



# The Flyline

Mountain Laurel Chapter  
*Trout Unlimited*

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

RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED

PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT # 19  
JOHNSTOWN, PA

# The Flyline

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 19

FALL 2010



# TROUT UNLIMITED

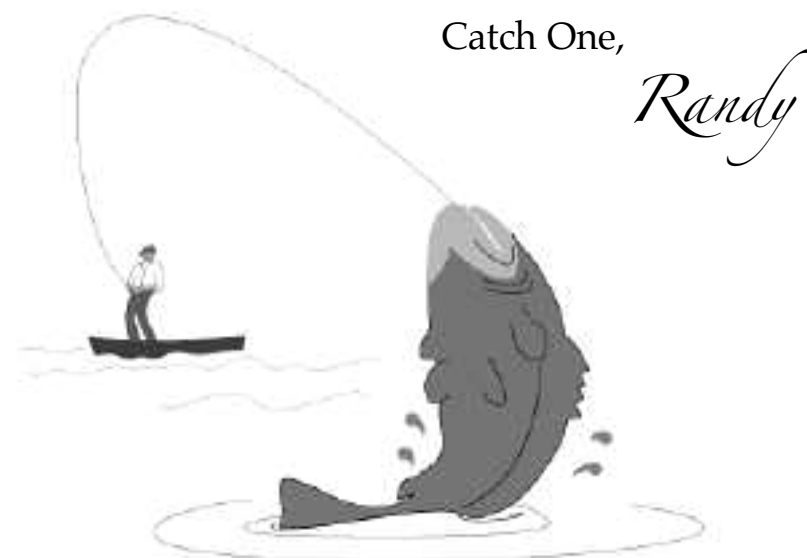
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF  
MOUNTAIN LAUREL CHAPTER  
TROUT UNLIMITED

# *From Randy's Desk . . .*

They say that the oil leaking into the gulf has finally been stopped. I hope they are correct. The spill has gone on for over 100 days, and the final cleanup will go on for years. The spill has cost many people their jobs, caused a great loss of income, and caused the loss of recreational dollars. The immediate effects have changed a way of life for many people, and the lingering effects will go on for some time. This oil spill is said to be the worst man-made environmental disaster to have occurred in this country. I don't think so!

Oil leaked into the Gulf of Mexico for a little over 100 days. Acid mine drainage has leaked into this nation's rivers and streams for over 100 years. AMD has destroyed far more shorelines, rivers and streams, wet lands, and forested areas in one hundred years than the oil leak has in over 100 years. AMD even has an adverse affect on the quality of the water entering the Gulf of Mexico. There was a moratorium placed on oil production in the Gulf to find answers as to why the accident happened. Just think what would happen if a moratorium were placed on the extraction of coal, oil, and gas until companies involved in these activities prove they can do their jobs safely!

I'm glad the end is in sight for the Gulf Oil Crisis, as I am sure all of you are. I wonder what would have happened if the same media coverage and cleanup efforts used in the Gulf had been used to clean up AMD?



## **Mountain Laurel Chapter Trout Unlimited 2010 OFFICERS**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <i>President</i><br><b>Randy Buchanan</b><br>1745 Regal Drive<br>Johnstown, PA 15904 | <i>Vice-President</i><br><b>Gary Cooper</b><br>Rear 704 Scalp Avenue<br>Johnstown, PA 15904 |
|--|---|

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <i>Secretary</i><br><b>Dave Maher</b><br>417 Old Farm Lane<br>Johnstown, PA 15904 | <i>Treasurer</i><br><b>Pat Buchanan</b><br>1745 Regal Drive<br>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**

Gary Cooper, Editor  
Rear 704 Scalp Avenue  
Johnstown, PA 15904  
www.mltu.org

PRINTED BY:  
**Damin Printing Company, LLC**  
122 South Locust Street  
Ebensburg, PA 15931  
Ph: (814) 472-9530 www.daminprinting.com

## **Membership Application and Renewals**

If you are already a member of the chapter, you will receive a renewal notice in the mail. You may renew by check, credit card, or online at [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org). If you are not a member, Go to [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org) to apply. We will not have application forms any more. New memberships will be handled at the national website.

**Regular Membership** .....\$35

**Family Membership** .....\$50

All other types of memberships will be listed on the TU website.



Can you believe that fall has arrived? Summer, with its hot weather has fled for another year. All of the sun worshipers will have to wait for next year or go south for the winter. Soon nature will paint the landscape in reds, oranges, and yellows. Cool, crisp nights will be followed by bluebird skies and warm afternoons. Squirrels and chipmunks will scurry about storing nuts and seeds for the winter. Grouse will drum while turkeys will forage in the forests and fields. Brook Trout will pair off and swirl about in the ancient ritual of mating. Olives will return to mate above the riffles. Bucks will begin to rub and mark their territories. Wild grapes will hang heavy on the vine. What a magnificent time of year.

The smells of autumn fill the senses. Wood smoke curls from a chimney with its cheery warmth. The scent of burning leaves fills the country air. The tangy, spicy aroma of apple cider and the aroma of roasting sausage at fall festivals stimulates the appetite.

The forest has a smell all of its own. Have you ever smelled a handful of hickory nuts or the acrid smell of a walnut? The smell of burnt gunpowder delights the olfactory senses as does the smell of Hoppe's Number 9 cleaning fluid. What about the aroma of turkey roasting at Thanksgiving or an apple pie cooling on a windowsill?

Sounds? The sharp rattle of two bucks fighting echoes through a hollow. The sharp barking of a grey squirrel sounds from high in an oak tree. The rapid thump, thump, thump whirr of a grouse booms from the distance. The sharp screech of a migrating hawk startles us from above. The roar of a crowd at a fall football game fills the stadium. The soft swish of a fly rod on a foggy morning calms the senses. A twig snaps underfoot.

The metallic click of closing a fine old side-by-side gives satisfaction. Do you think I like fall? Don't you?

Gary Cooper

## Chapter News and Notes

Please be sure to contact your state representative and state senator concerning the matter of a proposed severance tax on Marcellus Shale natural gas extraction in Pennsylvania. The legislature has promised to pass this measure by October the first.

Tell your legislators to make sure that a portion of this tax is dedicated to aquatic conservation and that the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission should receive a portion of this money since it is charged with protecting the waters of the Commonwealth from pollution and degradation. Call now as the deadline is approaching. Even better, pay a visit to their local offices, and let your voice be heard.

Dave Sewak has accepted a new position as head of PA TROUT'S Marcellus Shale Coordination. Mr. Sewak has been active in conservation efforts for many years now and is a member of the Board of Directors of MLTU. Congratulations, Dave!

MLTU has recently served as a sponsoring organization for the fifth annual Quemahoning Classic held at the Quemahoning Dam on July 10, 2010.

MLTU has long been a supporter of a conservation release from the Quemahoning Dam. The day has finally arrived that this release has become a reality. The daily release of 11.8 million gallons of water into the last mile of Quemahoning Creek and the Stony-creek River will improve and restore additional aquatic life into these sections of streams. MLTU is proud to have helped in making this wish a reality.

## Chapter Participates in Mary Ann's Creek Project

On July 17th a work crew of MLTU members traveled to Canoe Creek State Park in Blair County. Mary Ann's Creek is a small Creek that drains into Canoe Lake. The stream improvement project was coordinated by the John Kennedy/Blair County Chapter at a cost of \$37,000. 90 tons of crushed rock, two truck loads of hemlock logs, rebar, straw, and seed were in place along the stream. Machinery included a dozer, two bobcats, and three excavators. The work was divided into sections for various work parties. About 45 volunteers showed up each day.

The MLTU group was assigned the uppermost section. Our assignment was to install 85 feet of mud-sill on an outside bend of the stream. The experienced crew completed this installation in about five hours. Overall, the project had 33 devices and 285 feet of mud-sill to install. Though the work was expected to take four days to complete, Chuck Winters, project coordinator, reported that the work was completed in just two days. Lunch was provided each day.

If you travel to Canoe Creek State Park, you will want to visit the Lime Kiln Ruins adjacent to Mary Ann's Creek. A walking trail parallels the creek, and much of the stream work is visible from this trail. A report on the project will appear in PA Trout.

## *Trout in the Classroom*

Trout in the classroom (TIC) continues to grow across the state, with over 160 TIC projects in public and private schools! Recall, TIC started in Pennsylvania in the fall of 2006 with just six projects across the Commonwealth. MLTU is proud to support TIC at the following schools: North Star East Elementary School, Berlin-Brothersvalley High School, Forest Hills High School, Shade-Central City High School, Conemaugh Township Intermediate School, Penn Cambria Middle School, and, new this year, Saint Benedict School in Richland. Also new this year is a second project at Penn Cambria Middle School. Mr. Justin Wheeler, a seventh grade teacher, will expand upon lessons learned in Mr. Ben Watt's sixth grade class. Special thanks goes to the Cresson Sportsman's Club, which provided the cash match to the TIC grant awarded to Penn Cambria for their new project. The Saint Benedict project is funded by MLTU, courtesy of a \$500 donation made to the chapter's TIC program by Ed Burgess before he moved to Oregon, the Johnstown Sportsmen's Club, and the Conemaugh Valley Conservancy/Kiski Conemaugh Stream Team.

While Melissa Reckner has done an excellent job coordinating these programs for MLTU, other work obligations will prevent her from being in the classroom and field this year; therefore, volunteers are needed to help deliver TIC-related lessons in these schools.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Melissa at 814-444-2669 or [mreckner@kcstreamteam.org](mailto:mreckner@kcstreamteam.org) or Randy Buchanan at 814-467-4034.



## **Upcoming** Chapter Events

### **Monthly Chapter Meetings**

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Tuesday, October 12, 2010  | Monthly chapter meetings are held at Gander Mountain Lodge at 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors meetings are held on the same date at 6:30 p.m. |
| Tuesday, November 9, 2010  |  |
| Tuesday, December 14, 2010 |  |

### **Board of Director's Meetings**

Same as above  
Monthly Board of Directors meetings are held at the Gander Mountain Lodge at 6:30 PM  
The Regular Meeting follows

### **Chapter Elections**

Chapter elections will be held at the regular meetings beginning in September. Nominations will be held under new business in September. They will continue under old business in October and November. The election will be the first order of business under new business in November. Chapter officers and One-year board members will be elected

### **Chapter Fund Raising Banquet**

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Saturday, March 19, 2011 | Holiday Inn, Downtown Johnstown<br>Doors open at 5:00 PM Tickets are available at 266-4763. They cost \$30 each. Tickets will be available after the first of the New Year. |
|--------------------------|---|