

Newscasts

March, 2007 Serving the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited



Of Miscreants, Philanthropists and Bargain Hunters

Life offers us but few opportunities to observe feats as heinously distasteful as *Colonel Mustard* doing it in the *Conservatory* with the *Revolver*. Unfortunately, being witness to *Colonel Muskrat*, *Dr. Sausage*, and *Ole Svenson* doing it at the *Coliseum Bar* with an Auctioneer's Bag, qualifies as one such opportunity. These guys may be dumb, slow, and devoid of talent, but their intentions are good, and the cause is worthy. Please join us on March 13th at the Coliseum Bar as our merry band of nitwits lead us in the tradition known as our *March Madness Auction*.

To describe the antics of our dubious trio of *miscreants* any further would only encourage them, so let's move along to the *philanthropists* and *bargain hunters*. Though often paid for by the latter, our *March Madness Auction* is made possible by the former, and here is how it works. As loyal Americans, it is our solemn duty to keep our capitalist economy moving by consuming way too much stuff. Loyal American *anglers*, eventually accrue sinful quantities of fishing paraphernalia which must then be concealed from our spouses in the dark recesses of our basements, attics, and private places. This fools nobody. They know what we spend, and they know where we hide it, so we might as well remove the evidence from the premises. You could take some of that stuff to Goodwill, but the odds of your donation being appreciated by a shopper that knows the difference between a \$400 Sage and a \$4 Zebco are miniscule. So, bring that stuff to the auction instead. You will feel better knowing that your donation found a happy home, and your fishing karma will surely benefit as well.

There are at least three sorts of philanthropists at our auctions. There are the sorts that donate flies and other cool stuff, there are the sorts that donate flies and other ordinary stuff, and there are the sorts that bid extraordinary sums in order to purchase all sorts of the aforementioned flies and stuff.

The *March Madness Auction* is our *other* fundraiser. The money that we gather from this event will be added to our coffers and used in the fight for clean, cold southern Wisconsin water

Please make some surreptitious visits to those *not so secret stashes*, and gather some donations. Then, sneak the stuff into your trunk and bring it to the meeting with you. Be sure to inspect the balance of your checking account and transfer funds as necessary, for you will surely want to purchase something even cooler than that which you donated.

A swap meet will precede the auction. This usually begins around 6:00 pm. Whether you are interested in the swap meet or not, you should plan on an early arrival so that you have ample time to browse the offerings. Seasoned auction veterans will arrive at the *Coliseum Bar* by 6:30. You will be amazed to see all of the cool stuff that will be available once you get there.

SWTU Annual Elections at April meeting.

It's time to elect our chapter officers and board of directors. Our chapter officers currently standing for reelection are Jack Way President; Dave Sanders vice president; John Serunian secretary; John Schweiger treasurer; Bob Selk board member; Derek Sheer board member. Plus one open board seat.

If you or someone you know would make a great leader and is interested in stepping up to fill any of the above positions in support of Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited mission and goals please contact Dave Sanders nominating committee chair @ daveandcheri@charter.net or 608-843-7125 before March 14th.

You Must Be Present To Win Update

Our *March Madness Auction* nights are so fun-filled, and action-packed that the *You Must Be Present To Win* drawing is often overlooked. It will probably happen again, so please don't count on winning it this month. Join us at our April meeting for a chance to win an \$80 gift certificate to *Fontana Sports Specialties*.

SWTU Endowment Fund Receives Big Boost

By Bob Selk

When Bob Gennrich, a Chapter founding member, decided to make a contribution to TU in memory of Geri, his wife of 30 years who passed away in September, he thought of the Chapter Endowment Fund. Bob has donated \$9,000 to the *SWTU Endowment Fund* and an additional \$1,000 to the Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited.

Bob has been an active supporter of the work of TU for decades. He knows the stream projects supported by the Chapter have played a critical role in protecting and enhancing our home waters and in demonstrating our commitment to the coldwater resource. The income from the *Endowment Fund* can only be used for stream projects so Bob's donation will support stream projects for as long as there is a Chapter.

Thank you Bob! Your generous donation reminds us all that, with the creation of the *Endowment Fund* in 2005, there is now an additional way for chapter members to support our efforts to conserve and restore our trout waters.

Your contribution today, no matter how modest, will make a lasting difference. Please send you're your tax deductible contribution today!

Yes, I want to help!

- \$500 \$100 \$50 \$25
- Other

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State & Zip: _____

Make checks payable to: "Southern Wisconsin Chapter, Trout Unlimited Endowment Fund", and mail them to:

Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited
PO Box 7051
Madison, WI 53707.

A Tribute to Geri & Bob Gennrich

At the monthly Chapter meeting on February 13th, President Way presented a Resolution of Gratitude to Bob on behalf of *Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited*. The resolution reads as follows:

**TROUT UNLIMITED
SOUTHERN WISCONSIN CHAPTER
RESOLUTION OF GRATITUDE TO BOB GENNRICH**

The Board of Directors of the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited on this 9th of January 2007 STATES:

In September, 2006 the family, friends and fellow Chapter members were deeply saddened by the passing of Geri Gennrich, long time member and wife of 30 years of Bob Gennrich.

Bob Gennrich has been an avid supporter of Trout Unlimited for decades. He knows stream projects supported by the Chapter play a critical role in protecting and enhancing our home waters and in demonstrating our commitment to the coldwater resource.

Bob Gennrich has chosen to honor and remember Geri Gennrich by making a donation of \$9,000 to the Chapter Endowment Fund. The income from the Fund can only be used for stream projects and therefore Bob's donation will support stream projects for as long as there is a Chapter.

THEREFORE, the Board RESOLVES: To express its most sincere gratitude to fellow member Bob Gennrich for his generosity and vision in supporting the conservation and restoration of our cold water resources through the Chapter Endowment Fund.



Jason Borger Casting Clinic

Most of us have seen the Robert Redford version of *A River Runs Through It*, and most of us are savvy enough to suspect that Brad Pitt did not do his own casting in that movie. The man at the end of those rods was actually *Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited* member - Jason Borger. As the son of a fly fishing legend, Jason has been privy to instruction that most of us can only dream of. Whereas that instruction would have been lost on many of us, it took root in Jason and he has become a phenomenal fly caster and fly casting instructor.

Jason has generously offered to teach a casting clinic in order to help us raise money for the chapter. A casting clinic taught by Jason has been scheduled for May 12th, 2007 at Token Creek County Park from 9:00 am until noon. Attendance will be limited to 12 students in order to maximize the educational benefit of participation. Since the cost of participation is only \$100, the clinic is likely to be very popular, and participants will be selected by lottery at our April 10th chapter meeting. For a chance to participate in this extraordinary class, complete an entry form (see below) and submit it as soon as possible. Participants will be selected by random drawing at our April 10th meeting. Alternates will also be chosen by lottery at that time.

Please note that since you will be receiving a valuable asset (i.e. world class casting instruction) hence your tuition is probably not tax deductible. Jason is the only one who is making a true donation.

Jason Borger Casting Clinic Lottery Ticket

Please enter my name into the *Jason Borger Casting Clinic* lottery. I understand that if selected, I will be expected to remit a \$100 tuition check by May 1, 2007. I also understand that failure to remit tuition will void my selection.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone # _____

You could mail this form to:
Mark Maffitt
6306 Bradley Pl
Madison, WI 53711

But wouldn't you rather bring it to him at the March 13th or April 10th chapter meeting?

From the President

By Jack Way

Let's Go Fishing!!!

This is a once in-a-lifetime offer, redeemable only at your Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited chapter, prohibited by law in several eastern states and numerous foreign countries. I, and several other SWTU members who are at least slightly competent, are willing to TAKE YOU FISHING!!! And, better yet, IT'S FREE! And GUARANTEED to be worth every single nickel!!

For those of you who are new to fly fishing, or new to the area, or would just like to have a few laughs (also guaranteed) in the great Wisconsin outdoors, and possibly learn a bit about catching a trout in the process, give me a call.

We ask that you have a fly rod and waders. If not, let us know, we can work on that, too. You'll end up on a stream that at least has trout in it. We'll teach you what little we know, the rest is up to you. Plus, you'll get to know some chapter members you haven't met before, and probably have some fun.

So, give me a call
Jack Way
222-2461

West Fork Sportmans Club Meeting

The West Fork Sportmans Club, a community leader focused on conservation and outdoor recreation, will hold a special meeting at the clubhouse in Avalanche on Saturday, March 10, at 1:00pm.

The purpose of the meeting will be to elect and install officers, and conduct other business.

Members and prospective members are encouraged to attend. Membership recruitment will be open before the meeting.

For more information, please visit the club website at <http://www.mwt.net/~westfork>

Nohr Chapter Workday

The Laura and Harry Nohr chapter of Trout Unlimited will hold a work day on Saturday March 10th from 8:00 am until noon at Big Spring (northwest of the village of Highland in Iowa County.) Dinner will be provided. They will be cutting and burning box elders and brush. If you plan to attend, please contact Don Pluemer at either djpluemer@centurytel.net, or 943-8122 so that he can get a headcount for dinner.

Upcoming Shabazz Events

By Tina Murray

Project Green Teen at Shabazz High School has a number of upcoming volunteer opportunities for interested mentors and participants.

A series of Token Creek Restoration Days have been scheduled for March 22nd, April 26th and April 27th. All three work days will begin at 9:30 and end at 2:30 pm. Look for a bunch of teens in the park around 9:30 am.

Fly tying classes have been scheduled for April 13th and 20th. Both classes will begin at 12:45 in the Shabazz Cafeteria and will end at 3:15 pm. Please contact Mark Maffitt at 273-2140 if you would like to help teach fly tying to a wonderful group of kids.

A pair of Casting Clinics will be held from 12:45 to 3:15 PM on April 18th and 25th on the Ball Green at Shabazz (weather permitting) or in the gym (in the event of inclement weather). Please contact Larry Meicher at: (920) 992-6612 to offer your instructional services.

During the week of May 1st (actual date has yet to be determined) the students will have some *On the Water Experience* while fishing for Blue Gills from 12:30 - 3:15 pm.

Fly fishing guides/ mentors are still needed for the Avalanche outing, May 14th through 18th. For more information on the opportunities for this week, please contact John Gribb at (608) 437-5260.

For updated information on any of the Project Green Teen events, please refer to PGT online calendar of events at <http://freecal.brownbearsw.com/PGT06>

We sure do appreciate the influence that mentors have on these students' lives. You don't get to see the change on a daily basis but I do, and I can tell you that this class makes a huge difference in who these children choose to be in the world and how they travel through it.

Thank You, Thank you. Thank YOU!

Special Annual Fishing Day

By John Schweiger

Please mark your calendars for our TU chapter's Special Annual Fishing Day on Saturday June 09, 2007 at Jim Kalscheur's Ponds. You have the opportunity to provide a great day of fishing for some very special people who are not ordinarily able to share in the pastime we all love. Setup will commence at 7:30am and the fishing will begin at 9:00am. The directions to Jim Kalscheur's ponds are: Take Mineral Point Road towards Pine Bluff. Turn left, after approximately 5 miles, onto Old Military Road, then left on Spring Valley Road. The Kalscheur property will be on your left. TU signs will be strategically placed at intersections to help provide direction. TU members are encouraged to bring their family members to share in this wonderfully rewarding volunteer opportunity. We need grounds keepers, fishing guides, greeters, servers and fish cleaners. Breakfast pastries, lunch and beverages will be provided. All volunteers are welcome to fish the ponds after our guests leave, around 2:00pm.

I need about four volunteers on Friday night, 06/09/06, to help set up fishing tackle for our guests. Please meet at Kalscheur's Ponds at 5:30pm, the project should be finished before 8:00pm.

Contact John Schweiger at 238-8062 for more information or to volunteer Friday night.

Interesting sidelight from John Strauss

By John Strauss

I recently read the book "La Point, Village Outpost on Madeline Island". It was a history of La Point and the Apostle Islands starting with the fur trade and missionaries in the 1600's. The lake trout fishing was great and it also mentioned a number of times how good the brook trout fishing was on the south shore streams in that area. In one of the later chapters on the 20th century history it mentioned that president Calvin Coolidge had "summered" on the Bois Brule and enjoyed the trout fishing there. One of the local newspapers of the time ran a piece about the president that noted "the local residents were whispering that "the president used worms for bait".

Trout Enjoy Sustainable Farming

By Gerry Campbell

As a trout angler and conservationist I know that the working farmers of Dane County can make a big difference to water quality, wildlife habitat and other dimensions of the environment around us. I am also an appointed member of the Dane County Food Council which aims to encourage an environmentally, economically and socially sustainable local food system.

You could help us recognize farmers and other food related businesses who are doing the right thing in protecting our environment. The Dane County Food Council is seeking nominations to recognize the "planters" who help us grow an environmentally sustainable and economically and socially equitable food system for the Dane County region. Nominees could be a group or individual who is an inspiring example for others

in nurturing the seeds that will give us a healthy food system. Those honored will be recognized during the conference at a luncheon celebration. Nominations were due by March 5th. Though there is a lot of leeway on the deadline, nominations should be no longer than 250 words in length.

Send nominations to:
Dane County Food Council
City-County Building, Room 362
210 Martin Luther King Jr., Boulevard
Madison, WI 53703.

More detailed information about the "Planting Seeds for Our Future" Conference is available at the Dane County Food Council website located at www.co.dane.wi.us/foodcouncil

Important dates to remember:

March 10 th	Nohr Chapter Workday on Big Spring Creek
March 10 th	West Fork Sportmans Club Meeting in Avalanche
March 13 th	Chapter Meeting at the Coliseum Bar featuring the <i>March Madness Auction</i>
March 22 nd	Project Green Teen Workday at Token Creek
March 26 th	Project Green Teen Workday at Token Creek
April 13 th	Shabazz Fly Tying Class
April 14 th	Casting Clinic at Salmo Pond
April 16 th	Conservation Congress Spring Hearings
April 18 th	Shabazz Casting Clinic
April 20 th	Shabazz Fly Tying Class
April 21 st	Black Earth Creek Clean Up Day
April 25 th	Shabazz Casting Clinic
April 26 th & 27 th	Project Green Teen Workday at Token Creek
May 13 th – 19 th	Project Green Teen Outing in Avalanche
May 19 th	Board of Directors Meeting in Avalanche
June 9 th	Special Annual Fishing Day at Kalscheur's Ponds

Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited Leadership:

President	Jack Way	(608) 222-2461	JackWay@Charter.net
Vice President	Dave Sanders	(608) 843-7125	daveandcheri@charter.net
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Treasurer	John Schweiger	(608) 238-8062	johnrose55@charter.net
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