



Tulpehocken Chapter  
Trout Unlimited, Inc.



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

Volume 20— Issue 1 Spring 2014

# TullyGram

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

The Newsletter of the  
Tulpehocken Chapter  
of Trout Unlimited

## Tully Talk by Dan Shaffer

Hopefully 2014 will warm up by Spring! The New Year starts off with new Board Members and a new President. I would like to welcome recently appointed Board Members Cathy Myers, Chris Meyers, and Pier Ignozzi-Shaffer (my better half by far). For the first time in quite a while I believe we have a fully engaged Board of Directors.

So let's start the new year with a new commitment to the chapter. We have over 400 members who we know you have an interest in either fishing or conservation or both, i.e. you have an interest in our mission. But it seems that where it stops because we have membership meetings and very few folks show up. Yes, I know that is the way it is with most organizations. But we want to change that and we need your help to get us back to a vibrant engaged chapter that helps our community with cold water conservation and have some fun fishing together.

Your first opportunity to rub elbows with a bunch of other like minded people is the upcoming banquet. Last year about 120 people attended and had a great time. We hope to grow that to 200 this year. The Banquet will be held at the Reading Country Club on March 21, 2014 at 6PM. Details can be found on our website, facebook and the Newsletter.

Next, we have monthly membership meetings with guest speakers. Again you can check the website, facebook, or the monthly newsletter to see if the presentation interests you. In the coming year we plan to have at least two "stars" show up. During the warmer months our meetings will move to the Tully House with special programs utilizing our wonderful facility.

Speaking of the Tully House, have you been to Breakfast on the Tully? Talk about a no brainer! A great breakfast of eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, home fries, toast, juice and a hot beverage for just \$6.00 and all you have to do is show up! Again you will find likeminded people there and after breakfast you can go fishing.

We have been quiet as of late with stream projects, but that is about to change. This year we have the Sonon Farm Project on the upper Tully to complete and a burgeoning project on Hay Creek. We are also going to help clear out the snags on Mr. Stewart' property on the Tully just above Blue Marsh. We are now monitoring the water temperatures in Plum, Cacoosing and Angelica Creek.

Finally, we are talking about ramping up some work on the Delayed Harvest section of the Tully. So there is and will be opportunities for members to get involved with stream improvement projects.

That said, the Chapter is definitely providing opportunities to get involved, and we need your help. What is outlined above is mostly just showing up. Try it, you'll like it!

Be well,

-Dan



## **TCTU Officers and Board**

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**Vice President**  
[Jeff Schronce](#)

**Treasurer**  
[Ron Weidner](#)

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**[WWW.TULLYTU.ORG](http://WWW.TULLYTU.ORG)**

### **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



# Currents

2014



## **Upcoming Events**

### **03/18/14 @ 7:00pm- 2014 Fly Tying Classes**

The Tulpehocken Chapter of Trout Unlimited will again offer a beginners and intermediate fly tying course. The course will cover basic techniques and emphasize flies that are effective for trout on local streams.

There are six sessions scheduled beginning March 18 and running for successive Tuesdays through April 22. Classes will be held in Room 202 of the West Lawn Community Center (Woodside Ave and Noble St.). Classes run from 7:00 P.M. to 9:30. There is a fee of \$20 to cover the cost of materials.

Each participant must preregister by calling Rick Bell at 484-575-7037 or e-mailing [wbellcaddis@aol.com](mailto:wbellcaddis@aol.com). West Lawn Community Center

### **03/21/14 @ 6 to 10 pm- Tulpehocken Chapter Trout Unlimited Youth Program Fundraising Banquet. Join us for an evening of fun, frolicking and friends!**

Proceeds will benefit; Local youth programs including Trout in the Classroom, Youth Camps as well as stream enhancement and water monitoring projects in the Berks County area.

### ***Reservations are Required***

**Time: 6 to 10PM Cocktails 6 to 7PM Cash Bar**  
**Place: The Reading Country Club 5311 Perkiomen Ave, Reading, PA**  
**Dress: Business Casual or Better Price: \$50.00 person**  
**Full Dinner Buffet (Salmon, Chicken & Prime Rib) Dessert & Coffee**  
**Ticket Forms available at TCO West Lawn, PA and our website.**  
**Questions call Dan Shaffer 610-207-0450**  
**SGOC Lic#G-13-059(R)**

### **Breakfast on the Tully!: At the Tully House 5/10, 6/14, 7/12, 8/9, 9/13**

**Upcoming Membership meetings: 7:30pm following 5:30 BOD meetings at same location.**

**March 21, Reading Country Club, annual fundraiser**

**April 16, Chef Alan's, Lamonte Garber from the Stroudt Water Research Center**

**May 21, Tully House, Fishing with a Partner**

**June 18, Tully House, TBD**

**July 16, Tully House, Robert Weber, Unassessed Water Initiative**

**August 20, Tully House, TBD**

**September 17, TBD**

**October 15, Saucony Creek Brewery, Lee Hartman, Fishing the Upper Delaware**

**November 19, Chef Alan's, TBD**

**December 17, Golden Oaks Golf Club, TBD**



Tulpehocken Chapter  
Trout Unlimited

# 2014



## Youth Program Fundraising Banquet

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6 to 10pm

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**Dress:** Business Casual or Better

**Price:** \$50.00 person

Full Dinner Buffet (Salmon, Chicken & Prime Rib) Dessert & Coffee

For more information, directions and ticket purchase, visit our website [www.tullytu.org/](http://www.tullytu.org/)

Ticket Forms available at TCO – West Lawn, PA

Questions call Dan Shaffer 610-207-0450

SGOC Lic#G-13-059(R)

See other side for order form





Contact:  
Dan Shaffer  
610-334-2615

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Tulpehocken Chapter of Trout Unlimited announces annual Fund Rising Banquet March 21<sup>st</sup> at Reading County Club**

READING, PA: Tulpehocken Chapter of Trout Unlimited (TCTU) is pleased to announce the 2014 banquet will be held from 6pm to 10pm on March 21<sup>st</sup> at the Reading Country Club. This year's fundraising theme is "Youth Programs" and the proceeds from the banquet will benefit the local youth of Berks County. The Tully Chapter proudly participates in many programs to encourage youth involvement in conservation and fly fishing. The goal this year is to sponsor several local youths to attend conservation camps and further the efforts in Berks County with educational programs in schools – from elementary level to high schools.

The dinner on Friday, April 21st, is \$50 per person. The complete buffet includes salmon, chicken and prime rib. To assist Trout Unlimited in reaching their goals, they are seeking sponsorships and donations. These sponsorships can be in the form of donations to the banquet or directly sponsoring a youth program.

#### **Youth Programs**

The Tully Chapter assists in funding and facilitating Trout in the Classroom, a program with several local school districts. This program is an interdisciplinary program that introduces cold water conservation education to Pennsylvania schools by raising brook trout from eggs to fingerlings. In addition, the Tully Chapter sponsors students attending the Don Hartman Conservation Leadership School, Rivers conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp ([www.riverscamp.com](http://www.riverscamp.com)) and Pennsylvania Brookies Field School ([www.piceweb.org/pa-brookies](http://www.piceweb.org/pa-brookies)). These camps are weekends or weeklong programs that provide excellent education and hands-on experience in conserving local waterways. The TCTU chapter is committed to helping our youth become stewards of the waterways.

#### **Stream Programs**

For many years, the Tully Chapter has partnered with Berks County Conservation District, Berks Conservancy and other local agencies to preserve and heal our coldwater resources. Current Stream projects include repairs and improvements to Hay Creek near Route 10, stream bank and clearing on the Upper Tully, water quality monitoring on various streams within Berks County and temperature monitoring on the Cacoosing, Plum and Angelica Creeks.

#### **About: Tulpehocken Chapter of Trout Unlimited (TCTU)**

Since 1959, the members of Trout Unlimited have dedicated themselves to conserving, protecting and restoring cold-water fisheries throughout North America. Beginning in 1976 the Tulpehocken Chapter has restored, repaired or improved miles of local stream, most notably the Tulpehocken creek. Working on local, state and national levels, Trout Unlimited is working to actively preserve, protect and restore cold water fishing for everyone's enjoyment. The Tully Chapter realizes it is essential to teach the next generation the importance of conservation.

Banquet tickets can be purchased online at [www.tullytu.org](http://www.tullytu.org) or by mail with a form also found on the website.

To learn more about the banquet, please contact:

Dan Shaffer  
P.O. Box 6166  
Wyomissing, PA 19610  
610-334-2615  
[dshaffer@hotmail.com](mailto:dshaffer@hotmail.com)

# Tully TU Banquet Mail-In Order Form

Reservation Required, Limited Seating, Cash Bar

Date: 3/21/2014 Time: 6PM to 10PM

Location: Reading Country Club, 5311 Perkiomen Ave., Reading, PA 19606

*Auction items, raffles and more!*

**Please register all guests for compliance with the PALCB.**

**Guest #1**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Guest #2**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Guest #3**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Guest #4**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Price: \$50.00 per person**

Cocktails from 6-7, cash bar

Full buffet dinner including: Salmon

Chicken, Prime Rib, and Dessert

# Attending:	Price	Total
	\$50.00	

(    ) I can not attend the event but here is a donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for TU programs.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail check or money order to:**

Payable to: Tulpehocken Chapter Trout Unlimited

Mail to: Daniel Shaffer

PO Box #6166

Wyomissing, PA 19610

**Questions:**

Call: Dan Shaffer

(610) 334-2615

[dshaffer2200@hotmail.com](mailto:dshaffer2200@hotmail.com)

*Your donation maybe tax deductible. Consult your tax advisor. Trout Unlimited is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.*



## CHESAPEAKE-Fiction, and Fact.

James A. Michener was a native of Doylestown PA. A museum in his name stands in his hometown, displaying works from local, well known artists. Born in 1907 he obtained a Master's degree, became an educator, ran for public office, and served in the Navy during WWII. He also earned The Presidential Medal of Freedom and served on the NASA Advisory council. Impressed yet? Well, despite all the above, James Michener is actually better known for his more than 40 published novels. Most of his books are recognized as a perfect blend of fiction and history. His stories typically span generations and employ a remarkable amount of historical research that take readers on a palpable journey through time.

Despite his many accomplishments Michener was not, to the best of my knowledge, a fly fisherman. I write about him today because of what we can learn from his book "Chesapeake." In a chapter titled 'Voyage Eleven: 1886,' he describes the effects on the Chesapeake Bay of a massive sea born storm that lands in central Pennsylvania. While actual history drives his tales, Michener is not a record keeper. Did a massive storm leapfrog from Norfolk to the Susquehanna Valley that year? While his reputation for research is more reputable than mine, I cannot find much... what I can confirm is that was one hell of a year for hurricanes on the Atlantic coast. But that is beside the point, because storms happen all the time. Obviously they generate in the south and where they make landfall depends, and the bay can take a real beating even if the storm doesn't drop right on it. The Susquehanna River does flood, and that water goes to the Chesapeake.

The chapter begins by breaking down the Bay into its various parts; North, South, East, West, and its bottom and top layers. Each part having its own characteristics and roles within the ecosystem; the northern part being fed by the mighty Susquehanna that pushes in fresh water, to the southern portion which takes on salt water from the ocean, the western side being fed by smaller rivers of fresh water, the east being nutrient rich and dense marshes of brackish water inlets, and then the deeper parts being colder with more salinity than its higher oxygenated top layer that is warmed and replenished by the sun.

Michener's massive storm results in the Susquehanna River flooding the bay with an abnormal amount of both fresh water and silt deposits. He brilliantly breaks down the impact of these factors on the delicate balance of the bay's diverse ecosystem. The usual equilibrium of salinity, temperature, sunlight and sediment are thrown out of kilter.

He evokes our sympathies for the oysters suffocating under sediment deposits, and blue crabs who despite their advantage of mobility over the oysters, struggle to breed and survive in lower salinity. But it doesn't end there, for by 1886 the local economy was dependent on the bay and also suffers with the loss of its cash crop normally bound for consumers in cities to the north.

The reader knows that this carnage was brought on by natural forces. As our hearts are torn by the personification of crabs and oysters, we think we clearly have mother nature to blame; after all we are, along with crabs and oysters, just a pawn in a much larger game. But as the chapter closes and we feel like we've slipped the jab, Michener delivers a blow that puts us on the ropes. He reminds us that our hands too, are bloody. He describes in the last few paragraphs how the Susquehanna did not only carry silt to the bay, but human and industrial waste also, like sewage, oil, and poisons. Some of the oysters might have survived the silt, but the bay could not dilute the toxicity of human contamination that would ultimately kill the rest of them. Consuming any product of the bay that could be salvaged resulted in death or pestilence such as typhoid. Reading between the lines we get a lesson in accountability, realizing our own activity can have exponential impacts on our environment. Since humans have not and probably will not master a "leave only footprints" way of doing things, we need to at least be responsible.

If you have read this far I'll reward you by wrapping it up. On a very grand scale Michener teaches us that our river systems are more than just the stretch of water we see at any given place. We can, and do, have an immediate positive or negative impact on our local streams, and need to remember they flow to other places. The Chesapeake Watershed is one of the biggest you will find anywhere in the world, meaning it can be effected by so many different things, in so many ways. Today we have many threats to maintaining healthy and life supporting water. We will always have industrial pollution, and though we seem to control that better nowadays, along came "fracking" to keep us on our toes. Perhaps my synopsis reminded you of the BP oil spill some years back? Groups like TU, and of course regarding the very topic of this article, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, strive to have a positive impact on our water ways. As we are coming up on our annual banquet we are pleased to think how part of our fundraising efforts is to ensure the education of conservation to future generations. We can only hope the message gets out to others as well.

And hey, give Michener's books a try.

# Is that a ruler in your fin?- Rick Nyles

## Is that a ruler in your fin?

I have been doing fly tying classes for years now and it never fails that I hear “your wings are too tall” or “your tails are too long”. My response has always been “I have yet to catch a trout with a ruler”.

I take a very different approach to fly tying, simple. Maybe it comes from seeing a friend, client or myself loose a fly on their first cast and thinking how there goes 15 minutes of life to make it perfect. Over the years my approach has always been quick, simple realistic flies. Any shortcuts, in my opinion, are worth it. I tie some real looking flies but not many. I bring them out for selective trout and keep them separate from day to day flies.

Here is a list of suggestions...

- I always make my wings tall. I can cut them down on the creek for a different look. Remember you can't add material.
- Dry Flies, tails are optional. I tie flies with and without tails.
- Contrast. People are so focused in on using the colors listing in a fly tying book that they fail to realize the reason for two colors is contrast. I like to go darker or lighter on one of the materials to bring out the contrast.
- Markers. Yes carry markers on the creek. I will tie up a bunch of Hendrickson and then when it is March Brown time, I color them with my brown marker.

Be creative and think what is going on during a hatch and experiment. I do. I always have a box of flies that have some new ideas. I love trying these flies when the fish are getting a good look at the fly or being selective. Always tie more than one. Because you might break one off on a hook set. Now what back to the fly that was not working?

*Rick Nyles- Sky Blue Outfitters*

<http://skyblueoutfitters.com/>

Photos by Rick Nyles

## March Brown Crazy Emerger

Something I started tying a few years ago. This is the first time it is being shown.

It is one of my “experimental flies” that is now always in my fly box in different sizes.



## CDC Ginger Quill

A simple pattern using only 5 materials CDC, hook, thread, quill and dubbing.

Tails are optional.



## 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.

## 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.



## Redner's Save-A-Tape

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.

## Spring Issue Funnies



Your Invited.....

## Breakfast on the Tully

Sit next to the stream and allow someone else to do the cooking and the clean-up. It is Saturday morning and **you deserve a break!**

**2nd Saturday May thru Sept  
8:30AM til 10:30AM - \$6.00**





# From the Editor

-By Thomas Ham

## Hello TU community!

Well folks, I think we have earned our spring....whenever it decides to show up that is! "Enough snow for ya?" jokes aside, with the birds showing up to my feeder and a day or two of sunny warmer weather, I cannot help but feel spring will be sprung soon enough, and with it plenty of opportunities to get out and enjoy nature.

We've all been busy planning for our Annual Banquet taking place on the 21st of this month. If you haven't seen our notices in your email inbox, then you probably noticed the flyer on the website, and if not then maybe you have read about it in the



Reading Eagle, and if not there than hopefully you are seeing it here in this newsletter!

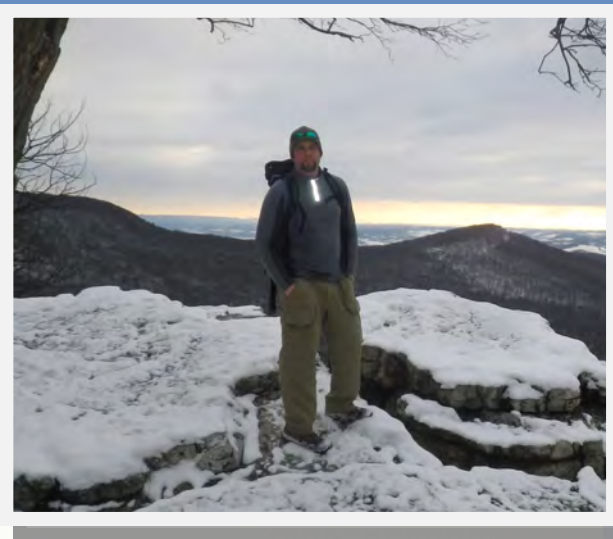
We cannot stress enough how excited we are to be gathering with many of you to raise funds for such great causes like Youth Conservation Camps and stream projects. Also, there are tons of great items available for raffles and auctions, so come on out, eat well, and go home with some amazing parting gifts knowing that YOU have made a difference.

2014 is not quite new anymore but since the last newsletter we have welcomed on some new board members and are exited at what lies ahead, yet as always we cannot stress enough, the real power of what TU Chapter #150 can accomplish lies with you, our membership.

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

*-Tom*

Photo by Thomas Ham



**Tulpehocken Chapter - Trout Unlimited, Inc.**  
*To Conserve, Protect, and Enhance the Quality and Quantity of the Cold Water Resources of Berks County, Pennsylvania*

Photo ©Steve Fabian