

**A Very Special Thank You  
To Our Generous Donors**

- Hawkins Outfitters  
 Streamside Orvis  
 Gary Smith  
 Apache Trout Grill  
 Mike Connors  
 Great Framewup  
 Gates AuSable Lodge  
 Wooden Gallery  
 Chocolate Den  
 Nolan's Tobacconists  
 Johnson's Pere Marquette Lodge  
 DeYoung's  
 Diversions  
 Grand Bay Kites  
 Chateau Grand Traverse  
 Mark Lord  
 Backcast Shop  
 Hobart Furniture  
 Dave & Dawn Koschura  
 Sysco  
 Wicksall Distributing  
 Walters & Hemming Plumbing  
 Michele Roorda - artist  
 Mackinaw Brewing Co.  
 Traverse Bay Manufacturing, Inc.  
 Deering's Meat Market  
 Riekers Gallery  
 Molly By Golly  
 Mapleton Hardware  
 Al Strange - Crew #3 MDOC  
 Suzette Hoskie
- Dave Ruimveld  
 Grand Traverse Resort  
 The Camera Shop  
 Miner's North  
 Troutsmans  
 Ken Gum  
 Fieldsport  
 T.J. Carroll - artist in  
 residence  
 Jim Newland Nets  
 Jess Reed  
 Tackle Town  
 J. Skivee  
 Captain's Quarters J.  
 Horizen Books  
 Back Country Outfitters  
 TC Charters  
 NBD Bank  
 Old Kent Bank  
 G.J's, Inc.  
 Cedar Creek Interiors  
 Dave Kober  
 Calli's Cotton  
 Joel S. Drake Originals  
 Bay Bread  
 Bob Hoskie  
 Greater Indoors  
 Pure Essence Hair Salon  
 Home Builders Warehouse  
 Good Harbor Coffee  
 T.C. Millworks

**Please Support Our Donors!  
They help protect our cold water resource!**

RONAL CRACHTMAN

**ADAMS CHAPTER  
OF  
TROUT UNLIMITED**



**ANNUAL BANQUET  
AUCTION • RAFFLE**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1999**

# THE ADAMS CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED IS DEDICATED TO PROTECTING OUR COLD WATER RESOURCE.

We believe that trout and salmon fishing isn't just fishing for trout and salmon. It's fishing for sport rather than for food, where the true enjoyment of the sport lies in the challenge, the lure, and the battle of wits, not necessarily the full creel. It's the feeling of satisfaction that comes from limiting your kill instead of killing your limit. It's communing with nature, where the chief reward is a refreshed body and a contented soul, where a license is a permit to use — not abuse, to enjoy — not destroy, our cold water fishery. It's subscribing to the proposition that what's good for trout and salmon is good for fisherman and that managing trout and salmon for themselves rather than for the fisherman is fundamental to the solution of our trout and salmon problems. It's appreciating our fishery resources, respecting fellow anglers, and giving serious thought to tomorrow.

We hope you enjoy your evening with us and will help us protect our cold water resource with your effort, contributions and support.

## Chapter Officers

- Mike Slarer ..... president
- Bill Fernandez ..... vice-president
- Jim Zachow ..... secretary
- Jim Kartsimas ..... treasurer

## Special Thanks

- Banquet Committee
- Apache Trout Grill

All of the Adams Chapter volunteers who worked tirelessly to make the banquet possible.

# WELCOME TO THE 1999 ADAMS CHAPTER TROUT LIMITED BANQUET

- Cocktails ..... 6:00pm
- Dinner ..... 7:00pm
- Award Winning Apache Trout Grill Ribs*

- Chicken Cordon Bleu
- Whitefish
- Red Skin Potatoes
- Pasta Salad
- Tossed Salad
- Ice Cream Sundae

*Special Guest Speaker*  
Michael Detmer  
U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Michigan

*Special Raffle* — Gares Ausable Lodge Shopping Spree

*Live Auction* — Wayne Bancroft  
Wayne Bancroft Auctioneers

*Special Raffle* — 14' Old Town "Osprey" Canoe

Silent Auctions

Bucket Raffles



# DRAFT

ADAMS CHAPTER  
OF  
TROUT UNLIMITED

U.S. 131 EXPANSION RESOLUTION

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1. Whereas, the Boardman River is a state designated "Blue
2. Ribbon" trout stream and Natural River and is considered one
3. of the top ten trout streams in Michigan; and,
4. Whereas, that portion of the Boardman River Watershed west
5. of the existing U.S. 131 corridor is classified as "Wild &
6. Scenic" and as "top rate" trout waters; and,
7. Whereas, the existing U.S. 131 roadbed already impacts and
8. fragments several important wetland systems and tributaries
9. to the Boardman River; and,
10. Whereas, a westerly routing of the proposed expansion of the
11. U.S. 131 Expressway through this fragile and recreationally
12. important part of the Watershed will have many negative
13. impacts on the Boardman River and surrounding area; and,
14. Whereas, many local citizens are increasingly questioning
15. the need for an expressway when weighed against the loss in
16. the quality of life they now enjoy if the expressway is
17. constructed,
18. Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that the Adams Chapter of
19. Trout Unlimited supports the addition of turn lanes and
20. passing lanes to the existing U.S. 131 to improve traffic
21. flow while maintaining the vital biological and recreational
22. integrity of the Boardman River system and surrounding state
23. land.



**BAY EYE ASSOCIATES, P.C.**

5199 NORTH ROYAL DRIVE  
TRAVERSE CITY, MI 49684

FAX: 616-935-0639

Telephone: 616-935-0630 or 800-341-8826

Michael D. McManus, M.D.  
Kenneth B. Gum, M.D.  
Martin S. Arkin, M.D., Ph.D.

Robert A. Foote, O.D.  
Kevin R. Nelson, O.D.

3/11/99

Merlin,

As per our phone conversation yesterday, here are the details of the Trout Unlimited Banquet. Sara & Tom will likely be our guests at this event.

Location - Knights of Columbus Hall

Date - Sat. April 10th

Time - Cocktails 6:00  
Dinner 7:00

Tickets: \$25 per person available @ Apache Trout Grill, Streamside Chris shop in GT Resort, and Nolan's Tobacconists.

Proceeds to support coldwater fisheries preservation and stream conservation

Keynote speaker: Mike Defner - district attorney general will speak on ~~the~~ Native American fishing rights

Thanks for your help  
Ken Gum

Committed to Excellence...

In Surgical, Medical, Refractive and Optical Care

# FINAL REMINDER

## THE 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL ADAMS CHAPTER BANQUET

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1999

AT THE

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL

13424 WEST BAY SHORE DRIVE

TRAVERSE CITY, MI

DOORS OPEN AND RAFFLE SALES BEGIN AT 6:00 p.m.

DINNER AND FESTIVITIES BEGIN AT 7:00 p.m.

TICKETS ARE \$25 PER PERSON

### FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TICKETS CONTACT

Mike Connors at the Apache Trout Grill - 947-7079

Mike Nolan at Nolan's Tobacconist - 946-2640

Dave Leonhard at Orvis Streamside - 938-5337

-----cut & mail-----

*Yes*, I want to support my chapter by purchasing the following number of

\_\_\_\_\_ banquet tickets at \$25 per ticket

\_\_\_\_\_ Gate's AuSable Lodge \$1000 Shopping Spree at \$10 per ticket, only 200 to be sold

Here is my check for the total amount of \_\_\_\_\_ made payable to  
ADAMS CHAPTER OF TU

name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Mail To:*

address: \_\_\_\_\_

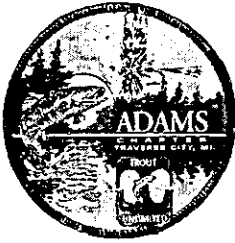
Adams Chapter / tickets

Box 2129

Traverse City, MI 49685

zip: \_\_\_\_\_ phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Your tickets will be mailed to the address indicated above.  
Thank You for supporting the Adams Chapter of TU.



The Adams Chapter, # 676  
Trout Unlimited  
Box 2129  
Traverse City, Michigan 49685-2129

MINUTES

Meeting of February 24, 1999

At 7:00 p.m. this date, a general meeting of the Adams Chapter was convened at 5199 N. Royal Drive, in Traverse City.

**Present:**

Mike Slater, President	Jess Reed	Jerry Heiman *
Bill Fernandez, Vice President	Ray Bunn	Earl Cornette
Jim Zachow, Secretary	Mike Connors	Mike Nolan
Jim Kartsimas, Treasurer	Joe Evancho	
Dennis Taylor	Steve Largent	
Brian Majestic *	Bob Hoxie	
Ken Gum	Rick O'Neil	

Minutes of the previous meeting (1/20/99) were reviewed and approved.

The following reports were received:

**Treasurer's Report:**

- No appreciable change

**Membership Committee:**

- Bill Fernandez provided a updated membership list

**Newsletter:**

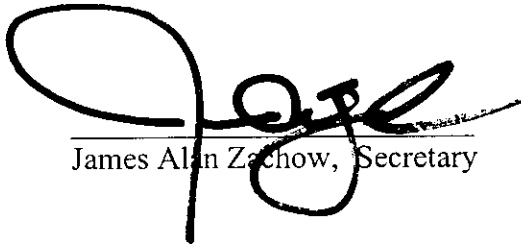
- Dave Leonard has a class on Wednesday nights and is unable to attend

**Stream/Conservation Committee:**

- Steve Largent reported that he had received unofficial notification that the Embrace-a-Stream grant application had been accepted.
- Dredging at Brown Bridge pond inlet: The self-propelled dredge will not be available for removing the sand at the pond inlet. Some members want to pressure TCL&P to remove the sand.
- The National Park Service (Rivers, Trails, & Conservation Section) training session will be May 4<sup>th</sup>. Steve would like volunteers to act as guides to the attendees (to show that TU is interested in conservation and stream improvement, not just our own selfish interests)

- The Michigan Council of Trout Unlimited will be meeting at Barothy's Lodge April 9, 10, & 11. Mike Slater will attend but will return for our Banquet.
- Steve Largent will arrange a meeting schedule for the Conservation/Stream Committee.
- As a way of raising awareness of our organization, Bill Fernandez suggested volunteering (as a group) to ring bells for the Salvation Army. This will be discussed at a future meeting.
- The Conservation/Stream committee will be considering a proposal to build an accessible fishing platform at Boardman Lake.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting returns to our normal 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month schedule, and will be held on March 24, 1999.



James Alan Zachow, Secretary

- Symposium Report:
  - Mike Slater reported that Mich TU wants to begin focusing on Kids (educational programs, etc.) to bring kids into fishing and the conservation programs that will insure its future.
  - Gaylord Alexander talked about re-establishing spawning grounds for the Great Lakes fishery.
- The GT County Road Commission has proposed straightening and paving Brown Bridge Road. Union Twp. (in the person of Doug Mansfield) has requested support from the Adams Chapter in requesting a grant from Rotary Charities to study traffic in the Brown Bridge area and propose alternatives to the Road Commission proposal. Steve Largent will draft a letter supporting the study.

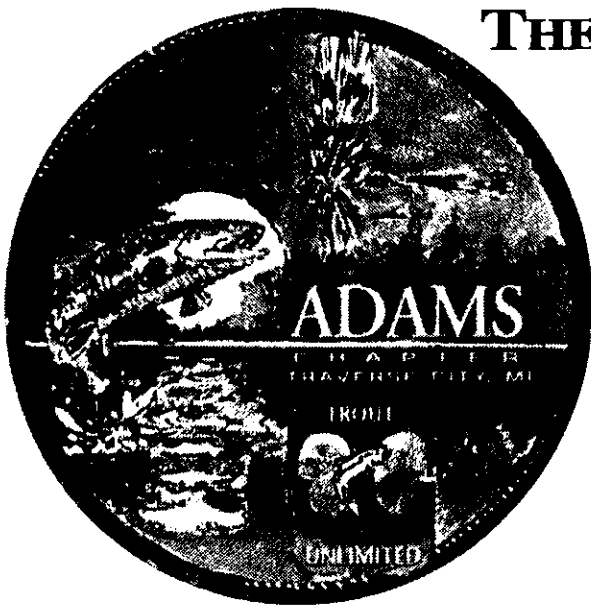
#### **Banquet Committee:**

- Ticket are being prepared
- The promotional glasses have been ordered.
- An advertisement and article have been placed in Michigan Trout.
- Contacts are being made to get radio announcements on the air.
- The list of last years attendees will be used as a mailing list offering tickets.
- Greg Butzow has acquired support from Republic Bank & TC Millworks
- Bill Fernandez has arranged a \$1,000 shopping spree at Gates AuSable Lodge as the raffle prize. The Chapter would pay \$600 toward that amount if we decide to proceed.
- Hawkins Outfitters will be providing a float trip as a prize (the suggestion is a local salmon trip for two).
- Charters has donated a 6 person evening charter trip (a \$250 value)
- Streamside Orvis has donated a 1wt. Rod & CFO reel as a prize.
- Ken Gum will contact "The Troutsmen", Dave Leonard will contact Johnson's Pere Marquette Lodge, Mike Connor will contact "Tackle Town", Ray Bunn will contact "Field Sports", Jim Kartsimas will contact "M.C. Sporting Goods", Bill Fernandez will contact the "Fly Factory", & Jerry Heiman will contact "Backcast Fly Shop" for prize donations.
- The Banquet Committee circulated a list of last years donors.
- The next Banquet meeting will be 6:00 PM, March 10<sup>th</sup> at the Apache Trout Grille.

#### **New Business:**

- Mike Nolan moved (& Jess Reed 2<sup>nd</sup>) that the Treasurer issue a check to Gates Lodge to cover the \$600 cost of the \$1,000 Raffle Prize.
- Mike Nolan moved (& Dennis Taylor 2<sup>nd</sup>) that Bill Fernandez be authorized to make the purchase from Gates.
- The Adams Chapter window stickers have been completed and will be available from officers at a cost of \$5.00 each. 200 have been printed, each officer has been entrusted with a pack of fifty.





**THE ADAMS CHAPTER  
OF  
TROUT UNLIMITED**

**3RD ANNUAL  
BANQUET**

**K of C Hall  
13424 W. Bayshore Drive  
Traverse City, MI**

**Saturday, April 10, 1999  
Doors Open at 6:00 p.m.  
Dinner at 7:00 p.m.**

**\$25.00 per person**

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For over 35 years, the members of Trout Unlimited have dedicated themselves to conserving, protecting and restoring wild trout and salmon throughout North America. Today our work is more important than ever.

Since our first meeting in March of 1996, the Adams Chapter of TU has grown to more than 150 members. Located in Traverse City, our chapter is committed to preserving and enhancing our local coldwater resources.

We are fishermen and women who fish for trout and salmon because we love to, and we limit our takings because these beautiful creatures are too valuable to be caught only once. We pursue our sport because it takes us to such beautiful places and so, we are committed to protecting these pristine and vulnerable locations.

We conduct environmental improvement projects and educational sessions, and we collaborate with like-minded groups. Wouldn't you like to join us? Just ask any member for more information on joining our chapter of Trout Unlimited. Or write to us at Adams Chapter, Box 2129, Traverse City, MI 49685

Tickets and printing for the Adams Chapter Banquet have been supplied by The Print Shop of Traverse City, Inc., independently owned (Michael A. Niederpruem) provider of business and personal printing services located at 803 W. Front Street, Suite B • Traverse City, MI (616) 935-0241.

# The RIVERWATCH

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF  
THE FINGERS OF THE AU SABLE



## What's Inside

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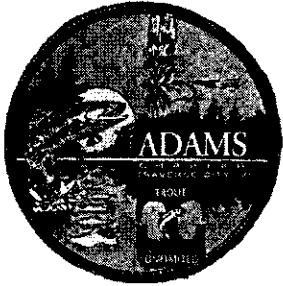


# Adams Chapter Calendar of Meetings & Activities

MONTH	MEETING & ACTIVITY	NEWSLETTER	TOPIC	AGENDA
JAN	<u>General Membership Meeting</u>	-----		Install new officers – discuss goals for the year Discuss grants – Major Program
FEB	Executive Comm. Meeting <i>15 Feb 6:30</i>	yes	spring issue new officer story/ banquet announcement	exec discussion of grants & banquet
MAR	<u>General Membership Meeting</u>	none	<i>banquet reminder postcard</i>	Stream Committee goals for the year – banquet disc. Grants dispensed, Major Program
APR	no meeting / <u>BANQUET</u>	none		-----
MAY	Executive Comm. Meeting	yes	early season issue <i>banquet story - summer calendar</i>	review of banquet financials/activity mid-year review of chapter progress
JUN	<u>Outdoor General Membership Meeting</u>	none		Report on Banquet – Program: fishing skills Recruit-Invite new and potential members
JUL	none	none		-----
AUG	<u>Outdoor General Membership Meeting</u>	yes	late season issue <i>distributed prior to the Aug meeting</i>	Membership Com. Report - secretary report Program: fishing skills / new & potential members
SEP	Executive Comm. Meeting	none		-----
OCT	<u>WaWaSum Committee Caucuses</u>	none		informal committee discussions
NOV	<u>General Membership Meeting</u>	yes	christmas issue early november mailing	newsletter/pr reports – Short Program
DEC	Elections to be held		general topics	Pres & Treas Yearly Reports

Combined November and December Meetings - Hold Holiday meeting in first week of December

5 general membership meetings with 2 of them outdoors w/ fishing programs  
 4 quarterly newsletters which will include a continually revised 6 month chapter calendar  
 1 Chapter Outing at WaWaSum Lodge for committee meetings and informal discussions  
 3 scheduled executive committee meetings / officers and directors considering chapter administration  
 1 Annual Banquet



**The Adams Chapter, #676  
Trout Unlimited  
Box 2129  
Traverse City, Michigan 49685-2129**

To: Adams Chapter of Trout Unlimited Members  
From: Mike Slater  
Date: December 10, 1999  
Re: ADAMS CHAPTER CHALLENGED TO HELP THE BOARDMAN

Dear Adams Chapter Members:

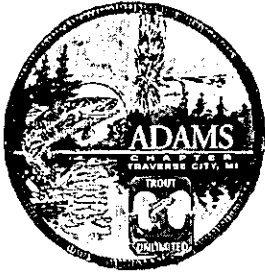
At our last meeting held on Wednesday, December 1, Steve Largent, Director of the Boardman River Restoration and Protection Project and Chairman of our Chapter's Restoration Committee, informed us of a unique challenge offered by the Kalamazoo Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Former South Branch of the Boardman River landowner Stan Weber, now deceased, was a member of the Kalamazoo Chapter of TU. Upon his death, Mr. Weber left a considerable bequest to the Kalamazoo Chapter.

The Kalamazoo Chapter is now generously posing a challenge to Adams Chapter members to help Mr. Weber's favorite river. For every person from our chapter who joins the Boardman River Guardians program (see enclosed information) the Kalamazoo Chapter will donate \$1000 to the Boardman River Restoration and Protection Project Endowment Fund, up to a total of \$10,000. If this challenge is successfully met, the Kalamazoo Chapter indicated they will consider some form of an annual donation to the Boardman River Project through their Stanley Weber Fund.

We agreed to help Steve publicize this challenge by sharing your names with his project. As you know, the Adams Chapter has already joined the River Guardians program and we will be considering further donations in upcoming meetings.

Please give this your personal consideration as you plan your year-end giving. All contributions to the Boardman River Restoration and Protection Project are tax-deductible.

Happy Holidays!



The Adams Chapter, # 676  
Trout Unlimited  
Box 2129  
Traverse City, Michigan 49685-2129

MEETING MINUTES  
Meeting of December 1, 1999

At 7:00 p.m. this date, a general meeting of the Adams Chapter was convened at 5199 N. Royal Drive, in Traverse City.

**Present:**

Mike Slater, President	Earl Cornette
Bill Fernandez, Vice President	Jerry French
Jim Zachow, Secretary	Mike Nolan
Jim Kartsimas, Treasurer	Ray Bunn
Mike Connors	Dennis Taylor
Ron Stepka	Greg Butzow
Keith Gillow	Ken Gum
Jerry Heiman	Steve Largent
Gary Smith	Joe Evancho
Dave Leonard	

The following reports were received:

**Treasurer's Report:**

- Total revenue from Banquet = \$15,038.03
- Total Banquet expenses = (\$ 7,586.50)
  - Profit from Banquet = \$ 7,451.53
- Annual Chapter/Council Financial Report presented
  - Total Assets as of September 30, 1999 (end of fiscal year) = \$29,590.27
  - Accepted without opposition

**Conservation/Stream Committee:**

- Embrace-A-Stream Grants:
  - \$3,400.00 for North Branch stream improvements
  - \$6,200.00 for National Pilot program for flood control & riparian education
- Proposal for Bentley Rd crossing of the Little Betsie River
  - \$5,000.00 grant request to support replacement of culvert (a \$52,000.00 project) for erosion control.
  - Discussion centered mostly around the issue of spending money for a "Road Commission" project, and is this THE big project for our chapter this year.
  - It was moved to refer the Application to the procedure established for Grant Applications

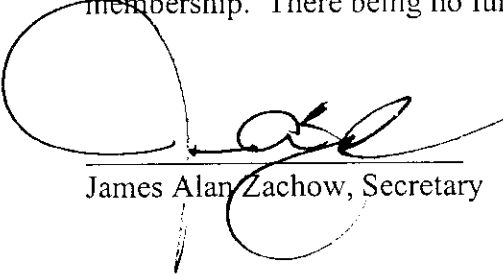
- Letter from the Kalamazoo Chapter offering a challenge grant of up to \$10,000 for “Guardian” level contribution to Boardman River Restoration Project.
- It was moved to forward the letter to Chapter Members with a cover letter endorsing the program. The motion was passed without objection.

**Chapter Elections:**

There being no nominations from the floor, election proceeded on the slate of officers presented at the October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- Elected to a 2-year term as Director:  
**Jess Reed & Mike Connors**
- Elected to a 1-year term as Director: (to fill out the term of Todd Young)  
**Ken Gum**
- Elected to President:  
**Bill Fernandez**
- Elected to Vice President:  
**Greg Butzow**
- Elected to Secretary:  
**Jim Zachow**
- Elected to Treasurer:  
**Jim Kartsimas**

**Next Meeting:** There will be a Directors Meeting at Apache Trout Grille on Tuesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. The next regular meeting will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in January (Jan. 26, 2000) when a proposed calendar for the upcoming year will be presented to the membership. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



James Alan Zachow, Secretary

WILLIAM L. FERNANDEZ, M.P.A.  
Human Relations Consultants, Inc.  
P.O. Box 944 • Traverse City, MI 49685-0944 • 616-941-7102

December 2, 1999

TO: Greg Butzow, Jim Kartsimas, Jim Zachow  
Dennis Taylor, Ken Gum, Dave Leonhard  
Steve Largent, Jess Reed, Mike Connors

RE: Executive Committee Meeting & Year 2000 Priorities

Thank you all for your support in the Chapter elections. As most of you know, I have a number of specific issues that I would like to address during the next year; specifically, Chapter procedures, Chapter goals, the completion of a local project and getting more members to participate in Chapter activities. I am confident that we can do this and more.

We have scheduled an executive committee (that's you) meeting for January 18<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00 p.m., at the Apache Trout Grill. Here are a few things that we should address at that time:

- Setting Chapter priorities for the year.
- Deciding how our budget should be set up; that is, what percentage for local projects, banquet, charitable giving, reserve, etc.
- Looking at the process for reviewing outside requests for funds.
- Examining the yearly calendar.

I am enclosing a copy of the following for your review prior to that meeting:

- The yearly Chapter calendar
- The Chapter procedure regarding charitable contributions
- The "short list" of my goals for the upcoming year

Thanks for looking at the materials. I look forward to your comments and to working with you all in the coming year.

OffDir1299

Call Andrew Kohn  
Send Ltr Grill Card  
Call Christopher  
Stanford  
e-mail Marty  
Carrie  
letter from dad

THANK YOU  
Bill

Mike Connors  
apachetrout@aol.com  
Dennis Taylor  
mzk@prodigy.com

Need PR rec our financial  
dedication to . . . . .

Jim  
Harrison  
to speak.

# Adams Chapter Calendar of Meetings & Activities

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OCT	<u>WaWaSum Committee Caucuses</u>	none		informal committee discussions
NOV	<u>General Membership Meeting</u>	yes	christmas issue early november mailing general topics	newsletter/pr reports – Short Program/ Pres & Treas Yearly Reports
DEC	Elections to be held			

*15th Nov 5pm 4th*  
*15th Nov 7pm*  
*17th Nov 7pm*

*Need letter with name*

Combined November and December Meetings - Hold Holiday meeting in first week of December

- 5 general membership meetings with 2 of them outdoors w/ fishing programs
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- 1 Chapter Outing at WaWaSum Lodge for committee meetings and informal discussions
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**The Adams Chapter, # 676  
Trout Unlimited  
Box 2129  
Traverse City, Michigan 49685-2129**

**Procedure Regarding Charitable Contributions**

It shall be the goal of the Adams Chapter to assure that contributions made on behalf of either the Chapter or membership are made with proper deliberation and Chapter approval.

The Chapter recognizes that from time to time it will receive solicitations from various organizations for a wide range of causes. In order to assure the regular and fair consideration of all requests, we establish the following procedure:

1. All requests for contributions must be made in writing to the Chapter President.
2. All written requests, having been reviewed and approved by chapter officers and directors, will receive consideration at the next regularly scheduled Chapter meeting.
3. All requests for amounts less than \$200 must be approved by a majority vote of Officers and Directors of the Chapter ( 6 votes needed to approve a contribution ).
4. All requests for amounts in excess of \$200 must be discussed at a regular meeting (see #2) and voted on by the membership present at the following regularly scheduled meeting.

## GOALS:

- **Get a local project done now**
  - Establish a few local groups to receive a regular annual contribution
  - Determining what percentage of the budget is to be given to other groups
  - Increase member participation on all Chapter committees
- 
- Get the newsletter / calendar out on time
  - Beef up the publication/newsletter committee
  - Get all committees to submit articles for publication
- 
- Shorten the length of our meetings by keeping to an agenda, following procedure, and handling lengthy deliberations in committee
  - Making these shorter meetings more fun and informative
  - Use our local chapter talent for the outdoor programs
  - Use local environmental groups for the December short program
  - Use any combination of local/environ/other for remaining 2 programs

### Organize the following:

- Gates AuSable spring cleanup crew
- Christmas salvation army bell ringing crew
- Yearly make-a-difference day – environmental cleanup crew/local
- Kids fishing day/lessons w/publicity

### Maintain and strengthen our membership by:

- Aggressively pursue getting new and potential members to our two outdoor meetings and
  - Have fishing skill related programs (casting, etc) at those meetings
  - Advance notice of WaWaSum for current/new/potential members
- 
- Increase the number of “active” members by 50%

# Adams Chapter Update

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

## In this issue:

- 3rd Annual Adams Chapter Banquet Slated for April 10 at Knights of Columbus Hall
- *Destiny on the River* — an original story by Adams Chapter member Joe Evancho.
- Partridge and Orange — Sylvester Nemes' soft-hackle pattern.
- *There's Always an "Angle"* — another original contribution by Adams Chapter member Ken Gum.
- Michigan Council update on important issues including:
  - riparian rights
  - aquatic insect protection legislation
  - whirling disease
  - "Coasters"
- Chapter calendar of coming events.

## 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL CHAPTER BANQUET SET

### The Adams Chapter Needs Your Support

The 1999 Banquet is set for April 10 at the Knights of Columbus hall, 13424 West Bay Shore Drive in Traverse City.

The doors will open and raffle sales will begin at 6:00pm. Dinner and festivities will begin at 7:00pm.

As usual, we will have plenty of gifts for auction and raffle, a wonderful door prize, and a special raffle ticket for a \$1000.00

shopping spree at Gate's AuSable Lodge on the AuSable River in Grayling!

Mike Dettmer, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Michigan, will be our featured speaker and will discuss "Great Lakes Fishing Rights".

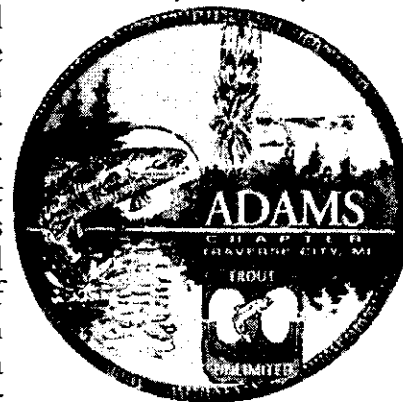
It is our goal to sell all tickets well before the banquet. We can seat only about 200 individuals and we have sold out in prior years. Ticket are \$25.00 per person for dinner and a chance at a fabulous door prize and a plethora of other great sporting prizes. Don't forget to order your Special Raffle Ticket

for a \$1000.00 shopping spree at Gate's AuSable Lodge — just think about your weekend there with your new rod. Get your

tickets early. They will be available in early March. You can order your tickets early by sending \$25.00 per ticket and \$10.00 per Special Raffle Ticket to: Adams Chapter/Tickets, Box 2129, Traverse City, MI 49685.

Tickets will also be available in March from Mike Connors at the Apache Trout Grill, Mike Nolan at Nolan's Tobacconist or Dave Leonhard at Streamside Orvis.

We strongly urge all members to support the Chapter and buy a ticket. This is the main fund raiser for the chapter and is the primary source of all the stream restoration funds we have to use each year. Your purchase of a ticket is an important part of the protection and restoration of our cold water resource. Show your support by buying a ticket or donating a prize.



*The Adams Chapter design was crafted by Chuck Foreman and features Halladay's famous Boardman River pattern.*

## DESTINY ON THE RIVER

By Joe Evancho

By cosmic measure, none of us is more than an eye blink departed from man's genesis on this battered but beautiful old planet. And I'm a firm believer that even though they may be highly diluted, primordial instincts still stir in our genes, occasionally connecting us with our ancient past in moments of prehistoric *deja vu*.

One early evening in September a few years back, I thought I felt the connection as I stood on the old Brown Bridge that crosses the Boardman near Mayfield. I was watching for signs of feeding trout as an invisible partridge thumped its drumbeat in a nearby stand of aspen; a counterpoint to the tattoo of a redheaded woodpecker digging insects out of a tall, naked pine near the shoreline. And as I watched and listened the murmuring waters almost became a decipherable conversation.

The hardwoods were still a lush green. Clusters of black-eyed susans nodded on the river bank. Insects droned and birds darted from tree to tree. This stretch of the river below the Brown Bridge Pond was one of my favorites and I knew it well, but something was different. My senses seemed sharpened. I could see into the shadowy trees on the opposite shore where a kingfisher sat regally on an alder branch searching for dinner. I could hear a small animal scuttling through the brush along the water's edge. The wondrous odors of the river rose to my nostrils like a heady perfume. I felt attuned to the river as never before. My senses tingled as though receiving tiny impulses from somewhere; a premonition telling me something mythic was about to happen.

Rigging up on the road next to the truck in a ritual as familiar as a morning shave, I straightened and tied on a new leader and dressed the tapered line. I assembled the rod and threaded the line. Sitting on the tailgate. I pulled on my waders, slipped into my vest and smeared my hands and face with repellent. Looking like a paratrooper about to board an aircraft, I lumbered down to the river on a narrow trail nearly hidden in sneezeweed.

Standing at the river's edge, I savored its sights and sounds for several moments. Lighting a fresh cigar, I stepped in. With the cold water grasping my legs, I splashed my way upstream to my favorite waiting place, a large rock that split the silent moving water into minor downstream turbulence. I waited quietly there for the magical evening show to begin. First, the soft evening breeze quietly died away until not a leaf moved. The water began taking on the tone of the changing sky as the orange sun ball slid downward toward the tops of the towering pines across the river.

On the far shore, a great blue heron patiently stalked its dinner in a placid patch of water. A good omen, I thought, watching the knobby-kneed bird slowly lift first one foot, then the other, its head poised to strike as it moved through the quiet pool, barely rippling the surface. The scene ended abruptly as the huge bird, catching sight of me, cocked its great wings and launched almost soundlessly into flight. Herons like their solitude and this one was no exception. A few moments later a feather drifted delicately downstream. I plucked it from the water and tucked into my hatband for good luck.

A trout surfaced at the tail of a riffle along the far shore about thirty feet away. A few minutes later, it rose again. Tying on a small Adams, I cinched the knot, bit down on my Swisher Sweet and prepared to cast to the rising fish. It was a good cast and the fly fluttered onto the water about ten feet above the feeding station. It drifted nicely downstream and the fish connected seconds before the fly was about to begin its drag. One cast, one fish, I thought smugly of a great start. But a quick upstream dash, a shake of its head and my fish was gone sulking somewhere beneath the surface while I sulked above.

I relit my cigar, dried out the Adams and began making my way slowly downstream, casting to likely looking feeding spots: a riffle here, a quiet hole there, a half-submerged log anchored in the gravelly bottom of the slowly darkening river. Twenty minutes later I sat on the bank with my feet planted on the gravelly bottom. All I had gotten thus far was exercise. The absence of trout and the passage of time was beginning to dilute the strength of my earlier portent as the fireflies began their evening rituals in the brush and trees along the shoreline. A pair of bats darted soundlessly overhead gorging themselves on insects. The sun was slipping downward through the trees and would soon be out of sight. Its after light would last perhaps twenty minutes.

Then I heard it: the almost inaudible sip of a big fish feeding; rising quietly to the surface to gently suck a floating insect out of existence. No telltale ring, no roiling surface water; just the minimal amount of energy needed to search and devour in the constantly moving water. I scanned the surface, searching and listening, finally deciding the fish had to be lurking on the edge of a riffle built by a submerged rock near the opposite shore. It lay beneath an ancient white pine growing out of an eroded section of bank. The tree was cocked at a crazy angle to the river. That had to be it a perfect hideout; hard to reach and well protected from above. A mosquito hummed near my ear as I strained to hear or see the fish again. Not a whisper, not a ripple; but I knew it was there. With the last vestige of usable light, I plucked a royal

wulff from the flybox, tied it on, relit my cigar and waded carefully to midstream to get within casting distance.

The lower boughs of the tree hung within a few feet of the water, a situation that usually left me talking to myself. This time, everything worked and the fly dropped delicately onto the water above the submerged rock. There was plenty of slack and it floated unimpeded toward the spot where I was sure my fish lay waiting. I held my breath for the few seconds it took to get there, watching the white wings of my make believe bug slide through the riffle.

I heard the fish growl as it hit and I set the hook. The rod bent and the line strummed as it snaked about the water, first right, then left and then the vee in the water headed for a brush-strewn hole. I slowed it down gently, praying the leader would hold as I carefully applied pressure to rod and line. Then the line went slack and I desperately yanked in line as the fish headed back in my direction of a huge, swiftly moving shadow beneath the river's surface. Then a ninety degree turn and we were off through pools and shallows. It was a glorious time, but timeless, as we played out our prophetic underwater ballet.

The struggle went on and each time the fish changed direction or peeled line I held my breath, hoping my leader would not snap. The afterlight was almost gone as I began to think that the victory might be mine this night. Even though quite exhausted, the fish's size and weight against the current strained the delicate leader. Every flip of its fins or tail, no matter how feeble, started my blood pumping even faster as I worked it toward a shallow gravel bed. I could see it clearly now and the sight startled me. It was a big fish, the biggest trout I had ever taken. There was a weak, almost pitiful tug as it saw me, but there was no strength left in that tired body. I managed to turn on my flex light, then reach into the water to hold the fish still. I removed the hook and watched its gills open and close beneath the water. I burned the picture into my brain as it balanced itself, facing upstream, suspended in water barely deep enough to hold it. Finally, turning sideways, it caught the current and drifted slowly away. Undulating slowly, it disappeared into the black water of a nearby hole.

Darkness had descended and now the fireflies danced by the thousands in the trees and tangled growth along the shoreline. A nighthawk shrieked in the sky overhead. A faint mist was rising from the river as I paused at the water's edge. Looking out over the darkened river, I could hear it murmuring and gurgling, cooing and talking, a thing alive, ten thousand years old. And in it, moments earlier, two living things had acted out a plan put in place a million eons ago. I relit my cigar and walked happily back to the bridge.

