

# Newscasts

January 2018 Serving the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited



THE 35TH ANNUAL SWTU

## ICEBREAKER

### JANUARY 13TH 2018

AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE

6000 American Parkway, Madison, WI 53783

#### JOIN US FOR:

- TWO FABULOUS KEYNOTE TALKS
- PRESENTATIONS BY LOCAL EXPERTS
- MASTER FLY TYING DEMOS
- EXCITING BUCKET RAFFLES
- SILENT AUCTION
- CONSERVATION PARTNER DISPLAYS
- DELICIOUS LUNCH (\$10)
- MUCH, MUCH MORE!

LOCAL SPEAKER:

#### TIM LANDWEHR

Tim is the owner of **Tight Lines Fly Fishing Company** in DePere, WI and the author of one of the hottest books out right now, **Smallmouth: Modern Fly-Fishing Methods, Tactics, and Techniques**. An accomplished guide for both trout and smallmouth, Tim has been featured on **ESPN Outdoors**, **OLN**, **Outdoor Adventures**, **Hyde pro-staff member** and **Hosts Midwest Sportsman** an.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION: SWTU.ORG**

#### FEATURED SPEAKERS

#### TUCKER & JACQUIE NELSON

Tucker and Jacquie Nelson are husband/wife guides for **Nelson's Spring Creek Ranch in Livingston, MT**. Both share a deep passion for fishing that goes beyond the sport and is expressed in stewardship for the land. Both specialize in spring creek techniques but will also share their expertise while drifting the Yellowstone River.

JUST  
**\$10**  
FREE for Vets!  
and Kids 12  
& under



## Have some fun and do some good!

The daylong event detailed above (and on following pages!) powers a great deal of the good SWTU does for our coldwater resource throughout the year. It's a fun and relaxing day of learning, conversation and prizes. It's also a place where friendships are forged and renewed.

We would be delighted to have you join us. Women fly fishers should also be sure to join us for a social the night before!

**But wait, there's more ...** See pages 5, 6 and 7 for details on our January 9 Chapter Meeting, free fly tying classes, other worthy fundraising events, a Rusty column and more!

## Planned Schedule for the Icebreaker

Visit fly tying demos and conservation partner booths through the day!

9:00 - 10:30 AM

Morning Keynote: "**Sweat the Small Stuff**" – Jacquie and Tucker Nelson

*When fishing crystal clear waters to fish with PHD's every little detail matters. Jacquie will address the importance of presentation, persistence and patience, and give you some tips and techniques for proper line management, and landing and handling trout.*

10:45 AM - 12:30 PM

Local Feature: "**Smallmouth bass fishing**" – Tim Landwehr (Tight Lines Fly Shop), Kyle Zempel (Black Earth Angling) and the Wisconsin Smallmouth Alliance

12:30 – 1:30 PM Lunch (offered on site for \$10)

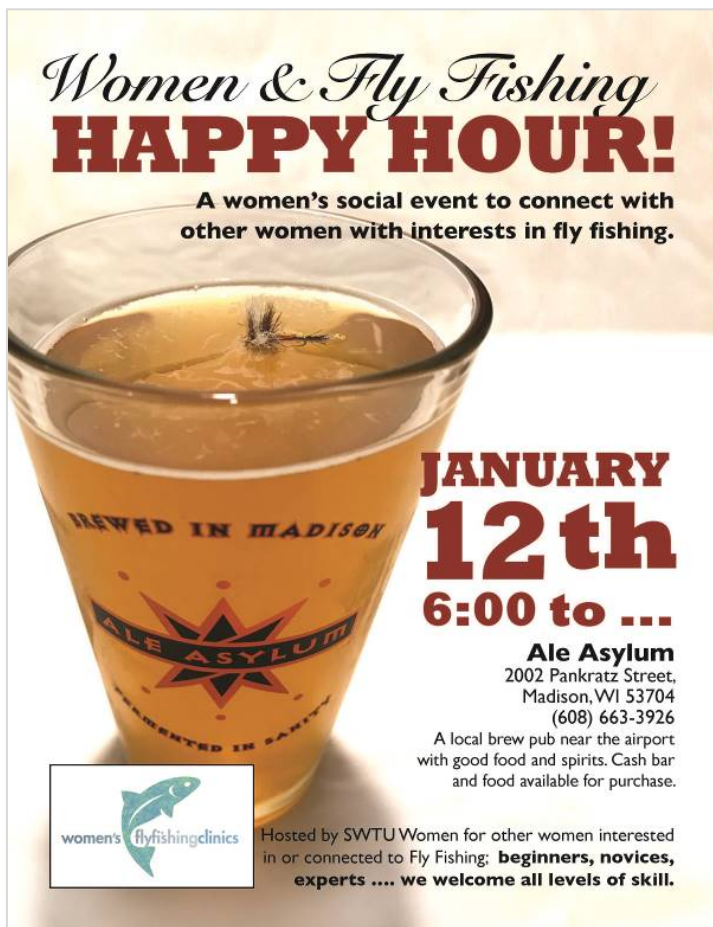
1:30 – 3:15 PM

Afternoon Keynote: "**Sight Fishing Spring Creeks**" – Tucker and Jacquie Nelson

*Born and raised on one of the most technical fisheries in the world, Tucker has an arsenal of unique spring creek techniques to aid in successful hookups. Starting with a brief history on the world renowned Nelson's Spring Creek and progressing into a presentation on how to recognize fish feeding patterns and an in-depth look at sight nymphing.*

3:30 PM

Bucket Raffle Drawings and Silent Auction Winners



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


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

**JANUARY 12th**  
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.**



### Meet the Nelsons!

We look forward to hear from our keynote speakers – **Tucker and Jacquie Nelson** from [Nelson Spring Creek Ranch](#) in Livingston, MT.

# Icebreaker!

## We invite you to join us

The Icebreaker will once again be at **American Family Insurance on the east side of Madison!** (See map and link on next page.) Join us for great speakers, master fly tying demonstrations, and of course, a bucket raffle and silent auction featuring fabulous prizes!

## Many hands make light work!

This incredible event is powered by you, our members! We need a variety of volunteers the day of the event Contact [Amy Klusmeier](#) with questions or to volunteer.

## Still time to donate to the Bucket Raffle

We would be pleased to accept anything from a handcrafted birdhouse to a guided fishing trip. Or consider donating new rods, reels, accessories, camping equipment, overnight lodging and especially sets of flies. Our vast array of raffle items adds excitement (and revenue!) to the event. Please deliver the items or make a commitment to a member of our Raffle Team: [Craig Amacker](#) and [Amy Klusmeier](#). You can also bring your donation to our December 9 Chapter meeting.

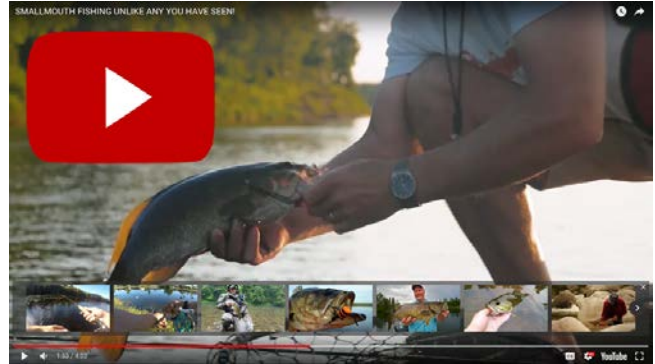


Get your Icebreaker ticket in advance!

[www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3197744](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3197744)

## Smallmouth Bass: The Crash

[Video with featured local speaker Kyle Zempel](#)



*You won't want to miss hearing Kyle, Tim Landwehr and others talk about the amazing smallmouth bass fishing we are so fortunate to live in the midst of!*

## Just a few of the raffle items!

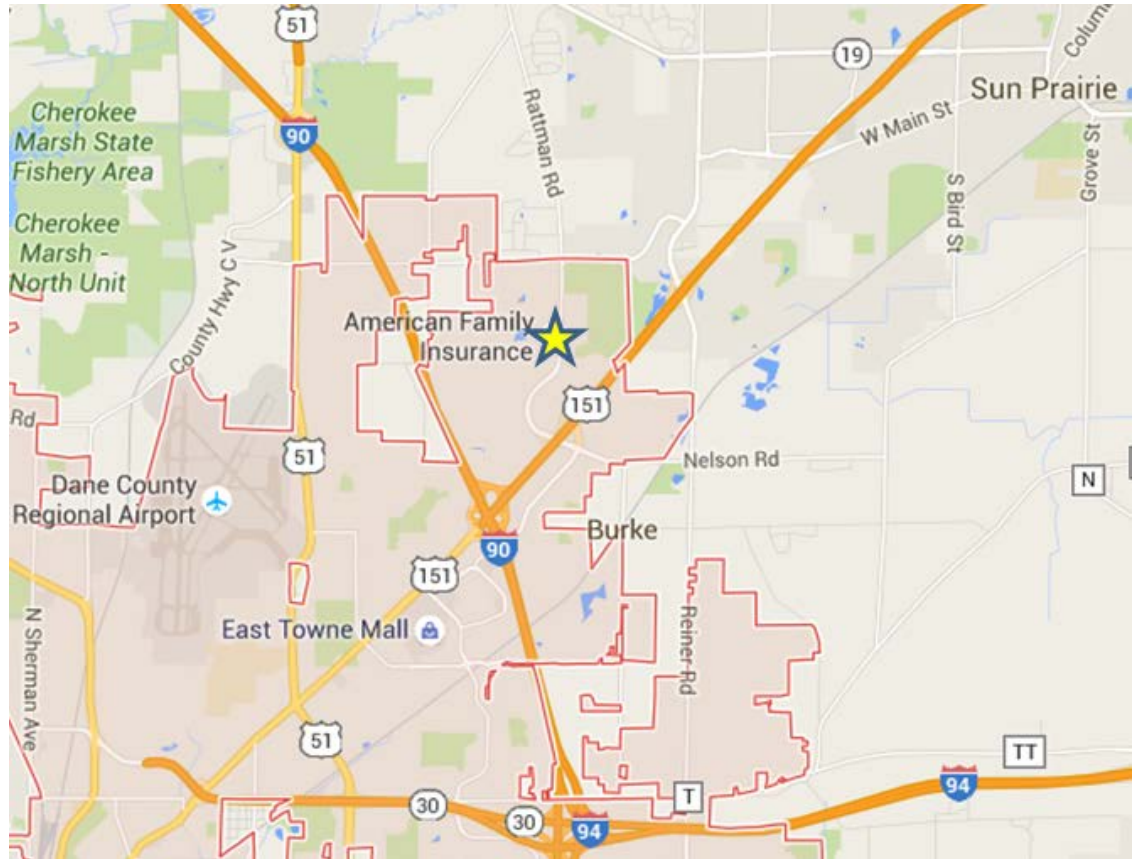
You can win these amazing items and more ...

- Custom built bamboo rod – Paul Douglas
- Yeti 50 Cooler
- Custom built fiberglass rod – Dave Fowler
- Full day guided trip – Fontana Sports
- Remington Reel – Jim Bartelt/Spring Creek Specialties
- Hand tied flies – Tom Mulford, Rusty Dunn, Scot Stewart, John Gribb, Henry Haugley, Jim Beecher and other masters
- Much more!!



The Icebreaker will once again be at **American Family Insurance** on the east side of Madison!

[Google Map Link](#)



**Raffle Instructions:** The Icebreaker will feature a large array of bucket raffle prizes. Tickets will be available the day of the event and can be purchased using cash, check or credit card. The drawing will begin at 3:30 pm on January 13, 2018. Ticket holders need not be present to win. The purchaser of a ticket may give the ticket to another person who may claim the prize on behalf of the purchaser, but only if that other person is present at the drawing. If not present to claim the prize at the event, winners will be posted in the February SWTU Newscast and prizes may be claimed at the February or March SWTU Chapter Meeting. Prizes will be held until 6:30 pm on Tuesday, March 13, 2018. Unclaimed prizes will be auctioned off at the March SWTU Chapter Meeting.

## 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)

## Join in the Fly Tying Jamboree

### Our fun and informal January 9 meeting

Hey, you know what!? A Fly Tying Jamboree always makes for a fun, relaxed, educational and conversational meeting.

Join us! Whether you tie or not, you'll leave with some new ideas on what, and how to fish. And if you do tie flies, **bring your vise, light and select hooks/materials with you** to the meeting so you can demonstrate how you tie and fish your favorite fly.



Whether you tie to show or throw, your skills are needed to make this a true Jamboree. Everyone can have a great time contributing their skills and techniques while tying a half dozen flies in support of our upcoming major fundraisers – the Icebreaker and the Meicher Madness Auction.

If you don't tie, or are just getting started, this is a fantastic opportunity to learn about what goes into making a fish-catching fly.

(And if you are interested in tying, be sure to also note the fly tying classes, video links and Rusty Dunn column on the following pages!)

Bring your vise, materials, light and extension cords to the second floor of the [Coliseum Bar and Grill](#) on January 9 and help us create a true Fly Tying Jamboree! As usual, the meeting is at 7 p.m. but please join in for dinner and a few stories before.

### You Must Be Present to Win

We had no winner at the last meeting and so our drawing rises to \$80. Please join us at our next Chapter meeting for a chance to win a gift certificate to *Fontana Sports Specialties*.

### Thank you!

Many thanks to these community leaders for supporting our efforts to preserve coldwater resources in Southern Wisconsin. We are grateful to have their support!

- [608 Community Supported Kitchen](#) and [Altbrew](#) for hosted a delicious taco fundraiser in December, which raised over \$1,300 for SWTU!
- [Restoration Cider](#) made a generous \$400 donation!
- [American Family Insurance](#) is lending use of their amazing facility for this month's Icebreaker event.

**Fox Valley Trout Unlimited**  
**17<sup>th</sup> Annual Cabin Fever Day... fishing expo**  
 Open To Everyone Who Likes To Fish  
**Saturday, January 20, 2018**  
**9 am-4 pm, The Grand Meridian, Appleton**  
 \$10 at the door, spouses and under 18 free

Events include an Expert Speaker Program

### "Trout Fishing Adventures within a Day's Drive"

- 10 am "Mouse-ing for Trout Under the Cover of Darkness"  
Mike Kuhr, Project Healing Waters
- 11 am "Nipigon River, Home of the World Record 14.8# Brook Trout"  
Ray Rivard, Red Rock, Ontario
- 1 pm "Wilderness Trout Fishing in the U.P."  
Randy Berndt, U.P. Fly Angler

### And more!

Bucket raffles & silent auction, great quality items  
 Raffle to win a handmade Scott Grady cane fly rod  
 Fishing equipment exhibitors - fly tying materials  
 Fishing guides - DNR booths - HUGE used equipment sale  
 Adult & youth fly tyers - Fly casting clinic



Lunch will be available  
 Visit [foxvalleytu.org](http://foxvalleytu.org) for more information

# Spring 2018

## FLY FISHING OPENER

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2018**

SPONSORED BY THE BADGER FLY FISHERS,  
 MADISON, WI • [www.badgerflyfishers.com](http://www.badgerflyfishers.com)  
 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

**ATTRACTIONS**

- Commercial exhibits of the latest and finest in fly fishing equipment
- Raffles, and lively auction
- Fly tying demonstrations

**LOCATION**

American Family Insurance Training Center - Bldg. A  
 6000 American Parkway  
 Madison, WI

Use Surface Parking Lots 1 or 2

**FEATURED SPEAKER**

**Pat Ehlers** will speak on largemouth bass and saltwater favorites

***It would be time and resources well spent to support one or both of the events posted above.***

## Fly Tying Courses – 2018

Trout Unlimited invites you to learn fly tying or improve your fly tying skills this winter. Experienced fly tying instructors teach a beginning level course in Sun Prairie and both a beginning and intermediate level course in Fitchburg.



Classes consist of instructor-led demonstrations and hands-on tutorials. The courses are free of charge, and all materials needed in class are provided. You need only supply the tools and thread, a list of which is available at

<https://www.swtu.org/learn/flytying/flytying-classes/>.

Classes meet each Thursday evening from 7:00 to 9:00 PM beginning 1/18/2018 and continue for eight consecutive weeks (last class 3/8/2018).

**Beginning Fly Tying** is intended for those with limited previous fly tying experience, including complete beginners. General techniques needed as a foundation for fly tying are established, and basic but effective trout fly patterns are demonstrated and practiced.

**Intermediate Fly Tying** is intended for those who have a solid foundation of fly tying experience and want to increase their proficiency. The course builds on the foundations of Beginning Fly Tying and progresses to more advanced methods. Techniques and materials are more varied, the patterns can be more complex, and the hook sizes are smaller than those of the beginning course.

Beginning Fly Tying is offered in both Sun Prairie and Fitchburg, and Intermediate Fly Tying is offered only in Fitchburg. Course locations are:

### **Sun Prairie (beginner only)**

Patrick Marsh Middle School  
1351 Columbus St, Sun Prairie  
<< Register for Sun Prairie by emailing [swtu-flytying@outlook.com](mailto:swtu-flytying@outlook.com) with your full name, preferred email and phone number >>

### **Fitchburg (beginner and intermediate)**

Fitchburg Community Center  
5510 Lacy Rd., Fitchburg  
<< [Register here for a Fitchburg class](#) >>

**Advanced registration is required!** The registration deadline is January 14, 2018. Classes sometimes fill to capacity, and early registration is encouraged.

For more information, see <https://www.swtu.org/learn/flytying/flytying-classes/> or email questions to [swtu-flytying@outlook.com](mailto:swtu-flytying@outlook.com).

**You can get a great feel for the classes (and learn something!) by viewing the [videos available in the fly tying section of swtu.org](#).**



### **Speaking of flies ...**

**Donations needed for [Project Green Teen](#) and [Women's Clinics](#)\***

You can make a difference by donating flies (they don't have to be perfect!) for use by students and clinic attendees.

Also, we would take **donations of used waders and wading boots** (that have some life in them) for the students to use.

Contact [Tina Murray](#) with questions or offers of help!

*\* In addition to the Icebreaker as mentioned on page 2.*

## Fountains of Youth

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

by Rusty Dunn

Casting locally designed flies to wild native trout is hard to beat. A delicate Quill Gordon drifted to brookies in the Catskills. A big Stimulator skittered over rainbows of the Pacific Northwest. A Royal Trude offered to cutthroats of Yellowstone. Indigenous flies cast to indigenous trout are innately satisfying.

Very few fly patterns developed locally ever escape their home waters and become popular nationally. The Humpy, however, is one such fly. It is a wildly successful western attractor whose fame is global. At the peak of its notoriety in the mid-20th century, Humpies accounted for ~30% of annual fly sales by western fly shops. It is still popular today. Author Randall Kaufmann described the Humpy as "*arguably, the greatest surface fly ever devised*". Those are heady words for a pattern fished in the 1940s by only a small cadre of Californians. How did a local favorite get so famous? First and foremost, the Humpy is an excellent fly. But equally important, its early admirers included some notable anglers, the kind who influence what we tie to our leaders.

Jack Horner of San Francisco designed the Humpy in the early 1940s for California's swift rivers, where good floatation is paramount. He named it the "Horner Deer Hair" fly. One of Horner's fly customers brought the fly to the Yellowstone area, where it struck gold and found fly fishing stardom. The path to fame involved Pat Barnes, the venerable "Old Pro" of West Yellowstone. Barnes owned a prominent West Yellowstone fly shop and was guiding a client in July, 1947 on nearby Cliff Lake. The client had a brand new bamboo fly rod and insisted that Pat give it a try. Barnes made one cast with the borrowed rod and fly. A large trout rose and broke the leader. Pat borrowed a second fly and made a second cast. Bang ... another large trout! The fish was landed,

and while releasing it, Barnes discovered two identical flies imbedded in its jaw. "*What is that fly?*", Barnes inquired, to which the client responded "*a Horner Deer Hair*".

Barnes removed both flies, returned the rod to the client, and stuck the fly with the broken tippet in his hat band. The next day, customers in the fly shop asked about the fly and leader hanging from Barnes' hat. Pat described the previous day on Cliff Lake, and the customers immediately wanted some of those "goofy looking flies". Sig Barnes, Pat's wife and one of the west's most talented fly tyers, replicated the fly on the spot. As they say, "the rest is history". The Horner Deer Hair was no longer a regional curiosity, but rather a hot new fly promoted by one of Montana's best known fly shops. Word of the goofy new fly spread, and it became a staple of Yellowstone area fly shops and fly boxes. It even sprouted a new name, the "Goofus Bug". Dan Bailey's fly shop in nearby Livingston, MT enthusiastically promoted Goofus Bugs in the 1950s. About the same time, the Horner Deer Hair became known in the Jackson, WY area as a "Humpy", the name that is most widely used today. But enclaves of old timers in California and Montana still call it a Horner Deer Hair or Goofus Bug.

The Humpy is one of the all-time great attractor dries. It is a chameleon, imitating almost anything you or the trout want to see in it. Caddisflies, stoneflies, mayflies, terrestrials, you name it. Tied in varying sizes and colors, it imitates them all. The fly floats like a cork and is highly visible even in choppy water. It makes an excellent indicator fly for "dry and dropper" combinations. Don't think of the Humpy as just a trout fly, either. Bass and panfish love it.

Jack Horner's original fathered a long line of variations and adaptations, but the basic concepts of its design have continued throughout the lineage. Like all great attractor flies, it has an appeal that trout just find irresistible.

Copyright 2018, Rusty Dunn

## ----- Horner Deer Hair / Goofus Bug / Humpy -----

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**Hook:** Dry fly, #10 - #18

**Thread:** 6/0 or 8/0, color to match abdomen

**Tail:** Deer hair

**Abdomen:** Tying thread, floss, poly yarn, or dubbing; yellow, green, red, and "royal" are the most popular

**Body:** Deer hair pulled over abdomen as a hump

**Wings:** Deer hair, upright and divided

**Hackle:** Ginger or honey dun rooster, tied short and bushy behind and in front of the wings.

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## Welcome New Members

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

Jack Spalding  
Ryan Pundt  
Tim Duggan  
Philip Chen  
Carissa Green



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 [Tristan Kloss](#) so we can expect you.

### Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited Leadership:

President	Matt Sment
Vice President	Tristan Kloss
Secretary	Mark Maffit
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	Dave Fowler
Board Member	Bill Hayes
Board Member	Michael J. Burda
Newscasts Editor	Drew Kasel
Conservation Committee Chair	Jim Hess

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