



Tight Lines

April 2016 Newsletter of the
Rabun Chapter (522) of Trout Unlimited
Editor: Michele Crawford crawfordart@windstream.net
Rabun TU's Award Winning Web Site <http://rabuntu.org/site/>



"No man ever steps in the same river twice, for it's not the same river and he's not the same man."

Heraclitus

**Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Join us for our regular monthly meetings.
Don't miss out on something GREAT!**

**Our Meeting Place is at Rabun
Gap Presbyterian church Fellowship Hall
On the third Tuesday of the month.**

**Social & Story telling (Truth or Lies) starts
At 6:30 pm, then at 7:00 - Program & Meeting.
The church is located just past Rabun Gap Nachoo-
chee School at 8397 Wolffork Road,
Rabun Gap, GA 30568.**

**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 mem-
bers without email and to raise money for a storage building. Bring an
item to donate and a dollar or two for raffle tickets.**

You Might WIN something !

Conserve

Protect

Restore

Pass it On

Notes from the President

THE STATE OF OUR CHAPTER



It has been a year since I wrote the last "State of the Chapter" message. Much remains the same, but happily, some things are new. First, we are currently in new digs at Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church. I did reach out to the Scouts, but received no response, so this is home. And, as of April 1st, we have a climatized storage unit at Golden Memories for ALL our "stuff". Our monthly meetings have now returned to the third Tuesday of the month. From the perspective of the calendar, we are into our very busy season, with a slight change in the timing of our Spring Campout. Be sure to check out the dates and events in the "Forward Casting" section. And, since we have NOTHING else to do, we will, with Board approval, be taking on another conservation project in the very near future. Once approved, I will make the announcement, and, there will be some benefits for our Chapter members as well (tba). Next, we have added the fundraising Alaska Naknek River Camp week, and, to date, have four people signed up to go. There aren't many places in Alaska you can stay, eat, sleep & fish for Rainbow trout & salmon for \$1200-\$1300 for the week!

Are we making progress- Yes! How are we doing financially? Well, the postponed-by-a-week Rendezvous had a good turnout, but the net funds raised were limited due to the postponement. So, we will be watching our pennies throughout the year, but we will meet our obligations. The ONLY progress that has been slow is new people stepping up and doing one small thing for the chapter. We have had some progress, and I am grateful for that. But we do need a few more volunteers to take on a task or assist. Our Board of Directors is amazing, and I am so thankful for them. Our Chapter is amazing, dynamic, and getting better recognition in the community.

So, this is the State of YOUR Chapter.

Happy Spring!

Steve



Conserve

Protect

Restore

Pass it On

Forward Casting Calendar

April 19, (Tues) Regular monthly meeting of Rabun TU. Social starts at 6:30 and meeting at 7:00. "Q and A" with the Georgia Council Grand Poobah. GATU chairman Carl Riggs will give an update on TU's statewide initiatives and will welcome your questions. The partnership between local chapters and TU state leaders creates successes, from GA trout camp to wild trout habitat improvements and wounded vet outreach. Come, listen, comment, continue to strengthen this partnership among passionate, selfless trout fishing fans, from Clayton to Macon. GATU's own version of the Eveready Bunny, *Carl will make you proud that you're part of our club!*



April 16 (Sat) Gold Rush Fly Fishing Festival from 9 am to 5 pm at Frog Hollow. Come fish with us at our Fly Fishing Festival on April 16 at Frog Hollow Fly Fishing, a trophy trout stream on the Chestatee River. Frog Hollow Fly Fishing has donated the stream to our chapter for our Festival and we are offering you the opportunity to fish at a greatly reduced rate of \$25 for two hours of fly fishing. Great opportunity, but fishing slots are filling up fast. For more info click [here!](#)

April 20 - 24th (Wed - Sun) Annual Spring Camp Out. Once again we are at Oconee State Park. Sites are filling up fast since the great outdoors and fishing is getting very popular again. The Camp Host site is # 93. Terry Rivers is the contact person for arranging our chef's for each meal. If you want to sign up to cook a meal contact Terry at 706-782-7419 or at tlr1121@windstream.net.

Terry needs to know by April 15th.
Our camping trips are always great times!!



April 26 (Tues) Monthly BOD Meeting starts at 6:30. All are welcome. Meeting held at Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church.

Conserve

Protect

Restore

Pass it On

Forward Casting Calendar

April 29 - 30 (Fri - Sat) Blue Ridge Trout Fest and Outdoors Adventures. This is the inaugural event for the Blue Ridge Chapter. A two day fun and informative event in beautiful Blue Ridge, GA . Definitely a don't want to miss weekend of fun. For more info click [here!](#)



May 14 (Sat) Georgia TU State Council quarterly meeting. Gold Rush Chapter is hosting.

May 17 (Tues) Annual Spring Family Cookout with Scouts. Starts at 3:30. Indian Lake on the campus of RGNS.

May 20 - 21 (Fri - Sat) TU Southeast Regional Meeting in Roanoke, VA.

May 28 (Sat) Betty's Creek Stream Improvement Work Day. Getting the stream ready for Trout Camp the following week.

June 5 - 11 (Sun - Fri) 13th Annual Georgia Trout Camp, Campus of RGNS.

RABUN TU FISHING BUDDY LIST

From this day forward be a part of the official Jeff Durniak fishing buddy list. This is your chance to get to fish with one of the best. To join the buddy list just forward Jeff your contact info including email and cell phone number. Whenever Jeff takes a notion to head out fishing he will notify the buddy list contacts and from there you can join him whenever you can. Forward your information to Jeff at jeffdurniak@yahoo.com.

Conserve

Protect

Restore

Pass it On



Matching the Hatch: brought to you from many ole Rabunites who have spent countless hours fishing and trudging along river banks, tying flies, casting, overcoming weather, bugs, and not telling what else to bring you this recorded, tried and true valued information.



April fly of the month:

By: Terry Rivers

Hook - standard dry fly 12 - 16

Thread - black

Tail - dark dun hackle fibers

Body - stripped peacock quill (lacquered)

Rib - fine gold wire

Wings - wood duck

Hackle - dark blue dun



The great season is upon us, be sure to have a few of these handy!!

SEE YA ON THE RIVER !!

Quill Gordon



To view a Hatch Chart for all month click [Hatch Chart](#)

More tips and helpful information from Dredger and other Georgia DNR fisheries staff. Click [here](#) for the latest reports.



How's the river? Click on the name of the river to check water levels.

[Chattooga Level](#)

[Tallulah River Level](#)

[Nantahala](#)

[Little Tennessee](#)



April Hatches

THE BUGS

Time of Month

Time of Day

Suggested flies

None at all

All year

All Day

Dredging Nymphs:
12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, PT
#14 Parachute Adams is always a good
searching pattern

Midges

All year

All Day

18-22 Griffith's Gnat
18-22 Midge Pupa

Terrestrials – Ants, Beetles,
Crickets, Inch-Worms, Etc

Various Times & Sizes

Various Times & Sizes

Various Times & Sizes

Blue Quill Mayfly

Early

L am to M pm

16-18 Blue Quill, BWO, or
Blue Dun 16-18 Prince or
Pheasant Tail

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

Cream Caddis
(Very Important)

Late

Mid am to Late pm

12 -14 Elk-hair Caddis
12 - 14 Dark Cream Caddis
Pupa

Quill Gordon (Important)

All Month

Late AM & Mid PM

12-14 Quill Gordon
12 Quill Gordon Nymph

Light Cahill Mayfly
(Important)

Late

E to L pm

12-14 Light Cahill
12-14 Light Cahill Nymph

March Brown Mayfly
(Important)

Late

E to L pm

12-14 Light Cahill
12-14 Light Cahill Nymph



Not quiet ready to be a fly
fisherman? Try these alterna-



Conserve

Protect

Restore

Pass it On

Back Casting

The regular monthly meeting of Rabun TU was held on Tuesday March 15. There was a great turnout to hear our own Jeff “dredger” Durniak give a presentation titled “Dredger's Dry/Dropper Secrets for Springtime Success.” Everyone paid close attention to all Jeff had to offer since the great spring fishing season is upon us. For those who missed the meeting or who didn't take very good notes pages 8 and 9 of this newsletter has all Jeff's tips offered at the meeting.



It was a usual night of a TU fund raiser...auctions, bucket raffles, music, good food and, best of all, lots of old friends. The Foothills Chapter hosts the annual event which includes the drawing of The Dream Trip winner and about 14 runner-ups. A good-sized truck load of Rabunites...Kathy and Charlie Breithaupt, Cynthia and Kent Wilson, Ray King, Patsy and Ray gentry, Angela and Brian Weeks and Jeff Durniak ..all showed up to support our closest neighbor chapter and have a good time. The Dream Trip was won by Steve Hilliard, President of the Oconee River Chapter...congratulations Steve!! However, the Rabunites weren't shut out in the runner-up prizes. John Slater won a 2 day fishing and lodging trip to Firefly Lodge. Brian Weeks, who had sold more Dream Trip tickets than any other Rabunite, won a beautiful TFO reel. Congratulations to both John and Brian.

WHAaaaaaaaaaaaaa WHOOOOoooooooooooooooooooooooooooo!!!!!!!
Mark your calendars for next year...Hoot on the Hooch..always a good time !!

Conserve

Protect

Restore

Pass it On

Dredger's Springtime Dries and Droppers

By Jeff Durniak

Georgia Wildlife Resources Division

www.gofishgeorgia.com

"HAPPY NEW DRY FLY SEASON!"

The Ole Rabunite

Vital Spring Trinkets:

Floatant (Gink, Aquel, Fly-Agra), dessicant (Frog's Fanny), chamois drying cloth, Dr. Slick scissor-pliers (point cleans hook eyes and also opens split shot slits), tiny Dinsmore shots, paint strainer, TWO flashlights.

<http://midcurrent.com/experts/floatant-vs-desiccant/>

Two Main Themes:

A) Temps and Bugs

Check water temps and study the bugs (size, color, and behavior)

Cheap bug net = Home Depot paint strainer over your landing net

Listen to Rosenbauer's awesome 1/20/12 podcast on ten caddis tips:

<http://www.orvis.com/s/fly-fishing-guide-podcasts/4047>

B) Spring's Progression

Follow Rabun TU newsletter's monthly hatch chart

Spring's Three Chapters:

March: "Big, cold, and slow"

Let's do lunch: midday sun's warmth

Dries:

Parachutes, not Catskill style, so the body lies in the surface film

Color themes: gray or brown

14 adams - great searcher!!!

16, 18 gray caddis

14 quill gordon

14 march brown

18 blue quill

12, 14 yellow stimulator

Wets:

Big hares ear- 12, 14

14-18 soft hackle hares ear, pheasant tail

Euro nymphs- 14 walts worm, frenchie will sink deep due to tungsten head

Two story fishing:

A) Short leader (7ft 4x)

B) Long dropper with shot (4-6 feet of 4 or 5x with one or two #6 dinsmores)

Short Belgian cast- open loop

Conserve

Protect

Restore

Pass it On

April: "Prime time!"

Supper: Caddis and Cahills

Small Adams to search

Shake the bushes

Hit the riffles and shadows for early risers

Shrinking bugs (carry 14's to 18's) – lots of tans and yellows

Start with dry and soft hackle or emerger dropper (short leader of 7 ft 5 x, and 3-5 ft dropper of 5x, with a #6 or #8 dinsmore)

Chum them up with a twitch, or downstream cast and skitter upstream (drag, drop, follow back downstream)

The dropper acts as an “anchor” and allows more controlled twitches and skitters

Later: Go double dry with shorter 24 inch dropper, maybe even thicker (4x) tippet

Consider pre-rigs in a dropper box (\$3 foam at chattooga river fly shop)

Pack emergers: x-caddis, iris caddis, and especially cdc mayfly emergers

A cahill with an elk hair caddis dropper to end the trip

"Haircut and shave" your caddis to imitate egg layers and spent bugs in surface film

Catch bonus fish by wet-fly swinging your dries after dark! Hold rod tip at water surface for hookups.

May: "Dark-thirty"

Evening snacks

Daytime morgue of low, clear water – resurrection at dark!

DON'T LEAVE EARLY!

Search for shadows to find early afternoon risers

Look up for bugs

Picky fish = longer leaders (9ft +)

Get sneaky: 5x to first fly and 6x to dropper

Pack emergers!

Dusk stakeout

Yellow is king- sallies and stimulators

Tiny back flies: 18's

Land assault: ants and beetles

End the month with green drake helicopters on 3x or 4x

Extend spring by driving north:

Nantahala DH

Nan tip - histick the boulder pockets with double dries on a short (12-18 inch) tippet between them.

Smokies require your A-game

Study the water and hunt your chosen fish.

Always remember a wading staff, a camera, a flashlight, and a friend!

And the Rabunite term for "fish on:"

Waaaahhhhhh- HOOOO !!!!

Thanks for buying your licenses and supporting your GAWRD fisheries programs!

Jeff's email list for north GA fishing news: jeff.durniak@dnr.ga.gov

WRD Fishing Blog: GeorgiaWildlife.wordpress.com

Conserve

Protect

Restore

Pass it On

Back Casting

Annual Rabunite 101

For the ninth time in as many years, the Rabun Chapter offered Rabunite 101..a half day of fly fishing instructions for those want to get started in the activity we all hold so dear. This year 14 eager “newbies” signed up for an hour of each of the following: casting, knot tying, entomology and equipment. At the end of the session all commented that they had learned a lot and felt ready to move on to some action in a stream somewhere. They left with handouts and a book so they can review and continue to improve their newly acquired skills. With



this half day

of learning they are light- years ahead of the ” couch-potato” who just reads and dreams of a “trout on a fly.”

All the planning and organization was done by Kathy & Charlie Breithaupt. Terry Rivers and Steve Perry did the teaching for knots and equipment, respectively. Kent Wilson, Mike Fuller and Ray King assisted in all areas of instruction plus setting up and cleaning up. Shelia and Dave Humphrey, our friends and partners from the Foothills Chapter, taught the casting and entomology sessions with Jeff “Dredger” Durniak working with Shelia and the bugs. Once again we have prepared a group of future fly fishers

and potential Trout Unlimited members to go out and protect our cold water and have a good time.



Well done Rabunites!!!

Conserve

Protect

Restore

Pass it On

MEMBERSHIP NEWS & UPDATES

Current membership: 171 members, 25 life members, 6 stream explorers.

Thanks for re-upping your membership: Brooks & Amanda Adams, Jimmy Cochran, Ray Hannah, Kaden Mitchell, Julian Patton, Charles Pennington, Hoke Shirley, Corey Smith, Bradley Tucker and Jimmy Whiten.

Time to renew your membership: Peyton Ashe, Kay Brawley, Bob Collins, Walter Godfrey, Cecil Greene, Brad Smith, Phil Upchurch, Hampton

Please keep Rabunite Doug Mansfield and his wife Shelia in your thoughts and prayers. Doug had surgery in early April at Emory University to remove his gall bladder and other diseased tissue in his battle with liver cancer.

Don't forget to keep up with the Foxfire Boys and all their happenings at the Nichols Center by visiting their face book page. Click [here](#) to check out the calendar of events.

Georgia Magazine is always a great read, but in their April issue there are several articles of interest including one on fishing where our own Trey McFalls is pictured with a good un' !

Our newest member, as of the March regular meeting, Dennis Williams, who is the Store Manager for the Clayton O'Reilly Auto Parts store has set up a discount for TU members. Just identify yourself as a Rabun TU member and you will get a discount on purchases!! Wow, Thank you Dennis and O'Reilly Auto Parts!

Members Only Classifieds

Fly Fishing Equipment For Sale:

The following equipment is offered for sale by Peter Croes. He can be reached via Vol-Man0001@Gmail.com or 863/944-8312. All are in excellent like new condition!

WINSTON: Boron III-LS 2WT 7' 4-piece w/factory Tube & Custom Rod/Reel Travel Case (Used Once)

\$475.00.

GREYS: Streamflex XF2 (GROXF2SF104) 4WT 10' 4-piece Factory Tube (Used Twice) **\$185.00.**

HMH Exhibition Fly Tying Vice All the features of the HMH Standard plus: Micro, Omni and Magnum Jaws, Tube Conversion Tool, Large Nickel Plated Locking Cam Lever, Solid Brass Pedestal Base, C-clamp Kit, Bobbin Rest, Profile Plate, Black HMH Road Trip Tier's Bag, HMH's Lifetime Guarantee, barely used in TU photo shoot (\$785.00); and the **HMH Tube Vise Converter** (\$64.95) [Combined MSRP \$849.95] used for photo and 1 Rabun TU fly tying session **\$475.00.**



Conserve

Protect

Restore

Pass it On

Rabun TU Officers & Directors for F/Y2016

Voting Board of Directors :

President Steve Perry	Nominating Committee Chair , Project Healing Waters, BOD Agenda, Budget	(828)-371-1633	flygide@gmail.com
Vice President Kent Wilson	Mack Martin Rod Raffle, Property Manager	706-746-7488	kandwilson@windstream.net
Treasurer Joel Wise	Reports & Budget	706-782-7538	jwise@windstream.net
Secretary Kathy Breithaupt	BOD Minutes, Correspondence, Records	706- 782-6954	knc615@windstream.net
Past President Pat Hopton	Social Media & Leadership Support & Dream Trip Ticket Sales	706-782-4978	scotts_creek58@yahoo.com
Director - 2016 Jerry McFalls	Liaison with Local Scouts, Stream Projects, Safety Coordinator, Trout in the Classroom & Annual Indian Lake Cookout	706-782-8357	threeforksadventures@hotmail.com
Director - 2016 Ray King	Rabun Rendezvous, Audio- Visual Set Up	828-349-2786	rayking@frontier.com
Director - 2017 Terry Rivers	Fly Tying Workshops	706-782-7419	tlr1121@windstream.net
Director - 2017 Charlie Breithaupt	Trout Camp, Fly Fishing 101	706-782-6954	knc615@windstream.net
Director - 2018 Mike Fuller			david2053@windstream.net
Director - 2018 Frank Tolbert	Media Outreach		frankdavidtolbert@gmail.com
Director - 2019 Ray Gentry			
Director - 2019 David Ruth			

Non Voting Leaders :

Michele Crawford	Tight lines Editor, Women's Out- reach, Memorials	706-490-4574	crawfordart@windstream.net
Larry Walker	Advocacy Director		
Jeff Durniak	Meeting Programs & hosting speaker to dinner	706-892-6576	jeffdurniak@yahoo.com
Sid Berkstresser	Chairman of Membership Re- cruitment & Retention		sidberk3@windstrem.net

Conserve

Protect

Restore

Pass it On