

# TIGHT LINES December 2006 Newsletter of the

# Rabun Chapter (522) of Trout Unlimited

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

"Fishing is the pursuit of what is elusive but attainable; a perpetual series of occasions for hope"

# THE DECEMBER MEETING is the ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER!

In the Rock House at the Dillard House – 2nd Tuesday December 12<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM Social (BYOB) & 7:00 PM Dinner with the Awesome Dessert Table Cost: \$20 per person

You must contact Doug Adams to reserve your place! E-mail <u>edadams1@alltel.net</u> or phone 706 746 2158. There will not be a raffle at the Annual Christmas Dinner.

"For while the trout fisherman's efforts are ostensibly aimed at taking trout, his preoccupation is concerned with preserving the illusion that his elaborate methodology is at all times justified." From The Philosophical Fisherman by Harold Blaisdell (1969)

"FORWARD CASTING" Important Dates - See you there!

**Dec 2 (Sat) GA TU Council Annual Planning Meeting** with USFS, GA WRD, and NPS. 9 AM at USFS office.

**Dec 12 (Tues) Annual Rabun Chapter Christmas Dinner – Reservations Required** Social starts 6 pm and Dinner served 7 pm in the Rock House at the Dillard House. Entire family is invited, \$20 / person, BYOB. To make (or cancel) your reservation, contact Doug Adams: E-mail <u>edadams1@alltel.net</u> or phone 706 746 2158.

Jan 16 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust Program: David Cannon – *Mentoring and the Rabunite Sub-Culture* – Final Arrangements for Rabun Rendezvous

Jan 20 (Sat) Rabun Rendezvous, 2 PM Set-up, 5 PM Social, 6:30 PM Dinner

Jan 23 (Tues) BOD Meeting, 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust

Feb 3 (Sat) Annual Planning Meeting, 8 AM Breakfast Meeting at the Dillard House. All members are invited.

Rabun Rendezvous: Saturday - January 20, 2007 Program Presenter – Jeff Durniak *"The Evolution of the Rabunites"* The TU National Conservation Professional of the Year

## FLY OF THE MONTH by Terry Rivers



CHERNOBYL ANT

THIS IS A GREAT FLY TO HAVE DURING THE SPRING OR FALL. DROP A CHOSSEN NYMPH BEHIND THIS AND FISH NEXT TO THE BANK IN GOOD RUNS. IF THE FISH DON'T TAKE THE ANT AND HIT THE DROPPER THE ANT WILL ACT AS A STRIKE INDICATOR. IT HAS GREAT BOUANCY AND WILL TAKE A BEATING AFTER SEVERAL FISH HAS TAKEN IT.

> HOOK: # 6- #14 THREAD: BLACK ABDOMEN: PEACOCK HERL BODY: BLACK FOAM LEGS: WHITE OR BLACK

"The origins of inspirations of some fly patterns are inherently obvious in their names, but the names that intrigue me most are the ones that aren't so obvious, that raise more questions than they answer. For example, what fascinating set of circumstances could have inspired the naming of the '52 Buick? Why would someone call a fly the House and Lot? What tale could have prompted a tier to christen his fly the Family Secret? Was the Bouncer named for a pattern that bounces over riffles, or after some big guy who throws people out of bars? It's probably safe to assume that Dan Quayle didn't name the Potato Nymph, but if he didn't, then who did, and why did he or she call it that?"

From "What's in a Name?" by Steve Raymond, May-June 1995 Flyfishing Magazine

## **DECEMBER 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
Blue Winged Olive & Blue Quill	All Month	Late AM to Mid PM	16-20 BWO, Blue Quill or Adams Parachute 16-20 BWO nymph or Pheasant Tail
Midges	All Month	All Day	18-22 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa

TU Chapter 'Website-of-the-Month': http://www.mbtu.org/ DOWN THE RIVER

Check out:

# **Dream Trip Raffle** For A Fly Fishing Vacation! The winner and their partner will each receive:

• 5 days fishing and 6 nights lodging and meals at the Green River Guest Ranch in Cora. WY http://www.grguestranch.com/

Dates July 21-27, 2007

• 9 ft 5 wt Winston Boron II X custom made fly rod An Orvis Battenkill barstock reel with line • A fly box and flies for the trip.

(Approx. 5-7 dozen per box)

• \$650 in travel expenses (this is total, not per person) For complete rules and details visit www.georgiatu.org

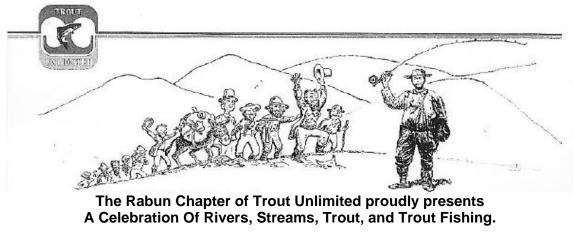


Ticket price is \$10 and proceeds will go to the Georgia Council of Trout Unlimited to help fund the annual Georgia Trout Camp and the Back the Brookie campaign which helps brook trout restoration and educational projects. Contact Prez Terry Rivers for your raffle tickets: Ph 706 782 7419 E-mail tlr1121@alltel.net

# "Let me tell you about my 20-inch trout !" Jimmy Whiten (left) November 10, 2006 Jimmy's mentor was Brian Jackson (right).

# Jimmy's Fishing Report, a Really Good'un!

Brian offers guide services and can be reached at 864-292-1655 or 864-430-2525 bjackson55@charter.net



# Please Join Us for the 20th Annual Rabun Rendezvous

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

Quote from The Mountain Men by George Laycock

# When: Saturday, January 20, 2007

Where: The Dillard House Conference Center, located behind the Dillard House in Dillard, Georgia.

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

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

**The Foxfire Boys** will generously provide their 'down home' style of bluegrass picking and singing for your musical entertainment. Don't forget to ask about their CDs (now 4 of them), which will be available.

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

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

**Program – "The Evolution of the Rabunites"** Presented by **Jeff Durniak,** GA WRD Fisheries Management Region Supervisor for NE Georgia and TU National Conservation Professional of the Year.

**Cost:** \$30 for adults and \$25 for youth of 15 and under. Cash or personal checks are fine (we don't do credit cards).

Lodging: The Dillard House has set special rates for rooms starting at \$49 (plus tax) for those that call and tell them you're attending the Trout Unlimited Rabun Rendezvous. Call: 706-746-5348 or Toll Free 1-800-541-0671

**The 2006 Rabun Rendezvous provided funds for:** Sponsorship of 2 student summer interns working in NE GA fisheries with the GA WRD; Grant-in-Financial-Aid for 2 youngsters attending the GA Trout Camp; Financial support of the GA DNR Smithgall Woods Conservation Education Program; Helicopter stocking in the backcountry of Chattooga's North Fork (fall) and West Fork (spring); Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project; Kid's Fishing Events at Black Rock Mountain State Park (GA DNR) & Tallulah River (USFS); GA WRD Outdoor Adventure Day; National TU's "First Cast", "Embrace-A-Stream", & "Back-the-Brookie" Programs; Georgia's "Casting For Confidence" Program; Trout Magazine subscriptions to all school & public libraries and 3 state parks in Rabun County; and 2 instream work project outings with the USFS & GA WRD.

"Some people are under the impressions that all that is required to make a good fisherman is the ability to tell lies easily and without blushing. But that is a mistake. Mere bald fabrication is useless.

It is in the circumstantial detail, the embellishing touches of probability, the general air of scrupulous --- almost of pedantic --- veracity, that the experienced angler is seen."

Jerome K. Jerome

# Visitor Use Capacity Analysis, Upper Chattooga River

#### Background Information, History of the Headwaters Zoning for the Chattooga's North Fork and West Fork

The following are excerpts from the Sumter NF website. To read the complete document, visit http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms//forest/projects/history.shtml

**1968** – Wild and Scenic Rivers Act is enacted and recommends the Chattooga for consideration as a designated river under the act. **1974** – Congress officially designates the Chattooga a Wild and Scenic River.

**1976** – On March 22, 1976, the Chattooga Wild and Scenic Development Plan is published in the federal register. This plan prohibits boating above Highway 28 with the following statements being made: "The recent increase in floaters using the river have had a detrimental effect on the fishing experience. Conflicts have developed on certain sections of the river where floaters and fisherman use the same waters. This location (Nicholson Fields) is the source of some of the best trout fishing in both South Carolina and Georgia. Floating will be prohibited above Highway 28 which includes the Nicholson Fields area."

# POINT> and <COUNTERPOINT The Second of a Series:

# Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the Chattooga Headwaters

**Editor's note:** A boater posted a link on the Sumter National Forest Bulletin Board to "Frequently Asked Questions." To read the all 17 boater questions and answers, visit <u>http://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Wiki/aw:chattooga\_faq</u> We believe readers also should have the "counterpoint" answers provided by the "foot travel only" stakeholders. Here are the next 2.

## Shouldn't there be some place for people to go and not see boaters?

**Boater's Point:** There are many places one can go and not see boaters since boaters are rarely present on any headwater streams. The small percentage of headwater streams which are desirable for boaters are only floatable occasionally, after strong rains. On those few days, paddlers may or may not actually choose to paddle a specific river, and even then will only pass an area once for a brief period of the day. In short, backcountry enthusiasts have ample opportunities to experience headwater streams without paddlers present: on streams not preferred by paddlers, on all streams at flows too low and too high for paddling, and on all streams when paddlers are simply not present.

**Counterpoint:** Yes, there should be sections of public streams set aside for "foot travel only" visitors. The prohibition on boating in order to preserve the unique qualities of the wilderness is essential and has been recognized with regard to other unique wilderness areas. For example, Yellowstone National Park continues to not allow whitewater boating, a decision reached after extensive analysis of the impacts of boating on the park resource. The Park Service stated after its analysis, "Whitewater boating would conflict with other established park uses that require the atmosphere of peace and tranquility..." Whitewater boating on the Chattooga Wild and Scenic River above Highway 28 similarly compels a decision that the peace and tranquility must be maintained.

Some boaters assert that floating on the Chattooga's North Fork will be rare occasions, explaining that the Chattooga's North Fork is floatable only when the Highway 76 gauge reads 2.0 feet. What is not highlighted is that, based on historical data, the gauge reads above 2.0 feet on average 81-days / year. Further, in a recent 3-year period (2003-2005) there were 476 days (average 158-days / year) above 2.0 feet. In 2003, the Forest Service analysis predicted that on a typical floatable day there would be approximately 26 crafts (some days more, some days less) going past every backcountry visitor between the bridges. All of this information contradicts the boater's position that paddling on the headwaters will be only an "occasional" event. As a result, it may be predicted that, if the ban is lifted, on those numerous floatable days, the walk-in backcountry visitors will encounter a boat passing through every few minutes, repeatedly invading their personal envelopes of solitude, disrupting the anglers' activities, and spooking the trout. This will result in the type of recreational conflicts for which the original zoning on the river was designed and implemented to avoid.

Studies have shown that zoning of the type that has been in place on the Chattooga River for the past 30 years prevents this type of recreational conflict. For example, the USDA Forest Service has found: "-- conflicts between different forms of recreation use have arisen with increasing frequency in recent years. The root cause for rising conflicts is simply the increase in demand for most forms of outdoor recreation." "Streams and whitewater—Water attracts a wide variety of visitors, including swimmers, viewers of fish, anglers, and users of muscle- and motor-powered watercraft. The possibilities of conflict are obvious. For the most part, all the uses just listed are incompatible with one another." "Land managers, therefore, are being forced to examine more closely the question of access and who gets what, when, and where." "Recreation goals are based on social (such as family affiliation), psychological (such as solitude), and physical (such as exercise) motives." "Conflict resolution may involve both zoning and education. When the source of conflict is goal interference, it is more appropriate to consider zoning by time, space, or activity. Zoning can ensure that different types of users are physically separated." See, <u>The Southern Forest Resource Assessment</u>; Southern Research Station, USDA Forest Service, dated Oct. 2002; report 4.5 titled <u>Potential Conflicts Between Different Forms of Recreation</u>. For the complete report, click on: <a href="http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/sustain/draft/socio6/socio6-09.htmir">http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/sustain/draft/socio6/socio6-09.htmir</a>

History also supports continued protection of the Backcountry ORVs of the North Fork as a means to avoid recreational conflicts. Prior to 1968 (the year the Chattooga was recommended for Wild and Scenic River status) a visitor could hike to any section of the 57 miles of the Chattooga River and have a remote backcountry solitude experience. There were only 100 private floats on the entire Chattooga in 1968; in 1974 (just 6 years later) the number of private floats had increased to over 22,000. Visit, http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/forest/recreation/riveruse.html The present zoning was implemented in 1976 on the North Fork (above the Highway 28 Bridge) to protect the outstanding remarkable values (ORVs) of recreation that include wildness, remoteness, and solitude in a "foot travel only" backcountry setting. For the last 30 years the zoning has protected and preserved the ORVs of this area. Now the boaters are demanding "unlimited use" (any time, any number of boats, any water level) of these last few miles of the last truly wild river in the East. For the benefit of present and future generations (and to avoid recreational conflicts) the Chattooga's North Fork must continue to be managed with lower degrees of intensity to protect and enhance the ORVs of the backcountry.

# Why are paddlers requesting "unlimited use" of the upper Chattooga?

**Boater's point:** Paddlers are requesting equal access and treatment. Currently hikers, anglers, swimmers, campers, and other wilderness compliant uses are all "unlimited." We are also requesting standard management for similar streams. We agree with the Chief of the USFS that currently there is no basis for limiting uses in this area. The default policy for the USFS is to allow unlimited Wilderness compliant uses unless data suggests that use should be limited (at which time it must be limited equitably). No such data exists on the Chattooga. Paddlers support use limits on many other rivers where data suggests limits are necessary, and limits are equitable and reasonable. Likewise, upon completion of the user capacity analysis, if it is sound, paddlers will support use limitations on the Chattooga if the data indicates limitations are needed to protect the river corridor and limits are equitably imposed.

**Counterpoint:** The boaters do not recognize that not all uses are created equal, regardless of whether empirical data from the area exists. By its very nature, boating is very different than hiking, angling, swimming and camping. Boaters are transported in vehicles that travel relatively fast. Experienced whitewater boaters can access areas that are difficult and time consuming to reach on foot. Even without user limits, far fewer hikers and anglers reach portions of these backcountry rivers than boaters. This is why boaters on most Wild and Scenic Rivers are more regulated on their numbers than other recreational groups within the same watershed.

POTENTIAL GROWTH OF "CREEKING": Headwater boating (creeking) is a relatively new whitewater sport. It is made possible by the application of new hi-tech materials to creative new boat designs. It is part of the explosion in popularity of "extreme" sports. In October of 1999, American Whitewater (AW) told the Forest Service that boaters should be allowed to run the North Fork of the Upper Chattooga when the Highway 76 gauge reads above 2.6 feet; in 2002 they lowered it to 2.0 feet. Future equipment improvement may make it possible to boat Chattooga's North Fork at much lower stage levels, so now AW is demanding "unlimited use." In 1999, AW estimated the North Fork is "....unlikely to receive more than a couple hundred boating visitors per year." Just 4 years later the Forest Service estimates over 10 times that number for the DRAFT analysis for management plan Alternative E (2,120 floats / average year). Then in 2004 the Forest Service stated, "Also, as mentioned earlier, not all boaters will conform to the water level assumptions in this analysis. Some may attempt to float the river at lower levels (this is particularly true below the Burrells Ford Bridge). Additionally improved technology and equipment in the future may facilitate low water boating, and could thereby increase the number of undesired encounters and the potential for conflict." (Page H-16 of Sumter NF Plan). What will be the increase in "creeking" in another 20 years? Just look at the present concerns in the Lower Chattooga River where the "unlimited use" and growth of whitewater floating activities has impacted all visitors, has displaced most non-boaters, has resulted in recreased opportunities for the ORVs of remoteness and solitude.

<u>NON-EXPERIENCED FLOATERS</u>: Non-experienced floaters present an additional concern supporting the present zoning of the North Fork. If the boaters were to gain "unlimited use" of the North Fork, both the 'experienced' and 'non-experienced' floaters with their approved crafts and safety equipment could put-in at Burrell's Ford at any water level. During low water levels the view from the bridges at Burrell's Ford and Highway 28 is deceivingly placid to the 'non-experienced' (a.k.a. Bubba) boater. Some will probably be anglers with their open cockpit kayaks, canoes, and pontoon float tubes. Is it possible to place restrictions on the level of experience required for boaters on the North Fork? If so, what government agency would be willing to assume the responsibility of judging the qualifications of persons participating in sports such as whitewater boating? It may be expected that no government agency would be willing or have the resources to conduct such evaluation, with the inevitable result that non-experienced boaters will try to float the North Fork, resulting in unnecessary rescues and injuries. The present North Fork zoning solves that dilemma.

FEDERAL AGENCY PRECEDENT: All of this for "a couple hundred boating visitors per year"? Yeah, right! Just exactly why are the boating organizations requesting "unlimited use" in the North Fork? Is it possible that the reason AW is putting so much effort and resources into this issue is for the legal precedent "unlimited use" will establish with a federal agency? Does AW intend to use overturning the zoning of the Chattooga's North Fork for the legal precedent needed to mount a federal court challenge in their 20-year struggle with the US Department of Interior concerning Yellowstone National Park's whitewater boating ban. Is the Chattooga's North Fork just the boater's steppingstone to reach the big prize, Yellowstone?

# What's New in the Chattooga Zoning Issue?

Oct 27 (Fri) The Boaters file a "Notice of Appeal" of the Judge's Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> Dismissal of their Lawsuit with the Forest Service. Editor's notes: A continued waste of court time and of taxpayer's money. And the Judge agreed as he stated in his decision to dismiss, "The court thus agrees with defendants (USFS) that judicial intervention at this time would inappropriately interfere with ongoing agency efforts to amend its revised management plan, causing the agency, but ultimately United States taxpayers, substantial harm."

Nov 3 (Fri) USFS posted a Status Update on the Data Collection. Visit, <u>http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/forest/projects/update1.shtml</u> Nov 14 (Tue) Request for Protection of ORVs of the West Fork/Overflow Creek headwaters: Friends of the Upper Chattooga sent a formal request to the Forest Service to review the management details for protecting and preserving the natural environmental and natural processes from human influences. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Acts (W&SRA) assigns to the agency the responsibility to protect and enhance the outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs) and aesthetic values that caused the West Fork/Overflow Creek headwaters to be included in the W&SRA in the first place.

Obviously, however this issue is resolved it will be precedent setting with far reaching consequences into the future and across all federal agencies that manage and zone recreational waters. You need to share your views NOW.

Have you experience user conflict or interference from whitewater boating on a mountain trout stream? Is it worse now than it was 20 years ago? What's it going to be like in another 20 years? Do we need more stream sections zoned like the North Fork of the Upper Chattooga, for "foot travel only"? If you have an opinion, please take a few minutes and tell the Forest Service. Send your comments to: Project Coordinator - John Cleeves, E-mail jcleeves@fs.fed.us;

US Forest Service, 4931 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29212.

For more info on the User Analysis, click on: http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/forest/projects/chatt.shtml

#### What's New Elsewhere?

#### Update: STOP Interstate - 3

(9/21/06) White County News, Cleveland, GA, reporting 9th District **Congressman Nathan Deal's comments** at a White County Republican Party meeting, 9/15/06: "Asked about the study of an Interstate 3 corridor through north Georgia, Deal said the project would be a long way from being authorized, noting that the costs of an interstate like that is huge. He said he doesn't think Congress is in a financial situation where it can take on such a project."

(9/21/06)**Towns County Poll: 93.2% Oppose I-3:** A vote was requested by Towns County Commissioner Bill Kendall and conducted by the TC Board of Elections. This poll was well-advertised and formally conducted. A total of 536 voters participated overall, even though the poll was open for only 2.5 hours. The question: "Should I-3 be constructed through Towns County?" was included among other questions on the ballot. On the question of I-3, 93.2% voted against construction through Towns Co. with 36 people voting "yes" and 497 people voting "no." These results are certified by the Towns County Board of Elections, Jonni Marie Shook, Chairwoman.

For more information on the Stop I-3 Coalition, visit <a href="http://www.stopi3.org/">http://www.stopi3.org/</a>

Nationwide Survey Shows Most Americans Support Hunting

and Fishing (9/14/06)—Harrisonburg, Va.; American Sportfishing Association Press Release: National Hunting and Fishing Day was officially established in 1972 to celebrate sportsmen and women and their role in fostering conservation and the scientific management of natural resources and wildlife. This year those celebrating National Hunting and Fishing Day will also be able to celebrate at least a decade of public support for their activities, according to a nationwide poll. The nationwide survey, conducted by Responsive Management of Harrisonburg, VA, found that support for hunting and fishing has remained strong over the past decade with approximately every 3 out of 4 Americans approving of legal hunting and more than 9 out of 10 approving of recreational fishing. To read the complete article, visit http://www.asafishing.org/asa/

**3 Vehicles Have Been Broken-into and Burgled at Chattooga DH in Broad Daylight (Wed 11/1/06)** Fishing equipment, shoes, two cell phones, an iPod, and other items with a total value of \$3000, were stolen from a vehicle parked along Highway 28 across from the gated road. (Wed 11/15/06 in the rain) Break-in in the SC parking lot, a digital camera and other gear were stolen. (Sat 11/18/06) Another break-in in the SC parking lot, over \$3000 worth of fishing gear and clothing were stolen.

Voters Passed GA Constitutional Amendment #2 to Protect Our Tradition of Hunting and Fishing (11/7/06) The following are excerpts from a GA Wildlife Federation E-mail: The statewide results show that 1,626,266 voted "YES" and 379,024 voting "NO" with an 81.1 % margin voting in favor of this amendment. It is important to remember that with this "Constitutional Right" that now belongs to every Georgian (including non-hunters and non-anglers) comes a responsibility. We now have the responsibility to show respect and demonstrate high ethical standards to our fellow Georgians who supported this amendment. We need to continue that commitment to Fair Chase and Sportsmanship in Georgia because the percentage of hunters and anglers in our population is growing smaller proportionately and we need the support of non-hunters and non-anglers on future issues. For more info, visit http://www.camocoalition.com/

GA Wildlife Federation (<u>http://www.gwf.org/</u>) is a member of Friends of the Upper Chattooga.

Chattooga's North Fork Backcountry Stocked by Helicopter (11/9/06) – Long Bottom, SC



The USFS firefighting helicopter with ground support from GA and SC Forest Service personnel delivered trout to the backcountry of Chattooga's North Fork on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. The trout stocking is part of an annual fisheries management program and is needed to supplement the natural trout reproduction in the lower North Fork. The drought conditions and hot temperatures of this past August were devastating to trout populations in many streams in the region, including the lower North Fork. The trout that were stocked ranged in size from 5-inch sub-adults to trophies over 20-inches long. The trout were provided by SC DNR and GA WRD and paid for by fishing license and trout stamp fees. For the past 20 years, TU in Georgia has had a "challenge cost share agreement" with the USFS. Anglers and the USFS split the helicopter costs 50-50. Currently Rabun TU, GA TU Council, and the Atlanta Fly Fishing Club contribute \$1500/year to deliver GA WRD's trout to the backcountry of the Wild & Scenic Chattooga's North Fork and West Fork.

**TU Youth Camp Summit** (11/11/06) Boiling Springs, PA: Charlie Breithaupt, GA Trout Camp Director, joined camp directors and volunteers from seven of nine existing TU youth camps to hold a Youth Camp Summit Meeting. Joining the camp directors were volunteers from two other states that have expressed interest in starting their own camps. They discussed what existing camps are doing now, sharing success stories and ideas of how to improve. A Youth Camp Manual will be created to include a best practices guide and curriculum resources. Insurance and liability questions were address by TU's insurance specialist and David Armstrong, TU's legal advisor. For more information and an application form for the 2007 GA Trout Camp, visit <u>http://georgiatu.org/id3.html</u> or contact Charlie Breithaupt directly, Ph 706 782 6954 E-mail knc615@windstream.net .

Rabun TU Plans to Request an Embrace-A-Stream (EAS) Grant (11/16/06): Rabun TU has notified the EAS coordinator of our intent to submit a grant application for the Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project. The grant request will be for funds to cover the certified laboratory fees for 8 water samples per week for 2 years. The EAS grant, if approved, will match on a 50-50 basis funds to be donated by the GA TU Council and Chapters, other organizations, and individuals. TU volunteer hours will also be matched at the rate of \$18/hr. The Chattooga Conservancy will continue as the lead partner with Jenny Sanders as Project Manager. Lee Keefer, GA WRD trout fisheries biologist, will be the Sponsoring Professional. For more on EAS, visit http://www.tu.org/site/pp.asp?c=7dJEKTNuFmG&b=277882 Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2006 by US Postal Dear Members of Rabun TU

Thank you very much for the additional donation to the Stekoa Creek Water Monitoring Project. I really appreciate your support and your dedication to conservation in the watershed. I look forward to visiting with you all in February when I give my presentation. Sincerely,

From: Jenny Sanders - Clayton, GA - Stekoa Creek Proj. Mgr Editor's Notes: The laboratory fees alone are costing \$75 per week. The Rabun TU Board of Director at their October 24th meeting approved an additional \$500 donation. The Upper Chattahoochee TU Chapter, the GA Foothills TU Chapter, the GA Council of TU, and the Chattooga Guided Outfitters Community Fund are among the donors making financial contributions to the Stekoa Creek Water Monitoring Project. To date none of the boating clubs have stepped up to the plate on this important water quality issue. To read more about the project and to view a list of the donors, visit http://www.chattoogariver.org/index.php?reg=stekoa

#### Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2006 by US Postal

Subject: Helicopter Stocking of the Chattooga's Backcountry As you know, many of our members fish the Chattooga and

feel it is one of the finest rivers in the SE. I am pleased to share with you the AFFC's support of the Chattooga. Thank you for including us as one of the "Friends of the Chattooga". We have added this cause to the list of organizations we support. Enclosed is our check for \$500.00. Please keep me up to date via email, so I can spread your information to our 340+ members. Thank you for all you do.

From: Aaron Hyte - Atlanta, GA - Pres. Atlanta Fly Fishing Club Editor's Notes: For the past 20 years, TU in Georgia has had a "challenge cost share agreement" with the USFS. TU and the USFS split the helicopter costs 50-50 for the stocking of the Chattooga backcountry. GA WRD provides the trout (paid for through state fishing license and trout stamp fees). TU has been contributing \$1500/year. Now the AFFC has joined in this important cold-water fisheries management activity, freeing up TU funds for other critical conservation issues, such as the water guality of Stekoa Creek. For more info on the AFFC, visit http://www.atlantaflyfishingclub.org/index.htm For more info about the Chattooga's North Fork fishery management, visit http://saludatu.org/Chattooga.cfm

Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2006 Subject: newsletter!

Awesome job as always. Thanks for all the effort put into the monthly publication. Appreciate the kudos to Rabern, too. Two thoughts:

1) Consider adding some wets to your "hatch list" of flies. Most of the time something is not hatching. Maybe you can help the newbies to pick the right dredging tool. The list may not change much seasonally, but I'll bet many folks would benefit from seeing "#14 prince, #16 hare's ear" on The Master's list in TIGHT LINEŠ.

2) Feel free to send any decent newbies my email address or the office phone number (770-535-5498) to get on my angler contacts list for fishing reports. Maybe that Chattanooga guy with the kid? They can at least fish vicariously thru our emails. And when they do get to go, they may be more effective with the homework they've done.

From: Jeff Durniak (a Rabunite) - Cleveland, GA Editor's Notes: Thanks, Jeff. Good suggestions. See the DECEMBER HATCHES above for the "None at all" hatch. To get on Jeff's E-mail list for fishing reports, Jeff\_Durniak@mail.dnr.state.ga.us

Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2006

Subject: RE: TIGHT LINES November 2006 Newsletter This is a great newsletter. Very Helpful with info too. Thanks! From: Butch Clay - Mountain Rest, SC

Editor's Notes: Thanks for the kind comments, Butch.

#### Sent: Friday, October 27, 2006

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES November 2006 Newsletter Thank you for the newsletter. I laughed and laughed when I

saw the photographs of Terry sneaking as to help the instructor..... When I am at functions, please let me know if you would like something special with my photos. I will be glad to send anything I have for your use.

From: Patsy Lewis-Gentry (a Rabunite) - Sautee, GA Editor's Notes: Thanks, Patsy. You are hereby appointed an official TIGHT LINES staff photographer. The pay is lousy but the folks you will meet are great and you will visit some spectacular locations.

#### Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2006

Subject: Fly rod

I have a friend in Atlanta looking for someone to build a fly rod from bamboo that he has. Please let me know.

From: Frank. Holden (a Rabunite) - Clayton, GA Editor's Notes: Frank, I suggest you contact Jeff Fields, President of NGTO. I believe Jeff knows someone that can help. E-mail for Jeff, fieldsip@gmail.com for more on NGTO, visit http://www.georgia-outdoors.com/ngto/front.shtml

#### Sent: Saturday, October 28, 2006

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES November 2006 Newsletter

I noticed in one of the letters to the editor that there is a Rabun TU member who would like more info on fishing in Maine. I have fished a number of rivers and streams in Maine for the past 15 years for brookies, browns, landlocked salmon, and smallmouth and could give him some feedback. I don't know him, but if you want to get him in touch with me I will share my knowledge.

#### From: Alex Watson - Rabun County, GA

Editor's Notes: Thanks, Alex. I have forwarded your E-mail to Jim Barrett and Tom Landreth. Both traveled to Maine this summer and both plan to return.

#### Sent: Sunday, November 12, 2006

Subject: Return From Long Bottom

Just walked in the door. I returned to Isla at 5:50 this evening....11 hours of driving. I'm pooped. Sorry I didn't say goodbye this morning, but you and Jeff were sleeping so peacefully, I didn't want to disturb you. Once again, I want to thank you and other members of Rabun Chapter for making the campout so successful. It was great! I must apologize for not hanging around to help you guys break camp. I owe you one. I'm gonna take a much needed bath, grab a bite and hit the sack. From: Russ Tyre (a Rabunite) – St Petersburg Beach, FL Editor's Notes: Thanks for letting us sleep, Ole Buddy.

#### Sent: November 13, 2006 by US Postal

To: Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited

We are blessed to have wonderful friends and relatives like vou, and we have so much to be thankful for. Thank you for your gift to the Memorial Fund [for the Palmer children]. All your prayers and support meant so much. Sincerely, From: Jamie (Martin) – Lakemont, GA

Editor's Notes: In May 2006 Rabun TU member John Martin and his business associate Warren Palmer were killed in a private airplane accident in AL.

#### If you have a comment or an opinion to share with the readers of TIGHT LINES, please submit it in 250 words or less to edadams1@alltel.net

Zoning of conflicting uses is good stewardship, not discrimination. Stewardship encompasses far more than picking up litter; it includes the protection of the aesthetic values of natural resources such as remoteness and wildness, the proper regard for the rights of others to solitude, and the responsibility of preserving those values intact for future generations.

#### **Tips for Lake Burton Brown Trout**

(11/20/06) **From:** GA WRD trout stocking coordinator Perry Thompson (706-947-3112)

5,000 brown trout were stocked into Lake Burton in late October. Average length was 10.4 inches. Seventy-five percent were distributed by boat with the remainder being stocked by truck at four locations. Wide dispersal of these fish is very important since it minimizes early angler harvest and promotes the put-grow-take fishery, where the trout can grow up to two pounds each year on a diet of blueback herring.

Recent sampling indicated a number of trout in the 10 to 16-

#### inch range were located on the lower end of the lake. Trout are also feeding on the surface in the early mornings in Moccasin Cove. Casting blue on silver Little Cleos into surface feeding trout is an effective way to catch fish this time of year. Once the fish go down, trolling Shad Raps in the open waters of the cove is a good fall back strategy. As winter sets in, trout will migrate toward the dam and at the mouth of feeder streams to feed on blueback herring. At the dam, fishing with medium shiners at 15 to 30-feet deep offers your best chance at catching a trout during the winter.

#### Is this anyone we know?

Trout season hasn't opened and a fisherman, who doesn't have a license, is casting for trout as a stranger approaches and asks: *Any luck*?

Any luck? This is a wonderful spot. I took 10 out of this stream yesterday, he boasts.

Is that so? By the way, do you know who I am? Asks the stranger.

Nope.

Well, meet the new game warden.

Oh, gulped the fisherman. Well, do you know who I am?

Nope.

Meet the biggest liar in the state!

# Kyle's Fishing Report, Another REALLY Good'un!

Sent: Sunday, November 19, 2006 Subject: Tarpon Fishing

Had a big time in Culebra, P.R. Not a huge tarpon, by tarpon standards, but still a good'un. Didn't have any way to weigh the fish, but measured it at 51 inches long.

Took just over an hour to land this fish on an Orvis T3 8 weight (custom built rod of course). Jumped numerous times and put on a show for the nearby tourist on their yachts.

+~~~~s Kyle Burrell fishwithkyle@yahoo.com



Cabela's generous donated to the Georgia TU Council a SLi rod and SLA reel, along with a hard rod tube, rod and reel case, 5 wt GPX 3M fly line, backing and leader.

At the last council meeting, the Georgia TU Council raffled the complete outfit to chapters to use in their own fund raising. The Cohutta Chapter held the winning ticket. Over \$2000 was raised which will go to the Back-the-Brookie Program for the purchase of temperature monitoring equipment to be used in brook trout streams in Georgia.

A huge "thank you" to Cabela's for their generous and continuing support of Trout Unlimited. Visit, <u>http://www.cabelas.com/</u>

#### "I am not against golf, since I cannot but suspect it keeps armies of the unworthy from discovering trout..." Paul O'Neil

# Act to preserve land along Chattahoochee

By NEWT GINGRICH and JACKIE GINGRICH CUSHMAN

The following are excerpts from an opinion column published in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution (<u>http://www.ajc.com/</u>) on 11/24/06.

This year, the U.S. Forest Service has an opportunity to acquire the 108-acre Beutell tract for the Chattahoochee National Forest as part of the Georgia Mountains land protection program. Why is that important?

When talking about the importance of conservation, first we have to agree on a foundational understanding. We are talking about life, our prosperity and our future. We are dependent upon the natural infrastructure to provide us with the physical requirements to keep us alive.

We have the opportunity to expand upon our successful public-private partnership model for conservation by preserving the Beutell tract, a critical piece of the northernmost headwaters of the Chattahoochee River about three miles upstream from Helen.

An appropriation of \$1.15 million is needed from the Land and Water Conservation Fund through the fiscal year 2007 interior appropriations bill to preserve the Beutell tract in perpetuity. The Senate bill recommends an appropriation of \$1.15 million, while the House did not recommend any funding for the Beutell tract in its version.

Every Georgia resident's support is needed in the campaign to conserve additional land on the Chattahoochee, Georgia's primary source of drinking water and water recreation. All of your voices need to be heard in Washington to help obtain funding from Congress.

Please contact your legislators, thank them for their support and encourage them to maintain the appropriation of \$1.15 million for the Forest Service's "Georgia Mountains" land acquisition program through the final fiscal year 2007 interior appropriations bill.

**Newt Gingrich**, a former speaker of the House, is a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. His daughter, **Jackie Gingrich Cushman**, lives in Atlanta and works with several nonprofit groups, including the Trust for Public Land.

For the complete opinion column, visit http://www.ajc.com/opinion/content/opinion/stories/2006/11/24/1124ednewt.html

# **Georgia Trout Camp Application Process**

Charlie Breithaupt, the Camp Director, is taking applications NOW for the **2007 Georgia Trout Camp.** Twenty-four campers (boys and girls from ages 12 – 15) will be selected for the 2007 Georgia Trout Camp, June 10 – 15<sup>th</sup>. For details, visit: http://georgiatu.org/id3.html

Or contact Charlie Breithaupt, Camp Director Ph 706 782 6954 E-mail knc615@windstream.net

# MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Big Rabunite welcome to **9 new members** this month: **James Moore** (transfer), Route 2, Box 125, S. Freeman Crk Road, Eastanollee, GA 30538; **Joshua Watts**, 706 John Houck Road, Clayton, GA 30525; **Dean English**, 309 Pebblebrook Tr., Canton, GA 30115; **Tom Nixon**, 4897 Persimmon Rd., Clayton, GA 30525; **Steven McCall**, Worley Creek Rd., Clayton, GA 30525; **Wayne Gipson**, 134 Gipson Lane, Lakemont, GA 30552; **Lee Prater**, 1048 Greenfield Road, Westminster, SC 29693; **Bryan Powell**, 112 Cornelia, Westminster, SC 29693; and **Dan Cox** (transfer), 103 Winding River Drive, Anderson, SC 29625.

Thanks for re-upping: Rick Hires, Russ Burken, Donna Claridad, Chris Bedea, John Starinchuck, John Hoppes, Lonnie English, Doug Hickman, Mitch Logan, and Julie Kilby.

It is time to renew your membership: Terry Seehorn, Anthony Welch, Tony Wheeler, Cari Westbrook, Chris Shackelford, William Hamlett, Bruce Mitchell, and Connie Keener.

F/Y 2006 Membership Report: Beginning: 10/01/05 – 105 members Ending: 9/30/06 – 148 members New Joined – 47; Transfer-in – 9; We transferred the Ellijay Members to Blue Ridge TU – (8), Deceased – (1), Others Lost – (4) Net Gain – 43

Due to the climate of political correctness now pervading America, those of us living in the mountains of GA, SC, NC, TN, VA, WV, & KY will no longer be referred to as "HILLBILLIES." You must now refer to us as: APPALACHIAN-AMERICANS.

Thank you! Now if you'll excuse me, I've got possums to fry.

Our thanks to Lea Richmond for sharing this one with us.

# "BACKCASTING"

**Nov 8 – 12 (Wed – Sun) Campout and Fishing:** Some things just naturally go together; like a Varsity chilidog, onions, and mustard. Take each alone and they are really nice, but combine them and something magical happens. It is called **synergy** (I "googled" it), *"The interaction of two or more substances to produce a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate effects."* Synergy happens for the Rabunites when we combine trout fishing, camping out, and bluegrass music. "O, it was wonderful" says Prez Terry. Participants included 23 Rabunites and 7 visitors from other TU Chapters. Several spent 4 or 5 nights and came from as far away as Lawrenceville, St Petersburg, Canton, Atlanta, Hiawassee, and Persimmon. Two new members joined (welcome Bryan P & Lee P), another transferring-in (welcome Danny C), and a forth rejoining after letting his membership lapse (welcome back Barry H). It was 4 days of trout fishing, hunting, scouting, and canoeing in Long Bottom and 4 nights of making bluegrass, story telling, solving the world's problems, debates, and laughter. We had good food, as always, and a featured chef's special each evening (including 2 homemade coconut cakes by Russ T). Yum, Yum! The trout fishin' is always good and the catchin' was made even better by the backcountry helicopter stocking on Thursday (thanks to a long standing partnership that includes GA and SC USFS, SC DNR, GA WRD, Atlanta Fly Fishing Club, and TUers from GA and SC). But the highlight of the whole 5 days was Jimmy W catching and telling about "my 20-inch trout." **It just don't get no better than that! Waaaah Whoooo!** 



Jim Nixon's fried trout, hushpuppies, 'taters, and Russ's coconut cake for Friday's supper with bluegrass music every evening! The Rabunites do this 4 or 5 times every year.

Want to join us next time? Contact Terry Rivers, Prez of Rabun TU: Ph 706-782-7419 E-mail tlr1121@alltel.net

Nov 14 (Tues) Rod Building Workshop: There are 6 Rabunites in the workshop and all are building 3 wt fly rods. Jimmy continued to entertain everyone with the story about his 20" trout. Thanks to Prez Terry for providing the location and refreshments. Nov 21 (Tues) Chapter Meeting – 18 folks attended. Program: Jeff Fields, President of North Georgia Trout Online, Inc. (NGTO), explained his organization's function and how NGTO and TU are working together for the benefit of Georgia's coldwater

resources. Visit, <u>http://www.georgia-outdoors.com/ngto/front.shtml</u> NGTO is a non-profit organization 501(c)(3) dedicated to the promotion and protection of trout fishing in North Georgia. NGTO is committed:

>To promoting sound environmental policies in Georgia's business and government.

>To promoting conservation measures to sustain and protect trout fisheries in Georgia

>To increasing public awareness, by all appropriate means, of the value of trout fisheries in Georgia.

>To collecting, generating and disseminating pertinent information that relates to all aspects of trout fishing.

>To nurturing environmental stewardship in both young and old, the joy of fishing and the peace of mind it brings.

>To carrying out other lawful activities as directed.

Their Mission Statement demonstrates a firm commitment to the future of trout fishing in Georgia. NGTO strives to increase public awareness of the sport of trout fishing through their web site, online chat room, message board, educational seminars, and community relation campaigns such as the Kids Fishing Day. Cooperation with city, state and other non-profit organizations, such as Trout Unlimited, allows NGTO to make an investment in our community and state.

NGTO has a 9 member Board of Directors with over 4,800 register members, and the message board is 100% FREE to use and join. The web site receives about 60,000 views per week. They have 2 fundraisers each year and make financial donations to worthwhile conservation projects, including sponsoring a kid to GA Trout Camp.

The NGTO Message Board is the premier online source for trout fishing information in the state of Georgia, and the Southeast. The message board is a place to ask or give advice, to swap lies, and just to hang out. And you do not have to be a member to visit, <u>http://www.georgia-outdoors.com/boards/ngto/index.shtml</u>

The Meeting Raffle had 8 buckets. Tom Matthews was a double winner. Yep, you guessed it; once again Lea Richmond won some flies. We raised \$100 to be used toward the cost of mailing newsletters to members without E-mail and for the meeting hospitality expenses. A BIG "thank you" goes to all the Rabunites who donated the items and to those who purchased raffle tickets. Jimmy Whiten had another turn in the spotlight to "show & tell" with an enlarged picture of his 20 inch trout.

Prez Terry asked everyone to please start going around to your business contacts and asking for donations for the Rendezvous. Nov 28 (Tues) BOD Meeting: The BOD meeting was attended by 8 officers and directors. Items discussed included: The Christmas Dinner, Rabun Rendezvous Arrangements, Gift TU Memberships, January Meeting Program, The Embrace-A-Stream Grant Request for Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project, The Annual Planning Meeting on Feb 3, Dream Trip Raffle Ticket Sales, Trout Camp Applicants from Rabun TU, and Work/Fish with Westminster Students on April 27/28.

**Nov 28 (Tues) Rod Building Workshop:** Immediately following the BOD meeting, all 6 participants marked their blank fly rods for guide locations. Two of the 6 did not look right. Further investigation determined the supplier had sent two incorrect blanks. After a couple of phone calls to the vendor and a check of paperwork, the vendor assumed total responsibility for having sent the wrong blanks and new materials are on the way by UPS. The group will meet again after the replacement materials arrive.

"This rod need not necessarily be an expensive one, as a number of American rodbuilders have at last developed a class of rods for as low a price as ten dollars that have surprisingly good action. Without belittling or discouraging those who of necessity must confine themselves to moderate priced tackle, it goes without saying that the greatest enjoyment is derived from the use of the very finest equipment produced by master craftsmen. What the Stradivarius is to the artist of the violin, the finer rods are to the expert fly caster."

From "Fishing the Dry Fly" by Arthur J Neu (1933) in Flshing Lake and Stream

#### F/Y 2006 Rabun TU Chapter Annual Financial & Volunteer Hours Report

(This annual report is required to maintain the Chapter's tax-exempt status)

Item Beverve (Ceek inflow)		Amount		
Revenue (Cash inflow)		<b>\$</b> \$15,707		
2006 Rabun Rendezvous Gross Revenue Cash Donations: (9 Cash Gifts)				
Raffles - 9 Meeting Raffles for \$1007 & the Winston Fly Rod Raffle for \$1085				
Special Events - Surplus from Campouts		2,092* 200		
Sales of Merchandise (1 TU License Tag)		10		
Investment and Interest Income		134		
Rebates from National TU		351		
	Total Revenue	\$19,414 <sup>*</sup>		
* Does not include the Dream Trip Raffle Sales of \$1100 – Included in GA TU C Leveraged / Matching Funds (USFS & Dukes Creek Environ		A \$2 000		
Leveraged / Matching Funds (03F3 & Dukes Cleek Environ	mental Education Flogran	i) <b>\$3,000</b>		
Expenses (Cash Outflow)		) <b>•</b> = == 1		
2006 Rabun Rendezvous Expenses (Dillard House, table rental, speaker expenses				
Projects (WRD Interns, BtB, Stekoa, Stop I-3, Helicopter, KFE, EAS, First Cast, Newsletter (printing & postage)	Env.Educ, Trout Camp, etc	c) 8,490 444		
Meeting Expenses: (speakers' meals, refreshments, rent, etc)		246		
Special Events Expenses (family cookout, family picnic, in-stream workday meals, etc)				
Checking Account Expenses				
PO Box Rent & Miscellaneous Postage		75 71		
Awards & Outreach to other Chapters		861		
Gift TU Memberships – 3 Libraries, 3 State Parks, & 7 students)		163		
	Total Expenses	\$16,352		
	Net Inflow	\$3,142		
Assets		<b>.</b>		
Cash in Checking Account Investment CD		\$4,709 4,263		
Investment CD Inventory – Raffle tickets, pens, pencils, etc		4,203		
inventory – Rame tickets, pens, pencils, etc	Total Assets	\$8,992		
Liabilities	Total Liabilities	\$0		
Volunteer Hours		Heuro		
Education (GA Trout Camp, KFE, OAD, Headstart, Scouts, etc)		Hours 1,208		
Conservation Projects (In-stream and Advocacy)		693		
2006 Rabun Rendezvous		386		
General Operations (newsletter, website, BOD, mtg arrangements, treasury, etc.		661		
GA TU Council & Outreach to other TU Chapters	,	398		
Travel		360		
	<b>Total Volunteer Hours</b>	3,706		

Rabun TU Officers & Directors for F/Y2007					
President - Terry Rivers, PO Box 371, Clayton, GA 30525	Ph 706 782 7419	E-mail tlr1121@alltel.net			
Vice President - Jimmy Whiten	Ph 706 886 6546	E-mail jimmywhiten@nctv.com			
Treasurer (w/Newsletter & Meeting Raffles) - Doug Adams	Ph 706 746 2158	E-mail edadams1@alltel.net			
Secretary (w/Publicity & Letters) - Tom Landreth	Ph 706 746 2295	E-mail landreth@alltel.net			
Past President (w/Membership & Hospitality) - Ray Kearns	Ph 706 782 9913	E-mail raykearns@alltel.net			
Director (w/Programs) - Bill Kelly	Ph 706 746 2104	E-mail bkjk1@alltel.net			
Director (w/Website) - Kathy Breithaupt	Ph 706 782 6954	E-mail knc615@windstream.net			
Director (w/Campouts & USFS Work-outings) - Charlie Breithaupt	Ph 706 782 6954	E-mail knc615@windstream.net			
Director – Larry Walker	Ph 706 244 4345	E-mail amosndixie@alltel.net			
Director – Lea Richmond	Ph 706 782 6898	E-mail learichmond@alltel.net			
Director – Ray Gentry	Ph 770 455 6375	E-mail regentry@alltel.net			



# News from the President...... Terry Rivers

Hi Folks,

I hope this finds everybody's families doing well; and, you had a very enjoyable Thanksgiving. I wish everybody a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Well those of you that missed the campout missed a good one. The food was great and the fishing was too! We, also, signed up two new members during the camp that some of the Rabunites met while fishing the D.H.

I want to thank Jeff Fields for a great program about NGTO at out November meeting. Anyone who wants to join North Georgia Trout Online; go to their web page and sign up, <u>http://www.georgia-outdoors.com/boards/ngto/index.shtml</u>

We will soon be having our annual Christmas Party and we need too have a head count. Get in touch with Doug Adams. He is making all the arrangements.

The rod building classes went well; and I hope everybody enjoyed building their own fly rods. I hope you hook and land a big one.

I want to personally invite everybody to join us for the Rendezvous on January 20<sup>th</sup> 2007. What great fun we have; and the program this year is one you don't want to miss. And, - - I don't want to give away anything to spoil the surprise. So come and join us; you will be glad you did.

#### MERRY CHRISTMAS and I hope you catch a lot of fish!

Terry

For more pictures, info, and back issues of TIGHT LINES, visit the Rabun TU website: <a href="http://www.rabuntu.com/Georgia TU Council website: http://georgiatu.org/">http://www.rabuntu.com/Georgia TU Council website: <a href="http://www.rabuntu.com/website: http://www.rabuntu.com/website: http://www.tu.org/index.asp">http://www.rabuntu.com/Georgia TU Council website: <a href="http://www.tu.org/index.asp">http://www.rabuntu.com/Website: <a href="http://www.tu.org/index.asp">http://www.rabuntu.com/Georgia TU Council website: <a href="http://www.tu.org/index.asp">http://www.tu.org/index.asp</a>
We would love getting your "Letters to the Editor", 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: <a href="mailto:edadams1@alltel.net">edadams1@alltel.net</a> 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 <u>edadams1@alltel.net</u> RABUN CHAPTER of TROUT UNLIMITED PO BOX 371 CLAYTON, GA 30525