

Newscasts

September 2018 Serving the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited



Join us for our first **THURSDAY** Chapter meeting Hear a cool “stream success story” on September 13

Different day, same friendly group, informative presentations and chance at prizes! As announced in July, all monthly meetings will now be held on the **second Thursday of the month** (not Tuesday as in the past). The location remains the same: Upstairs at [The Coliseum Bar and Grill](#).

Bradd Sims, Fisheries Biologist, from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will be speaking on “Steiner Branch, a Southern Wisconsin Success Story.” His presentation will include historical land use; present land use, land transactions, watershed management and instream practices that have supported the brook trout fishery success. (**NOTE:** This stream is also the object of our Stream Team Workday on October 13! Find more details later in this issue.)



As usual, the program begins at 7 p.m., but show up earlier for food, fish stories and friendship.

You Must Be Present to Win

Nobody won at the May meeting and so the award has risen to \$60. Join us on September 13 for your chance to win a gift certificate to Fontana Sports Specialties!

REGISTER NOW!
Thursday, October 11th

Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited invites you to celebrate the accomplishments of the past year and look ahead to the future!

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

REGISTRATION CLOSING THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4TH!

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW!

2018
NASH BANQUET
Williams

See next page for more details on the banquet!

Join us for the Nash Williams Award Banquet

Amazing people, amazing meal, amazing night

Thursday, October 11, 2018

[Lussier Family Heritage Center](#), Madison

Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited invites you to celebrate the accomplishments of our chapter, supporters, and friends! Below is a tentative schedule of events and menu. [Tickets are available now online](#) and will also be available at the September 13 Chapter Meeting. \$30 includes food and non-alcoholic beverages. A cash bar will also be available.

5:30 - 7:00 pm Music by Blackhawk Bluegrass Band

7:00 - 8:00 pm Dinner by 608 Community Kitchen
Braised Beef Shoulder w. Mustard Seed Demiglace
Roasted Beet Salad w. Chevre and Chives
Roasted Acorn Squash w. Maple Butter
Wild Rice and Dried Cherry Salad

8:00 - 9:00 pm Awards

You can also [see the Facebook event page for more!](#)

Flooding in the Driftless – too early to tell stream impact

For the most part, as of this writing, we have too many roads closed and streams completely submerged to give a very extensive report on how the recent flooding affected trout streams, their banks and structures. We'll hope to share more in the future.

This [drone video of the area around the Shoebox](#) is perhaps the best way to realize the extent of the flooding.

Members were able to check on the Sugar River, in particular at the Neperud parcel. It appears that the DNR in-stream work is intact and some of the prairie plants have survived extensive and deep flooding.

Many of our neighbors along these streams in Cross Plains, Black Earth, Mazomanie, Paoli, Belleville and other cities have suffered terrible losses. Many of you have probably helped with recovery efforts. Please be generous if you have the opportunity to help more. This includes the West Fork Sportsmen Club used for the Project Green Teen and Women's Flyfishing Clinics.

Dan Oele of the Wisconsin DNR offers some hope:

It's important to remember trout and other riverine fishes have evolved and adapted to deal w/ these conditions and can use the flooded margins to escape the heavy flows or hunker down in micro-eddies within cover like trees, rocks, boulders etc.

The larger fish can withstand the harshest conditions and I would be more worried about this type of event on the fishery, especially on small yearling trout if it were march or April as they emerged from reeds, but at this stage with months of growth, the youngest trout should be able to have sufficient survival and the adult breeding trout now have plenty of new scoured river rock for spawning later in the fall.





Bob Gennrich, legendary TU member, passes

Over the summer, we were saddened by the passing of **Bob Gennrich**, conservation stalwart and considered by many to be the finest flyfisher they ever saw.

Bob (at right in the picture) was gruff and kind, comparing favorably with a Walter Matthau character. He left a lasting legacy and made an impression on all who knew him.

On SWTU.org you can find [a link to Bob's obituary as well as an article from the April 2009 Newscasts](#) about one of the many awards Bob received for his dedication to the coldwater resource.

A nice note of thanks

Hi Amy (SWTU President),

My 12 year old son is Finn Brennan and it was the southern chapter sponsored his participation this year at camp. I wanted to make sure to pass along my sincerest thanks to you and Trout Unlimited for making my son's camp experience so special.

Finn had come home so excited to tell me about his fishing experience, the new fly rod he'd won and spin rig he'd been given, the fly boxes and the pile of new flies he wants to try on his next trip. He really enjoyed his roommate, mentor and counselors and is going to have a fantastic memory to share for the rest of his life. He's really excited and anxious for his next fishing trip.

Thank you again, and the southern chapter, for making this possible for Finn.

*Sincerely,
Terry (Finn's dad)*



Newslinks (new feature)

Ed. note – our Chapter does so much good and has so much to report that it won't all fit nicely into the print PDF without going on for too long. So some articles or photo galleries will be posted to www.swtu.org and linked from here rather than running the full copy of everything.

- **Board update** – A quick summary of Board discussion and activity from Amy Klusmeier, SWTU President.
- **Photo galleries** – Two of them, courtesy **Jim Beecher**. One is of a [Veterans on the Fly outing](#) and the other categorizes some [lovely prairie flowers](#) thanks to the plant ID skills of **Jim Hess**.



Help out at our first workday of the fall (Picnic included!)

October 13, 2018 – Steiner Creek in Lafayette County

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

Where: Steiner Creek is a brook trout stream located within the Yellowstone Wildlife Area in Lafayette County, just north of Lake Yellowstone off of English Hollow Road. Take Hwy 151 west out of Madison to Hwy 78 (west side of Mt. Horeb) and go south to Blanchardville. On the south side of Blanchardville take Cty. Rd F 8 miles west to English Hollow Rd., which is 1/4 mile west of the entrance to Lake Yellowstone. Go north on English Hollow approximately 1/4 mile and turn into the entrance to the wildlife area. Follow the gravel road for about 1/8 mile to our worksite. [Here is a map to this location.](#)

What: Bradd Sims with the DNR has requested our help in clearing out willows along this stream. The willows are so thick you can't get to the stream or even see the stream in some spots. The Harry and Laura Nohr Chapter will be joining us for this workday and at this time we are planning to grill some brats for lunch. Bradd Sims will be doing a stream shocking demonstration following the workday.

Bring: Work waders as we will be working on both sides of the stream. The DNR is planning to build a small walking bridge to cross the stream, but to be on the safe side bring your waders, if you have them. Also bring gloves, sturdy shoes, eye and ear protection, and loppers and hand saws; otherwise the chapter has equipment you can use. Also bring reusable water bottles that can be re-filled from our 5-gal water jug.

Parking: After entering the entrance to the Yellowstone Wildlife Area, follow the gravel road for about 1/8 mile to our worksite. The DNR is planning to mow a parking area, but if this doesn't happen park along the side of the gravel road.

Future Workdays:

Oct. 27 - Sarbacker Easement (Sugar River)

Nov. 10 – Zeigler Easement (Sugar River)

Dec 1 – TBD

Public meeting on Black Earth Creek Regulations

You can attend a public outreach meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. on September 11 at the DNR office at the Fitchburg Service Center (3911 Fish Hatchery Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711) to discuss a potential regulation change on the Black Earth Creek downstream of South Valley Road.

Dan Oele, DNR Stream Biologist, looks forward to hearing your insights on the current 12max, 3 bag reg vs a proposed change to 12" min, 2 bag, 18" min-1 bag, or catch and release options. Lower Black Earth Creek is a class 1 trout stream that currently has high recruitment (>200 yearling/mile) and historically high adult abundance (>250 adults(>8") per mile) of brown trout. However, this stretch has exhibited declines in trout larger than 8" and 12" size classes of adult trout in the last 5 years. The current regulation has not improved the size structure of the fishery and is not appropriate given the low catch rates of fish under 12".

If you cannot attend in person, you can email Dan at Daniel.Oele@wisconsin.gov or call him at (608) 275-3225.

Successful Women's Flyfishing Clinics – numbers, pictures and a story

We had 24 women in the basics, 25 women in the Wowsci, 24 women who came to mentor other women on the water for basics and 25 guides who to take women on the water skills clinic along with 10 organizers, instructors and volunteers.

If you have questions about the clinics for 2019, please contact wisconsinwomenflyfishing@gmail.com. Registration for 2019 will open in late October. Look for it on www.swtu.org under the "Learning" menu.

A beginner's story, courtesy Jody Millar

Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited billed it as a "Women's Fly-fishing Clinic for Beginners", but I would call it a camp – a camp for women interested in fly-fishing given by women experienced in fly-fishing. The minute I rolled into the driveway of the West Fork Sportsmen's Club near Westby, Wisconsin, and was greeted by friendly camp staff, I knew I was going to be able to relax and have fun.

I was first directed to the camp lodge where lots of friendly female faces were there to tell me what I needed to do to finish registering, where to camp, and when I needed to return for a briefing on the weekend events. I then proceeded to set up my tent, with the help of a neighborly camper. The camping area is large and park-like located on the banks of the West Fork of the Kickapoo River, a Wisconsin Class 1 trout stream. I found a nice spot close enough to enjoy the stream and not too far from other campers.



The briefing included a meet and greet, and packages of helpful fishing items were handed out. There were also a few tables containing items for purchase including hand-made flies, head bands and a full line of fishing gear brought in by an Orvis representative. The briefing was followed by a farm-fresh dinner that involved no planning, shopping or preparing. It was all taken care of by the camp staff volunteers. After dinner there was a campfire to stop by and then rest!

Saturday was the big fly-fishing day that involved learning the techniques of casting, some background on streams and trout habitat, and then going out to the streams nearby and trying it all out – with your own personal experienced guide, no less! If you did not own a fly rod, there were many available to use. Though I had my own, I enjoyed trying the different weighted rods and hearing about how different rods could be used for different fishing situations. The instructors were knowledgeable and engaging. They assumed everyone would be successful. They actually made the casting seem easy and as a result, everyone "got it". I would have loved to see a drone video of 25 women simultaneously casting fly rods!

The afternoon fishing trip sealed the deal. By going out on the trout stream with the help of an experienced guide and hunting for trout using your fly rod and the new flies that camp staff gave you, and which apparently were tied by many fly tyers over the winter to contribute to our understanding of the sport, you felt as if you had arrived into the world of trout fishing. I was hooked.



Welcome New Members

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

Maggie Muldowney
Carol Wanserski
Joe Lohman
Gavin Binger
Matthew Frater
Julie Langenberg



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 [Mary Ann Doll](#) so we can expect you.



Check out **Gateway to The Driftless**, a new 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization created to promote NW Dane County's outdoor recreation, natural resources, and rural heritage, and partner with others to enhance our area's quality of life.

It's at <https://gatewaytothedriftless.com/> and includes an interactive Outdoor Recreation Map, searchable by activity, and the area Outdoor Recreation Calendar. The Gateway is supported by area villages and towns, chambers of commerce, Wisconsin Heights School District, other local nonprofits and civic organizations, and regional individual and businesses donors.

It's a useful new resource to bookmark for yourself and share with friends.



Mark your calendar for the 2019 Icebreaker!

Saturday, January 26, 2019
American Family Insurance, Madison

Fountains of Youth

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

by Rusty Dunn

Mention the name "Vince" to Wisconsin fly anglers, and you'll hear stories of Vince Lombardi, the glory days of the Green Bay Packers, and a legendary leader who inspired others to greatness. Mention the name "Vince" to Pennsylvania fly anglers, and you'll hear similar stories, but they will involve Letort Spring Run and Vince Marinaro, a creative genius who similarly inspired those around him. Each was a legend in his own arena.

Vince Marinaro (1911-1986) is a giant of fly fishing history, one who spent a lifetime fishing the limestone spring creeks of central Pennsylvania. If ever a stream were haunted by spirits of a great angler, it would be the Letort and Vince Marinaro. The Letort was his laboratory and his temple. Gin clear, glassy smooth, waist deep, weed-filled, and heavily fished, dry fly fishing on the Letort is as difficult as gets, but Marinaro mastered it like none others, before or since. His image, cast in bronze and affixed to a stone monument, gazes down upon Marinaro's Meadow and cautions all who visit: "*The Letort is a hard taskmaster and does not treat lightly any violation of dry fly technique.*" So it is, and so it shall be. Marinaro fooled Letort's fussiest trout using tiny imitations and light presentations. "Uncatchable" trout were Marinaro's bread and butter and, on the Letort, he often dined alone.

Marinaro's first book, *A Modern Dry Fly Code* (1950), is a classic. It integrates trout behavior, fly design, presentation, and angling technique into methods that succeed on difficult spring creeks. It is a truly original work, one that provides novel insights and new perspectives. "*The Code*" should be required reading for all fly anglers of the Driftless.

A Modern Dry Fly Code is noted for two major concepts of insect imitation. The first is the role of terrestrial insects in a trout's diet:

"(There) exists now a superior kind of fishing that

tests the most resourceful of sportsmen – a brand of fishing most prevalent in mid- and late-summer, extending well into the fall months. ... All of it is the product of meadows, the terrestrial insects."

Knowledge of terrestrials was, of course, not new. Authors since the 19th century noted that trout can feed at the surface on ants and other terrestrials. Before Marinaro, however, mayflies were the darlings of fly fishing literature. Terrestrials languished in obscurity until being resurrected by Marinaro in 1950.

Additionally, *A Modern Dry Fly Code* was the first to emphasize the importance of imitating tiny insects, those ranging in size from #20 to #28:

"All forms of the dry fly have their peculiar attractions, but none of them begins to approach the ineffable charm of fishing with minutae."

When the mayfly and caddis hatches of spring through early summer have waned, tiny insects sustain trout for months. Though small in size, they are large in number, and trout sip them all day long. Ed Shenk, also an expert of the Letort, describes such angling as "*fishing with next to nothing*".

Marinaro was a keen observer and a creative fly designer. His "*game of nods*" yielded innovative and effective fly patterns that every spring creek angler should have in the box. Marinaro varied flies little by little, offered them to trout, and the resulting affirmations or refusals ("nods") led to refinement and evolution. The end results were patterns and techniques effective under the toughest of conditions.

Marinaro's most famous fly is the Jassid, so-named because it imitates leaf hoppers of the family 'Jassidae' (now renamed Cicadellidae). Leaf hoppers are terrestrials with slender bodies and short legs. They are very small (#20-26) and difficult to see, but they are abundant in meadows and forests from summer through early fall, and large numbers are blown into the water. In larger sizes having stout bodies, Jassids make excellent beetle imitations.

©Rusty Dunn, 2018

Jassid

Any dark, thin, lacquered feather can be substituted for the jungle cock nail, and an added spot of orange or yellow paint helps visibility.

Hook: Dry fly, light wire, short shank, #16-#26

Thread: Orange (or black) silk

Body: Tying thread

Hackle: Ginger (or black), palmered, trimmed top and bottom

Wing: Jungle cock nail, tied flat, length slightly beyond hook bend



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

Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited Leadership:

President	Amy Klusmeier	amy.klusmeier@gmail.com
Vice President	Mary Ann Doll	dollmaryann@gmail.com
Secretary	Topf Wells	topfwells@gmail.com
Treasurer	Tom Parker	tparker23@charter.net
State Council Rep.	Scot Stewart	scotstewart2@gmail.com
Board Member	Pat Hasburgh	patrick.hasburgh@gmail.com
Board Member	Jim Hess	jimhess5599@gmail.com
Board Member	Tom Thrall	tthrall2@yahoo.com
Board Member	Dave Fowler	dfowler82@gmail.com
Board Member	Rodd Wangren	flyrodd1118@gmail.com
Board Member	Ben Lubchansky	608csk@gmail.com
Newscasts Editor	Drew Kasel	madkasel@gmail.com
Conservation Committee Chair	Jim Hess	jim.hess@tds.net
Women's/ Diversity Initiative Chair	Tina Murray	swtu.women.diversity@gmail.com
Youth Education Chair for SWTU	Tina Murray	swtu.women.diversity@gmail.com

Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited
P.O. Box 45555
Madison, WI 53744-5555