



Tulpehocken Chapter  
Trout Unlimited, Inc.



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

Volume 18– Issue 2 Spring 2012

# TullyGram

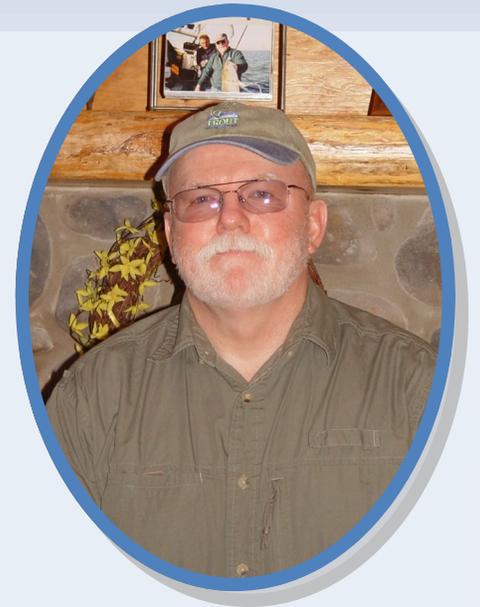
[www.TullyTU.org](http://www.TullyTU.org)

The Newsletter of the  
Tulpehocken Chapter  
of Trout Unlimited

## Tully Talk by Bill Eggleston

### Introducing our New Chapter President!!!

I grew up in southern New Jersey and fishing has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember. I grew up fishing the back channels, bays and ocean around South Jersey. We fished cut bait or lures, and I'm sure my Father is rolling over in his grave at the thought of me using a fly rod. It was on a backpacking trip in the early 1990's that I first thought about getting into Fly Fishing. My friend Hal and I made camp in a designated camping area next to a lake. I sat next to the lake watching the insect activity till dark settled in and came away with the idea that if I had a Fly Rod I could have spent a few hours fishing. I went home and made the first of many calls to Cabela's. The wife and I moved from New Jersey to Robeson Township in 2001. After several years of working on our home I joined Tulpehocken Chapter of Trout Unlimited in 2005. I started attending meetings on a pretty regular basis, mostly to take notes on where the best fishing spots were. I also found that the chapter offered Fly Tying and Casting Clinics, which I signed up for. In 2009, Gene asked if someone could take over the Membership Chairman position. I was happy to help, after all Gene said it would only take about 20 minutes a month. Yeah Right!



In 2010 Rick Bell and I began revitalizing our "Trout in the Classroom" program. I am happy to say the Robeson Elementary School now has a TIC program. Our hope this year is to have two more schools approved this fall.

I was asked to take over as Vice President in 2011 which lead me to become President in 2012. I can honestly say that it was my willingness to get involved in chapter events and environmental issues, and not my limited fly fishing skills that led me to this position. Along the road of life I've become an environmentalist, and I also believe that we need to educate today's youth if we want protect the environment we have now. I'm happy to have the opportunity to continue serving the chapter in this new capacity!

Conserve & Protect - *Bill*

### Notes From Bill:

As a chapter we have a number of things happening this year:

If the state releases our funding we could have a couple of stream restorations this year. Our Breakfast on the Tully events start in May and run thru September. This is a great way to meet other chapter members, whether in helping with breakfast crew or simply coming for breakfast.

Italian night will be in September this year.

We have two members pursuing a Barbecue event, with the intent that this would lead us back to a banquet event in the future. We will need your help to make these things happen. I know everyone is busy; I just put in a 6 day work week. But like most things in life, you get back what you put in. So if you can share some of your time please let us know.

## **TCTU Officers and Board**

### **President**

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2012

## **Upcoming Events**

**May 12 • Breakfast on the Tully - 8:30 AM**

**Come Join Us!**

**May 16 • TCTU Board Meeting - 7:30 PM**

**All members are welcome**

**May 23 • TCTU Chapter Meeting - 7:30 PM**

**All members are welcome**

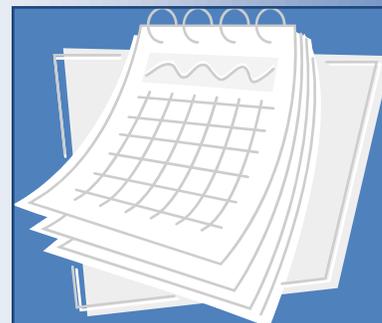
**June 9 • Breakfast on the Tully—8:30 AM**

**Come Join Us!**

**June 20 - TCTU Board Meeting—7:30 pm**

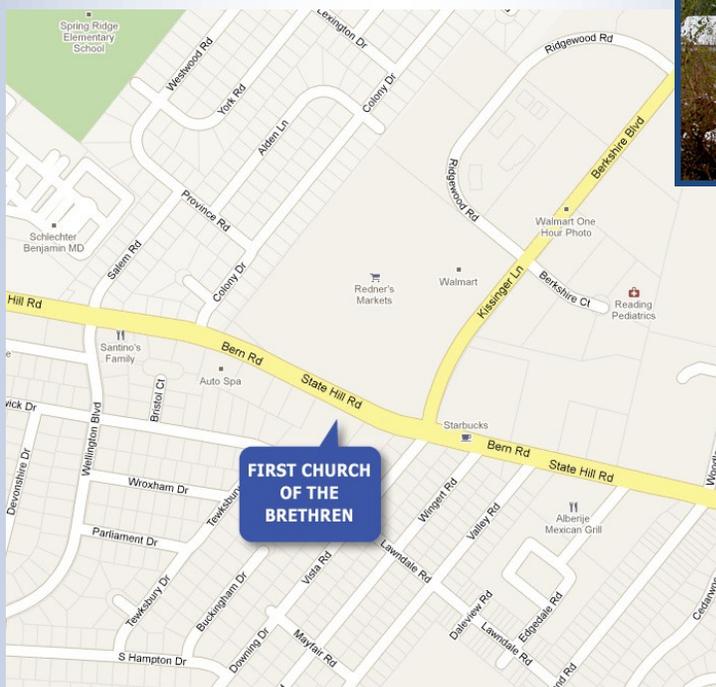
**All Members are welcome**

**-View Full 2012 Calendar at <http://www.tullytu.org/events.lasso>**



**UNLESS NOTED EVENTS ARE HELD AT THE FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**

2200 State Hill Road, Reading, PA 19610-1904



### **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



Member Daniel Shaffer reeled in the elusive "Tulpehocken Golden Salmon!"



## *Gloria's Korner Kitchen* -By Gloria Barnett

Hello from my Korner Kitchen! I am sure this warm weather has most of you most anxious for the time once again to start you great days of fishing out on the Tully, or your favorite fishing spot. I am featuring an easy trout dip recipe and I feel it is going to please your palates, and it is a good way to use your trout.

*-Gloria*

### **Gloria's CREAMY TROUT DIP**

**Ingredients:**

- 2 cups flaked trout
- 1 cup small curd cottage cheese
- 1 cup plain yogurt
- 1 1/2 tsps cream style horseradish
- 1/4 tsp salt (more if you prefer-taste first before adding extra)
- 2 T. chopped pimiento

**Optional -**

- 1/4 cup sweet pickle relish (this is only if you would prefer to use it)

**(Thoroughly combine all ingredients and chill about 3/4 hour before serving. Dip can be used with your favorite crackers or cut vegetables. Enjoy!)**

(Print and Cut on the Lines above to place in your Recipe box)

# Welcoming our new Members & Renewals

**Joe Wessner– Mertztown, PA**  
**David Griesmer– Birdsboro, PA**  
**James Brenner– East Earl, PA**  
**Jeremiah Wise– Honey Brook, PA**  
**J. Timothy Conrath –Topton, PA**  
**Angel Ojea– Reading , PA**  
**Bill McKay– Reading, PA**  
**Richard Bayliss– Reading, PA**  
**Frank Quillman– Fleetwood, PA**  
**Kurt Williams– Mertztown, PA**  
**Jack Brunner– Fleetwood, PA**  
**Robert Brown– Kutztown, PA**  
**John Henry– Reading, PA**  
**Happy Cappa– Reading, PA**  
**Angela Schiebel–Kempton, PA**  
**Damon Foulke– Birdsboro, PA**  
**Herb Betz– Morgantown, PA**  
**Sam Tate–Birdsboro, PA**  
**Jim McLaughlin– Birdsboro, PA**  
**Daniel Chafin– Reading, PA**  
**Kenneth Skowood– Narvon, PA**  
**Howard Taylor– Oley, PA**  
**Bradley Lawhorn– Reading, PA**  
**Robert Majowicz–Fleetwood, PA**

## HELP PROTECT YOUR STREAMS!

Unfortunately not everyone respects the regulations and rules of our waterways. The Tully in particular has special harvest regulations along with bait restrictions that aim to protect and enhance this fishery, the effectiveness of which are directly correlated to how many fisherman abide these rules. If you witness poaching, pollution, or other problems on the stream, do not confront the violators. Please call the SE Region of PFBC non-emergency dispatch at (717)626-0228. Enter this number into your cell phone so you have it when you need it.

## **PATU Coldwater Conservation Corps**

*Mitchell Blake PA Marcellus Shale Coordinator  
814-977-0007*

**Description:** National TU and the PA Council have teamed up to develop and implement a stream surveillance program called the PATU Coldwater Conservation Corps (CCC) to monitor water resources, conduct visual assessments, and report violations of state environmental laws to appropriate state agencies. CCC volunteers provide an extra set of eyes and ears on the ground, ensuring that special watersheds and cold-water resources are protected from the threats of environmental degradation.

*The Tully chapter is proud to take part in this initiative! We will be testing streams in Berks County, and doing our part to ensure the health of our streams through continuous monitoring efforts. Stay tuned for more information and updates from our chapter coordinators Daniel Shaffer and Pier Ignozzi!*

-Tom



## Predators and Prey

We seem to be continuing to be coming out of a mindset that at one time, promoted the general destruction of predators in ecosystems. Until about sixty years ago the practice was encouraged by many state and federal government agencies that offered bounties for such animals as fox and wolves and birds including several species of hawks and other raptors.

A hundred years ago Hawk Mountain was a popular destination for hunters who availed themselves of the opportunity to kill any species of raptor that flew by. Through the efforts of Maurice Broun and other early conservationists the mountain top was purchased and converted to a sanctuary that started to teach that raptors and predators in general are important components of all healthy ecosystems. Most of the predators that once had bounties associated are now federally protected. However there are glaring exceptions. Wolves are protected in some states, treated as rare or endangered in others, and avidly hunted in others, sometimes from the air.

There is a famous graph of two arctic animals illustrating their comparative population size through time. It appeared in numerous Biology texts in the fifties and sixties. It was not obtained by counting actual living animals, but by counting skins brought to trading posts by trappers. The species were The Arctic Lynx and Snowshoe Hare. The hare is the primary food item of the Lynx throughout most of the arctic. Both animals have been important fur-bearing species and therefore valuable enough to trap.

The idea of counting the pelts was an indirect but exceptionally clever method for estimating the relative populations of predator and prey without the cumbersome, not to mention expensive, time consuming methods usually used. The study was performed by a British biologist and population ecologist, Charles Elton. Elton had found records of pelts brought each year to Hudson's Bay trading posts in Canada dating from 1736 through about 1931. After his 1924 publication, he became a consultant to the Hudson's Bay Co.

Elton's study revealed an approximately ten year cycle with a lag of about two years between peak prey and peak predator populations. Prey seemed to drive predator numbers and vice versa. As prey population increased the potential food supply of the lynx predator, they were able

to reproduce at a higher rate. This was followed by an increase in consumption of the hare prey and an eventual subsequent reduction of predator populations. The memorable graph of results was a pair of sine curves. Remember sine curves from high school physics? One curve represented the prey population, the other the predator. The prey numbers were always much larger than the prey for obvious reasons.

It was originally my intent to use the above example to present a clever if not brilliant analogy involving Great Blue Heron and Tully trout populations, but I have to admit that I am unable to do this. The immediate reason for the failure is that the local Heron story is much more complicated. It's complicated by the change from the stocking of fingerlings to that of mature trout, making it perhaps somewhat easier for herons to gather quantities of food than before. Another complication is that herons have lots of other places to eat. These include a river and many small ponds and streams that support fish other than trout.

I do think I have noticed an increase in Heron numbers, over the past twenty years, but have no real statistical evidence. It would be interesting to find out if this apparent increase is real from actual heron counts or even if the size of their rookeries has increased.

About twenty years ago, back when only fingerlings were being stocked I wrote a similar article describing the benefit of predation on the prey population, citing the fact that predators remove the weak and diseased prey resulting in a healthier trout population. Herons probably even helped make the trout more wary like wild populations and no doubt continue to do so. Anyway, I concluded then that the trout deserved some of the fresh stocked fingerlings and probably still do with the larger fish.

In any case there isn't much we can do about it anyway. I can think of one thing that really needs to be done. That is to really, really improve trout cover.

# "CAUGHT AND RELEASED"



Thank you to Michael Reese, a Tully TU member who shared these wonder pictures with us! Looks like it was a great trip. Good fishin', good friends, what else do you need?

1- Wild brown on the Green River, south of Pinedale, WY, 8/25/11, dry fly (guide special pattern). Our guide Drew, is married to a girl from Reading and has fished the Tully....small world!

2- Hams Fork, Kemmerer, WY, 8/26/11, Crane Fly. This Wild Rainbow 21.5 inches. Huge rainbows are common throughout this tailwater. Unbelievable fishery!

3- Native Bonneville Cutthroat on Salt Creek, south of Alpine, WY, 8/26/11, Renegade dry fly

4- 8/27/11. Fine-spotted Snake River Cutthroat, caught in the Lower Grey's River, Alpine, WY, caught on a custom streamer. In the pic is Jim Dubisz, who was one of the founders of the Kettle Creek Watershed Association, and former member of God's Country TU Chapter (the lucky man moved to Alpine, WY since)

# TCO Fingerling Project *-Joe McGinley*



I'm sure we can all agree the Tulpehocken Creek is an amazing fishery, and we are truly fortunate to have such a beautiful tailwater trout stream in our backyard. With abundant bug life and plenty of fish, the Tully fishes well all year around.

Many of you may remember the Tully of old as well, when no adult hatchery fish were stocked, but instead the stream was filled with fingerling trout every year. These fish grew up in the Tully and became very "wild trout like." With many healthy fish in the 12-15 inch range, these browns and rainbows were as picky as any trout across the country. Unfortunately, all good things must come to an end, just as the fingerling stocking project did. Now, the Tully is stocked with only adult fish, three times a year. Don't get me wrong, the Tully still fishes great and boasts some beautiful fish. However, we would like to see it return to its glory days. This may be a tall feat, but as anglers and conservationist we owe it to ourselves to try and make a difference and restore our beloved Tully.

It's safe to say the state will not stop putting adult fish in the Tully anytime soon, it is after all, a revenue generator. After some research and a couple phone calls we have made an agreement with the PA Fish Commission in which they are allowing TCO Fly Shop to stock fingerlings back in the Tully. We are very excited for this opportunity, and will need support from our local anglers to make it happen.

There are many reasons and benefits as to why we would like to revive the fingerling project. Most importantly, we feel stocking fingerlings in the Tully leads to a more enjoyable and challenging fishery for us all to enjoy. These fish grow up in the

stream, becoming healthy and more resistant to bacterial infections which plagues many hatchery fish. To go further, they become much more instinctual creatures. To live a long life underwater they must become in tune with their environment, evading predators, and becoming selective feeders. This also leads to a more quality fishery with very selective and healthy trout. This is what the Tully was once known for, and we would like to see those wary holdover fish return to the stream. Healthy fish are also more likely to withstand the warmer water temperatures of the summer months, which will lead to more holdover fish and more natural reproduction. Wild fish migrate with varying water temperatures and seasons, thus spreading the fish throughout the entire stream, giving the angler more productive water to fish.

TCO Fly Shop has a projected stocking date of Fall 2012. This will allow the fingerling trout to over winter in the stream, and experience much less fishing pressure than they would otherwise see in the spring. Please stay tuned for more information on the program and how you can help. As we move further along we will be sure to involve Tully TU as much as we can. Feel free to swing by the shop or give us a call with any questions or concerns you may have. Together we believe we can revive the Tully!

*-Joe*

*Joe McGinley is the Web Manager for TCO Fly Shop in West Lawn, PA. He grew up fishing the Tully and hopes we can see more consistent and healthier fish with the restoration of the Fingerling Stocking Project. To find out how you can help please call Joe at the shop, 610-678-1899.*



## Potential Changes to Delayed Harvest Areas– A Report from Rick Bell

At the most recent PA Fish and Boat Commission meeting several possible changes of regulations for Delayed Harvest Areas were proposed by fisheries staff. The Tulpehocken Creek from the Stilling Basin downstream to the Red Bridge is one such area. These changes would have a great impact on those of us who fish this stream. One potential change would be to remove the present tackle restrictions and allow bait fishing. This is an idea that was proposed eight years ago and received very little support. The second would allow harvest in May, before the current June 15 beginning of harvest and extend to Labor Day. The third change would remove the regulation allowing fishing only between an hour before sunrise and one hour after sunset.

The expressed reason for the changes is that the fish in such areas are likely to die from summer's high temperatures and therefore harvest is encouraged. An original criterion for selection of the delayed harvest areas was that these streams are unable to sustain trout populations throughout an entire year. The new changes were tabled by the commission for further review. They will no doubt be considered again at the next quarterly meeting in July. We will keep you posted as to any decisions from the commission.

## ***Redner's "Save-a-tape" Program***

Redner's is committed to the communities that they are part of. They have committed to help out the non-profit organizations whose members shop in their stores.

### **How it works:**

Each member must stop at the store office or Customer Service Area to get a Save-a-Tape card. By using this card each time you

Purchase merchandise at Redner's your receipt will be designated

as a Save-a-tape customer receipt. Forward those tapes to support

your Tulpehocken Chapter Trout Unlimited. The organization will receive 1% of the total of the total of all the Save-a-tape totals

on the receipts. Proceeds from these funds will be used to help protect our streams, education and other conservation projects.

### **An Example of how you can help:**

Let's say 50 of our 300 plus members spend an average of \$75.99

per week in supermarket expenditures. If it was all spent on the save a tape program and submitted to us. The organization would receive \$1,950.00. There is no time limit and no limit. Please start saving tapes today and support the efforts of our chapter.

## **LIKE FISHING & WRITING?**

We are looking for enthusiastic writers and photographers to submit images and pieces for use in our monthly on-line newsletter to members. Because we will be accepting articles we must point out that the views in the TCTU On- Line newsletter do not reflect the views of TCTU but rather the views of the writer.



## **"CAUGHT AND RELEASED"**

We like to include photos of fish caught by our members in the newsletter. Please forward any current picture with your name and a short statement of where, when, and how the catch was made, along with confirmation that the fish was released unharmed. Thank you, looking forward to your participation.

Send them to [Newsletter@TullyTU.org](mailto:Newsletter@TullyTU.org).

# Fly Tying Class



*The Tulpehocken Chapter Trout Unlimited Inc. recently held its annual fly tying course. The instructors were Rick Bell , Gene Markle and Allen Williams. The program ran for 6 consecutive weeks and covered patterns that illustrated basic fly tying techniques. Emphasis was given to patterns that imitated caddis and mayflies commonly found on the Tully and neighboring streams. The instructors also covered a few patterns requested by some of the students.*

*Along with the tying instruction, the students were given an overview of materials and fly tying tools and of course were entertained with fish stories from the instructor's combined years of fishing experiences of .. well, let's just say a lot of years!!*

*Gene Markle*

**Thank you West Lawn United Methodist Church for the accommodations and to all who participated!**

**Congrats  
"Students!"**



# Trout in the Classroom

It has been our pleasure working with Students at Robeson Elementary as part of our TIC program. Understanding the value of healthy aquatic habitats and the species that depend on them is paramount to future conservation efforts that impact us all. We appreciate the shared effort of Rebecca Johnson and her students to help make this program successful. In addition to the raising and observation of live species, her students also studied aquatic ecosystems and studied a book titled Trout Are Made of Trees. The class was kind enough to share some of their poetry and writings with us that came from this study. Enjoy!

## How are Trout Made of Trees?

Some leaves fall into streams and plankton and bacteria feed on the leaves. Stoneflies, minnows and tadpoles eat the bacteria. The trees are now a part of them. The trout eat them.

The cranes and other birds eat the trout and they are one with the trees. But when the female trout finds a shady place, she will lay her eggs and the male will come by and fertilize them and the trout life cycle begins again.

By Damien

Trout are made of trees because of a cycle called the food chain. From a leaf falling, to bugs eating the leaf, to a minnow eating that bug, and then a trout eating that minnow. At the bottom of the food chain is the leaf which gets eaten by the bug. At the top of the food chain is the human which will eat the trout.

By Ethan

Trout are made of trees because of what they eat. Before they eat their meal, this is what happens. A leaf falls into the water. Algae and bacteria grow on the leaves after they sink. Little insects and shrimp eat the leaves and bacteria. Their predators eat them and then the trout eat the predators. The insects had eaten the leaves which are part of the trees, and then the predators ate them and the leaves. Finally, trout ate the predators, the insects, and the leaves which are part of the trees!

By Emma

Shrub Wetland		Limestone Coldwater Stream		Ocean
Woodsy, bushy	Freestone Coldwater Stream	Narrow, fresh	Warm Water River	Salty, wavy
Breaking, surfacing, moving,	Cold, lotic	Flowing, freezing, producing	Warm, fresh	Crashing, splashing, dashing
Plants break water surface throughout	Splashing, thrashing, flowing	Trout stay all year	Flowing, moving, running	A ton of animals
Shrub Wetland	Not flowing through limestone	Limestone Coldwater Stream	It has many tributaries	Ocean
By Jared	Freestone Coldwater Stream	By Nick	Warm Water River	By Bridgette
	By Jennifer		By Anna	

# Entomology Anyone???

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**Step 1— Know the Bug**

**Step 2—Match the Hatch**

**Step 3—Catch the Fish!!!**



**Thanks to Rick Nyles for these great Photos!**

# From the Editor

-By Thomas Ham

Hello TU community...and Happy Spring!

What a great time of year it is to get out to your favorite fishing hole and wet the line. Despite low waters due to the lack of rain in April, it seems most of us were still having some good luck out there these past few weeks. I had the pleasure of doing a little hiking over Easter and pulling a few native brookies out of a mountain spring. They're not always the biggest, but they've got a lot of fight to them, and the simple fact that they are there, should mean something to us all. I am happy to show off this little guy to the right!!!

I also had the opportunity to attend a great presentation by the PATU Coldwater Conservation Corps on Marcellus Shale Drilling, hosted by the Valley Forge TU Chapter. What a great day of learning! It was nice to be there with other members of our chapter and learn how we, as volunteers and stewards of the environment, can get involved and help ensure gas drilling is not negatively impacting our water. We will be sharing more on how our chapter along with our coordinators Pier and Daniel are taking action. In the mean time, follow this link to learn more-

<http://www.tu.org/conservation/eastern-conservation/marcellus-shale-project>

I hope you're all enjoying the newsletters, they're always a good way to keep up to date on chapter happenings. I definitely encourage members to get involved. We have regularly scheduled meetings you can attend, and if you check this newsletter and our website, you'll notice we have quite a few events planned for this spring and summer. We would love to see you, so come on out, and bring a friend or two!

*Remember, the greatest impact of conservation is not only in the doing, but in teaching future generations to continue the effort!*

-Tom



**Tulpehocken Chapter - Trout Unlimited, Inc.**  
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Photo ©Steve Fabian