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CLEARWATER GAZETTE

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Membership Meetings:
Are announced in the
newsletter and on the
website.

Board Meeting:
Board Meeting are at the
MCAR Buillding. See the
web site for dates.

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Words from the "TOP"

*... in the lexicon of the fly-
fisherman, the words rise
and hooked connote the
successful and desirable
climax; landing a fish is
purely anticlimax.*

Vincent C. Marinaro (1950)

May 2003

Editors Notes

Let's see...the winter weather is giving way to spring, another successful banquet is history, my taxes are done, and trout season is here. I am ready to stretch some line. The long winter has made the prospects of spring fishing even more desirable than past seasons. Could it be that fishing is possibly an addiction? I'm not sure about all the forms of fishing but fly-fishing is, no doubt, the most dangerous. It is known to cause sleeplessness, and weight loss in different ways. Many an angler tosses and turns in anticipation of opening day, and the weight loss comes in two forms; fishing hard and eating only a small sandwich with no potato chips (they get mangled in your fanny pack) and the weight loss that your wife hates..lightness of the wallet. Honey, I really needed that 3.8712 weight rod with the matching solar reactive turbo reel machined from genuine inert plutonium salvaged from old nuclear reactors. With that outfit the trout won't have a chance and besides... all the other guys have one.

cont. from pg. 3

**Working to conserve, protect, and restore
North America's coldwater fisheries, and their watersheds.**



Banquet Wrap-Up

N. Loprire

A great evening and another success for the conservation of cold-water resources was the final result of the 25th annual spring banquet. There was a feeling, as chapter members began setting up for the banquet, that this would be a special night. Some think the mood might have been influenced by a few pre banquet beverages, but it was really the combination of planning and dedication.

Early on I noticed a steady crowd around the guest fly tiers and a certain buzz as the banquet guests talked away the winter doldrums with hopes for warm spring weather and rising trout.

The efforts to make our 25th annual banquet a special event seemed to be well received by those attending. There were over 190 at this year's gathering and all

were greeted with fine food, fun, some great prizes and a chance to renew old friendships.

The winner of \$488 in the 50/50 raffle was John Janosak. We had net revenue of \$12,453 and though there are still miscellaneous expenses to pay, we will have a profit of around \$4900. Thanks to everyone who donated time, money or prizes. It is a team effort.

There have already been discussions to plan next year's event. Look for a survey on our website www.neshannock-tu.org where you can help us with these plans. Please take some time to let us know what changes might make the banquet more exciting. If we don't have your email address, please drop a note to tjochman@acnic.net (Tom Jochman, membership director) so we can keep you informed during the summer and early fall.

2003 Banquet Donors



A very large **Thank You** goes out to all the donors to this year's banquet. Without their generosity of time, money or prizes, the banquet and more importantly, the conservation efforts and donations we make, simply would not happen. Please forgive us if your name was not listed, we would like to know about the oversight.

Make it a point to support our donors throughout the year and best wishes to all for 2003.

Chapter Members

Pete Anthony
Tom & Carol Jochman
Dick Natoli
Nick Loprire
Aaron Monroe
Jim Brown
Larry Wynkoop
Bob Shuey
Pat Babcock
Bud, Scott, & Nancy
Hanselman
Reg McClelland
Dr. Chuck Moxley
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The Good Hurt

N. Lopriore

Most, if not all, that read this newsletter has some form of interest in the great outdoors. It's likely that a majority of you are fisherpersons and likes to pursue trout and other game fish. But is there more to this interest than simply the pleasures of a day afield? I contend that the "pain" involved is also a desirable effect that is sought. No, I don't believe we are masochists or are looking for a broken bone; I feel that the pursuits, followed in the great outdoors, is a connection to a time when these efforts were a necessity of life and not just a way to spend the afternoon away from an easy chair and a ballgame.

Those who get out there, do so at times in the extremes of Mother Natures mood swings, with little or no thought as to how it will affect ourselves and knowing that the effort is most likely for not. Remember the hot summer day you thought would be good for trout fishing? The result of such a trip was likely none or one fish, numerous insect bites, maybe sunburn, and some sweat soaked clothes. Why would someone make that decision to venture forth. It is the pain. It feels good to suffer a little discomfort to remain attached to the type of lifestyle that is probably a distant part of our genetic make up.

The best cup of coffee I ever had was after spending three hours on a large rock in a sleet storm waiting for a deer that never showed because it waited out the bad

weather. I ask you, which is the smarter animal. The coffee may not have been Starbucks but at the time it eased my self-inflicted pain and it was a precious comfort. It was, I guess, a way of celebrating the survival of the ordeal I chose for myself.

If you talk to a person with no interest in the outdoors, it is hard for them to understand the connection felt for things in nature. Those that do enjoy the outdoors are somewhat more accepting of the discomfort that may be dealt. There is no true football fan that hasn't suffered a miserable day in the stands just hoping for a victory by their team to ease the stinging fingers and numb feet. The pain is a connection to the prize. Without the pain the prize is somewhat diminished, at least in our minds.

On a recent steelhead trip, I was alone and the weather in Cortland Ohio was a balmy 72 degrees. The weatherman said a stationary front might drop south off the lake bringing much cooler weather. Cooler..it was COLD!! I could see my breath. I also saw fish and the adrenalin kept me going until my brain finally took over. I had pain but damn, the fishing was worth it.

On your next foul weather outing ask yourself if you would do it again? If the answer is yes, you understand the line from the song that says "it hurts so good".



Editors Notes cont.

cont. from pg. 1

Seriously, I am looking forward to that first rise of the year. It usually happens with the stone fly hatch in late March, but this year the weather didn't cooperate. Look out trout, the Caddis hatch is coming.

This is the last newsletter until the fall and I want to wish everyone a safe, fun, and successful fishing and summer season. Please be careful and keep in touch with the chapter through our website www.neshannock-tu.org or drop us an email. See the newsletter for all our addresses.

Banquest Pictures



Walt Young (with a funny hat)



A break in the ticket sales

Upcoming...

Upcoming Calendar of Events

Please remember throughout the spring and summer to visit our website to keep abreast of activities in the chapter. Of course, if you aren't electronically connected, feel free to call a board member for any questions or to get the latest information.

Work Day: (Tentative, call) is planned for 9:00 am at Coolspring on 4/26/03. We will be cleaning up the road and along the creek. If we get enough help we may move some rock. We will be done at noon in time for a tailgate cookout followed by fishing. Come out, you may get a few tips from the old guys.

Chapter Outing at Oil Creek: This annual outing is planned for Saturday May 10th. We will have hot coffee and donuts at Shelter #1 in Petroleum Center around 7:30 and everyone convenes around 11:30-12:00noon for burgers and dogs cooked on the grill. Just a warning, if the weather doesn't cooperate and we are rained out there will not be a make up date. If Mother Nature smiles, the green caddis should be hatching. Please call any board member if you coming as we need to plan for food. It is a low key, laid back day of fishing, food, and fun. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Potter County Weekend: A fun weekend will be the plan for those who can blow off the May 31 and June 1 to fish. We will be staying at "Buckeye Boonyaks", an "A" frame camp located near the First Fork of the Sinemahoning in Potter Co. PA. We will be the guests of long time member and friend John Gavalier and Chuck Grameth.

All you will need for this great weekend of fishing is a sleeping bag, pillow, any special beverages, fishing equipment, and something to grill on Saturday afternoon. All the other food needs for the weekend will be purchased by the chapter. Total cost is normally \$15 to cover food plus your gas money. The cabin has running water and a shower, with enough room for 15 or so. Be warned, the snoring, can exceed dangerous decibel levels.

You Need to let us know if you plan to attend so we can plan the food. We can give directions when you call. We have a lumberjack breakfast, with sandwiches, cookies etc. for the day on Saturday and then we meet for a steak fry in the late afternoon before the evening hatch. Don't forget to buy a steak or chicken or what ever you want to grill. This is a fun trip, just anyone you know that has attended. Hope to see some of you there.

Words from the "TOP"

Aaron Monroe

I just wanted to take a few lines in the Clearwater Gazette to express my appreciation to everyone associated with this years Spring Banquet. Although I've attended the Neshannock Creek T.U. Chapter's banquet in the past, this year was special to me for two reasons. For one this was my first year to participate in all the preparation that is necessary to bring this function to those who enjoy it on the "big night". The second reason was that this was the banquet's 25th anniversary. In addition to the people who work to organize the function I would also like to thank all those who attended and supported the

T.U. efforts toward cold-water fisheries conservation. To all those who support the Neshannock T.U. chapter I would like to ask one more task from you. In the coming months we will be placing a questionnaire on the chapter's web site to solicit your opinions on future spring banquets. I'm asking that you take the time to visit www.neshannock-tu.org and give the board your feedback on continuing to make the Annual Spring Banquet the enjoyable sports person's night it has been in the past. Thanks for you support and help, see you on the stream.



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