

Newscasts

June, 2005 Serving the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited



Fly Fishing in Southern Wisconsin

There are those who suggest that there is more to fly fishing than just trout, and our June 14th meeting will feature one of those suggesters. Craig Amacker will be on hand to present an overview of the fly fishing opportunities that abound here in Southern Wisconsin. He will touch on the Spring Creek trout fishing opportunities available to us, but that will just be the tip of the iceberg. He plans to also talk about the Small Mouth fishing in the Wisconsin River (among other places), the Salmon/Steelhead fisheries of Southeastern Wisconsin, and about fly fishing in the Madison chain of lakes for bluegills, bass, and more.

Craig is a longtime member of our chapter, a licensed guide, and an employee of *Fontana Sports Specialties*. Fishing is his life, and this should be a great presentation.

We will meet at the *Maple Tree Restaurant* in beautiful downtown McFarland, Wisconsin. The meeting will start at 7:01 PM, but the fun starts about an hour before that. Please join us for dinner, and then stay for the meeting

Fishing Tip of the Month:



Always keep the rod tip high when playing and fighting fish - so as to protect the delicate tippet.

Special Needs Fishing Day

Our annual *Special Need Fishing Day* will be held on Saturday, June 11th, at Kalscheur's Ponds. This event gives us an opportunity to provide a great day of fishing for some very special people who are seldom able to fish.

Volunteers will be needed at 7:30 AM to help setup for the event. The fishing will begin around 9:00 AM. All volunteers are invited to fish the ponds after our guests leave around 3:00 PM. Over 50 special guests and caregivers have already registered to participate.

Scott's Bakery has once again agreed to donate pastries and coffee, and Oscar Mayer has donated hot dogs. TU members are encouraged to bring their families to share in the experience. We will need fishing guides, greeters, servers and fish cleaners. We can always use cameras, camcorders, and ice chests.

Volunteers are also needed on Friday night to inspect and repair fishing tackle. Please meet at Kalscheur's at 5:30 PM this project only takes a couple of hours to complete.

Directions to the Kalscheur ponds may be found on page 5.

Learn to Fish Like Harry and Laura

Our chapter is invited to *Fish the Green*, June 21 at 6:30 pm. This is the second evening fishing event sponsored by the Nohr chapter. The meeting place is the walk-in easement across from the schoolhouse on County K. Find K off Highway 18 west of Fennimore heading toward Werley. Continue downstream on K past Werley and past the County T intersection and look for cars on the right. If possible, come an hour or two early to help with set up. Bring your own food, drink and equipment. Stay for the bonfire as well.

For late breaking updates, access the Nohr Chapter Calendar, www.nohrtu.org, (simple registration required). Or contact Jim Gentry at either 251-2549 or jgen@chorus.net.

From the Project Chair

By Tom Ehlert

As promised some weeks ago, the Spring 2005 Corps of Recovery Honor Roll is hereunder listed. Through May's end, there were three (3) stream-improvement work-days, and all were venues on Mt. Vernon Creek. Twenty-five SWTU Chapter-members participated, and several invited friends or family-members to throw in their lot with the rest of us. The number in parentheses after a name denotes the number of missions that member joined. All these individuals are deserving our respect and thanks.

Most of those listed have also been party to the previous twenty-seven (27) project-days held since the Corps's founding in September 2002. Viewed otherwise, the Corps has assembled on thirty (30) Saturdays mornings in the last forty-five (45) months. Excluding the dead months of three winters and the doldrums of two summers, that translates to about one a month. You'll agree that's a commendable performance, n'est-ce pas?

Apparently the Madison Kiwanis Club thought so, and sought to recognize our accomplishments with its not-too-often tendered (the first time in thirty-five years?) Conservation Award at our May meeting. Thanks to them. Hats off and huzzahs to us. My thanks to all Corps members for their dedication, enthusiasm, and friendship. This Spring's person-hours total adds another 220 to the three-plus year aggregate that was a shade under 3000 at last reckoning.

Should this message reach you before Saturday, June 4, you're invited to assemble that morning along USH 14 at the SEWER PLANT on the western edge of Cross Plains at 0830. This day's mission will likely, although not necessarily, be the last operation until the 2005 Fall Campaign commences.. If enough bodies are willing and schedules permit, Saturday, June 18, is a possibility. There's always something somewhere needing attention. The nightmare above Brue Road on Gordon Creek? Other requests?

Call me at 608-767-2413 with your expression of understanding that YOU are the 'U' in TU, that you're well aware that your dues don't necessarily find their way back to anyplace in the roster of Wisconsin's cold-water resources,

and that placing 'hands on' is the real measure of 'giving back' to what gives you so much.

The roster of honorees: Phil Anderson(2), Bob Blaine, John Bleimehl, Roger Clausen(2), Jerry Conwell(2), Tom Ehlert(3), Tim Fraley, Dan Geib(3), Karsten Geib(2), Mike Grimes(3), John Guzowski(3), Jack Heiden, Jim Hess(2), Chuck Jacobsen, Jim Johanns, Pat Kirsop(2), Connor Lauzon, Ed Lauzon, Dave Sanders, Teri Sanders, Fritz Seybold(2), Bob Stevens, Dick Tedesco(2), Ray Venn, and Don Williams. Special guests: Alex (the son) and Paul Kirsop, and Alex Stefano.

May Meeting Recap

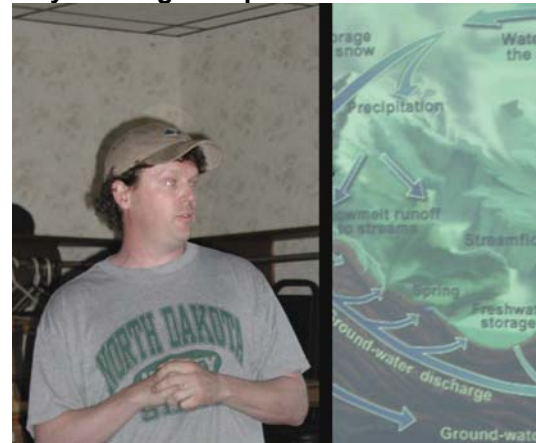


Photo by Jim Gentry

Marty Melchior spoke at our May 10th chapter meeting. His company tries to "recreate" long stretches of riparian ecosystems – not just fishin' holes. It's a goal that only Sisyphus could enjoy, but an interesting presentation. Marty will be with us again for our *On the Stream Meeting* in July for some *On-Site Insight*.

Project Green Teen At Work: Students Learn As They Tackle Environmental Restorations

By Tim Eisele

[Editors note: This article appeared in The Capital Times on Wednesday, June 1, 2005 Reprinted with permission of the author.]

Aldo Leopold once wrote that conservation occurs when actions on the land are both good for the people responsible for the actions and good for the land. Malcolm Shabazz High School, an alternative Madison school that provides a harassment-free environment encouraging academic risk taking, illustrates an example of that definition on a western Wisconsin trout stream.

The school's Project Green Teen, led by nine-year technology teacher Tina Murray along with science teacher Robert Banks and art teacher Martha Vasquez, is an integrated science and physical education class that combines cold water stream ecology, leadership and healthy choices, along with science and fly fishing basics.

"The two classes are wed on the stream bringing real life connections and inspiring a love for learning," Murray said. "We provide service learning, where the class learns through experiential learning and community service. It meets educational objectives with real-world experiences, while tapping youths to benefit their schools and communities."

Part of the school's "Stress Challenge" curriculum, the class is designed to build cooperation, thinking and problem-solving skills through experiential learning.

Project Green Teen students helped the Dane County Lakes and Watershed Commission with a shoreline restoration project at Vilas Park, and previously created a prairie buffer with the Friends of Lake Wingra.

In mid-May the class spent a week working, learning and fishing on the west fork of the Kickapoo River in Vernon County.

The 17 students spent 107 hours of restoration work building and placing LUNKERS structures, which provide underwater cover to trout.

"The students learned the scientific aspects of cold water stream ecology and applied their knowledge through activism in stream conservation and a healthy lifestyle alternative of fly fishing," Murray said.

The week-long experience was possible thanks to the assistance of the West Fork Sportsman's Club, Vernon County Land and Water Conservation Department, several chapters of Trout Unlimited and the Fly Fishing Federation, DNR, Friends of Lake Wingra, and UW-Extension.

Some provided pre-trip fly-tying and fly-casting instructions, and others came to the stream to provide on-stream instruction, information and supplies.

Murray, who received the Kohl Fellowship for Teaching Excellence Award in 2005 for teachers who inspire love of learning, said that the science portion of the course covered stream ecology, nutrient cycling, species identification, fauna life histories, habitat restoration, entomology, water quality and monitoring, and sources of pollution.

The fly fishing portion included communication skills, fly fishing techniques, first aid, recognizing dangerous weather systems, fish anatomy and identification, use of fishing gear, fishing ethics and fly tying.

While spending one week in Avalanche, in Vernon County, the class spent four to five hours each day clearing stream corridors and building LUNKERS structures, then installed one of the structures with the help of the West Fork Sportsman's Club. The remaining structures they built will be installed by club members during the summer.

The unique program provides: scientific aspects of stream ecosystems, instilling environmental stewardship; leadership through habitat restoration; learning a new sport requiring dexterity and knowledge of stream ecology; empowering low-income, at-risk students with an opportunity to learn a utilitarian sport; and connecting beyond the classroom with agencies and organizations to provide a benefit to the community.

"The kids said they learned more in one week than in two years of classes, which is a great accomplishment," Murray said. "The experience reconnected them to nature. They all kept journals, and wrote that they received satisfaction in doing environmental work and giving something back."

"They found that science and fly fishing are really related and at the end of week they were picking up rocks to figure out what artificial fly they would need to fish," Murray said.

Organizations or businesses who wish to assist with cash or gear for next year can contact Murray at tmurray@madison.k12.wi.us or call 608-241-1393. More information also is available at www.madison.k12.wi.us/shabazz/trips/pgt

Bug protection that works!!

By John Gribb

Now that mosquitoes, ticks, and no-see-ums are about to ruin your outings on the streams and lakes.....there is an answer that works to make your adventures bug free!!! Two products in combination have solved the problem of bugs making you miserable while you're trying to fish. They are Johnson Wax *Skintastic* insect repellent and *Repel* brand of permethrin (pyrethrum) aerosol spray for clothing.

For some reason the *Skintastic* (combination sunscreen spf 30 and DEET) works so well that one application in the morning lasts all day and no bug will bite where it was applied....it is the best protection money can buy!! The pyrethrum spray on your fishing shirts will kill insects within seconds of contact thus preventing a bite through the shirt. This product should be applied to shirts and wader tops (for ticks) then allowed to dry outdoors. It will bind to the fabric and last through many washings (some say at least 13).

The only time the Skinastic has failed me in the last 4 years of use was on the Brule species of the No-See-Ums....they will eat through anything!! These products are available in the camping departments of many stores. Try this combination and I will assure you complete bug protection especially this year....good fishing!!



Mosquito community pariah John Gribb was also a fly tying instructor at Shabbazz High School in April. (Photo by Tinay Murray.)

Welcome New Members

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

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|--------------------|----------------------|
| Kent Becker | Jon Marsland |
| Arthur Benjamine | Matt Matwijee |
| Saffran | Greg Minshall |
| Richard Bertrang | Austin Mitchell |
| Tim Burke | Hugh Murray |
| Deidre Deforest | Steve Nelson |
| Frank Fetter | Brendon Nordstorm |
| Jim Gatz | Bruce Radley |
| Steven Haak | Joe & Brenda Ricci |
| Cheryl Hayden | Jason Rogers |
| Doris Hayden | Jamie Schoenemann |
| Richard Heding | Faisal Shafique |
| Pat Hermsen | Laurie Solchenberger |
| Brett Katzman | Shane Spring |
| Justin Koestler | Greg & Lisa Stern |
| Joe & Mariam Kuhn | Kathy Stolz |
| Andy Kuruzar | Jill Stoneman |
| Sara & Chris Lowry | Mike Wipperfurth |
| Jen Manke | |

Please join us at a chapter meeting. We are so eager to meet you, that we are willing to offer you a bribe. If your name is listed above, and you attend the June 14th chapter meeting, we will give you FREE bucket raffle tickets.

You Must Be Present to Win Update

The You-Must-Be-Present-to-Win drawing is intended to encourage members to attend monthly chapter meetings. Each month, we draw the name of a chapter member from a hat. If that member is present at the meeting, they win a gift certificate to *Fontana Sports Specialties*. If that member is absent, then the size of the gift certificate is increased by \$20 and we draw again at the next meeting. We start off with a \$20 gift certificate, but we do not allow the jackpot to grow past \$100.

The jackpot reached its \$100 that size limit in April when nobody was present to win. Special tie-breaker rules went into effect, and Chuck Valliere was the lucky winner of that tie-breaker. He took home a \$100 gift certificate to *Fontana Sports Specialties*.

We will start all over again on June 14th. Please join us for a chance to win a \$20 gift certificate. But remember, *You-Must-Be-Present-To-Win*.

Extracurricular Highlights from the May 14th Board Meeting in Avalanche



Photos by Jim Gentry

Directions to Kalscheur's Ponds:



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.

Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited Leadership:

President	Susan Fey	(608) 442-5801	
Vice President	Jack Way	(608) 222-2461	
Secretary	John Serunian	(608) 277-9295	
Treasurer	John Schweiger	(608) 238-8062	
Past President	Bill Pielsticker	(608) 592-4718	
State Council Rep.	Greg Vodak	(608) 873-5107	
Newscasts Editor	Mark Maffitt	(608) 273-2140	Mark.Maffitt@Invitrogen.com

Important dates to remember:

June 11	Special Needs Fishing Day
June 14	Monthly Chapter Meeting featuring Craig Amacker
July 12	No Chapter Meeting at the Maple Tree
July	On the Stream Meeting and Chapter Picnic (date not yet determined)
August 9	No Chapter Meeting
September 13	Monthly Chapter Meeting at the Maple Tree