



Tight Lines

August 2017 Newsletter of the
Rabun Chapter (522) of Trout Unlimited

Editor: Michele Crawford mcrawfordtu@windstream.net
Rabun TU's Award Winning Web Site <http://rabuntu.org/site/>



"I use to like fishing because I thought it had some larger significance. Now I like fishing because it's the one thing I can think of that probably doesn't."

John Gierach

Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Join us for our regular monthly meetings every
third Tuesday of the month.
This month the date is Tuesday August 15.

Our Meeting Place is at Rabun
Gap Presbyterian church Fellowship Hall
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 Nachoochee 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
members without email and to raise
money to pay for our storage building.
Bring an item to donate
and a dollar or two for raffle tickets.



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Letter from the President



I would like to begin by thanking everyone who supported the 2017 Mack Martin Rod Raffle. A special thanks to those who purchased tickets as well as to the chapter members who worked diligently to assist with the sale of approximately 600 tickets. Pat Hopton, who is a Past President of our chapter, once again coordinated this effort and did a superb job. For those of you who might not know, this is our second biggest fund-raising effort of the year. The monies raised through this effort will be used to carry out the overall mission of our chapter and Trout Unlimited. All of this is made possible by the generosity of Mack Martin of the Atlanta Fly Fishing School who builds a beautiful custom fly rod each year which he donates, along with a matching fly reel, to our chapter for this fund-raising effort. Mack is a longtime supporter and advocate of Trout Unlimited at the chapter, state and national level and his benevolence is sincerely appreciated!

The winner of this year's rod raffle was, for the second time in the last three years, the parent of one of the campers from the annual Georgia Trout Camp. Congratulations to Scott Corbett of Watkinsville, Georgia who was the lucky winner!

The chapter's Board of Directors voted at the July meeting to increase the total number of directors, who serve on the board, from eight to ten. This will be in addition to the chapter's officers which include the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Past President. Doug Adams was appointed by the board to serve in the position of Director Emeritus. Doug is a founding member of the Rabun Chapter and has served at every level of leadership within our chapter. His seasoned perspective will be a welcomed addition. The board also voted to add a director position to be filled by whomever serves as the chair for the Rabun Rendezvous. Because this is, without question, the most critical fundraiser undertaken by our chapter each year, it is imperative that the chair of the Rabun Rendezvous be included in the information loop and decision-making process. Ray will be a returning board member and we recognize that his knowledge and experience will serve us all well. We look forward to having him on the board once again.

Summer is quickly fading into fall so get out and enjoy the great outdoors at every opportunity.

Kent

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Forward Casting Calendar of Events

Aug 15 (Tues): Regular monthly meeting at Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church starting at 6:30. Meeting starts at 7 with a guest speaker followed by brief meeting then our monthly raffle. Our August speaker is outdoor writer Jeff Samsel of Clarkesville. Jeff will present a great slideshow called, "Father/Son Western Trout Adventure". "I write fish stories," is the short answer given by Jeff Samsel of Clarkesville when folks ask what he does for a living. A



long-time free-lance writer and photographer, Samsel currently works as a content specialist for PRADCO-Fishing, writing and shooting photos and video about fishing for the company's social media pages and websites. He fishes for and writes about pretty much everything that swims, and believes every style of fishing has its own appeals. Fishing travels have taken him as far away as Canada's Yukon Territory and the Amazon River basin in Brazil. Two summers ago, Samsel and his then-10-year-old son Asher traveled across the country on a trout fishing/blogging excursion, logging 8,008 miles and fishing in eight Western states in 3 ½ weeks. He will share how the trip came together, talk about favored finds and experiences, and offer a few lessons learned that might help others with planning trout treks of any length, all with plenty of photos. This will be a very neat perspective shared with us Rabunites, so don't miss out!! See you there!

Aug 22 (Tues): Regular monthly board meeting of Rabun TU. Meeting starts at 6:30. Everyone welcome.

Sept. 23 (Sat): Save the date for the annual Unicoi Outdoor Adventure Day. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

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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 no telling what else to bring you this recorded, tried and true valued information.

August fly of the month

By Terry Rivers

TIE UP A FEW OF THESE FOR THE SUMMER MONTHS FOR GRASSHOPPERS. IT IS AN EASY FLY TO TIE AND GREAT FOR THE RIVERS WEST OF HIAWASSEE

HOOK: 6 TO 10 2X LONG

TAIL: DEER HAIR

BODY: THREAD BODY OR FINE YELLOW DUBBING

WING: DEER HAIR

LEGS: MEDIUM RUBBER LEGS



MADAMN X

“SEE YA’LL ON THE RIVER”

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](#)



August Hatches

THE BUGS	TIME OF MONTH	TIME OF DAY	SUGGESTED FLIES
GOLDEN STONEFLY	ALL MONTH	EARLY AM	8-12 Ginger Stimulator 6-10 Golden Stonefly Nymph
BROWN STONE FLY	ALL MONTH	EARLY TO MID AM	10-14 Brown Stimulator 10-12 Brown Stonefly Nymph
TRICO MAYFLY	MID TO LATE	MID AM	20 Parachute Trico, Trico emerger
TRICO SPINNER FALL		LATE PM	20-22 Poly Wing Black Spinner
TERRESTRIALS - Ants, Beetles, Crickets, Inch- Worms, Etc	VARIOUS TIMES AND SIZES	VARIOUS	VARIOUS
LIGHT CAYHILL MAYFLY	ALL MONTH	E to L pm	12-14 Light Cahill 12-14 Light Cahill Nymph
MIDGES	ALL MONTH	ALL DAY	18-22 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa
NOTHING AT ALL	ALL MONTH	ALL DAY	Dredging Nymphs: 12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, PT #14 Parachute Adams is always a good searching pattern



Not quite ready to be a fly fisherman? Try these alternatives for catching trout.



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Back Casting

Sampling the Chattooga

On July 11th about 75 folks from Georgia and South Carolina DNRs and from the Forest Service, along with volunteers from Trout Unlimited and a few other groups, gathered at the Burrell's Ford bridge to conduct the annual electroshocking and sampling of aquatic life in the river. Just a few hundred yards up stream of the bridge a site was set up and the shockers and netters and bucket toters hit the water. Professionals identified, counted and weighted all critters that were picked up and then returned them safely to the stream. The collected data will be compared to previous years and the health of the river will be continued to be monitored as it has been for about the last 30 years.



As Kathy and I watched the crowd, many of whom we knew quite well, doing their work, a couple of faces seemed vaguely familiar but we really couldn't recall just who they were. A brief conversation revealed that Georgia DNR Commissioner Mark Williams and one of his staff Wes Robinson, Communications Director, were right there in the river....wearing waders and toting a bucket!!

Talk about "hands-on"... thanks for being there.



Rabunite Larry Walker brought two grandchildren so they could observe conservation "up close." Always a good idea to get 'em started young on this important work. Way to go Larry!! New Rabunite TU member Susan Respass arrived to see just what was going on. Bet she'll be back.

Mark your calendar for next July to lend a hand and learn more about the Chattooga, the first Wild and Scenic River.

Charlie Breithaupt reporting.....



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Back Casting

Annual Rabunite Family Picnic

On Thursday July 20, Rabunites gathered at Kelly's Waterfall Park for our annual summer family picnic. The food and fellowship were enjoyed by everyone. All those that showed up will be fitting in our clothes at little tighter. The fried chicken was delicious but the side trays and desserts brought by everyone was out of this world um um good! We held the drawing for the Mack Martin Rod Raffle and called the winner to let him know of his good fortune!



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Back Casting

ANNUAL ROD RAFFLE

Ticket sales began for the Rod Raffle after the Dream Trip drawing was held in mid-March. Several Rabun BOD members along with myself sold tickets on their own and at our events. Tickets sold the best at Trout Camp. A total of 574 tickets sold raising a total of \$1490.00

The drawing was held on Thursday, July 20 at the chapter Family Picnic. The winner of the Mack Martin Rod Raffle was Scott Corbett. Scott is the father of Hawke Corbett, a 2017 Trout Camper. The Corbetts live in Watkinsville, GA. Hawke was sponsored by the Coosa Chapter TU. The rod and reel was delivered to Scott on July 24.

The winner of the runner up prize was Lori Smith. Lori is a member of the Rabun Chapter. The sweatshirt and cap was delivered to Lori by Claudia English.

**THANK YOU
TO EVERY-
ONE WHO
SOLD TICK-
ETS AND TO
EVERYONE
WHO PUR-
CHASED
TICKETS!**

Pat Hopton reporting.



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Fishing Reports

Fly Fishing and Fellowship Trip 7-22-2017

Jimmy Whiten Justin English and I met in Clayton and saddled up and headed out to the West Fork. The sun was peeking at us on the horizon and the day was new. With thoughts of tugging fish, we turned on to Overflow Rd. After a short drive to the bridge, we parked. While we were suiting up we talked about what we thought would be an effective fly for the trout. I was confident on an elk hair caddis and Jimmy and Justin were going to fish nymphs. Considering the water was stained I should have used a nymph.

I walked down stream and fished up stream. I can't say

the fishing was good. There were no takers on the EHC. Even though I did not bring any trout to hand I still consider this day a success be-

cause I was fishing on one of God's Rabun County trout streams. Thank you Lord.

Jimmy and Justin had a better morning fishing. Each one had action on their nymphs and brought trout to hand. I should take lessons from those two. That's ok, there will be another trip.



NOTICE: As everyone is aware, we are beyond Spring and now into Summer. As the Summer heats these trout waters, the trout cope with their stress by not eating as much and it is much harder to catch and the streams are not stocked as they were in the Spring. NC ceases their August and September stocking of their trout streams for the same reason. I do not plan any Fellowship & Fly-fishing trips during August and September for the reasons that I just outlined concerning the heat factor. NC will be heavily stocking their delayed harvest streams which will open October 1st, 2017. We will pick up F & F trips In October 2017. I really have enjoyed fishing with our chapter members and getting to knowing them better. This is all good for our chapter. I would appreciate any suggestions concerning these trips and any place that you would like to fish.

Fish on....Mike

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News and Information

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

Unicoi Outdoor Adventure Day (Saturday, Sept 23, 2017)

It's that time of the year again! Interested volunteers should reply to me, preferably by email (jeff.durniak@dnr.ga.gov) Office phone: 770-535-5498 and fax 5953.

Please consider volunteering to help us at Unicoi State Park's Outdoor Adventure Day to celebrate National Hunting and Fishing Day on Saturday, 9/23/17. You don't have to be an expert outdoorsman or woman to play a vital role in the day's success. Can you help at registration or direct parking? There's a niche for everyone.

Unicoi State Park's management company, Coral Hospitality, hosts us, WRD Game Management Supervisor Scott Frazier will handle the budget, and I will handle event staffing. We (DNR) need a hundred or so volunteers to make this event happen. Many of you are OAD veterans, but the following info may help prospective volunteers to understand the roles they could play and to make the decision to join our ranks. To fill out my roster and to ensure good communications with all of you volunteers, I would like the following info from each volunteer:

=====

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM

- 1) Your name : _____
- 2) Your affiliation (if you'd like me to credit your group or club) : _____
- 3) email address: _____
- 4) phone number : _____
- 5) first choice of venue : _____
- 6) second choice of venue: _____
- 7) are you willing to work anywhere I need somebody (y/n)? _____

=====

First come, first served. The majority of the event is held along the creek downstream from Unicoi Dam (map: <http://www.unicoilodge.com/ga-state-park/park-map/>)

Below is the narrative from previous years' volunteer instructions to help you understand the duties at each venue. Thanks for your consideration. We can't pull off this event without an army of vols!

Venue Info:

- Registration tent. These workers will greet visitors and get signed liability release forms and pens back from them in exchange for raffle tickets. Detailed instructions will be provided to you on Saturday (9/23), as Kim trains you. Visitors will be given an arm band as proof of signing the release form (so they can shoot).
- Raffle tent. Visitors will put one copy of the raffle ticket into the raffle bucket of their choice and keep the other copy. The raffle will start at 1 PM for free prizes. I have a small, separate work force assigned to the raffle. Volunteers on my roster are eligible for prizes, also! CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...

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- **Parking.** Lodge staff will guide visitor vehicles to orderly parking in the big field. Parks staff also have a plan for overflow parking, if needed. They may need a few helpers to direct traffic and explain the venue layout to arriving guests as they depart their vehicles.
- **Archery.** Hands-on. One-on-one instruction by WRD and Traditional Bowhunters Association. Note that this venue is on far side of Smith Creek, next to the laundry building. It can be reached by the road crossing up near the dam or by the footbridge over the creek to the group camp. Some of you may be asked to provide security. Just stand at edge of venue and prevent visitors from straying into the line of fire.
- **Airgun.** Hands on by WRD, 4-H Club, and other volunteers. Same as #4, and located next to it. Again, a few of you may secure the perimeter.
- **Skeet.** Handled mainly by well-trained DNR and USFS Rangers and Game Management Technicians. It's 500 yards downstream from the main event (safety, safety). A few of you may simply help at the sign-in tent and keep waiting guests a safe distance away from the shooting area (no experience needed).
- **Fishing tent.** This is where visitors can exchange a driver's license for a loaner fishing pole and bait. Biologists, fishing guides, TU'ers, and other fibbers can answer questions and give fishing tips. Fisheries staff will need at least 6 helpers to stay at the tent to handle loaner rod untangling, knot-tying, bait distribution, and rod checkout. This is a busy, yet fun tent.
- **Fly casting.** Part of the field will be set aside for casting instruction. I suggest that volunteers bring a rod that they don't mind visitors tinkering with (DON'T BRING YOUR GOOD SAGE OR WINSTON!!!). I am venue leader for casting and tying. If you tie, bring your tying stuff with you, too.
- **Fly tying instruction.** Bring your supplies and an extra vise if you have one. Let visitors sit down at the table and tie his/her own fly to take home. Variations of the woolly worm (W. bugger, Anytime/Anywhere, etc.) or San Juan worm have worked well for me in the past. Kids love a gold bead and a big, gaudy fly. Girls love pink flies. Beads from craft store, yarn from Wal Mart. Cheap, easy, and fun for visitor. Many visitors are shy, so you may have to speak up and encourage youngsters to come over and tie their own fly.
- **Fishing -stream helpers.** Grab a pocket fishing kit (hooks and shot) and some bait (corn) that WRD will supply and go help people fishing on stream. Search them out - look at stringers, tackle used, and forlorn faces. Find a kid and work with him/her for an hour or so on reading water, casting, setting hook, etc. Mentoring! Fishing is NOT restricted to kids only (parent has the driver's license, so they must be hooked, too). Feel free to bring some of your favorite baits to help your reputation as an awesome fishing guide. We will have about 100 loaner poles available, but feel free to bring an extra Zebco outfit if you have one to loan to your "student," since we made more than 200 loans at our last event. Some of you can help WRD staff stock creek around 9:45AM. Get some kids to help too - we're bringing buckets to get them involved.
- **Wildlife.** The experts pretty much run their own shows. Volunteers here will mainly help WRD Wildlife Education Specialists Kathy Church and Pete Griffin with logistics needed by the demonstrators (tables, chairs, PR, food and water, etc).

Thanks for considering the donation of your Saturday to preserve the future of your sport! Please provide your information to me if you are interested in helping DNR to promote outdoor recreation and plant some seeds of conservation.

Sincerely,
Jeff

Jeff Durniak

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Membership News & Updates

Current membership: 168 members, 28 life members, and 6 stream explorers.

Welcome New Member: Susan Respass. Hope to see you on the River!

Thanks for re-upping your membership: Patrick Crawford, Mike Fuller, Thomas Graham, Scott James, Mark Motsko and Larry Peevy.

Time to renew your membership: Leigh Wyatt

The Board of Directors offers the following nominations for Rabun TU Chapter's F/Y2018 Officers and Directors: President – Kent Wilson ; Vice President – Wayne Prosser; Treasurer – Joel Wise; Secretary – Kathy Breithaupt; Directors thru F/Y 2021: Colby Nichols and Justin English (replacing retiring Directors Terry Rivers and Charlie Breithaupt) Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the Aug. & Sept. Chapter meetings. Election will be at the Sept. Chapter meeting.
F/Y 2018 begins October 1, 2017 .

Please keep Rabunite Terry Rivers in your thoughts and prayers as he continues his rehab from a knee replacement last month. Fishing season is coming soon and we all want to see Terry on the River!!

Also, please keep one of our favorite Rabunite musicians Jim Nixon in your thoughts and prayers. Jim had a heart attack earlier this month. He has had some surgery and is currently recuperating at home.

And, please keep the family of Glenn Carver in your thoughts and prayers. Glenn owns Clayton Printing and has been printing the few newsletters that still go out by mail for the past four years. He had a heart attack this past weekend and passed away. I will miss his kindness, generosity and the greeting I got every month from his doggy Samson at his shop.



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.

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Rabun TU Officers & Directors for F/Y2017

Kent Wilson - President	706-746-7488	<u>kandcwilson@windstream.net</u>
Wayne Prosser - VP	706-746-6293	<u>wp068@windstream.net</u>
Kathy Breithaupt - Secretary	706-782-6954	<u>knc615@windstream.net</u>
Joel Wise -Treasurer	706-782-7538	<u>jwise@windstream.net</u>
Steve Perry - Past President	828-371-1633	<u>flygide@gmail.com</u>
Terry Rivers - 2017	706-782-7419	<u>tlr1121@windstream.net</u>
Charlie Breithaupt - 2017	706-782-6954	<u>knc615@windstream.net</u>
Mike Fuller - 2018		<u>david2053@windstream.net</u>
Frank Tolbert - 2018		<u>frankdavidtolbert@gmail.com</u>
Ray Gentry - 2019		<u>regentry@windstream.net</u>
David Ruth - 2019		<u>deruth@truvista.net</u>
Brian Weeks - 2020		<u>second50270@gmail.com</u>
Tony Allred - 2020	706-490-4755	<u>tallred@gamountains.com</u>

Non Voting Leaders :

Michele Crawford Newsletter	706-490-4574	<u>mcrawfordtu@windstream.net</u>
Jerry McFalls Scouts - Trout in the Classroom		<u>threeforksadventures@hotmail.com</u>
Jeff Durniak Meeting Programs	706-892-6576	<u>jeffdurniak@yahoo.com</u>
Sid Berkstresser Membership		<u>sidberk3@windstrem.net</u>
Larry Walker Advocacy		

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