



The Flyline

Mountain Laurel Chapter
Trout Unlimited

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Johnstown, PA 15904

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The Flyline

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 33

SPRING 2014



TROUT UNLIMITED

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
MOUNTAIN LAUREL CHAPTER
TROUT UNLIMITED

From Randy's Desk . . .

Due to circumstances beyond my control, I am writing this on a day when I should be at a chapter work day. I can't help but I wonder if enough help will show up to do the job. We, as members of MLTU always have plenty to do. Unlike some chapters, MLTU continues to hold regular monthly membership meetings through out the year.

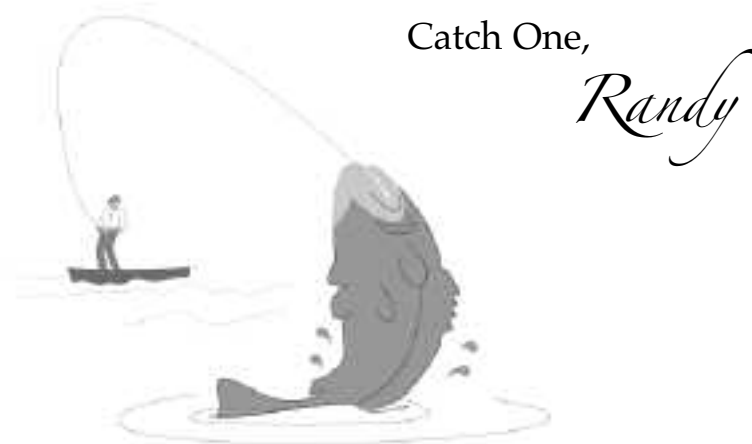
Trout in the Classroom is a program that keeps us busy late fall, winter and into the spring of the year. With the number of schools in the program and more asking to get involved we need more help than we have.

In the fall of the year Gary's thoughts turn to pursuing big bucks and organizing the upcoming banquet. Each year he asks for new blood to come to the banquet meetings because this is how he gets new ideas to raise the funds that the chapter needs to function.

Spring finds us doing stream and roadside clean-ups. Picking trash may not be the most important thing you can do as a TU member, but people do notice.

Summer finds all of us too busy, yet many TU members find time to come to workdays. This year in August we will be working on Potter Creek. The project will make a long overdue return to a stream where MLTU spent many summer months improving trout habitat. Also, this year we may be working on Bens Creek. Let's not forget George who leads our water monitoring of local streams which is a year long project.

If by reading this you get the feeling we have a lot going on, you are right! If by reading this you get the idea I am asking for more help, you are right! Come on out and help with a project and find out why you became a Trout Unlimited member!



Mountain Laurel Chapter Trout Unlimited 2014 OFFICERS

President
Randy Buchanan
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Johnstown, PA 15904

Vice-President
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Johnstown, PA 15904

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Johnstown, PA 15904

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David Wright
Butch Kerchenske

Jassim Hassan
Len Lichvar
Andy Fresch

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 of Directors meetings are held at 6:30 PM on the same day as the regular meeting at the Gander Mountain Store.

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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Johnstown, PA 15904
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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. If you are not a member, Go to 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.



Natural Thoughts . . .



Winter was long and brutal! The snows first cascaded down in early December. It did not linger continually until late January. The real problem was the cold, a hard unrelenting chill which froze the land and kept people in doors. There were at least four days where the wind chill was 20 below or lower. When the wind blew, it instantly hurt the sinuses and froze the skin. In early February, an ice storm left a glistening sheet of ice

Covering the ground and everything not treated like the roads. The chill hurt the body and especially the spirits. Everyone had "Cabin Fever."

Age and good sense have tempered my winter fishing. I no longer venture out to brave frozen fingers and ice in the guides. My younger friends are still out there hauling them in. I, however, remain in the house, tying flies and reading good fishing books.

Now, finally it is March, and though the weather is still cold at times, there is sometimes a hint of spring in the air. The flies have all been tied. The equipment has been checked and cleaned. The car has been loaded. It is finally time to venture out to the streams. Parking in a familiar spot, I do not hurry. I listen to the sound of the rushing water churning among the rocks. A few early birds chirp out their songs among the branches of the trees, though the branches are still bare. Wild flowers have not yet begun to peek through, although here and there a patch of skunk cabbage has poked its head above the mud of springtime. Gradually, I don my waders and brogues. I string my rod and attach a pair of nymphs or a streamer and a nymph. I make my way slowly to a favored entry point along the lower stream. I ease into the water in the shallows, working my way along with my wading staff. Soon I am at shimmering glide where white water slides rapidly into a dark slick. I pull out some line and make a false cast or two. It is time for the first cast of the season!

Quemahoning Creek – A Watershed Odyssey

Lenny Lichvar and Greg Shustrick, Somerset Conservation District

For most of the 20th century, the Quemahoning Creek in Somerset County was virtually devoid of aquatic life due to irreversible AMD pollution. In the mid 1990's the public private partnership addressing the AMD issues in the entire Stonycreek River watershed focused evaluation, design and funding on the Quemahoning Creek sub-basin. The result was the implementation of two AMD passive treatment systems, stream bank stabilization, public acquisition of a major water reservoir, a cold water conservation release, a whitewater release, in-stream habitat restoration and the resultant resurrection of seven miles of restored year round cold water fishery and the creation of Pennsylvania's newest tail water trout fishery.

The impact has been and the lesson learned is that land and water resource conservation can create recreational opportunities that had never been possible before. In addition, when local leadership combines with public agency empowerment, the result is the creation of sustainable economic prosperity in an area previously devoid of any such quality of life improvements, creating an ongoing odyssey of success.

MLTU Banquet - A Great Evening

Saturday, March 22, 2014 marked the annual fund raising banquet of Mountain Laurel Chapter of Trout Unlimited. About 135 people actually attended. Did You? The attendees enjoyed an excellent dinner. After dinner a short program ensued. Randy Buchanan welcomed the crowd. Gary Cooper then thanked the banquet committee by name. He then presented the chapter's "Order of the Mug" to Chapter secretary Dave Maher as being the person who did the most to further the chapter's goals for the 2013-2014 year. Randy Buchanan then presented three silver trout pins to Dave Wright, Len Lichvar, and Andy Fresch for their contributions to the chapter. Tom Qualters, Jr. of the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission was presented the chapter's "President's Award" for his work with enhancing and preserving the cold-water environment.

The general raffles followed. Many attendees chose from a nice selection of prizes, and Brian Adams capped the evening when he won Bill Conlin's rod at the end of the evening. The chapter raised a lot of funding for our work. It was a great evening.

A vote of thanks must go to the banquet committee and to many volunteers who went to great lengths to ensure that the banquet would be a great success. It was! Next year's banquet is tentatively set for March 21, 2015. If you didn't make it this year, please mark this date down and plan to be there next year.

Gary Cooper
Banquet Chairman

Mountain Laurel Chapter Trout Unlimited *"SOCIAL"*

Wednesday, April 23, 2014

Rizzo's Restaurant

2200 Graham Avenue, Windber, PA

Fly Tying Demonstrations – 6:00 pm

Rizzo's Italian feast Dinner – 7:00 pm

Program

Quemahoning Creek – A Watershed Odyssey

Presented By – Lenny Lichvar and Greg Shustrick

Special Guest Appearance – Frank Bendick

Door Prizes

Donation – \$25.00 per person

R.S.V.P. to 814-467-4034 by April 21st

Quemahoning Rod and Gun Club

2014

We look forward to an exciting 2014 year. Thank you for your membership and supporting the Quemahoning Rod and Gun Club!

HUNTERS SAFETY COURSE CURRENTLY SCHEDULED on JUNE 7
for INFORMATION CALL: MARK BUCHANAN 893-5599 or MARK ROSE 754-4073

FUTURE EVENTS

Meetings Every 2nd Thursday of the Month at 7:30 pm

May 18-Kids Fishing Rodeo – 1 pm to 5 pm

June 8-Chicken BBQ 11:30 am - 1:30 pm - Tickets Sold by Club Members (Max 250 Tickets)

August 3 – Car Cruise (Rain Date August 17)

August 23 Club Members Picnic (NO Charge) 1 – 5 pm Covered Dish

October 12 Chicken BBQ 11:30 am – 1:30 pm – Tickets Sold by Club members (Max 250)

WEATHER PERMITTING EVENTS

October 19 Running Deer Shoot 1 pm – ?

October 26 Running Deer Shoot 1 pm – ?

November 9 Running Deer Shoot 1 pm – ?

November 16 Running Deer Shoot 1 pm – ?

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SHOOTING RANGE IS CLOSED DURING ANY FUNCTIONS BEING HELD AT THE CLUB!!!

2014 Upcoming Projects

Call for details Randy Buchanan 814-467-4034

March 29, 2014	Paint Creek Cleanup	9:00 am
April 5, 2014	Yellow Creek Baseline Study	10:00 am
April 11, 2014	Quemahoning Creek Stocking	8:00 am
April 19, 2014	Yellow Creek Cleanup	9:00 am
April 23, 2014	Rizzo's Event	6:00 pm
April 25, 2014	Conemaugh Twp TIC Rrelease Day	8:45 am
May 3, 2014	Shade Creek Cleanup	9:00 am
May 9, 2014	St. Benedicts TIC Release Day	9:00 am
May 16, 2014	Bishop McCort TIC Release Day	8:45 am
May 23, 2014	Cambria Heights TIC Release Day	8:30 am
May 28, 2014	Shade TIC Release Day	11:00 am
May 30, 2014	Berlin Brothersvalley TIC Release Day	

Meeting 2nd Tuesday of Each Month at 7:00 pm Gander Mountain

Upcoming Chapter Events

Regular Monthly Meetings

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

Tuesday, May 13, 2014

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Tuesday, August 12, 2014

Monthly meetings are held at the Gander mountain Lodge inside the Gander Mountain Store at 7:00 pm on April 8, 2014, Chuck Furmisky will present a slide show for the attendees about his fishing adventures.

Board of Director's Meetings

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

Tuesday, May 13, 2014

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Tuesday, August 12, 2014

Board of Directors Meetings are held in the Gander Lodge inside the Gander Mountain Store at 6:30 p.m. on the same day as the regular meeting.

Trout in the Classroom Releases

Shade School District - Wednesday, May 28, 2014

Conemaugh Township - Friday, April 25, 2014

Saint Benedicts - Friday, May 9, 2014

Cambria Heights - Friday, May 23, 2014

Bishop McCort - Friday, May 16, 2014

For locations and times, please call Randy Buchanan at 467-4034. Your help would be appreciated.

Chapter Work Days

Saturday, March 7, 2014 – Bens Creek Stocking – Meet at Becca House at 9:00 am

Saturday, March 29, 2014 – Paint Creek Litter Cleanup – Meet at pull off on Rte 160 at 9:00 am

Saturday, April 12 2014 – Opening Day of Regular Trout Season (Not a work day)

Saturday, April 19, 2014 – Yellow Creek Cleanup – Meet at the New Frontier Restaurant at 8:00 am

For Breakfast. Workday Begins at 9:00 am

Saturday, May 3, 2014 – Shade Creek Road Cleanup – Meet at New Ashtola at 9:00 am

Friday, April 11, 2014 – Quemahoning Creek Stocking – Meet at Burger King on Rte 30 at 7:30 am

September 12 – 14, 2014 – Shaver's Creek Community Center

Saturday, April 5, 2014 – Yellow Creek Invertebrate Survey – 10 am Project Parking Lot (YCC)

Saturday, June 28, 2014 – 9:00 am Parking Lot (YCC)

Upcoming Workdays - Dates Not Set Yet

Quemahoning Tailrace Stream Improvement

Bens Creek Stream Improvement at Jim and Jimmies