



TIGHT LINES

January 2008 Newsletter of the

Rabun Chapter (522) of Trout Unlimited

Editor – Doug Adams edadams1@alltel.net

Visit the Rabun TU website: <http://www.rabuntu.com/>

"Put backing on your reel; even if you never use it. It helps you dream." Unknown

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.

"Lots of people committed crimes during the year who would not have done so if they had been fishing. The increase of crime is among those deprived of the regenerations that impregnate the mind and character of the fisherman."

Pres. Herbert Hoover

"FORWARD CASTING" Important Dates – See you there!

Jan 1 HAPPY NEW SEASON!

Jan 15 (Tues) Chapter Meeting 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust, Community Room (Outside Entrance on South Side) **Program:** 7:00 PM by **Doug Adams** – *History of the Chattooga River*

Jan 22 (Tues) Annual Chattooga Coalition Meeting 9 AM, USFS Andrew Pickens R.D., Mountain Rest, SC

Jan 22 (Tues) BOD Meeting 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust

Jan 26 (Sat) 21st Annual Rabun Rendezvous, The Dillard House Conference Center, 1 PM - Set-up, 5 PM - Social, 6:30 - PM Dinner. Program by Sally Armstrong, National TU Volunteer Operations Coordinator. For details contact **Doug Adams** Ph 706 746 2158 edadams1@alltel.net ; For Lodging call toll Free 1-800-541-0671.

Feb 9 (Sat) Annual Budget & Planning Meeting, 8 AM, Breakfast Meeting at the Dillard House. All Rabun TU members are invited.

Feb 19 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust; **Program** presented by **Rocky Ford** – *The Georgia Wildlife Federation Story and Our TU Partnership*

Feb 26 (Tues) BOD Meeting 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust

FLY OF THE MONTH

by Terry Rivers



GOLD RIB HARES EAR

THIS FLY WILL REPRESENT THE MARCH BROWN MAYFLY. POUNDING THE BOTTOM WITH THIS PATTERN CAN PROVIDE CONSTANCE ACTION FROM MID-MORNING INTO THE EARLY STAGES OF THE HATCH. HOWEVER NYMPAL COLOR TENDS TO ADAPT TO THE COLOR OF THE STREAM BED.

DURING FEBUARY, MARCH AND EARLY APRIL HAVE SOME OF THESE TIED UP FROM A LIGHT BROWN TO ALMOST BLACK. I CAUGHT 30 + WITH THIS FLY THE 14TH OF DECEMBER 2007 IN THE BACKCOUNTRY OF THE RIVER.

HOOK: 12 to 14 STANDARD NYMPH HOOK

TAIL: DEER HAIR OR SQUIRREL TAIL

BODY: RABBIT DUBBING COLOR OF CHOICE

ABDOMEN: SAME AS BODY OR SHADE DARKER

WING CASE: TURKEY TAIL

"As for the fishing, it need not be good. There need only be a chance that it may be good. I do not much want to kill fish — I would rather release them. What I want to find is some classic situation — a good fish rising in a favorable, but not too favorable, place; the perfect lie that one can fish down to with mounting concentration, through a long reach; the difficult place close under the bank, where trouble is certain from the log jam or the rapid below. These things never grow stale."

By Roderick Haig-Brown in a CBS broadcast, "The Man Behind the Rod"

Tom Landreth

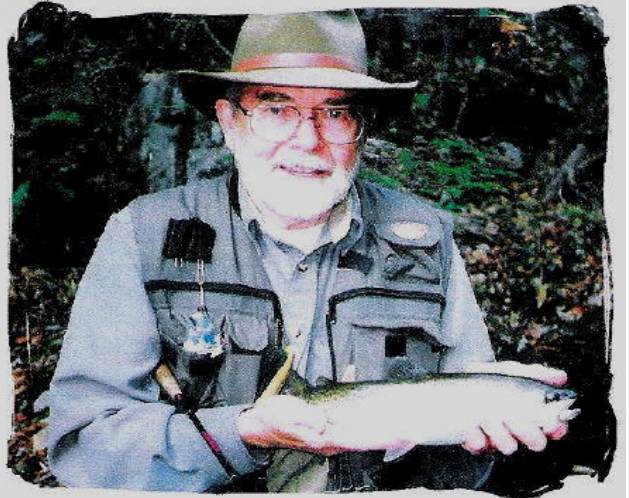
January 25, 1932 - December 8, 2007

Tom joined Trout Unlimited in 1984 and became a charter member of the Rabun Chapter in 1986. For twelve years Tom served as newsletter editor. In addition he served as Chapter President (1995 & 1996), chapter secretary for three years and as a director of the chapter for four years.

Tom was a well-known and accomplished watercolor artist and fly fisherman who loved painting the area streams. He donated countless paintings to TU fundraisers over the years.

Tom is survived by his wife of 51 years, June; two daughters Kelli Landreth and Lisa Galatas; son-in-law AJ Galatas; grandsons Justin and Logan Galatas; sister Patricia L. Boyd and brother Walt Landreth (a member of the Rabun Chapter) and sister-in-law Llew Landreth.

Memorials may be made to Regency Hospice of Northeast Georgia, PO Box 494, Hiawassee, GA 30546



MY WAY

And now, the end is near; And so I face the final curtain.
My friend, I'll say it clear, I'll state my case, of which I'm certain.
I've lived a life that's full. I've traveled each and every highway;
And more, much more than this, I did it my way.

Regrets, I've had a few; But then again, too few to mention.
I did what I had to do And saw it through without exemption.
I planned each charted course; Each careful step along the byway,
But more, much more than this, I did it my way.

Yes, there were times, I'm sure you knew
When I bit off more than I could chew.
But through it all, when there was doubt, I ate it up and spit it out.
I faced it all and I stood tall; And did it my way.

I've loved, I've laughed and cried. I've had my fill; my share of losing.
And now, as tears subside, I find it all so amusing.
To think I did all that; And may I say
- not in a shy way, No, oh no not me, I did it my way.

For what is a man, what has he got? If not himself, then he has naught.
To say the things he truly feels; And not the words of one who kneels.
The record shows I took the blows - And did it my way!

Tom Landreth

(The above lyrics are from one of Tom's favorite Frank Sinatra songs, the lyrics were written by Paul Anka)

*Thanks for all the good memories, ole friend.
We'll catch up with you later, around the bend.
Happy trails and tight lines*

Doug

An Angler's Tribute to Tom Landreth

The following is not "shop newsletter" material, but rather some personal thoughts I want to share with you. Jimmy Harris

In this season of love, giving and receiving, I want to ask each and every one of you to take time to reflect on the place each of these words occupy in your life. As we have all heard, there is a season for all things and that is certainly true for these: love, giving, receiving. Our challenge is to make the most of these seasons in our lives and, hopefully, cultivate them to where they become an integral part of who we are. Some of you may be blessed to the point that the mere mention of your name invites images of these traits. Would that we may all be this fortunate.

Yesterday, Saturday the 8th of December, I attended one of the most amazing events of love, giving and receiving that I have ever witnessed. What had begun as a luncheon among friends to express their appreciation to Tom Landreth grew into something no one had expected. Tom was battling cancer again and this time it was back with no regard for the doctors or their treatments. It was doing its best to dim the light that had beamed so brightly over north Georgia trout fishing and the art community. The luncheon had been planned for several weeks and was anticipated with both joyfulness and a heavy sense of melancholy. We all wanted one more opportunity to look into those smiling eyes and tell Tom how much he has meant to us as a friend, as a leader, as a man.

Driving up to Dillard I got a phone call telling me that Tom was too ill to attend the gathering. Okay, I thought, we're going to be there anyway, so we'll do some reminiscing, sign a card for Tom, maybe record a big Rabun "Waa-Hooo!" that can be played back for him at home and collectively send him our prayers. As I pulled into the parking lot in front of the Dillard House banquet room, it became clear that this was going to be more, much more. A steady stream of folks was already pouring into the room and one of the first faces I saw was Tom's brother Walt. With his typical huge grin, Walt greeted me and thanked me for coming. "I wouldn't have missed it" I replied with sincerity. Working my way around the room I heard someone say that June was there along with their daughters. Wow! What strength she has to be here. It must be difficult to look at all the video images on the screens of a healthy Tom. What strength she has, when Charlie's voice cracked as he tried to open the luncheon with a prayer, to announce to the room that this was a celebration of Tom's life. And the strength to gracefully hold the hands and look into the eyes of every person who approached to tell her how much she and Tom are loved.

Over 200 people made the trip to Dillard yesterday to tell Tom how grateful they were that somehow they had been chosen to share some of life's experiences with him. Two hundred people who had in probably two hundred different ways been touched by Tom's loving and giving. Now it was time for Tom to receive. To receive the genuine emotions of gratitude and respect for his life. While there were certainly tears shed throughout the day, it was indeed a celebration of Tom's life and I am blessed to have been there with all the others, each with their own Tom Landreth story.

My own "Tom" story is a simple one of being the recipient of his giving personality. In the mid-70's I had decided I wanted to learn how to flyfish. Living on the banks of the Arkansas River in Russellville, Arkansas at the time afforded me plenty of opportunities to practice my skills on bream, bass and even a catfish one time. With no tutoring other than a book I checked out of the Arkansas Tech University library, I actually became a somewhat decent caster and a terror on the neighborhood

bream beads. About 1980 I moved back home to Georgia and began to pursue the wily trout with my flyrod. I must admit, I looked good up on the Chattooga River as I aerialized that fly line and cast only to rising trout. It wasn't that I was being snobbish, I just didn't know that you could catch them with anything but a dry fly. For two seasons (two years!) I kept traveling to the Chattooga and the upper Chattahoochee Rivers to flyfish for trout, and I never hooked a fish. Never! One day I happened to read a small announcement in the Tri-County Advertiser inviting anyone interested in trout fishing to a meeting of Trout Unlimited. A phone number was listed at the end of the announcement so I called to find out more. The phone number belonged to Tom and, like a sinner at confession, I began to tell him of my pitiful attempts to learn how to flyfish for trout. If the thought ever crossed his mind that he was on the phone with a nut, he never let on. In fact, he invited me out to his home without ever having met me. That was my introduction to Rabun TU and a group of folks who took me under their wings and literally taught me how to catch a trout on a flyrod. It was intimidating at first but the desire to learn was so strong within me that my fears took a backseat. I have told Tom's family that he is the reason I am where I am today. Now, he may not have wanted to take credit for that but in my mind it's a fact and I will forever be indebted to him as are so many others.

At 11:57 PM last night (December 8th), Tom Landreth passed away. How ironic is life that it would occur on the same day as our gathering to show him our appreciation. Tom was not there in person but his spirit filled not only that banquet hall but the hearts of everyone in there. It is only fitting that those of us whose lives have been impacted by Tom (and you are one if you trout fish in Georgia regardless of whether you knew him personally or not) will make a more concerted effort to love more and to give more. Reach out to someone else, even if you think they may be a nut, and teach them some of what you know. Help them to see the beauty of our sport and the natural resources we have been blessed with in which to enjoy it. Help them to understand the work that has gone on before them by people like Tom to insure they had this opportunity today and will tomorrow if they'll only take up the torch and move forward with it. Tom Landreth helped set the standard and for that we are grateful. And in his memory we will try to uphold that standard.

Tight Lines, Tom! <http://www.tom-landreth.com>



JANUARY 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, PT
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

'Website-of-the-Month': <http://www.ngatu692.com/>
 Take a look at the excellent hatch chart: http://www.ngatu692.com/Hatch_Charts.html

FISHING REPORT

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

Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2007

Here's another fishing report from a couple of flatlanders. The picture is of Kevin's first Steelhead that he is holding while proudly wearing his Georgia Trout Camp vest.

While visiting family in Pittsburgh over Thanksgiving, I planned a Steelhead trip to the Erie area to fish Elk Creek with my brother-in-law Scott Davidson and my son Kevin. We headed north Wednesday morning at 5:30 am and got on the water at around 8:00. It was a great day for November fishing, overcast with a slight breeze and 65 degrees. As soon as we stepped into the creek Kevin couldn't wait and began casting. After about 5 casts, he had one on, but then lost it after a pretty impressive tail walk. I turned around and Scott had his line in and was working a run. After much pleading, I convinced them both that we'd be better off moving upstream and away from the parking area which could get many other fishermen plodding past us to get to other fishing spots. I have a favorite spot on Elk Creek and we made a beeline for and when we reached it, Kevin, Scott, and I spread out and I had a fish on immediately. I brought my large catch and release net with me on this trip, and by large, I mean it is well suited for big 18"-20" trout you can catch on the Soque or Nacoochee Bend. When Scott grabbed the net to land my fish, only half of the fish would fit in, and it kept jumping out. I took this as a good sign. Kevin soon had one on and it was a big one. It made at least 5 runs before tiring out and letting me get close enough to it to land. The net was a joke and I ended up just using it as a barrier to keep the fish from flopping back into the water. Kevin's first Steelhead was a beauty and was easily over 8 pounds and measured 27 inches, 3 inches longer than the net including the handle! We fished for a total of about four hours and Kevin ended up with 4, Scott had 3 and I finished the day with 4. We each had on at least a dozen more, and all in

all it was a fantastic day on the water. The smallest fish caught was 20" and Kevin's fish ended up being the big fish of the trip. Thanks,

From: Dave Lash –
Atlanta, GA (A Rabunite)



Editor's notes: Kevin was a GA Trout Camper in 2006 and a Young Mentor at the 2007 camp.
WAAAah WHOOO!

**4th Annual 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.grquestranch.com/>
 Dates July 26 – Aug 1, 2008
- 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)
- \$1000 in travel expenses (this is total, not per person)
 For complete rules and details visit www.georgiatu.org



And 6 Runner Up Prizes: 2 custom fly rods, ½ day for 2 at Nacoochee Bend, & 3 fly boxes with 72 flies in each
 Support the Georgia Council of Trout Unlimited; buy a \$10 raffle ticket to win a week of guided fly-fishing.

TO PURCHASE YOUR DREAM TRIP RAFFLE TICKETS @ \$10 EACH, CONTACT:

Rabun TU Chapter President - Jimmy Whiten, Ph 706 886 6546 E-mail jimmywhiten@nctv.com

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.

DRIVING FOR TROUT

Seventeen (18) 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 winter and spring is as follows:

Doug Adams (1/2), Lea Richmond (1/8), Russell Johnson (1/15), Charlie Breithaupt (1/22), Jimmy Whiten (1/29), Fritz Vinson (2/5), Terry Rivers (2/12), Larry Walker (2/19), Doug Mansfield (2/26), Ray Kearns (3/4), Charlie Breithaupt (3/11), Ray Gentry (3/18), Bill Kelly (3/25), Travis Barnes (4/1), Tom Matthews (4/8), Kathy Breithaupt (4/15), Eedee Adams (4/22), Gary Deal (4/29), Doug Adams (5/6), Lea Richmond (5/13), Russell Johnson (5/20), Jimmy Whiten (5/27), Fritz Vinson (6/3)

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



City of Clayton

**Trout Unlimited of Rabun County
P.O. Box 65
Rabun Gap, Georgia 30568**

12 November 2007

Re: Water Testing of Chattooga Watershed

Doug,

I want to thank each of you with Trout Unlimited for the value you place upon clean water in Rabun County. Through water testing that has been funded by Trout Unlimited the Chattooga Conservancy has notified us of many high fecal coli form counts. That in turn has allowed us to go to that area, discover the source of contaminants, and repair it. To my knowledge this has allowed the City of Clayton to repair many leaks that were infiltrating either Scotts or Stekoa Creeks.

Again thank for your aid to this situation and I can only ask that this program be continued to allow continual improvement of the collection system.

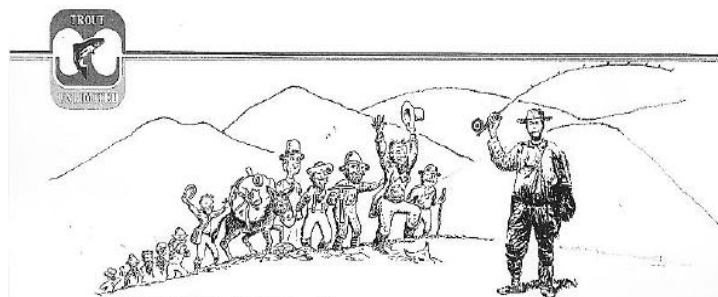
Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cissy Henry".

**Cissy Henry
Clayton City Manager**

The Rabun TU Chapter has made another Embrace-A-Stream Grant Application for funding through 2008.

Want to help with the Stekoa monitoring? The Embrace-A-Stream grant pay about 50% of the lab fees. Matching donations are needed for the other 50%. For info on where you or your organization can send a donation to help pay lab fees E-mail edadams1@alltel.net or visit [HERE](#) To see a list of organizations and individuals that have donated, click [HERE](#)
All donations to Rabun TU (a Federal Tax Exempt 501(c)3 non-profit) are tax deductible.



**The Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited proudly presents
A Celebration Of Rivers, Streams, Trout, and Trout Fishing.**

Please Join Us for the 21st 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 26, 2008 Where: The Dillard House Conference Center

Cost: \$30 for adults and \$25 for youth of 15 and under. Cash or personal checks are fine (we don't do credit cards).
5 PM Social, 6:30 PM Dinner

Program presenter will be Sally Armstrong, National TU Volunteer Operations Coordinator. Her program will be stories from the "inside of operations" at Headquarters.

For details contact **Doug Adams** Ph 706 746 2158 edadams1@alltel.net ;

For lodging call toll Free 1-800-541-0671 Mention you are coming to the Trout Unlimited Rendezvous for the best rates.

The 2008 Rabun Rendezvous' Silent Auction Will Feature Tom Landreth's Fishing Items

June has graciously donated most of Tom's trout fishing equipment, fly tying equipment and supplies, and his extensive library of trout books to Rabun TU for fundraising in support of our mission of youth education and coldwater fisheries conservation. Items that will be placed in the silent auction include fly assortments, rods and reels, wicker creels, a fly tying station, tying vise, fly tying materials, an extensive collection of trout related books, and much, much more.

Letters To and From The Rabunites

About the newsletter:

Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2007

Subject: RE: TIGHT LINES December 2007 Newsletter
Great "How Tos" in this edition. Thanks for sending the newsletter. I always enjoy seeing it. Cheers
From: G. Richard Mode – Morganton, NC

Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2007 1:13 PM

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES December 2007 Newsletter
Thanks, always enjoy the newsletter.
From: John C. Kies – Hendersonville, NC

Sent: Friday, November 30, 2007

Subject: tight lines

I just wanted to tell you how much I enjoy reading the Rabun Tight Lines newsletter. I live in Walhalla, SC, and am a member of the Chattooga River Chapter of TU. Each month I get an email with a link to your newsletter and always look forward to reading your publications. I am very impressed with the informative articles, pictures and always look forward to checking out the "Website of the Month". Keep up the good work!

From: Mike Pearson - Seneca, SC

Sent: Monday, December 03, 2007

Subject: RE: TIGHT LINES December 2007 Newsletter
Hello – I have enjoyed getting the emailed newsletters. Thanks,
From: Ted Hendrickx - Kanooka TU

Messages about Tom Landreth, from Near and Far

Sent: Saturday, December 08, 2007

Subject: Tom Landreth Appreciation Day

Today was an unforgettable experience that Fran and I will treasure. We had no idea of Tom's health problems until we got there today – and the outpouring of friendship, love and respect was something that warmed our hearts.

I called the Dillard House tonight to make reservations for the Rendezvous. We'll be there.– we'll try to bring something interesting for the auction. We look forward to the company.
From: Janet and Fran Uteg – Hartwell, GA

Sent: Sunday, December 09, 2007 9:30 AM

Subject: Our Tom Landreth

Hi Everyone,

Last night Tom passed away at 11:57 pm.... Tom knew

about his "Appreciation Day" and was so very pleased. He was overwhelmed with the response, and was touched at the outpouring of love for him and his family.

To those of you who were able to come yesterday, thanks for being there. We don't know about arrangements at this point - but will be in touch as soon as we do. And there were people there yesterday who are not on this email list - if you can please call your friends and make sure they know.

Thanks so much - and God Bless all of you.

From: Kathy & Charlie Breithaupt – Rabunites, Clayton, GA

Sent: Sunday, December 09, 2007 9:32 AM

Subject: Tom Landreth

June just called. Tom passed away at 11:57 last night. He will be cremated.

She said yesterday's event was wonderful and it was the family visitation, there will not be another. She said when she got home she sat with Tom and told him about the outpouring of love. She believes he understood what she was saying.

When I visited Tom about 2 PM yesterday, I told him "Thanks for all the wonderful memories. You go on around the next bend and I'll catch up with you later. Catch a few good'uns for me." He opened his eyes for a moment and whispered, "OK."

Happy Trails, my friend.

From: Doug Adams – Rabunite, Rabun Gap, GA

Sent: Sunday, December 09, 2007

Subject: RE: Tom Landreth

I didn't realize Tom was even sick; I did see the "Tom Landreth Appreciation Day" in the newsletter but didn't wonder about it enough. He is a wonderful person and a great artist. I will miss knowing he is there, on The River. I bet he is on the best river yet -- right now. Tight Lines & Happy Trails,

From: Don Atkinson – Rabunite, Sylvania, OH

Sent: Sunday, December 09, 2007

Subject: RE: Tom Landreth

It's hard to believe that, though I think of Tom every day I look at my fireplace (where hangs a print of his watercolor of "the steps"), I never met him. I've heard about him, and read what he wrote so often, I feel as though I did know him.

I know all will miss him. You were fortunate to have such a good send-off with him. Thinking about you all,

*The print is "9/200 Appalachian Rainbow", signed by Tom and has a royal Wulff fly in the matting.

From: Doug Atkinson – Rabunite, Bradfordwoods, PA

Sent: Sunday, December 09, 2007

Subject: Re: Tom Landreth

I have been out of town for several days. I returned home and was deeply saddened when I opened your e-mail to find that Tom had passed on. It is just hard to believe that he is gone. We all thought so much of him and he added so much to our group. It has been a pleasure to know Tom and enjoy spending time in his presence, particularly during our trips West of Hiawassee. He was a fine man and a special person. Thanks for sharing the comments about your last visit with Tom. I know that Tom has gone 'round the bend and is probably sitting on the bank, tying a few more knots in that leader of his to catch a good'un. Damn

From: Russ Tyre – Rabunite, St Petersburg Beach, FL

Sent: Sunday, December 09, 2007

Subject: The Laurel

We would like to devote a page to Tom Landreth in the January Laurel. I'm so glad that I was there yesterday. My heart aches for his family which I learned yesterday consists

of many more than June and his girls. Yesterday I felt as if I had known Tom for years, and today's news brings great sadness to many including all of us at the Laurel. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

From: Tracy McCoy – Rabunite, Publisher - The Georgia Mountain Laurel Magazine, Clayton, GA

Sent: Sunday, December 09, 2007

Subject: Re: Tom Landreth

I am in shock over Tom's passing...I didn't know he was that sick. He had been a good friend of mine since the days when he lived here in Clarkesville. He was a great person, and will be greatly missed. Thank you so much for letting me know...

From: Doug Watson – USFS Retired, Clarkesville, GA

Sent: Monday, December 10, 2007

Subject: Tom Landreth

I was really sorry to hear about the loss - I know everyone knew it was coming, but I suspect that didn't make it any easier. I'm really glad you were able to have that moment with him this weekend. Not that I knew him well, but he always struck me as just a kind, happy guy. I'm glad I was able to know him.

From: David Cannon – Madison, 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

Georgia Trout Unlimited is a Member of



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



"Fly tackle has improved considerably since 1676, when Charles Cotton advised anglers to 'fish fine and far off,' but no one has ever improved on that statement."

From Fly Fishing the High Country by John Gierach

A FISHING REPORT from the Chattooga DH

Sent: Sunday, December 09, 2007

Subject: Here is a report for the Chattooga DH on Sunday 12/9.

Hit the DH today, got there about 8 and left at 5. Started off with a 16 prince with a 22 pt as a dropper. They were biting today, it seemed I caught one every cast. By the time I had fished up to the fields I had caught at least 100. Got to this one hole and kept missing one big'un, so I switched over to a peach wb and wham!!! A nice fat 20"er bow. Caught a few more then switched back to a nymph. Around 1 I ran into Dredger (Jeff Durniak) and we began micro dredging from the fields to a couple hundred yards below Reed Creek. We slaughtered em!!! Well it was time for me to head back to the truck, so I tied on a peach wb and hit all the deep holes back to the parking lot picked up another 25. All in all a great day on the water. Most were bows with a few browns in the mix and 1 brookie to complete a grand slam.

From: John Eaves – Rabunite, Royston, GA

What's New Elsewhere?

USFS - GA: Forest Service Considers Land Exchange; Will Benefit County and National Forest, Officials State *The following are excerpts from a News Release; Clayton, Georgia (12/3/2007)* Dave Jensen, District Ranger for the U.S. Forest Service, announced today that the Forest Service is considering a proposal for a multi-party land exchange that will involve land in Rabun, White, Putnam, Murray, and Jasper Counties. Parties in this proposed exchange include the Rabun County Board of Commissioners, the Rabun County Board of Education, private citizen Mr. Larry Cooper and the U.S. Forest Service. Within this particular proposal, the United States of America would convey approximately 323 acres of land to the exchange proponents and would receive approximately 759 acres of land as part of the

Chattahoochee and Oconee National Forests. To read the complete News Release, click [HERE](#)

USFS - GA: Horseback riding is allowed on designated trails plus both open and gated Forest Service roads, but horseback riding is not presently allowed cross-country and on "user created" trails to protect watersheds. Cross-country horseback riding is to be studied and an environmental analysis performed. To read more, visit [HERE](#)

USFS - GA: Anderson Creek OHV System Trail Project is located on the Blue Ridge Ranger District of the Chattahoochee NF. The EA and preferred alternative has been released for your review and comments. Comments must be postmarked or received by January 30, 2008. For details, click [HERE](#) & [HERE](#).

Insights into Anglers - Excerpts from the 2007 Survey Summary

AnglerSurvey.com monitors angler's monthly outdoor activities, purchases and opinions. These surveys have become an important tool in helping the American Sportfishing Association, industry, media, and fishery managers understand the trends affecting participation and sales. The following excerpts are some highlights from the 2007 surveys:

What Motivates People to Fish? (March, 2007): There are many reasons why people fish, according to polls. Experiencing nature, relaxation, and spending time with family and friends are the top reasons for getting outdoors. "Most anglers go outdoors for more than one reason," explains Rob Southwick, who oversees the monthly surveys. The true benefits from time spent outdoors are to unwind, experience nature and to reconnect with others. The results reinforce similar findings from other recent scientific studies."

Most Anglers Release Fish They Catch (January 2007): Most anglers choose to release most of the fish they catch. According to a January 2007 poll by AnglerSurvey.com, 60% of anglers said they release most of the fish they catch, while 18% responded they release all the fish they catch. Only 21% keep most or all of their catch.

Where Do Fishing License Revenues Go? (April, 2007): Only 39 percent of anglers knew the correct answer: 100% of all license dollars go to the state fish and wildlife agency. Sixty-eight percent of anglers believe some or all license dollars go into the general state treasury. All states dedicate 100% of their license revenues to fish and wildlife management. Failure to do so will cause a state to lose its share of federal excise tax dollars generated from the sale of fishing and hunting equipment and motorboat fuels. In 2007, nearly \$350 million in fishing excise tax dollars and \$267 million in hunting excise taxes were distributed to state fish and wildlife agencies to benefit sportsmen and conservation.

Who Do Anglers Trust the Most for Accurate Information on Fish and Wildlife Issues? (April, 2007): Where do anglers prefer for accurate information? The April 2007 poll shows 42% of anglers prefer state fish and wildlife agencies for accurate conservation-related information followed by 19% who prefer magazines.

Global Warming is a Concern for Most Anglers (June, 2007): Most anglers are concerned about global warming. In June, 2007, 66% of anglers reported they consider global warming to be a threat. Of these, two-thirds think global warming is a natural cycle that is accelerating as a result of human activities. At the other end, 16 percent of anglers felt global warming was not an issue but is being made into an issue by others.

Anglers are Concerned about the Issues (October, 2007): Anglers were asked in a poll by AnglerSurvey.com if they consider themselves knowledgeable regarding current state and federal issues affecting the quality of fishing. Of the 1,148

anglers who responded, 48% indicated they keep an eye on the issues and focus on those that affect them directly. 25% of anglers said they watch the issues closely and 22% said they do not follow the issues as close as they would like.

How Will Increasing Gasoline Prices Impact Anglers This Year? (June, 2007): Gas prices are impacting fishing. Over half of all anglers indicated rising gas prices will cause them to reduce their outdoor activities or reduce their travel distance and boat use in 2007. The rest indicated that rising fuel prices would not hinder their outdoor activity, or were not sure of the impacts.

Anglers are Split on Whether Our Nation's Energy Needs Outweigh the Potential Environmental Impacts that May Occur (March, 2007): Many people wonder if our nation's energy needs outweigh potential environmental damage that might occur if the U.S. drills for oil in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. According to AnglerSurvey.com, anglers are split over this issue. Almost half either strongly or somewhat agreed that our energy needs outweigh the environmental risks (46%), while half (48%) felt the environmental dangers are greater. The remaining were undecided or had no opinion.

Friends are the Best Source for Product Information (February, 2007): When seeking information about which products to buy, recommendations from friends were reported as having the greatest influence (40% of anglers). Endorsements by personalities and television commercials have the least effect with 5% or less of respondents favoring each of these sources.

More Anglers Use Magazines as Their Fishing Source (June, 2007): Anglers use magazines as their top source to learn more about fishing and for fishing entertainment. According to a June, 2007 poll by AnglerSurvey.com, 43% of anglers reported magazines as their top sources and 24% replied websites. Television was selected by 19% of anglers and 9% use the newspaper.

Most Anglers Use Spinning and Casting Tackle When Fishing (July, 2007): Most anglers (53%) only use spinning, spin cast and bait casting gear. Thirty-one percent use spin / casting tackle most of the time and fly fishing gear some times. Only 1% said they fly fish only while less than 6% mostly fly fish and use conventional fishing tackle some of the time. The remainder reported using other types of fishing tackle.

For more info, visit <http://www.southwickassociates.com/>
To participate in surveys, visit <http://www.anglersurvey.com/>

http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/documents/1650_1_FMS0728_000.pdf

Forest Service Plans February Release of Upper Chattooga River Environmental Assessment

(Columbia, SC, December 20, 2007) The U.S. Forest Service announced today that it will release a pre-decisional Environmental Assessment (EA) of recreation uses on the upper Chattooga River in February. The agency had planned to release the EA this month.

"The agency is working diligently to prepare the EA for public review," said Sumter National Forest Supervisor Jerome Thomas. "As anyone familiar with this subject knows, the issues being considered in this EA are wide-ranging and complex; we need additional time to complete our analysis."

The EA will be available on the Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests' web site at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms> where additional background information can be found as well.

[Public Comments](#) (updated December 20, 2007)

New postings: 217 additional pages of public comments.

Editor's notes: *Be sure to read pages 211 & 216*

[Electronic Comments Received September 25 - December 20, 2007](#)

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/forest/projects/documents/Comments9-25-07thru12-20-07.pdf>.

***"All of us search for that perfect trout stream. Those who find it treasure it the rest of their lives.
Those who don't keep on searching."***

From *Trout Streams I've Known* by Jimmy D. Moore



In Memory of Tom Landreth

Knowing of Tom's love of trout fishing and the Chattooga backcountry; June, Lisa and Kelli have given their permission to establish the Tom Landreth Memorial Fund at Rabun TU with all donations used to help pay for the Chattooga backcountry helicopter stocking program. What a nice way for the family to allow us to honor Tom.

In exchange, each donor will be mailed 3 flies from one of Tom's fly boxes.

Carry one of his flies with you when visiting those places Tom loved.

Please make donation check payable to: Rabun TU For: Tom's Memorial Fund

Mail to: Rabun TU, PO Box 65, Rabun Gap, GA 30568

All donations to Rabun TU (a Federal Tax Exempt 501(c) 3 non-profit) are tax deductible

"BACKCASTING"

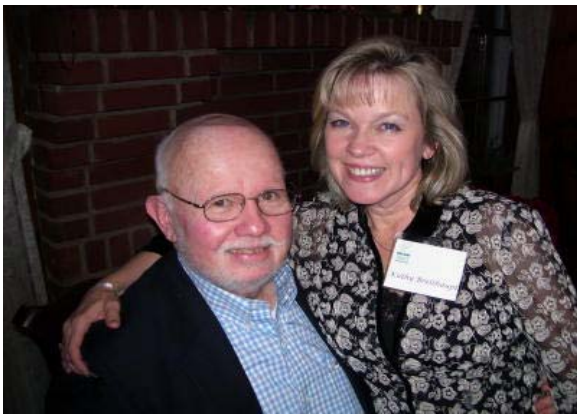
Dec 1 (Sat) GA TU Council Meeting - 4 Rabunites attended. Items discussed included: Calendar activity items for 2008, Minutes of previous meeting, Treasurer's report, Dream trip plans for 2008, CEI report, Trout Camp update, BtB update, Chattooga update, Hemlock Fest report, Trout in the Classroom, Outdoor Adventure Day report, Electronic funds transfer, Teaming with Wildlife, Sportsman Summit, Website sponsor links, Stop I-3 Coalition, Atlanta Fly Fishing show, Strategic Plan Update, Tom Landreth Appreciation Day, New Supervisor for Chattahoochee-Oconee NF, New Chapter Officers, and Chattahoochee tailwater Spawning Trout In Tributary Streams training.

Dec 8 (Sat) Tom Landreth Appreciation Day – Over 160 people attended and more than 60 were with Rabun TU. Eight TU Chapters in GA and SC were represented.



And a special thanks to Kathy and Charlie Breithaupt for planning, organizing, arranging, and conducting the Tom Landreth Appreciation Day. It was a wonderful celebration of Tom's life.

Dec 11 (Tues) Annual Rabun Chapter Christmas Dinner was enjoyed by 34 Rabunites.



I don't suppose I ever entirely release a fish. I may not eat it, but that does not mean I take nothing from it before I let it go.

By Paul Schullery, "How Can You Do That?" in Fly Fisherman magazine, September 2003

Excerpts from "The Evolution of a Fly Fisher" by Joan Salvato Wulff

The early stages are familiar to most anglers: the focus is on 1) the numbers. How many did you get? 2) The biggest fish. How big? Show me a photo. And then the most difficult: (3) the wise old brown trout instead of the eternally innocent brookies: After

Stage 3 the scope broadens; we enter the stages that are about more than catching fish. Stage 4: give something back to the resource. It is about preserving the gene pool as well as their habitat. The national conservation organizations are there to lead the way: the Federation of Fly Fishers, Trout Unlimited, the Atlantic Salmon Federation, the International Game Fish Association. The golden years: Stage 5. *Just being there*. In these years, *catching* fish has become less important; I can be fishless and still have a good day. I can now fish "through" a companion and be as happy about their catch as they are because I know the challenges, and feelings of joy and

satisfaction, that commemorate success. I have one more stage to include in golden years: #6. Replace yourself. This is about bringing young people into our sport. Unless we do this, our sport will be diminished: first in number of anglers and then, with fewer anglers working to preserve the habitat, in quality. (excerpted from *The Gigantic Book of Fishing Stories* edited by Nick Lyons, 2007)

Editor's notes: *Joan was born in 1928 and is easily the most influential woman in the world of fly-fishing. In 1979, Joan and her late husband, Lee, opened a fly-fishing school on the Beaverkill River, NY..*

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 for Rabun TU Sponsorship: February 28, 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 <http://georgiatu.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

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Our condolences to **Pat Hopton**, charter member of Rabun TU, on the recent death of his mother, Virginia Hopton. Our condolences to **June Landreth** and the family on the death of Tom, watercolor artist, charter member of Rabun TU and a dear friend to everyone that knew him.

Thanks to **Doug Mansfield** for accepting Prez Jimmy's request to be Chapter Secretary for the remainder of the term.

Thanks to **Ralph and Sandy Morgan** of St. Marys GA, Rabun TU members, for your cash donation.

Thanks to **Tom Matthews**, a Rabun TU member, for your cash donation.

All donations to Rabun TU (a Federal Tax Exempt 501(c)3 non-profit) are tax deductible

Congratulations to **Allison Adams**, Rabun TU member, on the recent release of her first CD, "Redbud Winter".

To listen to selections from the CD, click [HERE](#)

Congratulations to **David Cannon**, a young Rabunite, on his recent book contract to write *Fly Fishing Georgia*.

In preparation for his freelance venture, he formed a LLC (Limited Liability Corporation) named **IDBIS, Inc.**

"What does that mean?" you ask. Well, **I Don't Believe I Said**.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Big Rabunite "WELCOME" to 2 **new members** this month: **Mike Williams** (transfer), 20 Mountain Creek Trail, Social Circle, GA 30025, and **Troy Meek**, 3661 Rocky Ford Terrace, Gainesville, GA 30506

Thanks for re-upping: **David F. Nichols, Ron Robeson, Travis Barnes, and John Starinchuck.**

It is time to renew your membership: **Lee Prater, Tommy James, Joshua Watts, Mike Brod, Greg Rose, Andrew Rose, Ben Houston, Arnold Deitz, Paul Hanson, Chuck Breithaupt, and Frank Holden**

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

Acting Secretary (w/Communications) - Doug Mansfield

Ph 706 896 7445

E-mail mansfpd@alltel.net

Past President (w/Membership & Hospitality) - Terry Rivers

Ph 706 782 7419

E-mail tr1121@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/Public Relations) - Ray Gentry

Ph 404 680 6736

E-mail regentry@alltel.net

Director - Ray Kearns

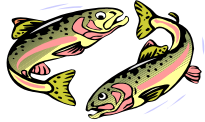
Ph 706 782 9913

E-mail raykearns@alltel.net

Director - Patsy Lewis-Gentry

Ph 706 878 4693

E-mail patsygentry@alltel.net



From the Fly Tying Desk of Jimmy Whiten

In memory of Tom Landreth.

I was saddened Sunday Morning (Dec 9, 2007) by the e-mail I received telling of the passing of Tom, my friend and fellow fisherman.

As the day wore on I wanted to think of the fun things that I remembered about Tom - the camping trips, the friendly greeting he always had for me, the stories he told around the campfire, how he would interact with everyone, the pleasant smile. How we would enjoy the fishing even if we did not catch a fish, and the list goes on and on.

If you were at the Appreciation Day for Tom I am sure you enjoyed the presentation that Charlie and Kathy shared with us and I am sure each of you had a special memory that you recalled as the program was taking place. If you were unable to attend you missed a special time.

None of us ever know when we will enter into eternity but we do know that we are one day closer and we need to live our life as if this is the last day. Be kind and let everyone know that you appreciate him or her.

June, Doris and I will remember you in our prayers as you continue on life's journey. *Jimmy*

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/site/c.kkLRJ7MSKtH/b.3022897/k.BF82/Home.htm>

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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