

ALDER FORK JOURNAL



Newsletter of the Aldo Leopold Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Serving Columbia, Dodge and Sauk Counties since 1982

SUMMER 2018

CURRENT THREADS

By Mike Stapleton

President, Aldo Leopold Chapter

Greetings to early June. Once the dead-grass browns and grays of late winter and early spring make way to the other more interesting greens, yellows, oranges, reds, violets and blues of the color spectrum it seems as though hours, days and even weeks pass by at hyper speed ... so much to do and so little time. This newsletter will reflect just that, brief, to the point and efficient so as not to hold you up, slow you down. However, within it I am asking for a small amount of your precious time to acknowledge your chapter membership and spend an evening with fellow chapter members and guests at our annual fund-raising picnic, **Tuesday, June 12th at Habermann Park in Lodi**. Hopefully the stunning summer palette will bring you to our outdoor gathering of great food, great company, dynamite raffle prizes, and as expected, plenty of fish tales, some of which you can outright believe and some that might have you scratching your head or rolling your eyes.

During the picnic and before the raffle drawing, we will have Board Member and Water Action Volunteer, Sally Gawle “dipping the stream” to sample the insect life on which the trout depend. She will help all to identify what is collected. Kids especially will enjoy this exercise, and the rest of us can learn from Sally’s knowledge so that we can sample our own favorite streams. The fun, food and ticket selling start around 5:00 p.m. The raffles and silent auctions will remain open until about 6:30 p.m.

Here is a partial/current list of raffle and silent auction items:

- Grand Prize #1: a Paul Douglas custom-built. 2-piece bamboo rod, 8 ft 4 inch, 4 wt, with display case
- Grand Prize #2: a one-day guided angling trip for one person in the Driftless Area with Driftless Angler Fly Shop of Viroqua, WI. Also included: a \$50 gift certificate at the Driftless Cafe, also in Viroqua
- A complete fly-fishing outfit consisting of an 8 ft, 4 wt Cabela’s rod, Pflueger reel line, backing, leaders, box of flies and other accessories
- Simms Chest Pack

continued on page 2



IMPORTANT CHAPTER DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday, June 12, ALCTU Annual Fund-raising Picnic, 5:00 p.m. Habermann Park, Lodi, WI.

Wednesday, July 11, ALCTU's Chapter Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Suzy's Steakhouse, Portage, WI.

OFFICERS AND BOARD DIRECTORY

Chapter Mailing Address:

Aldo Leopold Chapter TU c/o Mike Stapleton
W8002 Whitetail Dr. Pardeeville, WI 53954

Officers:

Mike Stapleton, President
mikestapleton22@gmail.com 608-742-3665
Scott Allen, Vice President
jscottallen12@gmail.com 608-524-1753
Mike Stupich, Treasurer
mstupich@execpc.com 920-206-8433
Tom Gawle, Secretary
tomg@redtopstudio.com 920-887-2142

Board of Directors:

Michael A. Barniskis
barniskis@yahoo.com 920-763-6764
Dan Endres
dtendres9@gmail.com 608-963-1374
Sally Gawle
sallyg@fastmail.com 920-204-4515
Bob Moss
robertmoss123@gmail.com 804-894-0074
Dave Murphy
davem17@gmail.com 608-963-2640
Jim Peters
sorneytrouter@outlook.com 608-212-9959

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance as of June 1, 2018

Checking	\$5,031.75
Savings	\$5,045.30
Total	\$10,077.05

Michael C. Stupich, Treasurer

continued from page 1

- Vosseler DC3 reel
- A hand-carved, burlwood bowl
- A selection of cheese from Cedar Grove Cheese in Plain, WI
- Jacobs Ridge Driftless Honey
- A box of pike and muskie flies
- Cabela's gear bag
- Bottle of scotch
- A box of blue gill flies
- A box of "guaranteed" spring creek flies

NEW ZEALAND MUDSNAIL UPDATE



The DNR and UW Extension have acquired a large number of small portable brushes for distribution to wading anglers as one of the ways in which we can combat the spread of New Zealand Mudsnails. The idea is to carry it in your vest for removing mud and gravel from the soles and laces of your wading boots at stream side before heading back to the car, or at the car you could have available a jug of water to give them a more thorough scrubbing.

We have acquired a number of these brushes, and will have them available to attendees at the picnic, chapter meetings and other events. The chapter has donated \$250 toward the next big brush purchase this summer, so we expect to have them available for distribution for some time to come. Everyone who wades Wisconsin streams needs one of these, and we all have to do our part to prevent the spread of the NZM.

Please do not assume that brushing alone is enough to keep your gear snail-free. Follow-up measures will almost always be needed. For further information, please search the DNR website for New Zealand Mudsnails, and look for recommended control measures. It would be great to be able to say the control measures are simple, but it's a bit more than that, and we have an obligation to take this seriously. Please do your part, and we appreciate your efforts.



TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM

For the two 5th grade classes from Pineview School in Reedsburg, Trout In The Classroom 2018 concluded on Friday, May 25th at Dell Creek. The group successfully raised 20 fry to 5" fingerlings with no losses.

The rainbows were released by DNR Biologist Nate Nye prior to an electroshocking demonstration where the kids got to see and handle many species of fish found in Dell Creek including Brown, Rainbow and brook trout.

The kids had a great time on the stream, and the event was covered by the local paper, *The Reedsburg Independent*. Good press is always welcome. Thanks once again to Scott Allen for his involvement in making TIC happen.



The ALCTU board members would like to thank Budget Print of Watertown for all of the assistance they provide with printing and mailing of our newsletters. Please consider them for your printing needs.

HONORING JERRY GORMAN

The Chapter has placed a memorial Aldo Leopold Bench, in honor of Jerry Gorman of Beaver Dam, in the Village of Poynette's Pauquette Park. Jerry was a strong supporter of ALCTU, participating in chapter work projects and fly tying classes. He passed away in June of 2017

The bench is located a short distance from Rowan Creek, which was one of Jerry's favorite fishing spots, and its placement was approved by the Village of Poynette Parks Commission this spring. Many thanks for the department's cooperation.

The bench was built by member Tom Gawle, and Tom added a beautiful carving on the bench of one of Jerry's favorite flies, The Professor. Many thanks to Tom for creating this beautiful memorial.

Located adjacent to a paved and heavily used walking trail, the bench is certain to see plenty of use. If you fish Rowan Creek or are just in the area, the bench can be seen from and is accessible from South Mill Street. It is between the street and the creek near the west end of the athletic fields.



ALDO LEOPOLD CHAPTER MISSION STATEMENT

The Aldo Leopold Chapter's mission is to conserve, protect, restore and enhance trout and salmonid fisheries, watersheds, the groundwater that sustains them, and the doctrine of public trust that defends them, in Columbia, Dodge and Sauk Counties. We do this through education, cooperation, rehabilitation and advocacy using an extensive and dedicated volunteer network.

ALCTU PICNIC – JUNE 12TH – HABERMANN PARK – LODI – 5:00 pm



DON'T MISS IT!

**FREE
FUN
FOOD
RAFFLES
AUCTIONS
FRIENDS
FISH TALES
GRILLN'
AND
CHILLIN'**

<http://aldoleopold.tu.org/>

ALCTU Newsletter
c/o Red Top Studio
W7190 Redwood Road
Burnett, WI 53922