

Tulpehocken Chapter
Trout Unlimited, Inc.

TullyGram

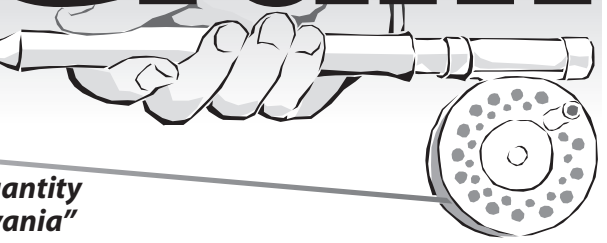
Vol. 15 - Issue 2

Spring 2009



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"**



The February 25th Chapter meeting featured a presentation from Cheryl Bucheit, a teacher at Hamburg High School. Cheryl talked about the "Trout In The Classroom" project at Hamburg that is sponsored by the Chapter. The Chapter also sponsors a similar program in Oley. For more information visit www.troutintheclassroom.org.

Breakfast on the Tully Returns!

"Breakfast on the Tully" returns at last, on May 23rd. The house is finally back in shape and our cooks are ready to go. Don't miss it! We'll start serving around 8:30. Hang out and tell fish stories or bring your fly rod and try your luck in the pool behind the house. This will be the first event held at the Tully House since the fire. A big thanks to Dave Frees and The House Committee for the excellent work done in cleaning and restoring the house.

Tom Snyder Memorial Scholarship

The chapter will again award the Tom Snyder scholarship. Any Berks County senior who has been accepted into a baccalaureate program in an environmentally related field may apply. Possible course study majors include Botany, Zoology, Ecology, Wildlife Management, or Fisheries management.

The scholarship honors one of our chapter's most active and enthusiastic members. Tom died in an automobile accident while carrying out volunteer work for one of several other organizations to which he dedicated his time.

(continued on page 3)

Tully Talk by Gene Markle

It's the beginning of a new year and I'm preparing for yet another snow storm to blanket the area. I just got back from the store so I have enough bread and milk to last the heaviest blizzard (my mom would be proud). This is one of the slowest times of the year for me. Hunting season almost over, and a bit chilly to do much fishing. I'm so looking forward to spring and getting on the Tully and throwing some flies around.



This is my first attempt at filling the presidency, so it will be a learning experience for me. It is something I am looking forward to, besides... the salary is great so I couldn't turn it down.

Since most of you don't know me, I'll give you a little background. I grew up in the coal region just outside of Hazleton and spent most of my time outdoors. My days were filled with hunting, fishing and playing ball after school each day. I was never any good at it but I enjoyed doing it and it kept me out of trouble. This was typical for the kids in our neighborhood. I never fly fished although I wanted to do so after watching some of my uncles do it. It looked so graceful and I just wanted to be able to throw line like that and catch a fish with some fuzz and feather tied to a hook. I started to teach myself to fly fish after moving from Hazleton to Blandon about 20 years ago. Spent most weeknights on the Tully trying to catch those elusive browns and rainbows. Took a long time before I caught a fish but that's another story. Didn't have a clue as to what I was doing so I picked up a "TullyGram" at the local fly shop while purchasing flies that imitated what, I had no idea. I thought Trout Unlimited was a fishing club and if I went to a meeting I'd pick up tips on how someone with a college education can catch an animal whose brain is the size of a pea. I started going to the meetings and they're talking about permits, stream bank stabilization, fund raising, and improving fish habitat. My first thought was whose going to show me how to catch a fish on a fly rod?

Seriously though, I took an interest in what they had to say and have been involved with the organization ever since. The organization is blessed with a core group of dedicated individuals who have done a lot for the cause and are very good at the positions they are responsible for.

(continued on page 5)



Currents



TCTU Officers and Board

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TullyGram Submissions

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

Chapter Mail

P.O. Box 91, Shillington, PA 19607
tullygram@comcast.net

www.TullyTU.org

April 15 • TCTU Board Meeting
7:30 PM - Snyder Insurance

April 22 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
"Doc" Plucinsky - Tully Insects
7:30 PM - West Lawn Library

May 11 • TCTU Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Meeting 7:00 PM
Berks County Agricultural Center, County Welfare Road

May 20 • TCTU Board Meeting,
7:30 PM - Tully House

May 23 • Breakfast on the Tully
8:30 AM - 11(ish) Tully House

May 27 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
Speaker to be Announced
7:30 PM - West Lawn Library

June 17 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM
7:30 PM - Tully House

June 24 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
Speaker to be Announced
7:30 PM - West Lawn Library

July 15 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM
7:30 PM - Tully House

July 22 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
Speaker to be Announced
7:30 PM - West Lawn Library

Aug. 19 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM
7:30 PM - Tully House

Aug. 26 • TCTU Chapter Picnic
Details and Time to be Determined
Tully House

Sept. 16 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM
7:30 PM - Tully House

Sept. 23 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
Speaker to be Announced
7:30 PM - West Lawn Library

Oct. 21 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM
7:30 PM - Snyder Insurance

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

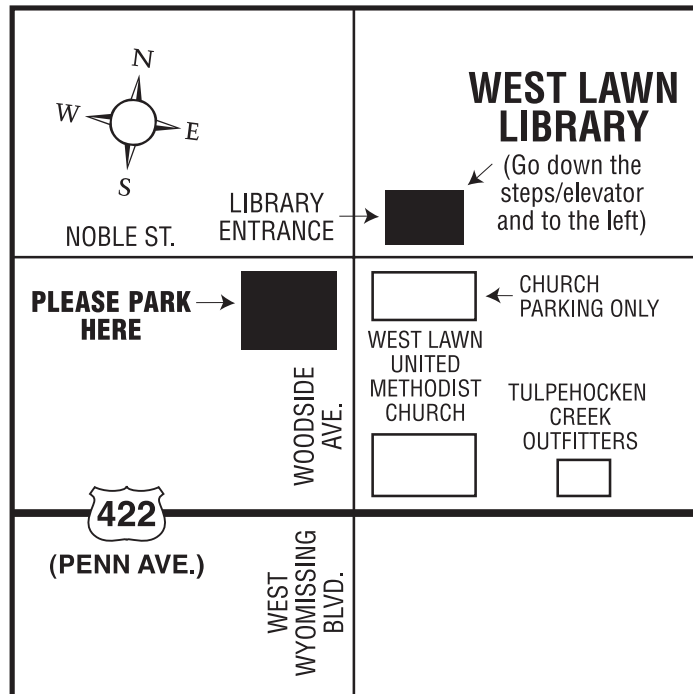
Nov. 11 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM
7:30 PM - Snyder Insurance

Nov. 18 • 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)

Some Board Meetings are held at Snyder Insurance - 1020 James Drive, Reading, across from Classic Harley. June, July and August Board Meetings will be held at the Tully House.

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 Len Good Ron Speicher
COMMUNICATIONS	NEWSLETTER
Gene Markle (610) 621-2548	Steve Fabian (610) 678-8335
FINANCE	
Ron Weidner 610-370-1733	
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 326. The chapter would like to welcome the following new members.

- Brian Dorshimer
- Glenn Kutz
- John Pakradooni
- Vincent Vozzo, Jr.
- Jacob Winger
- Ryan Zotter
- Craig Henderson
- Will Maza
- Patrick Ray
- Thomas Walsh
- Edward Yanowski

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!

FUND RAISING HELP NEEDED

In Lieu of a fund raising banquet this year, we will be holding our first annual raffle to benefit the efforts of our organization. Funds raised will be used for education including scholarships, conservation efforts and operations.

We anticipate that the raffle will be held at our September meeting where our speaker is going to be World Fly Fishing Champion George Daniel. The raffle will have a number of sensational prizes.

We will be mailing tickets out to the membership in the next couple of months. Your participation is greatly appreciated. If you would like to help with the fund raising effort, please give Tom Garlow a call at 610-927-3066 or e-mail at tomgarlow@comcast.net. Thank you.

We are also looking for someone that has some time on their hands, is creative and wants to get involved. We are looking for a new Banquet Chairman to head up organizing our next banquet. Again, if you are interested, please call or email Tom Garlow. Thanks very much.

FLY TYING CLASSES HELD

Thank you to Gene Markle, Rick Bell, Len Good, Russ Lamm, and Al Williams for running the TCTU fly tying class this year. About 10 students participated in the classes (photo on page 4).

NEW YOUTH MEMBERSHIP

TU has created a new youth membership to bring the next generation of cold water conservationists into TU. Youth members are called Stream Explorers and for \$12 per year, kids receive:

- A welcome letter with membership card and a Stream Explorers decal;
- Four issues per year of Stream Explorers magazine, a new youth activity guide aimed at kids 8-12 years old;
- The TU calendar;
- Membership in their local TU chapter;

For a gift of \$25, youth members also receive A Kid's Guide to Fly fishing, a how-to guide written by Tyler Befus, age 8. For more information go to www.StreamExplorers.org.

TOM SNYDER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

(continued from page 1)

The application process is simple, consisting only of a sealed letter of recommendation from a teacher or advisor who knows the applicant well, and a resume-like letter from the candidate. The applicant should include a description of his or her academic goals, the intended course of study, eventual career goals, and a description of any accomplishments like awards or honors received. A description of interests outside the classroom, including participation in sports, clubs or any similar activities should also be included.

Further information may be obtained by calling or E-Mailing Dr. W. R. Bell at 610-374-5750; wbellcaddis@aol.com. Completed applications should be sent to Dr. Bell at 2150 Alsace Rd, Reading, PA 19604.



WOW! Have we been through some very cold weather. I am hoping you will enjoy this pasta dish using anchovies and capers. It is a really tasty dish to serve for supper on a cold day. The combination is really flavorful, and you can add any of your favorite seasonings to this meal to make it even more delectable. I sometimes add artichokes in oil and strips of roasted red peppers. This gives the dish a very nice presentation when serving for family or friends. If more than 6 people, half or double the ingredients to be able to stretch the servings. I am anxious to get your thoughts after you taste this recipe.

Stay warm and get ready, for spring and fishing is just around the corner!

Gloria

Cut out and add to your recipe file!

Gloria's Korner Kitchen

Spaghetti with Anchovies and Capers

- 1 lb. spaghetti
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 1 or 2 tins flat anchovy fillets
- 5 garlic cloves. Peeled and sliced
- 1/2 cup small capers in brine – washed and rinsed
- 1/3 cup chopped fresh parsley
- Salt to taste

Boil the pasta in 6 quarts salted water over high heat – stir occasionally. While the pasta is cooking heat the olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Scatter the garlic over the oil and cook. Shake pan occasionally – (you do not want to burn the garlic) when garlic is golden – add the anchovies and stir until they dissolve. Add the capers – then add about 1/2 cup of the pasta water. Bring the ingredients to a vigorous boil, add the parsley, and stir. Remove skillet from the heat and stir the sauce to dissolve the anchovies. Using a wire skimmer, remove the pasta from the hot water and add to the skillet – coat the pasta with the anchovy and caper sauce; toss and serve immediately.

Note: If you do not have a large skillet or Dutch oven, drain the spaghetti, return to the pot and pour the sauce over the spaghetti. Check if necessary to add more salt or your other favorite seasonings.

Serve immediately – serves 6.

Fly Specks - *What's in your (Fly) Wallet* by Rick Bell ©2009

How many patterns for a particular hatch do you need to carry? A number of writers have suggested multiple imitations for some mayfly hatches, and carry all of them. I think Charley Meck carries four or five different adult sulfur imitations and probably uses them all. I know John Geirach always has a variety of Red Quills with him. Of course when you are fishing over sulfurs and some other hatches, there may be several insects involved and they don't all look the same. There are certainly differences in both size and color and a little variety ought to improve your catch.

You probably also should also take some cripples as well as perfect Catskill style high floaters. Maybe add a few thorax flies, and a comparadun or two. Then you might need some spinners and how about a classic wet fly pattern or a weighted example of a fly, normally tied as a dry, to simulate a drowned dun or drowned spinner. This whole subject gets complicated fast – and your fly box does too. Last season my Trico collection grew almost every day, especially as the hatch really got rolling as the flies got into their second brood. Not only were the flies suddenly smaller, as usual, but the trout were becoming more selective too. At that point my hoped-for goal was a magic bullet fly that every fish would take whenever I made a good presentation. So I tried both male and female designs, many wing materials, tailed and tailless forms, duns and spinners – you get the idea. Of course I didn't quite reach my goal, and probably never will, but I did get a very confused fly box. And I did come to at least one worthwhile conclusion which was that really sparse wings was the most important feature on tricos.

Caddis patterns have a similar history for me. Size variation on our Tully includes naturals from #16 down to #20, and, in the fall micro's to #24 or smaller, if you want to imitate them. You need to keep a range of sizes with you. I keep a number of styles because of an experience I had a dozen or so years ago. One spring day I caught trout on CDC adults around the Paper Mill but could not catch them with the pattern I had developed several years before, which was before CDC got into the US trade. I sped off to the Palisades and tried the two patterns just a few minutes later. The results were the reverse. My pattern caught fish there but the CDC didn't. Since then, I have tried to carry both at all times. This has become difficult lately because of a personal lack of winging material. I tied my fly, that I called Soft Wing Caddis (SWC), with the soft downy "marabou" from the base of nearly black duck and goose neck and back feathers. My source at first was molted feathers I found on the ground. I eventually found a source of Mallard drake skins and have since stopped scavenging, but have nonetheless run out of my good dark feathers.

The difference was that my SWC when on the water, had wings that lay straight back over the hook shank, much like a resting natural, but the wings of the CDC were splayed out and

looked like a spent caddis. While we're at it, when you tie either, tie the wings tip-first and then trim the butts to length. The fly will dry itself on false casts.

It is sometimes worthwhile to carry patterns with very few obvious differences. I suggest that when you start to catch a few fish on a particular design, but are getting mostly refusals, try something very similar, before you make any bigger change. Fine tuning your offering often does the trick.

The easiest way to control desired pattern variation is to tie your own. If you buy your flies the problem becomes finding the flies that have the desired variation. This can be a daunting task. If you tie, your own, the problem, at worst, is finding the right materials. The real benefit of tying your own is that it allows you to put your problem solving process into logical order. That means you get to cogitate over an angling problem and its potential solutions, then set out to build a fly that ought to do what you think it should do.

Now we have a bunch of similar and not-so-similar flies. How do you get all these flies organized so we can find them when we need them? I usually keep separate assortments for different streams. The ones that are big enough to see easily are put on a ripple foam insert that fit into trays in my chest box. I have a few sets for the Tully and a few for the Catskills. I simply change the inserts for the stream in question, but carry the rest with me on the trip. The small ones go into smaller boxes for my fishing vest. These are ordered by type; caddis in one box, Tricos in another, and experiments, (outrageous and otherwise) in a separate box or compartment.

When I change flies, the used ones all go into a separate compartment in the Richardson box and get a good evaluation for condition and success when I get home. Then most of them are sorted into the appropriate place, whether it's a compartment or a recycle bin.

Get tying! By the way, I'm not nearly as organized as I make it sound.



Len Good instructing at the TCTU Fly Tying class

HELP PROTECT OUR STREAMS!

If you witness poaching, pollution or other problems on the stream, do not confront the violators. Please call the Berks County non-emergency dispatch at (610) 655-4911. Enter this number into your cell phone so you have it when you need it.



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TULLY TALK (continued from page 1)

My goal for this year is to get more people involved with the organization. We have over three hundred members so I'm hoping we can get more people involved in some of our committees and have some new ideas brought to us.

Gene

FISHING THE ZEBRA MIDGE (continued from back cover)

In times of high fast water, like the springtime, a weight may be added between the strike indicator and first fly to get the tandem rig down deep. Don't be afraid to experiment with this set-up. That's what makes this fun.

A third way to fish the zebra midge is solo through the strike zone of feeding fish. Many times feeding trout can be seen thrashing and slashing in a stream's current a foot or two below the water's surface. Carefully cast to these fish a few feet upstream, adjusting for stream flow, and let the midge dead drift through their strike zone. This is one of the most exhilarating moments of fishing a midge pattern, sight fishing to feeding fish just under the stream's surface and actually seeing the "take." Fish-on!

Zebra midges may be purchased locally at Tulpehocken Creek Outfitters (TCO), West Lawn. TCO will be glad to answer any questions about fishing this pattern and the equipment best suited for the presentations described. The next time you head out to fish the Tulpehocken Creek, don't forget about that small fly that will produce big results all year long, the tiny zebra midge.

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.

REDNER'S "SAVE-A-TAPE" PROGRAM

Please don't forget, if you shop at Redner's Warehouse Market's, you can raise money for the Chapter as you shop. Simply obtain a Save-A-Tape card at the customer service desk and present it at 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 from the following Redner's stores as it is required for us to receive credit for your tapes.

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- Sinking Spring
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 - Shenandoha
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 - Pennside
 - Boyertown
 - Trexlertown
 - Easton
 - Middletown
- Schuylkill Haven
 - Lehigh Street
 - Doylestown
 - Nesquehoning
 - Kenhorst
 - Northampton
 - Red Hill
 - Douglassville
 - Ephrata

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

Fishing the Zebra Midge by Joe Hnatishion©2009

There is one fly that will catch fish on the Tulpehocken Creek twelve months a year. One fly is all you need. It is the Zebra Midge, a simple fly that imitates the most abundant insect life in this stream. A midge, in its larva state, is distinguished by an enlarged head that is fused to a segmented thin body, usually dark in color and is smaller than a dime. Trout in the Tully depend on this aquatic life for nutrition throughout the year.

The midge is often overlooked by fly fishers due to the popularity of the caddis hatches that begin in late April and the trico hatches that begin in late June. What makes this fly so unique is the ability to fish it twelve months a year with great success, as compared to the caddis and trico imitations.

The zebra midge imitation can be fished by a number of methods. It is a sinking fly, so most of the time it will be fished dead drifted on the stream bottom with or without a strike indicator. The secret with this fly is to keep it rolling and drifting with the current down deep. Trout key on midge naturals as they get dislodged from the rocks and debris in the stream and drift with the current. This is exactly what the fly fisher is trying to imitate.

To better your chances with strikes, a tandem rig (2 fly set-up) with a strike indicator can be used. In one version, the zebra midge can be tied 12-16 inches behind the first fly, usually a type of bead head nymph, with a strike indicator further up the leader. When fishing this set-up, both flies should be drifting along the stream bottom. A good rule of thumb: if you're not getting snagged every few casts, you're not on the bottom. One need's to be where the trout are feeding and that is down deep. Make sure there is enough line between your strike indicator and the first



Photo by Joe Hnatishion

fly to achieve this. A simple technique to use to estimate stream depth is to look at the water height on your waders and add another 12 to 16 inches to compensate for stream flow. The flies will not hang directly under the strike indicator when fished, due to the differences in drift rates between the strike indicator and flies, thus the need for extra line length.

PO Box 91
Shillington, PA 19607

