



# 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

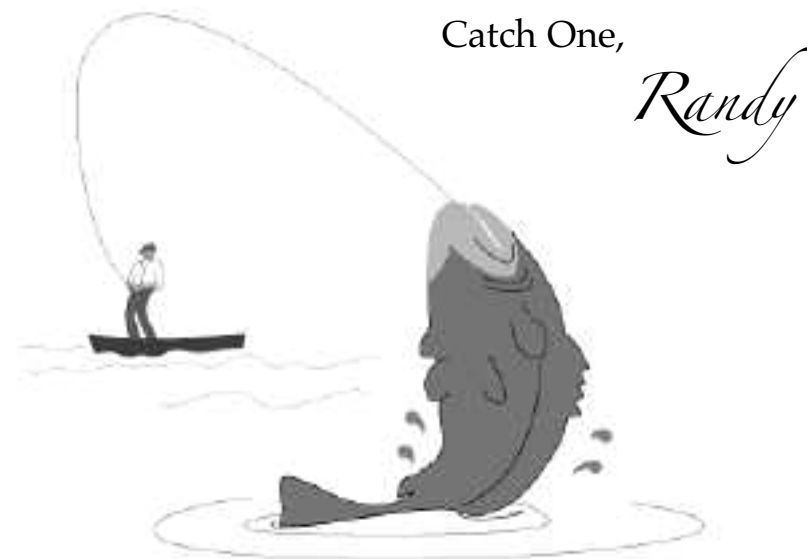
# From Randy's Desk . . .

I would like to open this newsletter on a good note, "We had a great banquet!" To everyone who was in attendance, thank you for coming and supporting this year's fundraiser. To Gary and the banquet committee, thank you for a banquet that the chapter can be proud of.

On the more serious side of protecting our cold water resources I attended the cold water conference in February in State College. While sitting in some of the programs I did learn some interesting information. One of the more interesting items was learning that windmill companies give out conservationist of the year awards! As I listened to the program speaker I couldn't help but think that one could get an award for doing a better job of cutting down trees for roadways through forested land and clearing acres of trees to erect scenic windmills. When I asked him if protecting the pristine value of the land was conservation, I did not get an answer!

As I write this, 700, 000 acres of public forest land is being leased by the gas extraction industry in Pennsylvania. This is land that we hunt, fish, camp and hike on. I feel a moratorium is needed to protect the rest of our public lands. Without protection of our public lands what legacy will we pass to the future generations?

I also believe a severance tax is needed. With the tax in place, enough new income would be generated to support future state budgets and no new public land would have to be leased. Also, a portion of the severance tax should be set aside to remediate environmental damage, past and future, caused by the extraction industries. If you agree please contact our legislators and let them know how you feel.



## Mountain Laurel Chapter Trout Unlimited 2010 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

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## The Flyline

Gary Cooper, Editor  
Rear 704 Scalp Avenue  
Johnstown, PA 15904  
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

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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



What a winter! Cold weather chilled our bones and snow kept us penned in and depressed. Now I'm sure that the winter sports enthusiasts had a blast, but for most of us, winter can not go away fast enough. One blessing was that the snow pack did not melt too fast, and we were spared the worst of the flooding which can occur.

Let's try to forget about the winter and enjoy the spring to come. A friend of mine told me that he had seen some Coltsfoot the other day. Now there is a sure sign that spring is on the way. The first stockings of our streams have taken place, and the Olives have begun to hatch. Shaking off the ravages of winter, nature is preparing to unleash its wonderful show of spring flowers and prolific fly hatches to brighten our spirits. A friend of mine, whom I know has caught many trout already this year, told me that he got his first fish the other day. He said it was about a twenty-one inch rainbow. You see, he only counts fish over twenty inches. It must be spring! Let the fishing begin.

Gary Cooper

## *Chapter News and Notes*

Bob Wardrop and Butch Kerchenske once again led chapter volunteers in the stocking of local streams during the preseason stockings. Thanks to all of those who helped in these efforts.

With the ongoing efforts at monitoring water quality in Somerset County, it is important that we begin to coordinate such efforts here in Cambria County. This is one way to insure that pollution from Marcellus Shale drilling can be pin-pointed when it occurs.

Steve Cooney has been working hard at protecting native stocks of brook Trout on the headwaters of the Conemaugh River. This is part of the Eastern Brook Trout Initiative being carried out throughout the east.

## *Natural Gas and the Marcellus Shale*

Much has been written and broadcast about the drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus shale formation. In a recent article in the Tribune Democrat, Mountain Laurel chapter's position on this drilling, its environmental impacts, and the need for an extraction tax was aired. MLTU wants to avoid another fiasco like the damage reeked upon our water resources when coal was king a century ago. If we do not have a tax on this drilling, with funds directed to the DEP for reclamation and cleanup and to local municipalities for road repair and such, we will end up with the same mess that coal mining produced. You, as concerned citizens and environmentalists, need to contact your legislators now to ensure that not only is a tax passed, but that portions of it will go to the entities mentioned above and not into the state's general fund.

Have you seen the ads on television against new energy taxes on oil and natural gas?

Have you also seen that these ads are sponsored by the Petroleum Institute? Big oil and gas do not want new taxes. They do not care what damage they do to our water resources.

They only care about profit. They are being heard. Get your voice out there and be heard. Protect what we have. Save our cold and warm-water resources. As Smoky the Bear said, "Only You Can Make a Difference."

## *Chapter Banquet - A Great Evening*

On Saturday, March 21, 2010, The Mountain Laurel Chapter held its annual fund-raising banquet at the Holiday Inn in downtown Johnstown. A crowd of over one hundred fifty chapter members and supporters of the chapter gathered to examine the wonderful selection of prizes to be raffled off. Besides a mountain of fishing tackle for the fly fisher, there were prizes for the ladies and kids under twelve. Silent auctions and special raffles highlighted the pre-dinner hours. One could purchase a chance on a gift certificate to a restaurant, A chance at a tree full of lottery tickets, or a custom built fly rod. Ticket sellers were busy selling tickets while musical entertainment was provided by the group *Meat, Potatoes, and Gravy*.

At 6:30 dinner was served. After the delicious meal, chapter awards were presented.

President's pins were given to Missy Reckner for her work with Trout in the Classroom,

Ron Sell for his long service to chapter workdays, and to Steve Cooney for his work with the Eastern Brook Trout Initiative. President Randy Buchanan presented the chapter's President's Award to Mr. Rick Lorson, area fisheries manager for the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission for his work in preserving and enhancing the cold-water resources in our area. Chapter Secretary, Dave Maher, presented the Order of the Mug, the chapter's top award to a member, to Mr. Bill Conlin for his work on chapter work days, attendance at chapter functions, such as fly tying, and many other activities, such as rod building for the chapter. Gary Cooper announced that Dave Maher had won the Sportsman of the Year Award. The award will be presented to Dave at the Johnstown Sportsmen's Banquet later. Gary Cooper and Mrs. Connie Arcuri then presented the Joseph Arcuri, Jr. Award to Mr. Ralph V. Mostoller. The award is given for a lifetime of service to the cold-water environment. Mr. Mostoller is the oldest living member of the Mountain Laurel Chapter. He is 102 years old.

The raffles of the prizes followed and many people went home happy. For the others, there is always next year. All in all the evening was a great success, and a lot of money was raised to continue the important work of our chapter. Thanks to all who helped and to all who attended.

Gary Cooper  
Banquet Chairman

## **Upcoming** Chapter Events

### **Monthly Chapter Meetings**

Tuesday, January 12, 2010	Monthly chapter meetings are held at the Gander Mountain Lodge at 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors meetings are held prior to the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, February 9, 2010	
Tuesday, March 9, 2010	
Tuesday, April 13, 2010	

### **Upcoming Chapter Events**

Yellow Creek Cleanup - Saturday, May 1, 2010

Meet at the New Frontier Restaurant at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast. Instructions will be given at the restaurant and crews will leave from there. The workday will begin at 9:00 a.m.

Shade Creek Cleanup - Saturday, May 15, 2010

The group will meet at the Iron Bridge on Shade Creek at 8:00 a.m.

Little Paint Creek Cleanup - Sunday, April 24, 2010

Meet at Windber Recreation Park at 10:00 a.m. Food will be provided at Windber Rec. afterward.

Outdoor Heritage Days - May 6 & 7, 2010

Held at the Summer's Best Two Weeks youth camp on the Quemahoning Dam. Volunteers will meet there at 8:30 a.m. The event will run from 9 a.m. till 3 p.m. each day.

Bens Creek Work Days

The chapter has four work days scheduled. July 24 & 31, 2010 and Aug 14 & 21, 2010. Volunteers will meet at the Doug Meagher property at 8:00 a.m.

Que Creek Stocking - April 16, 2010

Meet at Jenner Community Sportsmen at 8:00 a.m. Volunteers can meet at Burger King at Jenner Crossroads at 7:45 if they do not know the way.

Mary Ann's Creek July 16, 17, 18, 19, 2010

A project of the Eastern Brook Trout Initiative. Call Randy Buchanan for details.

### **Yellow Creek Coalition Pig Roast**

The event will be held at the pavilion of Ron Lundquest on Jack's Corner Road from 1-5 p.m. Food will be served from 2-4 p.m. Tickets are available from Randy Buchanan.