



# The Flyline

Mountain Laurel Chapter  
*Trout Unlimited*

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

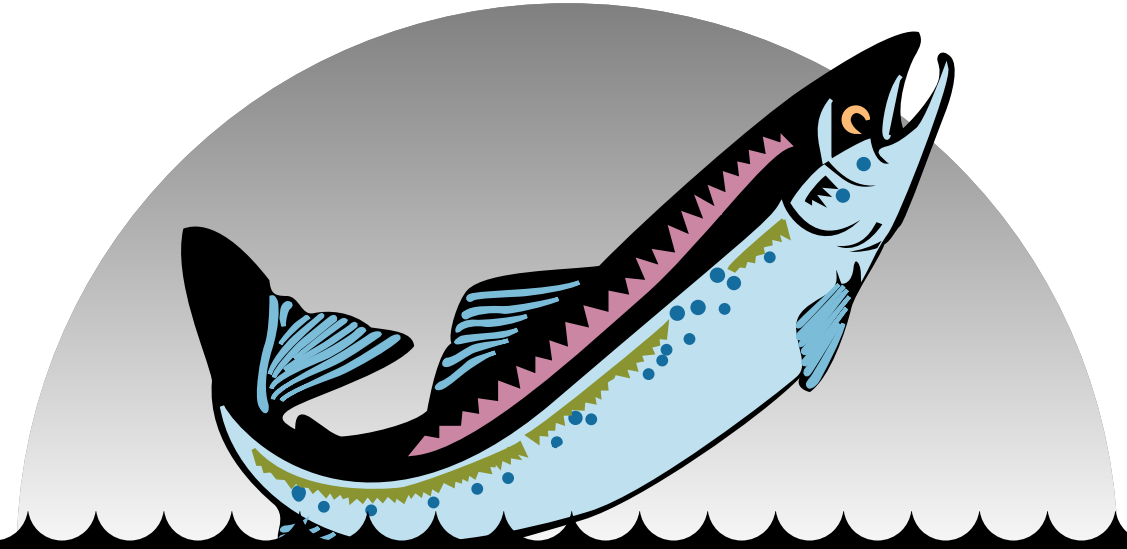
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# The Flyline

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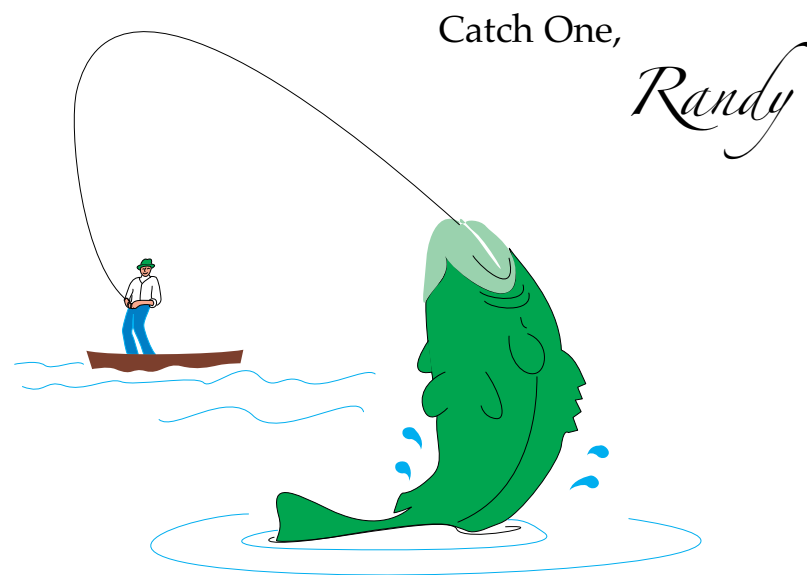
# TROUT UNLIMITED

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF  
MOUNTAIN LAUREL CHAPTER  
TROUT UNLIMITED

# From Randy's Desk . . .

As I sit to write this, I realize that it is only a short forward cast into summer. Where has spring gone and with it the great hatches we look forward to. Summer brings with it its own challenge for those of us on the water. I eagerly anticipate one of my favorite hatches, the Tricos. I also look forward to terrestrial fishing. Summer is also the time when we conduct our stream improvement projects. Low summer water flows can make it difficult for trout to survive. The work we have done on some of our local streams has increased water flow as well as aeration, making it easier for trout to get by. Making it easier for aquatic species to survive is what Trout Unlimited is about.

A few weeks ago, I attended a Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission meeting. I quickly realized that their staff people also care about aquatic species. I also realized that the majority of Fish Commissioners really do not. Have you heard the slogan "Resource First" used by the PFBC? I first heard that slogan many years ago when it was first adopted. I can't tell you what I added to it at the time. I thought it was just a nice slogan that would never be taken seriously by the PFBC. When I recently attended that Commission meeting, I once again heard the slogan "Resource First." Sadly, most of the Commissioners do not take this slogan seriously. The staff people take this quite seriously and try hard to put the resource first. We entrust the Commissioners with making decisions that will put the resource first and protect our aquatic resources. As far as I could see, the Commissioners couldn't decide to protect endangered mussels in the Allegheny River from unnecessary dredging. Now it may seem to some of you that a mussel is no big thing. However, if the Commissioners can't protect a small mussel that the PFBC staff recommended for protection, do you believe that we can count on them to protect something as large and important as a watershed?



## Mountain Laurel Chapter Trout Unlimited 2008 OFFICERS

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Johnstown, PA 15904

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Johnstown, PA 15904

## DIRECTORS

Mark Lee                      Dave Sewak  
Chris Reighard              Jassim Hassan  
Butch Kerchenske              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.

## The Flyline

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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



Most of us who fish for trout enjoy catching the average fish. We admire them for their natural beauty and ever changing color, as we turn them in the light. I personally enjoy catching a four inch long juvenile as much as a larger trout. These little fellows are perfect copies of larger trout, only with parr marks sometimes. I generally don't worry about big fish because these big ones are easily put down by the first fisherman of the day. Many don't like the brightness of the sun and feed only at low light or nocturnally. I'm talking about trout from sixteen inches on up to the great trout of twenty-seven or twenty-eight inches.

Still, it is nice to set up on a take and have the line suddenly begin to peel off the reel. This is a time of heart-pounding excitement. Big browns are the most beautiful in my opinion. With their massive tails and dime-like black spots, these giants of the trout world fight deep, shaking their heads and using the currents and rocks as their ally. Their coppery tones and yellow bellies, along with red-tipped tails and fins show the wildness of their stream origins. Big rainbows often exhibit scarlet gill covers and a long scarlet slash down each side. Finer spotted, their olive backs blend in perfectly with the stream bottom. Rainbows can be explosive fighters, leaping from the water in an attempt to dislodge the hook.

Each time I catch one of these big trout, I am struck by the miracle of a trout having survived from a tiny egg to become such a magnificent representation of God's palate. In a world of beautiful things, they blend in with all of the rest of nature's magnificence. May there always be the mystery and surprise of the big trout.

Gary Cooper

## State Council News:

The big focus remains concern over proposed natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale formation. PATU is particularly concerned about the tremendous amount of water needed for "Fracking." Another concern is what will be done with waste water. It must be treated properly to return it to our streams. Enforcement of rules may also be a problem. Is DEP equipped to handle this amount of inspection? For more details refer back to the spring issue of Pennsylvania Trout.

"Back the Brookie " license plates are still available from PA Trout. See the summer issue for an order form.

## Chapter News and Notes

- \* Chapter volunteers have been helping out on the new Maple Run bridge to the Parking lot. Abutments are up, and the deck will be put in place soon.
- \* Chapter volunteers helped out at several schools during end of year activities for trout in the Class Room. Thanks to those who helped.
- \* Chapter volunteers helped to clean the picnic area for the pig Roast on Friday, June 19th.
- \* July will bring the first work days on the Bens Creek. Plan to be at the work site by 9:00 a.m.



## *Yellow Creek Coalition Pig Roast*

The second annual Yellow Creek Coalition Pig Roast, held on Saturday, June 20, 2009 at Ron Lundquist's pavilion, raised a great deal of money for the new parking lot bridge. A crowd of between one hundred thirty and one hundred fifty people gave generously of their time and money for a good cause. Bob Reeder, Bob George, Joe Nypauper, and others did a splendid job of serving the hungry crowd. The food came from Holland Brothers. Randy and Rick Buchanan sold rod tickets. Gary Cooper and Rick sold raffle tickets. Derrick Miller and two others from Fort Bedford Chapter manned the entrance and sold tickets. Barry Moldovan did a magnificent job gathering donations of prizes, which the crowd bid on eagerly. Fred Sherlock and Charley Whitman sold tickets, as well as all three chapters. Tom Murray handled the parking.

When all of the prizes were raffled off and the event was over, Randy Buchanan made this statement: "Some of you might say 'I didn't win anything.' You're wrong! You won yourself a place to fish for now and future generations." Amen!



## **Upcoming** Chapter Events

### **Monthly Chapter Meetings**

Tuesday, July 14, 2009  
Tuesday, August 11, 2009  
Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Meetings are held at Gander Mountain Lodge at 7:00 p.m. The Board of Directors meets at 6:30 p.m. at the same location.

### **Chapter Work Days**

Saturday, July 11, 2009  
Saturday, July 25, 2009

These workdays will take place at 9:00 a.m. at the Doug Meagher property along Route 403 (The Old Somerset Pike) on Bens Creek. Additional workdays will be announced at chapter meetings.

July work days on the new Maple Run Bridge. These work days will be announced at meetings or members will be notified.

### **Chapter Elections**

Nominations for chapter officers and board members will open as the first item of new business at the September meeting. Nominations will again be open under old business at the October and November meetings. The election will be held as the first item of new business at the November meeting.

### **Chapter Fund-Raising Banquet**

Saturday, March 20, 2010

Holiday Inn, downtown Johnstown.