

# Newscasts

June 2016 Serving the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited



## No July or August Meetings

Per usual, we are taking the summer off and not having regular chapter meetings in July or August. The busy, hot, travel-filled summer months are not generally conducive to large meetings.



That's not to say you can't do anything!

- Plan to make a special workday and picnic on July 23 ... details on the next page!
- Reach out to somebody in the Chapter and go fishing or tie flies together. Maybe somebody you haven't fished or tied with before.
- Not sure of anybody to fish or tie with? Contact a Board member (listed at the end of the newsletter) or make a post on [our Facebook page](#).
- Loan out your favorite book on fishing, or bug a friend for a fishing book to borrow.

Your loyal editor gets a respite in August and we'll be back to when September roles around.



## Somebody will win \$100 in September

We've had no winner at the past meetings, so our You Must Be Present to Win drawing has grown to its maximum limit of \$100. Please join us at our September 13 Chapter meeting where one lucky member in attendance WILL win a gift certificate to *Fontana Sports Specialties*.

## A Few Cool Upcoming Events!

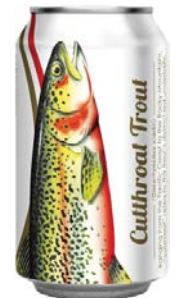
### Workday and Picnic

**Saturday, July 23** will be your chance to do some interesting work, meet some new people and enjoy a tasty picnic! Find details on the next page.



### Oktoberfest Social Hour

SWTU is trying something new, so plan on sharing a few beers with us at the Wisconsin Brewing Company on **October 9th**. Save the date and watch for more details to come!



*Women & Fly Fishing*  
**HAPPY HOUR!**

A women's social event to connect with other women with interests in fly fishing.

**JANUARY 13th**  
**6:00 to ...**

**Ale Asylum**  
2002 Pankratz Street,  
Madison, WI 53704  
(608) 663-3926

A local brew pub near the airport with good food and spirits. Cash bar and food available for purchase.

 Hosted by SWTU Women for other women interested in or connected to Fly Fishing: **beginners, novices, experts ... we welcome all levels of skill.**

## Special Stream Team Workday Building Lunker Structures Saturday, July 23, 2016

We are going to have a special workday on July 23 to build lunker structures for the Neperud property on the Sugar River, which was recently purchased by Dane County. The SEWTU Chapter will be bringing their Lunker Building Team to head up this project. They will also be bringing their grill to cook brats for lunch. Be sure to RSVP so we can get a head count for the brats.

We have **extraordinary needs for this extraordinary day**: a skid steer to move the lunkers from the building area to the storage area and a generator to power the corded tools (cordless tools do not have enough oomph for this work). We anticipate building around 20 lunkers ... they are heavy and we do not need to move them far, but a generator and skid steer will make all the difference. If you can help with either of these items, please contact Jim Hess using the contact information below.

**When:** Saturday, July 23 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**What:** Building lunker structures. Also a chance to meet members from the Southeast Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Their Lunker Building Team will be joining us for this workday and cooking brats for lunch.

**Where:** Sugar River - Neperud Property. South of Paoli at 1065 Hwy 69. The fire number may or may not be up. Drive south from Madison on Hwy 69, after you pass Paoli you will come to the Hamlet of Basco at Henry Road, the farm is on the west side of Hwy 69. Here is a [map](#).

**Bring:** Bring work gloves, safety glasses and sturdy footwear. If you can help with the generator or skid steer noted above, please let Jim know!

**Parking:** Park in the U-shape drive, east of the barn.

**PLEASE RSVP:** RSVP to Jim Hess [jim.hess@tds.net](mailto:jim.hess@tds.net) as we will need a count for ordering the brats.

We look forward to seeing you there!

**Remember, every workday you attend earns you an entry into the drawing for the Stream Keeper fly rod, custom-built by Jim Bartelt.**

Jim Hess, Conservation Committee Chair

## Conservation Committee Teams Up with Operation Fresh Start

For the second time this summer, the Conservation Committee worked with youth from Operation Fresh Start from June 14-17. Operation Fresh Start (OFS) provides a path forward for disconnected youth in Dane County, ages 16-24, through education, mentoring, and employment training. OFS leads youth to completing their high school degree (after having previously dropped out) and continuing on to higher education and/or self-sustaining employment. Dane County sponsors two OFS crews to work in Dane County parks and easements throughout the year.

Jim Hess led the crew on June 14 & 15 on the Kittleson Creek spraying Canada thistles and mechanically removing wild parsnip using parsnip predators. And then Topf Wells led the crew at the Neperud Property inventorying and watering the trees and shrubs that were planted on our last workday (which are doing quite well) and sorted through the materials that will be used for the lunker structures and boom covers on July 23. The weather was hot and muggy, but a lot got accomplished. It was quite the learning experience getting to know these young and motivated people.



## A Very Special Day

By John Schweiger

The forecast of 90 degree temperatures did not bode well for the success of the 2016 Special Annual Fishing Day. The slightly lower temperatures and cooling breeze made for a perfect day for those fishing and their families/ caregivers that made it to our event. Fishing was very successful thanks to Jim and Steve Kalscheur restocking the ponds with trout, bluegill and bass. We had forty-six guests, plus forty-two caregivers or family members. The generous donation of time by some of our chapter members made for a day for all to enjoy.

First and foremost, the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited would like to thank Jim and Steve Kalscheur and their staff. Without Jim and Steve granting access to their ponds and facilities, a Special Annual Fishing Day would not be possible. My thanks go out to Jim's staff, Ken, Jeff and Scott for taking their time to assist in all phases of making the day a success. Jim provided hot dog buns, baked beans, potato chips, condiments, beverages and ice cream sandwiches all served by Jim and his generous staff. Many thanks to Metcalfe's (Jeffrey Schroeter) for the Johnsonville brats, Dorn Hardware at Nakoma (Jim Kiessling) for the Big Red worms used as bait, Scott's Pastry Shoppe (Jackie and Russell Scott) for the breakfast pastries, and Colleen Campbell for getting out the invitations to our guests. Last but not least, I would like to thank the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (Kimberley Kuber) and the Loan-A-Rod Program for making the tackle available to us.

The Mt. Horeb Fire and Rescue provides staff each year to help insure a positive experience for all. Thanks go out to Foster, Zach, Owen, Ryan and Devin for their assistance with wheelchair bound guests, as fishing guides and medical support.

In addition, I would like to personally thank those chapter members who made the day a great success. First, I would like to recognize Mark Rhinerson. He used his personal time to pick up and return the fishing tackle provided by the DNR. He assisted in the Friday night tackle set up and as fishing guide on Saturday.

My thanks to the Friday night tackle set up crew. As usual the technical expertise of our crew was tested as tackle required a gentle touch and sharp eye. All volunteers for the tackle set-up had the opportunity to fish with varying degrees of success. My thanks to Mark Rhinerson, Bill Engber, and Bob Brewer for coming out.

The geese residing at the site were prominently represented and Bob Brewer performed gallant duty as the goose poo crew.

The photographer for the event was Marty Jenich, who very generously, set up a shutterfly website for the event. It is possible to go to <https://swtufishingday2016.shutterfly.com/> and view pictures of the day's activities and obtain copies at a very nominal fee at no profit to the chapter or Marty Jenich.

In closing I would like to thank those chapter members, family and friends for their assistance as fishing guides, fish cleaners, furniture setup assistants, strong backs for transporting wheel chair bound guests, greeters and photographers. All these jobs contribute directly to an extremely busy and successful Special Annual Fishing Day.

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| Mark Rhinerson | Bill Engber    |
| Michael Burda  | Rodd Wangen    |
| Bob Brewer     | Tom Dean       |
| Marty Jenich   | Henry Haugley  |
| Jim Bartelt    | Ellen Bertelt  |
| John Strauss   | Henry Anderson |

Last but by no means least, I want to thank my lovely bride Rose for excellent counsel, administrative assistance and personal donation of bagels and beef hotdogs enjoyed this year.

As can be seen from the numbers of guest compared and the number of participating chapter volunteers named, a tremendous effort was necessary to make this day a success. We need to access whether there is sufficient interest in our chapter membership to continue this event.



Above: Bill Engber helps a young man catch the fish of a lifetime!

At right: Bill relaxes with Mike Burda for a moment.



## Welcome New Members

We're pleased to announce the addition of the following new members to our ranks.

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Felix Egli     | Kevin McFarland |
| Jeremy Henning | Pete Fraitshi   |
| James Logan    | Brett Morris    |
| Ginny Olson    | Sean Thomas     |
| Mitchell Wise  | Dan Flood       |
| Slade Kussman  |                 |

We are honored to have you among us. Please join us for a Chapter meeting, and we will give you **FREE** raffle tickets, flies and "an offer you can't refuse" from some of our most experienced fisher-folk! Try to get there at 6 p.m. for dinner and to sit with one of our board members to learn more about us. **If you will be attending your first meeting**, please contact [Tom Parker](#) so we can expect you.



## Registration is open for the 2017 Women's Flyfishing Clinics

Visit the [Women's Flyfishing Clinic section of SWTU.ORG](#) to learn more and register.

## Wisconsin Women's Fly Fishing Clinics



Presented by Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited

[http://www.swtu.org/wffc\\_womens\\_clinics.html](http://www.swtu.org/wffc_womens_clinics.html)

<https://www.facebook.com/SWTUWomensClinic>

### BY WOMEN FOR WOMEN BASICS CLINIC

June 16-18, 2017

Learn how to choose proper equipment, tie knots, cast, read water, select the proper fly and time on the water. You will learn new tactics, regardless of your level of ability. Equipment available for use.

### ON THE WATER SKILLS INTERMEDIATE CLINIC

June 14-15, 2017

Personalized instruction streamside. Tune up workshops by women instructors to refresh skills in casting, matching the hatch & reading the water. Fish WI finest trout streams with experienced anglers.



#### Location

Avalanche, WI (near Viroqua, in Wisconsin's Driftless Area)

#### Cost

\$195 until April 1<sup>st</sup>  
\$225 after (+ reg fee)

For more information please visit the links above.

Registration: <https://www.regonline.com/womensflyfishingclinic2017>  
<https://www.regonline.com/onthewaterskillsclinic2017>

## Stay Connected



Know what's happening by connecting to our [Chapter Calendar!](#)

And if you know of a member not receiving emails from SWTU, please have them email [madkase1@gmail.com](mailto:madkase1@gmail.com)!



Check out [Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited on Facebook](#) to connect to activities, discussions and friends. (You should be able to view the page without a Facebook account.)

## Fountains of Youth

*Classic trout flies that have withstood the test of time ... flies that remain "forever young"*

by Rusty Dunn

Fly tying as practiced today owes much to Charles Cotton, who in 1676 authored "Part II" of Isaac Walton's classic *The Compleat Angler*. Cotton was not the first author to list artificial flies and describe how they are tied, but prior accounts were sketchy at best. Cotton gave detailed instructions on materials, tying methods, insects being imitated, and the best months for each fly's use. Cotton's flies are remarkably modern in appearance, being small, sparsely dressed, and neat in appearance. His meticulous approach began a rich literature of fly tying instruction that persists to the present day.

No material was more important to Cotton than his bag of fur dubbings. He wrote of them with great affection and praised their ability to imitate natural insects. Speaking as Piscator in *The Compleat Angler*, Cotton wrote:

*"Piscator: Boy, come, give me my dubbing bag here presently; and now, sir, since I find you so honest a man, I will make no scruple to lay open my treasure before you.*

*Viator: Did ever any one see the like! What a heap of trumpery is here! Certainly never an angler in Europe has his shop half so well furnished as you have."*

The softness, shine, and buoyancy of natural hair and fur are unexcelled for imitating insect bodies, legs, tails, and even wings. Fur transmits light *through* the fibers, something that Cotton understood well. Viator, while being tutored on fly tying, described a dark fur dubbing as "very black", to which Piscator responded,

*"It appears so in the hand; but step to the door and hold it up betwixt your eye and the sun, and it will appear a shining red; let me tell you, never a man in England can discern the true colour of a dubbing any way but that."*

Natural furs are outstanding for the dressing of wet flies and nymphs. Soft furs soak up water and become even more flexible. A thinly dubbed body of fur overlying a base of tying thread whose color shows through the fur imitates insect translucency better than any other method.

Dave Whitlock is a native Oklahoman who made a career in the fly angling industry. Oklahoma is not traditional fly fishing country, but Whitlock was attracted to the sport as a teenager. He learned tying and fishing by reading his granddad's *Field & Stream* magazines and outdoor catalogs. He had no access to pricey tying materials, so Whitlock tied with sewing threads plus furs and feathers that he harvested locally.

Whitlock entered college as an art and journalism major, but his family persuaded him to choose a more employable profession. He thus became a science major and worked as a research chemist well into his 30s, at which time he bolted for a career in fly fishing. But Whitlock never abandoned his artistic and scientific tendencies. He is an accomplished artist who, like John Atherton, designs strikingly beautiful flies. Beauty alone does not catch fish, but that's where Whitlock-the-scientist comes forth. His flies derive from careful experimentation and observation. He ties a pattern, fishes it, makes changes, fishes it again, makes more changes, fishes it again, etc. until completely satisfied. The resulting flies are both beautiful AND effective.

The Red Fox Squirrel Hair Nymph and Dave's Hopper are, arguably, Whitlock's signature flies. The Red Fox Squirrel Nymph is an impressionistic fly that is effective in virtually all trout waters. Red fox squirrel skins are richly mottled in cream, black, tan, and orange. Whitlock developed the pattern in the late 1960s, having been strongly influenced by the writings of Polly Rosborough and Ted Trueblood. Like other champion flies such as the Gold-Ribbed Hare's Ear and Woolly Bugger, the Red Fox Squirrel Hair Nymph is remarkable for its cunning ability to out-fox a wily trout.

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### ----- Red Fox Squirrel Hair Nymph -----

**Hook:** 2X-long nymph, #2 - #20, weighted with wire over the middle half of the shank

**Thread:** Black or orange, 8/0

**Tail:** Small tuft of back fur of a red fox squirrel

**Abdomen:** Orange belly fur of a red fox squirrel, mixed 1:1 with "sienna" or "fox tan" Antron

**Rib:** Oval gold tinsel, sized to match hook

**Thorax:** Back fur of a red fox squirrel mixed 1:1 with charcoal Antron; wound loosely, bulging, and shaggy

**Hackle:** Soft webby hen or brown partridge feather; one turn in front of the thorax



# Landon Mayer and our 2017 Icebreaker!

Saturday, January 14 at American Family Insurance

We are incredibly pleased to let you know that **Landon Mayer** ... professional fishing guide, author and speaker ... is the featured guest of our 2017 Icebreaker.

Landon's angling success is fueled by an addiction to pursuing large trout with small flies and lightweight fly-fishing equipment. Mayer enthusiastically teaches and demonstrates his techniques and on-river knowledge to fellow anglers and has developed innovative strategies for sighting, hooking, and landing selective trout.



He shares these tips and secrets in person and in his books *101 Trout Tips: A Guide's Secrets, Tactics and Techniques*, *Colorado's Best Fly Fishing*, *Sight Fishing for Trout*, and *How to Catch the Biggest Trout of Your Life*, in addition to two DVDs: *Landing the Trout of Your Life* and *Weapons of Bass Production*, both of which also feature John Barr.

You will NOT want to miss this, so be sure to save the date for our biggest annual fundraiser.

## Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited Leadership:

|                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| President                    | Tristan Kloss      |
| Vice President               | Matt Sment         |
| Secretary                    | Laura Beck Nielsen |
| Treasurer                    | Tom Parker         |
| Past President               | Matt Krueger       |
| State Council Rep.           | Scot Stewart       |
| Board Member                 | Mary Ann Doll      |
| Board Member                 | Jim Hess           |
| Board Member                 | Mark Maffitt       |
| Board Member                 | Topf Wells         |
| Board Member                 | Amy Klusmeier      |
| Board Member                 | Michael J. Burda   |
| Newscasts Editor             | Drew Kasel         |
| Conservation Committee Chair | Jim Hess           |

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