



TIGHT LINES April 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/>

A woman who has never seen her husband fishing doesn't know what a patient man she married-
Anonymous

RABUN TU CHAPTER'S 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 most satisfying fishing of all comes on the quiet pools of a familiar stream. This fishing is not for the man who needs weight in the creel, but a deep satisfaction comes with even a modicum of success on such water."

Ernest G. Schwiebert, Jr

"FORWARD CASTING" Important Dates – See you there!

Mar 27 (Sat) AM Opening Day for Seasonal Trout Streams in GA; WaaahWHoo!

Mar 27 (Sat) Evening - Satolah Fire Department's Bluegrass & Bar-B-Q (as seen in the Chattooga River episode of TUTV's "On The Rise")

Apr 3 (Sat) AM Rabunite 101 - Rabun TU's Fly Fishing School for Adults: Rabun County Recreation Center A half-day fly-fishing for trout seminar for adults (male and female age 16 years and older) @ \$30/person. The seminar will cover equipment, casting, knots and entomology; lunch is included. To attend or to volunteer to help, contact Charlie Breithaupt . Ph 706 782 6954 E-mail knc615@windstream.net

Apr 10 (Sat) Fly Fishing For Vets Outing, For more info, click [HERE](#)

Apr 20 (Tues) Chapter Meeting 6:30 PM, RE/MAX Office

Program: Kyle Burrell on "out west" stories or tips, or same for Hooch in Atlanta

Apr 23-24 (Fri-Sat) Rabun TU's Campout Fri Night with Workday Sat Morning for BtB with Jim Kidd & USFS leading work on North Fork Moccasin Creek and camping beside the Wildcat Creek Road. For more info, contact Jim Kidd - Ph 706 782 2474 E-mail Jikidd@windstream.net

Apr 27 (Tues) BOD Meeting, 6:30 PM, RE/MAX Office

May 1 (Sat) Oconee River TU Chapter Fundraiser; 6 PM in Athens

May 12-16 (Wed – Sun) Spring Camping & Fishing Outing, the Upper Chattooga backcountry with camping at USFS Cherry Hill (SC) Campground

May 14&15 (Fri & Sat) SE Regional Rally in Townsend, TN

May 15 (Sat) Hi County Boil Fundraiser for Blue Ridge Mountain TU Chapter

May 17 (Mon) Annual Spring Family Cookout 4 PM Monday at Indian Lake, with Boy &/or Girl Scout Troops as our guests.

May 22 (Sat) Betty Creek In-Stream Trimming/Clean-up 9 AM in preparation for GA Trout Camp

May 25 (Tues) BOD Meeting, 6:30 PM, RE/MAX Office

2010 GA Trout Camp; June 6th – 11th; Volunteer mentors needed, click [HERE](#)

FLY OF THE MONTH

by Terry Rivers



GREY DEER HAIR CADDIS

USUALLY THESE CADDIS ARE THE FIRST ONE YOU SEE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SEASON. HAVE A FEW TIED UP IN DIFFERENT SIZES. HAPPY FISHING AND HOPEFULLY GREAT CATCHING.

HOOK: 12/18 DRY FLY HOOK
BODY: GREY DUBBING WITH PALMERED GREY HACKLE
WING: LIGHT GREY DEER HAIR
THORAX: GREY OR DUN HACKLE PALMERED BEHIND HEAD

"Hard-hitting flashing fellows these, bred and reared in no protected pond, but in the cold crystal mountain waters. Any angler who has matched his skill with one of Nature's trout and then with the pampered stall-fed darlings of the intensively stocked preserve, need not be told the difference between the two."

Joe Godfrey, Jr.

April 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
Quill Gordon Mayfly	Early	L am to M pm	12-14 Quill Gordon 12-14 Quill Gordon Nymph
Blue Quill Mayfly	Early	L am to M pm	16-18 Blue Quill, BWO, or Blue Dun 16-18 Prince or Pheasant Tail
Small Dun Caddis (Important)	All Month	L am to M pm L pm to dark	16-18 Gray Elk Hair or Deer Hair Caddis 16-18 Gray Caddis Pupa
March Brown Mayfly (Important)	All Month	L am to M pm	12-14 March Brown or Adams Parachute 10-14 March Brown Nymph, Dark Hare's Ear, or Pheasant Tail
Cream Caddis (Very important)	All Month	M day to L pm	12-14 Elk Hair Caddis 12-14 Dark Cream Caddis Pupa
Yellow Stonefly	Late	E to L am L pm to dark	14-16 Yellow Stimulator or Elk Hair Caddis (Yellow) 14-16 Yellow Stone Nymph
Light Cahill Mayfly (Important)	Late	E to L pm	12-14 Light Cahill 12-14 Light Cahill Nymph
Speckled Gray Caddis	Late	M to L pm	12-14 Dark Elk Hair or Deer Hair Caddis 12-14 Dun & Yel/Brn Caddis Pupa
Midges	All Month	All Day	18-22 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa

'Websites-of-the-Month': <http://georgiatu.org/>

Alert - Land and Water Conservation Funds for Georgia

A message from Jim Kidd, a Rabun TU Director

The 2011 Federal budget is being developed at this time. Included within the budget are funding requests for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. This money is used to purchase land for the US Forest Service and the National Parks. Georgia has two projects that need the support of Georgia TU members.

1. The President's budget includes \$1.7 million in LWCF funding for National Forest in Georgia. This money will be used to purchase in-holdings within the Forest, one of which will include some outstanding coldwater habitat, and complete the protection of a watershed.

2. The second is a National Park project on the lower Chattahoochee River. This would purchase additional land for the Chattahoochee River Park and buffer the GA WRD fish hatchery.

These are two separate projects and not related, but both deserve our support. Please email both Senators offices and ask that:

> The \$1.7 million in the presidents USFS LWCF budget request be placed in the Senate's budget request. Ask that it be raised to \$3.0 million.

> Ask that the Senate include money required to purchase the property on the lower Chattahoochee River in the National Parks LWCF budget request.

This just needs to be a simple Email to the following email addresses.

Darren_Kendall@Chambliss.Senate.gov & Tate_Izlar@Isakson.Senate.gov

Please take the time to email these people and request that our Senators bring to Georgia our fair share of the Land and Water Conservation Funds.

Thank you for your support of these two important acquisition projects. *Jim*

Rabunite 101 - An Introduction to Fly Fishing for Trout

On Saturday, April 3rd, the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited will offer a 4-hour Introduction seminar for adults (male and female - age 16 years and older). The seminar includes casting, entomology, knots and equipment for folks who want to get started in the pleasure of fly-fishing for trout. The location will be at the Rabun County Recreation Center just south of Rabun County High School. We will be able to accommodate 24 students and the cost of \$30 per person will include lunch.

Do you know someone that might be interested?

Tell them to contact Kathy or Charlie Breithaupt to make reservations. knc615@windstream.net or (706) 782-6954

Members of the Rabun Chapter are needed to instruct and help in other ways.

Please save that date and let Kathy and Charlie Breithaupt know if you can help.

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

There is a new mayor and a new local LEO that handles environmental compliance issues. There are talks underway for putting all the various city and county water and sewer systems in Rabun County under one authority. **The City of Clayton has recently received a grant for \$300,000 to address issues relative to Stekoa Creek and water quality fecal contamination**

Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2010 5:52 PM

Subject: Stekoa Creek

" - - the final, approved work plan that I wrote for the city's 319(h) grant, which is intended to begin implementation of the "Stekoa Creek TMDL Implementation Plan." Since the Rabun Co. Chapter of TU has been so helpful in contributing to the goal of improving water quality in Stekoa Creek, I thought this might be of interest."

From: Nicole Hayler – Stekoa Creek Project Coordinator, Chattooga Conservancy

Editor's Notes: *Below are excerpts from the work plan*

Project Objectives:

The objective of this project is to implement components of the *Stekoa Creek TMDL Implementation Plan* by:

- Abating the ongoing non-point erosion and sedimentation problems within the stream's 50-foot buffer zone on the 2.9-acre project site by correcting areas of eroding stream banks, and restoring a native vegetation buffer zone to act as a sediment filter along Stekoa Creek
- Stabilizing 660 linear feet of streambank along Stekoa Creek
- Restoring 1,320 linear feet of riparian buffer area along Stekoa Creek
- Organizing the Rabun County Health Department's list of septic tanks geographically by watershed, creating a database that is also accessible via GIS.
- Executing a cost-share program for rehabilitating failing septic systems
- Reducing non-point source sediment and fecal coliform pollution at a high-profile agricultural site in the Stekoa Creek floodplain, while engaging in public education and outreach about the benefits of agricultural best management practices
- Providing water quality monitoring data in order to identify sources of fecal coliform and demonstrate the effectiveness of BMPs

Expected Outcome:

The purpose of this project is restore approximately 660 linear feet of Stekoa Creek's stream bank to reduce ongoing non-point erosion and sedimentation problems within the stream's 50-foot buffer zone by correcting areas of eroding stream banks, and restoring a 50-foot native vegetation buffer zone along 1,320 linear feet of Stekoa Creek to act as a sediment filter along Stekoa Creek. These efforts are expected to result in a half-ton sediment load reduction per year. This project also aims to address fecal coliform impairments through a septic system inventory and repair program, and an agricultural BMP demonstration site. These project activities and the associated educational outreach will facilitate the improvement of water quality concerns within the project area and eventual de-listing of the impaired waterways.

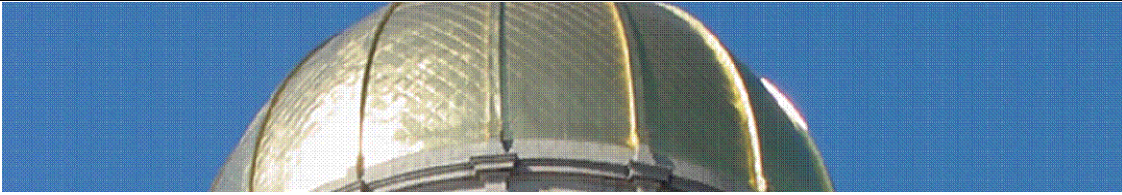
Budget Summary:

NPS POLLUTION ACTIVITIES	319(h) Grant Funds	Non-Federal Matching Funds
BMP Demonstration Project	\$15,000	
Restoration/Protection/Prevention	\$59,000	\$45,000
Education/Information Activities	\$15,650	\$5,000
Technical Assistance	\$31,950	\$27,500
Regulatory/Enforcement Activities		
Planning Activities	\$25,000	\$22,500
Water Quality Assessment/Monitoring	\$20,000	\$15,000
Other	\$13,400	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$180,000	\$120,000

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.

Speaking for Trout and Salmon



AD-VO-CATE n. (AD-vuh-kit) one who defends or supports a person or cause: an advocate for protection of coldwater resources. At its core, advocacy is the process of taking a position and persuading others of its merits with the goal of securing consensus or a decision that advances a position. Trout Unlimited has a long history of advocacy successes, many due to the hard work of people who never would have described themselves as advocates. *Ensure that your voice is heard by our elected representatives.*

Join with Georgia Trout Unlimited as members of **Georgia Wildlife Federation's Camo Coalition** and **Georgia Conservation Voters' Georgia Environmental Action Network (GEAN)**.

Georgia Trout Unlimited (TU) partners with the Camo Coalition and GEAN on issues that correspond to our mission of conserving, protecting and restoring North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds. As important issues arise, the Camo Coalition or GEAN will send you an Action Alert email. You will see the Georgia TU logo or name clearly displayed when you receive these partnered alerts. An editable message, which Georgia TU has reviewed, along with a list of recipients is provided by the alert system. After you approve the message, it is emailed to appropriate decision-makers letting them know what you think. This is an easy, convenient way for you to support positions that Georgia Trout Unlimited feels are important. You can also unsubscribe to the alerts if you desire.



Georgia Wildlife Federation's Camouflage Coalition

Join thousands of sportsmen and women throughout Georgia.

The **Camo Coalition** is a program of the **Georgia Wildlife Federation** formed to protect Georgia's wildlife resources and fishing and hunting heritage. Approaching conservation issues from a scientific viewpoint, guided by research, experience and sound management principles, the Coalition has made a commitment to arm the public with facts so it can do its part to direct the future of Georgia's natural resources.

The Camo Coalition also sends out alerts that do not affect TU's mission. We will not partner on alerts that cover hunting, warm and salt water angling. If you are not already a member of the Camouflage Coalition, we encourage you to join independent of Georgia TU in order to receive alerts. **JOIN NOW - MEMBERSHIP IS FREE.**



Georgia Conservation Voters' Georgia Environmental Action Network (GEAN)

GEAN is a program of the **Georgia Conservation Voters** formed to help make sure the environment we enjoy now is the same one your children and grandchildren will get to experience.

GEAN also sends out alerts that do not affect TU's mission. We will not be partners on these alerts. If you are not already a member of GEAN, we encourage you to join independent of Georgia Trout Unlimited in order to receive these alerts. **JOIN NOW - MEMBERSHIP IS FREE.**

Georgia Wildlife Federation www.gwf.org Camo Coalition www.camocoalition.com

Georgia Conservation Voters www.gavoters.com Georgia Environmental Action Network (GEAN) www.protectgeorgia.net

Know Your Forest: 10th in a series

The Chattooga River Ranger District

The district covers 261,035 acres in the northeast part of Georgia. Terrain ranges from the Piedmont in the southern part of the district to Georgia's second highest mountain, Rabun Bald at 4,696 feet above sea level. To the east is the Chattooga Wild and Scenic River. In the central part of the district are Lake Burton, Seed Lake, and Lake Rabun where you'll find the Rabun Beach Campground. In the western part of the district are the headwaters of the Chattahoochee River and the Upper Chattahoochee River Campground. The Appalachian National Scenic Trail passes through the district. There are many waterfalls across the district including the twin waterfalls of Anna Ruby Falls Scenic Area. **Take your time exploring the district on this website [HERE](#)** and feel free to give them a call for more information.



Dave Jensen - District Ranger, 9975 Highway 441S, Lakemont, GA 30552
Phone: 706 754-6221, Fax: 706 754-1021
Office hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00-12:00 open, 12:00-1:00 closed, 1:00-4:30 open

Editor's notes: The following is reprinted from the Georgia Outdoor News (GON), April 2006. <http://www.gon.com/>

Rabunite Ramble

The seasonal trout streams are open, water temperature in the 50s. Now we can go to those headwater streams, fish for the **wild trout**, and wade wet! I'll be putting the waders away until November! **Waaaaah WHOoooo!**

When fishing for wild trout, an angler needs some skills and a lot of luck to be successful. But an angler can increase his chances by not underestimating the wariness of wild trout.

Wild trout rely heavily on their eyes, and to a lesser extent their senses of smell and hearing and their ability to pick up vibrations in the water. A trout holding in the bottom of a deep clear pool can easily see a tiny mayfly land on the surface. The same trout also can spot a small nymph being carried by the current towards it. With such keen eyesight, there's no question that same trout also will see the shadow of an osprey hovering overhead, or the profile of an angler who has ventured too close.

Many anglers put themselves at a huge disadvantage before they even make their first cast. It's critical that wild trout anglers exercise extreme caution when approaching the water they wish to fish. The water where trout are found is often clear and shallow. The fish regularly hold just off the bank. These conditions make wild trout especially wary, because they know they're susceptible to predators. Simply by walking up to the water, most anglers spook the trout they are seeking and send them off to more secure locations.

There are several things you can do to improve your chances of catching **wild trout**:

1. Wear dull-colored clothing, including your hat! The hat is the first thing that comes into a trout's window of vision. Try to blend in with the background vegetation. Camouflage or dark/dull earth-tone apparel is best, including the fishing vest.

2. Invest in a good pair of polarized sunglasses. One of the keys to successful wild trout fishing is seeing the fish before they see you. They will allow you to see through the surface glare into the trout's underwater world. They will also help you to see the bottom for quieter wading.

3. Approach like a heron! When you get a chance, watch a great blue heron stalk a fish, it is sneaky. The angler's actual approach to the bank calls for a high level of sneakiness. Stop several times to observe what is happening on or under the water.

4. Camouflage, cover and concealment! Take advantage of hiding places behind natural cover, such a laurel bush, a rock, or a tree trunk. If you see a trout (or a promising-looking holding spot) in the water in front of you, circle downstream staying well away from the water. In water that is extremely small (a shallow and narrow stream), you might have to kneel well back from the water and dapple your lure over the bank, or flip out a cast at a trout you've spotted. Make your first cast count, it could be the only one you get before the trout spook.

The Ole Rabunite

I spend most of my life fishing; the rest I just waste.

Status Update – Chattooga North Fork Recreation Management Plan

[Forest Service Voluntarily withdraws Decisions on Recreation Uses on Upper Chattooga River](#)

(USFS Regional News Release December 21, 2009)

The decision, which emphasized year-round high-quality trout fishing while providing boating opportunities on the upper Chattooga North Fork, was withdrawn on 12/21/2009 to allow for additional analysis. As a result, the status quo is preserved on the river (meaning no boating is allowed above the Highway 28 bridge) until the forests issue three new decisions, probably in the spring.

"More than half the intense enjoyment of fly-fishing is derived from the beautiful surroundings, the satisfaction felt from being in the open air, the new lease of life secured thereby, and the many, many pleasant recollections of all one has seen, heard and done." Charles F. Orvis

Volunteers needed for Chattooga Anglers Diary: If you are going to fish the Chattooga North Fork for 5 or more times by the end of November 2010 and want to provide information for GA & SC DNR professionals to use in future fisheries management, please volunteer to keep a diary of your fishing experiences. To request a diary, contact Doug Adams edadams1@windstream.net

Letters To The Rabunites

Sent: By US Postal on 2/15/2010

To: Fellow Members

In recent months I lost both my mom and dad. Rabun TU sent gifts in their memory to the church they attended for 71 years. My family and I were deeply touched by your kindness. Thank you,

From: Doug Mansfield – a Rabunite, Hiwassee, GA

Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES March 2010 Newsletter

Doug: Just though I'd take this opportunity to say Happy New Year and tell you how much I appreciate getting your newsletter. Glad to see the Rabun Chapter is still going strong, as are you and Eedee.

I see you have been getting almost as much winter this year as we have here in PA, if perhaps not QUITE as much snow. From the forecast for tomorrow and Friday, here we go again! Snow, snow, and some more snow!

I'm ready for a Hendrickson hatch.

My best to my old friends in GA.

From: Bob Bachman – Retired Maryland Chief of Fisheries

PS: The Channel 2 weekend anchor, John Bachman is married to my niece, Jenny. No, another Bachman family. You may have seen him. They live near Atlanta.

Sent: By US Postal on 3/10/2010

To: Dear Friends

Thanks so much for the generous donation to Ways South (a.k.a. Stop I-3). You continued support is very important to our efforts to protect the watersheds of Southern Appalachia from misplaced highways.

Our latest efforts in stopping I-3 are working towards getting the study money re-directed to be used on on-going Improvements to GA17. Our work in Tennessee and North Carolina emphasizes protecting the trout streams and watersheds in the Western North Carolina, Eastern Tennessee Mountains. Sincerely,

From: Lucy Bartlett – Ways South, <http://www.stopi3.org/>

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

What's New Elsewhere?

USFS - Forest Service Law Enforcement Officer Shot and Killed MONTICELLO, Ga. (3/8/2010) A Forest Service Law Enforcement Officer was fatally shot Friday, March 5, at the Ocmulgee Bluff Equestrian Recreation Area on the Oconee Ranger District of the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest in Jasper County. The officer, Christopher Arby Upton, 37, of Monroe, GA, was on routine patrol in the area about 11 p.m. Two individuals were hunting coyote with a high-powered rifle equipped with night vision and apparently mistook the officer for game. After the shooting, the hunters dialed 911 and reported a hunting incident. "This is a tragic incident where the loss of a Federal officer's life could have been avoided," said Steven Ruppert, Special Agent-in-Charge for the Southern Region of the Forest Service. "This is a devastating loss for Chris' family, our agency, other law enforcement officers and his friends and neighbors in Monroe. All of our thoughts and prayers are with his family," Ruppert said. "The standard procedure for a hunter is to identify your target and then shoot," said Homer Bryson, Law Enforcement Colonel for Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Wildlife Resources Division (WRD). "The hunter failed to do this, and mistook the officer for game. He then shot and instantly killed the officer." The shooter, Norman Clinton Hale, 40, McDonough, GA, and an observer, Clifford Allen McGouirk, 41, of Jackson, GA, were hunting coyotes. The incident investigation is being conducted jointly by the Forest Service and GDNR WRD and is ongoing. Upton, a 4-year veteran of the Forest Service, had previously worked as a game warden for the Department of Defense, US Marine Corps, at Beaufort, South Carolina, and as a conservation officer, game warden and pilot with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission. He is survived by his wife and a 4-year-old daughter. For more, click [HERE](#)

GA WRD - Seasonal Trout Streams Open March 27th SOCIAL CIRCLE, Ga. (3/19/2010) It is time for pre-season trout stocking and the Georgia WRD and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service plan to stock more than one million trout in Georgia streams, rivers and small lakes by the end of the year. Many streams will be stocked by the end of the month and in time for opening day for seasonal trout stream fishing – Sat., 3/27. "Our goal is to replenish all of our stocked streams before the end of the month," says Perry Thompson, trout stocking coordinator for the GA WRD. "Since stream flows are up, we'll have an opportunity to spread our fish out well. Flow can drop quickly though, and we'll manage accordingly." Anglers anxious to fish the seasonal trout streams can do so beginning Sat., 3/27. Anglers must possess both a current Georgia fishing license and a trout license to fish in designated trout waters and to fish for or possess trout. Licenses can be purchased online and at various local sporting good dealers. The daily limit is eight trout on general regulation trout waters. Anglers are reminded to respect private property rights along streams flowing through private lands and to obtain permission before fishing on private property. Buy a license online (www.gofishgeorgia.com), by phone (1-800-366-2661) or at a retail license vendor (list of vendors available at website). For more, click [HERE](#)

NGTO – RocketRoy: The Man, the Myth, the Legend Returns to NGTO's Spring Fling (3/20/2010) After a 3-year leave, RocketRoy (Roy Lowe of GA Foothills TU Chapter) lined up a fly rod to not only slash through a very trying course, but the competition as well. On three of the targets, the water pan, the bow-shot, and the so called Bush Curve, Roy was the only contestant to score a 1. And, if that were not enough he also had the longest distance cast of 90 feet

USFS - Forest Service Warns Public to be Cautious While Driving on National Forest Roads (Columbia, SC) 2/23/2010 – Forest Service officials today reminded the public to be cautious while driving through the National Forests in South Carolina. Thanks to an unusually wet winter, driving conditions on Forest Service roads have deteriorated from good to generally moderate to poor. "This winter has brought heavy, soaking rains; high winds; unusual snow events; and severe freezing and thawing which has led to deteriorated forest road conditions," said Paul Bradley, forest supervisor for the Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests. "Because the roads are worsening faster than we can maintain them, we want the public to be extra careful when driving through the forests." The public should be on the look out for numerous road hazards in the form of downed tree limbs and vegetation, heavy leaf litter, poor surface tread, ruts, potholes and soft shoulders. In addition, many drainage facilities such as ditches, culverts and drop-inlets are obstructed by storm debris. Drivers should also be aware that some forest roads may be closed to protect the public from road hazards or to prevent resource damage. For more, click [HERE](#)

USFS - Chattooga River District - The following roads were reopened March 15, 2010:: Porter Gap, Corn Pen Gap, Sarah's Creek, Wildcat, Dicks Creek; Ann Gap, Slick Shoals, Black Mountain, Rile Bend, Hollifield Place, Finney Creek, Reed Mill, Dan Gap, & Walnut Fork. The roads into the Warwoman and Lake Russell Management Areas are open as of March 15. The Chattahoochee River Road is scheduled to open Wednesday, March 17. The Chattooga River District [Motor Vehicle Use Map is available](#) for reference. For the latest status of a particular road, contact the Chattooga River Ranger District at 706-745-6221.

GA WRD - Go Fish! Angling Opportunities Plentiful in Georgia ATLANTA, Ga. (3/4/2010) Spring is on the way, and as the weather warms and people begin venturing outside, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) encourages families to get outdoors and Go Fish! Whether you are fishing for trout in the mountains, bass on a lake, or red drum on the coast, Georgia has a place for you. "There are year-round fishing opportunities in Georgia," said DNR Commissioner Chris Clark. "And beyond that, fishing gives everyone a chance to participate, from kids trying for their first fish to the angler who wants a serious challenge." [Opportunities for First-Time Anglers](#) - Research shows that most people are introduced to fishing by a family member, and most consider a family member to be their best fishing friend. For adults who want to give children their first angling opportunity, consider joining other first-timers at a Kids Fishing Event. Held throughout the state, these popular events provide instruction from knowledgeable professionals and are meant to make a child's fishing experience fun. To celebrate that first catch, be sure to print off a "My First Fish" certificate and frame it together with a photo. Tips on taking children fishing, kids fishing events and the "First Fish" certificate can be found at www.gofishgeorgia.com (select "Fishing," then "Kids Fishing"). For more, click [HERE](#)

"Catchin' Corner" - Trouting Tips

The following article is reprinted with permission from the Fly Shack Newsletter <http://www.flyshack.com/>

OK, Trout Are Rising. Which Dry Fly to Try?

The rough winter of 2009-2010 is winding down, and spring is finally at hand. For a trout fisher, that means it will soon be time to fish with dry flies.

Most trout fishers agree that catching trout at the surface is the most enjoyable kind of fishing. In one way, it's the easiest kind, because the fish has revealed its position. As a general rule, trout in streams hold positions, so if a fish rises once, chances are it will rise again in the same place. Knowing where to cast is a big advantage.

The tricky part of dry-fly fishing is convincing the fish to strike. Your objective, of course, is to choose a fly that's the right size, shape and color (in that order), and cast it just upstream of the trout so that it drifts naturally with the current into the trout's field of view. Size, shape and color translate into pattern: a half-inch-long mayfly with a pinkish tan abdomen, for example, is a size 14 Hendrickson. A good drift is the result of accurate casting, plus whatever measures may be necessary to keep the currents from dragging your fly off-course, such as mending line.

Those four variables - size, shape, color and drift - have fueled spirited conversations among anglers since dry-fly fishing caught on around the turn of the 20th century. But in recent decades, there's been another variable: pattern style. From the days of Theodore Gordon to the days of the Woodstock generation, a dry fly designed to imitate a mayfly had a tail, twin upright wings and hackle wound on in a vertical plane, like an airplane propeller. But innovative fly designers in the 1970s devised radically different and highly effective styles of dry flies. Today, there's a style for every situation.

The traditional "Catskill" style of dry fly is still the preferred choice of many anglers when fishing in pocket water and swift currents. The collar of hackle at the front suggests insect legs, helps the fly ride high without getting swamped, and seems to add a fluttering, life-like appearance that can trigger a strike in fast water, when trout react very quickly to feeding opportunities.

In calm pools, however - especially in the cool, fertile tailwaters downstream of dams, where some of the biggest trout and best hatches are found - flies that float with their bellies flush on the surface often work much better than the old-fashioned

hacked patterns. The top styles of flush-floating patterns are the Comparadun (and its cousin the Sparkle Dun, which has a shuck of sparkly yarn instead of the Comparadun's neatly split tails), and parachute-style flies, which have their hackle wound on top of the hook shank in a horizontal plane - more like a helicopter's rotors than an airplane propeller.

Both of these styles give the trout a good look at the long, slender abdomen that seems to be the dominant feature of a floating mayfly when seen from below.

If neither a traditional-style or flush-floating pattern is working, try a spinner - a slim mayfly tied so that its wings lie flat on either side. Spinners don't usually have anything representing legs, but the flat-lying wings and split tails serve as outriggers that keep it afloat. They are designed to imitate the final stage of a mayfly's life, when it falls to the water after the mating swarm. When a swarm is in progress and the spent flies are falling (usually on mild evenings), trout rise to indulge in the helpless, nutritious insects drifting downstream. But trout will also take spinners when no swarm is in progress, and a pattern like the Rusty Spinner will sometimes take trout when other styles fail.

Mayflies aren't the only aquatic flies trout like to eat. In fact, on many streams, caddis flies are a more abundant source of nutrition, sometimes hatching in great clouds and driving trout into a frenzy of surface feeding. Most anglers turn to the reliable Elk-Hair Caddis, a buoyant pattern with the right silhouette for the many species of caddis on American streams. More imitative, flush-floating patterns have appeared over the years, and the old Henryville Special still catches trout, too, but the Elk-Hair is dry fly most anglers employ when newly hatched or egg-laying caddis are visible on the surface and trout are rising in splashy lunges.

Of course, many rises are not to floating mayflies or caddis flies at all, but rather to emergers - insects struggling in the metamorphosis from nymph to winged adult in or just below the surface film. Dry flies often don't work in such circumstances, and anglers turn to a wide range of wet and "damp" flies. This is fly-fishing with an exquisite degree of difficulty, and deserves to be the subject of an article of its own in an upcoming newsletter

Fishing Report



Sent: Monday, March 01, 2010

Attached are a couple of photos. One photo is my new license plate and frame. The other photo is my first fly caught redfish. I caught it in Florida on the IDBIS flats. Tight lines and safe journeys,

From: Don "BK" Atkinson - a Rabunite, Sylvania, OH

Fishing Report

Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Subject: Not all the fish are frozen

So despite the ice age, a few buddies and I were still able to find fish here in the NE tundra. Last weekend we took a road-trip to the (Editor's notes: *I.D.B.I.S. River*) and got into some steelhead:



Tying glo bugs in the back of the jeep on the way Friday night. Fortunately Student Government picked up the gas and motel fees and so pretty much the trip only cost us the price of a fishing license.



Learned the art of sharing a run with 7 guys. Saturday the temperature outside was in the teens and ice built up in the guides about every 6 casts.



Great trip. 25" Steelhead (1 of 2 landed and 1 of about 6 hooked and burned). She was my Valentine's date. Wooed her with a neon yellow/green Tellico size 12, on a 9 wt, 8 lb **un-expired** tippet.

I just took a look at my final exam schedule and my last final is on May 13th.

I plan to come south the next week. And if there's any events/help involving Rabun TU during that time sign me up.

Tell Jim Kidd I'm ready for round 2; rain suit, check; grappling hook, check; pfd, check; **life insurance, check!**

From: Pat Gorman – a Rabunite, Student at Universities of Vermont, Burlington, VT

“BACKCASTING”

Feb 25, Mar 11, 18 & 25 (Thurs) Fly Tying Sessions at Terry River's Shop We have had another successful season of fly tying sessions this winter with an average of 6 to 7 people attending. We have tied the Woolly Buzzer, Elk Hair Caddis taught by Doug Hickman, Parachute Adams, Y2K, and the Blue Dun taught by Ken Lambert. All those that attended had a great time with stories told and problems solved. Hope we can continue to have these sessions during the winter months. Maybe next time we will build a rod. Report filed by Terry Rivers.



Charlie B, Terry R, Ken L, Tony A, & Glenn E.

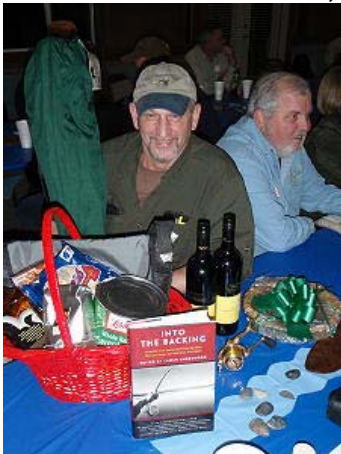
Mar 6 (Sat) GA TU Council Meeting; Dahlonega, GA with Gold Rush Chapter hosting. 4 Rabunites attended. **Agenda included:** Call to Order, Introductions, Roll Call, Special Guests, Opening Remarks, Minutes from the previous Meeting on 12/5/09, Treasurer's Report Old business: CEI, AFR and NLC reports; Raffle Permit & Report Form; Bass Pro Day update; Trout Camp update; New Website; SE Rally; Chattooga River update; Dream Trip - Ticket and Check collection New Business: New Chapter in Hartwell; Climate Change Survey; Colorado Raffle; River Clean Up Days on 4/17 & 6/26; Fly Fishing for Vets on 4/10; BTB update; Other new Business & Chapter Activity Announcements; Adjourn

Mar 13 (Sat) Hoot on the Hooch – 16 Rabunites attended the GA Foothills TU Chapter fundraiser. The live music, bucket raffles, silent auctions, special recognition of Roy (RocketRoy) Lowe and the dream trip raffle winners provided a wonderful evening of fun and fellowship for all. Rabun TU donated a framed LE print by Rabunite artist, Broderick Crawford. Thanks to Jimmy Whiten and all the Rabunites who sold 384 of the 2000 raffle tickets. All 12 GA TU chapters sold at least 100 tickets so each chapter will receive a \$500 rebate from the GA Council. Rabunites sold tickets to 3 winners of runner-up prizes and one Rabunite won a runner-up prize. All winners and sellers are listed below.



June L. wins the rum cake, 2nd year in a row

Kathy B. wins one of Eedee's cakes & gives it to Sandy M.



Injun Frank T. won everything

RocketRoy wears one of Eedee's caps

Kathy takes the winning ticket drawn by June.

WINNER OF THE 2010 DREAM TRIP FOR 2: Ron Adam of the Coosa Valley Chapter

Paul Diprima of the Coosa Valley Chapter sold the ticket. Paul will receive 1/2-day unguided fishing for two people at Nacoochee Bend (Unicoi Outfitters; Chattahoochee River). Donated by Jimmy Harris.

Dream Fly Fishing Trip 2010 Runner Up Prizes:

the trees. I may only have 6 feet of leader down to my dry on small streams, like Smith DH, and may use only 2-10 feet of fly line outside the rod tip.

There is no magic distance from the dry down to your wet dropper. It depends on the water depth of each spot you're fishing and where the fish are in the water column (usually on or near the bottom, avoiding herons and otters) at that time. I suggest 3 feet of 5X because I think you can handle that dropper length while casting (10 feet of total leader). Just fish shallower areas, like the heads of pools, so your flies are visible to the fish where they are hiding. If 3 feet is too much for you to cast, start with 2. If fish are picky, try 6X. More tips here: http://www.midcurrent.com/articles/techniques/monahan_seeing_double.aspx

Learn the Belgian cast. You'll cast easier and tangle less. http://www.midcurrent.com/articles/techniques/lord_belgian.aspx

As your casting improves, lengthen the distance (depth) to the dropper and you can then fish both the "top and bottom" of some deeper water. I am extreme and will often use 4 to 6 feet of dropper, with a tiny shot about 6 inches in front of that wet dropper fly, if my dry is big and bushy enough to support the weight. As a Rabunite, I simply want to catch all fish, the one on top and the other 5-10 below him. The dry is just a strike indicator with a hook in it to grab the occasional oddball who's eating on top when there is no good hatch (yet!). Casting that rig ain't easy, but the catching makes up for the hassle. Good indicator dries that float well and are easy to see include a tan elk hair caddis, yellow stimulator, and a bushy, well hackled parachute dry fly like a parachute Adams.

And if I come across a real deep pool, I'll just put on a big split shot and get both flies where the fish are- DEEP. Fish will eat a

drowned dry. When I move outa the deep pool, I'll remove the big shot, false cast to dry my dry, re-dope it with floatant, and once again act like a civilized flyfisher, like "Guru" Harris. Most folks with low success simply fish OVER the fish (too shallow) and do not put the fly in front of their noses.

When the hatch happens, shorten your dropper to 2 feet of dropper and tie on a soft hackle or even a second, smaller dry on its end. You'll have a ball. DH streams like Chattooga, Nantahala, and Smith are great places for such a rig once the water warms and bugs hatch in numbers. We'll even catch an occasional double when conditions are right! As the sun sets, cut off the dropper and use one fly to lessen the chances of tangles during that "magic" hour when the catching is at its best.

"Read the stream and predict where the fish noses are."

Remember that simple line and you'll always rig accordingly. Notice that sometimes we don't even rig at the car, but at or even in the stream, after our observation and approach (stalking) to our casting position in the water or on the bank. That position is often down and slightly across from the observed or predicted position of your quarry, so you'll be throwing upstream and slightly across, keeping the fly line away from the fish as you drift the flies, drag-free, past that nose.

Good luck Deb. I hope "dries and droppers" will work for you, too. Remember the official Rabunite decree for a hookup. It goes something like this: **Waaah - HOOO!** I predict that you'll have a lot of practice with that cheer this spring!

And, after your catching, give back to your adopted waters by participating in the conservation of them. Stay active in groups like TU and Georgia Women Flyfishers. Keep streams clean and cold for the folks who will follow your footsteps.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We wish **Gene Nolte** a speedy recovery from his illness.
We wish **Monte Seehorn** a speedy recovery from his 6th knee operation.
Congratulations to **Eedee and Doug Adams** on their 50th wedding anniversary

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

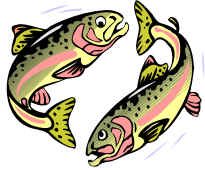
A Big Rabunite "WELCOME" to **4 new members** this month: **PAT ATWATER** (Transfer), 211 ATWATER RD, TIFTON GA 31794; **WESLEY HOPPER**, PO BOX 782, CLAYTON GA 30525-0020; **DWAYNE THOMPSON**, 7142 HWY 76 WEST, CLAYTON GA 30525; & **STEPHEN WILSON**, P.O. BOX 726, CLAYTON GA 30525.

Thanks for re-upping: **Steve & Elizabeth Perry, Ronald McKenney, Hugh Thompson, Ray King, Philip Koch, Eugene Nolte, Ronald Larson, Fritz Vinson, Brooks & Amanda Adams, Marie Dunkle, Troy Meek & Rad Smith.**

It is time to renew your membership: **John Eaves, John Harrison, Pam Harrison, John Rumsey, Bill Thompson, Bob Biebel, Pat Gorman, Warren Stiles, Chris Sawers, Ron Grob, & Jerry Webb,**

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/ Website & Youth outreach)	Ph 706 782 4978	E-mail scottscreek58@yahoo.com
Treasurer - Doug Adams (w/Newsletter, BOD Agenda, Rendezvous, Reports & Budgets)	Ph 706 746 2158	E-mail edadams1@windstream.net
Secretary - Ray Gentry (w/Communications & Scouts fishing event)	Ph 404 680 6736	E-mail regentry@windstream.net
Past President - Jimmy Whiten (w/Dream Trip Raffle)	Ph 706 886 6546	E-mail jimmywhiten@yahoo.com
Director thru F/Y 2010: Ray Kearns (w/Mtg refreshments)	Ph 706 782 9913	E-mail raykearns@windstream.net
Director thru F/Y 2010: Bill Kelly (w/Mtg Programs & Picnic)	Ph 706 746 2104	E-mail bkjk1@windstream.net
Director thru F/Y 2011: Kathy Breithaupt (w/ Membership, 101, & Nametags)	Ph 706 782 6954	E-mail knc615@windstream.net
Director thru F/Y 2011: Charlie Breithaupt (w/Member retent, 101, Library & Mtg host)	Ph 706 782 6954	E-mail knc615@windstream.net
Director thru F/Y 2012: Jim Kidd (w/Instream projects & Scouts M/B)	Ph 706 782 2474	E-mail jikidd@windstream.net
Director thru F/Y 2012: Terry Rivers (w/Festivals, BTB, Campout Equip & Mtg Raffles)	Ph 706 782 7419	E-mail tr1121@windstream.net
Director thru F/Y 2013: Tony Allred (w/Rendezvous & Membership retention)	Ph 706 746 3892	E-mail taallred@windstream.net
Director thru F/Y 2013: Jeff Durniak	Ph 706 892 6576	



Letter From The Chapter President

Fellow Rabunites,

Well, it's here. No, not just the opening day of trout season for all streams, but the opening month for all kinds of outdoor activities.

We kick things off in April with a flyfishing seminar and a campout-work day, and it gets busier by the week. The opportunities to mentor kids, help with stream restoration, and have good clean fun are abundant.

I urge you to look with care in the Forward Casting section of this newsletter and mark your calendars to link up with others for as many of these fun and rewarding events as you can. You'll be glad you did.

See you on the river soon.

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>

We would love getting your "Letters to the Editor", suggestions, stories, articles, and questions for our panel of experts, or your comments about our Website and Newsletter.

Send them to: edadams1@windstream.net or to: Rabun TU, PO Box 65, Rabun Gap, GA 30568

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