The chapter held its annual elections at the October general meeting. Elected to the board for three year terms were: Bill Stricker, Gary Silverstein, Heide Cebrick and Joe Ackourey. Other highlights of the October meeting included nationally renowned fly tyer Ted Patlen and his traveling animal troupe tying up some simple but effective trout flies. This was the first time we used a camera in conjunction with our new media projector. Thanks to the expertise of Phil and Kim Mancini and John Morris, everyone was able to view Ted’s tying techniques up-close.

We had planned some upgrades to the fly stretch on Bowman’s Creek this past year but the federal and county stream restoration work is not yet completed. While we had hoped to begin some of our projects this fall, they will just have to wait until next spring. Projects planned include improving and expanding the parking area at Marsh Creek, and creating a riparian area along the stream. On the bright side, those anglers who have been frequenting Bowman’s Creek have reported excellent fishing.

As I reported in the last issue, Tim Mahovich, owner of Pocono Mountain Rods has generously donated an heirloom quality bamboo fly rod based on the Payne 98 taper to our chapter to be used as a fundraiser. Tickets are $5.00 each and we will sell a limited number of 500. Tickets are available at all chapter meetings and directions how to get them in the mail are on our website, www.sctu.org. The drawing will be held at our March general meeting.

Of latest concern is drilling for natural gas in Marcellus shale in our area and its impact on local trout streams. The drilling process, called hydrofracking involves shooting millions of gallons of water and other chemical compounds at extremely high pressure underground to break up the rock. Hydrofracking requires more water than most other types of drilling, and the other, sometimes toxic chemicals used are protected as trade secrets. It should also be noted that the effluent produced is also commonly radioactive, as the liquid becomes contaminated with radioactive isotopes as it passes through the shale. Permits have already been granted by the PA DEP for gas companies to remove substantial amounts of water from Bowman’s Creek, Tunkhannock Creek and the Lackawanna River, a class A wild trout stream. This is serious business folks as massive amounts of environmental damage can result from this process. We are in the process of forming a committee to learn more about this drilling.

On a brighter note I had the opportunity to go steelhead fishing a couple weeks ago with chapter past president and my good friend Tom Donnelly. Tom had never been fly fishing for steelhead before and had heard all of the horror stories of crowds and the associated lack of fishing etiquette. After spending two and a half days of fighting fish in solitude, I think he was pleasantly surprised. He topped the weekend off with a beautiful 27” brown Monday morning right before we left to come home. Hot flies were bead-head Prince Nymphs and Hare’s Ears #14. We will be running a chapter steelhead trip sometime in November or December, conditions allowing.

Our November 11 meeting will feature Crestwood student Tyler Kaminski. Tyler has put together a Power Point presentation on his time spent at PATU’s Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp. As you may know Stan Cooper Sr. TU sponsored Tyler to attend this camp. It will be interesting to see what impact the camp had on this future conservationist.

Mike Romanowski

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Stan Cooper TU Web Site: www.sctu.org

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The Stanley Cooper Sr. Chapter
Of Trout Unlimited

The Action Organization

Calendar of Events

November 11, 2008......................... Tyler Kaminski
December 9, 2008 ......................... TBA

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.
Stanley Cooper Sr. Chapter Trout Unlimited

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

Stanley Cooper Sr. TU and Project Healing Waters

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc., initiated and conducted by members of the Federation of Fly Fishers and Trout Unlimited, serves military personnel who have been wounded, injured, or disabled to aid their physical and emotional recovery by introducing or rebuilding the skills of fly fishing and fly tying and by using and enjoying these skills on fishing outings and as lifelong recreation.

While initially focusing on the military personnel in the Washington, DC area, the Project has expanded nationwide and is offering its services and program to active military personnel and veterans in Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals throughout the country.

The Project’s program provides basic fly fishing, fly casting and fly tying classes and clinics for the wounded and injured personnel ranging from beginners to those with prior fly fishing and fly tying experience who are adapting their skills to their new abilities.

The board of directors of Stan Cooper Sr. TU, led by Heide Ceberek in the initial stages of planning a Project Healing Waters Day to be held at a date to be announced next spring. Heide, chairperson of the project, has already accomplished a significant portion of the groundwork necessary for such a large-scale event and is actively soliciting help from our membership and the community. If you would like to participate in one of the most important projects this chapter has ever undertaken, here is your chance. See Heide at the next meeting, give her a call at 675-4881, or drop her an email at: heide@baut.com.

COMMITTEES

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Tom Moody

BARQUET

Bill Stricker 288-4600

Mike Romanowski 287-2127

FLY TYING NEWSLETTER

PROGRAM SPONSORS

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With Joe Ackourey
Trout Unlimited asks manufacturers to Eliminate Production of Felt-Soled Waders and Equipment by 2011

Trout Unlimited has asked fishing equipment manufacturers to stop producing felt-soled waders and wading shoes by 2011 to help stop the spread of aquatic nuisance species (ANS) by anglers in America’s rivers and streams. Many waders, wading boots and shoes used by anglers have felt-soled bottoms that are used to provide traction while walking in water. Felt is a material that transmits aquatic nuisance species such as New Zealand mud snails, the invasive algae called didymo and the parasite that causes whirling disease, a disease fatal to trout. Felt soles can very easily become impregnated with mud and other organic matter, and become difficult or impossible to clean and disinfect. “While the elimination of felt soles on waders and boots will not entirely prevent the spread of ANS, this action will help reduce the risk and help protect our precious aquatic resources,” said David Kamieni, executive director of the Whirling Disease Foundation. This action will also help make the public more aware of federally endangered species. The National Park Service sponsored a study on the DWM. The four-year study ended in August and concludes that a 928 cfs minimum flow at Callicoon is necessary to protect the colonies. The US Fish and Wildlife, PA Fish and Boat Commission and the NY Department of Conservation have been notified of the existing threat to the DWM. The Delaware River Basin Committee continues to meet with officials in all three adjoining states on a regular basis so that we can resolve our differences in order to maintain proper flows to protect the established cold water habitat without jeopardy to its users. Our next scheduled meeting is with the New York City Department of Environmental Protection November 13, 2008. The committee will also be represented at the December 10 DRBC meeting. (There is a lot of work going on with the Upper Delaware situation that is not reflected in my report. FUDR and Trout Unlimited continue to solidify in their resolve to gain the proper releases necessary to protect the Delaware fishery. Both organizations along with The PA Fish and Boat Commission were instrumental in gaining a delay in the vote on FFMP. It was not an easy task as it required numerous meetings with all state agencies, a massive email campaign by many TU and FUDR members and our news releases with pictures of the devastation of the river and its habitat.—Lee)
The Reel Story

Legislative Report
By: Ralph Kates, Esq.

Presidential election politics has dominated Washington and Harrisburg for the past two months. Everything else has been put on a future "to do" list or submerged into the election campaign.

Now, the first public explosions of the financial crisis in September seem like old news. Even so, the financial crisis will affect everything the next President faces.

The Federal Budget

In late September, Congress passed and President Bush signed a federal budget that will operate the federal government only until March 6, 2009. The total cost exceeds $630 billion. Among other problems with this budget is the fact that the federal fiscal year runs until the end of September 2009. This means that, within the first six weeks of taking office, the next administration will need to address how to fund federal government operations between March 6, 2009 and September 30, 2009. Then, the federal government will need to address funding for federal operations for the budget year beginning October 1, 2009. In addition to appropriating funds, the September 2008 budget lifts the ban on new offshore oil drilling on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of the United States. The September 2008 budget contains $488 billion for the Pentagon, $40 billion for homeland security, $73 billion for veterans programs and $25 billion in loan guarantees for the automakers.

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are funded separately. Earlier in 2008, Congress approved $70 billion for those operations. That money will be exhausted by mid-2009. The various "bailout" measures that have received so much media attention recently total approximately $1 trillion. The bailouts are in addition to the federal budget. Consequently, we will be looking at spiraling federal deficits for several years into the future regardless of who has been elected to fill the Presidency and open seats in Congress.

From The Stream ……..Bob Evans

You've heard "Timing is Everything". When it comes to fishing, being at the right place at the right time makes all the difference. In 2007 Gary Silverstein, Dick Gareis and I went to Canada to catch the great Atlantic Salmon. The weather when we got there was just about perfect...enough rain to raise the river and invite the Salmon to swim upstream to their spawning riff or tributary from whence they came. Unfortunately, the major run was delayed, and perhaps turned back, because of ice jams at the mouth of many of the rivers creating water colder than normal. This year, 2008, All the conditions were perfect, and although the "EXPERTS" were predicting a lower than average return, the documented return as of early September is nearly double the average. Included in the count was a 52-inch hen fish that was spotted in the Juniper Pool of the North Branch of the Little Southwest Miramic River. That's less than a mile upstream from where we fished in 2007. More impressive is the reality that there are many places on this branch where you can wade up the middle of the stream and touch both shore lines with the tip of your rod.

Now if that doesn't whet your appetite, how about the 80.4 lb. Salmon caught on the Alta in Norway. That weight was not verified, because the fish had been cut up and smoked before precise measurements could be made. Yes, there are still people who don't understand the true value of a fish that size to the gene pool, even in sophisticated Europe. A 54-pound fish caught by a staff member of Atlantic Salmon Federation, Norway. That weight was not verified, because of the reality that there are many places on this branch where you can wade up the middle of the stream and touch both shore lines with the tip of your rod.

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