



TIGHT LINES January 2010 Newsletter of the

Rabun Chapter (522) of Trout Unlimited

Editor – Doug Adams edadams1@windstream.net
 Visit the Rabun TU website: <http://www.rabuntu.com/>

"It has always been my private conviction that any man who pits his intelligence against a fish and loses has it coming." John Steinbeck

RABUN TU CHAPTER'S NEW MEETING PLACE
New RE/MAX (old US Forest Service) Office, Clayton, GA
 US 441S, just south of MAMA G's restaurant

3rd Tuesday of the Month 6:30 pm – Social & Yarn Spinning 7:00 pm – Program & Meeting
 (You don't have to believe the yarns - - if you don't want to)

At every regular chapter meeting there will be a raffle for fishing or camping items to help pay the cost of mailing the newsletter to members without E-mail.

Bring an item to donate and a dollar or two for raffle tickets - you might win something.

"The supply of hope seems inexhaustible, and one bestows it lavishly on each cast. If the best part of the first pool is reached and passed without a rise, the angler begins to husband his hope a little, but remains still content, reaching forward in thoughts to the next pool, where he presently begins with fresh eagerness and confidence."

Lord Grey of Fallodon in *Fly Fishing*

"FORWARD CASTING" Important Dates – See you there!

Jan 11 (Mon) Deadline for 2010 Trout Camper applications.

Jan 12 (Tues) BOD Meeting 6:30 PM, RE/MAX Office.

Jan 19 (Tues) Chapter Meeting 6:30 PM, RE/MAX Office

Program: Jeff Angel, FS Law Enforcement Officer, "Common Sense Solutions to Game & Fish Law Violations".

Jan 23 (Sat) 23rd Annual Rabun Rendezvous, 5 PM 'til; Program by David Cannon
<http://www.cannonoutdoors.com/>; **"Experiences of an Outdoors Writer"** He will share stories and pictures from his experiences researching for his book.

Feb 3 (Wed) Annual Chattooga Coalition Meeting, 9 AM, USFS Office, Tallulah Falls

Feb 6 (Sat) Annual Planning Meeting 8 AM Breakfast at Dillard House

Feb 16 (Tues) Chapter Meeting 6:30 PM, RE/MAX Office

Program: Sheila Humphrey & Ray Gentry "Trout Stream Bugs"

Feb 20 & 21 (Sat & Sun) Fly Fishing Weekend at Bass Pro Shops, Volunteers needed
 – Contact Terry Rivers, Ph 706 782 7419, E-mail tlr1121@windstream.net

Feb 23 (Tues) BOD Meeting 6:30 PM, Community B&T.

2010 Rabunite 101 (1/2-day fly-fishing workshop) – Sat. AM, April 3rd

2010 GA Trout Camp; June 6th – 11th

Volunteer mentors needed for both

FLY OF THE MONTH

by Terry Rivers



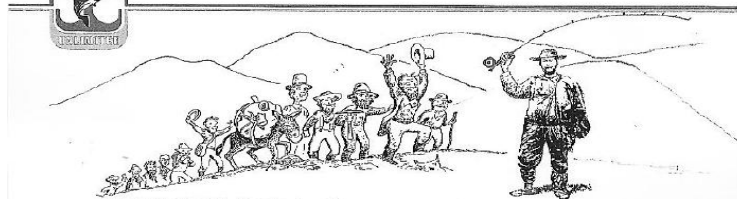
ROYAL COACHMAN

THIS FLY WAS CREATED AS AN ATTRACTOR PATTERN AND TIED SO IT COULD BE FISHED IN SWIFT WATER. WHEN THINGS ARE SLOW TIE ONE ON AND DROP A NATURAL OFF THE BACK. SEE Y'ALL ON THE RIVER

HOOK: 12/16 DRY FLY
BODY: PEACOCK HURL AND RED FLOSS
TAIL: TIPPET FIBERS FROM GOLDEN PHEASANTS
HACKLE: BROWN

JANUARY HATCHES

The Bugs	Time of Month	Time of Day	Suggested Flies
None at all	All Month	All Day	Dredging Nymphs: 12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, PT
Blue Winged Olive & Blue Quill	All Month	Late AM to Mid PM	16-20 BWO, Blue Quill or Adams Parachute 16-20 BWO nymph or Pheasant Tail
Midges	All Month	All Day	18-22 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa



**The Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited proudly presents
A Celebration Of Rivers, Streams, Trout, and Trout Fishing**

Please Join Us for the 23rd Annual

Rabun Rendezvous

"The Rendezvous was unlike anything before or since, a gathering of uninhibited men down from the mountains. The event attracted perhaps a hundred mountain men, their indian wives, and assorted visiting tribesmen. Amusements included gambling, drinking, storytelling – continuing day and night." Quote from The Mountain Men by George Laycock

When: Saturday, January 23, 2010

Where: The "NEW" Dillard House Conference Center (doubled in size), located behind the Dillard House in Dillard, Georgia.



Who: The more the better. Everyone interested in protecting our cold-water resources, including their families, friends, and all who love clean cold streams, trout, and trout fishing.

Social: About 5 o'clock PM folks will start gathering to "pick the pig" and enjoy the rocking chairs on the porch of the Conference Center. There will be snack trays of cheeses, crackers, veggies with dips, and fruits. Soft drinks and ice will be available. If you want something stronger, better bring it yourself. There will be a fire inside to warm your buns.

The Foxfire Boys (as seen in the Chattooga River episode of TUTV's "On The Rise") will again generously provide their 'down home' style of bluegrass picking and singing for your musical entertainment. Don't forget to ask about The Foxfire Boys CDs (now 4 of them), which will be available.

The large screen TV will be showing the Rabunites trout fishing some of their favorite 'secret spots'. This will be the ideal time to be looking over the raffle and silent auction items. **We welcome donations of raffle and auction items at the door, fellow TU'ers.**

There will be 2 special live auctions: A Framed LE #1 "TROUT" Print by Broderick Crawford to benefit GA ["Back-The-Brookie"](#) & a Winston fly rod, Ross reel and trophy trout fishing trip combo to benefit the **GA Wildlife Federation's** [CAMO COALITION](#)

Dinner: Fish, chicken, and pork with all the side dishes and desserts that have made the Dillard House so famous, will be served about 6:30. It is a serve yourself buffet, so you will not leave hungry.

Program presenter will be David Cannon, A Rabunite <http://www.cannonoutdoors.com/> "Experiences of an Outdoors Writer"

Cost: \$30 for adults and \$25 for youth of 15 and under. Cash, personal checks are fine, we also accept VISA & MasterCard credit cards. We don't do advanced tickets or reservation; just pay at the door.

Lodging: The Dillard House has set special rates for motel rooms for the event - with a few rooms starting as low as \$49 (plus tax) for those "early bird" reservations. To get a special rate, call and **tell them you're attending the Trout Unlimited Rabun Rendezvous.** 706-746-5348 Toll Free 1-800-541-0671 **You must say you are there for Trout Unlimited to get the special rate.**

The 2009 Rabun Rendezvous provided funds for the following: Sponsorship of student interns working in NE GA fisheries w/ GA WRD & USFS; Sponsored 2 youngsters attending the GA Trout Camp; Financial support of GA DNR's Smithgall Woods Youth Conservation Education Program; Lab fees for the Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project; Amicalola Creek tract purchase w/Nature Conservancy/GA DNR; GA "Back-the-Brookie" Program; Kid's Fishing Events at Black Rock Mtn S.P. (GA DNR) & Tallulah River (USFS); Fly Fishing for Vets Wounded Warriors Program; Stop I-3 Coalition; National TU's "First Cast", "Embrace-A-Stream" & "Southeaster Public Lands" Programs; "Trout" magazine subscriptions to all school & public libraries and 3 state parks in Rabun Co.

Rendezvous, that's where I long to be

I took a trip to the mountains, a Rendezvous to see.
And there I met the Mountain Men; one of them I longed to be.
They had the names of Dredger, and Nugget, and Dances With Trees,
Names from past, but not forgotten times, that brought back memories.
Rendezvous, oh Rendezvous, that's where I long to be
Up in the mountains where it's free, so free, so free.

They dressed and ate and lived the way that people used to do.
Freedom was their byword; it was the only thing they knew.
Their friendship was a bounty they freely shared with me.
They made my stay a great one, feeling home like a memory.
Rendezvous, oh Rendezvous, that's where I long to be
Up in the mountains where it's free, so free, so free.

Their songs at night they sang while 'round the fire we sat,
They sang of things which I knew not, but brought more memories back.
Their songs were of a time when man was free to roam and pack,
When game was here for all to see, to hunt, to fish, and trap.

Rendezvous, oh Rendezvous, that's where I long to be
Up in the mountains where it's free, so free, so free.

When tipis, tents and lodges the Indians did use
To live their lives in piece with God, his gifts not to abuse.
They traded things like beads and knives and guns and skins and such,
Told stories of the mountains, some true, some stretched a' much.
Their word was gold, their honor fine; a handshake was their bond.
And when we left, all vowed return, this life to carry on.

Rendezvous, oh, Rendezvous, now that's the life for me,
If only a Mountain Man, some day I could really be.
To live like them out in the wild so happy and so free,
With all God's creatures living there in perfect harmony.
Rendezvous, oh Rendezvous, that's where I long to be
Up in the mountains where it's free, so free, so free.

By "Fox Paw" - 1994

Request to the Rabunites and Friends

With the budget crunch faced by the agencies (the US Forest Service and GA WRD), Trout Unlimited can again step-up in 2010 and be the lead financial partner in protecting, preserving, connecting and enhancing the coldwater resources in Northeast Georgia, including the "Back the Brookie" activities. The Rabun Chapter's major fundraiser of the year, the Rabun Rendezvous, is just a few weeks away. As we near the end of the year and the Christmas season, now is a good time to ask friends and supporters for donations of cash or goods & services for the silent auction and bucket raffle.

Need an idea for what you can donate?

Art & crafts (fishing flies, wood working, sewing, knitting items) and goodies from the kitchens of the Rabunites (cakes, breads, baskets with canned veggies, jams, jellies and preserves) have always been popular with our guests. Rather than buying something to donate, consider just donating the cash.

'Websites-of-the-Month': http://www.midcurrent.com/articles/techniques/monahan_mending.aspx
A Line Mending Primer!

We're growing and need your help!

The Rabun Chapter is developing new ways to reach out to current and perspective members by using various social media outlets, such as Web Pages, Face Book, Twitter, and You Tube. If you have experience in creating, developing, or maintaining any of these media outlets, we would like to get your input, ideas and help.

Contact Pat Hopton scotts_creek58@yahoo.com for more information.



Do you want to learn to tie flies or build fishing rods?

If so, Terry Rivers is offering to give free instructions in either tying flies or rod building in his shop during February on Thursday evenings starting at 6 pm till ??
Contact Terry and let him know which you would rather do this year.
Ph 706 782 7419 E-mail tr1121@windstream.net
We will let the majority rule then Terry will decide how he will run it.

Stekoa Creek Update

Stekoa Creel Water Quality Monitoring – A Trout Unlimited Partnership with the Chattooga Conservancy
Trout Unlimited Funds Committed to the Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project - \$31,059 Total

To view 31 months of lab results for the Stekoa Creek Monitoring water samples, click [HERE](#)
To view the spreadsheet showing the affects Stekoa has on the Wild & Scenic Chattooga, click [HERE](#)

Want to help with the Stekoa monitoring? For info on where you or your organization can send a donation to help pay lab fees E-mail edadams1@windstream.net. All donations to Rabun TU (a Federal Tax Exempt 501(c) 3 non-profit) are tax deductible.

Status Update – Chattooga North Fork Recreation Management Plan

(8/26/2009) The Forest Service identified Alternative 4 as the final decision for the management of recreation uses for the Chattooga North Fork. The decision emphasizes year-round high-quality trout fishing and at the same time provides boating opportunities on the North Fork. For links to the EA and decision notices, click <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/sumter/resources/Chattooga.php>

(10/26/2009) The Forest Service granted Georgia ForestWatch's stay request. As a result, the status quo (boating not allowed upstream of the Hwy 28 Bridge) is preserved on the river until a decision is finalized on each of the five appeals, which is expected in the spring of 2010.

(12/02/2009) Friends Of The Upper Chattooga (FOTUC) withdrew their limited administrative appeal. The limited appeal filed on 10/2 was about the wording of the forest plan amendments to close a potential loophole. After a meeting with the Supervisor and Lead Planner for Sumter NF, members of FOTUC believe its appeal concerns have been addressed and withdrew the appeal. FOTUC is an alliance of citizen organizations from Georgia and the Carolinas (including the TU Councils of GA & SC) working collectively to protect the Chattooga's wild and scenic values and to educate the public about threats to these values.

"Catchin' Corner" - Winter Troutng Tips

By Jeff Durniak (a.k.a. Dredger), Georgia Wildlife Resources Division

What's a "good day?" The definition of "a good day" may be three trout for a rookie, but it may be 20 fish including 3 whoppers for some of your veterans. To each, his own. We each have our own definition of a "good day fishing" and each person's opinion is equally valid. For me, fishing is not competitive. It's not how many I catch, it's about fishing with friends in scenic locales and hopefully catching some fish, maybe even a big one if we're lucky and have prepared well. And yesterday, it was not even wetting my line, but simply putting a friend in the right spot and watching the smiles on Mark's face as the rod bent. Indeed, my day was good!

Many of you reading this are undoubtedly more gifted fly anglers than I. This note is simply aimed at the new folks among us who may benefit from some winter troutng tips. I met several of you streamside or in sporting goods stores this week. For the new folks, may I offer this winter recipe to help you through a fun but challenging season for Georgia trout, hopefully without breaking your dwindled, post-holiday bank account. There is not one "right way" of fishing. However, this way has worked for me and maybe it will work for you, too. And don't worry, it gets a lot easier in the spring, when the water warms and the fish will chase your offering. Here we go:

Obtain at least 3 of each of these flies: #10 black woolly bugger; #14 peach egg fly; #14 prince nymph; #16 hare's ear nymph; #18 pheasant tail nymph; #18 pheasant tail- soft hackle wet fly (No beads on the flies.)

Get a few 7.5 foot 3X trout leaders and two spools of tippet (5x and 6X). Get 2 or 3 sizes of split shot: 1) the tiny shot, like Dinsmores, 2) size B, 3) size BB. Buy a few strike indicators.

Arrive at stream at 10 AM and fish til 3 or 4. Tie 18 inches of 5X to your leader's 3X end. Add enuf shot above that knot to let your fly tick-tick along the stream bottom. That may mean one tiny shot or 4 big ones, depending on the water depth and speed of each pool or run. Tie the bugger, egg, or prince to the 5X tippet end. Put your strike indicator way up your leader, toward your fly line. The length between the indicator and your fly should be at least 1.5 if not 2X or more the water depth of the spot you're fishing. Adjust as needed for each pool or run.

Toss this combo upstream at a 30 degree angle 3-6 feet above where you think the fish are holding and let it drift, drag-free, back down toward you. If you bump the fly along the bottom in a spot where fish are (slower areas during winter), you may get some hits. The strike indicator will show you those bottom ticks and the strikes. With the bugger, after your fly drifts downstream, well past you, twitch your rod tip and strip the fly back upstream in 6-inch strips.

Now here's the secret weapon. Many of our trout in these catch&release waters have, indeed, been caught and released. They smarten up and avoid big flies and beads, unless the water's muddy. Smithgall is the most extreme example of all! You'll have better success if you tie on 12-18 inches of 6X to the bend of the hook of the first fly and then tie on one of the small flies on the list, above. Start out "big" (size 14 or 16) and, if you don't get strikes, substitute the smaller flies. Sometimes I'll even go down to a #20 pheasant tail or soft hackle, but it's hard to hook fish with such tiny hooks. Roll cast or water load. Try not to false cast or do it minimally, as the fish are not in the air or trees, the branches and tangles are.

As a resource manager and fellow angler, each year at this time I often hear anglers' comments about their reduced catch rates. Their stated reasons often include "lack of stocking" and "poachers." Based on my experience, the reasons are more often: 1) released fish "smartened up" from their earlier experiences with you, 2) lethargic fish due to cold water, and 3) the angler's fly or lure not being down where the fish are, since those fish are not gonna come get it like they did in November, when the water was warmer and they were naive.

The "tiny fly off the back" technique works for me in these clear waters where the fish are now experienced and cold. Maybe it will work for you, too, if the water's 40F or warmer. If it does, you'll notice that you'll catch some more colorful and harder fighting fish- the earliest stocked veterans or even the wild fish. The fresh stockers will still slam your gaudy bead fly, egg or Y2K.

PS- there is no substitute for the experience of a "guide" or mentor. Offer to pay for his/her lunch or for the gas tank fill-up for the next fishing trip. Good luck! www.qofishgeorgia.com

What's New Elsewhere?

GA-EPD Atlanta wants water from Lake Burton (12/2/2009) The following are excerpts from an article in The Clayton Tribune <http://theclaytontribune.com/> In July, U.S. District Judge Paul Magnuson ruled that U.S. Army Corps of Engineers incorrectly allowed Atlanta to use Lake Lanier as a drinking water source. He gave Georgia, Alabama and Florida three years in which to come to a water sharing agreement. If an agreement cannot be reached, water allocations would revert back to water use levels distributed in the 1970s. The Burton option includes pulling an

estimated 50 million gallons of water daily from Lake Burton, poured via pipeline into Raper Creek. The water would then flow into the Soque River, then the Chattahoochee River. The cost estimate is \$415 million. Prior to the water flowing into Lake Lanier, it would be pumped out in order to bypass Lake Lanier and thus comply with a federal court ruling that Atlanta cannot use Lanier as a water source. Instead, the water would be transferred by pipeline to the Gwinnett County Water Treatment Plant. To read more, click [HERE](#)

Letters To and From The Rabunites

Sent: October 5, 2009 by US Postal
To: Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Thank you very much for your generous gift of \$1,050 received on September 30, 2009 to support the work of The Nature Conservancy in Georgia.

The Conservancy works with partners to safeguard precious lands and waters – places like the Conasauga River, where we are working with private landowners to restore habitat for some of the most imperiled mussel species in North America, and the Chattahoochee National Forest, where we are conserving lands that are critical to the health of Georgia's fresh water. Our efforts to protect invaluable species and space for future generations are made possible by the commitment and generosity of people like you. Thank you!

I encourage you to visit our Web site, [nature.org](http://www.nature.org), to learn more about our work or obtain general information about The Nature Conservancy. And if you haven't already, you can also sign up for our online conservation community and receive our free monthly e-newsletter filled with the latest conservation news and recent success stories. You'll also get information on places you care about, conservation action tips you can use, inspiring e-cards, beautiful nature photos you can download and more.

Once again, I am deeply grateful for your generous gift, for your support of our work and for your continuing commitment to The Nature Conservancy. Our vital conservation work would not be possible without you. Sincerely

From: Mark R Tercek – President & CEO, The Nature Conservancy <http://www.nature.org>, Arlington, VA

Editor's Notes: *The GA TU Council donated \$8,000 and the 12 GA Chapters of TU donated another \$12,000 for a total TU donation of \$20,000 all towards the purchase and protection of 469 acre tract known as the Dawson Forest Forestar tract. The almost 2 miles of Amicalola Creek that passes through the property is lovely trout habitat.*

Sent: Wednesday, November 25, 2009

Subject: RE: TIGHT LINES December 2009 Newsletter

Outstanding newsletter Doug! Thank you very much.

From: Jerry McCollum – Executive Director, GA Wildlife Federation <http://www.gwf.org/>, Covington, GA

Sent: Thursday, November 26, 2009

Subject: RE: TIGHT LINES December 2009 Newsletter

Thanks for always doing this. Happy Thanksgiving!

From: Gregg Giddens – Fellow angler, location unknown

Sent: December 2, 2009 by US Postal

To: Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Know Your Forest: 7th in a series

Waterfalls near Burrell's Ford



Big Bend Falls: About 3 miles down river from the Burrell's Ford SC parking area affords views of the biggest drop on the

The South Green Street Church of Christ acknowledges with appreciation your recent donation of \$50 in memory of W. Arnold Mansfield. We have sent a letter to Zada Mansfield and to Doug & Sheila Mansfield to inform them of this generous gift. Again, thank you for your kindness and generosity. Sincerely,

From: Nancy S. Denham - Secretary, South Green Street Church of Christ, Glasgow, KY

Editor's notes: *This memorial gift was authorized by the Rabun Chapter's BOD.*

Sent: Wednesday, December 09, 2009

Subject: RE: TIGHT LINES December 2009 Newsletter

I always love reading the newsletter to keep up with the Chapter events and tall tales. As you know, being a transplanted flatlander, I'm not yet a very active member and do not know many of the Rabunite Family so when I say this, I hope the long time members can take a little bit of a trimming from us newer flatlanders. I also love to fish the coast for Redfish like our friend Captain Kyle so I know how big the grin can get when you take a nice red on a fly. HOWEVER, the thing that I took note of in the boat behind the Captain was that real nice spinning rod. Do you know what fly he used with that rod to catch that red? Just curious, Captain!

Best regards and hope to see you at the Rendezvous.

From: Mitch Logan – Lawrenceville, GA

Editor's notes: *OOOoooooo Mitch, that's a GREAT question! Lets ask Kyle. What do you say, Burly?*

Sent: Wednesday, December 09, 2009

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES December 2009 Newsletter

Mitch, I had the spin rod just in case the wind came up too strong. That last tropical storm was predicted to come right into Savannah (but it never did, it went north of us). The lure on the spin rod was a gold Johnson Weedless Spoon. May be the best lure there is for reds. I caught 3 reds on that rig that week. Actually, I didn't use it more than about 30 minutes the whole time I was there.

The rest of the time I fly fished and used an 8 weight custom built Orvis T3 that I have had for many years. The only fly I used the entire time was a #2 Rat-L-Shrimp that I tied myself. Caught about 20+ reds and some sea trout on that fly that week.

Hope this helps. If you need some info on Rat-L-Shrimps or want to buy some, please send me a note and I can help you out.

Warmest regards,

From: Kyle Burrell – Location, wherever the fish are feeding

If you have a comment or an opinion to share in TIGHT LINES, please submit it in 250 words or less to edadams1@windstream.net

Chattooga River, a rumbling 30-foot hydraulic known as Big Bend Falls. ([more](#))

King Creek Falls: After a moderate 30-minute hike, you will reach a spot where you can relax and enjoy the spray from the falls. Perhaps it is the backward slant of the rocks, but in any case the drop appears to be much higher than 70 feet. ([more](#))

Spoonauger Falls: Set back into a hillside and surrounded by an explosion of shrubbery, Spoonauger Falls runs down a stepped rock face in a broad sheet. The 50-foot high waterfall is among the more popular in this area of the Chattooga River watershed due to the easy, 20-minute hike. This waterfall is camera-friendly, especially in the summer when afternoon light highlights the surrounding plants and the horizontal slashes of the rock. ([more](#))

2010 Dream Trip Raffle For A Fly Fishing Vacation!

The winner and their partner will each receive: • 5 days fishing and 6 nights lodging and meals at a private cabin in Island Park Idaho • Custom made fly rod with reel & line • A fly box and flies for the trip (Approx. 5-7 dozen per box) • \$1,000 in travel expenses (this is total, not per person) Runner up prizes will include custom made fly rods, fishing trips, and boxes of flies. Winner will be drawn at the Georgia Foothills Chapter of Trout Unlimited annual banquet the "Hoot on the Hooch" in Helen, GA in March 2010. One winner will be drawn and the winner will choose a partner to accompany them on the trip. Contact Jimmy Whiten for your raffle tickets: E-mail jimmywhiten@yahoo.com

Last Chance To Make Application to be Sponsored by Rabun TU for the 2010 Georgia Trout Camp.

Think - your kids, grandkids, nieces and nephews, neighbor's kids, or any kid that is excited about the outdoors and fishing.



(Click logo for more info)

Rabun Chapter will sponsor 2 campers. Here are a few facts and instructions:

Camp Dates: June 6 (Sunday) - June 11 (Friday); **Cost:** \$450 per camper (financial aid is available) Includes room, board, and all activities for the five-day camp. **Deadline to apply:** January 11, 2010

Instructions: Applications must be completed and turned in to Rabun Chapter by 1/11/2010.

Information and application forms are available on the Council website <http://georgiatu.org/>

Mail applications to: Rabun TU, PO Box 371, Clayton, GA 30525

By not later than 3/31/2010, the Rabun Chapter will select 2 campers from the applicants to sponsor. (Campers must be within the ages of 12 – 15 at time of camp)

Each of the 12 chapters in Georgia has two spots to fill and each chapter decides how they want to select their campers. Once a chapter chooses their campers, the application, along with their tuition check, is forwarded to the Trout Camp Coordinator (Charlie Breithaupt). Campers will be notified of their acceptance as soon as possible. Later, around early May, more detailed information will be sent to each camper. Questions and/or concerns should be directed to the Camp Coordinator, Charlie Breithaupt, 194 Kitchens Lane; Clayton, GA 30525 knc615@windstream.net (706) 782-6954

Fishing Report

A Practicing Graduate of Rabunite 101

This is my cousin, Phil Upchurch of McDonough GA, who came and camped with Rabun TU at Long Bottom in November. He is an alumnus of Rabunite 101 - Class of 2008, where we taught him how to fly fish. He learned the grip for picture taking on his own! This is just one of many he caught when I took him and his son, Casey, on THE RIVER. Report filed by Terry Rivers



The 2010 Rabunite 101 Class (1/2-day fly-fishing workshop) will be Saturday morning, April 3rd

"BACKCASTING"

Dec 4 (Fri) Mentoring at Rabun County Middle School As part of our on-going support of the Rabun Co Middle School's program to introduce students to outdoor activities, including fishing and cold water conservation, we helped coordinate bringing Sheila Humphrey to the school on Friday, Dec 4. As most of you know, Sheila is with DNR at Smithgall Woods and is renowned for her outstanding presentations about stream entomology. True to form, Sheila captivated the attention of about 25 students with her presentation about water, bugs and fish. The barrage of questions during and after the presentation provided confirmation that it was well received. Thanks to Sheila for another job very well done. Report filed by Prez Larry Walker.

Dec 5 (Sat Morning) GA TU Council Meeting – 6 Rabun TU members participated. The agenda included the following items: Call to Order, Introductions, Roll Call, Opening Remarks, 2010 GA TU Calendar with TU/USFS/GA WRD activities, Minutes of Previous Meeting, Treasurer's Report, 2010 Budget Approval,

Dec 8 (Tues) Annual Rabun Chapter Christmas Dinner was enjoyed by 36 Rabunites.

GA Trout Camp, TU East Coast Camp meeting in VA, Dream Trip for 2010, CEI Report Form, Rechartering update, Chattooga River Report, TU Accident Insurance, Bass Pro Shop Fly Fishing Days, GA Raffle Law, Council By-Laws, Earth Share, Other New Business, Chattooga Angler Diary, Camo Coalition Funding, Chapter Activity & Announcements

Dec 5 (Sat Evening) Picking for the Park (The proposed new City of Clayton park on Stekoa Creek) – About 15 Rabun TU members participated in this fundraiser and enjoyed the music, food and auction. Our thanks to Charlie Breithaupt for delivered a great speech on behalf of Rabun TU, that among other things minced no words about the shameful state of Stekoa Creek's water quality. Those present from the Clayton City Council, as well as the city manager, were all still present to hear it. Our thanks to the Foxfire Boys for being the headliner act, to Kathy Breithaupt for the Rabun TU brochure and Terry Rivers for being Rabun TU's point of contact.



MERRY CHRISTMAS and A HAPPY NEW SEASON!

THANK YOU

Anne Fausett, Sandy Springs GA, for a cash donation.

Eedee Adams, Rabun Gap GA, for donation of material goods.

Michele & Broderick Crawford, of **Crawford Art Gallery** <http://www.broderickcrawfordart.com/>, Clayton GA, for donation of discount on prints and framing services.

Gap Graphics & Printing <http://www.gapgraphics.biz/>, Clayton GA, for donation of printing services for the Rabun TU brochure.

Donations to Rabun TU (a Federal Tax Exempt 501(c)3 non-profit) are tax deductible.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

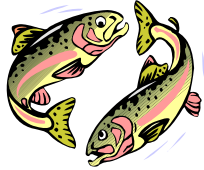
A Big Rabunite "WELCOME" to **3 new members** this month: **SCOTT BURRELL**, PO BOX 515, TIGER GA 30576; **CHRISTOPHER L. JENKINS**, 576 POTOMAC DR., TIGER GA 30576 and **LAWRENCE NELMS**, PO BOX 825, CLAYTON GA 30525

Thanks for re-upping: **Isaac McCrackin, Glenn English, Jim Blalock, Joseph Gatins & Doug Hickman**

It is time to renew your membership: **Chris Sawers, Brooks & Amanda Adams, Chuck Breithaupt, Ron Grob, Jerry Webb, Peggy Crowe, Lonnie English, Walter Godfrey, Charles Jenkins, Chelsea Adams, Nancy Gribble, Billy McClain, Hal Avery, Randal Corbin, Sidney Doster & Reb Hester**

Rabun TU Officers & Directors for F/Y2010

President – Larry Walker (w/Media, Awards & Budget) POB 371, Clayton, GA 30525	Ph 706 244 4345	E-mail amosndixie@windstream.net
Vice President - Pat Hopton (w/Membership recruitment & Youth outreach)	Ph 706 782 4978	E-mail scotts_creek58@yahoo.com
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Letter From The Chapter President

Fellow Rabunites,

I think it's important at this time of year to reflect. Sure, many of us are hurrying from one holiday event to another, but it is a season of counting our blessings. The New Year brings us great opportunities, but before we leap into the next chapter, let's reflect on our blessings: families, ample rainfall, kids mentored, conservation projects completed, friendships new and old, and yes, even a fish or two we caught (or almost caught).

The year hasn't been without its share of friends and family losses and other things we wish were different, but overall, we are a blessed people. I encourage you to please take time to reflect on our blessings. I believe it will lift your spirits and prepare you for next year's opportunities and challenges.

Speaking of next year, our Rendezvous is shaping up to be great. The Dream Trip raffle this year is going to be exciting. The meeting programs scheduled are outstanding. The work projects on stream habitat will be a great opportunity to do some good things with good friends. Outreach activities with various youth groups will afford opportunities to reach out and touch young lives in positive ways. And, there are many other activities ahead that will keep us busy.

So, let's reflect and give thanks, but also, let's start making our plans to make 2010 an even better year for protecting and improving Northeast Georgia's coldwater resources while we have fun with friends, new and old.

Regards, Larry

For more pictures, info, and back issues of TIGHT LINES, visit the Rabun TU website: <http://www.rabuntu.com/>

Georgia TU Council website: <http://georgiatu.org/> & National TU Website:

<http://www.tu.org/site/c.kkLRJ7MSKtH/b.3022897/k.BF82/Home.htm>

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