



TIGHT LINES November 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/>

"A visit to a first-class fishing-tackle shop is more interesting than an afternoon at the circus."
Louis Rhead

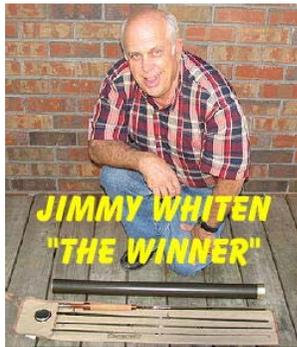
RABUN TU CHAPTER'S MEETING PLACE

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.



SAGE Custom Fly Rod Raffle

The raffle ticket drawing was conducted at the October Chapter Meeting.

Jimmy Whiten of Rabun TU purchased the winning ticket,
but he probably will not get to keep the rod.

See the "BACKCASTING" section of this newsletter for details.

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

"FORWARD CASTING" Important Dates – See you there!

Nov 1 (Thurs) Opening of GA Delayed Harvest season WAAaahWHOoooo!

Nov 7 – 11 (Wed – Sun) Camping and Fishing at Long Bottom and with fishing in the Chattooga DH, backcountry, and front-country. You need to contact Bill Kelly Ph 706 746 2104 E-mail bjk1@alltel.net or Terry Rivers Ph 706 782 7419 E-mail tr1121@alltel.net They plan the menu and buy the grub!

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

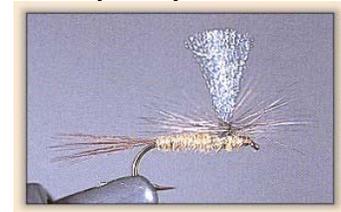
Dec 1 (Sat) GA TU Council Annual Planning Meeting with USFS, GA WRD, and NPS. 9 AM at USFS office.

Dec 8 (Sat) Tom Landreth Appreciation Day; 11 am to 1 pm (see page 2 for details)

Dec 11 (Tues) Annual Rabun Chapter Christmas Dinner Social starts 6 pm and Dinner served 7 pm in the Rock House at the Dillard House. Entire family invited, \$22 / person, BYOB.

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



PARACHUTE BWO

A LOT OF TIMES DURING THE WINTER MONTHS WHEN HATCHES HAVE SLOWED DOWN AND YOU'RE FISHING EARLY MORNINGS, YOU SEE BIG SWARMS OF BLUE WING OLIVES AND FISH RISING TO THEM. USUALLY THEY ARE SMALL, SO HAVE A FEW OF 16 TO 18 TIED UP. GOOD LUCK

HOOK: 14 TO 18

POST: WHITE POLYPROPYLENE YARN
BODY: OLIVE DUBBING BEAVER OF SUPERFINE

TAIL: FIBERS FROM BLUE DUN HACKLE
HACKLE: BLUE DUN

"There are only two occasions when Americans respect privacy, especially in Presidents. Those are prayer and fishing."
Herbert Hoover - President of the United States (1929-1933) [Tom Landreth's birth President]



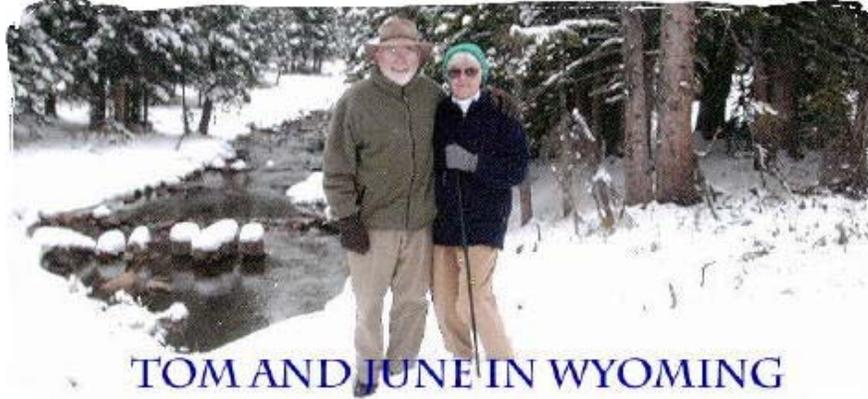
TOM LANDRETH APPRECIATION DAY



Watercolor Artist and Charter Rabunite

Visit <http://tom-landreth.com/>

An avid fly fisherman, many of Tom's paintings portray the fisherman on the stream in some quiet place in the mountains.



TOM AND JUNE IN WYOMING

Have you ever –
been inspired by his artwork? - enjoyed his company on the river? - appreciated his humor and friendship?
Then join us for a celebration!

Saturday, Dec. 8, 2007; 11 am - 1 pm; with heavy hors d'oeuvres at the Dillard House

RSVP by December 1st to Kathy & Charlie Breithaupt knc615@windstream.net (706) 782-6954

'Website-of-the-Month': <http://georgiatu.org/>

Check out: http://georgiatu.org/html/photo_gallery.html

Dream Flyfishing Vacation

Support the Georgia Council of Trout Unlimited

Buy a ticket to win a week of fly fishing at the Green River Guest Ranch in Cora, Wyoming.

Ticket Price \$10

Winner and guest will each receive:

- 5 days fishing and 6 nights lodging at the Green River Guest Ranch, July 26 – August 1, 2008
- 9 foot 5 weight 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)
- \$1,000 total in travel expenses*

*for complete rules and details visit www.georgiatu.org

TO PURCHASE YOUR DREAM TRIP RAFFLE TICKET, CONTACT:
President - Jimmy Whiten, Ph 706 886 6546 E-mail jimmywhiten@nctv.com

*"Fly fishing is a skillful art, one where man can pit his wits against nature,
and at the same time, be at one with the world around him"*

From "Fishing Flies" by Martin Ford

November 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 or #16 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
Blue Winged Olive & Blue Quill	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

Final 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 October issue).

Remember, we went with the minimums on everything. And, the prices on this list are estimations, so your actual total may be a little different in either directions than the one we show here. But really, there aren't too many hobbies that you can be completely set up for at around \$200. Of course, you can spend as much as you want. But, why spend a ton of cash on a hobby you haven't tried yet? Save that for later when you know you love it and will be doing it for a while. Then go to the fly shop and get that dreamy fly rod off the rack.

And, when compared to other ways of fishing, such as trolling lakes for bass, the cost of getting rigged up for fly-fishing is nothing! There's no boat, trolling motor, trailer, oil and gas to buy except for the gas it takes to fill up your vehicle for the ride to a stream.

In addition to that, if you really want to turbo-charge the learning process, sign up for an instructional class and learn from the professionals in Georgia.

[Unicoi Outfitters](#) in Helen offers a "three-hour tour" (a three-hour tour) known as the Gilligan Special. This class offers students one hour of overview, such as casting and equipment basics, then the opportunity to tie into an over-sized rainbow or brown on one of their trophy waters for the next two hours. The cost is \$200 for two anglers and would be well worth any new anglers' time.

[The Atlanta Fly Fishing School](#) is another great way to go if you want to get a little more in-depth. It's also closer to Atlanta, located just off of 400 in Cumming. Mack Martin and the rest of the gang at AFFS are some of the most knowledgeable people in the state when it comes to overall knowledge of all things fly-fishing. A five-hour basic fly-fishing class here will currently run you \$125.

The great benefit to paying some money now and learning from the professionals is that you will actually save money in the long run. If you're trying to learn on your own, you'll spend countless hours trying to figure things out for yourself, not to mention spending, especially now, a ton on gas money, then having to go back and un-learn bad habits you've developed.

Misconception No. 2: It takes years to become a successful fly-angler.

It goes without saying that the more time you spend learning about trout, trout streams, fly-casting, and bugs, the better you'll

be. There really is a limitless amount of knowledge that could be valuable to a trout angler. But you don't have to quit your job and become a trout bum or wait until your hair is white to find fun and success with a fly rod. In fact, there is a wealth of knowledge right at your fingertips. Check out [North Georgia Trout Online](#). There is a great message board on this site that is frequented by some of the most knowledgeable experts in our state. Simply ask a question and it will be answered. Oh, and I hear that the [GON Trout Home Page](#) is pretty good, too!

The learning curve is very steep, but also fairly short. While I'm sitting in the office during the week, paying for the Social Security of retired experts like "The Ole Rabunite," I can only dream of perfecting my skills on a beautiful mountain stream. But, basic skills like reading water, fly selection and presentation can be learned in a few weekend trips. Once you have a decent knowledge of these aspects of fly-fishing, your catch rate will go up dramatically. The other side of that coin is that you can study the sport your entire life and still have days where a creature with a brain the size of a grape-nut humbles you. But days like that make the successful ones that much sweeter.

Misconception No. 3: Fly-anglers are rich, elitist jerks.

Sure, we've got our fair share of pompous stuck-ups and idiots. But every other group of sportsmen, or people for that matter, does, too.

I see fly fishing moving further from that image in the near future as more and more people take advantage of affordable gear and destinations that weren't available just a short time ago.

And honestly, I've met some of the nicest, most down-to-earth people through fly-fishing. It really is a rarity to come across someone who'll look down his nose at you for not casting a \$500 rod, or for using an "impure" wet fly, or for clamping on an *appalling* split shot!

So, if you've been thinking about giving fly fishing a shot, spend a little money on gear, seek out some local experts at a TU meeting and make the short drive to our north Georgia mountains.

Your only regret will probably be that you didn't begin sooner.

Editor's notes: *Our thanks to young Rabunite David Cannon for writing and sharing his experiences with TIGHT LINES readers.*

"One can never learn all that there is in fly-fishing. Only men of limited experience think that they know it all."
From *The Speckled Brook Trout* by Louis Rhead

Status Update – Chattooga North Fork Visitor Use Capacity Analysis

October 15 – 18: Meeting of the 3 Forest Supervisors with ID planning team to arrive at an Environmental Assessment (EA) and a preferred alternative. Early November: Issue EA and preferred alternative, with 30-day comment period. Early December: Comment deadline. Late December or early January: Issue final decision. For more info, click [HERE](#)

“Georgia Wildlife Federation News” - Fall 2007 <http://www.gwf.org/aboutus/newsfall2007.html> Upper Chattooga River Management Decision Coming Soon

Designated as a wild and scenic river in 1974, the Chattooga River begins in western North Carolina, flows through the Ellicott Rock Wilderness in northeast Georgia and forms the boundary between Georgia and South Carolina before emptying into Lake Tugaloo. The Chattooga is Georgia's only congressionally designated Wild and Scenic River and is a popular spot for anglers, hikers, campers and other outdoor enthusiasts. Since the Chattooga flows through the Nantahala, Chattahoochee and Sumter National Forests, the U.S. Forest Service is charged with managing the resources of the river.

Since 1974, rafts, kayaks, and canoes have been prohibited above the Highway 28 bridge northeast of Clayton, Georgia, but are allowed below the bridge. Boat use on the lower river has increased as population has grown.

The revised plans for the Sumter, Nantahala/Pisgah, and Chattahoochee National Forests call for the continued prohibition against floaters above the Highway 28 bridge. American Whitewater filed a lawsuit against the Forest Service and demanded unlimited access to the Upper Chattooga River for boats. They later withdrew their lawsuit when the Forest Service agreed to conduct a study of the impacts of opening the headwaters to boats. The Forest Service held a series of public meetings in 2005 before beginning a study in December of 2005. After releasing the “Upper Chattooga River Capacity Use Analysis” earlier this year, open houses, public meetings and a workshop were held in July to enable the public to participate in the decision-making process. The majority of those who attended the meetings did not want to open the Upper Chattooga to boating.

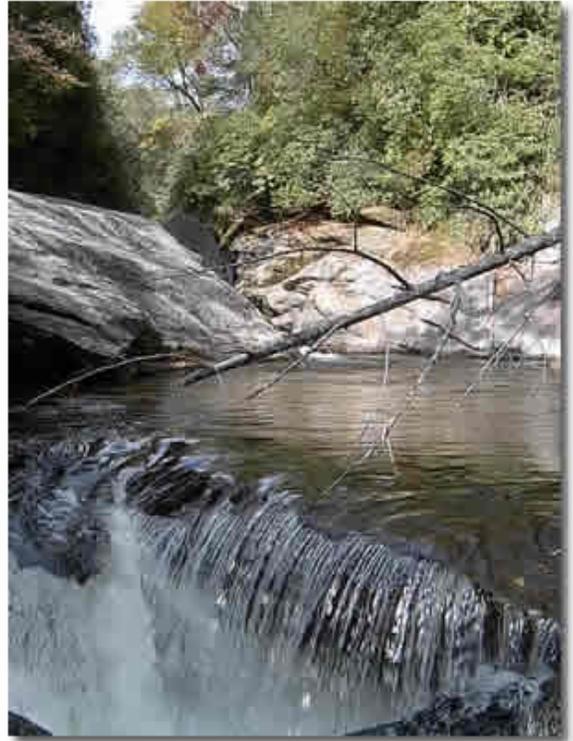
It is the position of the Georgia Wildlife Federation that the management direction for the Upper Chattooga River should remain as it is. Boating through the Upper Chattooga will allow easy access through the heart of the Chattooga headwaters in areas which are otherwise often inaccessible.

Studies have shown that there are certain species, such as the black bear, that require large core areas of wild land with minimal human impacts and disturbance in order to thrive, especially for denning and reproduction. Given the rapid increase of development on private lands in the Southeast, public lands – national forests, parks and other preserves are critical for providing the kind of backcountry where remote wild conditions provide the high-quality habitat free from human interference needed by these species. The Chattooga River corridor is important as a central, core component of the larger wild landscape that includes the Ellicott Rock Wilderness and the Rock Gorge Roadless Area.

The upper portion of the Chattooga River has cold water that is conducive to trout survival and natural regeneration. Anglers are aware that roadless areas generally provide the least degraded streams where trout and other desirable fish species dependent on clean water and stable stream flows can thrive. Isolated areas, such as the Upper Chattooga, reduce the vulnerability of fish to excessive harassment and harvest. There are no roads paralleling the river as is the case on most rivers of its size. The Upper Chattooga is the premier place in Georgia where an angler can enjoy a truly wild experience free from the intrusion of boats. This was the intent of the Forest Service in the early 1970's when they made the decision to separate the boaters from the anglers. Opening the river above the Highway 28 Bridge to boating will change all this. Anglers will no longer experience the solitude that brings them to the area. Boaters are also likely to spook the trout and reduce the chance for fishing success.

On August 14th the Forest Service released a “scoping notice” with several options for management of the Upper Chattooga. There will be a 30-day comment period during which GWF will submit comments. After mid-October the Forest Service will issue a final Environmental Assessment along with a “preferred alternative”. Another 30 day comment period will follow and the Forest Service hopes to make a final decision by December 31st.

If you would like to read the “scoping notice” and the alternatives issued by the Forest Service go to <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/>.



Editor's notes: *Actually, the USFS User Capacity Analysis was already underway when the boaters filed their lawsuit demanding immediate unrestricted access. The above article is reprinted here with permission from the current issue of the Georgia Wildlife Federation magazine. The Georgia Wildlife Federation (<http://www.gwf.org/>) is one of 20 or more organizations opposing the boating community's demand for unrestricted access to the Chattooga's North Fork.*

Zoning ensures that different and conflicting types of users are physically separated. Zoning is a time tested, fair, and legal land and water management practice. Zoning of conflicting activities is good stewardship. Stewardship 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 these values intact for future generations.

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: 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

What has been accomplished in the 8 months since Rabun TU partnered with the Chattooga Conservancy? The weekly lab tests of water samples have shown the approximate location of 3 major sewer leaks facilitating their immediate location and repair by City of Clayton crews. Without weekly test results, some of these leaks could have gone undetected for months. Because of persistent sewer system failures along the west prong, the Clayton City Marshall has posted signs along the creek to warn the public of the health hazard of the polluted stream. The City is forming a Task Force of community leaders to develop a plan of action. A grant request for over \$300,000 has been prepared and submitted. The USFS has come on board as a partner monitoring the effects of the Stekoa confluence on the Chattooga. The expansion of the City's wastewater treatment plant is on hold by the GA EPD because of the demand by concerned citizens at the public hearing that the sewage collection system be addressed first. To see a spreadsheet with the weekly fecal coliform counts for all sample sites, click on <http://www.rabuntu.com/>

Want to help? 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](#)

Now is the time to begin the application process for Georgia Trout Camp 2008.

Here are a few facts and instructions:

Camp Dates: June 8 (Sunday) - June 13 (Friday); **Cost:** \$350 per camper; **Deadline to apply:** May 1, 2008

Instructions: Applications must be completed and turned in to a chapter. Each of the 12 chapters in Georgia has two spots to fill and each chapter decides how they want to select their campers. Once a camper is chosen by a chapter, the application, along with their tuition check, is forwarded to the Trout Camp Coordinator (Charlie Breithaupt). Campers will be notified of their acceptance as soon as possible. Later, around early May, more detailed information will be sent to each camper.

Information and application forms are available on the Council website www.gatu.org

Questions and/or concerns should be directed to the Camp Coordinator.

Charlie Breithaupt; 194 Kitchens Lane; Clayton, GA 30525 knc615@windstream.net (706) 782-6954

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.

Georgia Trout Unlimited is a Member of



We appreciate the use of the Community Room for our meetings.

*We're Community Minded,
Just Like You.*

(706)782-1010

cb Community
Bank & Trust

An Equal Housing Lender www.corebanking.net Member FDIC

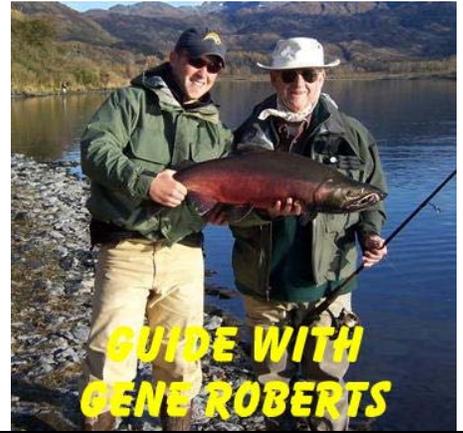
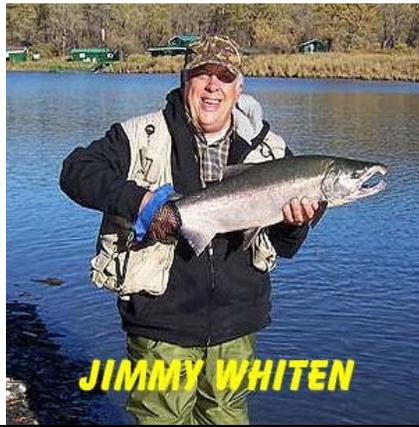
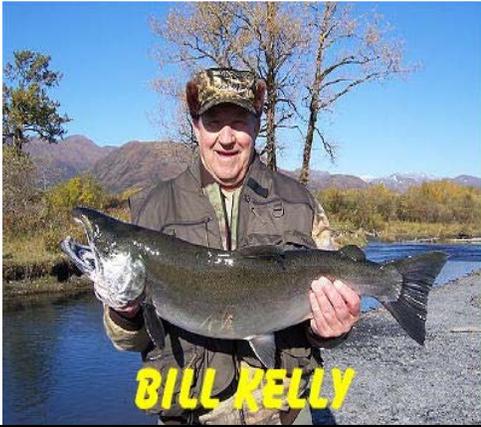
What's New Elsewhere?

108 Acres Added to Chattahoochee National Forest White County, GA The following are excerpts from the Trust for Public Land's News Release. (10/16/2007) The Beutell tract was the northernmost privately held property on the Chattahoochee River and a critical acquisition. The property provides public access to the river for fishing and is of special interest to the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture, a project of the National Fish Habitat Action Plan to protect, restore and enhance aquatic habitat throughout the range of Eastern brook trout. Kevin McGrath, Georgia's head of Trout Unlimited's Back the Brookie Program states that, "as part of the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture, the tributaries running through this property are being analyzed for their ability to hold and sustain the reintroduction of Southern Appalachian

brook trout." The Forest Service's on-going stewardship of the Beutell tract will help protect water quality, forested views, and recreational access in the headwaters of the Chattahoochee River. Jim Kidd, formerly with the US Forest Service, readily agrees. "Growth in an area like Helen, Georgia is inevitable. So when you have the opportunity to permanently conserve a piece of property like this, you have to act quickly; and having conservation partners like The Trust for Public Land is an absolute necessity. Government can't do it alone. It takes multiple funding sources, partnerships, and willing landowners like the Beutells who truly appreciate the value of the legacy they're leaving behind." To read the complete News Release, click [HERE](#)

Fishing Reports

"Did I tell you about my big fish?" Where were you? I.D.B.i.s.



"Why does a salmon rise? Why does a small boy cross the street just to kick a tin can?"

From *The Atlantic Salmon* by Lee Wulff,

"BACKCASTING"

Sept 29 (Sat) USFS Workshop - Management Alternatives for Chattooga North Fork: The Forest Service registered about 100 participants, of which 14 were Rabunites. It appeared that about 2/3rds of the participants were members of the boating community. The morning session was an opportunity for participants to evaluate the revisions to the original 6 alternatives and 3 new alternatives. About 40% of the participants did not return after lunch for the session to "fine tune" the alternatives.

Sept 29 (Sat) Gold Rush Chapter (Dahlonega) Fundraiser: 3 Rabunites attended this the 3rd Annual Traditional Family Cookout and Picnic Fundraiser at Camp Glisson

Oct 2 – 6 (Tue – Sat) Campout and Fishing 11 Rabunites participated (plus Dixie and Andy). Some folks fished the lower Chattooga for redeye bass (and caught 5 different species of fish, including redeyes and stocked rainbow trout), some folks fished the Burrell's Ford front-country to keep some stocked trout (for the Thursday evening fish fry), and some folks hiked for 1 ½ hour into the Chattooga Cliffs backcountry to catch and release wild brown trout then hiked in the rain for 1 ½ hours back out to the trailhead. Everyone had a great time making new memories. The camp stories were enjoyable, the picking and singing were entertaining, and the camp cooking was spectacular (y.d.h.t.b.i.i.y.d.w.2).

Oct 5 (Fri) The Chattooga River Macroinvertebrate Study 8 Rabunite volunteers participated. The study was organized by the Sumter National Forest and was managed by Dr. Rockie English of Clemson University. After training and detailed instructions, some of the volunteers teamed up and went to preselected sites on the Chattooga and the tributaries to collect samples (in a light rain). The remaining volunteers picked the macroinvertebrates (bugs) from samples previously collected by several Clemson graduate students. The process went so smoothly that the work was completed on Friday afternoon.

Oct 15 (Mon) Little Tennessee Watershed Association Public Meeting about Rabun County's plans for the purchase of Fruit of the Loom's wastewater treatment plant and water filter plant. 3 members of Rabun TU attended the informational meeting at Rabun Gap Nacoochee School.

Oct 16 (Tues) Chapter Meeting: 37 Rabunites and guests attended, including 5 from the Gold Rush TU Chapter in Dahlonega, another very large turnout. **Program – Dan Rankin**, SC DNR coldwater fisheries biologist, gave an excellent PowerPoint presentation on the restoration of the native Southern Appalachian brook trout (SABT) to 2 streams in SC. Dan reported that their stream surveys across upstate SC showed there were 16 populations of brook trout remaining (down to 1/5 of their historic range), but only 2 of the 16 were SABT. They then select 2 streams to reclaim from non-native wild brown trout. The project was conducted with a partnership including SCDNR, USFS, National Park Service, Clemson Univ. and TU. A National TU Embrace-A-Stream grant was awarded. The decision was made to use antimycin, a chemical that kills the brown trout but does little harm to the crayfish and aquatic insects. After good project planning and execution, both streams have been successfully restored to SABT. Great work! Thank you Dan for an excellent presentation.

The Meeting Raffle had 11 buckets with some very special items, including three fly selections, a jar of local sourwood honey, a large arbor fly reel, a Looney Tunes lure box, a daypack, and a 55-year-old South Bend 3 piece cane fly rod. The raffle raised \$192 (most ever at a meeting raffle) 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 members and guests who purchased raffle tickets.

SAGE Custom Fly Rod Raffle (Z-axis, 9 ft, 5 wt, 4 pc, over \$600 retail value!) Our program presenter, Dan Rankin, drew the ticket. Our brand new Chapter Prez, Jimmy Whiten, had purchased the winning ticket. Doris (Jimmy's wife) was in attendance and said she would certainly enjoy her new custom SAGE rod! We sold 353 raffle tickets for a total \$919. The funds will be used wisely to teach conservation to our young people and to protect our cold-water fisheries. Our thanks to everyone that purchased raffle tickets in this annual fundraiser. A very special **THANKS** to our good friend Mack Martin of North Georgia Custom Rods who donated this fly rod to Rabun TU: <http://www.mackmartin.com/CustomRods.htm>

Oct 23 (Tues) BOD Meeting: 10 Officers and Directors attended the meeting. Items discussed included: Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project; Update on Chattooga North Fork Boating Zoning; Report on the Rod Raffle; 2008 Rabun Rendezvous plans; Dream Trip Raffle for GA Council; Tom Landreth Appreciation Day on Dec 8th; Nov 7 – 11 (Wed – Sun) Camping and Fishing outing; Annual Report to National TU; Nov Chapter Meeting Program; January Chapter Meeting Program; Need for a larger meeting room; Update on Publicity, Public Relations, and Outreach; Treasury Report; and Selection Committee for Trout Campers.

Oct 30 (Tues) Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project Meeting 4 members of the Rabun BOD met with Chattooga Conservancy staff and the Clayton City Marshall discussing what has been accomplished, what is currently underway, and prospects for future improvements. See "Stekoa Creek Update" elsewhere in this newsletter for details.

" As much as anything, the anglers will clue you in to the midge hatch. You will see them hunched over in concentration like herons. The better ones will be in as close as they can get to the dimpling trout. What you'll notice is the rhythmic flicking of casts toward a porpoising trout and the lack of any other motions. The only exception will be the gentle tug that sets a very small hook attached to the leader by a very delicate tippet. The playing of the trout, if it is a good one, will be a cat-and-mouse sort of ecstasy." Ed Engle

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Big Rabunite "WELCOME" to 1 **new member** this month: **Kim Costner**, 321 Windy Hollow Court, Lakemont, GA 30552

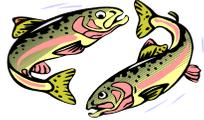
Thanks for re-upping: **Joe Gatins, Cecil Beehler, Thomas West, Dean English, Wayne Gipson, Steve McCall, Tom Nixon, Brooks & Amanda Adams, and Julie Kilby.**

It is time to renew your membership: **Tommy James, Joshua Watts, 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, and Terrell Dodgins.**

**CONGRATULATIONS on the 50th Wedding Anniversaries for a couple of Rabun TU Member twosomes:
Frank and Elizabeth Allen (Atlanta) AND Russell and Kathleen Johnson (Lakemont)**

Rabun TU Officers & Directors 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
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From the Fly Tying Desk of Jimmy Whiten

I hope everyone is doing great as I am writing this letter.

As I said in my last letter fishing will be better for October as the temperatures in the streams are cooling down a little but what I am seeing is the streams are getting smaller as we are not getting the rain we need. Just like the directions on the soup can says - JUST ADD WATER, or as one of my friends said, "You just carry a couple buckets of water to the stream first thing of morning so that you can fish that afternoon."

If you missed our last meeting, it was great! Our guest speaker was Dan Rankin with SC DNR. He gave a presentation on restoring the native brook trout. He explained all the steps that must be taken before you can start stocking the streams with native brook trout. (I never new there was so much involved!) A special thanks to Dan for the program and him giving up his evening for us to learn more about this special program. (He even named the three streams in SC they were working on. Don't go out and buy SC fishing licenses just yet.)

We had a great crowd, we ran out of chairs, had two newcomers and other special guests - with some traveling over 100 miles just to be with us.

Happy fishing,

Jimmy

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