

# Newscasts

December, 2003 Serving the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited



## Looking Back On Alaska

Our December 9<sup>th</sup> chapter meeting will feature one of our own. Gerry Campbell will be on hand to let us know what he thinks he learned while planning his July 2003 trip to Alaska's Kenai Peninsula. Though he had a great trip, he has done some thinking about what he will do differently next time. He hopes that his experience can help you plan a great trip to one of the world's richest and most accessible river systems. Alaska can be the place where you catch the fish of a lifetime. It can also be frustrating and confusing. He'll try to help you understand the resources available and how you might plan your own trip. If you've been to the Kenai or shared other Alaska adventures, then Gerry invites you to join him in sharing your insights.

This should be an interesting meeting even if you are not planning a trip to Alaska. We will meet at the *Maple Tree Restaurant* located near the stoplight on Highway 51 just 2 miles south of the Beltline in the heart of McFarland. The meeting will start promptly at 7:00 PMish, but please come out early for dinner. The food is terrific, the company is often despicable, and the lies are shameless. What more could you ask for?

## Input Wanted on Shoreland Protection Rules

The November issue of *Newscasts* contained an article on proposed changes to the Shoreland Protection Rules. Two identical public listening sessions for those rule changes will be held in Madison on Tuesday December 9<sup>th</sup>. The sessions will run from 2:30 to 5:30 PM and again from 5:30 to 9:00 PM. If you attend the first session, you could still make it to the *Maple Tree* in time for our December chapter meeting.

The rule change proposals, as well as the science and rationale behind them, can be viewed on the DNR website. Point your browser to [www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/wm/dsfm/shore/title.htm](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/wm/dsfm/shore/title.htm), then use the drop down topic menu and select "shoreland management." You can also use that address to submit your comments online.

## Ice Breaker Update

The following email was recently received from Bob Krumm.

*Just a quick note to say "hi". I am really looking forward to being in Madison this January! I am contemplating doing a slide show Friday night entitled "How to Take a Perfect Fish Photo." The show takes advantage of the plethora of lousy slides I have. It is a slide show that has plenty of bad examples (and a lot of good ones, too).*

*I think I will give my "Nymph Fishing Made Easy" show on Saturday. It is a detailed slide show on how to fish nymphs.*

*I would love to tie flies on Saturday, if that is okay.*  
*Bob*

Wow! It's not just *okay* Bob. For a seasoned professional like you, to tie flies at the *Ice Breaker* for all to see would be *fantastic*.

Not only will Mr. Krumm present his "Nymph Fishing Made Easy" seminar, he will also make a presentation entitled "Spring Creek Tactics". Nikki Seger will also make two presentations - one in the morning, and one in the afternoon.

The Bucket Raffle repertoire is beginning to take shape, and would best be described as awesome. Door prizes have also begun to trickle in, but please feel bold enough to express your generosity by making your own door prize donations. The fly tying demonstration cast has begun to take shape, and there will again be a fascinating aquatic entomology display. This is sure to be one of our finest *Ice Breakers* yet. Admission tickets can make great stocking stuffers. Buy 'em early, and buy 'em often.

## We Still Need Flies

We need flies for *Ice Breaker* door prizes. Please tie flies, lots and lots of flies. No fly is too ugly. No donation is too ordinary. Do your best, but give us whatever you've got.

## **Update from the Projects Chair**

By Tom Ehlert

Astounding. Outstanding. A good number of other similar modifiers would also describe the accomplishments of the following SWTU Chapter members on Garfoot Creek on Saturday, November 15 (No slight intended of the efforts of those who've toiled on other Saturdays, but weren't on hand this day. Their labors helped make this day possible.): Rose and John Schweiger, John Guzowski, Mike Grimes, Teri and Dave Sanders, Ryan and John Pundt, Henry Haugley, Eric Christensen, Chuck Jacobsen, Dick Tedesco (apologies for not noting here your participation on Nov. 1), Robert Blaine, Mark Shimasaki-san, Lynn Blenker, Karsten and Dan Geib, and your devoted scribe.

Brush-piles reached almost scalable heights, and some stretches of Lower Garfoot saw palpable light for the first time in years. Reporting to you that the "Corps of Recovery" also distributed 13,000 pounds of stone along significant stretches of the stream, thereby harnessing its energy and stabilizing the hairpin bends, is no exaggeration, however. Admittedly, the task was enhanced by a skid-loader (aka 'Bobcat'; maybe we should buy one of those, too?), but hand-tossing was out of the question. The stone delivered was sized much, much, much larger than requested, and soggy ground prevented its being dumped at various strategic locations along the lane.

John Pundt was at the controls for four-and-one-half hours. So far as we know, he only bounced one eighty-pounder on and off the tin-roof over his head. Those who labored on the banks or in the water otherwise worked with impunity. To date, there have been no reported cases of hernia or disc injury. Suffice it to say, we were a lot determined to assure that the goal we'd aimed at since Oct. 4 would move one stage closer to realization. We succeeded. Big time.

Tuesday evening, Nov. 18, Fisheries Manager Kurt Welke called to say that he and colleague Scot Stewart earlier that day had walked both reaches where we'd been laboring. After expressing his amazement and gratitude, he remarked that what we'd accomplished in five weekends would be three years in the bureaucratic planning and permitting. His summary comment was that we had effectively rehabilitated a long-neglected trout stream. How right he was.

Wanting to share their pride in their contribution to what's been done, Ryan Pundt and his dad toured the place with friends on the 25th. They saw trout in newly-created scour-pools.

We'll be at it again on Saturday, Dec. 6, weather permitting. We're hopeful of cleaning-up a short segment of the stream behind Pam Allen's (formerly Festge) farm buildings, thereby restoring unimpeded flow to that stretch of Garfoot from its confluence with BEC upstream to the CTH KP bridge-crossing. Those wanting to lend their support to an effort focused on the future of our cold-water resources can join us about 8:30 am along Scherbel Road, about 200 yards south of Salmo Pond. You're encouraged to dress sensibly, and to bring at least one thermos of hot water.

## **Madison Fishing Expo**

The Madison Fishing Expo is scheduled for February 27<sup>th</sup> through 29<sup>th</sup>, and volunteers are needed to sell tickets at the door. This is a high profile job that is vitally important to the function. Our chapter has developed a reputation within Expo circles as being a group that takes this commitment seriously. That reputation has served us well when we have gone before the Expo board of directors to request funding for our projects. Please keep up the good work. Volunteers are also needed to staff our display booth at the Expo. Our goal here is to disseminate information about the chapter, recruit new members, and satisfy the curiosity of passers by. Staffers tying flies are an effective means for decreasing the velocity of said passers by, though this is not a required booth activity.

The Madison Fishing Expo features a diverse lineup of fishing tackle, equipment and boats from leading manufacturers and local dealers. It is an all volunteer, non-profit organization that donates all of its proceeds to fund fishing related projects throughout South Central Wisconsin. The organization has donated more than \$300,000 to fund fishing habitat restorations, recreation projects, educational programs and scholarships.

Mark Rhinerson will have sign-up sheets at the next few chapter meetings. Please consider signing up for a time slot or two. To reserve a time slot now, call Mark at 249-7250

FORGET BONEFISHING IN THE BAHAMAS!  
MC FARLAND, WISCONSIN IS THE PLACE TO BE SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

THE SOUTHERN WISCONSIN CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED'S 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

# ICE BREAKER



FEATURING **BOB KRUMM**

NATIONALLY ACCLAIMED AUTHOR,  
COLUMNIST AND ESSAYIST

VETERAN WESTERN RIVERS GUIDE

CASTING INSTRUCTOR FOR LL BEAN

FLY TYER FOR ORVIS

AND REGIONAL GUEST  
**NIKKI SEGER**

ORVIS' CHICAGO FISHING MANAGER

CHICAGO LAKE SHORE SPECIALIST

LEARNED TO CAST BEFORE SHE COULD WALK

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**PARK PONDEROSA BALLROOM** 5100 ERLING AVE., MC FARLAND, WI  
**SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2004 8:30AM-4:30PM**



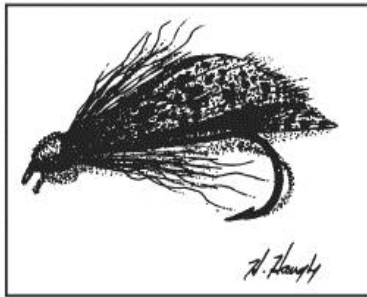
**ADVANCE TICKETS \$9.00 (\$10.00 AT THE DOOR)**  
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5541 DAHLEN DR., MADISON, WI 53705

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# TROUT UNLIMITED



# FLY-TYING CLASSES

*Gold-ribbed Hare's Ear . . . Grizzly Wulff . . . Disco Midge . . . Muskrat Regret . . .  
Serendipity . . . Blue-winged Olive . . . Mole Fly . . . Bead-head Emerger . . .*

A what? . . . The Southern Wisconsin Chapter of TROUT UNLIMITED invites you to learn to tie these and other fly-patterns proven effective in local waters for trout, game- and panfish. The ten-week sessions begin mid-January and end late-March.

### MEETING TIME:

**7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

### CLASSES OFFERED AT:

EAST High School on WEDNESDAY evenings – First class: January 14th

WEST High School on THURSDAY evenings – First class: January 15th

Beginner and Advanced Classes are offered at both locations. The Intermediate Class is offered only at West High School. Two Beginner's Classes are offered at each location with class size limited to fifteen (15) students. Only one Intermediate Class is offered, and enrollment is limited to fifteen (15). There is no limit in the Advanced Classes. Register soon!

The Chapter provides experienced instructors, an instructional booklet, and all tying materials. You provide the following tools: vise, scissors, bobbin, hackle-pliers, hair-stacker, whip-finisher, thread, and head-cement. Sounds intriguing, doesn't it? These tools and any additional supplies are available at: DORN Hardware-Nakoma, Fontana, Gander Mountain (East & West), Madison Outfitters, MC Sports and Vern Lunde's Fly-fishing Chalet.

A \$5.00 room rental fee is required of all participants and is payable to the instructor at the first session.

**Advanced Registration is required for all classes. The registration deadline is WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2004. Enrollment shall be determined by date of post-mark on your registration form, and will be confirmed by mail. Register soon!**

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#### **Registration Form: 2004 TU Fly-Tying Classes**

Please print clearly. **DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY** with this form.

Mail your registration to: Y-2-K-4 Fly-tying P.O. Box 11, Black Earth, WI 53515

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Location (check one): Madison East \_\_\_\_\_ Madison West \_\_\_\_\_

Class (check one): Beginners \_\_\_\_\_ Intermediate \_\_\_\_\_ Advanced \_\_\_\_\_

### **From the President... by Bill Pielsticker**

It's not too early to start thinking about the 2004 Icebreaker. We've got a couple of great speakers in Bob Krumm and Orvis' Nicki Seger. Among the presentations, Bob will be discussing small stream tactics – a perfect fit for our spring creeks. One of Nicki's presentations will take us beyond trout, with how and where to enjoy the diversity of Midwestern fly fishing. If you're the sort that ties flies, we need you to tie up a bunch of them for door prizes. That way people like me who don't tie can have something to look forward to.

We're also gearing up for our annual Trout Dinner the evening before the Icebreaker. This is a great low-key event with entertaining presentations by the Icebreaker speakers aimed at our non-fishing spouses (at least mine doesn't fish – don't know if you're in better shape on that than me). You'll find more information on this and the Icebreaker in this and next month's Newscasts.

I was happy to write a letter of support for some new research recently. Prof. Stanley Dodson and student Ken Forshay, UW-Madison Department of Zoology, will be looking at the role of nitrites (a breakdown product of ammonia) on fish kills in spring creeks. They will be doing their work on Black Earth Creek, with assistance from the DNR and the U.S. Geological Survey. This is one more step in our effort to reduce the likelihood of another catastrophic fish kill on this and other streams in SE Wisconsin.

Finally, it is increasingly clear that in order to protect our coldwater resource, we need to respond to threats from any quarter. Right now, the biggest threats appear to be coming from lawmakers, both in Wisconsin and elsewhere. Here, we have the recently-introduced "Jobs Creation Act" which does little to create any jobs, but would allow property owners to, say, move up to 500 feet of a stream without DNR review, or dredge up to 200 truckloads of material from a lake or stream, again without DNR review.

At the national level, there are several frightening provisions in the Energy Bill now bottled up in the Senate. These include exempting the construction of facilities,

pipelines, roads and other infrastructure necessary to develop oil and gas resources on public lands from the Clean Water Act, and establishes preferential treatment for hydropower dam operators to the exclusion of other river interests. As TU National points out, "Energy development does not have to damage fish and wildlife and their habitat on public land, nor does it need to disenfranchise fisheries conservationists from key hydropower decision-making processes."

What is most frustrating about both these examples is that the lawmakers who want to roll back environmental protection don't reflect the values of their own constituents. That is especially true here in Wisconsin. I'd much rather be working with people like Stanley and Ken on fisheries research than responding to one bad bill (redefining "navigable waters") after another (the "Job Creation Act" – not). Unfortunately, until voters get their legislators to see that we support job growth (or energy development, or whatever is next) AND the protection of our natural resources, the future of our coldwater fisheries will remain at risk. Chew on that the next time someone asks you for your vote.

### ***You Must Be Present To Win***

There was no winner of the *You-Must-Be-Present-To-Win-Drawing* at our November meeting. The jackpot will therefore grow by \$20 as we draw for a \$60 gift certificate to *Madison Outfitters* at our December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Though no purchase is necessary, you must be present at the meeting to win, and you must be a SWTU member. Please join us.

### **Attention New Members**

Are you new to Trout Unlimited? If so, then we sure would like to meet you. In fact, we are so eager to meet you that we would like to offer you a bribe. If you identify yourself as a new member at our December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will give you 10 FREE bucket raffle tickets. This is a \$10 value (if purchased individually). The odds of your winning a nice prize are pretty respectable, and the bucket raffle prizes at our monthly meetings are usually worth at least \$30. So please join us – if bribery doesn't get you there, we may have to stoop even lower

**Important dates to remember:**

December 6 Garfoot Creek Workday: Meet at Scherbel Road Bridge (See article by Tom Ehlert)  
December 9 Chapter Meeting Featuring Gerry Campbell *et al* : Looking Back On Alaska  
January 13 Chapter Meeting Featuring SWTU Fly Tyers  
January 16-17 2004 *Ice Breaker* Featuring Bob Krumm and Nikki Seger  
February 7 State Council Meeting and Banquet in Oshkosh  
February 10 Chapter Meeting Featuring an as yet unidentified speaker  
February 24 SWTU Board Meeting to include a discussion of the Nash Williams bequest  
February 27–29 Madison Fishing Expo  
March 9 March Madness Auction

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

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