

# Newscasts

November 2007 Serving the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited



## November 13 Meeting – A Hudson Bay Adventure

A group of SWTU members spent a week this past summer living with a Native Cree family on the Hudson Bay near the mouth of the Sutton River. The Sutton River is considered by many to be the best brook trout river in North America. Join us for a great program on the fishing, the wildlife and a host of other adventures on the Sutton and Hudson Bay. The Sutton is truly a remarkable fishery that supports large brook trout. If you like wild places, adventure and large brook trout you don't want to miss this one.



We hope you plan on attending the November 13 meeting at the Coliseum Bar on Olin Ave. Dinner is at 6 p.m. and the meeting begins at 7. Join in and enjoy the presentation by SWTU chapter members Jim Bartelt, Henry Haugley, Bill Engber, Chuck Bayuk and James Bartlet.

### Check it Out!! An All New SWTU.ORG

Thanks to Jim Gentry, we have a new chapter Web site at [www.swtu.org/new\\_website.html](http://www.swtu.org/new_website.html). Some of the links do not work yet, so please be patient or feel free to suggest content. This is YOUR chapter and YOUR Web site – the general idea is to have more organization and flexibility in our Web presence to keep our large membership tied together better. It's a tree and hopefully members will add branches as time goes on.

## The Icebreaker Cometh

By Josh Palmer, Icebreaker Chair

It's time to get the annual Icebreaker event on your calendar. The day is **Saturday January, 19** -- sooner than you think! It is the locally famous one day seminar featuring speakers of true renown, a fly tying workshop, insect education, the best raffle of the year, food, fishers and fun.

This year's Icebreaker features **Tom Rosenbauer** as its headline speaker. Tom has written many, many books on our favorite subject and has been with Orvis for nearly 30 years. This 35 year veteran of fly fishing will enlighten and entertain the Southwestern crowd with his dynamic presentation.

This year we are moving away from the old dance hall and into a new, space-age facility. The better days are ahead now, and SWTU is happy to announce that this year's Icebreaker will be at the **Promega Corp's grounds in Fitchburg**. It's a terrific space that will give more intimacy and opportunity for each of the event's angles to shine. If you have any questions about the new location, contact Josh Palmer at (608) 333-4084 or [joshuacpalmer@gmail.com](mailto:joshuacpalmer@gmail.com). I'll be on standby to assist you!

This day will be a celebration of our SWTU chapter, and it will educate and inform the area's fishermen. The raffle will help support the organization and the stream restorations that we appreciate and enjoy. A great way to honor those that came before us is to participate in the events of today.

Please mark your calendar and start making plans with your family and friends to attend. Also, start saving those spare dollars, because they could win you a beautiful, handmade bamboo fly rod, fly tying desk, quality vice, artwork or locally proven flies.

### Somebody is going to win \$100!!!

The *You-Must-Be-Present-To-Win* jackpot has reached its size limit. Contest rules stipulate that the jackpot never exceed \$100. So, someone will leave the November 13 meeting with a \$100 gift certificate to *Fontana Sports Specialties*. All members in attendance will receive, free of charge, the entry-half of a single raffle ticket. If the other half of your ticket is drawn from the hat, then you will the \$100 gift certificate. All you have to do is show up.

## **Bettering Black Earth Creek Opportunities Abound!!**

By Mike Grimes, Project Chair

Here are the Black Earth Creek work days for spring of 08: **March 8, March 22, April 19 and May 10.**

I checked all the calendars I could think of to find and avoid conflicts. We are working with the DNR fisheries crew. They will be netting the lakes once the ice goes out so I put two dates close together in March. They should be available again by May 10. All of that lead to the chosen dates for spring.

### ***Do you burn to volunteer?***

Scott Harpold, our region's fishery technician, has arranged a controlled burn to deal with the brush and weeds that are proliferating along BEC. Their crew won't stay around all day to watch the brush burn down. If the brush piles aren't gone, they won't do the burn. He asked us to burn those piles. We can do it in Dec., Jan. and/or Feb. It requires small crews that must stay there most of the day until the fire has burned down. There should be snow on the ground and little wind. I am **asking for volunteers to be ready** when there is snow. It's not a lot of work but the sheriff REQUIRES someone there until the fire is out or way down. I would like to have shifts so no one is out there all day.

### ***SWTU Tree Removal Service***

Scott Stewart has asked us to help pull some trees out of Token Creek. They are holding the silt back and preventing the creek from clearing out and establishing a firm channel. He cannot do stream rehabilitation until the channel is established. The ground must be frozen before we can do it. The work requires a couple of two or three person crews, depending on how many tractors are there. The tractors will be provided by a man who lives in the area. I am **asking for volunteers to be available** when the ground is frozen and the tractors are available. They will need waders. Their job is to fasten cables to the trees so the tractors can pull them out of the creek.

### ***Shutterbug Sought***

We need someone to be a photographer at the work days. This is a good way for someone to help who doesn't want to run a chain saw, pile brush or deal with trees in the stream. I can provide a camera and some instruction on what to do.

### ***Win a High-End Fly Rod***

Black Earth and Token Creek NEED OUR HELP. Tune into the next issue for word on the fabulous fly rod you could win by volunteering!! To volunteer, contact me at [mgrimes17@charter.net](mailto:mgrimes17@charter.net) or (608) 655-1086 – or sign up at chapter meetings or functions.

### **Your time is precious to us!!!**

If you've given of your time to the Chapter **at all** in 2007, it's very important that you **report it by Nov. 13.** It keeps up our credibility with National TU, which helps if we have a need of them, plus they give us some money back for timely filing. Either [use the online form](#) or contact John Schweiger at (608) 238-8062.

### **VRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRMMMMMMMM!!!**

### ***SWTU Endowment Fund donates much-needed drill for stream restoration work***

A big part of streamwork involves installing sweepers, and a big part of installing sweepers involves drilling a hole in a downed tree to attach a thick cable.

The right tool for that job is a gas powered wood boring drill. One was needed and the [SWTU Endowment](#) purchased it with 'interest earned' for the DNR to use in stream restoration work. The SWTU will have access to it on all of our workdays. Considering the budget cutbacks the DNR faces, we should be doing all we can to help maintain and develop trout and salmon populations.

Enough talk... ***let's see it in action!***



The larger the Endowment Fund, the more we can help! If you have questions or would like to give to the Endowment, contact John Schweiger at (608) 238-8062 or [johnrose55@charter.net](mailto:johnrose55@charter.net).

### **Welcome New Members**

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

Ron Trachte	Caroline Werner
John Fagan	David Johnson
Richard Glad	George Tangalos
David Hopper	Erik West
Greg Paradise	

We are honored to have you among us. Please join us for a chapter meeting, and we will give you free raffle tickets. These are not those cheap raffle tickets you may have been bribed with in the past. These are quality raffle tickets, capable of winning fabulous prizes, like flies and other cool stuff.

## 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 in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet. That which we call a Coachman Trude would double as a Pass Lake" --Wm. Shakespeare, Romeo & Juliet, 1599, edited slightly*

The Pass Lake Special ... a local legend ... a hometown hero ... created by Badger ingenuity. Or was it? The tangled web of fly pattern creation and evolution is unmistakable in this mainstay of Wisconsin fly boxes. Like all great flies of today, the Pass Lake was borne from the great flies of yesterday.

The Pass Lake's genealogy traces to Mr. Tom Bosworth, royal carriage driver and coachman for three English monarchs beginning with King George IV in 1820. Bosworth was a master of both a buggy whip and fly rod. He was known to snatch a pipe from the teeth of pedestrians with his whip while driving the royal carriage, and his Coachman wet fly is one of the most enduring patterns of all time. Kings and Queens come and go, but their Coachman has been catching trout for almost 200 years.

Bosworth's Coachman has a body of peacock herl, wings of white feather slips, and a collar of soft brown hackle. America's Theodore Gordon modified the Coachman to a dry fly by adding a tail, tying the wing slips upright and divided, and using rooster hackle for good floatation. Wet and dry variations of the Coachman have proliferated ever since. The most famous of all is undoubtedly the Royal Coachman, tied by Mr. John Haily of New York City in 1878 and given its snappy name by Mr. L.C. Orvis, brother of the sporting goods magnate. The Orvis marketing juggernaut made the Royal Coachman one of America's favorite flies for decades. Although it no longer sits atop the Best Sellers list, you'll still find Royal Coachmen or, more likely, Royal Trudes in most fly shops.

Alfred S. Trude was a turn-of-the-century Chicago attorney and judge who owned a ranch near the Henry's Fork of the Snake River in Idaho. Carter Harrison, a former mayor of Chicago and guest at the ranch, tied the first Trude fly in 1901 as a practical joke. Harrison tied his fly of reddish fur from the ranch spaniel and red wool from the library rug, on a hook large enough to serve as a boat gaff. He named the fly the "A.S. Trude" and ceremoniously presented it to his host "after a flapdoodle speech" thanking Mr. Trude for his hospitality. When the laughter subsided, both men realized they liked the fly's basic design. Smaller versions were soon struck, and they were an instant hit on the Henry's Fork. To this day, wings of bundled hair tied in a slanting down-wing position are said to be tied "Trude style."

Who first married a white Trude wing to a dark Coachman-style body? It probably happened many times, but two origins are well documented. Wayne 'Buz' Buszek of Visalia, CA (of FFF 'Buz Buszek Award' fame) developed wet and dry versions of a fly called the Western Coachman (aka. 'Coachman Trude' and 'Peacock Trude') in the mid-1930s. Over 50 years later, in 1988, a Western Coachman won the Jackson Hole One-Fly Contest (no small feat!). Reverend E. Stubenvoll, a Lutheran minister from Clintonville, WI, tied his Pass Lake Special also in the mid-1930s on trips for brook trout to Pass Lake, near Thunder Bay, Ontario. Stubenvoll brought the Pass Lake pattern to Wisconsin, where it was popularized by his son-in-law, Mr. Earl Paape. The fly found a loyal following in northern Wisconsin and eventually throughout the upper Midwest. The Pass Lake is now a celebrated North Country fly. A Pass Lake streamer migrated at some point to Canada's eastern and western provinces, where it is used for brook trout, Atlantic salmon, and steelhead.

No matter what you call it, a Coachman Trude – I mean, Western Coachman ... uhh, Peacock Trude ... err, Pass Lake Special – is an excellent fly fished wet, dry, or as a small streamer. Show it to a brook trout near you and see for yourself what happens.

### ----- Coachman Trude / Western Coachman / Pass Lake Special -----

Hook:	Wet or dry; #12 - #20
Thread:	Black
Tail:	Golden pheasant tippet, mallard flank, or bundled hackle fibers
Body:	Peacock herl or black chenille
Wing:	White calf tail tied "Trude style"
Hackle:	Brown; hen for wet, rooster for dry

Wrap the hackle in front of the wing for a dry fly and behind the wing for a wet. A dry fly is shown in photo. Reinforce or rib the peacock herl for durability.



**Thanks Mark!**

By Jack Way, SWTU President  
Some kind words rolled in and I thought it would be nice (and easy!) to pass them along instead of penning my normal column.

The words came from Todd Hanson, Editor of *Wisconsin Trout* magazine. He had this to say about our newsletter editor emeritus:

"I think all STU members owe Mark Maffitt a big thanks for doing such a nice job as *Newscasts* editor these past six years. As your *Wisconsin Trout* editor, I know what a big job it is to produce a publication. I get the newsletters from other TU chapters across Wisconsin, and Mark's has always been the best."

**Important dates to remember:**

November 13	Chapter Meeting at the Coliseum Bar
January 19	Icebreaker (sooner than you think!)

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

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