in May, we have added quite a few members and are currently at a membership of 153. We'd like to welcome the following new members to the chapter.

Josh Bennett  
John Gordon  
John Kalmon  
David Sonstegard  
Paul Wiemerslage  
Ellen Clark  
Kevin Cooley  
Mike Haluerson  
Jane & Donna O'Keefe  
John Hollenbach  
Steve Kennedy  
Chris Willett

## SEPTEMBER MEETING NOTICE

**WHEN:** Wed. Sep. 6th  
**TIME:** Dinner at 6:30  
Meeting at 8:00  
**WHERE:** JR Ranch

At our first meeting of the season we will be discussing news from this past summer as well as up and coming events.

Hope to see you at dinner.

## FLYFISHING CLINIC GETS RECOGNITION

On Saturday, June 17, Kiap-TU-Wish hosted a flyfishing clinic in River Falls and despite the blistering hot weather, the 24 students that attended had a great time. Thanks to the following TU volunteers for making the day a success: Jon Jacobs (lead teacher), Mike Alwin, Dan Bruski, Dan Conlee, Tony Stifter, Jim Caspers, Bill Lovegren, Ross Nelson, and John Stiney.

*The following is a letter to the editor that appeared in the July 13, 1995 Hudson Star Observer.*

Dear Editor:

I was alerted to this event's availability via Jim Bennett's "Woodland Trails" column in the Hudson Star Observer. My Grandson and I journeyed to River Falls Saturday, June 17, where the Trout Unlimited people were providing the service to our communities.

TU's Kiap-TU-Wish chapter not only provided instructions on how to get started in trout stream fishing, but they also provided an ecological appreciation seminar to complement those instructions.

*see Clinic Page 2*

## Natural Resource Board To Consider March 1 Statewide Opener

The Wisconsin Natural Resource Board will decide whether to accept a recommendation for a March 1st statewide trout opener. The recommendation came out of the August 4th meeting of the Conservation Congress Trout Committee in Stevens Point.

The Conservation Congress was critical of the DNR process regarding the April 1 opener for the southern third of the state. This led to it's defeat at the April Fish and Wildlife Rules Hearings.

After public hearings this summer, DNR fish managers were asked to offer an opinion on a biologically safe early season. Armed with this information, the Conservation Congress Trout Committee debated the issue and decided on the March 1st opener. Regulations would be no harvest (catch and release) with artificials only and barbless hooks until the first Saturday in May, with spring ponds and ice fishing excluded.

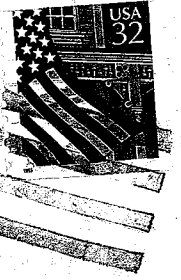
If accepted, the proposal would appear at the 1996 spring rule hearings and would take affect in 1997. Under the proposal, a very small number of streams could be exempted for biological reasons. A mechanism for determining exemptions would have to be worked out.

*Gary Horvath*





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**DEADLINES**

OCT 9/22  
 NOV 10/20  
 DEC 11/24  
 JAN 12/22

*Clinic continued:*

It was one of the best ways I have ever spent a Saturday afternoon in all of my nearly 60 years. My 14-year-old grandson felt the same way.

Would-be trout fisherpersons were provided with lessons in knot tying, the right equipment, casting techniques, the kinds of flies to use and where to use them.

There was also a course outline handout that doubled as a note pad and one-on-one instructions to us beginners by TU club members and volunteers.

Though this "clinic" did have a \$5 entrance fee that went to the River Falls Park & Recreation Department, this was insignificant in the light of what the participants received back in exchange.

Not only did participants receive everything mentioned above (over four or five hours of instruction) ... but they were also treated to supper consisting of Subway sandwiches, potato chips, soft drinks and brownies. The food tasted good and it was plentiful too.

Next we "learners" were presented with a box of assorted trout fishing fly imitations from Mike Alwin, owner of Bob Mitchell's Fly Shop in Lake Elmo,

Minn. Then we were taken fishing on the extraordinary Kinnickinnic River with the instructors.

What a beautiful day our creator provided for this event. What a wonderful way to end such a day on the greatest trout stream in western Wisconsin.

What makes it the greatest? Unlike most other well-known trout streams in this area, the Kinni is the only one that is self-sustaining (doesn't need regular stocking by the DNR) to keep it annually refishable.

For my money the awareness portion had to be the second best part of the entire day (behind the actual fishing).

Considering the facts presented to us, it is my impression that all area residents should be as protective of the Kinnickinnic River as TU's local members are.

My 14-year-old grandson came away from the clinic convinced that trout fishing is the best summertime activity imaginable, on par with winter skiing. Even at his age he can see why the Kinnickinnic River should be jealously protected from careless damage from future development

along its entire length of travel.

Perhaps two dozen people came to learn this time. Perhaps even more people will come out to learn if this opportunity is repeated in the future. (Why, the only other thing participants had to bring with them was a valid fishing license and a pair of hip boots or waders) ... not too pricey for nine hours of fun and relaxation.

*Robert E. Brown Jr.*  
 Hudson

**LOST ROD**

A reward is being offered for the return of a fly rod and reel that was lost on July 2nd, near the bridge over the Willow River at the Junction of County Road E and I near Burkhardt. The rod is a 9 foot 4 wt Scott rod with an Orvis Battinkill reel.

If someone has found, or finds, this rod please contact Dick Powell by phone on 612-439-9079 or by mail at 1022 S. 4th ST, Stillwater, MN 55082.