

Newscasts

June, 2007 Serving the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited



June Chapter Meeting

We are certain to have a great speaker at our June 12th chapter meeting, but we don't know who it is yet. If you come, you will likely here a great presentation on a fishy topic, and you will probably learn something too. So, please show some unconditional love by joining us for the mystery presentation.

As usual, we will meet at the Coliseum Bar, 232 E. Olin Ave. in Madison. The magnificent mystery speaker will begin at 7:02 PM but please come early and have dinner with us.

Jason Borger Casting Clinic

It was the perfect day to be in *Wingra Park* casting to *grass bass* under the tutelage of a fly fishing guru. Jason Borger donated a half day of first rate instruction in order to raise \$1200 for our chapter. Twelve chapter members paid \$100 a piece in order to avail themselves of this valuable instruction, and ALL of their tuition went towards our cause.

The key to the success of this event was Jason's offer to donate his time and talent, and we all owe Jason our sincere thanks. We are also thankful for the 12 donors / students listed below.

Greg Ericson
Rolland Kiel
Curtis Kirkhuff
Chris Long
Mark Maffitt
Keith Nelson

Mike Rock
Mike Schmidt
Denise Schmidt
John Serunian
Garret Perry

Newscasts Article Submission

Please note that *Newscasts* articles, or ideas for articles, are always welcome. The deadline for submitting articles for inclusion in the next issue of *Newscasts* is always the last Tuesday of the previous month (e.g. the July *Newscasts* deadline will be June 26th).

Electronic submissions are strongly encouraged. Please note that the editor's email address has changed. Articles should be sent to the editor at Mark.Maffitt@gmail.com

Special Annual Fishing Day

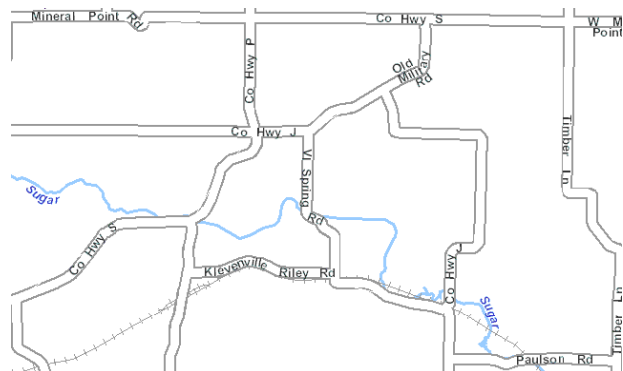
By John Schweiger

Please mark your calendars for our TU chapter's Special Annual Fishing Day on Saturday June 9, 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 you 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.

To get there, take Mineral Point Road west towards Pine Bluff. Turn left on Old Military Road, and 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



League of Conservation Voters Event

By Dave Wisniewski

On July 7, 2007 *Savanna Springs* is holding a Special Fund Raising Event for the *Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters* at N5242 Rat Hollow Rd. which is about 3 miles east of Argyle between WI 81 and CO C.

Starting at 1PM, A Fly Tying Seminar by members of Trout Unlimited and the Badger Fly Fishers. This will be followed by hands on fly casting lessons and then open fishing in the Trout Pond. Some of the fish will be cleaned up & grilled for Supper. There will also be several tours of the property that will be going on throughout the day. Ed Gobeli will demonstrate Dutch Oven and other Outdoor Cooking techniques preparing a delicious evening meal.

From 5-7pm. We will be serving Grilled Fresh Trout caught earlier in the day and Wild Turkey as well as Dutch Oven Delights while League of Conservation Voters Representatives talk a little about the organization itself and conservation issues that effect all of us.

Come out and Tour or Hike the many trails through Oak Savannas, Woodlands, Wetlands, and Prairie Restorations and Renovations. See Rare and Endangered Plants and enjoy Thousands & Thousands of Blooming Wildflowers.

Please see <http://savannasprings.com/LCVevent.htm> for more information.



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Show up, Get involved

By Jack Way - SWTU President

After arriving home last night from a mega fun night of 'gill fishing with one of the chapter's long time stalwarts, I took a minute to reflect on how active this chapter, and its members, actually is.

In the last month, we participated in a chapter on-stream work day, a casting clinic by the infamous Jason Borger, a week in Avalanche helping out the Shabbazz kids, and our annual "board meeting/camping expedition/sing a long/get together" in Avalanche. In addition, we participate in the fly casting on the Capitol lawn, actively push a non-point pollution bill, participate in a TU DARE update workshop, and are in preliminary stages of initiating a major stream restoration effort. On top of that, some of us taught a Women in the Outdoors fly-tying and fly fishing clinic.


On top of that, some of us even WENT FISHING!! So, if you're missing out on all of this warm 'n fuzzy feel good fun, you shouldn't be. Opportunity knocks. We have plenty of events coming up that we need help with. Show up at the Special Needs Fishing Day, or our July picnic, or any of our upcoming on-stream work days. Or maybe just our monthly meeting - introduce yourself. There's something for everyone. All you gotta do is show up.


You-Must-Be-Present-To-Win

Dave Sanders was present at our May chapter meeting. His attendance qualified him as a *You-Must-Be-Present-To-Win* drawing participant, and when his name was drawn from the hat he became the winner of a \$100 *Fontana Sports Specialties* gift certificate.

The jackpot will now be reset at \$20 and will grow at the rate of \$20 per month until we have another winner, or it reaches \$100 (whichever comes first). To win, all you have to do is show up. Please join us at our June 12th meeting for your chance to win the coveted *Fontana Sports Specialties* gift certificate.

SPRING CREEK SPECIALTIES


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Fountains of Youth

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

by Rusty Dunn

What is the measure of great achievement for a trout fly? Featured articles in glossy magazines? Making "Top Ten" lists of the fly fishing paparazzi? A fly whose bin is always empty at the local fly shop? These are fine tributes to accomplished flies, but the most noble of honors – the *pièce de résistance* – is reserved for a chosen few: flies so good they have a beer named after them! Such is the case with the Haystack dry fly and its namesake beer "Haystack Blond Ale", brewed by the Great Adirondack Brewing Company of Lake Placid, NY. The Haystack is a pattern born of the creative mind and talented hands of Francis Betters. Fran Betters, now in his 70s, owns and operates Adirondack Sport Shop, located on the West Branch of the AuSable River in upstate New York. Mr. Betters is known widely as a fly fishing guide, teacher, storyteller, and creator of champion flies, including the Haystack, the Ausable Wulff, and the Usual.

Fran Betters grew up along the AuSable and has spent a lifetime studying its habits. He began tying flies at an early age, selling the Haystack to local anglers from his home while still in high school. Inspiration for the Haystack came from a family friend, who tied a fly that, according to Fran, was "a big gob of deer hair tied to a #6 or #8 hook". Although crude, that ugly monster yielded many fine fish for Betters during the 1940s. Betters down-sized the pattern and refined it to match the mayfly hatches of the AuSable. He tied the first *bona fide* Haystack in June 1949, and it has been catching fish ever since.

The Haystack captures that elusive combination of simplicity and effectiveness. It is tied of hollow deer hair and is almost unsinkable, an important trait on the pocket waters of the AuSable. The fanned wing is highly visible, even under low light conditions. The materials cost is minimal, and the fly is almost indestructible. Whereas more ordinary flies may succumb after a few fish, the Haystack performs like the Energizer Bunny ... it just keeps going and going.

The Haystack sits flush in the surface film, braced by its buoyant tail and "outriggers" of hollow hair. Flies that sit in the film "dimple" the water's surface, causing a light-reflecting and light-refracting imprint of their body when viewed from a trout's underwater perspective. The fish-catching magic of low-riding flies was detailed by Vince Marinaro in his 1950 landmark book *A Modern Dry Fly Code*. Such flies have become wildly successful, and patterns like the Haystack or parachute duns are more popular today than their traditionally hackled cousins.

The Haystack is the direct ancestor of two very popular contemporary flies. Comparaduns, described by Al Caucci and Bob Nastasi in their 1975 book *Hatches*, and Sparkle Duns, developed in the 1980s by Craig Mathews and John Juracek, differ from the Haystack mostly by their tails. Haystacks have tails of bundled deer hair, Comparaduns have split hackle-fiber tails, and Sparkle Duns have tails of Antron fibers to imitate a trailing nymphal shuck. Other than that, Comparaduns and Sparkle Duns share the same basic design as a Haystack, a relationship the originators readily acknowledge and credit.

----- Haystack -----

The Haystack imitates mayfly duns and emergers. Tie it in the sizes and colors of mayflies you'll likely encounter. Set the wings at 1/3 shank length, and spread the bundled butt ends of the deer hair around the top half of the hook shank to aid floatation. Splay the wings around a full half circle to imitate a dun, and a little less to imitate an emerger that floats lower in the surface film.

| | |
|---------|---|
| Hook: | Dry fly #10-#18 |
| Thread: | Hot orange |
| Tail: | Natural deer hair |
| Body: | Tannish-brown Australian Possum |
| Wing: | Natural deer hair, splayed around a half circle arc |



Welcome New Members

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

- Keith Carney
- Carrie Danz
- David Davis
- David Doeren
- Dave Esser
- Mark Mellenthin
- Jim Molenda
- Jason Much
- Bruce Nordhagen
- Larry Okray
- William Rausch
- Randall Rynes
- Thomas Smith
- Michael Wegner

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

For Sale on the TIMBER COULEE: 40 acres with year round two bedroom cabin and walk out basement. Located between Westby and Coon Valley. 2 hours from Madison. 608-241-4227

Important dates to remember:

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|-----------------------|---|
| June 9 th | Special Annual Fishing Day at Kalscheur's Ponds |
| June 12 th | Chapter Meeting at the Coliseum Bar |

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
- Secretary John Serunian (608) 277-9295 jserunian@aol.com
- Treasurer John Schweiger (608) 238-8062 johnrose55@charter.net
- Past President Susan Fey (608) 442-5801 smfey@facstaff.wisc.edu
- State Council Rep. Greg Vodak (608) 873-5107 gregvodak@charter.net
- Project Chair Mike Grimes (608) 656-1086 mgrimes17@charter.net
- Newscasts Editor Mark Maffitt (608) 273-2140 Mark.Maffitt@gmail.com

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