



TIGHT LINES October 2007 Newsletter of the

Rabun Chapter (522) of Trout Unlimited

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

"In the morning be first up, and in the evening, last to go to bed, for they that sleep catch no fish."
Old English Proverb

RABUN TU CHAPTER'S MEETING PLACE

Community Bank & Trust, On US 441 next to Ingles, Clayton, GA

We meet in the Community Room (Outside Entrance on South Side)

3rd Tuesday of the Month 6:30 pm – Social & Yarn Spinning 7:00 pm – Program & Meeting
(You don't have to believe the yarns - - if you don't want to)

At every regular chapter meeting there will be a raffle for fishing or camping items to help pay the cost of mailing the newsletter to members without E-mail.

Bring an item to donate and a dollar or two for raffle tickets - you might win something.

"There will be days when the fishing is better than one's most optimistic forecast, others when it is far worse. Either is a gain over just staying home."

From Fisherman's Spring by Roderick Haig-Brown 1951

"FORWARD CASTING" Important Dates – See you there!

Sept 29 (Sat) USFS Workshop - Management Alternatives for Chattooga North Fork; [Rabun County Civic Center](#), 25 Court House Square, Clayton, GA 30525 - 8:30 a.m. Registration, 9 a.m. Workshop, 4 p.m. Adjourn

Oct 2 – 6 (Tue – Sat) Campout and Fishing Camping at Cherry Hill C.G. (with hot shower, flush toilets & tables). Nice place, great fishing & fellowship. Location: Off SC Hwy 107, 1.5 mile south of Burrell's Ford Rd intersection. You need to contact Terry Rivers Ph 706 782 7419 E-mail tr1121@alltel.net He plans the menu and buys the grub! Y'all Come! Bring a friend! WAAAAAHWHOOOO! Fishing on Tues – Thurs then (See next item)

Oct 5 & 6 (Fri & Sat) The Chattooga River Macroinvertebrate Study 9:30 AM at the Stumphouse (SC) USFS Office – Many volunteers needed!

Oct 16 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust; **Program –** Dan Rankin (SC DNR) – *Restoring the Native Brook Trout to King, Crane, and Pig Pen Creeks*. Drawing for the winner of the SAGE Custom Fly Rod raffle.

Oct 23 (Tues) Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 PM, Community B & T

Nov 7 – 11 (Wed – Sun) Camping and Fishing at Long Bottom and with Fishing in the Chattooga DH, backcountry, and front-country.

Nov 20 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust; **Program –** Paul Bradley, Deputy Forest Supervisor CONF – *How our Fisheries Program is funded - USFS Budget process*.

Nov 27 (Tues) Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 PM, Community B & T

21st Annual Rabun Rendezvous - Sat, January 26 2008
Program by Sally (Our Gal Sal at National TU) Armstrong

FLY OF THE MONTH

by Terry Rivers



HALF BACK OCTOBER CADDIS

DURING THE FALL MONTHS HAVE SOME OF THESE IN YOUR BOX. IF YOU'RE NOT SEEING ANY HATCHES, LOOK ALONG THE STREAM BANK ON THE ROCKS.

OCTOBER CADDIS SOMETIMES HAVE THE TENDACY TO WORK THEIR WAY TO THE EDEGES OF THE STREAM AND CRAWL ON ROCKS TO HATCH. LOOK FOR EMPTY SHUCKS ON THE ROCKS, DETERMINE THE SIZE, AND MAYBE THIS FLIE WILL WORK FOR YOU.

SEE YOU ALL ON THE RIVER.

HOOK: 12 TO 16 DRY FLY HOOK

TAIL: DEER HAIR

BODY: BURNT ORANGE

WING CASE: DEER HAIR

HACLKE: DARK: DARK BROWN

"... if you want a river full of fish, it won't help to advertise it; it won't help to kill everything you catch; it won't help to work for the fish-killing industry; it won't help to curse and drink and lament. So I cut down on my killing; I tied more flies on barbless hooks; I built more fly- and fewer bait-rods; I told tales more than I gave tips; and I found myself loving rivers and fish and fishing more than ever before."

From "The Armchair Angler" by David James Duncan

October Hatches

<u>The Bugs</u>	<u>Time of Month</u>	<u>Time of Day</u>	<u>Suggested Flies</u>
None at all	Can happen any time on any day		Dredging Nymphs: 12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, PT #14 Parachute Adams is always a good searching pattern
Small Dun Caddis	Early	Mid AM to Late PM	18 Brown Elk or Deer Hair Caddis 18 Grey Caddis Pupa
Speckled Grey-Brown Caddis	All Month	Late PM	14-16 Dark Elk Hair Caddis w/Yellow-Brown 14-16 Dun & Yellow Caddis Pupa
Large October Caddis (important)	All Month	Early AM and Late PM	8-10 Ginger Elk Hair; 12-14 Ginger Stimulator 8-10 Ginger Caddis Pupa
Blue Winged Olive & Blue Quill (important)	All Month	Late AM to Mid PM	16-18 BWO, Blue Quill or Adams Parachute 16-18 BWO nymph or Pheasant Tail
Midges	All Month	All Day	18-22 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa

Second Installment in a 3-Part series:

LAY DOWN YOUR MISCONCEPTIONS AND PICK UP A FLY ROD

Learning the sport of fly-fishing, and how to do it on the cheap, is a lot easier than most people think.

By David Cannon – A Young Rabunite

Misconception No. 1: Fly-fishing is too expensive (continued from the September issue).

Felt-soled, boot foot chest waders can be found starting at around \$55 through [Cabela's](#). These will keep you dry and safe as you explore the new waters you will grow to love over the years. Another great option is purchasing stocking-foot waders along with the \$50 Hodgeman felt-bottom wading boots. The boots come with a free membership to [Trout Unlimited](#), which will be your ticket to learning the sport from experienced anglers who will be more than happy to take you along on their next adventure. So, if you were going to buy the TU membership anyway, the boots really only cost \$15. And, they're good boots!

Whatever you end up buying, make sure the boots or boot-foot waders have felt-bottomed soles. River bottoms tend to be a little slick... okay, *really* slick, and the felt drastically improves your ability to safely navigate the water you are fishing.

For discounted flies, give [Hill's Discount Flies](#) or [Blue Fly Cafe](#) a shot. They both sell good flies at near-wholesale prices and have a wide variety to choose from. Spend \$30 and you'll have a great starter collection. Here are some must-haves for your fly box:

Elk Hair Caddis (sizes 14-16)
Orange Stimulator (sizes 12-14)
Adams Parachute (sizes 14-16)
Olive Woolly Buzzer (sizes 10-12)
Prince Nymph (sizes 12-14)
Pheasant Tail Nymph (sizes 14-16)

Once again, it may be worth it to you to stop by your local fly shop to purchase flies. They charge about \$2 per fly, but they are a little better quality than the discount sellers'. You can also get the latest reports on what has been effective in that specific are, which will greatly increase your chance of success.

A good fly box that will hold all of the flies listed above and keep them organized can be found for around \$10 at your local fly shop, as well. Put that on the shopping list when you go to pick up your leaders and tippet.

Of course, you have to have the right tools to be able to do the job right. So, you'll need nippers to clip tippet (say that five times fast!) from the spool or excess off of a knot. The cost of a good set of nippers should start at around \$5. You'll also need forceps to remove a hook from the bony jaw of a big brown, or to

pinch down the barb on a hook to prepare for places like Dukes Creek, Waters Creek or most trophy streams. This tool should also cost you about \$5. And finally, a tie-fast is a priceless tool to have on hand, especially during the colder months when your fingers aren't working well enough to tie certain demanding knots. \$7 is all you'll need for this tool and can also be found at any fly shop in Atlanta or north Georgia, or Wally-World.

And finally, you have to have a way to carry the gear you have acquired. Most anglers opt for a vest to perform this function. A vest can be purchased starting at around \$20 and will carry anything you will need on the stream. But, it's not the only option. Fly-flingers who like to pack light often choose a chest pack, which will usually be just spacious enough to carry a fly box, leaders and tippet spools and also have places on which to hang your nippers and forceps. The adventurous angler may go with an anglers backpack that often includes a camel-pak water storage system, enough pack space to equip you for a day-hike and small chest packs on the front of the pack straps for fishing gear storage. The options are endless, and one can be found that is specifically tailored to your brand of fishing.

Now, let's recap and itemize the costs of each so that we can get an estimate on what it costs to get started and be prepared on the stream:

A rod - \$40
A reel - \$10
Fly line - \$10
Leaders and tippet material - \$40
Waders and wading boots (or boot-foot waders) - \$55
Flies - \$30
A fly box - \$10
Tools (nippers, forceps and tie-fast) - \$17
A vest or chest pack - \$20

Total Cost: Approximately \$225

A Note from an Old Rabunite: *Check with Reeves Hardware in Dillard or Clayton for all of this equipment. They have a good selection at good prices.*

Installment 3 and final; in the November issue will cover Misconception No. 2 & #3.

2007 Youth Educational Leadership Award

The Award recognizes the fundamental importance of creating a new generation of conservationists in a manner that sustains TU's conservation legacy. The award honors individuals who demonstrate exemplary leadership, and a deep passion for inspiring young people to become thoughtful, responsible stewards of North America's coldwater fisheries.



(from left to right)

Steve Moyer, National TU Vice President for Government Affairs & Volunteer Operations

Garland Stewart, GA Grassroots Member of the TU Board of Trustees

Kathy and Charlie Breithaupt, Co-recipients of the 2007 Youth Educational Leadership Award

Sally Armstrong, National TU Volunteer Operations

National Trout Unlimited proudly presented Charlie and Kathy Breithaupt of the Rabun Chapter with a 2007 Youth Education Leadership Award.

The Breithaupts are a TU “dream team.” Charlie, a former chapter president, chairs TU’s Georgia State Council while Kathy serves as council secretary and chapter webmaster. Most importantly, they combine their expertise in education—Charlie is a former high school principal, teacher and coach, while Kathy teaches graduate level courses in education—with a passion for spreading the joys of fly-fishing and coldwater conservation to the next generation.

This wonderful mix came to fruition four years ago, when Charlie and Kathy launched a Georgia Trout Camp, modeled after the TU camp in Pennsylvania.

Utilizing their past experience as educational administrators, Charlie and Kathy formed a Camp Steering Committee and involved all 12 Georgia chapters. To keep tuition down, they obtained grants from several foundations and encouraged committee members to seek corporate sponsors. They contracted with the boarding school where they had worked to use the dorms, classrooms, theater, foodservice, buses, and a mile of private trout streams on campus. They reached out to state and federal agencies. And their dream became a reality.

Every summer, 24 boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 15 receive extensive instruction and hands-on experience in fly-casting and tying knots, reading the water, equipment care and more from fly-fishing guides, TU members and industry experts. In addition, professionals from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and U.S. Forest Service teach stream ecology and entomology, while supervising campers in stream habitat enhancement activities.

The results of their inspired work are best seen in the camp graduates themselves. Several can already outcast and outfish many seasoned TU members, and many are now serving as volunteers on restoration projects.

Yesterday’s GA Trout Camper = Next Generation of Conservation Leaders

(See the sidebar on right)

Congratulations to Elizabeth and the Kanooka Chapter

Elizabeth Farquharson (a Trout Camper in 2006 and a young mentor in 2007) has been elected President of the Kanooka Chapter of TU (Snellville, GA).

Her dad Kirk will serve as VP and Mark Poole will be Sec-Treas.



'Website-of-the-Month': <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/>

Check out: [Public Comments on Scoping Package](#)

Forest Service Received Over 1100 Comment Letters on Alternatives for Managing Recreation Uses on the Chattooga North Fork Click [HERE](#)

“Conflict and capacity on the Upper Chattooga”

“The potential addition of whitewater boating on the Upper Chattooga appears to have both conflict and capacity components, with the conflict illustrating many classic characteristics (asymmetry, interference impacts, and contrasting definitions of appropriate use).” (excerpt from page 88 of the [Integrated Report](#) dated June 2007)

“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.” (excerpt from Forest Service report titled [Potential Conflicts Between Different Forms of Recreation](#) dated Oct. 2002).

“While the Washington officials did not direct Sumter National Forest officials to retain or lift the floating ban, they did instruct the forest to conduct additional analyses regarding social and natural resource impacts and to involve affected user groups.” (excerpt from the Sumter NF Appeal Decision [News Release](#) dated 4/29/2005)

“Throughout this process, the public has expressed agreement on their desire to protect and enhance the outstandingly remarkable values of the Chattooga River (geology, biology, scenery, recreation and history); maintain a sense of solitude away from modern life; offer a remote wilderness experience; preserve the spectacular scenery and setting; and protect the natural resources of the upper section of the Chattooga Wild and Scenic River that make this area a special and unique place. In the NEPA process, these goals collectively are called a ‘desired condition.’ “ (excerpt from page 2 of the [Scoping Document](#) dated 8/14/2007)

Editor’s notes: *Since the very beginning, American Whitewater (AW) has attempted to isolate the North Fork zoning issue to simply a few environmentally friendly boaters disturbing a few highly sensitive local anglers. As a result of the Forest Service website, newspaper and TV coverage, public meetings, hearings, and workshops, representatives for most of the stakeholders eventually got involved. In addition to anglers, the “foot travel only” stakeholders also included day-hikers, birders, wildlife observers, wildlife advocates, retired Forest Service employees, emergency rescue personnel from 3 states, preservationists, ecologists, photographers, waterfall viewers, property owners, backpackers, hunters, swimmers, campers, and many, many more, including local people with deep heritage roots planted in the upper Chattooga. And they have spoken boldly and powerfully for maintaining the present zoning that prevents recreational conflicts.*

This present zoning allocation that the Forest Service planners so wisely put in place over 30 years ago is supported by an ever-increasing numbers of concerned individuals along with 18 to 20 diverse conservation organizations with tens of thousands of members, united by their desire to do what is best for the Chattooga. They all are aware of the impact boating has had on the environment and ORVs below Highway 28. They also recognize that boaters already have access to most of the Chattooga and all other Forest Service streams in the area. And they know the North Fork is the only segment of a backcountry Forest Service stream in the East zoned for foot travel only, a unique resource deserving of protection for present and future generations.

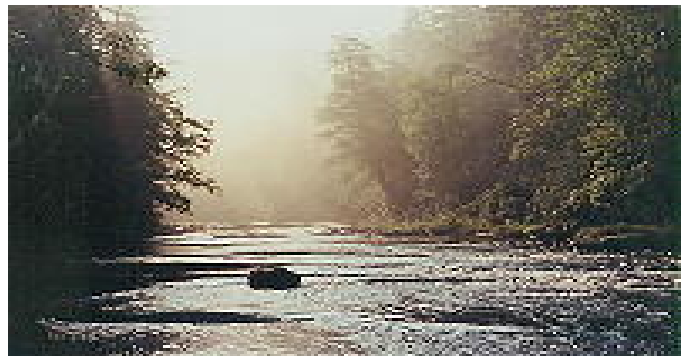
As we near the end of this planning process, the boating community and their lawyers stand alone, as they have from the beginning, opposing the zoning allocation.

Through this process I have met many of the individual boaters and most seem to be nice people who appear genuinely interested in conservation. I invite them to come visit the North Fork backcountry on foot, as the rest of us do. There they can experience the wildness, remoteness and solitude. They can boat on the lower Chattooga, the West Fork / Overflow headwaters and on several of its tributaries. This should offer them the best of both Chattooga experiences and maintain the North Fork in its unique wild and scenic state. I hope that in the future we can all work together to continue improving water quality and to protect and preserve a very special wild place for future generations.

a world apart

CHATTOOGA’S NORTH FORK

*the last refuge for remoteness and solitude
and FREE OF USER CONFLICTS*



WHAT’S NEXT?

1. Sept. 29 - Public workshop in Clayton. **2. October 15 - Meeting of the 3 Forest Supervisors with ID planning team to arrive at an Environmental Assessment (EA) and a preferred alternative.** **3. Early November - Issue EA and preferred alternative, with 30-day comment deadline.** **4. Early December - Comment deadline.** **5. Late December/early January - Issue final decision.**

To read more about EA, click here <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/faqs/nepa/index.html>

Editor's notes: *The 12-member Rabun TU Board of Directors authorized sending the following comment letter:*

September 7, 2007

Mr. John Cleeves
USDA Forest Service
4931 Broad River Road
Columbia, S.C. 29212-3530

Dear Mr. Cleeves:

On behalf of the 170 members of the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited, we respectfully submit the following comments, per your request of August 14, 2007, for alternatives for managing recreation uses on the upper Chattooga River (UCR).

The overarching results of management strategies should comply with the intent of the Wild and Scenic and Wilderness acts. It is with this underlying basis that our comments have been developed. The UCR is a very unique ecosystem to the southeastern United States, and even to the entire world.

Water quality (Van Lear, et.al) and aquatic animal life (1986 study) studies have shown that the UCR has been improving in recent years. This trend should be maintained. However, the introduction of the hemlock wooly adelgid and subsequent projected loss of this critical component of the river ecosystem must be considered.

To conform with your request, our comments will align with the 4 issue questions you have asked:

1. Should there be new standards limiting trailheads, trails and/or campsites?

Yes. There should be new standards, not because of existing problems, but in anticipation of increased population density in the area. As noted above, water quality and aquatic life are on an improvement trend and do not warrant intervention. However, human population increase projections indicate a need for more rigorous trail, group size and campsite management. The two Standards/Actions under Preliminary Alternative #1 are sufficient to accomplish this enhancement.

2. Should there be new standards limiting group sizes, encounters between user groups and/or access?

Yes. Again, in anticipation of increased user demand for various recreational activities (fishing, hiking, bird watching, photography, camping, etc.), a more disciplined system should be developed. Self managed sign-ins will help in monitoring resource use, and more importantly, will afford an opportunity for better resource protection education.

The absence of user group limitations on the Lower Chattooga River (LCR) has all but eliminated backcountry fishermen. The overabundance of boaters with their noise and fish disturbance impacts have degraded the potential for solitude and potential fishing success so much in this section that it does not qualify to be regarded as either wild or scenic (it is tamed by constant human presence).

3. Should there be new boating opportunities on the Chattooga River?

No. Boaters have access to the majority of the river. For reasons stated above, they should not be allowed on the UCR. The Unique Value of backcountry solitude cannot be maintained if boaters begin to invade the UCR. This value, so critical in both the W&S River Act and the Wilderness Act, would be severely diminished if boaters gain access to the UCR.

4. Should there be new standards limiting group sizes, encounters between user groups and/or access if new boating opportunities are allowed?

Yes, BUT. As indicated above, we believe allowing boating would be a mistake. However, if it is allowed, there should be

limits on the number of boaters to restrain their impact on the solitude, water quality and aquatic resources.

The following comments are applicable to all four questions. They are critical considerations for the basic ecosystem.

1. Especially with the anticipated loss of streamside hemlock trees, the aquatic life will need additional woody debris in the river. No removal of woody debris should be allowed.

2. The Chattooga River has withstood and recovered from substantial human impact in the past century. Logging and road construction practices of the previous generations of people had a negative impact. However, the implementation of forestry Best Management Practices (BMPs) and altered forest management strategies more geared toward wildlife, aesthetics, and water quality have contributed to improvements in the past two decades (Van Lear).

3. It is widely known that fishermen have been some of the most avid conservationists in the United States. Trout Unlimited serves a valuable role of supporting conservation education. TU volunteers have spent countless hours working side by side with USFS personnel in conservation efforts (e.g. stream restoration projects). If boating ruins backcountry fishing on the UCR as it has on the LCR, the enthusiasm of TU volunteers for conservation education work will diminish.

4. The local economic impact favors hikers, bird watchers, campers and fishermen. Boaters typically are from out-of-area and buy their boats from out-of-area vendors. Fishermen, birders, hikers, etc. come from a broader demographic distribution, and they purchase their supplies from more local vendors. While economic impact should not be the driver in this decision, it does favor protecting solitude based resource enjoyment versus boating.

5. Even a billboard along US 441 in Rabun County advertises "boating" the Chattooga as North Georgia's roller coaster. The correlation of the noise of a roller coaster to boating reinforces the belief that solitude will be lost on the UCR if boating is allowed. Solitude underlies human enjoyment of the UCR and is critical to some wildlife species.

6. There is nowhere else in the East with the unique combination of the large size free-flowing stream not paralleled by a road, the excellent foot-trail access, the spectacular beauty, the solitude experience, and the quality of fly-fishing that is found in this boating free section of the Upper Chattooga River backcountry. And this opportunity is available year-round, unlike most western backcountry streams that experience harsh winter conditions.

In summary, the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited believes the resources associated with the Upper Chattooga River ecosystem will be best served through Alternative #1. Some elements of Alternatives 2 or 3 would be beneficial, but alternatives 4, 5 and 6 will have adverse impacts on the River and its ecosystem. We urge you to choose Alternative #1 or a blended strategy incorporating portions of Alternatives 1, 2 & 3.

Thank you for allowing us to provide this input.

Respectfully, Terry Rivers - President, Rabun Chapter of TU

cc Mr. Jerome Thomas – Supervisor Sumter National Forest
Rabun Chapter Trout Unlimited
Georgia Council Trout Unlimited

Q & A about the Chattooga North Fork (4th of a series)

Q – Where can I read about trout fishing the Chattooga North Fork?

A – The book: America's 100 Best Trout Streams by John Ross, Falcon Publishing, Inc., Helena, MT (1999), Chapter titled "Chattooga River" - Pages 126 -128. http://www.trails.com/catalog_product.asp?productfamilyid=10219

Another good source is the book: Trout Fishing in North Georgia by Jimmy Jacobs, Peachtree Publishers, Ltd. Atlanta, GA. 4th edition (2006) Chap. 8, "Chattooga River" To read reviews on Amazon.com, click [HERE](#)

There was a good magazine article titled "Chattooga River, NC/SC/GA". By Bill Chiles in: *Eastern Fly Fishing*, Winter 2006. Pages 60-65. <http://nwflyfishing.net/content.php?sec=CurrentIssue&st=ea>

Stekoa Creek Update

Stekoa Creek Monitoring - A National Trout Unlimited "Embrace-A-Stream" Project [HERE](#)

Stekoa Creek is classified as primary trout water, and should be capable of supporting trout reproduction. Stekoa Creek is also infamous as a major, very polluted tributary to the National Wild & Scenic Chattooga River. The City of Clayton is entirely in the Stekoa Creek watershed. Persistent lack of corrective and preventive actions to address excessive fecal coliform and sediment levels has been responsible for the continued deterioration of the stream for over 30 years.

DRIVING FOR TROUT

Seventeen (17) members of Rabun TU have volunteered their time and vehicle expenses to drive the weekly Stekoa Creek Monitoring water samples to the certified lab in Jefferson, GA (132 mile round trip) on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 AM.

Pick up will be at the new Chattooga Conservancy office location in the basement office space at the Clayton Veterinary Hospital, located at 205 South Main Street. The volunteer schedule through the fall and early winter is as follows: Fritz Vinson (10/2), Larry Walker (10/9), Ray Kearns (10/16), Bill Kelly (10/23), Terry Rivers (10/30), Ray Gentry (11/6), Travis Barnes (11/13), Tom Matthews (11/20), Eedee Adams (11/27), Tom Landreth (12/4), Gary Deal (12/11), Kathy Breithaupt (12/18), Doug Adams (1/2), Lea Richmond (1/8), Russell Johnson (1/15), Charlie Breithaupt (1/22), Jimmy Whiten (1/29), Fritz Vinson (2/5)

If you can volunteer to be a driver of samples to the lab, contact Doug Adams, Ph 706 746 2158; E-mail edadams1@alltel.net

To see a spreadsheet with the weekly fecal coliform counts for all sample sites, click on <http://www.rabuntu.com/>

At \$0.485/mile and \$18.04/hour (National TU values) these volunteers are donating \$118 in services each week. Since March 6th, these 17 volunteer drivers have donated courier services valued at \$3540

Additional donations received this month to help pay laboratory fees:

Rabun Chapter of TU (\$1,000) and Oconee River Chapter of TU, Athens, GA (\$200).

For info on where you can send a personal donation, visit <http://www.chattoogariver.org/index.php?req=stekoa>

To see a complete list of organizations and individuals that have donated, click [HERE](#)

A Trout Camp

By David Cannon — a young Rabunite

The fire's concentric to the jittery men,
Who'll emerge as anglers when first light arrives.
A stump and the riverbank, their armchair, their den,
Where old stories are told in the absence of wives.

The crackling of kindling and the stretching of truths,
Expectations and hopes of this jaunt, they are shared.
The joys of old wisdom and return of spent youth,
While new friendships emerge and old ones repaired.

This night in the pass imparts icy degrees,
But the expectant morning keeps them all warm.
Though, under thick blankets clack shivering knees,
Soon enough, fleece and waders those knees will adorn.

It seems mere minutes later and the woods are alive,
And the river grows louder as consciousness proceeds.
Thankful impatience paints faces as breakfast derives,
As wants of tight tippet bow to unwavering needs.

At last within rushing current, shuffling feet navigate,
While numb, fumbling fingers lash trustworthy knots.
At last, the buttery underbelly of *Sal* undulates,
And contentment courses through veins of the one who did want.

Yet, in due course, idyllic day becomes night,
As memories are logged that will always be dear.
And as the last mayfly settles and the last *Sal* does rise,
Anxious thoughts encircle the fire of next year.

Editor's notes: *We have 2 Trout Camps coming soon. Join us and experience Rabunite camping and the joys of trout.*

Oct 2 – 6 (Tue – Sat) Campout and Fishing Camping at Cherry Hill C.G. (with hot shower, flush toilets & tables). Nice place, great fishing & fellowship. Location: Off SC Hwy 107, 1.5 mile south of Burrell's Ford Rd intersection. You need to contact Terry Rivers Ph 706 782 7419 E-mail tr1121@alltel.net He plans the menu and buys the grub! Y'all Come! Bring a friend! WAaaaaahWHOoooo!

Nov 7 – 11 (Wed – Sun) Camping and Fishing at Long Bottom and with Fishing in the Chattooga DH, backcountry, and front-country.

What's New Elsewhere?

Nationwide fishing license sales have declined (9/4/07)

The number of Americans who fish has dropped sharply 15 percent between 1996 and 2006 — down 12 percent, from 2001 to 2006, according to a national survey by the Fish and Wildlife Service. Fishing continues to be a popular activity for the American people. 13% of the national population 16 years old and older went fishing in 2006. Comparing results of the 2006 Survey and 2001 Surveys reveals that although the number of all anglers declined 12%, their expenditures for fishing equipment (rods, reels, etc.) and fishing trips increased 5% and 7%, respectively. There were drops in expenditures for auxiliary equipment (special clothing, tents, etc.) and special equipment (big ticket items such as boats) by -14% and -12%, respectively. Of the 50 state wildlife agencies, most rely on hunting and fishing license fees for the bulk of their revenue. For the complete article, click

<http://federalasst.fws.gov/surveys/surveys.html>

Editor's notes:

What about in GA? From 2001 to 2006 the total sales of resident fishing license declined 5.4%.

Why? With so many kids growing up in urban environments with organized youth sports, fewer are getting the opportunity to experience the joys of fishing with a parent or grandparent. That is why the Outdoor Adventure Day, Kids Fishing Events, and GA Trout Camp are so important.

Another factor in declining resident fishing license sales is the aging population and free license for folks over 65. I'm over 65, so I go to WY and buy an \$87 license to fish a week, I pay \$40 to fish in NC, but I pay \$0 to fish in GA for a year.

What about trout stamp sales? 30 years ago (1976) trout stamps were sold with only 12% of the resident fishing licenses, in 2006 they were sold with 22% of the resident fishing licenses. There was a peak in trout stamp sales in 1995, soon after the movie "A River Runs Through It" came out. It figures! Actually, resident trout stamp sales have declined 10% from 1996 to 2006. Less than 4% of the people that buy GA trout stamps are members of TU.

Our thanks to Dennis Schmitt with GA DNR, for providing us with this GA data.

Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture

<http://www.brookie.org/site/pp.asp?c=likVL3POLvF&b=1558555>

Eastern Brook Trout Update: GEORGIA, Report from Kevin McGrath, BTB chair (9/11/2007)

Advocacy: GA Back-the-Brookie represented GA TU at a Farm Bill Summit sponsored by the GA Wildlife Federation.

Conservation: GA Back-the-Brookie partnered again this summer with GA DNR and the USFS, to employ a team of summer interns pursuing fisheries studies and careers to work on brook trout projects in Georgia.

Stream Enhancement: Interns installed over fifty stream structures. GA TU Chapters conducted five workdays on four brook trout streams including a workday at GA TU Trout Camp. Interns began renovation of a brook trout stream.

Identification: Interns sampled ten miles of streams. Confirmed brook trout in two previously undocumented streams.

Restoration: Interns confirmed restoration of Southern Appalachian Brook Trout to a North Georgia stream. Our first restoration in thirty years introduced Southern Appalachian Brook Trout to a previously fishless stream. Interns began renovation of a brook trout stream by serial electrofishing.

Monitoring: Interns and GA TU Chapters: Collected and analyzed water samples for ANC and PH from fifty-seven sites. Deployed twenty-two thermographs in brook trout streams. GA Back-the-Brookie purchased the thermographs through a fund raising event last fall.

Development - 2008 Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture

Grant: USFS submitted grant proposal on behalf of local partners GA DNR, GA TU, North Georgia Tech and Soque River Watershed Association plan to restore and conserve brook trout on 13.6 miles of brook trout streams in the Chattahoochee National Forest. The project spans four watersheds on sixteen streams constructing seventy-five structures. Twelve of the sixteen streams contain Southern Appalachian Brook Trout. The project will restore carrying capacity to the streams and provide seed stock for future restorations.

GA TU Chapter Donations: Contributions were received from two GA TU Chapters to partially fund intern program and complete the Smithgall Woods education project. (Rabun TU donated \$2,000)

Education - GA TU Trout Camp: One day of Trout Camp focused on brook trout education in conjunction with a work project on a brook trout stream. Twenty-four campers participated.

Presentation Updated: New presentation that covers the history of Back-the-Brookie and both EBT: Status and Threats and EBT: Roadmap Restoration reports completed. Three TU Chapters have received the update at Chapter meetings. A local partner, Soque River Watershed Association, is scheduled for the update at their quarterly meeting.

Smithgall Woods Education Project: Project completed and implemented this summer.

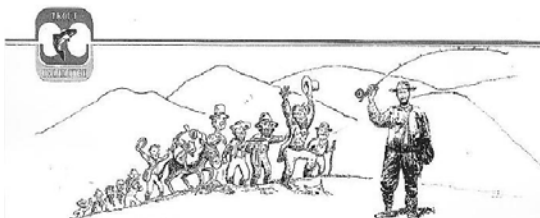


<http://www.stopi3.org:80/>

Stop I-3 Update: Opportunity knocks - let's kill I-3

once and for all! (9/13/2007) In a close vote Dr. Paul Broun, who strongly opposes I-3, has been elected and sworn-in as the U.S. Representative from District 10 in Georgia. He replaces the late Charlie Norwood. Rep. Broun has promised to sponsor legislation to rescind the study of the I-3 corridor. We in Georgia now need to convince the Georgia Senators that the study money should be rescinded. ALL of us need to renew pressure on all of our legislators to vote for a rescission and ask them to work with the Georgia delegation in rescinding the study.

[Click here to find out what you can do!](#)



Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited

SAGE Custom Fly Rod Raffle, Z-axis, 9 ft, 5 wt, 4 pc, Over \$600 Retail Value!! Drawing October 16, 2007 at the Chapter Meeting; You don't have to present to win - Tickets are \$3 each or 4 for \$10; Contact Terry Rivers for Tickets – You can mail a check and he will fill out the ticket & put the stub in the drawing, Ph 706 782 7419 E-mail tlr1121@alltel.net

Our good friend Mack Martin of North Georgia Custom Rods has donated this fly rod to Rabun TU. <http://www.mackmartin.com/CustomRods.htm>

The Atlanta Fly Fishing School will offer an ADVANCED FLY CASTING CLASS beginning in 2008.

The class is designed for fly fishermen that are competent with fly casting but are looking to improve their casting in some or all of the following areas:

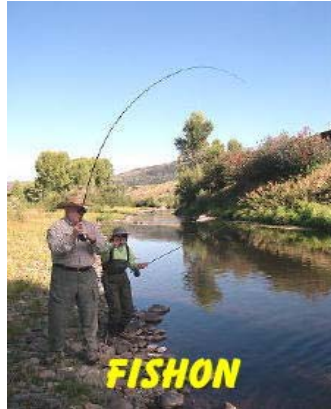
- Accuracy for longer casts
- Casting increased distances
- Casting in the wind
- Learning to double haul
- Eliminating tailing loops

The instruction will utilize digital photography with unique computer software along with an improved casting analyzer. This course has been in development for over a year and will be offered starting in March 2008. The class will be limited to 8 participants and will cost \$200. The class will start at 8:30 AM and finish at 3:30 PM with lunch included.

Participants should call the Atlanta Fly Fishing school at (404) 550-6890 to schedule a Place in the class. The dates for offering this advanced class are March 22 and May 17, 2008. Additional dates for the class will be announced in the spring of 2008.

Fishing Reports

From: Kathy and Charlie Breithaupt at the Three Forks Ranch in CO on the Snake River <http://www.threeforksranch.com/>



In August, the Breithaupts were guests at the Three Forks Ranch as winners of a raffle at the 2006 TU National meeting in MN.

Sent by US Postal (8/25/2007)

Currently we are 10 miles from Mount Rushmore. Beautiful country. Had really, really great fishing (all dry flies) on the Blackfoot in Montana. Caught one 20-inch brown. No camera.-
~ Y.D.H.T.B.I.I.Y.D.W.2. Take care.

From: C. C. Barrett

Date: 9/9/2007

Subject: Smile, my first 20 fish day!

Well I just got back from an awesome camping trip with my scout troop. We went up to Oconee State Park in SC. On Saturday besides going to the Stump House Tunnel and a short hike we went to tour the trout hatchery near there. The plan was to fish the creek that runs beside the hatchery, but it was very low. So we asked the ranger where a good place was, she suggested Burrell's Ford in the North Fork of the Chattooga. We arrived at a parking area a little upstream of the bridge around 12:00 and ate lunch. My dad, a friend and myself went to the bridge after eating. After helping my friend get setup for his first time out for trout with a fly-rod (we had fished for bream with a fly rod before) and giving him a lecture on where to find trout in the stream he went towards a good looking hole and I headed towards the bridge. I found quite a few trout in these pools there were about 4 holding areas and each had a good number in it.

Using a y2k and GRHE dropper I landed about 10 fish then lost count. Because it was early in the day, I decided not to keep these. I fished each hole for some time before my friend came up after seeing me catch a few. He ask what he was doing wrong, I gave him some help with his rig (split shot, tippet, stride-indicator) and a few pointers for the hole he decided to fish. We stayed at the bridge and the surrounding holes for the rest of the day. My friend managed to catch 4 trout and hooked about 4 times as many. I landed (modestly) 26!!!! This is an estimate of the 10 I caught earlier the 8 I kept for the stringer and how many my friend said I caught while he was watching me. I had probably over 100 bites and LLR's. After about 1-2 hours the other scouts came down to where we were fishing and had fun trying, only one other scout caught a trout besides my friend and I. A few that did not have fishing poles caught some crawdads. With the fish all of us caught we had a nice fish fry.

This is the first time I have ever caught over my limit. It was absolutely a blast! The one thing no fisherman should ever forget is the throbbing of a trout on a fly rod (and if you have it has been too long since you've been fishing).

Just wanted to share my excitement! Thanks!

From: Seth Sullivan (tboy) - Snellville, GA
fishing, football, school and girls... this is my life to be fishers of men (and trout) Matthew 4:18-22

Georgia Trout Unlimited is a Member of



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Editor's notes: *This is an excellent article, I recommend you click [HERE](#) and read all 6 pages.*

Fish Story

Native trout are returning to America's rivers and streams, thanks to new thinking by scientists and conservationists

By Robert M. Poole, [SMITHSONIAN](#) magazine, Aug 2007 page 86, [Related links](#) with the complete article.

The immigrants, crowded into the damp hold of the German steamship *Werra*, were not particularly welcome when they made landfall in the United States on February 24, 1883. Xenophobic feelings were running high, with many Americans worried that the Europeans would displace residents already struggling to stay afloat.

The critics were quite nasty about the newcomers, variously described as scaly, voracious, monstrous and homely. They stole food from natives. They had sharp teeth. They ate their young. They were greenish yellow with red spots. They were fish.

Specifically, the fish disembarking the *Werra* that February were trout-to-be in the form of 80,000 fertilized eggs from a hard-fighting strain of *Salmo trutta*, the European brown trout, which makes its first appearance in Roman literature about a.d. 200, swims through Izaak Walton's *Compleat Angler* and Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, inspires Franz Schubert's "Trout" quintet of 1819 and establishes a beachhead in North America with this 1883 shipment.

The consequences of its arrival are felt—on the riverbank, in public hearing rooms and in courthouses—to this day. Indeed, it is not too much of a stretch to suggest that the continuing story of trout in America—native and introduced, threatened and thriving—is a fair reflection of our own restless history, with its marathon migrations, its paroxysms of prejudice, its well-intentioned blunders and its reassuring urge to set those blunders right again.

For the complete story, click

<http://www.smithsonianmagazine.com/issues/2007/august/trout-main.php>

WHOOOPS!

Study: Wrong fish used to save species (9/5/2007) By JUDITH KOHLER, Associated Press Writer, DENVER - A 20-year government effort to restore the population of an endangered native trout in Colorado has made little progress because biologists have been stocking some of the waterways with the wrong fish, a new study says. Advances in genetic testing helped biologist discover the error, which was called a potential black eye, but they said there is still hope for restoring the greenback cutthroat trout. The three-year study, led by University of Colorado researchers and published online in *Molecular Ecology* on Aug. 28, said that five of the nine populations believed to be descendants of the endangered trout were actually the more common Colorado River cutthroat trout, which look similar. To read the complete story, click [HERE](#)

Letter To the Rabunites

Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 6:53 PM

Subject: Re: Smile, my first 20 fish day!

Story of awesome camping trip with my scout troop.

Yes you may print it. If you wouldn't mind sending me a copy of the newsletter, my address is: 2493 Williamsdowns Cr. Snellville, GA 30078. It would be an honor.

From: Seth Sullivan (tboy) – Snellville, GA

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

2008 Georgia Trout Camp Application Process

For details, visit: <http://georgiatu.org/id3.html>

Or contact **Charlie Breithaupt, Camp Director**

Ph 706 782 6954 E-mail

knc615@windstream.net

Rabun TU will select and sponsor 2 campers (boys and/or girls from ages 12 – 15) from the submitted applications for the 2008 Georgia Trout Camp, June 8 – 13th

“BACKCASTING”

Sept 8 (Sat) GA TU Council Meeting at Atlanta Fly Fishing School - 5 Rabun TU members attended. Items discussed included Minutes of previous meeting, Treasurer's report; Dream trip 2007 report, Dream trip plans 2008, CEI report, Trout camp 2008 6/8–6/13, BtB, Plans for restarting chapters and a new chapter, GA Wildlife Federation farm bill summit, Chapter leadership education by National TU, Chattooga River zoning, Hemlockfest in Dahlonega 11/3– 1/5, National TU access policy, Chattooga macroinvertebrate study 10/5-10/6, Outdoor adventure day 9/22, NGTO Waters Creek workday 9/15, Future Cabela's store in GA, Trout in the classroom, Election of chapter officers, Chili cook-off, and Goldrush Chapter event 9/29.

Sept 13-16 (Thur - Sun) National TU's Annual Meeting Grove Hotel in Boise, Idaho where our Charlie and Kathy Breithaupt received the 2007 Youth Education Leadership Award. National TU proudly bestowed this first annual award honoring Charlie and Kathy because they demonstrated exemplary leadership, and a deep passion for inspiring young people to become thoughtful, responsible stewards of North America's coldwater fisheries.

Sept 18 (Tues) Chapter Meeting: 33 Rabunites and guests attended, one of our largest crowds ever. **Program – Doc Russ Burken** – “*Why I go to Alaska each year.*” Doc made a video presentation that included bears, scenes of beautiful fly-overs of glaciers, bears, awesome streams full of salmon, bears, catching big salmon, bears, colorful Dolly Varden char, bears, cabin scenes with all the guests, bears, seaplanes taking off, bears, and a family of 4 bears. Maybe Doc goes to Alaska to take pictures - - of bears! A great show, Doc! Thanks for sharing. After the program, the election was conducted for the Rabun TU Chapter's officers and directors for F/Y 2008. The election results are as follows: President – Jimmy Whiten, Vice President – Larry Walker, Treasurer – Doug Adams, Secretary – Tom Landreth, Past President – Terry Rivers, Directors: Ray Kearns, Bill Kelly, Kathy Breithaupt, Charlie Breithaupt, Patsy Lewis-Gentry, Ray Gentry, and Doug Mansfield. **The Meeting Raffle** had 12 buckets with some very special items, including a couple of fly selection, a 2 pound jar of honey, a Mity Might spinning outfit, and a flex light. The raffle raised \$112 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.

Sept 22 (Sat) GA DNR Outdoor Adventure Day (OAD) at Unicoi State Park. 14 Rabunites volunteers assisted and over 1800 visitors participated. Expert instruction for visitors was provided by WRD conservation rangers, biologists, and technicians, U.S. Forest Service and Fish and Wildlife Service staff, outdoor writers and fishing guides, and volunteers from many of Georgia's conservation clubs including Traditional Bowhunters of Georgia, Trout Unlimited, National Wild Turkey Federation, Georgia Women Flyfishers, North Georgia Trout Online, Georgia Falconry Association, The Wildlife Society, Georgia Appalachian Trail Club, and the White County 4-H Club..



OAD - My first trout on a fly (San Juan worm courtesy of one of the great tyers)
Photo by Bill Graham of NGTO

<http://www.georgia-outdoors.com/forum/showthread.php?t=63278>

Sept 25 (Tues) Board of Directors Meeting 9 members attended. Items discussed included: Outdoor Adventure Day Report, Stekoa Creek Monitoring, A timber sale out Warwoman, The Forest Service Workshop – 9/29, Goldrush Chapter Fundraiser – 9/29, Rod Raffle, 2008 Rabun Rendezvous, Dream Trip Raffle for GA Council, 10/2 – 10/6 Campout and Fishing Camping at Cherry Hill C.G., 10/5 & 10/6 The Chattooga River Macroinvertebrate Study, Publicity, Public Relations, & Outreach Update, 10/16 and 11/20 Chapter Meeting Programs, Membership Report, Treasury Report, Workday on Betty Creek, 10/23 Board of Directors Meeting, 11/7 – 11/11 Camping and Fishing at Long Bottom, Larger meeting place, Chattahoochee River (Helen) Trout Day, Applications for Trout Camp, and a Committee to select the 2 Rabun TU 2008 Trout Campers.

"I love to watch Norman work out a fly. It's like a ballet or something, the way the white line loops out against the dark trees like rope tricks at magic shows. I don't know how he does it, but I probably catch more fish than he does, with only a worm on. Sometimes I'll put on a Mepps or something and cast, but then maybe the line gets all screwed up on the reel. Norman says it's cause girls elbows are built funny, but I don't think it matters. He says catching fish is nice, but that that's not the point. "Gracie," he'll say, "if all I wanted was fish, I'd use a net. "

From The Way A Woman Thinks by Dan Gerber

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Big Rabunite "WELCOME" to 2 **new members** this month: **William Reno** (transfer). 1582 Cedar Rock Church Road, Easley, SC 29640 and **Mike Hamilton**, PO Box 37, Tallulah Falls, GA 30573

Thanks for re-upping: **Jeff Durniak, Terry Seehorn, Eugene Keener, and Jim Nixon.**

It is time to renew your membership: **Mike Brod, Greg Rose, Andrew Rose, Ben Houston, Arnold Deitz, Paul Hanson, Chuck Breithaupt, Frank Holden, George Custer, Donald Thomas, Gary Breece, Edwin Wayne Clark, Terrell Dodgins, Brooks & Amanda Adams, David Bentley, Dylan Bradley, David Cannon, Reid Cannon, Rachael Davis, James Friedman, Dwayne Hunnicutt, Greg Roane, and Adam Wilkerson.**

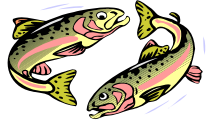
The Rabun TU Chapter roster currently has 172 memberships.

"It must be remembered that there are two distinct methods of attracting trout to a fly. One is to imitate the natural food of the trout by the artificial fly and its behavior; and the other is to make the fly move in a way entirely abnormal for a live insect and thus get the trout's attention. Spinners, bucktails and whirling minnows are illustrations of this latter method of fishing. The really expert fly fisherman desires to take his quarry by fooling him with the imitation he offers and is not satisfied if he gets his trout in any other way. This is perhaps the reason why real sportsmen look down on methods of fishing, which are at variance with their ideas of the proper way trout fishing should be done. If this is so, then nymph fishing ought to have a very high place in the estimation of the true sportsman."

From Nymph Fly Fishing by Edward R Hewitt

Rabun TU Officers & Directors elected for F/Y2008

President - Jimmy Whiten , PO BOX 881, TOCCOA GA 30577-1414	Ph 706 886 6546
E-mail jimmywhiten@nctv.com	
Vice President (w/Outreach) – Larry Walker	Ph 706 244 4345
E-mail amosndixie@alltel.net	
Treasurer (w/Newsletter & Meeting Raffles) - Doug Adams	Ph 706 746 2158
E-mail edadams1@alltel.net	
Secretary (w/Communications) - Tom Landreth	Ph 706 746 2295
E-mail landreth@alltel.net	
Past President (w/Membership) - Terry Rivers	Ph 706 782 7419
E-mail tlr1121@alltel.net	
Director:(w/Hospitality) - Ray Kearns	Ph 706 782 9913
E-mail raykearns@alltel.net	
Director (w/Programs & Campouts) - 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/Education) - Charlie Breithaupt	Ph 706 782 6954
E-mail knc615@windstream.net	
Director (w/Publicity) – Patsy Lewis-Gentry	Ph 770 455 6375
E-mail patsygentry@alltel.net	
Director (w/Public Relations) – Ray Gentry	Ph 770 455 6375
E-mail regentry@alltel.net	
Director – Doug Mansfield	Ph 706 896 7445
E-mail mansfpd@alltel.net	



From the desk of Jimmy Whiten

Thanks to all my loyal supporters I am now President of the bestest Trout Unlimited Chapter in the whole world.

I look forward to working for all of the membership this year.

My thanks to Terry and the great job he has done as President the past two years. He left big footprints to be filled. This upcoming year will be just as busy as last year. Just to name a few of the projects this coming year - to increase our membership, water sampling of streams, Rendezvous, help in stocking, keeping up with changes U. S. Forest Service may purpose to do and how it will affect trout fishing, to work with Georgia DNR, monitoring of Stekoa Creek, Troup Camp, and the list goes on and on.

And of course lots of camping and fishing!

With the arrival of fall and the temperature of the water dropping fishing is bound to be great!

Happy fishing, *Jimmy*

PS Did I tell you about the big trout I caught?

For more pictures, info, and back issues of TIGHT LINES, visit the Rabun TU website: <http://www.rabuntu.com/>
Georgia TU Council website: <http://georgiatu.org/> & National TU Website: <http://www.tu.org/index.asp>
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: edadams1@alltel.net Or to: Rabun TU, PO Box 65, Rabun Gap, GA 30568

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