



December Newsletter

MAIN LINE FLY-TYERS

Ken Tutalo presented tips for Upper Delaware

We had an outstanding turnout of members and guests to see Ken Tutalo's slide presentation on where, when, and how to fish the Upper Delaware watershed effectively. He came well prepared to conduct a nearly two hour info-packed presentation on this great Eastern fishing resource.

Ken touts over 30 years of fishing and guiding in this region. Operating extensively out of *Baxter House River*

Outfitters, his experience has brought him to considering the area in



Ken Tutalo presents slides and provides tips for fishing the Upper

terms of being a "system". He started his show with a concise description of the area, went on to describe

how the characteristic change with the seasons, and continued with how the fishing tactics must change accordingly.

After spending time describing the environment and the entomology he surprised some with his simplistic approach to effective fly patterns and he closed with an emphasis on presentation, presentation, presentation...Amen.

Annual "Cast & Blast" outing draws members



Steve Nack & Mike Ebnar at outing

Reports are in and they indicate that the birds did OK (although, somewhat traumatized as a result of our annual hunting/fishing outing). The group gathered on the state game lands and gave it a good try. Reports are not in on how the fishing went but it doesn't matter—fishermen can never be held to any honesty standard, anyway.

Ed Note: Hopefully, someday the term used here "the birds did OK" can also be used when referring to the *Philadelphia Eagles*.

Inside this issue:

Market got you down?	2
Tying Demo	2
Stream Watch—Tulpehocken Creek	3
Winter Classes to begin	4
Back Casts—Looking back at 2008	5

Special points of interest:

- Fly Tying Contest coming soon
- Fly Tying/Fly Fishing winter classes start in February
- Next meeting on Thursday December 18th
- Penns Creek trip slated for June 6. Make reservations at *The Feathered Hook*
- Set aside items for the Annual Auction and Xmas Party

Market got you down? - tie a fly, build a rod, catch a fish...

It seems that everyday the financial picture gets worse; the job market declines, and the cost of living goes up. There's an easy and inexpensive way to ward off the worlds demons— take the sport that you already love and raise it to a new level.

When is the last time that you completely lost track of time? For me it's every time that I pick up a fly rod and get lost in the environment and in total focus on trying to connect with a fish that I've spotted or imagined in the emerald colored water around my chosen spot.

With the cost of entertainment going higher and higher every time we turn around, it's reassuring to be able to enjoy a sport that is very reasonable (excluding the cost a new graphite rod from time-to-time, of course) from strictly a cost approach. To attend

a movie costs about \$6.66 per hour, even without the popcorn. At that rate, you only have to fish 4.8



*Special Regulations section of
the Little Lehigh Creek*

hours before you start to beat the entertainment value of a movie— and lower your blood pressure to boot. Tell your wife or significant other that you're helping the economy and your health every time you fish (beyond the 4.8 hours, that is).

In addition, there's the chance that you'll catch the fish of your

dreams, see an eagle or a bear, realize that you're being watched by a deer, or find a holding spot that you've managed to overlook a dozen times before.

If you can't escape quite as far away as you would like be sure to fish the semi-urban areas within minutes of your home—you might be surprised how much the sound of water and a couple of awesome casts does for your psyche.

Pennsylvania is blessed to have hundreds (yes— hundreds!) of miles of trout water. Almost 300 miles of official trout water in

southeastern PA alone!

You can be on the water within the hour—if you leave now!

Market, what market?

Tying Demo— prior to Monthly Program

It's a very popular attraction that is conducted in the 7 to 7:30 PM time-frame and is a great preface to the main part of the monthly meeting and program. It is held as an informal event and allows for a good question and answer format to occur during the demonstration. The pattern being tied is usually a favorite of the tier but request for a specific pattern can sometimes be accommodated if time and materials

are available.

The need for volunteers continues to be crucial to the success of the program so feel free to step forward and keep this popular event going strong.

There's also a need for tyers to support our tying demos that are conducted at shops and shows. Your continued support is vital. Thanks.



*Chuck Cutshall tying at the
November Meeting*

Stream Watch—Tulpehocken Creek

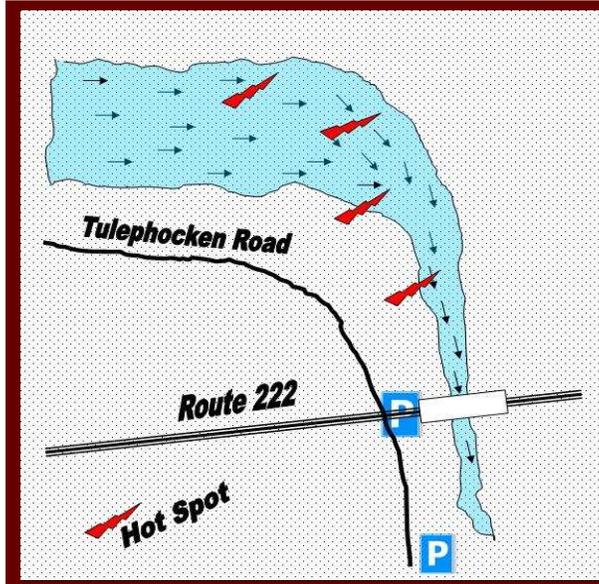
It's hard to define the perfect trout stream because most fishermen look for different characteristics that meet their desires or needs. Some look for put-and-take fisheries that are well stocked throughout the season while others look for those streams that support wild fish. Others need quick and easy access due to either time constraints or physical limitations caused by age or injuries. Some guys are happy with crawling on their stomach through the underbrush while others would prefer to drive for five hours to get away from the crowds. Whatever your requirements it's usually a compromise that you have to settle for.

What if you could find a single stream that filled all of your requirements and was within easy driving distance wouldn't you be thrilled with the find? Well, the Tulpehocken Stream is not exactly a well-kept-secret but it comes close to meeting the needs of most fly fishers.

The Tully is a great fishery for many reasons. It's easy to access by exiting PA rt.222 at Broadcasting Road and turning right (near Penn State Berks campus), driving straight to Tulpehocken Rd and turning left to travel along the creek. The Special regs starts at the covered bridge and continues upstream for 3.8

miles.

The map above shows a good spot that is easy to access and usually is good for a trout or two. (For the techno-nerds it's at



A good spot to fish on Tulpehocken Creek

GPS lat 40° 22' 05" and long 75° 59' 27").

The stream holds trout all year long, even though the Delayed Harvest restriction thins the numbers somewhat—perhaps in a healthy way. There are some truly BIG trout in the Tully but they don't come easy. They often feed on minutiae, forcing the use of 7X tippet and thereby causing a big increase in the number of breakoffs. When the bigger trout key in on the *Trico* hatch they can drive you to the brink as they rise constantly and will only take the smallest flies that you can tie— down to a size

54 , if such a thing existed (see *Guide to Pennsylvania Limestone Streams* by A. Armstrong).

The stream does have a couple of good caddis hatches in mid summer that make things a little easier on most of us.

Overall the Tully is a very, very good trout stream for lots of reasons: it always has some trout, it is easy to access, it has a substantial number of hatches (see Don Double for details), it's easy to wade, and lets you throw a bad cast or two without ruining your day. Currently it's running slightly low and clear; conditions that can make for good fly fishing.

Before you go, the Tully is technically a tailrace fishery, so it's good to first check the stream flow at:

<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/pa/nwis/uv?01470960>

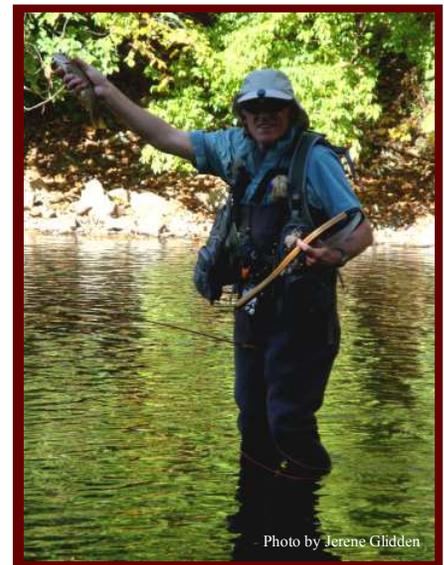


Photo by Jerene Glidden

Winter Classes to begin in Upper Moreland Township



*Sam Vigorita & Dave Shillington
instructors*

The winter session of classes for *Fly Tying* (beginner & advanced) and *Fly Fishing Tactics & Strategies* will be running in February at

Upper Moreland Township Parks & Recreation Dept. at 117 Park Ave. in Willow Grove, PA. The *Tactics classes* will be on 2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/19, 2/24 & 3/2. The *tying classes* will be on 2/5, 2/12, 2/15, 2/26, 3/5, & 3/12 all at 7 PM.

Late registration is allowed but pre-registration is highly suggested by contacting Gail Rosen at 215-659-3100 ext.1038.

These are well-established courses that have been offered to the club members and the general public for many years. Here's a great chance to learn the skills that you would

like to acquire; whether you're a beginner or not.

There's a minimal fee and some of the proceeds are later returned to the club. Sam Vigorita and Dave Shillington of MLFT will be running these informative and valuable classes.

Don't Forget the December Auction

This is a reminder that our annual club auction is fast approaching. This fund raising event is held every year at our December meeting in conjunction with our holiday party. It's a fun fast paced night which can yield some great buys and bargains. So start gathering that stuff you no longer use.

That spare vise that's collecting dust. Those rods that have given way to newer and fancier models. The meeting and auction are open to everyone. Members donate 10% of the auction price to the club. Non-members are required to donate 15% of the winning bid.

That's just another reason to join our membership !



Refreshments Served at Each Meeting

Refreshments are being provided at each meeting by Kathleen McKenzie and Jerry Usatch who have volunteered to continue this most-appreciated service to member and their guests. A special word of "thanks" to Kurt Griffin for providing this service over the past few years.

It's a pleasant break to have a cup of java, a donut and share the-one-that-got-away stories with our guest speakers and old friends.

Thanks, again for these refreshments and we'll try our best to keep the area *reasonably* clean!





MAIN LINE FLY-TYERS

Greater Plymouth Community Center
2910 Jolly Road
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

Club Officers:
President: Steve Birkenmaier
Vice Pres.: Gil Learn
Treasurer: Frank Howard
Newsletter: Dwaine Glidden
Secretary: Al Kotake
Librarian: Jim Costello
Website: Mike Ebner

submit newsletter items and suggestions to:
dglidden43@verizon.net

We're on the Web
www.mainlineflytyers.net

Driving Directions:

From Pennsylvania Turnpike (I-276)

Take Exit 333 (Norristown - old exit 25). At the end of the ramp, turn left onto Plymouth Road. At the light, turn right onto Germantown Pike West. Continue approximately one (1) mile, through four (4) traffic lights (not counting the left hand turn light at Sandy Hill Road). At the fifth light, turn right onto Jolly Road. The Community Center is on the right at 2910 Jolly Road.

From Blue Route (I-476)

Take exit for Germantown Pike West (Exit 20). Continue on Germantown Pike west for approximately one (1) mile, through five (5) traffic lights (not counting the left hand turn light at Sandy Hill Road). At the fifth light, turn right onto Jolly Road. The Community Center is on the right at 2910 Jolly Road.

From Route 202

Follow Route 202 to Germantown Pike. Travel EAST on Germantown Pike, through five (5) traffic lights. At the next traffic light, approximately half a mile, turn left onto Jolly Road. The Community Center is on the right at 2910 Jolly Road.

*Meetings held on third
Thursday of each month
starting at 7PM*

Back Casts—2008 in Review

It's been another busy year for the club and we are pleased to share it with our members, their friends and families, and with our sponsors. We have continued with our tradition of conducting interesting and entertaining in-house programs, engaging knowledgeable experts and authors, and running many outdoor projects and outings. We continue to access the established talent from both within the organization and from our extensive list of world-class fly tyers and fly fishers.

It is the goal of our club to provide members with viable and timely information, to meet in a friendly and comfortable surrounding, and to enjoy the camaraderie that comes from sharing each others experiences and disappointments.

Not only did we enjoy the monthly

programs which included Rick Kustich, Ozzie Ozefovich, Barry & Cathy Beck, Gene Quigley, Don Baylor, Don Douple, and Bob Ballantyne, but we also enjoyed organized outings to the Upper Delaware, Resica Falls PA, Missola



Sam with an 18 pound steelhead from Pulaski, NY

MT, Pulaski, NY, and Penns Creek.

We were also invited to give a tying demo at French Creek Outfitters in Phoenixville, a local shop that maintains a well stocked fly tying department and supports our clubs activities.

We're involved in Upper Moreland Park & Rec. Dept. Fly Tying classes and run clinics and seminars on a regular basis.

We look forward to 2009 and wish all of our supporters and friends a Joyous Season and Prosperous New Year.

