

Newscasts

October 2019 Serving the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited



Time is running out! Help celebrate SWTU's Golden Anniversary Reserve your seat by October 13

We're celebrating SWTU's 50th year with a special Golden Anniversary Banquet and Celebration on **Thursday, October 24**. It will be at the Lussier Family Heritage Center and feature a tasty meal from 608 Community Kitchen.

Get [your ticket online now](#) or make a simple RSVP by emailing swisconsintu@gmail.com. We need your RSVP by October 13 to put together the amazing planned menu!

- Braised Highland Beef Chuck with Demiglace
- Roasted Beets w. Fresh Chevre
- Roasted Butternut Squash and Sweet Corn
- Mixed Green Salad with Goddess Dressing


Tasty!

Remember that because of the banquet, we will **NOT** have our usual meeting on October 10.

Join Us To Celebrate
50 YEARS OF SWTU!
Thursday, October 24th

Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited invites you to celebrate the accomplishments of the last 50 years and look ahead to the future!

Expect another fantastic meal from 608 Community Supported Kitchen, live music, a cash bar, birthday cake, plenty of time to socialize with old friends and make a couple new ones!

 **2019**
NASH
BANQUET
Williams

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW!

DON'T WAIT! REGISTRATION CLOSING THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17TH!

Join the first Stream Team Workday of Fall

A fun, friendly, fishy way to make a difference

We could use your help Saturday, October 19, at Kittleson Valley Creek in Iowa County.

When: 9 am to 12 noon (Chapter Approved Sawyers please arrive at 8:30).

Where: Kittleson Creek at the bridge on River Fork Road. Take Hwy 151 west out of Madison to Hwy 78 (west side of Mt. Horeb), take Hwy 78 south toward Blanchardville. At Daleyville take County Rd A west for approximately 3 miles to River Fork Road, turn south and go 1.5 miles to the bridge over Kittleson. Here is [a Google Maps Link](#) that will provide you with the directions to the work site. Or you can enter the following link in to your browser. <https://goo.gl/maps/nQFA63ks9C6GyaQy5>

If you get lost, call Jim Hess at 608-288-8662.

What: Justin Haglund, Fisheries Biologist with the DNR, has requested our help in removing fallen logs from the stream and clearing invasive brush. As directed above, we will meet at the bridge on River Forks Road, we will split up into two crews, one crew will go downstream to remove three large trees from the stream, which are causing erosion and sediment build up (we will be using a truck mounted winch to remove them). The other crew will go upstream to a new easement area to remove invasive brush and box elders. When the logs have been cleared that crew will join up with the upstream crew.

Justin and a couple of his crew will be joining us for this workday.

Bring: Bring working waders or rubber boots, if you have them, to work in the stream. Also bring gloves, sturdy shoes, eye and ear protection. The chapter has loppers and hand saws that you can use. Also bring reusable water bottles that can be re-filled from our 5-gal water jug.

Parking: Park along River Forks Road at the bridge.

Upcoming workdays:

- November 2
- November 16
- December 7

Grant to plant oak trees – special workday TBD

We've also been awarded a \$950 grant from the Foundation for Dane County Parks to plant oak trees along trout streams in Dane County. Their shade will help protect our cold water resource. The grant includes the cost of t-posts and fencing to protect the 4 year old oaks. We will be featured along with the other recipients at the banquet to celebrate Bill Lunney's 50 years of conservation leadership and his retirement from the Parks Commission on September 18 at the Lussier Center. There will be a special work day(s) this fall for the plantings, so watch for details!

Check our website (www.swtu.org) or email Jim Hess (jimhess5599@gmail.com) if questions on any of these.



A great lineup of meetings!!

- **November 14** Chapter meeting – "Rusty Dunn"
- **December 12** Chapter meeting – John Lyons
- **January 9** Chapter meeting – Steve Carpenter
- **January 25** daylong fundraiser – The Icebreaker
- **February 13** Chapter meeting – Dan Oele
- **March 12** Chapter meeting – Meicher Madness Auction

Welcome New Members

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

Geoffrey Brown
Robert Prozanski
Phill Thill



We are honored to have you among us. Please join us for a Chapter meeting, and we will give you a **FREE** raffle ticket, 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 [Mary Ann Doll](#) so we can expect you.

Thinking Like a Watershed Fall Event
Black Earth Creek Watershed Association (BECWA.org)
Tuesday, October 22, 2019, 7 to 9 pm
Cross Plains Fire Station. Bourbon Road, Cross Plains, WI



Co-Sponsors: Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited and [Gateway to the Driftless](#)

Flooding Impacts on Farming, Communities & Trout in the Black Earth Creek Watershed
What Can We Do to Create A Healthy Watershed during Climate Change?

Welcome, Introductions & Sponsors (10 minutes)
Greg Hyer, BECWA President

Flooding Impacts on Farming Viability & Trout Populations in the Watershed
(45 minutes – 20 minutes each with 5 minutes of questions)
Bob Duhr, Watershed Farmer & Business Owner
Dan Oele, Wisconsin DNR Fisheries Biologist

Flooding Impact on Communities & What Can Be Done?
(45 minutes – 20 minutes each with 5 minutes of questions)
Bill Chang, Village of Cross Plains Administrator
Michael Rupiper, Environmental Resources Planning, Capital Area Regional Planning Commission

That's a great slate of important topics and engaging presenters. We hope you can attend!

Learn what your Board's been up to

Minutes from SWTU Board of Director meetings are now available for viewing [in this Google Drive](#). They'll keep being added after they're approved. If you have questions on what you read in them, reach out to one of the Board members listed on the last page of each newsletter.

Icebreaker: Save the date / Exciting presenters!

Our daylong annual Icebreaker event will be held **Saturday January 25**. We're excited to announce that the **Icebreaker will feature Carl Haensel and Jade Tomanson of [Namebini Fly Fishing](#)**. The presentation topics will focus on "Exciting and Accessible: Trips and Tactics for the Adventurous and DIY Angler in the Upper Midwest."

Among their credits, aside for their guiding business, are numerous articles for *Eastern and Western Fly Fishing*, experience as a fisheries biologist and lead organizers of the Great Waters Show.

Fountains of Youth

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

by Rusty Dunn

The Pass Lake Special. A local legend. A hometown hero. Created by Badger ingenuity. Or was it? The tangled web of fly pattern genealogy is lengthy for this mainstay of Wisconsin fly boxes. Like all great flies of today, the Pass Lake Special was borne of great flies from yesterday.

The Pass Lake's history began with Mr. Tom Bosworth, royal carriage driver and coachman for three English monarchs beginning with King George IV in 1820. Bosworth was a master both of the buggy whip and fly rod. He was famous for snatching pipes from the teeth of pedestrians while driving the royal carriage, and his Coachman wet fly endures to this day. Kings and Queens come and go, but their Coachman is still catching trout.

Bosworth's Coachman had a body of peacock herl, wings of white feather slips, and a collar of soft brown hackle. Bosworth designed it for fishing at night, and he believed the contrast between a white wing and dark body made it more visible to trout. The most famous descendant of Bosworth's Coachman is undoubtedly the Royal Coachman, in which the body of peacock herl is interrupted with a central band of bright red floss. It was designed about 1878 by John Haily, a professional fly tyer in New York. Its snappy name was conferred by L.C. Orvis, brother of C.F. Orvis, founder of the famous outdoors company. Theodore Gordon modified the Coachman to a dry fly by adding a tail, tying the wing slips upright, and floating the fly with stiff rooster hackle. Wet and dry variations of both the Coachman and Royal Coachman have proliferated ever since.

Hair-wing versions of Bosworth's Coachman became popular in the early 20th century. The first such fly was tied by Carter Harrison, a former mayor of Chicago, in 1901 while visiting the Idaho ranch of his good friend

Mr. A.S. Trude. Harrison named his fly the "A.S. Trude" in honor of his host, and it proved to be very effective on the Henry's Fork and other western rivers. To this day, wings of bundled hair tied in a slanting down-wing position are said to be tied "Trude style".

Wisconsin's Pass Lake Special is a Trude-style wet fly developed in the mid-1930s by Rev. E. Stubenvoll, a minister from Clintonville, WI. He had fished northern Wisconsin for years with flies having wings of white calf tail. He developed the Pass Lake Special during one of his regular trips for brook trout to the Pass Lake area of southern Ontario. The fly was a big hit both in Ontario and in Wisconsin, and he named it after the lake.

Stubenvoll kept the Pass Lake Special a closely guarded secret, but his son-in-law, Mr. Earle Paape of Marion WI, popularized it when he tied and sold Pass Lakes widely in northern Wisconsin. Stubenvoll's original pattern had a tail of mallard flank, a body of black chenille, hackle of brown hen, and a wing of white calf tail tied in over the top of an already-wrapped hackle. Earl Paape modified Stubenvoll's original by attaching and wrapping the collar of wet fly hackle over the top of an already-mounted wing. Both are "damp" flies, meaning they can be fished either wet or dry. As the chenille body soaks up water, it floats lower in the surface and can then be jerked underwater and fished as a winged wet or small streamer. You'll find devotees of both variations today. Modern Pass Lakes often have bodies of peacock herl and/or tails of golden pheasant tippet or brown hackle fibers.

Wet and dry versions of the Pass Lake Special are now time-honored North Country attractors. Many lifelong Wisconsin anglers wax poetic about the power of a Pass Lake. Fished dry, wet, or stripped and swung as a streamer, Pass Lakes bring up trout at times when the stream seems lifeless using other flies. In the words of Larry Meicher, a revered former SWTU member, the Pass Lake Special is "*on par with the Adams; it's the most versatile pattern I know.*"

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----- Pass Lake Special -----

The Pass Lake Special pictured here is a hallowed piece of SWTU history. It was tied by Larry Meicher, known affectionately by friends as The Pass Lake Kid. Larry taught SWTU fly tying classes for decades before passing away prematurely in 2009. Larry's enthusiasm for the Pass Lake Special and its many variations was limitless.

Hook: Wet fly, #8 - #18

Thread: Black, 8/0

Tail: Mallard flank, golden pheasant tippet, or bundled brown hackle fibers

Body: Black chenille or peacock herl.

Wing: White calf tail tied Trude style

Hackle: Soft brown hen, wrapped either behind (Stubenvoll) or in front of (Paape) the wing.



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

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