

# The Riffle and Pool


WRVTU Chapter Newsletter


Our website is: [www.wrvtu.org](http://www.wrvtu.org)


Jan/feb 2011


Winter is a great time for reading and fly tying or just dreaming about seasons ahead, and the internet is a great resource for more information than we can imagine until we log on and browse. Following are just a few sites you might enjoy.




 **Wisconsinonthe-fly.com** is a link within *USAonthe-fly.com* that offers links to pages of many other states and provinces. This page is “designed as a Wisconsin fly fishing directory, categorized with all websites of Wisconsin’s businesses and organizations dedicated to this great sport. The links include: fishing reports, guide services, forum, weather, Wisconsin streams and Rivers, maps, hatch charts, stream flow conditions, flies you tie, fly fishing art, rod builders, books and videos, magazines, fly fishing schools, for beginners” .... and more.

 **Wisconsinflyfisher.com** - by John Simonson, contains links to a wealth of information with menu links including: WI Mayfly Hatch Chart, Caddisflies, Early Brown Stonefly, Fly Tying, WI Fly Fishing Shops, Guides, WI Fly Fishing Forums, Fly Fishing Links, Fly Fishing Tips, Release the Trout....and more.

 **Wisflyfishing.com** - by Patrick Hager, is another great website with menu links that include: Weather Sources, USGS Flow Data, Entomology Sources, Fly Tying Resources, Your Watershed, Environment, Catfish’s Kitchen, Friends of the Prairie River, Volunteers ....and others.

 **Buckeyeflyfishers.com** - Badger fans, don’t let the name scare you away from this one. Being a Buckeye myself, who has lived in Wisconsin for the past twenty years, I must concede to the Badgers rout over Ohio State this year in football. By the time you receive this they likely will have beaten TCU in the Rose Bowl, and I will have cheered them on. So, about this website, it contains amazing links including *flyfishohio.com* that links to downloadable videos that provide step by step instructions for tying several flies. Loading may be time consuming but worth the try.

 If you just can’t quite wait for the Wisconsin early or regular seasons to begin, you may wish to check out the winter fishing opportunities in the other two Driftless Region states, Minnesota and Iowa.

Minnesota — catch & release winter season Jan 1 through March 31 [dnr.state.mn.us/fishing/seasons](http://dnr.state.mn.us/fishing/seasons)

Three-day license \$24, seven-day \$28, trout stamp \$10

Iowa— open season year around [iowadnr.gov/fish/regulations/seasons](http://iowadnr.gov/fish/regulations/seasons)

Three-day license \$17.50, Seven day \$32, trout fee \$15

I’ve been thinking about venturing SE. Perhaps this winter will be the one, given some decent winter weather.

## Publication Notice

The **“Riffle and Pool”** is the official newsletter of the Wisconsin River Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Upcoming editions for 2011 will be March/April and May/June..

Copy related to TU events, coldwater resources, or trout and salmon fishing is welcome. Deadline for copy is two weeks prior to publication date. The Mar/Apr edition’s copy deadline is Feb 16, 2011.

To submit copy, contact “Riffle and Pool” editor Chuck Sauer at [chuck.sauer@gmail.com](mailto:chuck.sauer@gmail.com) or phone 715 873-4641

**Chuck Sauer**  
editor



*“Many men go fishing all of their lives without knowing that it is not fish that they are after*

—Henry David Thoreau

## ***President's Cast.....***

After three years as the president of the Wisconsin River Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited I now have the pleasure of introducing our new president, Linda Lehman. Linda has been a very active and involved member of the chapter for many years. I had a chance to talk to her after tonight's board meeting and I asked her about her interest in Trout Unlimited and her vision for the future of the sport.

### ***“How did you get involved in trout fishing and Trout Unlimited?”***

"My friend Adam and his wife Lisa invited me to go salmon fishing with them. When my Dad was still living he and I would fish for salmon but we never really caught anything. On this trip I was fishing with my spin casting gear and I still wasn't catching anything. Fish were swimming into my legs and I still wasn't catching anything. Adam loaned me his fly fishing outfit but I was having trouble casting. A couple of people came by, one of which was a fly casting instructor. He gave me a quick lesson and I hooked into one while he was standing there. I was so excited when the fish took off that I palmed the reel and snapped the line. I managed to hook five that day and with Adam's help landed the last one. I was hooked."



"Wanting to learn more, I started looking for fly fishing schools and found the school offered by the Central Wisconsin Trout Unlimited Chapter held in Wild Rose. I showed up several hours before registration started and was pleasantly surprised to be invited to try some casting at a nearby lake before the other students arrived. The volunteers at the school were kind, patient, friendly and helpful and answered any questions I had about gear or technique, and I even managed to get a few fishing spots circled in my book of maps. It even led me on a trip to Tight Lines in DePere to spend the most that I had ever spent at one time on myself. I walked out with a new fly fishing outfit. I was so impressed with the people I met at fly fishing school I wanted to find out if there was a chapter close to my home. That is how I found out about Wisconsin River Valley Chapter. Herb didn't have an email address so I wrote a letter to find out about checking out a meeting to see what was happening in this chapter. Herb called me just two days later to find out what I wanted to know and how he could help me. He introduced me to Lisa Mattson and with Herb's help she and I learned how to tie flies together."

### ***“Why Trout Unlimited? What makes this organization worth your effort and interest?”***

"The people in Trout Unlimited have been very nice and helpful, and the time and knowledge that they have shared has inspired me. I have volunteered at the Outdoor Expo in Beaver Dam for several years and it is one of my favorite events of the year. I am so impressed by the passion that TU people have for what they are doing. In Trout Unlimited I have found people to fish with, I have worked on stream projects and have really discovered the underwater world of aquatic insects. Before TU I thought any bugs in the water were just there to get you. Now I see a whole system and pattern of life that fascinates me and I'm learning more all the time"

### ***“What is your vision for Trout Unlimited and our chapter?”***

"We need to leave something for the next generation. My Grandmother did that for me. She would take me, a cane pole and a can of fresh dug worms to fish Phlox Pond for bluegills and bass. We would clean and eat them right away. We are losing kids to electronics; we are losing them from the outdoors. I want our kids to experience and appreciate the things that I have on the trout streams we fish. I have experienced bear, deer, eagles, rare butterflies and a heron that tried to land on my head. My dream is that everyone will experience what we do."

I am thrilled to have Linda as our new president. Her love of the resource and her passion for sharing it with everyone, especially youth are exciting. I am looking forward to working with her as she leads our chapter into the future.

John

President Linda with her very first “trout”  
(No wonder she became hooked on fly fishing)



## Do-It-Yourself Slit-Foam Fly Box

Tired of paying high prices for the CF Design type of “Micro-Slit” fly boxes? Here’s a simple way of doing it yourself, patterned after a method posted on SEFF.

The components are a ¼” closed cell white craft foam, thin colored sticky back lining foam, pinking shears, single edge razor blade or fly tying scissors, and an empty plastic box or tin. See photo 1.



Cut the foam into straight strips of about 5/8 “ wide using the pinking shears. The width is measured from the straight edge to the tip of the ridge. Shape the strip to fit into the fly box. You can bevel the corners to fit the rounded sides of the box. Cut slits using the razor blade/scissors from the valleys of the ridge to about the midline of the foam strip. This will leave about ½ of the strip (5/16”) for gluing.

If you want to make double-edged foam strips, make them 1” wide measured from edge tip to edge tip. Cut slits on both sides leaving a center strip for gluing.

Arrange the foam strips in the box allowing enough space for the flies. In the Altoid box version, the strips in the box are for dries and the strip on the lid is for small nymphs. See photo 2.

Clear boxes make a more professional looking fly box. You can color code the box by lining it with sticky backed colored thin foam and gluing the foam strips to the liner. Turn the box over and press hard onto the front of the liner foam. Cut on the impression line and trim to size, then glue the strips to the front side of the foam liner. Remove the backing from the sticky foam liner and attach the assembled liner to the box. Both the body and lid of the box can be customized to best suit your needs. See photo 2.

The liner color can be varied to indicate either the types of flies inside; green for dries, brown for nymphs, black for streamers, etc. Or the colors can indicate a box for hatches; mayfly, caddis, stonefly, midge, attractor patterns, etc.

The foam liners and strips are glued to the box using a thin coating of a flexible clear urethane adhesive like Aquaseal. After use, store the remaining tube of adhesive in a freezer compartment. It will keep for years.

Most of you will not have pinking shears. A paper hole punch from Walmart can be used to edge the foam to form fly slots.

I bought the 8x12” ¼” thick foam, the 8x12” sticky back thin foam, and the clear box at Michaels Craft Store. The completed fly box uses less than \$3.00 in materials.

**Henry Kanemoto**

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**2. Finished Fly Box**

# *Chapter meetings & programs*

*Monday January 10—Monthly meeting at Gander Lodge at Gander Mountain*

*6:00- Board meeting (members are invited to attend)*

*7:00– Rigging and techniques for successful trout fishing. Will include fly, spinner and bait fishing.*

*Monday March 14—Monthly meeting at Gander Lodge at Gander Mountain*

*6:00- Board meeting (members are invited to attend)*

*7:00– Program to be announced*

*Saturday April 9—Annual Banquet and Fundraiser at Memories Ballroom.*

*Details will follow in the next newsletter and invitation mailing.*

*Monday May 9—Monthly meeting at Gander Lodge at Gander Mountain*

*6:00- Board meeting (members are invited to attend)*

*7:00– Program to be announced*



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