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CLEARWATER GAZETTE

A Publication of Nesbannock Trout Unlimited Chapter 216

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P.O. Box 1362
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Website:

www.neshannock-tu.org

Membership Meetings:

Are announced in the newsletter and on the website.

Board Meeting:

New location will be determined soon. Contact board member for info.

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January 2009

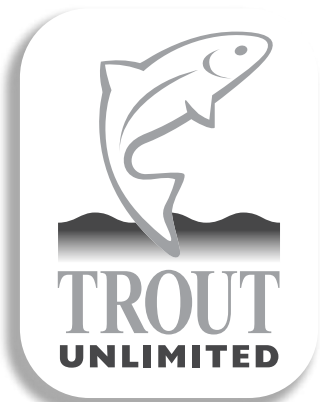
My New Year's resolution, the key one, is to fish different streams or areas of streams and do more wild trout fishing. I wonder how many readers are thinking the same thing. I'm sure I was not alone with my intentions for the upcoming season. The important part of success with those desires is to have a plan. Plans, though, have a way of modifying themselves to a point where you don't recognize the original objective. It is like the plan to get the house painted. Nice weather, a relative's visit, golf, and poison ivy all got in the way and prevented a carefully thought out objective from becoming an actual completed event. The nice thing is that a new plan can be made. I'm hoping my plan, as it now stands, will follow through to a positive conclusion. I'll let you know in the fall.

The deer season is almost over. A few very tough diehard bow hunters have until the end of the month in Ohio to get the job done. I hope you were all successful and don't have to brave the gut of winter to fill the freezer. That venison is expensive in more ways than one.

The 31st annual spring banquet is coming on April 4th and with it some exciting new prizes. See more in this newsletter.

"Once an angler, always a fisherman. If we cannot have the best, we will take the least, and fish for minnows if nothing better is to be had."

Theodore Gordon (1912)



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

Cool Spring Creek

The Chapter has a mailbox installed along the main path, primarily to collect data from trout fishermen. Believe it or not, we use the info to plan our programs relating to stocking trout, in-stream & stream bank improvement projects. We wish to thank those who take the time to log their 'daily fishing results' & comments in general. The following are a few of the comments logged for just one week this past October.

"Real Nice", "Great Day!", "Nice fish, lots of fish, great day", "Awesome day ... Awesome day", "Nice day almost perfect conditions", "First fish on new FR", "Hooked 8 altogether", "All on small ants", "Awesome day .. all caught on a new red & white egg ??", "Keep up the great work...."

Average number of trout caught & released was 7.

The log strongly indicates that Nesh-TU's effort is paying big dividends. (Certainly better dividends than Wall Street.)



Munnell Trout Nursery

The brown trout are eating and growing themselves out of a home. The nursery crew has made a couple of stockings this past fall because of the crowding and to save on feed costs. The nursery is planning fewer stocking trips in 2009 and a different feeding schedule to help keep costs down.

Anyone interested in joining the nursery team or helping with the stocking program, please contact Pete Anthony at 724.662.2271, or email GPANTHONY@MSN.COM , or Ken Tarczy buggertarz@yahoo.com at 724.662.5765.



Workdays In 2009

Make one of your New Year's resolutions to participate in the workday next spring. All that is needed is to send a name, phone and/or email address to Jeff Kremis (bentley48@neo.rr.com) to get put on our "call" list. We would love to see you there. We always try to have a "clean up" day on Coolspring prior to the opener in April. Keep reading the Gazette for more details.

The 31st Annual Spring Banquet

N. Loprire

The **Shenango Valley Civic Center (SVCC)** in downtown Sharon Pa. will be the site of the annual spring banquet on **April 4th 2009**. The SVCC is located on the corner of Shenango and Pitt Street. The event will be an opportunity to shake off the winter blues and think about warm breezes and rising trout. Take this opportunity to gather your friends, plan some spring adventures and figure out what to plant in this year's garden. It's just great to have winter behind us and looking forward to the sun's warmth and wearing sandals.

Sponsor and Corporate Sponsor Tickets will be available again this year. For the price, these tickets get you **MORE** raffle tickets than if purchased separately at the banquet. Contact Tom Jochman tomjochman@sbcglobal.net or Nick Loprire steelhd789@aol.com or any board member for more info.

This year we are especially excited about two major prizes. First, we plan to raffle a **BIG SCREEN HDTV** which will be on display at the Banquet. We are planning on a 40 or 42 inch model and tickets will be sold starting in **January** and up to and including the evening of the banquet. Tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10. **See any board member, Neshannock Crk Fly Shop, Benjamin's Restaurant to obtain tickets.** This will be a fabulous prize for some lucky individual. Because we are emphasizing the Big Screen raffle this year, our **50/50 raffle tickets will only be sold at the banquet.**

Next, we will be raffling a custom built **Bamboo Fly Rod!!** Thanks to the gracious generosity of local builder Chris Lantzy. He has agreed to build and donate a **7 ½ ft. 5wt.** (with two tips) bamboo fly rod for our chapter. It will be specially marked for us and is sure to become a treasured addition to anyone's rod collection. Chris's background is a professional musician and teacher. Chris is dedicated to his rod building and is involved with the **"Healing Waters" project.** This is to help wounded soldiers by getting them out to enjoy fishing. It is a noble and worthwhile endeavor supported by TU.

Please mark your calendars for **April 4th, 2009 at 5:00 pm** and plan to attend. The ticket prices are the same (see order form) and will afford you a great evening to meet up with friends, solve a fly tying problem and enjoy a great meal while supporting Nehannock TU to continue our mission of preserving the local coldwater resources. Remember all the money we raise that night remains in our chapter account for the benefit of raising trout, stocking, and improving the environment of local waters. As you think about taking a son, daughter or grandchild fishing, remember that without the grassroots support of TU and other groups there would not be as bright a future for trout. We need **YOUR** support to for the future.

If you didn't make the banquet last year make a new year's resolution to go and support the chapter and the work we do. We hope to see you there at the SVCC. Tickets can be ordered through any board member (see newsletter for email and phone numbers) or the Neshannock Creek Fly Shop, or by sending the form below with a **Self Addressed Stamp Envelope** to the address noted.

We look forward to seeing you there. Maybe you will be the big winner of the HDTV or a custom bamboo fly rod, or even a new sporting arm. Remember to bring the kids and the wife. The kids are the future of the outdoors and the wife deserves a great meal and a fun night out.

Cut this out and send it with a SAS envelope for your tickets

2009 Banquet Ticket Order Form

name

address

city/state/zip

\$25 Adult \$45 Couple \$10 Kids

Mail checks to:
Neshannock TU
c/o Nick Loprire
109 Southdale Blvd.
Cortland, OH 44410



Come Support Trout Unlimited and have a great evening!!

The Usual Suspects

N. Loprire

There was a movie a few years ago where the police were trying to solve a crime. They did what the title says and well ... you need to see the movie. The police used a routine approach for solving the crime that was "found in the manual". Needless to say, they had problems because of their structured approach.

If you are over the age of 35 most you have noticed that your life is beginning to develop certain routines. Not for everything, but overall there is a certain comfortable rhythm. That is a good thing for most endeavors like, work, raising a family, handling finances, relationships, etc. Where routine or rhythm may be a hindrance is in the outdoor world. I don't mean football, where it is a given that running the ball and defense are the cornerstone of a championship team. I'm talking about outdoor pursuits of fishing and hunting.

Everyone out there will likely admit to developing an established routine when it comes to fishing and/or hunting. Things like where we go on opening day. How we approach certain pools and being there at an appointed time because 10 years ago there was a huge hatch and I slayed them or where that buck crossed the opening.

There is a difference between routine and tradition. Tradition is a routine that is more personal. Going to your camp for the opener is tradition. Sitting on the same stump at 7:00 am on opening day is routine. Meeting your son or daughter at the "big game" each year is tradition. Buying your wife new PJ's every other year at Christmas is routine. Traditions are great and they can and should become part of the rhythm of our lives. It's the routines that need broken or altered.

It is not an easy task to break a routine. I once knew a woman at work that could not find here way to the office because they closed a railroad crossing and she could not figure another route to work. Someone had to meet her and lead her to work. That is an extreme example of being in a routine or as some would say, "rut".

A problem (routine) won't be solved until it is realized

The Usual Suspects cont.

as something we want to change (solve). We are all guilty of some form of routines that hold us back from a more diversified, pleasant, and possibly successful jaunt in Mother Nature's backyard. One approach to breaking those chains is to think about the next trip afield a few days before the event. For most of us that isn't too hard to do. It's more pleasant than concentrating on work, home,

and other issues that command most of our daytime attention. Think about the coming trip what you plan to do and then say to yourself "is that the same thing I did the last time?" If the answer is yes, make a conscious note to change your planned approach.

My favorite example is going for a usual days fishing on stream A and when I get there I will go to area B, riffle C and tie on fly D. It's all very neat and sometimes it works. The problem is that it is too predictable and had I gone to area F, using fly X, it at least would have been a new experience and possibly more enjoyable. Area F, after all, is essentially "new" to me and there are plenty of discoveries to make about the fishing, flowers, scenery, etc. That choice, in itself, is a strong positive for breaking a routine.

I think that the older we get we tend to list our past experiences into categories. We remember the best and worst episodes. The good ones go something like, "the last time I went there at this time of year and it was cloudy the green caddis were everywhere". So we tend to follow those thoughts. We all know that what works one day can be useless the next but we hang on to those successes and try to repeat them too closely. Being more general and diverse in our approach to sporting adventures would broaden our



experience and add more knowledge to make better decisions for the next foray.

When you venture to a new area to hunt or fish you are somewhat intimidated as to how to approach the situation. After all, there is no prior experience, or knowledge to obtain some confidence. It is at this point that you begin to formulate a plan. This plan is made by drawing

(whether you are aware or not) on all the past trips, experiences, and knowledge gained from years of "just doing it". In the end you may be very, somewhat, a little or not at all successful. Hopefully you aren't too successful less you become overconfident of your abilities. It's a tough fall from such lofty heights. A bit of perseverance and effort makes for a good balance with your ego. Besides, the stories about lost fish or difficulties endured are remembered long after a 12 fish day.

The key point is that it was a new experience maybe in a different place and not "routine". The results, most likely, could be improved upon and a return trip is probably being planned as you make your way home. But if you hit the big hatch and caught everything that stuck its nose up make sure to call me and I'll make the return trip with you.

"There is no monopoly on courage. It is the quality of courage found in fish that leads men to fish for them. And it is something of the same quality in man himself that keeps him wading bravely through swift water even when the hour is late and shadows are closing in around him.

Steve Raymond (1973)

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