

Tulpehocken Chapter
Trout Unlimited, Inc.

TullyGram

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January 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"**

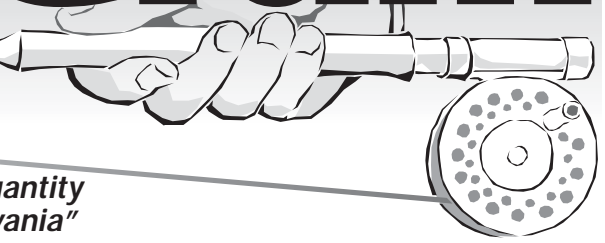


Photo by Steve Fablian

Brook Trout Biology & Habitat Needs (See page 4 for article)

2008 Fund Raising Banquet to Feature Doc Plucinsky

Reserve your tickets for the 2008 Tully TU Fund Raising Banquet now featuring our own Frank "Doc" Plucinsky! Please plan on attending this important event, the chapter's main fund raiser for the year. The dues that we pay go to National TU and are not allocated for local use. 100% of the money raised at the banquet will go to fund projects and programs in Berks County. The banquet will be held on Saturday, March 15th at the Inn at Reading.

Drinks will be served at a cash bar beginning at 4:30 PM, followed by a fabulous buffet dinner. The "main" raffle prizes will be \$300 cash, \$200 gift certificate to Tulpehocken Creek Outfitters, and a \$100 Gas Card. Silent auctions, live auctions, bucket raffles, "FISHO" cards, and other games will include rods, reels, trips, limited edition art prints, and much more. There will be more prizes for ladies and "themed" baskets. Musical Entertainment will also be provided.

Throughout the evening we'll be raffling all kinds of outfits, gift baskets, trips, fishing supplies, and many other items. You're sure to see something that will tempt you to get involved and have some fun! All this for \$35.00 and whatever you decide to spend on the raffles and auctions. Don't miss this important event. Mark your calendar now for March 15. For tickets, call Ron Speicher at (610) 488-7892. Tickets are \$35 each and can be charged to your Visa or MasterCard. You can also pay by check. This is one you won't want to miss! A cause you believe in, a great speaker, great food, great music, great prizes and great company!

Tully Talk by Tom Garlow

I am pretty impressed with the number of people I have run into that have asked me if in fact, I did get out fishing on Christmas morning. The answer is no, I was fighting a winter cold and the water was flowing at a reasonable clip so I put that opportunity aside to save for another time. I am carrying over one "GET OUT OF JAIL FREE CARD" heading into 2009. That's right folks, Fishing Strategy 101 (also known as I don't feel like doing housework or yard work) is as follows:



Photo by Beth Stone

Every now and again when conditions for fishing are not so hot, keep telling your spouse you are going out fishing that day instead of doing whatever it is your supposed to be doing. How would she know conditions are lousy, just because its raining doesn't mean there isn't a killer hatch on the water, RIGHT? I know you are all getting my drift here. Anyway, at the last minute, announce a change of plans because you want to stay home with that special someone and be helpful moving furniture around the house. Lets face it, its pouring cats and dogs and there is no hatch, its downright miserable. Use it to your advantage. Sometime in 2008 I will pull out the "I never did go fishing on Christmas morning, think I'll go now" routine.

Changing gears, anybody notice the reemergence of stink bugs in your house? The leaves on my Pin Oak finally fell off the tree signifying winter has arrived and what do you know shows up next, stink bugs. Chinese invasive stink bugs, everywhere. Did this coincide with a brief warming period we had? Who has the answer?

With the successful launch of our first Trout in the Classroom project, (sponsored in part by funding provided by a PFBC Sportfishing and Aquatic Resource Education grant as well as TCTU) down in the Oley Valley School District, we are looking to roll this opportunity out to another school district in 2009. Fellow member, Jim Howe, is running the program down at Oley. He gave a good report at our last meeting. We look forward to hearing of his programs progress.

I had a good conversation at a holiday party with an old acquaintance from the area, he was up visiting family for Christmas. Having fished the area for many years, he was anxious to see the results of changing the stocking in October to full grown trout instead of fingerling. Like many of us, he has his concerns of placing a

(continued on page 4)



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

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Currents

Feb. 20 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM
Snyder Insurance

Feb. 27 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
Ed Perry - The Impact of Global Warming on Pennsylvania Cold Water Resources
7:30 PM - West Lawn Library

Mar. 15 • TCTU Fund Raising Banquet
Inn at Reading, 4:30 PM

Mar. 19 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM
Snyder Insurance

Mar. 22 • Tully Stream Clean Up
Contact Joe Hnatishion

Mar. 26 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
Eric Stroup, regional guide on the "Little J"
7:30 PM - West Lawn Library

Apr. 16 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM
Snyder Insurance

Apr. 23 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
Blaine Steensland - Penn State Fly Fishing Club
7:30 PM - West Lawn Library

May 21 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM
Tully House

May 28 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
Speaker to be announced

June 18 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM
Tully House

June 25 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
Speaker to be announced

July 16 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM
Tully House

July 23 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
George Daniel, TCO State College
Covered Bridge Park, 6:00 PM

Aug. 20 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM
Tully House

Aug. 27 • TCTU Chapter Picnic
Details to be announced

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

Sept. 24 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
Rick Nyles - Fly Tying
7:30 PM - West Lawn Library

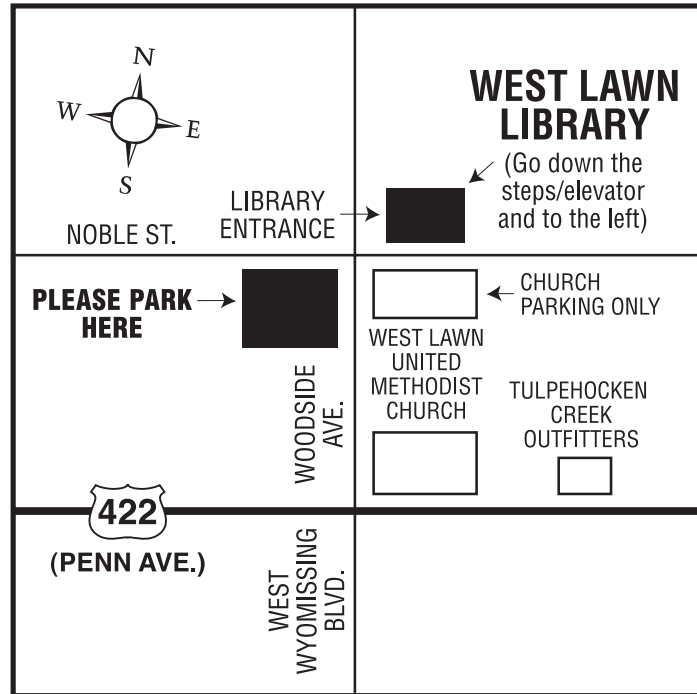
Oct. 22 • TCTU Board Meeting, 7:30 PM
Tully House

Oct. 29 • TCTU Chapter Meeting
Jonas Price - Bamboo Rods
7:30 PM - West Lawn Library

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

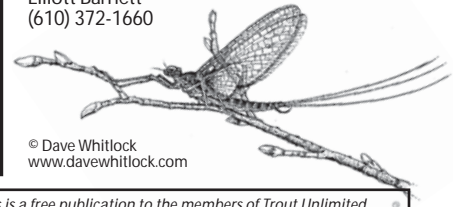
Some Board Meetings are held at Snyder Insurance - 1020 James Drive, Reading, across from Classic Harley. June, July and August Board Meetings will be held at the Tully House.

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
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Len Good (717) 445-6194	Tom Garlow (610) 927-1185
BANQUET	HOUSE TRUSTEES
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COMMUNICATIONS	NEWSLETTER
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FINANCE	
Ron Speicher (610) 488-7892	
MEMBERSHIP	
Elliott Barnett (610) 372-1660	



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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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

The TCTU Board has a few changes to it going into 2008. We have actively been working on adding new blood to the leadership of the organization. New to the board, effective January 2008 are Ron Weidner and Ralph Herbst. Len Good has "retired" so to speak, from the board, but will remain active with the organization in charge of Resource Management, which he has headed up for many years. We welcome Ron and Ralph and appreciate their willingness to serve. We thank Len profusely for all he has done and will continue to do for the benefit of the organization.

Currently the board consists of:

Elliott Barnett Rick Bell Steve Fabian Tom Garlow
Ralph Herbst Joe Hnatishion Bob Holmes Gene Markle
Ron Speicher Ron Weidner

And the officers for the 2008 year are:

Tom Garlow, President Gene Markle, Vice President
Ron Speicher, Treasurer Elliott Barnett, Secretary

The meeting for electing was held in December, prior to a fantastic presentation by our very own Doc Plucinsky, doing a presentation on "Reflections." This was, as always, a killer presentation. You can catch a new presentation by Doc at our annual Banquet on March 15.

2008 PROJECT UPDATE

The Chapter is involved with five potential stream improvement projects in various stages of planning or implementation. We are actively seeking funding for two of these projects. Our "Trout in the Classroom" project is well underway at Oley Valley with reports of an above average survival rate of the trout fry.

TULLY HOUSE UPDATE

We had an incident at the Tully House over the weekend of January 5th when the chimney clogged and the furnace spewed soot into the house from the attic to the basement. At the time of this publication we have had the furnace checked and it has been given a clean bill of health. The Chimney has been inspected and repairs will be made. The County's and our insurance companies are coordinating clean up efforts.

Many thanks to Ron Speicher who discovered the problem and reacted quickly to avoid further damage.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER CHRISTIAN LEINBACH ATTENDS TCTU MEETING

County Commissioner, Christian Leinbach, attended the January TCTU board meeting. The purpose of the informal meeting was to educate Christian of the mission and goals of our organization and to explore ways that we can work with the County to improve the quality of life in Berks. Christian stated that he is looking forward to working with our Chapter.

Gloria's Korner Kitchen



by Gloria Barnett

Hello everyone, it's Gloria, writing from my "Korner Kitchen."

I trust all of you have enjoyed the Holiday Season and are ready for a delicious and easy casserole of Hunters Chicken. This is a favorite in our home, and everyone who shared this meal at our table never left feeling hungry!

You can accompany this recipe with wild rice and a vegetable of your choice. We like good fresh steamed green beans, a really good crusty Italian or French bread, and your favorite wine or beer. Keep the dessert simple, as this is a filling entree. I usually make a compote of raspberry Jello, sugar free pudding, and layer this mixture with raspberries. Top the dessert with some whip cream and it appears to be an especially decadent dessert. (It tastes great too!)

-Enjoy the New Year and also enjoy preparing this recipe.

Gloria

Gloria

Cut out and add to your recipe file!

Hunters Chicken

Gloria's Korner Kitchen

- 6 chicken breasts
- 1/2 lb. thick sliced dried beef (6 slices)
- 2 cans cream of mushroom soup
- 1 pt. sour cream
- Bacon
- 1/4 c. apple, cherry or white wine (more wine may be added!)
- Mushrooms (I use approx. 1/2 to 3/4 lb., sliced or chopped)

Line large, deep, baking dish with lightly, pre-fried bacon and cover with the dried beef. I use a glass dish.

Place chicken breasts on top of the dried beef and cover with chopped or sliced mushrooms. On top of this, pour the sour cream and soup mixture, to which you have included the wine.

Bake at 275° while covered lightly with foil for first 45 minutes. Remove foil for the remaining 1 3/4 hours (total bake time of 2-1/2 hours).

NOTE: This casserole is good with chicken breasts that include the bone. However, you may also use boneless chicken breasts.

“ Scholars have long known that fishing eventually turns men into philosophers. Unfortunately, it is almost impossible to buy decent tackle on a philosopher's salary.”

-Patrick F. McManus

Brook Trout Biology & Habitat Needs

Brook Trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) are part of the trout and salmon (*Salmonid*) family and the Char (*Salvelinus*) genus that include Bull Trout, Lake Trout and Arctic Char.

Brook Trout are native to Eastern North America, from Labrador and Newfoundland south to the southern Appalachian Mountains of Georgia and South Carolina, west to Iowa and Minnesota and north to eastern Manitoba.

Brook Trout require cold, clean, highly-oxygenated water. Brook Trout, like other salmonids, have developed a rich life history diversity over time. This means that they have evolved the capacity to take advantage of a variety of aquatic environments. Brook Trout can live in river and stream systems, tiny first order tributaries, small ponds, large lakes and estuaries. Like other trout and salmon, Brook Trout can migrate from fresh to salt water where they live in estuaries and the ocean close to shore, called "salters." As a Char, Brook Trout spawn in the fall among loose gravel in streams and rivers, or on groundwater upwellings in ponds and lakes.

Because Brook Trout are so sensitive to water quality and water temperature, they serve as a classic "indicator" species of the larger aquatic ecosystem and the watershed draining into the water body where they live.

The reason that Brook Trout serve as such good "indicators" of aquatic health is that they have very specific water chemistry requirements.

Temperature - Studies have determined that Brook Trout cannot tolerate sustained water temperatures exceeding 77° F and prefer water temperatures less than 68° F. Brook Trout are less tolerant of warmer water temperatures than Brown or Rainbow Trout. Research has documented that Brook Trout can migrate many miles for spawning or to find thermal refuge.

pH - this is a measure of the concentration of H+ ions in water. pH ranges from 0 (very acidic) to 14 (very basic) with 7 being neutral. Water with a pH lower than 6.0 can cause metals found

(continued on page 5)

TULLY TALK *(continued from page 1)*

put and take trout into a survival situation. Is there a difference in the ability for a fingerling to adapt and survive versus a trout that has spent a longer period growing in a fishery? Time will tell. To be fair, it will also take more than one year to find out.

2008 is shaping up to be a good year for meetings and presentations. We will be having our summer picnic again this year, either in June or August. Our July meeting, July 23rd, features George Daniel, World Champion Fly Fisherman from TCO in State College. This is going to be an on stream demonstration starting at 6:00 PM, most likely at the Covered Bridge Park. This should be a dandy. Keep an eye on the Tullygram for info on other presentations.

Joe Hnatishion is organizing a stream cleanup for March 22nd. Look for details in future TullyGrams on where and when exactly. Please join in! As most of you know, the Tully is in an urban setting and trash will continue to be a problem even though much of it runs through parkland.

That's it for now. Hope everyone had a great end to 2007, and I hope 2008 is even better. We have good water levels heading into the beginning of the year, lets hope it stays that way.

Peace, Tom



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TROUT BIOLOGY & HABITAT NEEDS

(continued from page 4)

in soil and rocks to dissolve in solution and suffocate and poison aquatic organisms.

Brook Trout have evolved to be the most tolerant of the trout species to acidic conditions, and adult fish can tolerate pH levels as low as 5.0. However, acid mine drainage and acid deposition often produce pH levels below this threshold, and currently render lifeless, thousands of miles of former Brook Trout streams and hundreds of lakes and ponds across the east.

DO - Brook Trout require relatively high concentrations of oxygen dissolved in water, compared to other fish and even other trout species. Water temperature is inversely related to dissolved oxygen concentrations, so as water warms, it holds less oxygen. In nutrient rich systems with high biological activity (high densities of plants and algae) or where diffusion rates between water and the atmosphere are relatively slow (stagnant ponds), levels of DO can fluctuate widely over the course of 24 hours. During the day, photosynthesis produces high concentrations of oxygen, but at night photosynthesis stops, and plant, algae and bacteria respiration continues to use oxygen, causing DO levels to drop to dangerously low levels. High levels of nutrients also can cause algal blooms. As algae dies, bacteria consume available oxygen as they decompose the algae, reducing oxygen levels. This is referred to as BOD or Biological Oxygen Demand. (Source www.TU.org)



Photo by Steve Fabian

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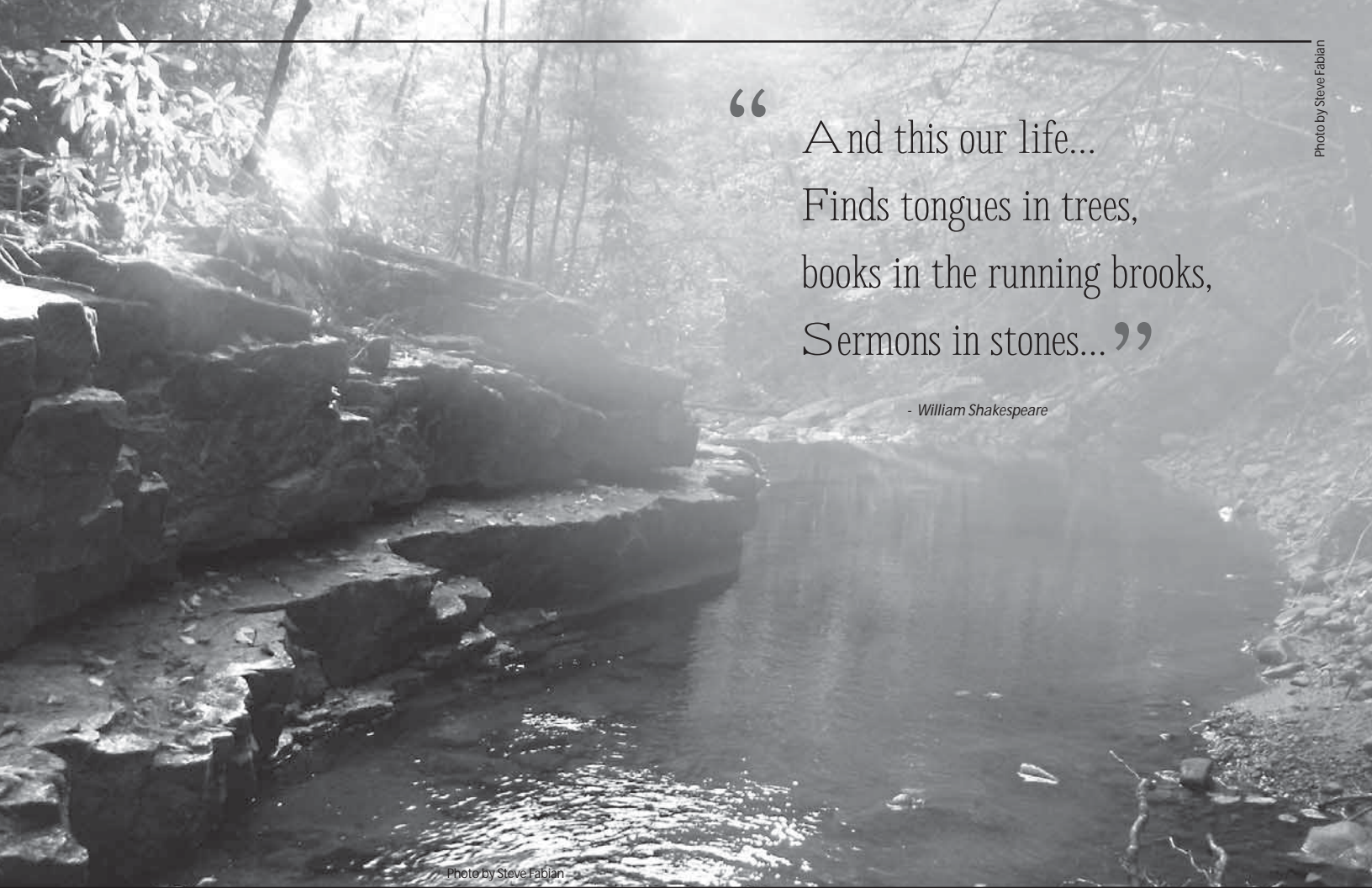


Photo by Steve Fabian

“ And this our life...
Finds tongues in trees,
books in the running brooks,
Sermons in stones...”

- William Shakespeare

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