



The Flyline

Mountain Laurel Chapter
Trout Unlimited

Attn: Gary Cooper, *Editor*
Rear 704 Scalp Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15904

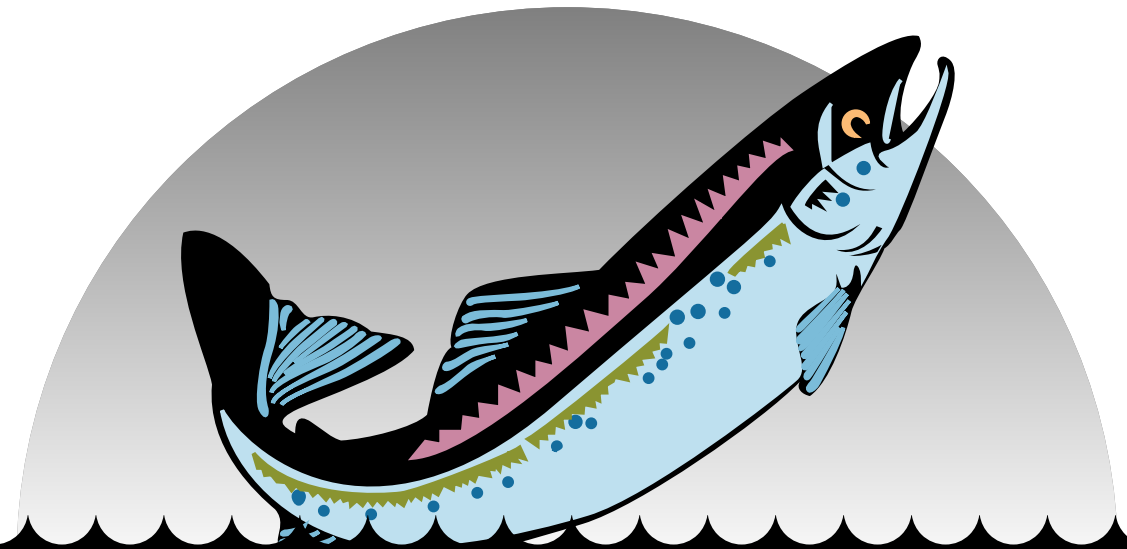
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The Flyline

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TROUT UNLIMITED

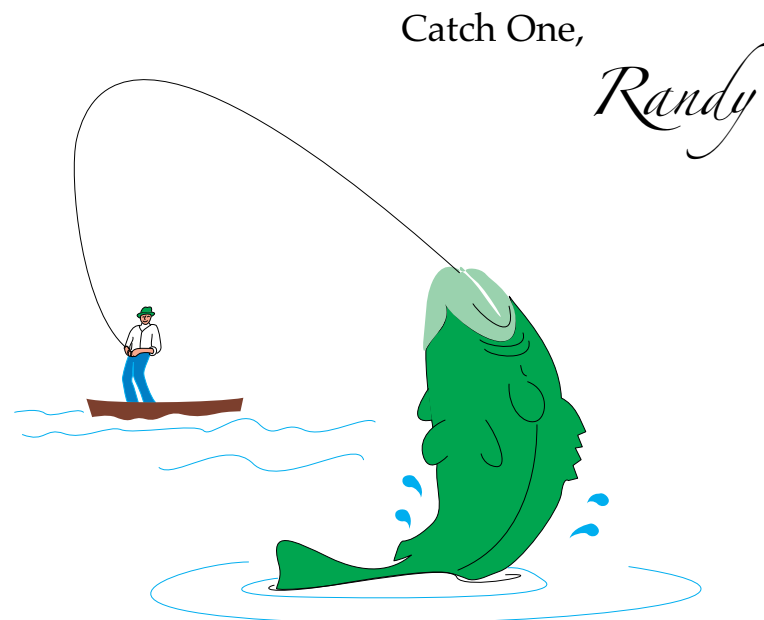
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
MOUNTAIN LAUREL CHAPTER
TROUT UNLIMITED

From Randy's Desk . . .

It is now spring! The winter seemed long and cold, but finally we are beginning to see some nicer weather. Spring is also the beginning of a very busy season for Mountain Laurel. We have many activities scheduled for April and May, including our first work days on the new access road bridge to the parking lot at Yellow Creek. Also, don't forget the Yellow Creek coalition picnic on June 20th . Please see "Upcoming Chapter Events" for a schedule of all the events.

The end of winter brought our annual fund-raising banquet on March 14th. I would like to thank all of the chapter members and guests for helping to make this year's event a success. Your kindness and generosity shows your commitment to cold-water conservation. Congratulations to the award winners at this year's banquet. You richly deserved your awards. A big thank you goes out to the members of the banquet committee for a job well done. Thanks to our sponsors and people who took ads in our program. Those who donated to our banquet are greatly appreciated also. This was a great event, and all of you are the ones who made that possible.

I know that I will be at as many events as possible this spring, and I hope to see many of you at these events as well. While we are at it, let's go out and catch some trout. Tight lines!



Mountain Laurel Chapter Trout Unlimited 2008 OFFICERS

President
Randy Buchanan
1745 Regal Drive
Johnstown, PA 15904

Vice-President
Gary Cooper
Rear 704 Scalp Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15904

Secretary
Dave Maher
417 Old Farm Lane
Johnstown, PA 15904

Treasurer
Pat Buchanan
1745 Regal Drive
Johnstown, PA 15904

DIRECTORS

Mark Lee
Chris Reighard
Butch Kerchenske

Dave Sewak
Jassim Hassan
Len Lichvar

Mountain Laurel Chapter, Trout Unlimited meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Gander Mountain Store in the old Wal-Mart store building beside the Galleria Mall at 7:00 PM unless otherwise noted in this newsletter. Board meetings are held on the Thursday before the regular meeting date at the Gander Mountain Store at 7:00 PM.

The Flyline

Official Publication of
Mountain Laurel Chapter, Trout Unlimited

This newsletter is published quarterly; winter, spring, summer and fall by MLTU. All articles are due on the 20th day of the first month of each quarter.

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www.mltu.org

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Application For Membership

Fill out this application and send check or money order made out to:

Mountain Laurel Chapter, Trout Unlimited
1745 Regal Drive
Johnstown, PA 15904

YES! Please begin my membership to Trout Unlimited at the rate I have checked below. I understand my dues payment entitles me to all regular membership benefits.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (Day) _____

Telephone (Evening) _____

Occupation _____

Chapter #040 Mountain Laurel

Send to: Mountain Laurel Chapter, Trout Unlimited
1745 Regal Drive
Johnstown, PA 15904

\$5 of dues amount is for subscription to Trout Unlimited.

Please Check Membership Category:

___ Youth/Student (under 18).....\$ 20

___ Senior.....\$ 20

___ Regular.....\$ 35

___ Family.....\$ 50

___ Sponsor.....\$ 100

___ Century.....\$ 175

___ Business.....\$200

___ Conservator.....\$350

___ Life*.....\$750



It should have been a good spring for our streams. We had a nice snow pack in the mountains this winter, but it melted slowly and sank into the ground. The result is that the streams are low, almost summertime low. Our only hope is that spring will bring sufficient rain to bolster the groundwater supplies and bring the streams up to normal level. Without the rain, we could have a serious drought this year. A drought will stress the trout and affect everything in nature.

While the streams are cool, get out and enjoy the fishing. You will have to fish fine and far off to avoid spooking the trout. Still, there will be many opportunities to catch some fine trout if you are careful. While you are out there, don't forget to enjoy the birds, the animals, and the wildflowers that you will see along the stream.

Gary Cooper

Annual Fund-Raising Banquet Successful

Fifty six members and many other friends of the chapter gathered at the downtown Holiday Inn on March 14, to raise money for the chapter. After the doors opened, the crowd had a chance to eye the three levels of prizes available, as well as several special prizes and silent auction items. People also had a chance to purchase tickets for these items, as well as bid on silent auction items. Dinner began at 6:30, and guests enjoyed a good meal. Musical entertainment was provided by "Meat and Potatoes." Following dinner, President Randy Buchanan spoke briefly about the chapter. He then presented an award to the Somerset Conservancy for meritorious service to coldwater conservation. Don Buchanan received the chapter's "Order of the Mug" award as the person who did the most to further the chapter's goals during the past year. The award was presented by Secretary Dave Maher. Gary Cooper then presented the Joe Arcuri, Jr. award to Bob Wardrop for a lifetime of dedication to cold-water conservation. Then it was time for raffles, special prize raffles, and the winners of the silent auction. Everyone had a good time, and a lot of money was raised to support chapter activities. If you missed this one, we hope to see you next year.

State Council News:

The chapter has beautiful "Back the Brookie" license plates available by calling Randy Buchanan at 467-4034.

State Council has major concerns about drilling in the Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania.

1. Millions of gallons of water will be removed from streams to "frack" the shale to remove the gas.
2. Potential environmental damage from the fracking.
3. Drilling in Special Protection Watersheds and Wilderness Trout Areas may cause damage to these streams.
4. Inadequate bonding to deal with plugging wells and deal with long-term environmental implications.
5. Potential increase in sediment and storm water from the well pad sites.
6. Inadequate staffing at resource agencies to deal with increased permit requests and on-site enforcement.

Deleware River flows remain a concern.

See the spring issue of Pennsylvania Trout for more details.

Chapter Notes

The chapter has received a national "Embrace a Stream" grant from TU for work on Ben's Creek.

Butch Kerchenske reports that many nice fish were stocked in the Ben's Creek. He says that we lost only one log over the winter. He reports that the log was retrieved and the rebar was removed.

Kaufmann Run, a small stream running down soap hollow in Tire hill, has been polluted below treatment ponds from the old Island Creek Coal Company mine. Previously this part of the stream had run clear and held minnows and a few trout. Now the rocks are orange and the fish are gone. The chapter will look into this.

Don't forget to check out the chapter website at mltu.org. We have had a change of site webmasters, and it has taken awhile to get the site up and running. The site is not complete yet, but it is improving.

The Yellow Creek Coalition

Dear Fisherman and Friends of Yellow Creek,

Over the years the Yellow Creek Coalition has worked to protect and enhance the Yellow Creek watershed. We have worked to maintain public access to these waters. We have constructed a parking lot for fisherman using the fly project waters, and we have constructed a bridge and access roads to this lot. During the past year we obtained easements for a new road to the parking lot. The parking lot and these easements are now registered in the name of the Yellow Creek Coalition. We now have a permit to construct the bridge that will make the new entrance to the parking lot a reality. We anticipate building the bridge this year. All engineering fees for the bridge have been paid. The coalition has paid all outstanding bills. None of the fly project is owned by the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission. Not one bit of the improvements made has been paid for by funds from the Fish and Boat Commission. All of these things have been paid for by donations from Yellow Creek Coalition members and from you, the fishing public. Now we must pay for the completion of the bridge that will ensure access to the fly area parking lot for years to come. We anticipate that this will cost about \$30,000.00.

We need your help! The YCC is a non-profit organization under section 501 (3) (C) of the IRS code. We are asking for a donation on your part to help maintain the roads and parking lot. Mostly, your donations will help to build the bridge. You have been very generous in the past, and we need you to be so again. Your donations are a large part of our funding. If you enjoy fishing these waters, please give what you can. We will give you a receipt and, in the case of big donations, written verification. You may use this as a tax write-off on your taxes. Your help is vital to our work. Let's preserve Yellow Creek now and for future generations.

Another way you can help, besides a donation, is to purchase a ticket and attend the Second Annual Yellow Creek Coalition Pig Roast. This years event will be held on June 20, 2009 at Ron Lundquist's Pavilion on Jacks Corner Road. The cost of a ticket will be \$20.00. We will have rod raffles, 50/50 tickets and demos. The event will be held from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. with food being served from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Tickets may be had from the following individuals: Fred Sherlock - 814-766-3176, Gary Cooper - 814-266-4763, Derrick Miller - 814-276-3603, and Chuck Winters - 814-932-8841. Hope to see you there.

Fred Sherlock - President, Yellow Creek Coalition
132 McElwee Drive
Hopewell, Pa. 16650

P.S. If you cannot donate today, mail a check to the above address.

Upcoming Chapter Events

Monthly Chapter Meetings

Tuesday, April 14, 2009
Tuesday, May 12, 2009
Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Chapter meetings are held at the Gander Mountain Lodge at 7:00 p.m.

Board of Director's Meetings

Board of Director's meetings are held at Gander Mountain Lodge at 6:30 p.m. on the night of the monthly chapter meeting.

Chapter Work Days

Thursday, April 9, 2009

Shade Creek open water Stocking. Meet at the Iron Bridge at 9:00 a.m.

Friday, April 17, 2009

Quemahoning Creek Stocking. Meet at the Burger King at Jenners Crossroads at 8:00 p.m.

Monday and Tuesday,
April 20 and 21, 2009
It starts at 9:00 a.m.

Regional meeting of the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission at Seven Springs Mountain Resort.

Thursday and Friday,
April 23 and 24, 2009

Outdoor Heritage Days at Summer's Best Two Weeks area on the Quemahoning Dam. 8:00 to 3:30
Volunteers needed.

Saturday, April 25, 2009

Boy Scout Jamboree. Yellow Creek State Park Casting. 9:00 a.m. Help needed

Sunday, April 26, 2009

Yellow Creek Coalition meeting. 2:00 at Carl's Pavilion

Saturday, May 2, 2009

Yellow Creek Cleanup. Meet at the New Frontier Restaurant for breakfast at 8:00 a.m.
Workday at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, Thursday,
Friday, and Saturday,
May 6,7,8, & 9, 2009

Work days at the site of the new bridge to be built for the new access road to the parking lot. We may not need all four days, but we will determine that at the time.

Saturday, May 16, 2009

Shade Creek Cleanup. Meet at the Iron Bridge at 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, June 20, 2009

Yellow Creek Coalition Pig Roast. Ron Lundquist's Picnic Grove. Jack's Corner Road. 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.