

Tulpehocken Chapter
Trout Unlimited, Inc.

TullyGram

Vol. 14 - Issue 5 July/August 2008



The Newsletter of the Tulpehocken Chapter of Trout Unlimited
www.TullyTU.org

**"To Conserve, Protect, and Enhance the Quality and Quantity
of the Cold Water Resources of Berks County, Pennsylvania"**

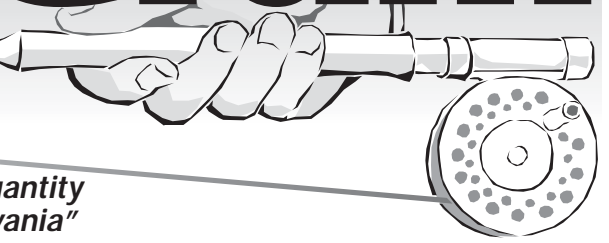


Photo by Len Good

Chapter members Len Good and Rick Bell helped to instruct students of the Don Hartman Conservation Leadership School on June 27th. At French Creek, the students learned the finer points of using chemical and macroinvertebrate studies to assess the health of streams. The Don Hartman Conservation Leadership School is a five day residential program designed to familiarize young people with the management and wise use of natural resources and problems affecting our environment.

Nominations Opened for TCTU Board of Directors

Nominations for the October Board of Directors election are now opened. There will be 3 positions up for election.

Nominations will remain open until the election, which will be held at the October 22nd Chapter meeting. Chapter Officers for 2009 will be elected by the new Board, immediately after the election. If you have a desire to become more involved in the chapter, here's your chance! For more information, contact any member of the Nominations Committee, Tom Garlow, Joe Hnatishion, or Ralph Herbst.

No experience is necessary. We'll provide "on the job training." Please consider becoming more involved in YOUR chapter!



Tully Talk by Tom Garlow

Lets just call this the bad news column for the year. Hey kids, how is everyone doing? Thankfully, we had a nice overnight shower last evening. Its July 14th and the July death grip of heat is about to rear its ugly head. The temperatures for the rest of the week are supposed to be in the mid 90s, YIKES.

Didymo. Yep, *Didymo.* The next unwelcome invasive that hopefully will not be showing up on our doorstep, but probably will. This is a microscopic algae that can put down a thick mat across an entire stream bed. The mat can be up to eight inches deep and smother everything. I am not aware that it has taken up residence in Berks County yet. Brown, tan, or yellow in color, it looks like clumps of fiberglass or toilet paper in running water.

It is spread by us, the fisherman that fish more than one stream. It attaches to waders and boots and appears to be pretty resilient. The best way to prevent its spread is to treat your waders and boots (particularly felt soles) with a bleach mixture. Drying will also kill *Didymo*, but that can take a very long time. Even slightly moist *Didymo* can last for several months.

This invasive has been known to choke off entire streams in New Zealand. If you go fishing down in Chile, you have to bring into the country a new set of waders and boots in plastic, or buy them there. They are aggressively trying to prevent the spread of this nasty, nasty stuff. Please look *Didymo* up on the PFBC website. There is a lot of information there.

Did anyone read the headline in the Reading Eagle this morning (July 14th) in section B, regarding the 200 home development being proposed for the old Paper Mill and covering the hillside behind it? Yep, we could end up with 200 homes and a vineyard. The developer is also proposing keeping 70% of the land as open space (I am assuming some form of cluster housing) with miles of walking trails through a wooded area and vineyard. the Paper Mill itself would become a restaurant, office or retail. (Hey Tony, how about TCO on the Tully?). Lots more traffic being added to an already busy area. The Tully is becoming such an urban destination, why not put up a large development right across the street.

And now, without having had much time to look into it, the just completed PFBC first in 17 years, (continued on page 4)



Photo by Beth Stone



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TullyGram Submissions

Due no later than the third
Wednesday of the previous month.

Chapter Mail

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Currents

Aug. 20 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM

Aug. 27 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
**George Daniel, TCO State College,
USA Fly Fishing Gold Medalist
Fly Casting Demo & Tips**
Covered Bridge Park, 6:00 PM

Sept. 8 • TCTU Eastern Brook Trout Joint
Venture Meeting 7:30 PM
Berks County Agricultural
Center, County Welfare Road

Sept. 17 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM

Sept. 24 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
**Wayne Michael, Trout Unlimited
Stream Access Issues**
7:30 PM - West Lawn Library

Oct. 15 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM

Oct. 22 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
Rick Nyles - Fly Tying
7:30 PM - West Lawn Library

Nov. 12 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM

Nov. 19 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
**Doc Plucinsky
Tully Stocking Issues**
7:30 PM - West Lawn Library

Dec. 10 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM

Dec. 17 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
**John McMinn
Fly Fishing on the Chesapeake**
7:30 PM - West Lawn Library

----- 2009 -----

Jan. 21 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM

Jan. 28 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
Speaker to be Announced
7:30 PM - West Lawn Library

Feb. 18 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM

Feb. 25 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
Speaker to be Announced
7:30 PM - West Lawn Library

**Mar. 14 • TCTU FUND RAISING BANQUET
INN AT READING**

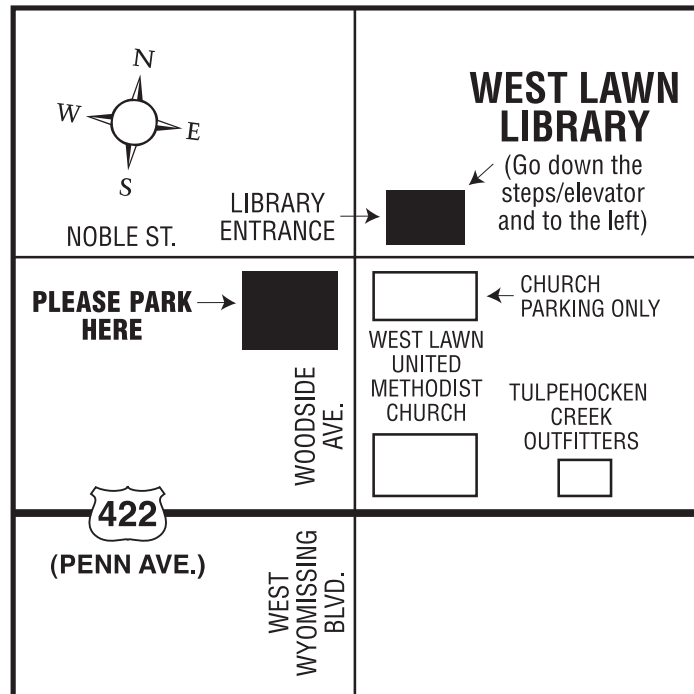
Mar. 18 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM

Mar. 25 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
Speaker to be Announced
7:30 PM - West Lawn Library

Chapter Meetings are held at The West Lawn Library (See map below)

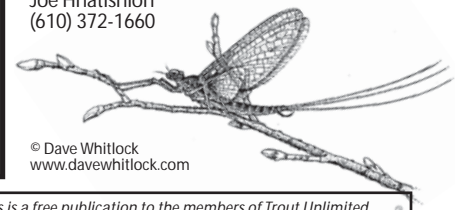
Chapter Board Meetings are held at Snyder Insurance - 1020 James Drive, Reading, across from Classic Harley.

Directions to the Tully House: Take the Bypass (Route 422/222) going West from Reading. Exit on Broadcasting Road. Go North on Broadcasting Road (follow the signs to Penn State, Berks Campus). At the bottom of the hill turn right onto Tulpehocken Road. Turn left to enter Grings Mill Recreation Area (across the street from Penn State). Make the first right toward the tennis courts. Go to the end of the parking lot and down the gravel road to the house. If the park is closed, enter at the secondary gate, just South of the main entrance. Please be prompt. The gate will be open 15 minutes prior to and 5 minutes after the meeting time.



Tully TU Committee Chairs

EDUCATION	PROGRAM
Rick Bell (610) 374-5750	Tom Garlow (610) 927-1185
RESOURCE MGMT.	SOCIAL
Len Good (717) 445-6194	Tom Garlow (610) 927-1185
BANQUET	HOUSE TRUSTEES
Tom Garlow (610) 927-1185	Elliott Barnett Charlie Boettcher
COMMUNICATIONS	Len Good Ron Speicher
Gene Markle (610) 621-2548	NEWSLETTER
FINANCE	Steve Fabian (610) 678-8335
Ron Speicher (610) 488-7892	
MEMBERSHIP	
Joe Hnatishion (610) 372-1660	



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www.davewhitlock.com

The TullyGram, the newsletter of the Tulpehocken Chapter of Trout Unlimited, is published monthly. This is a free publication to the members of Trout Unlimited. All advertising in the Tulpehocken Chapter's newsletter MUST be approved by the Board of Directors, as must any outside editorials and submitted for publication. Advertising space is sold on a calendar year basis. During the year, ads may NOT be changed unless there is a change in the business (such as new phone number or change of address). Special ad space is available on a one time only basis and prepayment is required. Note: Submissions are due no later than the fourth Wednesday of the previous month.

Chapter News

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Current membership is at 337. The chapter would like to welcome the following new members.

- Dennis Kutz
- Jacob Kutz
- Ryan Renninger

It's great to have you on board! Sorry if we missed anyone. Please plan on attending the next Chapter meeting. We look forward to meeting you!

REDNERS "SAVE-A-TAPE" PROGRAM

A big thanks to Redners and chapter members who have participated in the "Save-A-Tape" program. As a result the Chapter recently received a check from Redners for \$322.99.

That's 1% of \$32,299.00 in receipts sent in by members! A big thanks to Redners and to all of you who sent in receipts. Please keep them coming. If you shop at Redners Warehouse Markets and are not already participating in this program it's very easy to start. Simply obtain a Save-A-Tape card at the customer service desk at your local Redners and present it to the cashier prior to check-out. The Chapter will get 1% of the Save-A-Tape total. It's that easy, and makes a big difference in the fight to protect Berks County's cold water fisheries.

Make sure you obtain a Save-A-Tape card first as it is required for us to receive credit for your tapes.

Mail your Save-A-Tape receipts to:
Tulpehocken Chapter, Trout Unlimited
P.O. Box 91
Shillington, PA 19607

TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM

Following the first successful year for the "Trout in the Classroom" program at Oley Valley, the Chapter is working on expanding the program in to Hamburg High School.

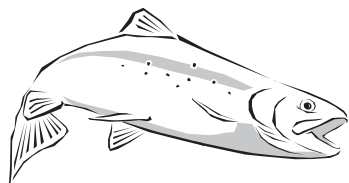
TCTU STREAM PROJECTS

The Chapter is currently working on 2 projects on the upper Tulpehocken and one project on Laurel Run.

EASTERN BROOK TROUT JOINT VENTURE

The next meeting of our local group of the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (EBTJV) will be held on September 8th, 7:30 PM at the Berks County Agricultural Center.

EBTJV is a locally driven effort to protect, restore, and enhance aquatic habitat throughout the range of the Eastern Brook Trout. The meeting is open to anyone interested in helping. We are currently working on identifying existing populations of wild Brook Trout in Berks County.



Gloria's Korner Kitchen

by Gloria Barnett

Happy summer greetings from my Korner Kitchen! Cooking should always be light and easy through the hot summer months.

I do not believe any of us want to spend a lot of time in the kitchen; this is a time to go outdoors and enjoy all the special activities, and of course, time to get in a lot of fishing at your favorite fishing locations.

I want to share my special green bean salad that is a great easy make ahead dish. The more it sits in the refrigerator to chill before serving, the better the taste!

Also, you all may remember the apple pancakes Elliott and I always prepare at the past breakfasts we had at "The Tully House". Well, now I would like to share an easy and delicious fresh peach pancake recipe.

Green Bean Salad

Gloria's Korner Kitchen

- 1 lb. fresh green string beans
- 1 large garlic clove – minced fine (more if desired)
- 10 – Large fresh green mint leaves
- Salt – to taste
- Red wine vinegar and olive oil (I use Classico)

1. Wash and clean string beans – steam or lightly boil beans – until adente.
2. Drain in a colander and place in a large bowl. Add the minced garlic and chopped fresh mint leaves. Toss and chill in the refrigerator. Cover.
3. When ready to serve – season with salt – add oil and vinegar to moisten salad.
4. Toss and serve. Enjoy!

Fresh & Easy Peach Pancakes

Gloria's Korner Kitchen

- 2 cups Buttermilk Pancake mix (Follow package directions)
- 2 Tbsp. sugar or sugar substitute
- ½ tsp cinnamon
- Dash nutmeg
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- 1 ½ or 2 cups peeled and diced fresh peaches

1. Add the first five ingredients into a large bowl and mix. After the ingredients have been mixed gently fold in peaches and stir.
2. Pour batter onto a hot, lightly greased griddle. Cook pancakes 4 to 6 minutes or until tops are lightly covered with bubbles and edges look dry and cooked; turn and cook other side until golden brown. Serve with your favorite toppings or powdered sugar.
3. These pancakes are a great start for a busy summer day.



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TULLY TALK (continued from page 1)

angler survey. There is a good short article in the sports section of the Pittsburgh Post Gazette from July 13, 2008. They surveyed 1562 anglers. Did any of you make the cut?

- 44% of the respondents felt that priority should go to wild trout.
- 52% felt that the PFBC should stock over wild trout.
- 60% support the use of bait on Delayed Harvest waters currently limited to lures and flies.

The commission is also considering creating Premium Stocked Trout Areas. These are streams where the PFBC would stock a high density (think two years ago on the Tully) of fish. When the goal (in my opinion) is to balance resource first with utilization and revenue stream, utilization and revenue stream will rise to the top.

Anglers drive an average of 44 miles to get to a fishery. Draw a circle of 44 miles around the Tully. Advertise that it is a Premium Stocked stream and just watch the pressure increase even higher. Throw in a bar at the Paper Mill for pounding beers after a great day of standing elbow to elbow catching lethargic fish with the banks filled with bait casters. You get the picture. I hope it doesn't come to this but I have my doubts. The survey also concluded that anglers want access. It is my belief that over utilization of streams like the Tully will eventually lead to reduced access, as those with the means will opt to buy available property on other streams and post to create the fishing experience they are looking for. A great deal of the best water in this state is already private. Watch for that trend continue. By the way, those golden trout, yep, real popular in the survey as well. Time will tell kids, time will tell.

On a positive note, yesterday I got a phone call from my wife's nephew, Zach Hoffer, a recent medical school graduate and officer in the Army. He is stationed at some base in Washington State, a stones throw from the Cascades. We bought him a rod/reel combo with some start up gear as well, for graduation. He had just taken up the sport recently with some borrowed gear after canoeing on Pine creek in May and witnessing fly fishermen pursuing their passion. He knew it was for him as well. Anyway, the call was all about the streams he has discovered, Steelhead, Rainbows, fat flies, you name it. His enthusiasm was sensational. That is rewarding. Lucky man.

Peace. Tom



Photo by Aaron Fabian

On July 18th, Chapter members helped Oley High School teacher, Jim Howe, teach a group students casting and fly fishing through on stream instruction. Jim also helped TCTU launch the first "Trout In the Classroom" project in Berks County.

Fly Specs - Trico Patterns by Rick Bell ©2008

Since the end of June, Tricos (*Trichorodes* sp.) have been emerging from the Tulpehocken in unusually large numbers, providing some exceptional sport – often exceptionally frustrating sport. There have been a couple of requests from angling friends asking to see what my patterns look like. On the stream are many more skilled devotees of this hatch than I and I can give you their names. I will do something more useful and let you know what some of the really good patterns look like. I usually carry at least five different versions, including several designed by well known anglers. There are also two or three experimental ties in my box at any time. While any one of them will usually catch a few trout, a change to a different pattern often elicits a few more takes from fish that looked and refused the ones before, hence the variety.

I will tell you what I think are the most important properties of a perfect Trico even though I have probably not yet tied one. During the spinner fall, I believe the most important feature is the dimple the natural leaves on the film, what Marinaro and others have called the light pattern. I maintain that the trout keying on spinners doesn't have to see the fly, as long as the dimple is of the right size and shape. The next, probably includes features of the silhouette, including a dark dubbing tuft to represent the bulbous thorax and slim dark abdomen. A light, almost transparent, abdomen is needed for the female.

The ability to see your fly on the water is absolutely essential, especially for trout doing what I call the sipping cruise. This is the frequent behavior after most of the spinner fall has occurred. At this point, there are a huge number of tiny spent flies on the surface there for the taking. Many of the trout very efficiently cruise along the surface tilting their heads up with open mouth up scooping flies as they go. For long periods, they waste no energy returning to holding positions. The result is that if you drop the fly in their path, you will often get a strike. It is necessary to cast quickly, but gently, before the fish does a radical change of direction. You need to lift the rod tip when your fly disappears, but if you can't see the fly, you can't see it disappear.

The best patterns for visibility are those that represent the dun with upright white wings. Many present tiers use upright white CDC wings. In fact, one of the Tully regulars ties a pattern consisting only of a black thread body and these wings. He successfully fishes it through the rise to spinners. I have been considering tying flies with both spent and upright wings on the same hook.

The late Penn State fly fishing legend, George Harvey, may have been the first to actively fish with Tricos and the first to devise a fly for this hatch. In spite of the lack of hooks small enough to accurately match the natural insect, he was remarkably successful, even back in the 1930's. While we are used to using hooks as small as #22-28, Harvey's dressing calls for size 18-20, which was all that was available until about 1960. His flies were miniature Catskill style dry flies, complete with tail, wings hackle and a dubbed olive body representing the female dun. He didn't believe in using a male pattern believing that the female was the sex most available to the trout.

Probably the next author to write about the hatch was Vince Marinaro, whose patterns included a spinner consisting of a tail, body, and a hackle collar that looks as though it was trimmed top and bottom, leaving hackle barbs on the sides of the fly to simulate spent wings. The actual technique involved passing thread loops behind the hackle and pulling the hackle barbs up

to the sides. He completed the enlarged thorax with black beaver fur. Ed Engle's book, *Tying small flies*, provides a detailed description. Datus Proper, who fished both Western and Pennsylvania hatches, developed a dressing that is easier to tie than Marinaro's and exceptionally visible. His pattern displays features of both dun and spinner. After tying in the tail, tie a white hackle collar to cover the front two-thirds of the hook returning the thread to the back and apply very sparse dubbing through the hackle. The fly is finished by trimming all hackle from the bottom.

My own current favorite includes a microfibret™ tail, and sparsely dubbed body (light olive for females and very dark gray for males), with a light dun hackle collar. I have occasionally added a small upright, single wing of sheet packing foam of the type used to pack electronic equipment. The hackle is the length of the spent wings of the naturals. On the stream, I usually trim the bottom half after finding that the untrimmed version is not working.

Somewhere along in the 70's, anglers including Barry Beck, were tying trico spinners with polypropylene wings. This was during the 70's, B.C. (before Cathy), when I met Barry in his small shop in his father's former gas station in Berwick. This is also when I decided to teach fly tying to Penn State Continuing Education students in Scranton. Barry generously gave me a large supply of basic materials for the class. Quite by chance, I discovered that the Director of Continuing Education at our sister Campus in Luzerne County, who came over to help enroll our night school classes was writing a book on fly fishing. It was Charles Meck's first book, *Meeting and Fishing the Hatches*. I had worked with him for at least three years without either of us knowing that the other shared a common interest.

On the Tulpehocken, from the standpoint of duration, the most important stage is the spinner of either sex. There are spinners on the water and trout sipping them from before 7 A.M. This lasts until at least 9:30 in the heat of the summer and until as late as noon when there is a cool drizzle. Even in the heat after the rise to spinners there are frequently large trout still near the surface and anxious to pick off beetles and ants.

Finally, here's another secret. Some of the very best success can be had with a spinner imitation pulled beneath the film where light pattern no longer applies, but where fish can see it so well that the fly has to be a very accurate example.

I'm convinced that the Trico hatch was made for anglers who are gluttons for punishment. It satisfies that well.



Photo by Steve Fabian

We are trying to conserve resources and reduce costs by delivering the TullyGram by email. If you would like to help by signing up to receive the TullyGram by email, please send your name and email address to us at tullygram@comcast.net.

“

I sat there and forgot and forgot, until what remained was the river that went by and I who watched. On the river the heat mirages danced with each other and then they danced through each other and then they joined hands and danced around each other. Eventually the watcher joined the river, and there was only one of us. I believe it was the river.”

- Norman Maclean, *A River Runs Through It*



Photo by Steve Fabian

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