

# Newscasts

December, 2005 Serving the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited



## December Travelogue

The speaker for our December 13th meeting will be Chicago-based photographer and fisherman Randy Cochran. Randy's presentation is entitled, *7,833 miles, countless trout, and 1 dead rabbit: How I spent my summer vacation*. The title begs an interesting question: did he run over a bunny, or start a family? He has led us to believe that he will be sharing pictures and details about his latest adventure, a 50 day fly fishing trip across 4 interior mountain west states. It seems that angling obsessions caused him to forget that the shortest distance between Arizona and the Midwest is a straight line that doesn't necessarily go through all of those places.

As is our custom, we will meet at the *Maple Tree Restaurant*. The *Maple Tree* is located about 75 feet southwest of the second stoplight in the thriving metropolis of McFarland. Though the meeting will start at 7:02 PM, the real fun will start when you get there, so please come about 6 and share a bite to eat with us. This will be your last chance to meet with us in 2005.

## Ice Breaker Ticket Information

Tickets for the *Nash Williams Memorial Banquet* on Friday January 20, 2006 may be purchased through January 16, 2006. The banquet will be held at *Morel's Restaurant*, 4635 Chalet St, just off Airport Road approximately 4 miles west of the West Beltline in Middleton. Tickets are \$20.00 and the selections are chicken or trout. Please indicate your meal preference when sending in reservations.

Tickets for the *Ice Breaker* on Saturday January 21, 2006 are available for \$9.00 until the day of the event. Tickets will cost \$10.00 at the door. Reservations for the *Nash Williams Memorial Banquet* can be made by calling John Schweiger at 238-8062. Payment for banquet tickets and the *Ice Breaker* can be sent to:

John Schweiger  
5541 Dahlen Drive  
Madison, WI 53705.

## Top Ten Reasons to Attend the Ice Breaker

1. *The Surgeon General* has determined that purchasing massive quantities of bucket raffle tickets provides effective relief of cabin fever symptoms, thereby reducing the incidence of post office maelstroms.
2. All proceeds from the *Ice Breaker* are used to protect, preserve, and restore cold water resources right here in southern Wisconsin.
3. The Chili at the *Park Ponderosa* rocks – but not so much as to cause personal discomfort or embarrassment.
4. Supporting a worthy conservation cause will warm your heart on what will surely be a brutally cold day in January.
5. Expert fly tyers will be on hand to demonstrate how they tie their favorite flies.
6. You might win something. It could be large, small, or unbelievably cool. That depends a lot on your luck but liberal contributors have a stochastic advantage.
7. World class trout fisherman Kelley Galloup will show you how to catch big trout.
8. Aquatic entomologist Mike Miller will teach you about the insects in Wisconsin streams and how to imitate them.
9. You will rub elbows with fellow trout fishing enthusiasts who are dying to tell you where they like to fish in Southern Wisconsin.
10. It is the most fun that you can have in the off-season without getting arrested or taking your clothes off.

Please join us at the *Park Ponderosa Ballroom* in McFarland on January 21.

## Ice Breaker Volunteers Needed

Please join us for breakfast before the *Ice Breaker*. We will dine at the *Green Forest Family Restaurant*, 925 East Broadway (near Menards on the old beltline). Meet us there at about 6:00 AM for breakfast or at the *Park Ponderosa* at 7:30 AM. We need volunteers to set up the seating area, door prizes, bucket raffle displays, the new members table, audiovisual equipment, entrance table, and a variety of other tasks. Please join us and someone will find a job for you.

## **From the President**

By Sue Fey

The fourth of December. I know I should be fording some frigid, picturesque steelhead or salmon stream, posing for the cover of Intrepid Fly Fishergal, (or at the very least drumming up a good fishing story for the newsletter). Instead, I've been brooming the snow off my aluminum fishing boat in preparation for the annual tarping exercise. Winter is suddenly apparent in all its' sparkling glory and our uncommonly luxurious fall, a fleeting dream. There is a quarter mile skirt of pristine ice in our shallow bay. Two hundred Tundra swans currently decorate the edge where it meets the open, steaming water. Half of them are bottoms up seining nutrients from the icy lake, the rest are dreaming of the temperate gulf, heads tucked into a downy wingpit.

We had one of those board meetings last week that reminded me what a remarkable TU chapter this is. (We happened to have an organizational consultant visiting from the River Alliance who was clearly impressed by our ability to articulate goals and describe barriers. We are hoping to spend a day in February refining our focus for the coming year... Even without the outsider's praise, I would have been struck by the energy, creativity and generosity around the table.) Here are some highlights: We decided, in October, to try selling ad space in this newsletter to help defray the cost of printing and mailing. Today, we have a volunteer Advertising Coordinator, a professional rate-sheet and are on the way to making Newscast a self-supporting publication. The hardy 'Corps of Recovery' crew, quickly reconstituted after Tom Ehler's departure, and have been retooling our stream maintenance and improvement schedule. The board approved an operating budget and got the hell out of the way. The venerable fly tying cadre, also abruptly leaderless, stepped up to keep our most important leadership vessel on course. Those of you who have participated in these classes over the years will want a copy of the new SWTU Fly Tying manual. It is worthy of national publication. This group has also worked very diligently to locate free classroom space, with the goal of returning our annual \$1,000 room rental bill back into the stream improvement budget. The Endowment Committee is closing in on the final draft of a brochure which outlines the goals and importance of this new fund for our members. Our Treasurer is one of 3 in Wisconsin who had our annual chapter reporting to TU National

completed in November. I handed off a rebate check from TU National, with a letter praising our chapter as the third fastest growing in the country. Planning for the Icebreaker is on track and it promises to be another memorable day of entertainment, surprises, good food and better companionship. All this in a scant two hours. And...we adjourned on time.

If this is the only TU chapter you've been a part of...you may not know how lucky you are. My warm thanks to all of you who make this organization work so well. And...if you think you know how to make it even better, remember I'll be sitting at the Maple Tree on December 13 waiting to buy you a cold one.

## **Strauss Needs Flies - Lots and Lots of Flies**

John Strauss is at it again! He is soliciting fly tiers to contribute their favorite trout flies to be included in an "*Experts Fly Selection*" and used as a bucket raffle prize at the *Ice Breaker*. The flies will be placed in a beautifully handcrafted fly box (made from Red Birch this year) and raffled off to a lucky winner. Please give the flies to John at the December or January chapter meeting or bring them to the *Ice Breaker* in January. Donate a couple of your most effective patterns. People that have won this prize in the past tell us that they enjoy knowing who tied the flies, so please include a note with the flies so that John can document who tied what. The goal is to fill the fly box with all types of flies, making it an attractive and successful bucket raffle prize.

## **Welcome New Members**

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

Linda Davis  
Tom Decker  
Ross Hemphill

Bruce Hoesly  
Margaret Lewis

We are honored to have you among us. Please join us at the December 13<sup>th</sup> chapter meeting, and we'll give you some free bucket 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.

## November Meeting Recap



Pat Ehlers was the featured speaker at our November 8<sup>th</sup> chapter meeting. Pat operates a very fine fly shop in Milwaukee (West Allis actually) called *The Fly Fishers*. Pat copes with the winter blues by organizing fly fishing junkets to tropical destinations. His presentation was full of practical advice for traveling anglers, and it was beautifully illustrated with great slides. By the end of the show, we all felt sunburned and piscatorially satiated –albeit vicariously. Thanks Pat.

## You Must Be Present to Win Update

Roger Gilligan was the lucky winner of our *You Must Be Present to Win* drawing held at our November chapter meeting. He won a \$100 gift certificate to *Fontana Sports Specialties*. The contest will start all over again at our December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. Please join us, and you could be the lucky winner of a \$20 gift certificate to *Fontana Sports Specialties*.

## Shabazz High School Thanks Us

Shabazz High School students and staff involved in *Project Green Teen* would like to thank the *Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited* member who anonymously donated 20 rod and reel combos for the fly fishing portion of our class. We invite members to come to the *West Fork Sports Club* May 15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> and try them out. We welcome your guidance towards achieving tight lines and fish evenings between 4 and 8 pm. Dinner is on us should you accept the challenge!

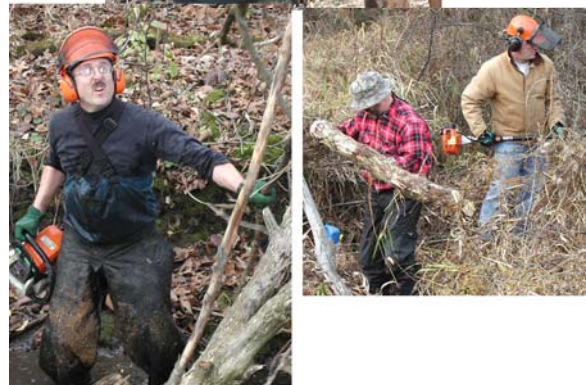
Sincerely,  
Tina Murray, Shabazz Teacher

## Stream Projects Continue

The Box Elder Posse had another successful workday November 12<sup>th</sup> on the Frye's Feeder to Mt. Vernon Creek. Much debris was removed from the stream, making it free flowing and fishable again, and streamside brush and trees were knocked back, at least for a while. Contributing members were: Karsten Geib(mighty turtle hunter), Dan Geib, Chuck Valliere, John Pundt, Ryan Pundt, Jerry Conwell, Fritz Seybold, John Schweiger, Ray Venn, Jim Gentry, Mike Grimes, John Strauss. Cookies were donated by Doug Wadsworth and Rose Schweiger.

Please join us for the next workday on December 10<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at the Donald Park parking lot at 8:00 am to continue the work begun last month. The rewards for participating are immediate. Bring gloves, saws, boots and a lunch.

Donald Park is on Highway 92, just outside of Mt. Vernon. For more information, please contact Dan Geib at 834-1652.



Southern Wisconsin Chapter Trout Unlimited's 22nd Annual

# ICE BREAKER

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21  8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Park Ponderosa Ballroom ← 5100 Erling Ave. (Off Sgglekow Rd), McFarland, WI →

**GENERAL PUBLIC WELCOME!**

Featuring



## Kelly Galloup

Renowned Guide, Author, TV Host  
Owner Slide Inn Lodge in Montana on  
the Madison River

Formerly owned The Troutman in  
Traverse City, Michigan

Author *Modern Streamers for Trout*  
and *Cripples and Spinners*

Host of *Fly Fish TV* on OLN

Specializes in trophy trout and  
selective trout

Also Featuring

## Mike Miller

DNR Aquatic Entomologist

Shows you what flies are in the water

Learn how to match the hatch

Provides overview of how land use affects the  
biodiversity of Midwestern trout streams



Raffle Items and Door Prizes including: Quality Fly Rods and Reels, Presentation Quality Flies, Fine Prints, and many other items donated by area businesses



Advance Tickets \$9 (\$10 at door)  
Send SASE with check payable to:  
**TROUT UNLIMITED**/ John Schweiger  
5541 Dahlen Dr. Madison, WI 53705

INFO: Call Tom Fendrick at  
(608) 873-1623 or

[www.swtu.org](http://www.swtu.org)

All proceeds will be used by Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited to support cold water conservation projects

**Learn How To Catch Fish As Big As Your Leg**

**Registration Form  
2006 Trout Unlimited Fly Tying Classes**

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

Address1: \_\_\_\_\_

Address2: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Choice of Fly tying Class (Check One):

\_\_\_\_\_ Beginning Fly Tying – East (Sun Prairie; Wed.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Beginning Fly Tying – West (Fitchburg; Thurs.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Intermediate Fly Tying – West (Fitchburg; Thurs.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Advanced Fly Tying – East (Sun Prairie; Wed.)

How would you like to be contacted for registration confirmation? (check one):

\_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ US Postal mail \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone

Mail your registration in time to arrive before 12/30/05 to:

Trout Unlimited Fly Tying Organizers  
1522 Chandler St.  
Madison, WI 53711

**Or register online at <http://www.swtu.org>**

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**Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited Endowment Fund  
Contribution Form**

The Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited Endowment Fund is becoming an important partner in the chapter's conservation program. Your tax deductible gift (whether through *End of the Year* giving, or estate planning) will be permanently invested to grow and generate revenue to support your chapter's important mission – forever.

I encourage you to support the endowment fund. As stewards of today's cold water resources, it is our responsibility to pass it on to the next generation.

Sincerely,  
Larry Meicher

Yes I want to help. Enclosed is my Endowment Fund contribution for:

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

Please make checks payable to:  
Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited Endowment Fund  
P.O. Box 7051  
Madison, WI 53707

### 2006 Fly Tying Class Information

The Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited invites you to learn fly tying or improve your fly tying skills. Fly patterns proved effective on local waters for both trout and warm water species will be taught in Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced fly tying courses. Classes meet on both the east and west sides of Madison. Each class meets once per week from 7:00-9:00 PM for ten consecutive weeks beginning either January 11 or 12, 2006. Enrollment is limited in beginning classes to 15 students and in intermediate classes to approximately 10 students. Enrollment is not limited in Advanced Fly Tying.

#### Wednesday Evenings (East)

Beginning and Advanced Classes at:  
Patrick Marsh Middle School  
1351 Columbus St.  
Sun Prairie  
7:00 – 9:00 PM

**First Class January 11th**

#### Thursday Evenings (West)

Beginning and Intermediate Classes at:  
Fitchburg Community Center  
5510 Lacy Rd.  
Fitchburg  
7:00 – 9:00 PM

**First Class January 12th**

**Advanced registration is required!** You may register online at <http://www.swtu.org> or by the US Mail using the registration form below. The registration deadline is December 30, 2005. Students will be accepted on a "first come, first served" basis, and classes often fill rapidly.

**Beginning Fly Tying:** Intended for those with little or no previous fly tying experience. Techniques needed as a foundation for more advanced fly tying are established, and basic but effective fly patterns are tied. Students are encouraged to practice at home after receiving hands-on instruction and tutorials in class.

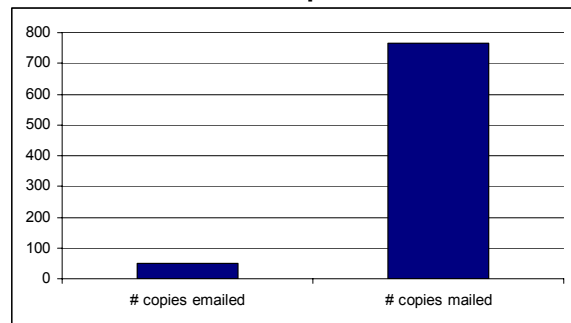
**Intermediate Fly Tying:** Intended for those having a solid foundation in fly tying and wanting to expand their tying expertise. The techniques and materials are more varied, and the fly patterns are often more complex than those of Beginning Fly Tying. Students are expected to practice at home.

**Advanced Fly Tying:** Intended for those with considerable experience in fly tying who desire advanced instruction in techniques and/or materials. Course curriculum varies from year to year, and guest tiers often visit with expert instruction on specific techniques or patterns.

**A Distinguished Faculty:** The Southern Wisconsin chapter of Trout Unlimited has taught fly tying classes for over 30 years. All classes are free, although voluntary donations to help defray costs will be graciously accepted. Experienced instructors, some of whom are accomplished and acknowledged masters, will instruct the classes using a combination of demonstrations and hand-on tutorials. All in-class materials will be provided, including an instructional booklet for Beginning Fly Tying. You must provide the needed tools (tying vise, scissors, bobbin, hackle pliers, hair stacker, whip finisher, thread, and head cement.)

Questions? Send email to [SWTU-FlyTying@sbcglobal.net](mailto:SWTU-FlyTying@sbcglobal.net)

### Electronic Newscasts Update



Fifty two SWTU members have elected to save the chapter a few bucks by electing to receive their *Newscasts* by Email. The number of email distributions has been growing steadily, but slowly. The 52 current participants are saving the chapter over \$380 per year in printing and mailing costs. You could save the chapter more than \$7 per year by joining their ranks.

If you would be willing to receive your *Newscasts* via email, please send a message to [Maffmarkitt@Hotmail.com](mailto:Maffmarkitt@Hotmail.com), and include "Newscasts Opt-Out" in the title of the message. Please include your name, and address in the body of the message.

### **Advertising Coordinator Found**

Astute readers of *Newscasts* may recall that the November issue contained a plea for help. Specifically, we were looking for someone who would be willing to serve as the *Newscasts* advertising coordinator. Boy howdy, we got us a volunteer and he done hit the ground a runnin'.

Eric Christensen stepped to the plate and immediately delivered. He has already polled other TU chapters, developed an advertising rate sheet, and contacted some potential advertisers. Thanks to Eric's hard work and high quality service to the chapter, our newsletter could be a self sustaining entity in the not too distant future. Thanks Eric!

If you would like to place an ad in *Newscasts*, please direct your inquiry to:

Eric Christensen, Advertising Coordinator  
1115 Kings Lynn Rd.  
Stoughton, WI 53589  
608-712-5231

### **Universal Tippet Material**

By John Gribb

Wouldn't it be great to have a single spool of tippet material suitable for a size 2 woolly bugger, or a size 24 dry midge? Such a material is available and I have been using it for over five years. P-Line a fluorocarbon coated spinning line is ideal because it gives you all the advantage of a fluorocarbon tippet without the excessive cost.

The 4lb test P-Line Fluoroclear in 330 yard spools (also available in 2 lb spools) is under \$7.00 and available in fishing departments. You will need some of your old tippet spools to transfer the material from the bulk to a spool you can carry while fishing. Transferring is fast and simple i.e.: place a screwdriver through the large spool and place in vice, attach line to small spool take a nail and push through a chunk of foam and the small spool and tighten in electric drill and proceed to transfer material. Avoid a super tight wrap as it will destroy your small spool. This material is super strong and works great for big foam hoppers to size 24 dry fly midges! Also fluorocarbon coating does not lose its strength like uncoated tippet. Try it you will be pleasantly surprised! Additional information at [Jgribb@mhtc.net](mailto:Jgribb@mhtc.net)

### **Manure Hearings**

In May 2005, the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) appointed a 16-member task force to address ways to minimize manure runoff and protect our water resources.

The task force was asked to focus on a wide range of issues including new technologies, prevention strategies, management and treatment alternatives, and changes to management practices when applying manure to frozen or saturated ground.

Since July 2005, the task force has held a series of monthly meetings to develop findings and recommendations. On Thursday, December 15th, the task force will hold public informational sessions to gather public input on its *Executive Summary, and Draft Findings and Recommendations*, available at <http://www.manuretaskforce.wi.gov/index.html>

The Madison area hearings will be held in Room 106 of the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Building (2811 Agriculture Dr.; Madison).

The hearings are scheduled to run from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. and from 4 until 7 p.m. Each session will include an introduction from task force members, agency staff overview of the issues and progress of the task force, and a period for public comment.

Comments may also be submitted in writing by December 15, 2005. Send comments to Dennis Presser, DATCP, PO Box 8911, Madison, WI 53708-8911 or e-mail comments to [dennis.presser@datcp.state.wi.us](mailto:dennis.presser@datcp.state.wi.us).

Upon completion of its work, the task force will report to the Secretaries of the two agencies convening the group. The Secretaries will share this report with the Natural Resources Board and the Board of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection at a joint board meeting in the winter of 2006.

**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:**

December 10 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter Workday at Donald Park
December 13 <sup>th</sup>	Monthly Chapter Meeting at the <i>Maple Tree</i>
December 15 <sup>th</sup>	Manure Management Task Force Hearings
January 10 <sup>th</sup>	Monthly Chapter Meeting Featuring SWTU Fly Tyers
January 20 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Nash Williams Memorial Banquet</i>
January 21 <sup>st</sup>	<i>Ice Breaker</i> featuring Kelly Galloup and Mike Miller
February 14 <sup>th</sup>	Monthly Chapter Meeting featuring something really romantic – in a fishy kind of way
February 24-26	Madison Fishing Expo
March 4 <sup>th</sup>	Inland trout early season opener
March 14 <sup>th</sup>	March Madness Auction
April 17 <sup>th</sup>	SWTU Casting Clinic
April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Black Earth Creek Cleanup Day
May 13 <sup>th</sup>	SWTU Board of Directors Meeting in Avalanche, WI