

# Newscasts

April 2017 Serving the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited



**Your all new SWTU.org**  
Learn about it at our April 11 meeting



Come enjoy a guided tour of SWTU's exciting new website, which will help us organize, communicate, and take action to conserve cold water resources easier than ever before.



Get a peek before the meeting by visiting [www.swtu.org](http://www.swtu.org).  
Try it from your phone or tablet, too!



We'll also be discussing important updates to chapter programs, taking nominations for awards, and electing our Board of Directors. See you there!

As usual, the meeting is upstairs at the [Coliseum Bar and Grill](#) on East Olin Avenue at 7 p.m. but please join us earlier for dinner and a few stories.

## ELECTIONS

### Slate set for Chapter Elections Nominating Committee completes its work

The Nominating Committee has completed the list of candidates for the election to be held at the Annual Meeting on Tuesday April 11, 7 pm. The nominees are:

**President – Matt Sment.** Matt joined SWTU in 2014 when he became a volunteer instructor for Project Healing Waters. He has also staffed the Stream Explorer's activities at the Icebreaker, served on the Nominating committee, served as Vice President and coordinated the 2016 Riversmith Casting Clinic. Matt is co-owner of Badger Tenkara.

**Vice President – Tristan Kloss.** Tristan has been a TU member since 2008. Prior to moving to Madison, Tristan was active in the Southeastern Wisconsin TU chapter and helped start the Education Committee there. Since moving to Madison he has joined the SWTU Education Committee and has served as Secretary and President the past several years. You can often find Tristan working at the local Orvis store.

**Treasurer – Tom Parker.** Tom has been a member of TU since 2013. He has served on the Executive Board as a Director, served as Treasurer for the past year and also Co-chaired the 2016 Nominating Committee. Tom has over 30 years' experience in finance and administration in the insurance industry.

**Secretary – Mark Maffitt** has been an SWTU member for 25 years. He served on the board for about eight years that included 2 years as vice president. He chaired the Ice Breaker for a couple of year, and served as Newscasts editor for 6 or 7 years. In recent years, he has enjoyed serving (sic) as a March Madness auctioneer and recently stepped into the Secretary position after joining the Board as a Director. He has experience working with other volunteer driven, non-profit organizations (the Bombay Bicycle Club).

**Chapter Delegate to the State Council of TU – Scot Stewart.** Scot has been a member of Southern Wisconsin TU since 1987, when he moved to Madison. He served on the SWTU BOD in the late 1990's. He recently retired from Wisconsin DNR after 33 years working in Fisheries Management. Since 2010, he has been actively involved with the State Council as the head of the WDNR Trout Committee, so is knowledgeable about current issues and familiar with many of the members. ... continued on next page

*Board – continued ...*

**Director – Bill Hayes (new nominee)** Bill was taught fly fishing for trout over 25 years ago by a friend. Since then he has enjoyed many experiences with family and friends on fishing outings. Most enjoyable, is helping someone learn to fish and develop an appreciation for preserving the environment all life needs to flourish. Bill is active with several area groups sharing the common mission of protecting our waters and joined SWTU in 2015.

**Director – Dave Fowler (new nominee)** Dave has been a TU member for about 20 years, first with the Harry & Laura Nohr Chapter and more recently with the SWTU Chapter. While a member of the Nohr Chapter, Dave was on the Board for 6 years and was involved in the Chapter's various stream restoration projects and drafting the Chapter's Conflicts of Interest Policy, the first such policy for any TU Chapter. Over the last 3 years, Dave has been a fly tying instructor for the beginning class at the Fitchburg location.

**Topf Wells, Jim Hess, Michael Burda and Mary Ann Doll** are all currently serving on the Board as Directors and would like to continue. They are active on many initiatives. Topf is helping to lead our advocacy efforts. Jim chairs our Conservation Committee. Mike is very involved in the Healing Waters program. And Mary Ann co-chaired this year's Nominating Committee and serves on the Education and Membership Committee.

At the April monthly meeting, the nominees or a member acting on his or her behalf will be given the opportunity to present any information relevant to his or her candidacy.

In addition to the nominees selected by the committee, the chapter bylaws provide that any member may make a nomination from the floor. For those positions with more than one candidate, secret ballots will be used.

Per the [Chapter By-laws](#) **Amy Klusmeier** will be stepping down to make room for two new Directors. Amy has agreed to chair the 2018 Icebreaker, help organize the upcoming Nash Williams Award Banquet (stay tuned for details!), and looks forward to being more actively involved in the Stream Keepers program.

Check out the [About section of www.swtu.org](#) for specific details on election procedures and the expectations for each position.

Thanks to **Mary Ann Doll** and **Amy Klusmeier**, co-chairs of the Nominating Committee, as well as committee members **Tom Thrall, Drew Kasel and Bob Selk.**

## Free Casting Clinic on April 29

We are once again holding our Riversmith Fly Casting Clinic (now named after **Jeff Smith**, who was the driving force behind it for many years). The clinic is free and available to anyone interested in learning how to cast a fly. Beginners are especially encouraged to attend. Loaner rods will be available for those who do not own their own equipment. The clinic will begin at 9 a.m. on Saturday April 29 at [H.M. Zander Community Nature Park in Cross Plains](#).



You can learn about fly-fishing equipment and casting, aquatic entomology, reading the water to find trout, and Tenkara fly fishing. This is a fantastic opportunity for anyone 6 years of age and older to get involved in our sport. These 2-3 hours would cost a bundle from a private guide! Let any friend, relative or neighbor know about this valuable once a year event.

**You can help!** The more experienced casters and fishers we have on hand, the more we can provide individual assistance to attendees. Bring a friend who could use a lesson, and stick around to help.

Also be sure to [check out the clinic's Facebook page](#). (And, yes, it has a [page on the new website!](#))

## Dane County Watershed Network Gathering – Aquatic Invasive Species

April 27 – 5:30-7:30pm

Goodman Community Center - 149 Waubesa Street - Madison (Room: Bolz A)

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) present new and continuing challenges to managing our water resources. How do



you know they're there? What do you do when you find them? How do you go about removing them? This Watershed Network Gathering will provide an update on state and county efforts to combat AIS and feature several local watershed groups that will share their stories of working on AIS removal and prevention. Afterwards, there will be plenty of time to mingle and connect to find out more details about the specific projects you are interested in.

**RSVP is not necessary but is much appreciated:** [RSVP here](#)

*This event is free and open to the public*

## Saturday, April 8 Workday

A fun and friendly way to make a difference

Our next workday will be **Saturday, April 8, on the Sugar River at the Basco Unit County Wildlife Area (Neperud property)**, south of Paoli on Hwy 69 – the fire address is 1065.



**When:** April 8, 2017 from 9 a.m. to Noon (Chapter Approved Sawyers please arrive at 8:30).

**What:** Cutting & treating box elders, and leaving the trunks intact to be used by the DNR to do streambank improvements to this area. Also, friendly camaraderie, refreshments, coffee, and a chance to give back to the resource!

**Where:** 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:** Hip boots or chest waders (some of us will be getting into the water). Also, bring work gloves, sturdy shoes, and loppers; otherwise the chapter has equipment you can use. Also, bring reusable water bottles that can be re-filled from our 5-gal water jug. As a conservation club, we need to reduce our use of plastic bottles and throw-away cups. Reusable coffee mugs will also be available.

**Parking:** Park in the circle drive by the barn.

### Future Workdays:

**April 22** – Black Earth Creek – clear woody invasives along the stream and assist the Black Earth Watershed Assn with their cleanup day.

**May 6** – Gordon Creek DNR Easement at Blanchardville, same location as the March 25 workday

**July 15** - Basco Unit County Wildlife Area (**Neperud property**) on the Sugar River.

If you have questions or think you can help, please contact Jim Hess at [jimhess5599@gmail.com](mailto:jimhess5599@gmail.com) so we can get a volunteer count estimate. 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

## BECWA stream cleanup day: April 22

The Black Earth Creek Watershed does a great deal of good for one of our most local and important trout waters. (Visit [their website](#) to learn more and join.)



Each spring they organize a clean-up day that we are happy to support. It's as basic as you get ... walk the stream and pick up all the litter that's been thrown or blown along the waterway. This year it's alongside the April 22 SWTU workday; meet at Salmo Pond at 9 and we'll divvy up and do some good!

## “Guides” needed for Project Green Team and Women's Clinic

Guides are needed for **Project Green Team's annual outing at Avalanche**. We need you whether you can do a day or all week. Dates are May 14<sup>th</sup> through 18<sup>th</sup>.

Also there are casting clinics for the PGT kids on March 30<sup>th</sup> and April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1-3 PM at Shabazz High School on N. Sherman Ave, Madison.

The chapters **Women's Clinics** are soaring in popularity and we need volunteers who will come out to the Westfork Sports Club on June 14<sup>th</sup> from 3 p.m. on and June 15 from 10:30 am on. You'll be taking three different women fishing during these days for them to work on their skills while on the water.

To help out or find out more info contact Rich Lahti 608-516-4480 [rlahti64@gmail.com](mailto:rlahti64@gmail.com) and Scot Stewart 608-273-5967 [rstewart23@frontier.com](mailto:rstewart23@frontier.com).

If you have guided in the past or would like to guide this year you are also invited to an appreciation lunch on June 14th from 12:00-2:00. RSVPs are required for this event. Contact Rich Lahti at 608-516-4480 or [rlahti64@gmail.com](mailto:rlahti64@gmail.com).

If you can help with any or all of these, or for more information, please contact:

Rich Lahti 608-516-4480 ([rlahti64@gmail.com](mailto:rlahti64@gmail.com))  
Tina Murray ([t.murray.t@gmail.com](mailto:t.murray.t@gmail.com))

## You Must Be Present to Win

We drew a \$100 winner at the last meeting and so the drawing has reset to \$20. Please join us at our next Chapter meeting for a chance to win a gift certificate to *Fontana Sports Specialties*. You need only be present to win!

## Orvis is offering free fly fishing classes... want to help out?

If you've visited Orvis Madison on weekends in the spring and summer, you may already know that the store offers free fly fishing classes, introducing 150-200 people a year to having fun on the fly. What you might not know is that **every student who participates in the class receives a free 1-year membership to Trout Unlimited**. This gives us a great opportunity to introduce our chapter to people who may not be familiar with TU and what we do, and their fishing manager Tristan (yes, *that* one... and he apologizes for wearing two hats at once here!) is asking for volunteers to help these students hone their casts and tie some knots and introduce them to some friendly TU faces.

The two to two-and-a-half hour class is held most Saturdays and some Sundays from April through June. If you able to give some new anglers a few casting tips, help them with tying knots, answer some questions, and willing to be an ambassador for TU, please consider helping out. (Bonus: volunteers are eligible for discounts on Orvis stuff, and it's better than just "another \$25 coupon"!)

You can contact Tristan directly at [tie.a.fly@gmail.com](mailto:tie.a.fly@gmail.com), or call the store at [\(608\) 831-3181](tel:6088313181) and let them know you are interested in volunteering for FF101. A full list of classes is available from the store.



### Cross Plains Visitor Survey 2017 (Recreation Focus)

Dear Cross Plains Area Visitor:

This is an exciting time for Cross Plains. The Cross Plains Area Chamber of Commerce, in a joint effort with the Village of Cross Plains, is working on a Market Analysis with the UW Extension. We want to learn about what brings visitors to Cross Plains, and about how to enhance your experience.

We need your help to guide the community's business retention, expansion, and attraction efforts. This survey will take only a few minutes of your time to complete and your responses are anonymous, so feel free to be direct. Please click below to complete the survey.

Visitors Survey: [https://uwex.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_bBjy3iXv713M5Q9](https://uwex.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_bBjy3iXv713M5Q9)

The data assembled in this analysis will provide direction for future business expansion and development. The completed report will be prepared for active use in economic development marketing efforts. Key findings will be reported as soon as they are available. If you have additional questions feel free to contact Amy Hansen, Executive Director of the Chamber at [amy.cpchamber@yahoo.com](mailto:amy.cpchamber@yahoo.com).

We really appreciate your input!

Sincerely,  
Cross Plains Area Chamber of Commerce  
Business Development Committee  
Market Analysis Team



## Fountains of Youth

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

by Rusty Dunn

Trout fishing in America used to be dead easy. Find any cold clear river ... cast a brightly colored fly ... catch a sizeable brook trout ... repeat as needed. On February 28, 1883, however, things got much more difficult. The days of effortless trout were over. What happened? Eighty thousand brown trout eggs arrived from Germany at the state fish hatchery in Cold Spring Harbor, NY. These eggs and others that followed were planted in New York rivers and, eventually, throughout the eastern seaboard. The immigrants thrived in the New World, and within 20-30 years, brown trout were the dominant trout of the East. Some anglers praised the new species for being a more worthy adversary. Others scorned it for displacing native brook trout. Brown trout "aggressiveness" was blamed for declining numbers of brook trout, but diminished water quality in an increasingly industrial nation was at least as important. Brown trout are more tolerant of marginal waters, and they colonized habitat that no longer supported brookies. Brook trout would have been displaced by chubs and dace were it not for arrival of the brown trout.

Brook trout are famous for taking showy attractor flies, but brown trout are more reserved. They are cunning, judgmental, and, down right opinionated. Brown trout require more stealth, better presentations, and a more exact imitation. This drove refinement of American fly fishing tackle and technique. Fortunately, fly anglers of Great Britain had shown the way. Brown trout are the only native trout of Europe, and "matching the hatch" had been routine for decades on the other side of the pond.

Today we take for granted extensive hatch charts and matching flies, but where does this information come from? Observant anglers doubling as amateur entomologists patiently and systematically collect aquatic insects, identify species, and catalog times and dates of emergences. Fly patterns to match the naturals can then follow.

The great pioneer of insect identification and hatch matching was Englishman Alfred Ronalds (1802-1860). He merged the ecology of trout and trout stream insects with angling and fly design. His 1836 book *The Fly-Fisher's Entomology* catalogs insects of British trout streams and describes 89 matching fly patterns. Ronalds established the practice of systematically matching hatches, and his book is one of the great landmarks in the history of fly fishing.

English hatches and patterns are not directly applicable to North America, because the insect species are different. The tradition of angling entomology in North America was established by Preston Jennings (1893-1962), who is often described as "the American Ronalds". He did for the US what Ronalds had done for Great Britain. Jennings was the first American angler to broadly integrate aquatic entomology with fly design and angling methods. Jennings' 1935 book *A Book of Trout Flies*, describes major hatches of the East and identifies flies to match. It is precise, beautifully illustrated, and elegant. Jennings set the standard for generations of later American authors who extended his pioneering work.

The most famous flies of Preston Jennings are the American March Brown and the Grey Fox. March Browns (*Stenonema vicarium* in the East) are one of the largest mayflies of the early season, appearing shortly after Hendricksons (late May/early June). Jennings' fly is called the *American March Brown* to distinguish it from the March Brown of Great Britain, a different species that actually hatches in March. The American March Brown imitates large ginger/tan/light brown mayfly duns, but many anglers fish it quite successfully as an attractor dry.

March Brown duns hatch slowly but steadily through the day and are easily overlooked. Spinners, however, gather at dusk in concentrated mating flights. If you're fishing the Driftless at dusk in early June, the last thing you should do before driving away is look upwards. If March Brown spinners swarm overhead, don't leave the stream without enjoying one of North America's truly fine spinner falls.

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### ----- American March Brown -----

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**Hook:** Dry fly, #10-12

**Thread:** Orange

**Tail:** Hackle barbs of a red game cock

**Wing:** Flank feather barbs of a mallard drake, upright and divided

**Body:** Red fox belly fur mixed with sandy fur of a hare's poll

**Hackle:** Red game cock and grizzly, with the grizzly feather nearer the hook eye

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## Welcome New Members

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

Earl Reiner  
Josh Hall  
Melissa Hall  
Sasha Fedorko

Michael Arbet  
Parker Ehn-Howland  
Jacob Higginbotham



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 [Matt Sment](#) so we can expect you.

### Stay Connected



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



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.)

**If you know of a member not receiving emails from SWTU, please have them email [madkasel@gmail.com](mailto:madkasel@gmail.com)**

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

President	Tristan Kloss
Vice President	Matt Sment
Secretary	Mark Maffitt
Treasurer	Tom Parker
Past President	Matt Krueger
State Council Rep.	Scot Stewart
Board Member	Mary Ann Doll
Board Member	Jim Hess
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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