



The Flyline

Mountain Laurel Chapter
Trout Unlimited

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

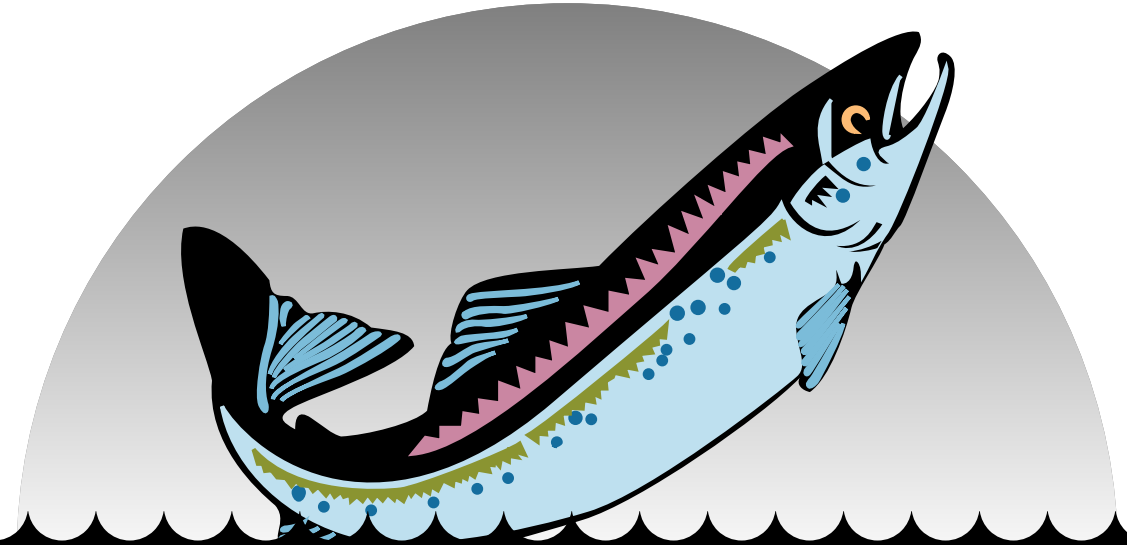
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The Flyline

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WINTER 2010



TROUT UNLIMITED

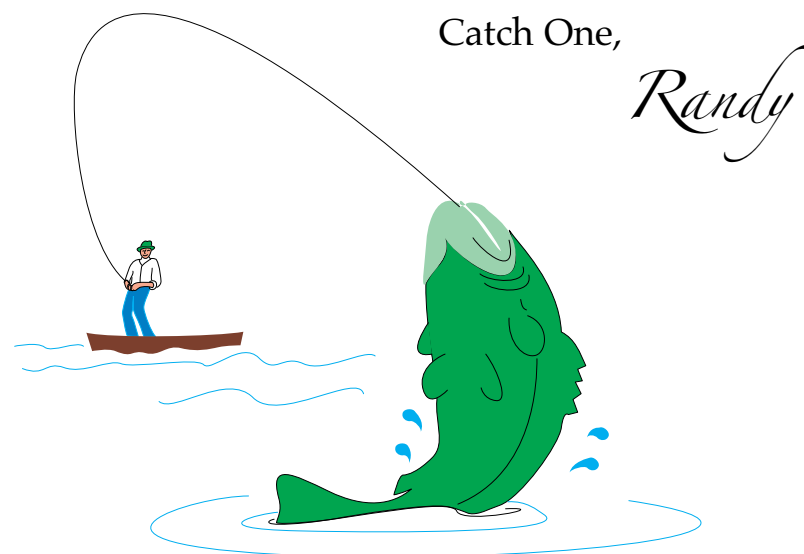
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
MOUNTAIN LAUREL CHAPTER
TROUT UNLIMITED

From Randy's Desk . . .

First of all, I hope that all of you had a very merry Christmas, and I wish all of you a safe and healthy new year. With all of the world's problems, we all need to pull together to do what we can to preserve the cold-water environment for the future. Here in Pennsylvania we face monumental threats with the drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale formation. DEP is understaffed, and recent cuts in personnel have left it further weakened. Much of our work could go for naught if Pollution from these wells and the draining of our waterways occur as we expect. It seems that Pennsylvania's government has turned a blind eye to our environmental future. Make a list of our current legislators and our governor, and remember what they have done when the next several elections roll around.

As for the chapter, winter brings fly tying classes at Gander Mountain, a dinner presentation by noted fisherman Ed Engle on January 19th at Rizzo's, and, of course, our annual fund raising banquet on Saturday, March 20, 2010 at the Holiday Inn downtown. Anyone who is interested in helping with tying classes is welcome to participate. Simply contact me and I will fill you in on details. Reservations for the Engle presentation cost \$25.00 and can be had by notifying me at 467-4034. The dinner is open to the public. Reservations must be made in advance through me. For banquet tickets contact Gary Cooper at 266-4763. Please see "Upcoming Chapter Events" for more details on all of these events.

I hope to see many of you at these events and at chapter meetings during the winter. Let's have another successful year at MLTU.



Mountain Laurel Chapter Trout Unlimited 2010 OFFICERS

President
Randy Buchanan
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Johnstown, PA 15904

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Johnstown, PA 15904

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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.

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



Winter! Snowy, cold, and chilling! Time to sit in a warm house, and tie flies for the coming trout season. This year, I have finally stopped to think about my tying. Each year, I tie hundreds of different flies for the coming season, only to use a few dozen trusted flies during the season. In the past I have tried to match the infinite variety of insects which nature provides along the trout stream. Certainly, I need to have imitations of the major hatches during the year, but do I need all of the minor one's, too?

This year I have decided to tie only those things which I use the most. I will tie them in a variety of sizes and be satisfied. Trout are very attuned to their environment, but they are not nearly as hard to fool as we sometimes think. Otherwise we would not need attractor flies. The Adams would be just another fly.

This year I am going to concentrate on stealth and careful presentation. I will try to present the fly in as natural a manner as possible. I will try to disturb the water as little as possible. I'm going to try to imitate the heron. I will use the flies that I have confidence in. I'll bet that I catch just as many ,if not more, trout than I did last year. Think about it when you sit down to tie this winter.

Gary Cooper

State Council News and Notes

Tickets for a chance to win a day of fishing with Charlie Meck are now on sale. Each ticket costs ten dollars. Each ticket contains four numbers, and the winning number will be based on the evening drawing of the daily number of the Pennsylvania Lottery. More information is available on the MLTU website. Tickets may be purchased by calling Randy Buchanan at 814-467-4034. The winner will be drawn on January 30, 2010. Proceeds benefit the Yellow Creek Coalition

Len Lichvar, MLTU stream chairman, attended a permit hearing for a proposed mine near Beaverdam Creek in Quemahoning Township. Beaverdam Creek is a tributary of the Stoney Creek River. Len presented testimony listing the chapter's concerns over the issuing of the permit. He also drafted a letter to DEP on behalf of the chapter. The Stoystown Water Authority is also opposed to the issuance of the permit.

Recent pollution of the Stoney Creek River has been traced to the property of Stoystown Auto Wreckers. Fortunately, the owner of the company is cooperating fully and will clean up the problem. Stoystown Auto Wreckers has long been a supporter of MLTU.

There are 18 or 19 gas wells drilling in the Marcellus Shale in Somerset County already. We anticipate many more.

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission officers have been trained and will monitor Marcellus gas wells near approved trout waters.

Len Lichvar predicts that TDS (Total Dissolved Solids) will be the new AMD (Acid Mine Drainage) as a recurring threat to the cold-water environment.

The Somerset County Conservation District wants to invest in water- monitoring devices which constantly monitor high quality waters in Somerset County. These are called In-Stream Data Loggers. MLTU will probably be helping to support these acquisitions financially.

The battle goes on over windmills on Shafer Mountain.

Ed Engle to Speak

Noted Colorado angler/author Ed Engle will speak at a dinner and demonstration at Rizzo's Restaurant on January 19, 2010. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. followed by Mr. Engle's demonstration of fly tying. You will also have the chance to see the world debut of Mr. Leonard Lichvar tying flies. This will be as rare as seeing Santa Claus.

Ed Engle is a fishing friend of John Gierach and A. K. Best and is a highly accomplished angler. He is the author of *Tying Small Flies* and *Fishing Small Flies*. It will be a treat to hear Ed speak. Dave Sewak, MLTU board member arranged this appearance.

The dinner will be Rizzo's Italian Feast. Reservations for the event may be made by contacting Randy Buchanan at 814-467-4034. You may send Randy a check. We don't hold a lot of social events, but this should be a good one. Anyone who has an interest may attend. This is not limited to chapter members only. Get your reservations to Randy, and join us for a great evening.

Spring Banquet Draws Near

By the time our thoughts turn to eager anticipation of the spring thaw, it will be time for the annual fund-raising banquet of Mountain Laurel Chapter. On March 20, 2010, just about the first day of spring, the banquet will take place at the Holiday Inn in downtown Johnstown. That day will be here before you know it!

The basic details of the banquet remain the same. Tickets for the banquet cost \$30.00 each. Most members will receive at least one ticket in the mail. Regulars will receive at least two. Anyone can request more tickets by calling me (Gary Cooper) at 814-266-4763.

I will be happy to send out more tickets. The doors to the banquet open at 5:00 p.m. Dinner will be served at approximately 6:30. In between attendees can browse our prizes and purchase tickets for the various raffles to be held later. A short awards program will follow dinner, followed by the prize raffles. We accept VISA and MASTERCARD as well as cash. We will have a nice variety of prizes, as well as women's prizes and children's prizes.

Since we only hold one primary fund-raiser each year, it is important that many of you come out and support our chapter. If you don't have the time to come out and volunteer during the year, this is one way you can help. Bring your friends, your wife, or your sweetie. You will have a great time. Also bring plenty of money or plastic. This is a fund-raising banquet. I already have tickets, so order away. I hope to see you there!

Gary Cooper

Upcoming Chapter Events

Monthly Chapter Meetings

Tuesday, January 12, 2010
Tuesday, February 9, 2010
Tuesday, March 9, 2010
Tuesday, April 13, 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.

Chapter Fly Tying Courses

Monday Course (Beginners)
Monday, January 11, 2010
Monday, January 18, 2010
Monday, January 25, 2010
Monday, February 1, 2010
Monday, February 8, 2010
Monday, February 15, 2010
Saturday Course (Beginners)
Saturday, January 9, 2010
Saturday, January 16, 2010
Saturday, January 23, 2010
Saturday, January 30, 2010
Saturday, February 7, 2010

Monday night course meetings are held at the Gander Mountain Lodge at 6:00 p.m. The class runs until 8:30 p.m.

Saturday course meetings are held at Gander Mountain Lodge from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Interested persons should sign up at the front desk at Gander Mountain. The cost of the course is \$20.00, payable at the first course meeting.

Other Chapter Events

Ed Engle Presentation - January 19, 2010
Rizzo's Restaurant - \$25.00 per person - Call Randy Buchanan at 467-4034
Bring friends! Not limited to chapter members.

Banquet Committee Meetings

Wednesday, January 20, 2010
Wednesday, February 17, 2010
Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Chapter Fund-Raising Banquet

Saturday, March 20, 2010 - Holiday Inn - Downtown Johnstown - Tickets - \$30.00
For tickets call Gary Cooper at 266-4763.

Yellow Creek Coalition Pig Roast

Saturday, June 19 2010 - Ron Lundquist's Pavilion - Tickets - \$20.00 Call Randy Buchanan for tickets. (467-4034)

Tickets are on sale for a chance to win a day of fishing with Charlie Meck. Tickets cost \$10.00. Winner to be drawn on January 30, 2010. Call Randy Buchanan at 467-4034 for tickets. Based on Pa. Lottery daily number (evening)