



TIGHT LINES

July 2005 Newsletter of the

Rabun Chapter (522) of Trout Unlimited

Editor – Doug Adams edadams1@alltel.net

"The best time to go fishing is when you can get away." Robert Traver

THE CHAPTER MEETING PLACE!

Clayton Presbyterian Church - Clayton, GA

3rd Tuesday of the Month 6:30 pm - Fellowship 7:00 pm – Meeting & Program

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.

"One of my more profound theories is that it's unwise to think too long or too hard about anything you enjoy doing. Otherwise, you will discover that the thing is totally absurd, and the fun will go out of it."

Patrick F. McManus

"FORWARD CASTING" Important Dates - See you there!

July 12 & 13 Electro-Shock Sampling of Chattooga River (USFS, SC DNR & GA DNR). **Tuesday** - 9 AM Meeting at Cherry Hill C.G. entrance. **Camping** - Tuesday night at Cherry Hill C.G. (food on your own) **Wednesday** - 9 AM Meeting at Burrell's Ford Bridge.

July 19 Electro-Shock Sampling of Lower Reed Creek (USFS & GA DNR), 9 AM, End of road on GA side of DH; Contact Terry Rivers (706) 782- 7419 tlr1121@alltel.net as he is preparing the lunch!

July 19 Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Clayton Presbyterian Church
Program – Monte Seehorn: '*The Chattooga Coalition, Objectives for the Next 20 Years'*

July 22 & 23 Campout & Work Project rescheduled to Aug 5 & 6

Aug 5 & 6 Campout Friday Night & Work Project (with USFS) Saturday Morning, Location TBD (Maybe Wildcat Ck or Double Bit)

August 16 Family Picnic, 6 PM, Kelly's Water Falls Park

August 23 Board of Directors meeting, Location TBD

August 27 GA TU Council Meeting, 9 AM, Island Ford Conference Center, Atlanta

FLY OF THE MONTH

by Terry Rivers



Prince Nymph

I CANNOT SAY ENOUGH ABOUT THIS FLY.

I LOVE TO TRAIL THIS BEHIND A STIMULATOR BUT BE SURE YOU TIE THESE WITH NO WEIGHT IF YOU ARE GOING TO USE IT AS AN EMERGER. IF NOT, TIE IT WITH WEIGHT AND DREDGE THE BOTTOM.

Hook: Nymph size 10 to 16

Thread: Red or Black

Tail: Brown Goose Biots

Wings: White Goose Biots

Body: Peacock Herl - Ribbed with Gold

Wire or Tinsel

Hackle: Brown

"There are eight species of rabbits in the MONTANA - the Eastern Cottontail, Mountain Cottontail, Desert Cottontail, Snowshoe Hare, White-tailed Jack Rabbit, Black-tailed Jack Rabbit, Pygmy Rabbit, and the American Pika. However, I've been told that during trout season, fly fishermen outnumber the rabbits two to one!"

Jimmy D Moore

JULY HATCHES			
The Bugs	Time of Month	Time of Day	Suggested Flies
Brown Stonefly	All Month	Early to Mid AM	10-12 Brown Stonefly Nymph
Golden Stonefly	All Month	Early AM	6-10 Golden Stonefly Nymph
Light Cahill Mayfly	All Month	E to L pm	12-14 Light Cahill 12-14 Light Cahill Nymph
Trico Mayfly Trico Spinner Fall	Early	Mid AM Late PM	20 Parachute Trico 20-22 Poly Wing Black Spinner
Midges	All Month	All Day	18-22 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa
Terrestrials – Ants, Beatles, Crickets, Inch-Worms, Hoppers, Etc			Various Times & Sizes

"There he stands, draped in more equipment than a telephone lineman, trying to outwit an organism with a brain no bigger than a breadcrumb, and getting licked in the process." Paul O'Neil

The Story of the Chattooga Coalition - Founded: 1985 (cont. from June issue)

told by Doug Adams – a Chattooga angler since 1955

Goal: *The goal or purpose of this Coalition is to give special emphasis to protection and enhancement of the fishery resources, water quality, and overall health of the Chattooga River and its tributaries.*

As a result of the accomplishments in water quality, improvements in fishery quality, and the unique backcountry solitude, in 1999 the Upper Chattooga was named one of the 100 best trout streams in the nation.

The Trout Unlimited Commitment to the Upper Chattooga: The Coalition has spawned three very active chapters of TU. The Rabun (GA) TU Chapter charted in 1986. The Chattooga (SC) TU Chapter a couple of years later. Then the Foothills (GA) TU Chapter spun off the Rabun Chapter. Even though TU members are not the majority of the Upper Chattooga backcountry anglers, we are very committed to 'giving back' even more to the resource and not just being 'resource users'. The TU Councils and Chapters from GA and SC have been full partners with the Forest Service and with the DNRs from GA and SC in the Chattooga Coalition since the day it was founded in 1985. The Rabun Chapter of TU alone has had over 40 work-outings in the Chattooga watershed under the supervision and direction of Forest Service and DNR personnel. We have participated in activities to collect data, to protect the watershed, and to enhance the trout resources. Rabun TU members alone have contributed hundreds of man-days and over \$75,000 in challenge cost-share activities in the watershed.

Current Concerns:

- In 1995 the Wilderness Society and Sierra Club identified the Upper Chattooga backcountry section (between Reed Creek and Burrell's Ford) as a prime candidate for designation as a Wilderness Area. This designation would bring to an end the 'Put and Grow' fisheries management with helicopter stocking.
The new Forest Management Plans for both Sumter NF and Chattahoochee NF placed this area in "backcountry" prescriptions. The Coalition supported the allocation of the "backcountry" prescriptions to this beautiful wild area.
 - In 1996, after Lower Chattooga boating reached 80,000 float trips per year, American Whitewater (AW), representing private boaters, began their campaign to remove the 'zoning' boating ban above Highway 28. Private boaters want unrestricted year around access to
- this last 21 miles of the Chattooga. This includes the headwaters, the Wilderness, the backcountry, and the delayed harvest sections. Prior to the 'zoning' of the Upper Chattooga as 'no-boating' in 1976, conflicts occurred regularly at various locations between anglers and private boaters. Anglers and other existing visitors don't want user conflicts brought to the Upper Chattooga. 'Zoning' is a proper resource management tool. This whole Forest Service planning process is about 'zoning' and protection of the resources, such as solitude. The resource of 'solitude' experienced and shared in harmony by the existing visitors to these wild sections should be protected and preserved.
- In April '05, the USFS Washington Office (as a result of an AW appeal) instructed the Sumter NF to conduct additional analyses regarding social and natural resource impacts and to involve affected user groups. Until the additional analyses are completed and a revised decision submitted to Washington (which could take up to 2 years), management of boating on the Upper Chattooga above Highway 28 will revert to the direction in the Sumter's 1985 forest plan, and the closure decision made in that plan will remain in effect. TU, GA DNR, and SC DNR support the continuation of the 29-year-old 'zoning'. We believe maintaining the 'zoning' with no boating above Highway 28 is doing what is the best for the future of our national treasure, the Wild and Scenic Upper Chattooga River.
- Starting in 2000 the Forest Service began proposing the paving of the existing 10 mile long Burrell's Ford Road (BFR). Anglers and other existing user groups do not support the paving of the entire length of the BFR for 3 basic reasons:
- > *Esthetics* - The value of forest-based recreation is directly dependent on its contrast with 'civilization'. For people that want to 'get away', an unpaved road contrasts markedly with the 'paved-over world' of the city.
 - > *Resource protection* - The Ellicott Rock Wilderness Area (ERWA) resource of 'solitude' and the 'Scenic' Burrell's Ford Section riparian zones are already deteriorated by excessive visitation. Complete paving will attract the 'Driving for Pleasure' visitors. As a

direct result Burrell's Ford and ERWA visitation will increase and the majority will be the '*Picnicking*' and '*Day Hiking*' visitors, not people seeking a solitude experience.

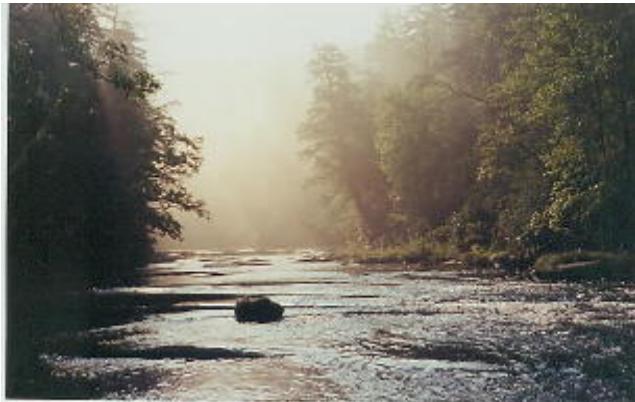
> *Economic reasons* - The first 2.7 miles of paving is estimated to cost over \$1.5 million. These funds should be allocated to correcting the worse watershed sedimentation problems first.

Anglers do support the partial paving of the critical sections of this 37-year-old road, but not the entire road. The Coalition will not take a position on this issue.

- Another concern that began in about 2000 is the loss of the hemlock trees to the hemlock woolly adelgid. This is more than an esthetics concern.

There is the potential for loss of shade canopy to streams throughout the watershed. Before 10 AM and after 4 PM, the hemlocks provided large shaded areas directly to the waters of the Upper Chattooga River. In many riparian areas, the 'rhododendron hell' is so thick that replacement trees cannot penetrate through to the sunlight. Prescribed burns, if permitted in the W & S Corridor, could 'knock back' the rhododendron and allow natural replacement sprouts to get a start.

'The Chattooga Coalition, Objectives for the Next 20 Years': Come to the next Rabun Chapter meeting on July 19th and Monte Seehorn, the Coalition Chairman, will discuss the current concerns and present his vision for the Coalition's next 20 years.



"All of us search for that perfect trout stream. Those who find it treasure it the rest of their lives.

Those who don't keep on searching."

"Trout Streams I've Known" by Jimmy D. Moore



photos of the Upper Chattooga by Doug Adams

Hannibal Bolton to present the program at the 19th Annual Rabun Rendezvous on January 21, 2006.

Bill Kelly has arranged for Hannibal Bolton to present the program at the next Rabun Rendezvous. Hannibal told Bill he has a very special interest in the Back-the-Brookie program and Rabun TU's involvement in BtB. Should be a great program!

Hannibal wanted to get a 'feel' for Rabun TU so we E-mailed him back issues of '*TIGHT LINES*' and the 2005 Rabun Rendezvous announcement. Here is the E-mail reply from Hannibal and a brief bio.

Mr. Adams,

Thanks for the information on the Rabun TU Chapter, I was able to open and view all attachments. I look forward to

attending our meeting and discussing the importance of preserving a way of life (fishing) for future generations.

**HANNIBAL BOLTON, CHIEF
DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND
HABITAT RESTORATION
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

A native of Crawfordsville, Ark., Bolton received his bachelor's degree from the University of Arkansas - Pine Bluff in agriculture/agronomy, and his master's degree from Ohio State University in fisheries. He is a 26-year career veteran of

the Fish and Wildlife Service, and has served in several technical fisheries positions.

Bolton currently serves as Chief, Division of Fish and Wildlife Management and Habitat Restoration, in the Service's central office in Washington, DC. There he maintains oversight of the development of the fishery program's budget, policy and legislative activities, as well as the Fish and Wildlife Management and Marine Mammal Program issues. In addition to his career with the Service, Bolton has also been very active in many American Fisheries Society (AFS) activities, serving as the Chair of the Awards Committee of AFS, WI Chapter, as a

Federal representative on the executive committee of the MN Chapter of AFS, as well as president of the WI chapter of AFS from 1991-1992. He has also served as the Committee Chairman of the Great Lakes Technical Committee of the AFS's North Central Division from 1994 - 1995.



"Ours is the grandest sport. It is an intriguing battle of wits between an angler and a trout; and in addition to appreciating the tradition and grace of the game, we play it in the magnificent out-of-doors."

Ernest G. Schwiebert, Jr

"BACKCASTING"

May 31 - Clearing of Low Hanging Brush on Betty Creek: Rabunites Ray K., Terry R., John S., Russell J., Doug A., and Charlie B. spent the morning completing the work begun on March 26th. The creek is now opened-up for fly-casting for the 2nd Annual GA Trout Camp! Doug and Charlie stayed on for a couple of more hours to mark-off the 12 fishing beats both along the fence and in the stream. All the walking back and forth in the pasture grass caused Doug and Charlie to have a terrible attack of hay fever that stayed with them for 2 days.

June 1 – GA TU Council Meeting at Bass Pro Shops: Kathy drove and got Charlie, Ray, and Doug there early enough to do some shopping for those quick-dry wet wading fishing pants. See the GA TU Council web site for the minutes of the meeting.

June 4 - Kids Fishing Event (KFE): Sponsored by the USFS at the First Tallulah River C G: About a 100 kids were there with their parents, brothers, sisters, and friends to fill their stringers with fresh trout. Good weather and willing trout made for a fun event. About 7 Rabunites and the 2 summer interns we sponsor were there to assist the USFS and DNR put on this annual event. It was Andy Gaston's last Tallulah River KFE as a Rabunite. Andy is transferring to the Cherokee NF in SE Tennessee to live and work near his hometown and family. Good luck, Andy, - - - we're going to miss you!

June 12 thru 17 - GA Trout Camp at RGNS: Mack Martin, camp instructor and mentor, said *"The 2005 Georgia Camp was concluded on Friday the 17th and 24 young men and women graduated after six days of classes on fly casting, fly & knot tying, entomology, cold water conservation & preservation, and trip planning. They did work on stream structures and worked with the US Forest Service on shocking and fish counting. But what they liked most were the endless hours of trout fishing with some of the best trout fishermen in Georgia. After it was all over, both campers and mentors wonder who was the most fortunate for the opportunity to participate in the Trout Camp."* See pages 5 and 6 for more coverage of the 2005 Georgia Trout Camp.

June 21 – Chapter Meeting: About 18 folks gave up an evening of fishing on their favorite trout waters to learn where the trout really are in our streams. Jimmy Harris narrated an excellent video presentation that included underwater scenes taken in several North Georgia trout streams. The views were shot with an underwater video camera on a 10-foot pole. We saw how trout use holding spots that don't require them to expend any more energy than they will take in. And the holding spot must provide the trout with opportunities to feed frequently. We saw how important it is to "read the water" to find those holding spots when fishing with nymphs. And we saw how what we think is that perfect 'dead drift' really looks to the trout on the bottom of the stream. It was a great program.

There were 8 neat items donated by members for the bucket raffle (including 3 fly assortments). The raffle raised \$83 to cover the cost of the copying and mailing the newsletter to the chapter members without E-mail. Jimmy Harris won the Rabunite map of THE RIVER. Now he can get rid of that 'bootlegged' copy he has been using.

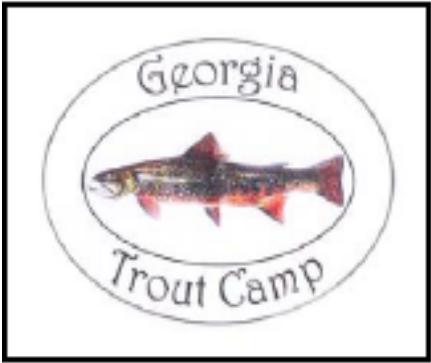
June 23 – BtB Water Sampling of 10 Rabun County Creeks: Rabunites Ray, Doug, Charlie, along with Alex Watson (Chairman of the GA TU "Back the Brookie" (BtB) Conservation Committee) volunteered to travel to beautiful remote reaches of the county to collect bottles of water from known native brook trout streams. They followed the specific instructions from the USFS. Other volunteers sampled ten other streams in NE Georgia on the same day. The water samples were all delivered to the USFS office in Clayton and then transported to a lab at Clemson University for analysis.

June 28 – Board of Directors Meeting: The BOD meeting was attended by 9 Rabunites. A new slate of officers and directors were nominated for F/Y 2006 (see letter from Ray at the end of this newsletter). The BOD reviewed the mid-year financial report (over \$6000 in the treasury that is not committed). The July work outing with the USFS was rescheduled to Aug. 6th. Programs for Sept., Oct., and Nov. were discussed. Our plans for volunteering at both of the July electro-shock samplings were finalized. The Rabun Chapter will actively oppose the proposed Interstate Highway 3 for environmental/watershed protection reasons and we will notify our Senators and Congressmen by letter. The Rabun Chapter will send a letter to our Senators and Congressmen urging them to restore the full \$1 million to the Georgia share of the F/Y 2006 LWCF. The BOD also reviewed the 2005 GA Trout Camp and ways to make it even better next year. It was a 2-hr. meeting and a lot of important Chapter business was handled.

FINAL WORDS

An old man in his final breaths called in his family and said *"I must apologize to you all. I suppose I haven't been the perfect father and husband. I shamefully admit that I spent as much of my life as I could in the woods and on the streams. I was rarely at home during the fishing seasons and I'll admit that I spent too much time at the fly shop, and too much money on rods and lines and reels."* He paused here to rest for a minute, then continued. *"I've been a terrible father and I hope you all forgive me."* Then he paused again and looked around. Then he closed his eyes and smiled and said in a half whisper to himself, *"and on the other hand....I have caught a helluva lot of trout."*

Anonymous



To all Georgia members of Trout Unlimited:

Georgia Trout Camp 2005 was another howling (actually hollerin') success. Twenty boys and four girls spent five days learning to cast, tie flies, improve streams, identify insects, read the water, treat other anglers properly, prepare for a trip, be safe and...oh, yeah...FISH!!

After I recover from the hectic pace of camp, I'm always amazed at how well it all worked. That success comes from a lot of people, both TUer's and others, being willing to give of their time and talents and being unbelievably flexible. Due to very heavy rains just before camp we had to alter our schedule for several days. The folks at the Burton Hatchery (Perry Thompson, Mark Lancaster and Tim Turner) and our friends at the USFS (Andy Gaston, Doug Watson and Mitzi Cole) were able to change plans and locations just to make things work for us. And, they all did so very willing. That kind of help is greatly appreciated. The support we received from folks at NGTO and Georgia Women Flyfishers adds much to our camp and we thank you also.

This camp is truly a "Georgia" camp with 11 of 12 chapters sending kids and volunteers coming from all over the state. Many TUer's took a week of vacation just to come and

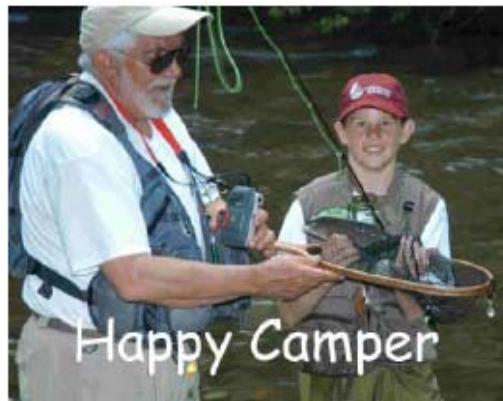
help. Others had to keep one hand in their business while mentoring or instructing with the other. Everyone gave up something just to help these kids and I believe the kids appreciated what they received.

Listed below are the men and women who participated in the camp as mentors, instructors, dorm "wardens" and other positions:

Doug Adams, Charlie Breithaupt, Russell Johnson, Maria Rodeghiero, Leslie Miller, Eedee Adams, Kathy Breithaupt, Ray Kearns, Duane Stalnaker, Lindsey Gilbert, Dick Albertelli, Bob Foster, Bill Kelly, Garland Stewart, Jeff Durniak, Vic Aloisio, Patsy Gentry, Tom Landreth, Gail Tolbert, Travis Barnes, Ray Gentry, Mack Martin, Frank Tolbert, Josh Barnett, Jimmy Harris, Pat Patillo, Larry Vigil, Carol Berger, Tim Ivey, Terry Rivers and Alex Watson

I have a feeling we'll do this again next year. If anyone, especially the mentors, has an idea that will improve the camp, please pass it along to one of the Camp Committee...me, Mack Martin, Doug Adams, Larry Vigil, Ray Gentry and Garland Stewart. We want to hear what you have to say.

Thanks to all for a great camp.
Charlie Breithaupt Director – Georgia Trout Camp

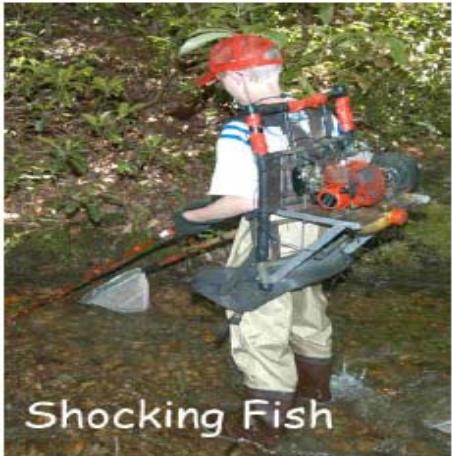




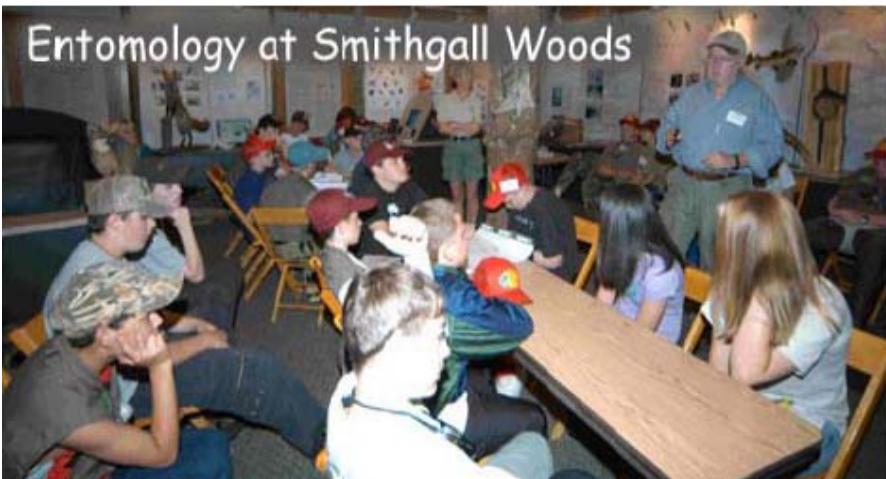
Mack teaches casting



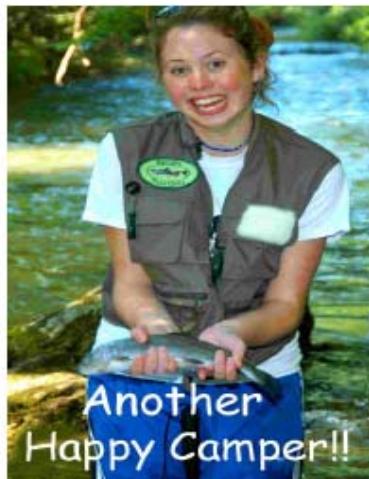
Casting Contest Winners



Shocking Fish



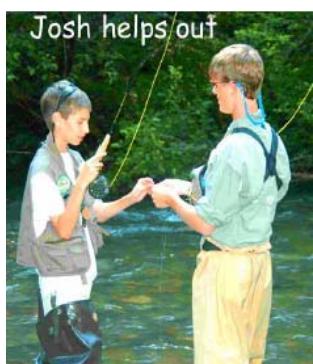
Entomology at Smithgall Woods



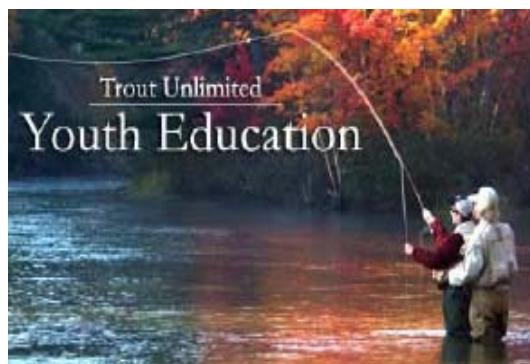
Another Happy Camper!!



Tying with Bob and Jimmy



Josh helps out



Trout Unlimited
Youth Education

Our thanks to the Upper Chattahoochee Chapter's June newsletter, which provided these camp photos.

A BIG *Thank You* to the 16 Donors and Sponsors of the 2005 Georgia Trout Camp

Orvis, Unicoi Outfitters, Scientific Anglers, Temple Fork Outfitters, Umpqua Feather Merchants, Fly Box Outfitters, Bass Pro Shops, Cabela's, R. L. Winston Rod Co., Atlanta Fly Fishing School, NGTO, Georgia Women Flyfishers, GA DNR Wildlife Resources Division, USDA Forest Service, William Stephens Charitable Trust and North Georgia Community Foundation

MORE PHRASES YOU MIGHT HEAR A RABUNITE USE

"Churning Butter" – When playing a wild brown trout and it rolls showing that beautiful 'butter' colored underbelly the angler tells his partner it is "churning butter", meaning it's a wild brown trout.

"Earning His Wings" – When playing a trout and it jumps and goes airborne (usually a rainbow trout), the angler tells his partner the trout is "earning his wings".

"Bronze Wings"- for one airborne jump

"Silver Wings" – for two airborne jumps

"Gold Wings" – for three airborne jumps

"Platinum Wings" – for four airborne jumps

"A Ruby"- it earns one ruby for every jump in excess of four

Example: A trout that jumps airborne 6 times has "**earned platinum wings with 2 rubies**".

"Got your thermometer wet"- When you and your partner are wading wet and one of you wades in deeper than his crotch, the partner says: "I see you *got your thermometer wet*". Then he might ask: "Just how cold is it?" The answers can vary greatly!

"Dr Pepper fishing" – Remember the old Dr Pepper advertising slogan: "10, 2 & 4". An angler (usually a flatlander) who starts fishing about 10 AM, takes a lunch break at 2 PM, and quits at 4 PM is said to be on the *Dr Pepper fishing* schedule. Then in the parking lot the Dr Pepper angler often tell the Rabunite just getting ready to start fishing: "You are wasting your time, they need to stock more trout in here!"

"Crispy Critter" – A small trout (usually 7 inches or less) fried golden brown and eaten bones and all! Yum-Yum

"Fodder" – A whole mess of *crispy critters*. *Fodder* of brookies is the main staple diet of Rabunites when *West of Hiawassee*.

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

FLATLANDER REPORT

----- Original Message -----

From: [David Grainger](#)

To: [Charlie Breithaupt](#)

Sent: Sunday, May 15, 2005 8:39 PM

Subject: Kanooka Outing to the River Charlie,

Sorry to hold you up on the way back into Clayton this morning. Us "flat-landers" can't hold the curves like you Rabunitees.

Thanks for the use of Double Bit and your river. We had a great time! We hope you did too.

We had fish fries (all bankers) on both Friday and Saturday night while we played some Foxfire Boys CDs.

By the way, Sharon and I will probably owe property taxes to Rabun County. I must have washed off the three tons of mud and sand off our trailer in our backyard. The grass is already greener!

If anyone misses the tarp, the excess ropes dangling from the trees, a car floor mat, two half burnt plastic buckets, a fatigue jacket or numerous beer cans from Double Bit campsite, the Kanooka Chapter has them. They have until Monday morning to claim them.

Thanx for the hospitality! Go Fish!

Dave Grainger - President, Kanooka Chapter #398

From: [Charlie Breithaupt](#)

To: [David Grainger](#)

Sent: Monday, May 16, 2005 2:01 PM

Subject: RE: Kanooka Outing to the River

Hello Dave,

I knew that was you when I passed but I wanted to get home before dark so I made my move!! Most of those items you hauled home sound like stuff the Rabunites own. Just bring them to the Rendezvous next January and we'll put them in the bucket raffle.

Glad you had a good trip; sorry about the rain but ... no rain, no river. Charlie

----- Reply -----

Fly-fishing may well be considered the most beautiful of all rural sports.

Frank Forester

FISHING REPORT

----- Original Message -----

From: "Jeff Durniak" <Jeff.Durniak@dnr.state.ga.us>
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2005 10:35 AM
Subject: Great Waters Creek Trip ("Ping!")

On Saturday I hit Waters Creek for the first time in a long time. After two recent, tough trips to Smithgall when it ran low and clear (a few small fish and two good'uns lost), I thought I'd try some place different. I signed the check-in book a bit before lunch as angler #12, as started the walk in along the gated road.

With the water high and off-colored, I hit it right, landing two dozen or so fish from 3 inches up, with four over 14 inches and the biggest two, a 16 inch rainbow and an 18 inch brown.

I only batted .500 on "good'uns", as four other heavy fish won their fights via pulled hooks or nosedives into logjams. One big rainbow jumped up 2 feet and bounced headfirst off a log before shaking off his concussion and shaking out my fly. That was entertaining right before the heartbreak. My new word for the day is "PING." That's the sound of 5X tippet snapping when you try to turn a good'un right before he buries himself in the woody debris.

The brown, a retired Buford Hatchery resident, was a hoot. After switching to heavier 4X tippet, I dislodged my leader butt from a debris jam where he first headed, only to find him still on, but downstream, with two trees spanning the creek between us. They were too low to wade under and too big to hop over. Hmm....

I pointed the rod toward him, gently dropped it into the water, and then hightailed myself up the bank, around the

trees, and back into the creek to catch the rod as it was being towed downstream past me. Alas, he was still on there! Yes, doubters, a tape measure was used upon netting and there are a couple shots on my disposable camera in the vest pocket. Of course, as my friend BK reminds us, *you don't have to believe this story if you don't want to.* (The rod was \$38; I would not have done that with some of my other ones!).

The fishing was best between noon and 3 PM. After 3 PM, the water cleared and the bigger fish were warier. The 8 and 12-inch rainbows were still a lot of fun. And anything 13 inches or better really feels like a whopper in this small stream where a backcast is a rarity.

This is not easy fishing. In fact, it may be harder than Smithgall. You have to stalk them and use a short rod (7.5 feet or less) to effectively roll cast or sidearm cast. Don't come up in a white T-shirt or with bad knees. The regulations are strict and the violator fines are heavy for Waters, so consult your GA fishing regulations guide before coming. It's open Wed, Sat, and Sun. WMA Manager Frank Manning often dons his camo and slips along the creek, sneaking a peek at unsuspecting anglers to ensure their compliance.

If you want fresh trout for supper or need a place to take the kids, you have a great trio of heavily stocked streams just below this special regulation water to dunk a worm in: Dicks, Boggs, and Frogtown.

So, if Smithgall's full and you want another real challenge, buy the \$19 WMA stamp and give Waters a try. It's a short drive from Helen. You may be humbled... or you may have a great trip. Your best friends this summer may be your computer and Doppler radar. And a hot fly may be the...., well, *I don't believe I said.* Good luck!

"Do not tell fish stories where the people know you; but particularly, don't tell them where they know the fish."

Mark Twain

Q & A Section

Q – What do fly anglers mean when they say there is a 'hatch'?

A – Trout eat bugs that are born on the bottom of streams, a.k.a. aquatic insects.

Mayflies, caddis flies, stoneflies, and midges (mosquitoes and other small 2-winged flies) are all aquatic insects. Beneath the water the bodies of these insects change several times as they grow from eggs to finally become flying adults. For example, the mayfly after hatching from the egg spends about a year on the bottom of the stream as a nymph. As it grows it continues to molt (shedding its hard outer skin for the next size larger). After a year beneath the surface, the mayfly nymph rises to the surface where they shed their outer skin for the final time and live a brief life as an adult flying insect. This is the event that fly-anglers call the 'hatch'.

Q – Why is the 'hatch' important to fly anglers?

A – Because anglers can locate trout breaking the water surface while feeding during a "hatch".

Again take mayflies as an example. For a year the trout have been feeding on their nymphs on or near the bottom of the stream. The angler tries to 'read the water' and place his nymph imitation in the right spot to tempt a trout. This is what Rabunites call 'dredging'.

However when nymphs begin to emerge, many members of the same species rise to the surface at once. The trout sense the 'hatch' as an opportunity to eat plenty of food and their predatory instincts kick-in. This is called the '**emergent stage**'. The trout reveal their presence by 'bulging' the water just beneath the surface. This is when the angler uses wet flies or emergent patterns fished just below the surface. The fly might be used as a trailer tied 2 or 3 feet behind a dry fly (see FLY OF THE MONTH on page #1). **WaaahWhoaaa!**

As the mayfly emerges from the water, it unfurls its wings and floats atop the water until the wings dry enough for it to fly off to the bushes. Wings are held upright and the mayflies appear just like little sailboats sitting on the water. This is called the '**dun stage**'. The trout will break the surface to feed on duns. Sometimes it will poke its mouth up and just sip in the dun, sometimes it will swirl creating rings on the water as it grabs the dun, and some times the dun will disappear in what can best be described as a commode flush! Now this is the time to fish with dry flies matching the size, shape, and color of the natural mayflies that are hatching. Allow the imitation to float in a dead drift to the spot where you saw the trout rise. **WaaahWhoaaa!**

Several hours later the mayfly body changes again. The duns that flew off to the bushes come back to the water to mate and lay eggs in their '**spinner stage**' (the final mayfly stage with glassy wings and elongated bodies). The females hover close to the water and dip to the surface to deposit eggs. Then they all fall and die with wings askew. The spinner fall can trigger trout to into another feeding binge. The angler should cast to rises and float his spinner imitation without drag. **WaaahWhoaaa!**

And that is what is called fishing the hatch!

FISHING REPORT

----- Original Message -----

From: "Anthony Rabern" <Anthony_Rabern@dnr.state.ga.us>

Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 3:07 PM

Subject: Lake Burton Brown Trout

Micah Pilgrim, of Auburn, GA, was fishing Lake Burton last Friday afternoon when he observed schooling activity on the surface near the dam. He cast a live shiner in the vicinity of the activity. Mr. Pilgrim stated that when the shiner reached about 30-feet deep, something BIG hammered the bait. Several minutes later, Mr. Pilgrim landed a gorgeous and plump 10.5 brown trout that was 25-inches long (see attached photo).

Trolling live bait from 20 to 50-feet deep near the dam is the best method for catching brown trout in Lake Burton during the summer. As the summer weather heats up, the browns will become more concentrated in the narrow band of cool, well-oxygenated water in this zone.

Anthony Rabern – Lake Burton Fish Hatchery

(Editors note: Probably bigger than any trout Rabunites will catch 'West of Hiawassee')



Letter to the Editor:

I am writing this letter in agreement of Ray Kearns' comments on the last newsletter. As a physician and a fisherman I have seen two incidents in the last several years involving Rabun TU members. I would strongly encourage everyone to take someone with them because events do happen.

The first event was when someone walked off the trail on the Chattooga and tumbled 20 feet in a spot now known as "Adams' Drop-Off". The other event also occurred on the Chattooga at a spot known as "Charlie's Back Flop". Both of these events gave serious pause to this doctor but happily no one was seriously injured and no fly-fishing equipment was destroyed.

In summary, exercise good judgment and, if you can, take someone with you, especially as we become older and less light on our feet.

Good but safe fishing, 'Doc' (Russell R. Burken, M.D.)

"Life is like a tackle box. Just when you think you have everything you could possibly need in your arsenal of lures, baits, and other assorted odds and ends, you find yourself in a situation where you have to run out and get something else. So it is with life. Just when you think you've seen it all, done it all, and heard it all, something new happens. And when it does, you store it away in the appropriate compartment, where it may or may not be used again." Bill Cari

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Big Rabunite welcome to **2 new members** this month: **Mike Fuller**, 47 Ocmulgee Way, Rabun Gap, GA 30568 and **Pat Hopton**, 205 Scotts Creek Road, Clayton, GA 30525

Welcome back on the Rabun TU roster: **Neil Anderson, Jim Blalock and Terry Seehorn** (but Terry, National TU still shows it is time to renew your membership)

Thanks for re-upping: **Chuck Breithaupt, Andrew Wylie, Ronald McKenney, David Smith, Ralph Morgan, Joe Gatins, Stephen Weinelt, Bill Coon, Ray Kearns, Eugene Roberts, Perry Thompson, Walt & Lou Landreth, Bill Kelly, Tom & June Landreth, Paul Hanson, Allan Ramsay and Monte Seehorn**

It is time to renew your membership: **Paul Barnes, Bill Talbott, Anthony Nunley, Randall Corbin, W. R. Wainwright and Doug Hickman**

Hey Rabunite, your **membership has expired**: **Bill (Clem) Defino, Tommy James, Dave Jensen, John Duncan, Sharon Wilson and Kincaid Patterson**

Q&A – Q: Which of the Rabun TU members has been a member of Trout Unlimited the longest?

A – Monte Seehorn (who will present our July Meeting Program) joined TU in January 1973, 32½ years ago!

Rabun TU Officers & Directors

President	Ray Kearns	Phone 706 782 9913	E-Mail raykearns@alltel.net
Vice President	Tom Matthews	Phone 706 782 0369	E-Mail tmatt@hemc.net
Treasurer	Russell Johnson	Phone 706 783 2424	E-Mail rwjrabun@alltel.net
Secretary	Russell Burken	Phone 706 779 5597	E-Mail mkopchic@alltel.net
Past President	Charlie Breithaupt	Phone 706 782 9913	E-Mail knc615@direcway.com

Directors: Kathy Breithaupt, Tom Landreth, Doug Adams, Terry Rivers, Terry Seehorn, Ralph Morgan, Bill Kelly, & Travis Barnes



News from the President..... Ray Kearns

Hi Folks,

On Tuesday, June 28th, Rabun TU BOD held a historical meeting. After several hours of heated debate and back room deals and right before calling 911, cooler heads prevailed and came up with the following list of nominees for Officers and Directors for F/Y 2006. If you would like to change any names or volunteer for a position yourself, be at the next meeting on July 19th.

President - Terry Rivers; Vice President - Ralph Morgan; Treasurer (w/ Newsletter) - Doug Adams; Secretary - Tom Mathews; Past President (w/ Membership) - Ray Kearns; Director (w/ Programs) - Bill Kelly; Director (w/ Website) - Kathy Breithaupt; Director (w/ Campouts & USFS Work-outings) - Charlie Breithaupt; Director (w/ Publicity & Hospitality) - Tom Landreth; and Director at Large - Jimmy Whiten

I would like to again thank all the members of Rabun TU who helped to make this year's Georgia Trout Camp an outstanding success. Darn good bunch of Guys and Gals.


Ray

P.S. Remember this: If you don't know where your going you may end up somewhere else.

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

Georgia TU Council website: <http://georgiatu.org/> or National TU Website: <http://www.tu.org/index.asp>

We would love getting your suggestions, stories, articles, and questions for our panel of experts in the Q & A section, or your comments about our Website and Newsletter.

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

Please tell us if you have E-mail, it will save the chapter \$1.23 per newsletter mailed:

E-Mail edadams1@alltel.net

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