

*A Very Special Thank You to our Generous Donors*

Gary Smith	Jerry Dennis
Dave Ruimveld	Joel S. Drake Originals
Streamside Orvis	Parker Motor Freight
Apache Trout Grill	Guntzville Taxidermy
Fieldsport	Jack's Sport Shop
The Troutsmen	Richard Forrest
Gates AuSable Lodge	The Dish Café
T. J. Carroll	Captain's Quarters
The Wooden Gallery	Duon Rose
Mason Chapter, TU	Eastland Drugs
Nolan's Tobacconists	Schelde's
Bob Summers	Burrill's Market
Mark Lord	Carlson's Fishery
Todd Barton	Miner's North
Chuck Hawkins	The Camera Shop
Instant Framer	Whole Grain Designs
Swiss Hideaway	Backcast Fly Shop
Old Kent Bank	Traverse Bay Mfg.
The Leelanau Enterprise	Mich. Dept. of Corrections
Glenn Wolff	Cali's Cottons
Bob Bieker	Martinek's
Elizabeth Denoyer	Ace Welding
Deering's Market	Wal-Mart
Maxbauer Market	Ace Hardware
Peegeo's	A.G. Edwards
Sleder's	Sysco
Bay Eye Associates	Bayshore Outfitters
Back Country Outfitters	Cedar Creek Interiors
Rock Wilson	Pat Moore
Bay Bread Co.	

*...and thanks to the many others who contributed after this program was printed.*

**Please Support Our Donors!**

*They help protect our cold water resources!*

# ADAMS CHAPTER *of* TROUT UNLIMITED

## Annual Banquet Auction ♦ Raffle



Saturday, April 7, 2001



## *The Adams Chapter is dedicated to protecting our cold water resources.*

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 a license is a permit to use— not abuse, to enjoy— not to destroy, our cold water fishery.

It's subscribing to the proposition that what's good for trout and salmon is good for fishermen and that managing trout and salmon for themselves rather than for the fishermen 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 resources with your effort, contributions and support.

### **Chapter Officers**

Bill Fernandez, *President*      Greg Butzow, *Vice President*  
Jim Zachow, *Secretary*      Jim Kartsimas, *Treasurer*

### **Directors**

Dennis K. Taylor      Jess Reed      Mike Connors  
Dr. Ken Gum      Dave Leonhard      Steve Largent

**Special Thanks** to Apache Trout Grill, and to all of our members who worked tirelessly to make this banquet possible.

## *Welcome to the Fifth Annual Adams Chapter Trout Unlimited Banquet*

Cocktails ~ 6 p.m.  
Dinner ~ 7 p.m.

*Award-winning Apache Trout Grill Ribs*

Chicken Cordon Bleu  
Red Skin Potatoes  
Pasta Salad  
Greek Salad  
Ice Cream Sundae

*Special Guest Speaker:*

**Jerry Dennis, Author**

*Special Raffles*

Gates AuSable Lodge  
\$1,000 Shopping Spree  
Three \$500 Gift Certificates

*Auctioneer*

**Jerry French**

*Special Raffle*

Old Towne "Camper" Canoe

Silent Auctions ~ Bucket Drawings



Your charges will appear as Nolan's

## **The buckets and their tickets**

Many prizes and gifts are displayed on 3 tables – the \$2, \$5 and \$10 dollar tables, each with its own marked bucket.

The Red ticket is for the \$2 table

The Blue ticket \$5 and the Yellow \$10

The more tickets, the better the chance.

We offer both a "bucket" and "guide" package... ask at the ticket table.

## **The Canoe**

Throughout the evening you can buy \$10 dollar tickets for the canoe. It weighs less than 60 lbs.

## **\$1000 at Gates AuSable Lodge**

Tickets available throughout the evening

## **3 chances for a \$500 gift certificate**

Orvis, The Troutman, Fieldsport Tickets available throughout the evening

Keep your eye on your *Silent Auction* standings  
*Live Auction* items are displayed on the tables

- Your money is going to a good cause

**We appreciate your smoking outside.**

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# **Welcome to our Fifth Annual Banquet**

**For over 40 years, Trout Unlimited has taken a leading role in protecting one of America's great national treasures: our nation's trout and salmon populations. Combining stream restoration efforts with research and effective lobbying, TU works to protect our existing resources and continues to challenge new threats to trout habitat. The Adams Chapter formed in 1996 and now numbers over 250 members. The proceeds from this banquet enable us to continue this work on a local level, with your local support.**

**The Adams Chapter needs the support of individuals and local business in order to reach our goals. The resources that we strive to protect benefit our entire community. Whether you are a fisherman, skier, hunter, hiker, or just out for a pleasant walk or drive, our natural rivers and wild areas enrich our lives. Join with us to help maintain the environmental quality that makes Northwest Michigan a special place to live and work. Thank you for your generosity.**

**Have a fun evening, eat well, drink responsibly, examine the prizes and spend freely, knowing that all of your contributions are going to worthy projects and organizations. Thank you for being with us tonight.**

---

PO Box 2129  
Traverse City, MI 49685  
April 27, 2001

Ken Gum  
Bay Eye Associates  
5199 North Royal Dr.  
Traverse City, MI 49684

Dear Ken:

The Members of the Adams Chapter of Trout Unlimited thank you for your generous contribution that made our fifth annual banquet a success. Because of donors like you, the April 7<sup>th</sup> event raised more than \$16,000.

These funds will help us to continue working with other environmental organizations to protect and enhance our precious coldwater resources. In these first five years, our steadily growing chapter has contributed over \$35,000 to protecting Northwestern Michigan's watersheds. With your continued help, this story will keep getting better.

Thanks again for helping us raise the bar.

Sincerely,



Ted Kraimer  
Banquet Chair  
Adams Chapter of Trout Unlimited

PS: Thanks Ken for all that you did – have a great season!

# **TROUT UNLIMITED**

*The*

## **5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ADAMS CHAPTER BANQUET**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 2001**

AT THE

**VFW HALL**

3400 Veterans Drive

**TRAVERSE CITY, MI**

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

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

**Featured Speaker: Jerry Dennis**

**TICKETS ARE \$30 PER PERSON**

**- seating is limited to 200 -**

**Food provided by The Apache Trout Grill &**

**A wealth of prizes from local merchants**

***Rods - Reels – Guided Trips – Artwork – Books - Gear***

**Raffles - Doorprizes - Auctions**

***Lots of fun with many opportunities to Win***

***and all for a good cause – local trout fishing & local rivers***

### **FOR INFORMATION & TICKETS CONTACT**

**Mike Connors at the Apache Trout Grill on M-22 - 947-7079**

**Mike Nolan at Nolan's Tobacconist, downtown Traverse City - 946-2640**

**Dave Leonhard at Streamside Orvis at the Grand Traverse Resort - 938-5337**

**Kelly Galloup at The Troutsmen on US 31N near Acme – 938-3474**

**Bill Fernandez – The Adams Chapter of TU – 941-7102**

***All proceeds are used to protect and conserve our local coldwater resources***

Each officer and director should have a commitment to Chapter activities which is demonstrated by providing assistance with meetings, committee work and other activities. To that end, I am proposing the following:

1. that the Chapter increase the number of directors from six (6) to nine (9), and
2. that each director be expected to select one item from each of the following lists
  - a. a meeting where they will commit to attending and assisting
  - b. a committee where they will attend meetings and either chair or assist the chair
  - c. an activity/committee where they will be an active participant

<b>Director</b>	<b>Meetings</b>	<b>Committees</b>	<b>Assist With</b>
Dir 1	January/general	Banquet	Youth
Dir 2	March/general	Banquet	WaWaSum
Dir 3	June/outdoor	Foundation	Foundation
Dir 4	August/outdoor	Youth	Membership
Dir 5	Nov-Dec/election	Stream	Stream
Dir 6	October/WaWaSum	Newsletter/PR	Newsletter
Dir 7	June/outdoor	Newsletter/PR	Banquet
Dir 8	August/outdoor	Membership	Foundation
Dir 9	Nov-Dec/election	Banquet	Youth

# ***The Adams Chapter of Trout Unlimited - # 676***

**Box 2129 . Traverse City, MI . 49685-2129**

## Recommended duties for Chapter Officers

### President:

- Attend all general, executive and most stream committee meetings
- Maintain/assist with the mailing list and chapter roster
- Interact with National and State TU
- Receive and respond to most correspondence
- Produce a quarterly column for the newsletter
- Be an active member of all committees of the Chapter

### Vice-president:

- Attend all general & executive meetings
- Co-chair of the Banquet Committee
- Participant on Stream Committee
- Active with foundation/fund raising activities
- Fill in for the president when necessary

### Secretary:

- Attend all general & executive committee meetings
- Produce minutes for all meetings
- Assist with banquet printing and newsletter/publication needs

### Treasurer:

- Maintain the Chapter account
- Keep track of all general and special accounts
- Attend general and executive committee meetings
- File all required financial reports
- Participate with banquet and foundation activities



**The Adams Chapter of Trout Unlimited - # 676**

Box 2129 . Traverse City, MI . 49685-2129

October 9, 2001

TO: Chapter Officers & Directors  
FROM: Bill Fernandez  
RE: End of Year Report and Comments

KEN -  
THANK YOU FOR  
RESPONDING TO THE  
MEETING EMAIL -  
YOUR EXCUSED ABSENCE  
WAS APPRECIATED.  
Bill

With the close of our fiscal year, the Chapter is almost the same financial shape as last year. That is a good thing, as we close with over \$35,000 once again. The 2001 banquet raised 20% more than 2000. The Stream Committee dispensed nearly \$10,000; that being almost twice the previous amount. The Local/Exec fund spent \$8,500, finally completing the TART project. Instead of one, we sent two youth to camp this year and we get closer to developing our own youth projects. We were almost on track with the newsletter and got most of them out near our desired publication dates. Our indoor meetings were good and the outdoor meetings interesting. Our membership remained stable. With 260 "dues current" members and 40 "not too delinquent" members, our number is now 300. For a young chapter we are moving right along.

In order to get more participation and recruit more members, I am suggesting that we increase the number of directors from 6 to 9. I am also suggesting that each officer and director review a suggested list of volunteer activities and commit to certain projects. I am hoping that the discussion surrounding this suggestion is lively, supportive and brief. We need more active participants and if this passes we will have the foundation for much better committee work.

I am suggesting that we seed our account with the Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation with funds from each of our accounts. Either we have to get this started right or give it up. It appears that our only other potential funding times will be the banquet and tax time.

I suggest that we consider the date of our banquet and think about moving it up a month. Although we sold out, there were a number of other banquets that same April weekend.

The Michigan Land Use Institute has been contacting me regarding the proposed bridge. They would like us to be a party in a legal action to stop it. I suggest that we discuss the pros and cons of our chapter being involved in political issues and legal actions.

Our next general membership meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> when we will need to hold our annual elections and, maybe, vote on the director change. The nominating committee will be made up of the four directors not up for election (Taylor, Reed, Connors, Gum).

The WaWaSum outing will be held October 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>. We will have a mid-day meeting to review chapter goals, projects, and general direction. No motions, fund commitments or other formal actions. Those must be brought through the executive/general meeting process.

I thank you for all your help and wise counsel this year. I have enjoyed my tenure as president.



**upcoming agendas**

**10/9 Exec Meeting**

year end summary  
financial review  
election issues  
director additions  
political involvement  
GTRCF funding  
Banquet date

**WaWaSum**

grant requests  
stream issues  
recruitment  
fishing / hunting

**12/5 Meeting**

year end review  
financial review  
project review  
director add vote  
GTRCF vote  
elections

# ***The Adams Chapter of Trout Unlimited - # 676***

Box 2129 . Traverse City, MI . 49685-2129

**October 9, 2001**

## **End of fiscal year Chapter Financial Summary:**

### Amount in Chapter account:

Statement period ending: 9/29/00	\$ 35,403.35
Statement period ending 9/30/01	39,800.00

### Amounts committed & remaining in specific project accounts:

• Embrace-a-stream balance	1,345.00
• Pilot Project Grant	2,055.00
• Kid specific	300.00
• GTCD/exec-stream Sand Trap	2,600.00

Remainder available for Chapter use: (estimated & suggested)	<u>\$ 33,500.00</u>
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Amount to be set aside for operations -	10,000.00
Amount for Stream/conservation committee -	11,750.00
Amount for Local Project/executive committee -	11,750.00

0

## **summary:**

The Chapter has no outstanding bills.  
Each account has about 2,000 more this year.  
The Stream account spent about 10,000 last year.  
The Local/Exec account spent about 8,500 last year.  
The general fund amount is more than sufficient for operating needs.  
The EAS and Pilot Project remainders may be overstated.

We have made a commitment to the GTRCF to fund an account and this may be the time to seed it with \$5,000 [ 2000/general, 2000/local, 1000/stream ] . This would put us in good standing with the GTRCF.

Chapter account review / efficiency

# *The Adams Chapter of Trout Unlimited - # 676*

Box 2129 . Traverse City, MI . 49685-2129

November 20, 2001

TO: Directors & Officers  
FROM: Bill Fernandez  
RE: Commitment & Attendance

At our 11/13/01 Executive meeting, we discussed the list of suggested duties for officers and directors that was included in your packets. There were suggestions that the list wasn't needed because (1) there exists adequate involvement and (2) we should be able to align our volunteering with areas of interest. Later, someone also suggested that the list of choices may have been too expansive and that a less specific approach to fewer items was needed. I see valid points in all of these suggestions. My list may have been too specific and individuals should be able to align themselves with their areas of interest. But I must disagree with the assumption that involvement from officers, directors, and membership is sufficient for current Chapter needs.

The intent of the list was to encourage more participation from those in leadership positions, with the hope that certain chapter functions would become self-sustaining; that is, scheduling their own meetings, encouraging participation from new members, operating independently from the executive committee while regularly reporting to it. If we are to establish a solid foundation for the chapter we must focus on constructing independently operating committees. A brief review follows:

The stream committee is doing well, but could benefit from more general member attendance. We need people to personally contact other members and we need leaders who can commit to doing this job.

If we are to become an active participant in the Regional Foundation, establishing a fund to support future projects, then we must establish a committee that will regularly solicit funds from the membership and the public.

If we are to reach out to youth and women, at the same time maintaining our membership base, then we must step up the recruitment of new members and the renewal of our lapsed memberships. This outreach effort has to be more than just another mailing, although mailings are the foundation of our retention program. We need leaders who will make personal calls; encouraging first time participants, track down lapsed friends and provide an example of chapter volunteerism.

There are other recurring, and very necessary, tasks as well. Producing a quarterly newsletter means having quarterly material, from committees, members and events. And more than that, it means folding, mailing, and driving around. Regularly scheduled meetings need more than just a date/time and someone with an agenda, they need members who come prepared to share, lead, and encourage volunteerism.

The banquet is different and shouldn't even be an issue. Everyone who holds a leadership position should be out early and often, with their volunteering starting well in advance of March or April. Everyone's involvement should be a given as this is our single most important event, providing the foundation for all other activities. There is no doubt that this is a job for all of us.

So really, my proposed list wasn't about insisting that everyone pick from column A or B; rather it was my desperate attempt to say, "Hey, let's all get to more meetings" and "We could use more leadership on different projects". And it was my hope that if everyone on the executive committee *did* increase their time commitment and personal involvement; and if that increase *did* also bring in a few more actively volunteering members, *then* we might develop a larger pool of potential leaders who would inherit a self-starting chapter system that would be much easier to manage and maintain. I hope that you can understand my position regarding increasing commitment and, I hope, for the benefit of the chapter, that you can see the benefits of having an active executive committee.

I believe that our existing group is filled with experience and wise counsel and recommend only that we add 3 additional directors and improve on our attendance and involvement. As the current elected prodder and beggar for this Chapter, it falls on me to beg for more of your time, knowledge and chapter focused efforts. Please join with me in marking our calendars well in advance of meetings and events, and digging deep to find a little more time for our Chapter. My personal goal/vision is that with just a few more years of focused effort and process building, the Adams Chapter will cruise right along on a solid administrative foundation..... While we all get to fish and relax more. Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dine". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

***The Adams Chapter of Trout Unlimited - # 676***

Box 2129 . Traverse City, MI . 49685-2129

October 9, 2001

TO: Chapter Officers & Directors  
FROM: Bill Fernandez  
RE: End of Year Report and Comments

With the close of our fiscal year, the Chapter is almost the same financial shape as last year. That is a good thing, as we close with over \$35,000 once again. The 2001 banquet raised 20% more than 2000. The Stream Committee dispensed nearly \$10,000; that being almost twice the previous amount. The Local/Exec fund spent \$8,500, finally completing the TART project. Instead of one, we sent two youth to camp this year and we get closer to developing our own youth projects. We were almost on track with the newsletter and got most of them out near our desired publication dates. Our indoor meetings were good and the outdoor meetings interesting. Our membership remained stable. With 260 "dues current" members and 40 "not too delinquent" members, our number is now 300. For a young chapter we are moving right along.

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I thank you for all your help and wise counsel this year. I have enjoyed my tenure as president.

*Bina*

**upcoming agendas**

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year end summary  
financial review  
election issues  
director additions  
political involvement  
GTRCF funding  
Banquet date

**WaWaSum**

grant requests  
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**12/5 Meeting**

year end review  
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# The Adams Chapter of Trout Unlimited - # 676

Box 2129 . Traverse City, MI . 49685-2129

October 9, 2001

## End of fiscal year Chapter Financial Summary:

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Amount to be set aside for operations -	10,000.00	- 5,000	↗
Amount for Stream/conservation committee -	11,750.00	- 1,000	
Amount for Local Project/executive committee -	11,750.00	- 2,000	
	<u>0</u>		

### summary:

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Chapter account review / efficiency



# *The Adams Chapter of Trout Unlimited - # 676*

Box 2129 . Traverse City, MI . 49685-2129

November 2001

## **Dear Adams Chapter Member,**

It's the end of another successful year for the Adams Chapter. Thanks to your hard work and financial contributions, our projects are completed and our reserves ready to begin another year. But, before we rush to 2002, there are still a couple of major items that still need our attention, both are crucial to our Chapter's continued success.

Our annual election meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm, at the Bay Eye Clinic on Royal Drive, in Traverse City. We will be voting on regional fund contributions, by-law revisions, expanding the number of directors, and, naturally, holding our annual elections for office. We'll be talking about the spring banquet and forming committees which will implement projects and fund dispersals throughout the year. We'd sure like you to be there because your ideas and input are crucial to maintaining an active, and member oriented, chapter. Please mark your calendar.

The tax year is winding down and we'd like to remind you that we're part of the Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation. This gives you an opportunity to contribute to our Chapter's GTRCF account and receive a direct tax credit on your Michigan State tax return. The tax credit is for half the amount contributed; up to \$400 for joint filers and \$200 for individuals. That's potentially a tax credit of up to \$200 or \$100 depending on your filing status **and** a *credit* comes right off your state tax due. For those submitting itemized federal returns, you'll be able to list the full amount as a charitable deduction. The funds placed in the Adams account at the GTRCF will accumulate and establish a growing source of income for future TU activities.. And, don't forget, you'll get that direct reduction of your Michigan tax due. You can contact the GTRCF directly at 935-4066... mail them your check at GTRCF, 250 E. Front St, Suite 310, Traverse City, MI 49684... log onto their web page www.gtrcf.org, find the Adams Chapter sub page and pay by credit card... or mail your check to our chapter address, ***before Christmas***, and we'll get it there. Checks **must** be made out to GTRCF with Adams TU in the memo line. Please remember to specify Adams TU in any GTRCF giving and please seriously consider taking advantage of this special opportunity to provide for future TU projects. You can always get more information at our December 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, just bring your checkbook. We sure hope to see you there.

Your Adams Chapter Officers and Directors,

**Bill Fernandez**  
President

**Greg Butzow**  
VP

**Jim Zachow**  
Secretary

**Jim Kartsimas**  
Treasurer

### DIRECTORS

**Dave Leonhard**  
**Dennis Taylor**

**Jess Reed**  
**Mike Connors**

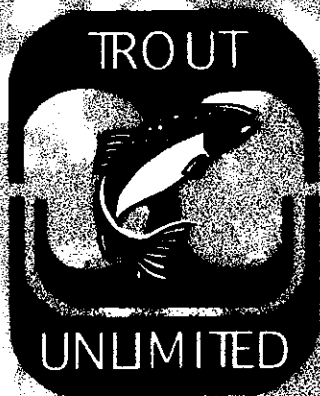
**Dr. Ken Gum**  
**Steve Largent**

# Adams Chapter Update

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

## In this issue:

- Banquet date set for April 7, committee needs help.
- Prez Fernandez says there's plenty of work to do this year.
- Stream Committee considers spending.
- Chapter hires intern.
- Crofton Creek Sand Trap finds funding.
- An original article from Dr. Ken Gum



## 2001 Banquet Set For April 7<sup>th</sup>

We will hold our fifth annual banquet on Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, at the VFW Hall in Traverse City. Our plan is to stick with last year's successful strategy; excellent food from Mike Connors and the Apache Trout Grill staff, lively auctions, dozens of raffles, great prizes, a fun family atmosphere all at a fair price. You can help assure the banquet's success and be a part of our fund raising efforts to protect our cold water resources by volunteering to help one of the important committees. Enhance your own fishing experience by helping out. Ted Kraimer is heading up our banquet committee and getting individuals to call on both professional and retail businesses. If you can offer even a few hours of help, or if you know of someone who can donate goods or services, contact Ted at either (231) 995-0336 or [tkraimer@alloutdoors.com](mailto:tkraimer@alloutdoors.com). You can also contact either Bill Fernandez (941-7102) or Greg Butzow (946-8804) for more information.

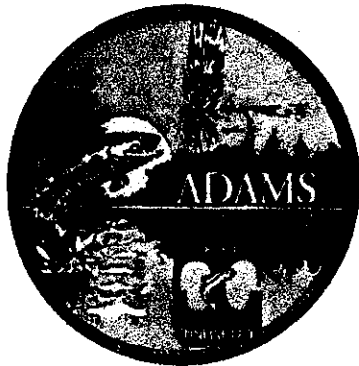
## President's Report

By now most of us are probably tying up some flies, cleaning gear, or reading all the fishing catalogs coming in the mail. Spring fishing is just around the corner. The Chapter has been cruising through the winter and now it's time for the pre-banquet frenzy. Check out the article about preparations and see if you can help. But that's not all we've been about. Steve has written a couple of grants for work around the Boardman and if both of them come in we will have plenty of work to do. We plan on helping to fund an intern who will help us with a couple of our outdoor meetings as well as assist with Boardman restoration projects. Dennis Taylor is going to lead the effort to regain lapsed members and, as soon as the banquet is over, we are going to focus on our summer events for kids. Thanks to all those who have been attending our meetings, especially the new faces.

See you at the March meeting.

*Bill*

## ADAMS CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED #679



Box 2129  
TRAVERSE CITY, MI 49685

### Officers:

President - Bill Fernandez  
941-7102 [wbf@traverse.com](mailto:wbf@traverse.com)  
Vice President - Greg Butsow  
941-8804

Secretary - Jim Zachary  
Treasurer - Jim Karisimas

### Directors:

Dennis Taylor  
Dr. Bob Gurn  
Dave Leophant  
Steve Labadie 941-9960  
Jess Reed

## Crofton Creek Sand Trap Finds Funding

River front landowner, Bill McKinley and Philip Morris Companies have stepped forward to fund the construction and maintenance of a 150' sand trap on the North Branch of Boardman River. The trap will be located where Crofton Creek enters

the North Branch in section 35 of the West part of Kalkaska Township.

This is the perfect spot to try Trout Unlimited's new (reportedly "first ever of it's kind") amphibious sand dredge. The location is fairly remote, contains a high ridge that would make the traditional type sand trap construction difficult, and is located above buried spawning gravels.

In addition, the sand dredge can pump the sand slurry (80% water 20% material) up to a half-mile away. Currently, Boardman River Project staff is preparing permit applications for a spring 2001 installation.

## Chapter Applies for Embrace-a- Stream Grant

The Adams Chapter of Trout Unlimited has applied for an Embrace-A-Stream grant from National TU to install woody debris upstream of Brown Bridge Pond. Several Chapter members were interested in trying to dredge the East End of the pond where the river enters but the cost was too prohibitive. So instead, the Chapter is interested in improving the in-stream trout habitat using woody debris (cedars anchored to the banks and stream bottom to provide cover). Chapter members will conduct the work.

## Adams Chapter Hires Intern to Assist Boardman River Project

The Adams Chapter has entered into an agreement with the Conservation District to hire an intern for a twelve-week period. This intern will assist Boardman River Project Director and Conservation Stream Committee Chairman Steve Largent with restoration related activities. In addition, the intern must help plan and execute four Chapter work activities and then write and give a presentation to the Chapter after the internship is complete.

## Boardman River Celebrates 25 Years Of Natural River Designation

On February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2001, the Boardman River will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a Natural River. In 1976 the Michigan Natural Resources Commission approved the Boardman River for designation.

## The Stream Com- mittee Deliberates Funding Requests

February 27<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. in the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy

boardroom, the stream committee will meet to finalize their recommendations for giving out funds received at last year's banquet. Some changes have been made to last year's list and there are a couple of grant requests to consider. Both the Manistee and Crystal Rivers will be considered. Steve Largent and Mike Nolan (946-2340) are co-chairmen and all members are considered part of the committee. This is where we discuss our goals and define our annual focus. The Executive Committee will meet immediately after. We will vote on these recommendations at our March general meeting. If you want to have significant impact on where your chapter's money goes, we urge you to attend this important meeting.



## A Stream

by Ken Gum

I am never freer than when approaching trout with a fly rod. That total absolution from the workaday world comes at the expense of a brow-wrenching intensity of concentration which purifies one, purging the mundane pressures of the occupation, the domestic duties, and social obligations found away from the stream. I've often felt ill at ease with the dichotomy between my profession of

medicine and the simple purity of plotting to take a trout on the dry fly. Necessity dictates that I must approach both with an honest intensity, but the fact of the matter is that medicine is largely empirical and fly fishing is, or should be, mostly right-brain. An almost schizophrenic paranoia sometimes descends on me as I depart on a destination fishing trip, eager to escape those who fatuously plod through life not realizing that their weekly trips to the therapist could be entirely substituted by a few peaceful days a stream. I wish to, as Thoreau stated, follow the creative bent of my genius, and let it carry me daily to water that hold trout.

Having held a fly rod literally since I was a toddler further emphasizes the disparity between profession and my preferred leisure-time pursuits. Fly fishing is solitary. The single-minded focus on the quarry inherently obliterates in seconds all information that stabs at my consciousness constantly when at work. Sure, there is a genuine caring and concern for the people, my patients, but the burden of their dependence is shed as I plop a bit of tobacco in the cul-de-sac of my lower lip, strip line off the reel, and begin the false casting approach to the slurping aquatic destination for my #18 blue winged olive. The mind absorbs all the relative factors to complete the ruse. After a time, we develop a gestalt of the situation: simultaneously factoring wind direction, river speed, light conditions, and

method of approach necessary to complete the task at hand. The ultimate determinant of our success (defined as tricking the trout into believing that your fly represents an opportunity of sustenance) is the ability to assimilate all the information at hand and regurgitate it in one magnificent creative blow. When it all comes together there is an ethereal, anticipatory jubilation that is, as they say, better than sex.

That's when it all comes together. Chances are good that our attempts at creativity will rival those of a fourth grade writing assignment rather than a Shakespearean masterpieces. We are thusly... humbled.

Fly fishers have in general a justifiable condescension to the rest of the world. Who, after all, repeatedly experiences the most beautiful places on earth, witnesses the drama of nature close at hand, and holds all of this close to our hearts with a reverence rivaling Christmas mass at St. Peter's Cathedral? Thoughts of trout and environs, in which they are found lurk constantly in our subconscious mind, even when at work or clinking a toast at a cocktail party. I firmly believe there is a genetic predisposition to becoming a fly fisherman and that this trait runs parallel to our generally calm and courtly demeanor. If only everyone could share this mental state the world would be a better place. On the other hand, I'm glad everyone doesn't.

# Upcoming Events

**February 27<sup>th</sup>**

The Stream Committee meets at 6:00 p.m. and the Executive Committee will convene immediately after (6:30 p.m.) to discuss our annual giving plan. Meeting at the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy board room.

**March 26<sup>th</sup>**

We will have a general meeting at the Bay Eye Clinic on North Royal Drive at 7:00 p.m. The annual Giving Plan will be up for voting. Banquet details should be final.

**April 7<sup>th</sup>**

The Adams Chapter Annual Banquet at the VFW hall in Traverse City. Tickets will be available in March. Volunteer to help on a committee.

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



Ken Gum  
5450 Harris Rd.  
Traverse City, MI 49684