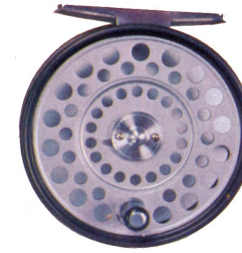




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THE REEL STORY

Volume 22, Issue #1



January/February 2009

A Cast From The Presidents Pool

As we approach the end of the 21st century's first decade, the Stanley Cooper Sr. Chapter of Trout Unlimited is as busy as ever: Below is a list of projects planned for 2009:

We are eager to get back to work on our adopted stream Bowman's Creek. We have projects that have been on hold for over a year, including riparian plantings, parking lot improvements, and habitat enhancement.

We will once again provide Opening Day refreshments and lunch for anglers at the Road-Side Rest area of Bowman's Creek.

Stan Cooper Sr. TU, in partnership with Project Healing Waters Inc. is eagerly planning our first project geared towards providing basic fly fishing, fly casting, and fly tying classes and clinics for wounded and injured military personnel. Project chairperson and chapter board member Heide Cebrick, reports that our project has been accepted and we are ready to begin selecting dates of events. The chapter is planning a series of seminars at our local VA Hospital in which members of Stan Cooper Sr. will instruct disabled vets in all aspects of fly casting and fly tying. The chapter also hopes to establish a fishing library at the hospital culminating with a day of fly-fishing at a local hatchery pond. Vets will also have the opportunity to attend chapter meetings and become involved in chapter activities. Everyone is extremely excited about the possibilities a project such as this creates and we are proud to help those who gave so much. Anyone wishing to help is urged to call Heide.

Stan Cooper Sr. TU has recently partnered with FUDR (Friends of the Upper Delaware) and the town of Hancock NY to help restore two tributaries devastated by flood events and channelization in the area. Currently FUDR is working with the Army Corp. of Engineers and the Department of Public Works, Delaware County, NY who are spearheading the project. Significant grants are essential to continue the project(s) and can be better achieved in a more timely fashion through partnerships. We hope to help FUDR obtain these crucial grants and have chapter members volunteer where needed to successfully reestablish these crucial spawning tributaries.

Speaking of FUDR, president Dan Plummer just informed the chapter that we have been the recipient of a

\$2500 grant to be used by the chapter in any capacity. We were awarded the grant based on our dedication to preserving and protecting the wild trout population of the Upper Delaware System.

We are also looking forward in 2009 to sending another student to PATU's Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp, holding our own Youth Camp in June, and this year, for the first time, we are considering running an adult fly fishing school.

Think about donating a few hours this year to the chapter, I think you'll find that working to protect wild trout is sometimes more fun than catching them.

Finally, I would like to recognize the dedication and contributions of Dr. Ernie Pagliarini. Ernie recently stepped down as banquet and chapter treasurer. Ernie has been both chapter treasurer and integrally involved in banquet ticket sales and seating for 18 years - since 1991. Ernie's commitment to coldwater conservation helped shape a fledgling organization into the successful and respected chapter Stan Cooper Sr. TU is today.

Mike Romanowski

Chapter Preparing for 2009

National Conservation Banquet

We are looking forward to our 19th Annual National Conservation Banquet, which will be held on Saturday, Saturday, March 28, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. at the Best Western East Mountain Inn. Tickets for this event usually sell fast, so please call in early. We would hate to see someone miss out on attending what we hope has become an enjoyable evening.

We will kick off the festivities on March 28 at 5:00 p.m., with a *long* cocktail hour to allow everyone to inspect our auction and raffle prizes and purchase raffle tickets. We feel we have secured the best banquet prizes to this date.



The Stanley Cooper Sr. Chapter Of Trout Unlimited

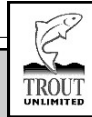
The Action Organization

Calendar of Events

Jan 13..... Ozzie Ozofovich - "Atlantic Salmon Fishing"

February 10Greg Hoover-"A Flyfisher's Entomology: Some Conversations I've Overheard in Fly Shops Across the US".

All monthly meetings of the Stanley Cooper Sr. Chapter of Trout Unlimited are held AT 7:30 PM AT THE VFW ANTHRACITE POST 283, 757 WYOMING AVE, KINGSTON, PA 18704. **All Meetings are Admission Free and Open to the Public..**



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Trout Unlimited

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Joe Ackourey 287-2999

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Anthony Palischak NA

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Mike Matso 457-8697

The Reel Story is the official newsletter of **The Stanley Cooper Sr. Chapter of Trout Unlimited**; published 5 times a year - bimonthly except for July and August. Send all correspondence to: *The Reel Story*, 626 Church St., Swoyersville, PA 18704. **E-mail: MROMAN498@AOL.COM** **Editor:** Michael F. Romanowski; **Production and Distribution:** Robert Evans. Current Circulation: 350 Copies

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Dinner will be served sometime around 6:15 p.m. You will have a choice of Chicken Cordon Bleu or Fillet of Sole. (Please specify your choice on the banquet ticket as changes cannot be made on the night of the banquet) There will be ample time during and after dinner to continue bidding on our silent auction prizes or purchase some extra bucket raffle tickets.

Our live auction will start at approximately 7:30 p.m. After the live auction, the silent auction tables begin closing - randomly. *As always, we will gladly accept Visa and MasterCard.*

If you are interested in attending the banquet and would like to make reservations, please email John Morris at: johntmorrison@epix.net. You may also call **570-362-1700** but please email if you can. Tickets are \$45 each and tables of 8 or 10 are available.

Outside Raffle Tickets

You will soon be receiving our outside raffle tickets. This year we are offering a GPS (Global Positioning System) as first prize, the popular Pendleton blanket as second prize, and an ipod as third prize. These prizes appeal to everyone and should make the few tickets you receive very easy to sell. As you know, a large percent of our banquet revenue is generated by our Outside Raffle. Please mail all returns to banquet co-chairman **William Stricker, 41 E. Union Street, Kingston, PA 18704-4815**, or bring them to a meeting. Thank you for your support. If you would like more tickets, please call Bill at 288-4600 (evenings).

Stan Cooper Sr. TU Wins Award

Stan Cooper Sr. TU was the proud recipient of the 2008 Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited's Dr. Jack Beck Award For Outstanding Youth Outreach. Educating our youth in all aspects of cold-water conservation is a chapter priority. We have given an annual scholarship, annually sponsor a student at PATU's Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp, hold our own one-day youth camp, sponsor a "Trout in the Classroom" program, and support the National Youth Fly Fishing Team.

The efforts of many members make these youth projects possible and this award is a tribute to their dedication and integrity.

From The Stream.....Bob Evans

In the last newsletter, I spoke about being in the right place at the right time. A perfect example is the cover story on the newsletter talking about Mike and Tom's trip for steelhead. The picture of Tom holding his 27" Brown is truly worth a thousand words. So, when Ed and I picked the last Saturday of October to attack the Lackawaxen River (right after the Fall Stocking), I figured we were in for a great time. But really smacked us in the face! First the weather turned out about 15 degrees cooler than predicted, and the cloud cover moved in. Then the river was high, not too high, but higher than I expected. When we arrived at Rowlands, the site of Charlie's Fishing Shop, The parking area was almost totally utilized. We parked in a temporary spot to judge the situation and found there were actually more cars than fishermen. Four of the fishermen were in the same group, but each had come in their own car. If you remember, gas was over \$4.00 a gallon at that time. But the crowning blow occurred before we ever reached the river. NO, Ed didn't go over the cliff, again! This was so shocking, it was unbelievable...

TED'S BAIT SHOP NO LONGER EXISTS !!!

The original shed was still there, but the shop had expanded several years ago to the basement of the house next door. I took the side road to the driveway of the house and was greeted by NO cars, and NO signs other than the one that said NO PARKING!!! This is a disaster! This leaves Global Warming in the dust! The UNIVERSE IS OUT OF BALANCE! For over fifty (50) years I and thousands of other fishermen heading to Lake Wallenpaupack or the Lackawaxen River or the Dyberry or the Delaware got their bait at Ted's. It didn't matter what the season, If Ted wasn't already up, he'd get up regardless of the time...SERIOUSLY!! He served us as early as 3 a.m. when we were on our way to the Lackawaxen River for a 4 a.m. crack of dawn start. Boaters that wanted to be on the water at dawn knew they could depend on Ted.

NOW, the only other bait shop on the way doesn't open until 7A.M....Good Grief Charlie Brown, half the good fishing is over already if you don't start until after 7 a.m. Now what do I do? I may have to go back to picking my own night crawlers in Kirby Park and starting my own worm farm. Problem is, I can't bend over long enough to get those wigglers. Got any teenagers out there that I can train? Ok ! About that fishing trip...a couple of nibbles but no fish.

Now about Winter Fishing...I'm ready! Just give me a day with NO wind, plenty of sunshine and temps in the mid to high 40's and I'll be on Bowman's looking for those breed-

ers that ignored me in September and October. Remember, if the water is flowing, it's probably no colder now than it will be on Opening Day. You wouldn't miss Opening Day, would you? Water levels are great. High enough to discourage anchor ice and low enough to be fishable. Get ready. I expect some volunteers to join me.

Did You Know

What do trout do in the winter?

As winter sets in, water temperatures approach freezing and trout metabolism consequently slows down. Adult trout migrate to deeper pools and smaller trout often burrow into open spaces among rocks in riffles. As rushing water becomes super-cooled by frigid air temperatures, a type of ice called frazil ice can form along the stream bed and form a slush that can suffocate young trout. Streams and rivers that are wider and shallower are more prone to frazil ice. *Courtesy National TU*

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included a meeting for the first time with New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP).

NYCDEP advised us of tunnel work will be performed during the fall for the next few years. Water normally diverted at that time to Catskill and Croton systems would likely be released in the Delaware during the winter months. They did however consider our request (provided that the proposal could be shown to be drought neutral) to utilize the "planned shutdown releases" during the summer months when it would be more meaningful.

An ongoing study of the Dwarf Wedge Mussel conducted by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service will be concluded in the spring of 2009. In addition the concerned Delaware River groups will be meeting with NYC and other state agencies during the next two months.

Stan Cooper Sr. TU Addresses Lehigh River Flows

(Below is a letter written and submitted on behalf of the board of directors by Lehigh River liaison Dave Cebrick.)

The Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter of Trout Unlimited is dedicated to the goal of conservation and enhancement of Pennsylvania's cold water and fisheries, specifically our wild trout resources. Our chapter has a membership of 250 local anglers who view the Lehigh River as a great asset to the region.

As a stakeholder, SCTU supports the 2009 Francis E. Walter Flow Management Plan recommendations

Barry & Cathy Beck

Photographers, writers, fly fishing instructors and trip leaders, Barry and Cathy have written several fly fishing books, and their photos and articles regularly appear in many publications. Throughout the year, these consummate hosts escort groups to exciting destinations around the world. Visit their new web site at:

www.barryandcathybeck.com

of the PA. Fish and Boat Commission and the Lehigh Coldwater Fisheries Alliance to make adjustments to the 2008 Flow Plan. A better balance between releases will enhance the aquatic resources and that of the white water enterprises. A greater flow during the summer months from July to Mid September could aid the river ecosystem and the developing wild trout fishery. A reduction in the white water release from 650 cfs to 600 cfs could provide a bank of water to be used to augment summer releases by an additional 50 cfs above inflow.

Representatives of SCTU attended a meeting of Lehigh River Coldwater Flow Management Plan at the Ramada Inn, Lake Harmony on Nov. 19, 2008. They found the Lehigh River Recreational Enhancement Study presented by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers and their ecologist showing the future potential of increased releases to be very positive.

SCTU would like to go on record as being in favor of any repairs to the FEW Dam to support a pool depth of 1392 ft. as opposed to the current 1370 ft. max. Also modification to the existing tower or the building of a new tower with a multi-portal system to mix different temperature water to maintain a 55 degree release.

We realize that the funds necessary for such repairs or modification would have to come from a congressional authorization. The membership of SCTU would certainly be willing to write letters, make phone calls, or send emails to our two U.S. Senators and any local Congressman in support of the necessary funding.

Through enhanced coldwater releases, the Lehigh River could become a world class tail water fishery and would become an angling destination with a positive, major impact on the regional economy.

We hereby submit our comments for the official record.

2008 Francis E. Walter Flow Management Plan Review and 2009 Planning Meeting

All chapter members are invited to attend a public meeting to discuss the 2009 Francis E. Walter Flow Management Plan and provide comments and input for consideration. The meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, January 21, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Mountain Laurel Resort on Route 940 near White Haven, Pa.

A large turnout of fishermen will go a long way in convincing the Army Corps of Engineers to adopt a Lehigh River Flow Management Plan that will benefit the fishery.

Welcome Aboard...Welcome Back

(period 11/1/08 - 12/31/2008)

The Stanley Cooper Sr. Chapter of Trout Unlimited would like to welcome the following new members:

Ivan Chapman	Sunbury
Gerald Fisher	Kingston
Martin Grego	White Haven
Tony John	Bear Creek
Harry Lasinski	Luzerne
Larry Rodeghiero	Wilkes Barre
James Shoemaker	Wyoming
Robert Smith	Nanticoke

The Stanley Cooper Sr. Chapter of Trout Unlimited would like to welcome back the following renewing members:

William Andahazy	Mountain Top
Ron Ashton	Gouldsboro
J. Brady	Shavertown
Heide Cebrick	Dallas
Charles Charlesworth	South Abington Township
Al Chepanonis	Wyoming
Wesley Congdon	Forest City
Thomas Delehanty	Shavertown
Joseph Grigasaitis	Wilkes Barre
Lee Hartman	Equinunk
Kevin Higgins	Dallas
Brian Jameson	Mountain Top
Anthony John	Bear Creek
Ronald Keiner	Nanticoke
Bill Kennard	Wyoming
James Kerns	Wilkes Barre
Philip Levandoski	Nanticoke
Leo Loftus	Mountain Top
Peter Mailloux	Mountain Top
Larry Malenovitch	Wilkes Barre
Rex Marino	Hazleton
Michael Matso	Old Forge
Frank Mazzanti	Bear Creek Township
Albert McCloskey	Atlantic City
Frank McHenry	Wilkes Barre
James Moody	Wilkes Barre
Donald Olszewski	Wilkes Barre
Donald Pissott	Hunlock Creek
David Ritter	Wilkes Barre
Whitey Satkowski	Plains
William Stricker	Kingston
Roger Syms	Wilkes Barre
Lawrence Watkins	Wilkes Barre
Carl Wodaski	Mountain Top

Renewing is fast, easy and secure. On your computer type in www.tu.org. and follow the directions to "Renew Your Membership". Don't forget, our chapter number is 251. Our current chapter membership is 242.

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Legislative Report

By: Ralph Kates, Esq.

The end of a presidential term and the transition to a new president often presages significant changes in environmental policy. This is particularly true where the change is from one political party to another, not merely a change of faces or personalities. The outgoing president does everything possible to put in place the environmental policy he has espoused. When, as is the case now, those policies could not be pushed through

Congress, the President merely changes the rules by enacting new regulations. President Clinton did this in 2000. President Bush has done this with unprecedented vigor, attempting to change a variety of regulations relating to the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act and the Clean Air Act.

Recently, the Interior Department ignored a congressional veto and attempted, by regulation, to eliminate congressional authority to veto any future regulatory changes. In June of 2008, Congress vetoed the administration's proposal to permit uranium mining on one million acres near the Grand Canyon. The Interior Department ignored the veto and, with only a 15-day public comment period, passed a regulation that purports to eliminate congressional veto authority completely and permit the uranium mining to proceed. A congressional veto over regulatory actions has been the law since 1976. The administration has now been sued by a number of environmental groups over this effort to permit uranium mining near the Grand Canyon. It is unlikely that the Obama administration will continue with this confrontation with Congress. It is also expected that the new administration will revisit the other last-minute regulatory changes enacted by President Bush's team. The Obama environmental transition team is compiling a list of these last minute regulatory changes and prioritizing how each will be addressed.

President elect Obama has announced his environmental team. Steven Chu, a Nobel prize-winning physicist, will be energy secretary. He is currently the head of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Nancy Sutley will be head of the White House Council on Environmental Quality. She is currently the deputy mayor for energy and the environment in Los Angeles. Carol Browner, will be the White House head of climate and energy policy, a new executive position. She was EPA administrator under Bill Clinton. Lisa P. Jackson will be named as head of the Environmental Protection Agency. She is currently head of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Ms. Jackson has a Masters degree in chemical engineering from Princeton and has led the Obama the transition team at EPA.

Back the Brookie License Plate

PATU is selling these full color attractive front license plates. All proceeds from the sale of these plates will be used to fund brook trout projects across the state. We should have these available for purchase at our February chapter meeting.



Upper Delaware Report

By Lee Hartman

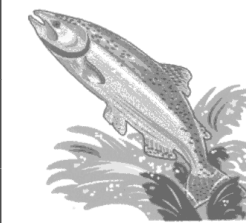
The Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) has tabled the vote to amend the Water Code amendments due to the many concerns of the Flexible Flow Management Program (FFMP) expressed by state agencies, conservation organizations and public response. The DRBC current plans are to develop new proposed amendments to the Water Code aimed at facilitating adaptive water resources management within a regulatory framework. The proposed new Water Code amendments will not be released before June 2009. During the interim the FFMP policy for the Delaware River will continue.

Currently the three NYC reservoirs are at full capacity. The reservoir levels are 20% higher than the overall average. This is due in part to lower summer releases under FFMP and the shutdown of the Delaware aqueduct that attributes to less water being diverted from Delaware reservoirs. At the present reservoir levels the Delaware River basin is at an extremely high risk to flood.

Recently a letter was adopted and signed by 7 Conservation & Flood groups and sent to all Decree Party members. The seven include PA Council, NJ Council, NYS Council, National TU, Friends of the Upper Delaware River, Aquatics Resource Unlimited, North Delaware River Conservancy, and the Delaware Riverside Conservancy. The intent of the letter was to notify the Governors and NYC that the current inequities within FFMP will not sustain or protect the cold water ecosystem and imposes the likelihood of another flood event. We ask that they take whatever immediate measures are possible to alleviate the threat of a flood.

There have been numerous meetings this fall with city and state agencies to address the flood and habitat issues we face with FFMP. This

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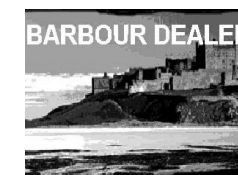
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