

The Flyline – Winter 2008

From Randy's Desk:

Happy New Year from the officers and board members of MLTU. We hope that you had a blessed Christmas season, and we wish you a healthy and happy new year. I hope that many of you hunters were successful, and I hope that many of you are enjoying tight lines this winter season.

The New Year will bring many challenges and much hard work for MLTU. First and foremost of course, is the planning for our annual spring fundraising banquet to be held on April 5, 2008 at the Holiday Inn in downtown Johnstown. We are asking all members to ask business owners that they know to donate a prize to our banquet. It doesn't matter what the prize is. We will have flyers available in early January to help you in this endeavor. Please make an effort to do this. Contact Gary Cooper at 266-4763 for flyers.

In addition we will be running two fly tying courses at Gander Mountain by the Galleria. These courses will begin on the first Saturday in February, and will run for five weeks. In the morning from 9 a.m. to about 11:30 a.m. we will be running a beginner's course. In the afternoon we will be running an intermediate course from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Each course costs \$20.00. You may register at the customer service desk at Gander Mountain. You must pay for the courses in advance. People who do not pay in advance will not be included in the courses. Materials and tools will be provided. You may bring your own tools if you wish. Bring your friends and yourself! It should be a great time.

We will be involved in many other projects as well. You can read about these later in this newsletter. I hope many more of you will get involved in some way. I also hope to see many of you at the spring banquet. Please plan on being there.

Catch One!
Randy

Natural Thoughts:

If you don't enjoy fishing for trout, you probably won't care about this article. If global warming continues unabated, you may have to travel to the west to fish for trout. The eastern states will have no trout fishing due to warming waters. In fact, most of the United States will have no trout fishing. It may not happen in your lifetime, but what about your children?

The great legacy of trout fishing in our country will be nothing but a memory. Already our winters are warmer, and our summers are drier. This past July and August, many of our streams were trickles, or so low and clear that the trout were super spooky. I can't imagine a world without trout.

If you think that there is nothing you can do, you are wrong. The people in this country control the power. If we all got together and demanded changes, these changes would occur. Al Gore said that the United States is the one opposing changes in environmental regulations that would aid in reducing global warming. It is time to get rid of all who oppose reasonable measures to reverse this disastrous trend. (Republican or Democrat) We have the power. Let's use it. Otherwise, you can kiss your trout fishing goodbye!

Youth Education:

Highlighting some of the youth education which MLTU is involved in, we will now take a look at the "Trout in the Classroom" program. Last school year MLTU funded the Trout in the Classroom program at North Star East Middle School. Sixth grade students in teacher Eva Strang's classroom monitored and took care of about 200 trout fingerlings. The students learned about how trout grow, cold water necessary to support the trout, and how to care for the trout. In addition, students learned about water quality, the types of Aquatic Insects that live in the streams and supply food for the trout, and even a lesson on tying flies to imitate these insects. TU volunteer Missy Reckner headed the project. Tom Murray, Gary Cooper, and Dave Sewak taught fly tying. Butch Kerchenske and Bob Wardrop helped with transporting the trout to the school. In the spring the students released about forty surviving fingerlings into the Stonycreek River.

This year the program continues at North Star East. MLTU is helping to fund a new water cooler with help from The Jenner Rod and Gun Club. Also, a new program will take place at the Berlin School District. MLTU volunteers will continue to help with activities at the schools. Missy Reckner will again head the activities. Hopefully, more and more students will have the chance to learn about trout and the cold- water environment that supports them in future years.

Chapter News and Notes:

New chapter officers have been elected for 2008. They are: Randy Buchanan - President, Gary Cooper - Vice President, Pat Buchanan - Treasurer, and Dave Maher - Secretary. Also, Chris Reighard was elected to a one year term on the board of directors. Dave Sewak was also elected to a one year term.

MLTU is concerned about a proposed mining permit to be issued. SMP – 56070108 may disturb or eliminate existing springs in the area. It may also

disturb a currently existing stream channel. We want no auger mining permitted, and we would like to see the area reforested. We have written a letter expressing our concerns, and we attended a hearing on the matter.

MLTU is seeking a grant from Dominion Power to help defray expenses on Bens Creek.

About 200 fingerlings have hatched at MLTU's trout in the classroom project at North Star East Elementary School. A new cooler for the water needed to be purchased. The Jenner Rod and Gun Club donated \$250.00. MLTU voted to cover the remaining cost of about \$250.00.

The annual Keystone Coldwater Conference will be held at The Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center on February 22 and 23, 2008. Registration forms will be sent out in early January. If you wish to attend, call Randy Buchanan at 467-4034 for information. Registration is \$35.00 before February 1, 2008. After February 1, 2008, registration is \$45.00.

Pennsylvania Trout News:

The state council is considering a co-op nursery policy for TU chapters.

The Chestnut Ridge Chapter of TU from our own southwest region won the Ed Urbas award for the states best TU chapter. Congratulations fellas!

There is a good article in the winter issue of *Pennsylvania Trout*. It is about the effects of global warming on trout and salmon. I would recommend that you read this article.

There is also a good article on "What's on Your Waders." This points out that many of you who travel could be helping to spread alien species by not cleaning your waders, etc. after fishing trips. Read this one, too.

MLTU's Dave Sewak is also prominently mentioned in an article on the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture. Read this article also.

Plan Now for Spring Fund Raising Banquet:

This is the last time that I will have a chance to talk to you before our spring banquet. The banquet will take place on Saturday, April 5, 2008 at the Holiday Inn downtown. As usual, we will have a fine selection of prizes to be raffled off. This year we will also accept Discover credit cards along with Visa and MasterCard. Cash is always accepted. Tickets for the banquet cost \$30.00 apiece. You can get tickets by calling Gary Cooper at 266-4763 any time. We will be mailing tickets to all members in January. A simple phone call will get any

extras needed. Please get together with friends, girlfriends, or wives and attend the banquet. We will have a great time, and you will be helping to raise money to support our work throughout the year.

Doors open at five o'clock p.m. From then until about 6:30, you may examine the prizes and purchase tickets. Dinner will be at about 6:30. A short chapter awards program will follow. Then the prizes will be raffled off. There is a cash bar and musical entertainment will be provided. We hope to see many of you at this year's banquet.

Upcoming Chapter Events:

Monthly Chapter Meetings	
Tuesday, January 8, 2008	All regular meetings are held at the Gander Mountain Lodge in the Gander Mountain store at 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 12, 2008	
Tuesday, March 11, 2008	
Board of Director's Meetings	
Thursday, January 3, 2008	All Board of Director's meetings are held at the Gander Mountain Lodge in the Gander Mountain store at 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, February 7, 2008	
Thursday, March 6, 2008	
Banquet Committee Meetings	
Wednesday, January 16, 2008	All banquet committee meetings are held at the home of Randy and Pat Buchanan at 1745 Regal Drive at 7:00 p.m. Note: Changes in times and dates for banquet committee meetings will be phoned to members of the committee.
Wednesday, February 20, 2008	
Wednesday, March 19, 2008	
Continued next page	

Fly Tying Courses	
Beginner's Fly Tying Course	- to be held at Gander Mountain Lodge in the Gander Mountain store beginning on Saturday, February 2, 2008. The course will continue on February 9, 16, and 23, 2008 and on March 1, 2008 at the same location. The course will begin at 9:00 a.m.
Intermediate Fly Tying Course	- to be held at Gander Mountain Lodge in the Gander Mountain store beginning on Saturday, February 2, 2008. The course will continue on February 9, 16, and 23, 2008 and on March 1, 2008 at the same location. The course will begin at 1:00 p.m.
<p>Note: Anyone may register for either course at the service desk at the front of the Gander Mountain Store. Each course Costs \$20.00. Beginners may not take the intermediate course. Tools and materials are provided. You may bring your own tools if you wish. Registrants must pay in advance at the service desk. If you do not prepay, you will not be permitted to take the course.</p>	
Spring Fundraising Banquet	
Saturday, April 5, 2008	- Holiday Inn in downtown Johnstown. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Dinner is at about 6:30. Raffles and a silent auction will be held. Cash and credit cards accepted. Cost per ticket is \$30.00. Call Gary Cooper at 266-4763 for information