

# Newscasts

July 2010 Serving the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited



**Please note:** We will **NOT** have our regular meeting at the Coliseum Bar in July **or** August. There is a lot going on (see below) and our next regular meeting will take place on September 14.

## Streamside Picnic: Mark Your Calendars Saturday, July 10 in Mazomanie

We'll be gathering at the picnic shelter at Lake Marion Park in Mazomanie. Everybody is encouraged to attend, and bring along family and friends. The rundown:

**8:30 a.m.** – A driving exploration of the Black Earth Creek Watershed.

**10 a.m.** – A stream shocking demonstration courtesy of the DNR.

**11 a.m.** – A walking tour the major restoration project being discussed for the area.

**Noon** – Picnic time, with as much great food and warm camaraderie as you can shake a spey rod at!

**See the flier on page 3 for a map and more details.**

Show up for any or all parts that interest you... we hope to see you there!

## No August Newscasts or Meeting

There is no meeting or *Newscasts* in August (as usual) so keep an eye on [www.swtu.org](http://www.swtu.org) for news! If you'd like to place something in the September issue, get it to [the editor](#) by the last Tuesday in August.

### Read on for:

- **Special Annual Fishing Day Report**
- **Workday opportunity – July 17**
- **Rusty gets all fluttery**
- **Are you getting the most out of your SWTU membership?**

## Streambank Easement Program Needs Your Voice and Support

A month ago, the County Board Personnel and Finance Committee voted to "unfreeze" funding for eight permanent streambank easements on German Valley and Vermont Creeks. So Resolution 62 was introduced and now is going through the board committee process. Last week, the Public Works Committee voted to approve the resolution. The Environment and Natural Resources Committee and then Personnel and Finance Committee (again) will have to approve it. Then it goes to the full county board at their July or August meeting.

As individual TU members interested in protecting our cold water resource, our next step is to let the full county board know of our support. It's easy to do, and the more of us who do it, the better. Simply go to the Dane County website/board of supervisors ([www.countyofdane.com/board/supervisors.aspx](http://www.countyofdane.com/board/supervisors.aspx)) and click the "Email all supervisors" link.

Please make the following points:

- You're a member of Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited with over 700 members, mostly in Dane County.
- We have been extremely supportive of the county's Permanent Streambank Easement Program, contributing \$7,500 for an easement on Gordon Creek and raising over \$16,000 for the two proposed easements on Vermont Creek.
- SWTU has worked with the Natural Heritage Land Trust to secure a grant of \$15,000 from the Madison Community Foundation to match the SWTU contributions.
- The TU and NHLT donations will help secure a matching Stewardship grant from DNR, further reducing the county's cost for these easements.
- A great example of collaboration among private groups, the county, state and willing landowners.
- Please support Resolution 62.

***The few minutes of time it will take you to send your message can have a BIG impact on our precious cold water resource. Thank you.***

## **Making a Real Difference** **Take part in a Stream Workday**

We will meet at Salmo Pond on **July 17** at 8 a.m. for a brush clearing workday on Black Earth Creek. We got a lot of the work done on our June workday, but there is still more to clear.

This is a way that you can make a real difference for this vital cold water habitat. And by taking part, you will earn a chance to win the Streamkeeper II – a fantastic rod expertly built by **Jim Bartelt**.

As usual, we will finish up work at around noon and have a fine lunch. If you want to help or need more information, please contact **Dennis Presser**, Project Co-Chair at [wotihnisa@hotmail.com](mailto:wotihnisa@hotmail.com).

## **Welcome New Members**

Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited is pleased to announce the addition of the following new members to our ranks.

Robert Rand	Steven Marshman
Nick Lane	Chris Hendrickson
Jed Smith	Don Williams
Teresa Sacia	Todd Geary

We are honored to have you among us. Please join us for a Chapter meeting, and we will give you **FREE** raffle tickets, flies and “an offer you can’t refuse” from some of our most experienced fisher-folk!

## **Fly Fishing 101**

Orvis and Trout Unlimited are partnering on a free [Fly Fishing 101](#) course. The course will be held each Saturday in July, covering all of the trout fishing basics. There are two ways to help out:

- Volunteers are needed to help teach rigging, knots, etc.
- If you know of anybody who is interested in getting started in fly fishing, have them contact the Madison Orvis Store about the class.

The students who sign up and attend the clinics receive a \$15 coupon, as well as a membership to TU with the purchase of a rod. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Frank Kosmach at [kosmach@chorus.net](mailto:kosmach@chorus.net).

## **Putting on a Clinic** **SWTU teaches fly fishing in Fitchburg**

It was a small group of participants, but large in their eagerness to learn and happy to be there at our June 26 fly fishing clinic in Fitchburg. They moved through stations on casting, fly tying and equipment/knots. The event was powered by a great volunteer crew, including Jim Beecher, Jim Gentry, Tom Thrall, Jim Kanvik, Barry Ulsrud and John Gribb.



*Jim Gentry teaching knots*

## **You Must Be Present to Win**

Nobody won at our June Chapter meeting, so the drawing has grown from \$40 to \$60. Please join us at our July 10 Chapter picnic for a chance to win a \$60 gift certificate to *Fontana Sports Specialties*. You need only be present (and able to discern the calling of your name) to win.

## **Stay in the Know**

Keep on top of Chapter and other local events [by visiting the Chapter calendar](#). If you have any questions or content for the calendar, contact Jordan Konisky at [jordan.konisky@gmail.com](mailto:jordan.konisky@gmail.com).

## **Job Opening! Bucket Raffle Chair**

Our last Bucket Raffle Chair, Frank Kosmach, has stepped up to the role of president so we need somebody to step in and take over.

It's not a lot of work and is a fun part of every meeting. Plus while running the raffle table you get a chance to see and talk to everybody. Importantly, it also raises a tidy little sum for our cold water education and restoration efforts!

You'll get plenty of help getting started, and we can find backups for any meeting you can't make. If you're interested, please contact Frank Kosmach at [kosmach@chorus.net](mailto:kosmach@chorus.net).

# SWTU Streamside Picnic

## Saturday, July 10 in Mazomanie

We'll be gathering at the picnic shelter at Lake Marion Park in Mazomanie, which offers a nice shelter, tables and opportunity to cast for bluegills. The rundown:

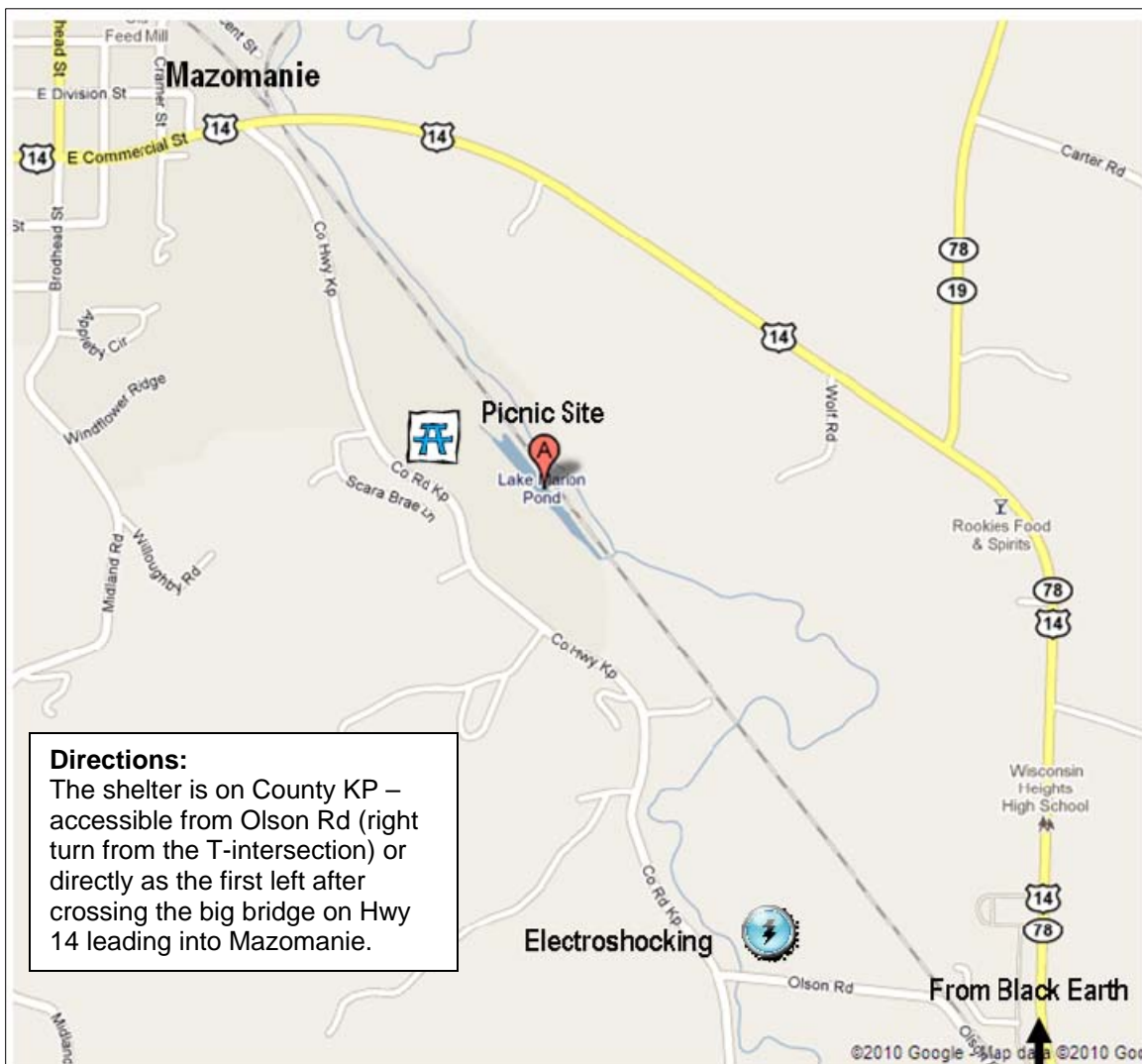
**8:30 a.m.** – A driving exploration of the Black Earth Creek Watershed. Vehicles will meet at the Mobile Station / Kelley's Market on the corner of Pleasant View Rd. and Hwy 14 in Middleton (8613 University Green, Middleton) and proceed out toward Mazomanie. Along the way, you'll stop at certain points and Stephen Born will discuss things geographic, geologic, hydrologic and more!

**10 a.m.** – Simply shocking! The trusty DNR crew will provide a stream shocking demonstration, revealing all those fish we're certain aren't there. The shocking will take place near the intersection of County Hwy KP and Olson Rd, which is a short drive east of Mazomanie and Lake Marion Park. (Be prepared to apply some bug spray and walk through tall grass to view the shocking.)

**11 a.m.** – Beginning at the Lake Marion Shelter in Mazomanie, Stephen Born will lead a grand walking tour the major environmental restoration project being discussed for the Mazomanie area.

**Noon** – Picnic time at Lake Marion Park, with as much great food and warm camaraderie as you can shake a spey rod at! If you can **bring a dessert to pass**, that would be great.

**Bring a friend, a kid, your spouse, your family, your bluegill flies... show up for any or all parts that interest you!**



## A Very Special Day

By John Schweiger

The prospects of favorable weather were not good, according to the weather prognosticators, but this turned out to be the perfect day. We had a great turnout of fifty-five guests, plus caregivers and family members. The generous donation of time by many of our chapter members and their families made for a day for all to enjoy.

First and foremost, the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited would like to thank Jim Kalscheur and his staff. Without Jim and access to his facilities there would be no Special Annual Fishing Day. My thanks go out to Jim's staff for taking their time to assist in all phases of making the day a success from picking up goose poo to preparing and serving the lunch. In addition, Jim provided hot dog buns, baked beans, potato chips, condiments, beverages and treats for our guests. Many thanks to Oscar Mayer (Dave Whooley ) for the hot dogs, Dorn Hardware at Nakoma (Jim) for the leaf worms used as bait, Scott's Bakery (Jackie and Russell) for the breakfast pastries, and Colleen Campbell for getting out the invitations to our guests. Last but not least, I would like to thank the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (Kurt Welke) and the Loan-A Rod Program for making the tackle available to us.

I would like to personally thank those chapter members who made the day a great success. First, I would like to recognize Mark Rhinerson. He used his personal time to pick up and return the fishing tackle provided by the DNR. He assisted in the Friday night tackle set up and assisted as fishing guide on Saturday.

My thanks to the Friday night tackle set up crew. The tackle set up was more challenging than in the past. The technical expertise of the crew was definitely put to the test. All volunteers for the tackle set-up had the opportunity to fish and all were successful, including yours truly. My thanks to Mark Rhinerson, Bill Engber, Chuck Valliere, Jim Bartelt, Barry Ulsrud and Henry Haugley.

Thanks to the goose poo crew of Chuck Valliere, Tom Pellett, Jack Heiden, Henry Haugley and Jim O'Brien for making the fishing grounds safe for our guests.

The photographers for the event were Mikie Ulsrud, Ann Jakel, Peg Stromoen, Allegra Larson, Bill Engber and Marty Jenich, who very generously, set up a shutterfly website for the event. It is possible to go to <http://swtu2010.shutterfly.com> and view pictures of the day's activities and obtain copies at a very nominal fee at no profit to the chapter or

Marty Jenich. Ann and Peg handled the Polaroid Instamatics, which made photos of our guest's catches immediately available to them making killing the fish unnecessary and leaving them to be caught again next year.

In closing, I would like to thank those chapter members, family and friends for their assistance as goose poo removers, fishing guides, fish cleaners, furniture setup assistants, strong backs for transporting wheel chair bound guests, greeters and photographers. All these jobs contribute directly to an extremely busy and successful Special Annual Fishing Day.

Mark Rhinerson  
Dave Disch  
John Gribb  
Kurt Osterby  
Jim O'Brien  
Mikie Ulsrud  
Marty Jenich  
Henry Haugley  
Ann Jakel  
Jim Beecher  
Beth Strauss  
Whitney Anderson  
Don Nydam  
Dennis Presser and family  
Mary Heredia  
Steve Born

Bill Engber  
Chuck Valliere  
Jim Kanvik  
Tom Mulford  
John Patterson  
Barry Ulsrud  
Dave Disch  
Peg Stormoen  
Mike Grimes  
Steve Wald  
Paul Anderson  
Jack Heiden  
John Gribb  
Tom Pellett  
Zach Heredia  
Dan Moyer

Last but by no means least, I want to thank my lovely bride Rose for excellent counsel, administrative assistance and personal donation of the muffins and bagels enjoyed this year.

I'm looking forward to another successful Special Annual Fishing Day next year on the second Saturday of June, 2011.



## Fountains of Youth

*A look at classic flies that have withstood the test of time ... flies that remain "forever young"*

by Rusty Dunn

What's more important when fishing dry flies over rising trout: (A) a good presentation, or (B) a fly that imitates prevailing insects? The correct answer is "A". A quality presentation trumps everything else when it comes to trout fishing. Fly size, pattern, and color can be important, but excellent presentations will always bring trout to hand, even with flies that look nothing like the insects *du jour*. But you'll rarely catch trout when your fly drags or floats unnaturally, no matter how perfect the imitation.

This principle of dry fly angling descends from the teachings of F.M. Halford, probably the greatest and certainly the most influential dry fly practitioner ever. In Halford's words:

*"place the fly lightly on the water so that it floats accurately over the fish without the slightest drag".* —in *Floating Flies and How to Dress Them* (1886)

Halford advocated dead-drift presentations at all times, but he fished the fertile chalk streams of England, which are astonishingly rich in mayflies. In less fertile waters, such as the majority of North America, caddisflies can be more important than mayflies. Caddis frequently violate Halford's rule, and dry flies that move or twitch imitate naturals better than those that drift quietly. Emerging caddis usually bounce, flutter, skitter, and flop on the surface before getting airborne. Egg-laying females dap or skim the surface when releasing eggs. In both situations, movement of your fly can make the difference between a good day and a great day.

The undisputed champion of fishing dry flies with movement was Leonard Wright, Jr. (1922 - 2001). His 1972 book *Fishing the Dry Fly As A Living Insect* articulates principles of when, where, and how to manipulate a dry fly to entice a loafing trout. Wright

was a New York advertising executive who summered in the Catskills and honed his skills on its heavily fished waters. He recognized that caddis were often more abundant than mayflies, but he found little detailed information in the angling literature on how to fish them. After studying the flop and flutter of caddis emergers, Wright experimented with flies and presentations to imitate their erratic motion. He discovered that dry flies fished with movement can be more effective than those drifting freely. "Movement" is not the same as "drag". A dragging fly is one whose movement is out of control. The current pulls the fly constantly, and it glides across or downstream. An active fly is one whose movement is under control. The *angler* pulls the fly abruptly, and it briefly twitches upstream. Watch an emerging caddis sometime. Its stuttering attempts at flight are always in an upstream direction.

Wright designed his Fluttering Caddis specifically for active presentations. Its magic lies in the presentation. Wright cast the Fluttering Caddis across and slightly downstream, with the fly line curving upstream. He mended line as needed to prevent drag and to counteract intervening currents. As the drifting fly approached a rising fish or likely lie, Wright raised the rod tip sharply and gave the fly one quick little nudge. He called the maneuver "*the sudden inch*", because the fly darted upstream (or up-and-across) about that distance. Any other direction identifies the disturbance as a fraud.

Wright was not the first author to advocate active presentations of dry flies, but each generation of angler benefits from being reminded of age-old principles. Leonard Wright did just that. He reminded us that trout often judge the movement of potential food to separate the meat from the chaff. Wright's method is a proven winner, and not just for emerging caddis. You would be wise to get a little twitchy yourself when casting dry flies over suspicious fish.

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### ----- Wright's Fluttering Caddis -----

<b>Hook:</b> Dry fly, #12 - #18
<b>Thread:</b> 8/0, color to match natural
<b>Body:</b> Pheasant tail barbs or other feather fibers, color to match the natural. Keep the body slim.
<b>Rib:</b> Fine gold wire, counter-wrapped
<b>Wing:</b> Rooster hackle barbs or mink tail guard hairs, length about twice the body. Form a bundle over the upper half of the body, veiling it slightly.
<b>Hackle:</b> Rusty dun dry fly hackle tied as a bushy collar



## Getting your membership dues worth?

Hope you're all having a great summer, spending time with the family, enjoying the outdoors and having luck catching fish.

Wait a minute....luck? Who needs luck catching fish after the last two monthly meeting programs that WE'VE offered? In May we had Jim Bartelt filling us in on all the secrets of fishing our *Spring Creeks of the Driftless Area*, including tactics, gear and EVEN the GOTO flies to use, followed by last months program by Steve Born and Henry Haugley, who shared all their experienced insights on landing the "big ones" with their *Hexagenia Mayfly* presentation.

It make me stop and really marvel at the fishing knowledge we're graced with, right here in our own chapter. It also makes me wonder who else among us is out there, and perhaps willing to share and present their corner of wisdom? Our new chapter Vice President Steve Wald would love to hear from you. Steve is responsible for organizing each monthly meeting program, and has hit back-to-back homeruns for starters. If you were unfortunate to miss the last two monthly meetings, don't worry...we'll start back up in September offering more informative testimonies of the experts.

In the meantime, you could find a bubby who did attend and copy his notes. We'll all be gathered again at the July 10<sup>th</sup> picnic. We're not hard to find, we're the ones with big smiles on our faces.

See you all at Lake Marion,

Frank Kosmach,  
SWTU President

### **Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited Leadership:**

President	Frank Kosmach	(608) 849-8907	<a href="mailto:kosmach@chorus.net">kosmach@chorus.net</a>
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