

February, 1998

Adams Chapter Update

A publication of the Adams Chapter of Trout Unlimited • Traverse City, Michigan

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• *Calendar of upcoming events for 1998.*

• *Citizens Advisory Committee to meet February 19 to discuss Boardman River crossing and view alternatives.*

• *Wa Wa Sum needs TU members help and donations to restore historical Stranahan lodge.*

• *New TU and Michigan Council websites are up and running.*

ADAMS CHAPTER JOINS WITH FRIENDS OF THE CEDAR RIVER TO PROTECT WATERSHED

CONTRIBUTES \$500.00 TO DEFENSE FUND ISSUES CHALLENGE TO OTHER CHAPTERS

In response to a presentation at the January 28th meeting, chapter members in attendance unanimously agreed to a \$500.00 contribution to help Friends of the Cedar River Watershed, Inc. protect the river from commercial water diversion. It also issued a challenge to other Michigan TU chapters to join the effort by matching their contribution.

Friends of the Cedar River VP, Larry Rochon, spoke to chapter members, bringing them up to date on the status of the Cedar River situation. For those not current on what is happening, briefly, Shanty Creek Resort asked for and received: 1) a permit to remove hundreds of millions of gallons of water from the Cedar River which wanders through the resort and 2) a permit to build two holes of a new golf course along the river and two bridges crossing the river to access greens and tees.

The permits would allow the installation of two 24-inch intake tubes that at peak function would draw up to 6,000 gallons of water per minute from the river and to construct two holes for its fourth golf course. The water would be used to make snow in the winter

and irrigate the golf course in the summer. The two holes would use the river as a water hazard requiring two bridges capable of handling carts, plus over 100 yards of boardwalk over wetlands adjacent to the greens.



The Cedar River is a small yet pristine watershed that represents a test of riparian rights and control of the State's cold water resources.

The position of the Friends of the Cedar is that the water withdrawal, bridges and boardwalk, along with pollution from fertilizer, pesticides and herbicides from the new course, will violate the Michigan Environmental Protection Act. The act was written to prohibit the impairment of natural resources like the Cedar River, a ten-mile long cold water stream that provides excellent brook and brown trout fishing. Expert witnesses have testified that diverting the water in summer and winter would be very damaging to trout habitat and spawning environment as well as having an immediate deleterious effect on existing trout. Without getting into the scientific detail, suffice it to say that water diversion, beyond what is now being taken (800 gallons a minute) would cause an unacceptable impact on the trout population.

On November 5th, 1997,

Adams Chapter Trout Unlimited

Chapter Officers

Jess Reed *President*
Mike Nolan *Vice-President*
Jim Katsimas *Treasurer*
Bill Hernandez *Secretary*

Board of Directors

Jess Reed
Mike Connors
Todd Young
Dennis Taylor
Steve Largent
Dave Leonhard

Committee Chairmen

Conservation/Stream

Steve Largent - 941-8447

Newsletter/Public Relations

Dave Leonhard - 938-5337

Membership

Mike Slater - 929-1285

Fundraising

Mike Connors - 922-2339

cont. from pg. 1

Friends of the Cedar sought in circuit court to forestall any water diversion and construction. After hearing the testimony of former DNR director and fisheries chief, Howard Tanner and two DNR biologists, circuit judge Tom Powers quashed the Dept. of Environmental Quality water diversion permit. Powers is withholding final judgment until a trial is held in the spring. He will also rule on the construction of the water hazard holes, bridges and boardwalk.

Conservation groups statewide, the Adams Chapter among them, are rallying to the cause. At stake is the establishment of a precedent for the large scale diversion of water from all Michigan streams and lakes by developers seeking commercial gain. At risk is the public trust doctrine that supposedly protects our natural resources, but which seems to be skewed toward commercial interest, particularly golf course construction and related develop-

ments. That is why the Adams chapter elected to support Friends of the Cedar with its contribution and issued its challenge to other chapters and organizations to get involved.

Damaged resources are not recoverable and some state officials seem to have a proclivity for ignoring that fact in favor of commercial development in the name of free enterprise. However, entrepreneurial efforts, no matter how admirable or enterprising, should not be destructive of the public trust and this is definitely the case in the matter of water diversion.

The decision by Judge Powers will have an impact on every river, stream and lake in the state. It will determine whether the public trust doctrine survives, or expires—making our public natural resources the private resources of commercial development.

The Friends of the Cedar need money and moral support in their effort to save the Cedar River from mortal wounding. Anyone wishing to contribute any amount can do so. You may send your contributions to the Adams Chapter or to:

*Friends of the Cedar River
Watershed, Inc.
PO Box 652
Bellaire, MI 49615*

Joe Evascu

CRA REPORTS TO CHAPTER

The Conservation Resource Alliance (CRA) Visited the Adams Chapter of Trout Unlimited at their December 3 meeting. Kimberly Kook, a resource specialist with CRA, and Board members Pat Kelly and Scott Pryde, gave a presentation on CRA and current river restoration projects coordinated by CRA. CRA is a private, not-for-profit organization that focuses on the economic development, sustainable use and long-term conservation of natural resources in Northwest Michigan. Since its formation in 1986, CRA has helped people in a 13-county region to identify and solve local challenges in managing riv-

ers, lakes, forests, and fish and wildlife. Of special interest to the Adames Chapter, CRA has been active in 7 watershed restoration projects including the Big Manistee, Little Manistee, Big Sable, Pine, Betsie, Bear Creek and the Pere Marquette Rivers. Also, it provides the Adams Chapter with a unique opportunity to network with a number of river groups though a single channel.

CRA and TU members discussed at length new ideas for how the two organizations might successfully work together in the future. For example, joint projects between groups like TU, CRA and the Betsie River Watershed Restoration Committee could include enhancing fish habitat and cover by placing woody debris in strategic locations of the Betsie River as well as installation of so-called LUNKER structures at various erosion sites.

Funding is a significant limiting factor for river projects, as well as sufficiently managing watersheds in our region. In 1998, CRA will introduce a new *River Care campaign* that is designed to establish endowment funds for the long-term, consistent care of our region's spectacular rivers and lakes, and the forests that surround them. River Care provides yet another opportunity for the Adams Chapter to work with CRA and river restoration steering committees to raise funds and make contacts with key individuals, businesses and corporations who will consider donating to the River Care program.

RGS FUN FIELD TRIAL DAY

The Grand Traverse Chapter of the Ruffed Grouse Society would like to remind you that there will be a Fun Field Trial at Thundering Aspens Shooting Preserve May 3. \$30.00 buys you a chance to show off your dog, shoot a couple of birds and enjoying the company of fellow sportsmen. For more info call George Clayton at (616) 922-2231.



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The opportunity to represent the Adams Chapter of Trout Unlimited as its president for the next year comes as a great honor and privilege to me. The Chapter has shown considerable growth since its conception a little over a year ago. We now have an active membership totaling over 155 members. Much of this growth can be readily attributed to the founding members and our past president Jess Reed. When faced with controversial issues and pressure from special interests which wanted the Adams Chapter to align with them Jess helped our chapter to stay focused on the mission of Trout Unlimited and to approach controversial issues with caution and respect.

The Adams Chapter has survived its first year and amassed a very impressive track record as far as member involvement in river restoration projects, securing grants for river improvements, membership growth and in area wide watershed involvement. Our first annual banquet proved to be a major success beyond our wildest dreams. Things should only get better, right? This can only happen if each of us (not just the dedicated few) is willing to do our part in improving our areas cold water resources. Get involved in securing prizes for our banquet, volunteer to help on a restoration project, keep informed on developments which impact the trout fisheries, come to our meetings, and introduce a friend to Trout Unlimited.

Through active involvement of our members the Adams Chapter and its goals of protecting and preserving our cold water resources can only get better. I look forward to my upcoming role as chapter president and send along my thanks to past president Jess Reed, our officers, directors and members who have helped create the Adams Chapter we know today.

Michael Slater

LOVE'S LABOUR'S WON

Around the year 1590, William Shakespeare wrote his epic play Love's Labour's Lost. His intent was to humorously but poignantly address the importance of learning from nature as well as books; to recognize that without sorrow and loss we cannot be rightly aware of happiness and bliss. Jerry Dennis, in his wonderful book, *The Bird in the Waterfall*, tells us that only 0.036 percent of the earth's water is in lakes and rivers. A much smaller percentage would be contained in what we would consider quality cold water trout fisheries. During our lifetimes we have all witnessed loss of habitat in every corner of the world but most importantly the quality of our most cherished resource, our trout streams, has had to endure myriad offenses. So it was that in 1959, recognizing the need to organize a defense against the encroachments on our treasured rivers, Mr. George Griffith organized the first meeting of what would become the world's most important cold water conservation organization, Trout Unlimited. Today we are over 60,000 members strong, with chapters in many different countries. Clearly, George's legacy will live on forever.

We have all contributed individually to Trout Unlimited's conservation ethic, either consciously by contributing financially, or by joining in river restoration projects; or by simply, unconsciously, reaching down to pick up that empty beer can from behind a sweeper and sticking it into our vest. We are starting to see the impact of our group effort. There truly is strength in numbers and we should feel privileged to count so many talented and dedicated individuals among our ranks over the years. River restoration projects around the globe have been organized, financed, instituted, and completed by Trout Unlimited members.

So, with continued vigilance, and coordinated effort, our organization can protect our most treasured resource against the encroachments of increasing population and business interests. We also have the capability of taking what we thought was lost and

bringing it back. No, Mr. Shakespeare, love's labor's need not be lost, as long as we continue as a group to fight for what is right and learn our lessons from mother nature. As John Voelker analogized, "Finally, just as the aging fisherman and the sagging lover boy can one day only dream of the fabled ones that got away, so too both can later muse with an old man's secret smile over those that didn't."

Ken Gum 2/7/98

TIPPETS

- A Citizens' Advisory Committee will meet to discuss Boardman crossing. Chapter members are encouraged to attend February 19, 1998. The County Road Commission is planning a 10 AM presentation from Johnson Johnson Roy/DeLeuw Cather on concepts to enhance the proposed Boardman River bridge crossing and related aesthetics concerns in the Boardman River Valley area. The consultants will be bringing concepts of ways the proposed bridge alternative could be enhanced to reflect the values of our community.

- The Michigan Council of Trout Unlimited web site is up and running at www.surf-ici.com/mi/tu/. Also check out the national homepage at www.tu.org.

- The 100 mile limit of special regulations on Michigan trout streams has been proposed to be changed (raised) in a draft bill prepared by State Senator Gary Peters. Senator Peters had asked MCTU to endorse his bill. While noting that it is in favor of raising the 100 mile limit the Council passed a motion that it was not able to support the bill changing the 100 mile limit at this time since it feels that management by legislation is not good and the control of resource administration and rules should be in the hands of resource professionals such as the DNR.

- WaWaSum Lodge needs to replace some wall decorations and kitchen/dining room items and furnishings reclaimed by the Stanahart family. Any person or chapter who wishes to contribute should contact Dr. Bill Taylor at MSU.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 14 and 15 – Midwest Fly Fishing Exposition at the Southfield Civic Center.

March 21 – The spring meeting of the Michigan Council of TU will be held at Barothy's Lodge beginning at 9:00 a.m.

March 21 and 22 – Outdoor/Sportsman's Show Traverse City Civic Center.

March 25 – The Adams Chapter meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month at the Northwest Michigan Blood Center on Aero Park Drive in Traverse City. Meeting time is 7:00pm. The March meeting will have an informal program.

April 18 – The Chapter's annual banquet will be held at

the Knights of Columbus on M22. Cocktails at 6:00pm dinner at 7:00pm. For ticket information contact Mike Connors at 947-7079.

April 18 – Conservation and Restoration Day – scheduled by the Adams Chapter stream improvement committee.

May 3 – Fun Field Trial Day Ruffed Grouse Society at Thundering Aspens Shooting Preserve. Contact George Clayton at 922-2231.

May 23 – Conservation and Restoration Day – scheduled by the Adams Chapter stream improvement committee.

June 5, 6 and 7 – The 1998 Michigan Council Trout Unlimited Fly Fishing School will be held at Ranch Rudolf. Con-

tact Mr. Pat Merrill at (517) 348-1782 for more details.

June 13 – Conservation and Restoration Day – scheduled by the Adams Chapter stream improvement committee.

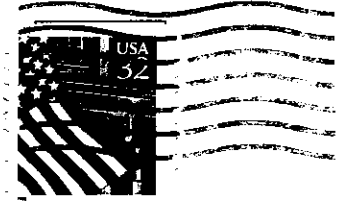
July 25 – Conservation and Restoration Day – scheduled by the Adams Chapter stream improvement committee.

August 8 – Conservation and Restoration Day – scheduled by the Adams Chapter stream improvement committee.

August 22 – Ruffed Grouse Society Family Outting at the Benzie Sportsmans Club.

September 10 – Ruffed Grouse Society Banquet at the Park Place Dome.

Adams Chapter • Trout Unlimited
P.O. Box 2129
Traverse City, MI 49685-2129



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

• June meeting scheduled for Mike Slater's

• Trout Unlimited founder, George Griffith dies in Florida at the age of 97

• President Slater to share secret fishing spots with chapter members at June meeting

• Calendar of upcoming events for 1998

• Fly selection: How to choose the right pattern on the stream

• Pere Marquette Watershed Council schedules its Annual Banquet and Contest for Conservation

JUNE MEETING SLATED FOR SLATER'S

A special invitation from the President.

On Wednesday, June 24, the Adams Chapter's regular monthly meeting will be anything but regular. The meeting will be held

at Mike and Stacy Slater's beautiful home on the Boardman River. Stacy, as some of you may remember, is the charming bartender who tended the Chapter's beverage

needs at the Spring Trout Unlimited banquet. Mike, for those of you who care, is our chapter president.

The meeting will be an open forum outdoor barbecue and social event. Spouses and significant others are welcome and encouraged to come. Stacy is on safari in South Africa so Mike will appreciate whatever help you can offer. Because so many are yearning for a little fishing time and because the gray drakes should be falling in Mike's backyard, we are sure to have a good turn out and some excellent fishing. If you are planning to attend, here are the specifics of the evening.

1. Please R.S.V.P. at 929-1285
2. Bring a favorite dish to pass or beverages to share.
3. Cigars and scotch will be

optional, appreciated and not provided by the Chapter.

4. Come early 3:30-4:00pm if you plan to fish.

5. Food will be served from 6:00pm on.

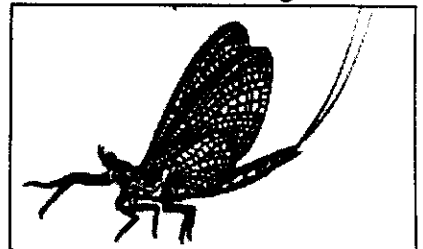
To get to Mike's house, take Beitner or Keystone roads to River Rd. Go southeast on River Road one mile to River Drive

(road sign is on a power pole). Follow River Drive to the Slater residence. Don't forget your waders and fly rods.

All members attending will be given specific instructions to Mike's secret gray drake and hex water. And, the fishing should be



All members will be given directions to Mike Slater's secret fishing spots.



terrific. However, at the end of the evening, all will be executed.

I have also been given assurances that Mike will not solicit help on the building of his garage. This is sure to be a great evening and a lot of fun. Plan to attend this very special meeting.

Adams Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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Mike Nolan *Vice-President*
Jim Kartsimas *Treasurer*
Bill Fernandez *Secretary*
Board of Directors

Jess Reed

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Membership

Mike Slater - 929-1285

Fundraising

Mike Connors - 941-2337

TU Founder, George Griffith Dead At 97

I am sad to report to you that George Griffith, one of the founders of Trout Unlimited, died on April 7, 1998 in Pompano Beach, Florida at the age of ninety seven. According to his long time friend, Bob Summers, George had enjoyed several float trips last summer and was looking forward to returning to the "Barbless Hook" for opening day this year.

A Mermorial service was held on Sunday June 14, 1998 in Grayling. George will be missed by all.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Chamberlin

Executive Director, MCTU

15498 Marshfield Road

Hickory Corners, Michigan 49060

800 461-1235 (access code 37)

Guidelines for Selecting the Right Fly

(An excerpt from the Michigan Council TU Fly Fishing School)

Observation is the key to selecting the right fly to use in any situation. Knowing what is supposed to be on the water helps, but it's not foolproof. Frequently, the flies that are supposed to be present are not or, multiple hatches occur and the fish may not feed on the most obvious insect or may switch without letting you know! To be successful at fly fishing you don't need to know any Latin names or insect life histories. You just need a little common sense and good powers of observation. Here are some guidelines to help you know what to look for and then pick the most appropriate fly from you box.

Surface Feeding Fish

Deciding what fly to use when the fish are feeding on the surface can be very easy, or very difficult. Below are some tips to help you determine what the fish are feeding on.

- Use a small aquarium net to catch insects on the water to examine them. They are impossible to catch by hand.
- Examine streamside foliage. Insects can often be found resting there.
- Carefully observe a close feeding fish to try to catch him in the act of eating the bug of choice.
- If you get lucky enough to catch a fish, use a simple stomach pump (very carefully please) to examine stomach contents or, just look into its mouth. Frequently a bug will still be there.

Once you think you have a fair

idea what the fish may be feeding on, use the following guidelines to determine which fly to use. They are listed in order of importance.

Size

Match the size of your fly to the natural as closely as possible. One hook size off can mean a size differential of up to 25%.

Shape

Basic shape is often important to the fish. If they are feeding on mayflies with upright wings they may not take a fly of the right size that is tied in a spent wing style.

Color

Color is of lesser importance, but match as closely as possible. If the fish are feeding on a black fly, a white imitation will probably not work. If they are feeding on a tan fly, even a light olive or gray fly may work well.

Action

What action to impart to your fly is usually very easy to figure out. Again, observation is the key. Ninety plus percent of the time, fish feeding on the surface are feeding on insects dead drifting (floating naturally at the same speed as the current) on the surface and your imitation should be fished the same way. When the fish are feeding on flying or skittering flies, try dragging your fly or skipping it across the surface in short hops.

Be careful! A large fly may appear to be the obvious food when in fact the fish are feeding on smaller insects in or on the surface of the water. If you're not catching fish with the fly you've selected, take some time to look again at what's going on in the water. It might be time to pull the aquarium net and take another sample.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 24 - Chapter meeting
at Mike Slater's

July 11 - Cast for Conserva-
tion. PM Watershed Coun-
cil Banquet.

July 15 - Trout Unlimited
founded in Grayling in
1959

July 22 - Chapter general
meeting. Northwest Michi-
gan Blood Center.

July 25 - Conservation and
Restoration Day - sched-
uled by the Adams Chap-
ter stream improvement
committee.

August 8 - Conservation and
Restoration Day - sched-
uled by the Adams Chap-
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August 22 - Ruffed Grouse
Society Family Outting at
the Benzie Sportsmans
Club.

September 10 - Ruffed
Grouse Society Banquet at
the Park Place Dome.

September 30 - General trout
season ends.

October 1 - Extended season
begins on selected streams.



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