



The Flyline

Mountain Laurel Chapter
Trout Unlimited

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

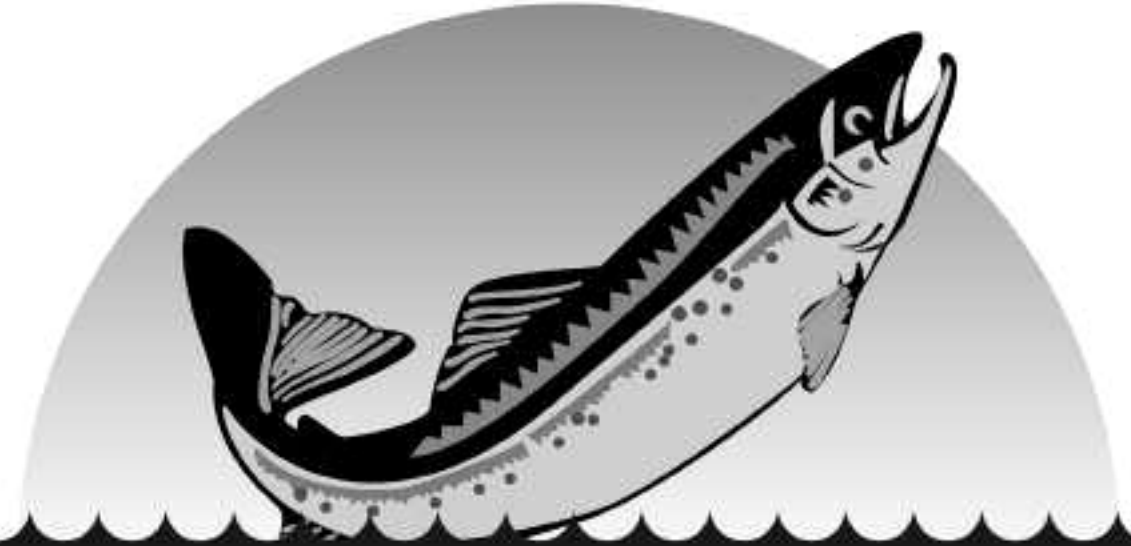
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The Flyline

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 24

WINTER 2012



TROUT UNLIMITED

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
MOUNTAIN LAUREL CHAPTER
TROUT UNLIMITED

From Randy's Desk . . .

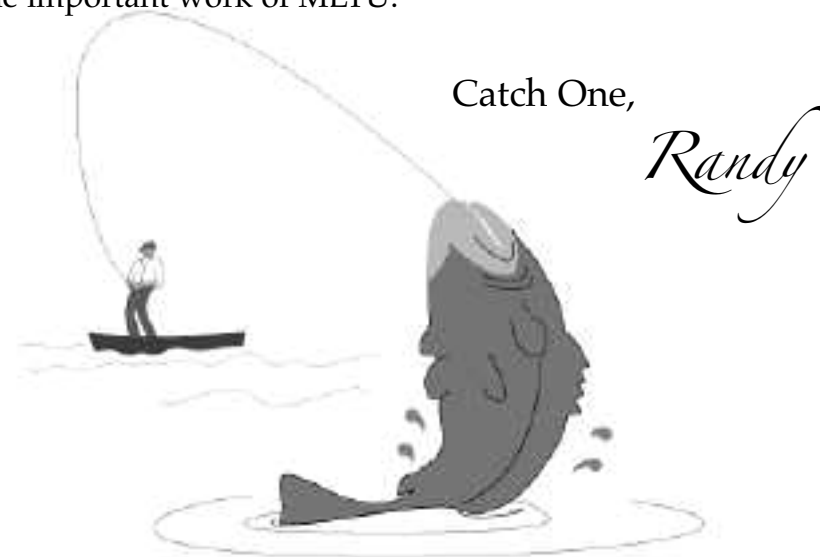
2012 has arrived, and the beginning of another year leaves little time to ponder the past. The present is always upon us, and the present offers us enjoyable times, but also many things to do. January brings with it the beginning of our Monday and Saturday fly tying courses for beginners. We have gotten some key members from these courses over the years. Maybe you would like to learn to flies, or you have a friend who would like to learn. If you are an established practitioner of the art of fly tying, we can always use help on Mondays and Saturdays. Please see the section in "Upcoming Chapter Events" for dates, times, cost, and how to sign up

During the winter the banquet committee spends its time preparing for our upcoming spring fund-raising banquet, which will be held this year on Saturday, March 24, 2012.

We can always use volunteers for the committee and to work at the event itself. Please see the article on the banquet later in this issue.

As spring approaches some of our members will be stocking trout and participating in cleanups along area streams. We should get permits for Benscreek and Potter Creek this year, so we will be planning those activities. We must also finalize the revision of our by- laws. And you thought we had nothing to do!

Sit back, tie flies, clean gear, do some winter fishing, and dream of spring. Just don't forget to help out with the important work of MLTU.



Mountain Laurel Chapter Trout Unlimited 2011 OFFICERS

<i>President</i> Randy Buchanan 1745 Regal Drive Johnstown, PA 15904	<i>Vice-President</i> Gary Cooper Rear 704 Scalp Avenue Johnstown, PA 15904
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<i>Secretary</i> Dave Maher 417 Old Farm Lane Johnstown, PA 15904	<i>Treasurer</i> Pat Buchanan 1745 Regal Drive Johnstown, PA 15904
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DIRECTORS

Mark Lee	Dave Sewak
David Wright	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

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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 . . .



So you think that global warming doesn't exist! How about the strangeness of this years weather patterns. Those horrible record numbers of tornadoes in the spring that killed so many and did such terrible damage certainly are not normal. We had record rains in the spring, while Texas was so bone dry that a record drought took place. An earthquake is certainly not weather, but one of the big ones this year knocked the earth off its axis by about four inches. How about this fall weather. We had a freak snow storm in October. Now it's December. The weather is so warm that hunting deer is a chore.

It is definitely warmer. Please remember that this is only my opinion. I think we need to do something before the poles melt!

Gary Cooper

Stonycreek Nominated for River of Year - Vote Now

Last year the Stonycreek River lost by just a few votes to the Delaware River as Pennsylvania's River of the year. The river has been nominated again in 2012. This once badly polluted river has made a remarkable comeback thanks to the efforts of MLTU, SCRIP, and other organizations. It now holds 22 species of fish and is a recreational waterway for many in our area.

By winning this award, our conservation efforts would be validated. In addition the award is accompanied by a \$10,000 cash award to be used to promote this wonderful waterway. All you must do is go online to <http://pawatersheds.org/vote/> to cast your vote. Do this now so that the "Stony" can receive the recognition it deserves

Your Chance to Help with Banquet

So you are not a member of the banquet committee. You can still help out with this year's banquet. Go out and solicit a banquet prize from a business that you frequent. We accept anything. Maybe you could sell a banquet ad for our program. (Contact Gary Cooper at 266-4763 for information about ads) Are you a fly tier? Make up a selection of flies for our banquet. Are you friends with a business owner? We sell prize sponsorships at a cost of \$150.00. (Again, contact Gary Cooper for forms) Could you come down on Saturday morning to help set up the banquet? Would you be willing to work at the banquet? Can you put a banquet poster at a location in your area. Do you have friends who fish. Sell them a ticket to the banquet. Now is the time to help out. Let's make this a super banquet.

2012 Banquet on Tap

Circle this date on your calendar - March 24, 2012! On this Saturday we will hold the annual spring fund-raising banquet for MLTU. As usual, this year's event will be held at the Holiday Inn in downtown Johnstown. The cost of a ticket is \$30.00. Tickets may be obtained by calling Gary Cooper at 814-266-4763. Members will be receiving tickets in the mail early in January, so look for them. Write a check, put it in an envelope with your ticket stubs (DON'T FORGET TO CHECK YOUR MEAL CHOICE), and mail it in.

A schedule of the evening is as follows:

5:00 p.m. - Doors open
5:00 - 6:30 p.m. - Socializing, Time to Browse Prizes, Ticket Sales
6:30 p.m. - Dinner
7:00 p.m. - Brief Awards Program
7:30 p.m. - Final Ticket Sales, Silent Auction Bids
8:00 p.m. - Raffles begin
10:00 p.m. - Banquet Concludes

Note: Special raffles will be held at various parts of the evening. Times are tentative except for the 5:00 opening.

The banquet is our primary fund raiser for the year. The money raised will allow us to continue the important work of protecting and enhancing the quality of area cold waters.

Last year was our most successful banquet to date. Let's make this one even better.

We will have a nice selection of fishing tackle to be raffled. Lines, reels, rods, and many other items for the fisherman will be available. We will also have prizes for kids and for ladies, so bring along your spouse or that someone special. ALL TICKET STUBS AND CHECKS SHOULD BE RETURNED BY MARCH 17, 2012 TO:

Mr. Gary Cooper
Rear 704 Scalp Ave.
Johnstown, Pa. 15904

Remember, this is a fund raiser. We accept cash and VISA or Master Card. Be generous! MLTU needs your support

Gary L. Cooper - Banquet Chairman

Upcoming Chapter Events

Regular Monthly Meetings

Tuesday, January 10, 2012
Tuesday, February 14, 2012
Tuesday, March 13, 2012
Tuesday, April 10, 2012

All regular meetings are at Gander Mountain Store in Richland Township at 7:00 pm.

Board of Director's Meetings

All Board of Director's meetings are held at the Gander Mountain Store in Richland Township at 6:30 p.m. on the evening of the regular meeting.

Beginners Fly Tying Courses

Saturday Course

Saturday, January 7, 2012
Saturday, January 14, 2012
Saturday, January 21, 2012
Saturday, January 28, 2012
Saturday, February 4, 2012
Saturday, February 18, 2012

Classes are held at the Gander Lodge in the Gander Mountain Store in Richland Township from 9 am until 12 Noon

Monday Course

Monday, January 16, 2012
Monday, January 23, 2012
Monday, January 30, 2012
Monday, February 6, 2012
Monday, February 13, 2012
Monday, February 20, 2012

Classes are held at the same place as the Saturday course except that the hours are 6:30 to 9:00 pm

Note: The cost of the course is twenty dollars per student. It will be collected on the first day of each course. Students must pre-register at the front desk at Gander Mountain.

Spring Fund-Raising Banquet

Saturday, March 24, 2012

Holiday Inn, Downtown Johnstown
Cost of Ticket - \$30.00
Call Gary Cooper at 266-4763 for tickets
Doors open at 5:00 pm