



TIGHT LINES February 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/>

"If people don't occasionally walk away from you shaking their heads, you're doing something wrong."

John Gierach

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.

"I've noticed a new tendency in myself, not to size up a river in regards to where the fish live, but appraising it with an eye toward where I would like to live, were I a trout."

By W.D. Wetherell, "Home Waters" in Trout magazine, August 2003

TWO MORE TRIBUTES TO TOM LANDRETH

Front Page of *The Clayton Tribune* (1/17/2008) Click [HERE](#)

In the January 2008 issue of *Georgia Mountain Laurel* magazine, pages 9 and 10. Click [HERE](#) and [HERE](#)

"FORWARD CASTING" Important Dates – See you there!

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

Mar 15 (Sat) GA TU Council Meeting

Mar 18 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust; **Program**: TBA

Mar 25 (Tues) BOD Meeting 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust

Mar 29 (Sat) Hoot on the Hooch with drawing for the Dream Trip!

FLY OF THE MONTH

by Terry Rivers



BLACK ELK HAIR CADDIS

THIS FLY REPRESENTS THE EMERGING BLACK STONE FLY AND FEBUARY IS THE MONTH FOR THIS AREA FOR HATCHING. SOMETIMES I WILL TIE A FEW OF THEM WITH AN EGG SHUCK OFF THE BACK TO IMITATE STONE FLY EMERGERS. IF YOU'R FISHING THIS FLY AS A DRY FLY AND FISHING CALM WATER WITH NO RESULTS TRY SHORT QUICK JERKS OF YOUR FLY LINE. CADDIS FLIES HAVE THE TENDICIES TO SWIM TO THE BANK TO ATTACH THEM SELVES TO SOMETHING ON THE BANK.
GOOD LUCK.

HOOK: DRY FLY 12-16

BODY: BLACK DUBBING

WING: DYED BLACK ELK HAIR

HACKLE: BLACK

"There can be no hard and fast rule covering the flies used in trout fishing. One can only experiment and then apply the results of such experiences to his fishing."

From *Just Fishing* by Ray Bergman

February 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
Winter Black Stone	All Month	L am to M pm	18-20 Black Elk-hair Caddis or Griffith's Gnat 16-18 Black Stone Nymph or Pheasant Tail Nymph
Small Dun Caddis	Late	L am to M pm	18 Brown Elk-hair or Deer-hair Caddis 18 Hair's Ear Nymph
Blue Winged Olive & Blue Quill	Late	L am to M pm	16-18 BWO, Blue Quill or Adams Parachute 16-18 BWO Nymph or Pheasant Tail Nymph
Quill Gordon	Late	L am to M pm	12-14 Quill Gordon 12 Quill Gordon Nymph
Midges	All Month	All Day	18-22 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa

'Website-of-the-Month': <http://www.mbtu.org:80/>

For another TU Chapter's Tribute to Tom Landreth, Check out "TU News": <http://www.mbtu.org/webdocs/TUnews.html>

Reflections on the Tom Landreth Appreciation Day

By Charlie Breithaupt

Over one hundred and sixty folks...trout fishermen, artists, friends and family...gathered at the Dillard House on December 8th for the Tom Landreth Appreciation Day. The celebration was the creation of Kathy Breithaupt who said "we just wanted to do something nice for Tom so we could let him know how much we appreciate and love him, June, and his family."

The celebration came about through much planning and work. Kathy called on Doug Adams, Helen Roberts, Janie Owens, Carolyn Kidd, Terry Rivers, Jeff Durniak, and the Landreth family to help pull it all together. As usual, I did what ever Kathy told me to do.

As the crowd gathered and the Foxfire Boys played, guests watched videos of Tom fishing, saw a collection of photos from all phases of his life and viewed a number of his beautiful paintings. There were opportunities for all to sign guest pages with well wishes for Tom and June. After all had eaten their fill of Dillard House food a PowerPoint presentation of Tom's life from early childhood on was shown. Highlights included Tom and June's wedding day, pictures of Lisa and Kelli (Tom and June's

daughters) in earlier years, shots of Tom painting on location and, of course, many photos of Tom in some river somewhere. When the question was asked, "how many of you own a Landreth painting?" almost every hand went up. Presentations from TU members in South Carolina and the Georgia Mountain Laurel magazine, honoring Tom for his work, added to the festivities. A video, recorded and produced by Laura Vollmer, captured the entire event.

Tom was unable to attend but he knew of the plans, the size of the crowd, and was so pleased. He cast a long, long shadow across the trout fishing and art worlds in northeast Georgia, and many showed up to say "Thanks Tom." Late that night, with his family by his side, Tom passed away.

Kathy and I recently read a statement that is so true ... "The density of people in society is so thick that we forget that life will end one day. And we don't know when that one-day will be. So please, tell the people you love and care for, that they are special and important. Remember, you reap what you sow. What you put into the lives of others comes back into your own."



In Memory of Tom Landreth

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

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.

As a small token of remembrance, 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.

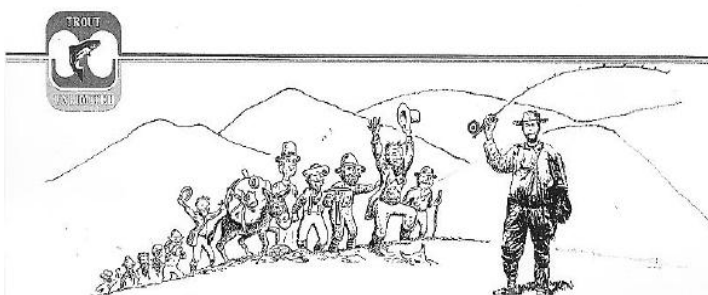
Please make donation check payable to: Rabun TU For: Tom's Memorial Fund

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



Rabunite Self Image



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



Actual Rabunite

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. Pay at the entrance. We don't sell advanced tickets. Cash or personal checks are fine (we don't do credit cards, either). 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 a 1986 Tom Landreth original pen & ink of a brook trout never before offered for sale; Tom's fly vest; Tom's large collection of topo maps of trout streams in 4 states; a custom fly rod Tom was building (completed by Doug Adams) w/ rod tube, Courtland reel & WF Wulff Triangle Taper line; 2 name brand fly rods w/rod tubes, Orvis reels & lines; a "Reel-E-Good" fly/spin line cleaning & storage system; a custom fly tying station; rotary tying vise; a tackle box with his fly tying tools & another vise; 3 fly assortments & boxes; 6 bagged assortments of fly tying materials (pro grade necks, capes, saddles, hair, dubbing, chenille, etc); rod building equipment; an extensive collection of trout related books; and much more (27 silent auction items total).

There will also be a couple of unique one-of-a-kind items by other artists, which were in Tom's collection. In addition, the bucket raffle will have 10 to 12 items from Tom.

What's New Elsewhere?

DNR-GA: Governor Perdue Announces Site for Go Fish Georgia Facilities PERRY, Ga. (12/28/2007) As the Georgia Department of Natural Resources begins implementation of the Go Fish Georgia program, Governor Sonny Perdue today announced the locations for the Go Fish Georgia Center and Hatchery and the ten sites across the state for mega-ramps to be built on lakes and rivers. "The announcements today are exactly what I envisioned when I proposed the Go Fish Georgia program - state and local governments joining with private donations, all contributing to growing our state as a destination for recreational and tournament fishing," said Governor Sonny Perdue. Governor Perdue joined a number of local officials from Perry and Houston County to announce the Go Fish Georgia Center will be built on 120 acres located on the south side of the Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agricenter. This facility will include a visitor's center that will market and promote fishing opportunities throughout the state, an on-site public fishing lake and a fully functioning warm water hatchery. To read more, click [HERE](#)

Stop I-3 Update: Route change floated for road (1/7/08) <http://www.ajc.com/> A proposed highway that riled some North Georgia residents may avoid the Georgia mountains and instead go through South Carolina, if the new congressman serving that Georgia district has his way. Popularly called "I-3," the road hasn't been designated as an interstate but is proposed as one. It would go from Savannah to Augusta to Knoxville. It has been a political hot potato. The late U.S. Rep. Charlie Norwood got Congress to earmark \$1.3 million for a study on building the highway. Groups fearing the highway would bulldoze North Georgia's natural beauty protested. During his election campaign Rep. Paul Broun, Norwood's successor, wrote an e-mail assuring the conservation group Trout Unlimited, "I am totally against I-3. I would like to de-fund the study" and instead propose work on Ga. 17. Now Broun says he has learned how important the highway could be to Augusta and to Savannah economically, and de-funding is no longer his message. But he said he's trying to get the route out of the Georgia mountains. To read more, click [HERE](#)

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 (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 winter and spring is as follows: 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), Eedee Adams (3/18), Bill Kelly (3/25), Travis Barnes (4/1), Tom Matthews (4/8), Kathy Breithaupt (4/15), Russell Johnson (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

To view the lab results for the Stekoa Creek water samples, click [HERE](#)

City scrambles to save \$50,000 grant

By Blake Spurney
Editor

An endangered \$50,000 state grant to replace a leaky sewer line along Stekoa Creek is not completely dead to Clayton.

Angela Steedley, president of the firm that administers the grant, updated Clayton City Council on Tuesday about what needed to be done to possibly rescue the grant.

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs indicated in December that the \$50,000 immediate threat and danger grant to replace the sewer line on the west side of town was lost. The city has until Jan. 15 to resubmit a request for the grant.

In what must seem like déjà vu for the state, Steedley said the city must hold a public hearing and disclose a conflict of interest involving Mayor Tom Ramey Sr.'s family.

City Attorney Davis Bauman said the city must disclose the conflict and ask for a waiver. "That way we won't play catch-up like we did before," he said.

Ramey can have no involvement with the project, though he did suggest Councilman Roy Quilliams be nominated as the certifying officer. Steedley deferred to Bauman and told Ramey, "with all due respect." Bauman added that it would be a conflict of interest for Ramey to appoint the grant overseer.

"The Rameys own 55 acres in that project area," Steedley later explained. She added with a laugh: "It's hard to be mayor and a big land owner."

Council did appoint Quilliams to oversee the grant, and the public hearing has been scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29.

A \$500,000 Community Development Block Grant was

threatened last summer when the state learned Ramey had purchased a \$10,000 tract in his sons' names at 151 John English Drive. During the turmoil that followed, DCA pulled about \$72,000 from the project to replace water lines in the Five Points community. However, the state indicated that \$50,000 could be used to replace the sewer line along Stekoa Creek.

Bauman said the state also was waiting for Ramey to show documentation that the land he purchased had been deeded over to the Fuller Center for Housing and that he had no relation to the beneficiary.

Ramey's lawyer, Andrew Lampros, said he would submit the needed materials by the Jan. 15 deadline.

Steedley said Clayton also was awaiting clarification from DCA as to whether city workers could be used for the city's \$50,000 share of the matching grant.

The above article is copied from The Clayton Tribune (1/10/2008) <http://www.theclaytontribune.com/>

Want to help with the Stekoa monitoring? The Embrace-A-Stream grant pays for 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.

Q & A

Q. During 2007, what did the Forest Service accomplish for cold-water fisheries in the Chattooga River Ranger District?

A. The following is a list of the 2007 cold-water fisheries activities in the district and TU's volunteer involvement;

- > **Popcorn Creek** - Culvert replaced for removal of brook trout stream barrier.
- > **Ramey Creek** - Completed 2 workdays with TU volunteers installing in-stream habitat structures for brook trout.
- > **North Fork Moccasin Creek** - Completed a workday with TU volunteers installing in-stream habitat structures for brook trout.
- > **Addie Branch** - Invertebrate monitoring due to low acid-neutralizing capacity (ANC).
- > **Walnut Fork** - Electro-shock removal of non-brook trout in 1.5 stream miles.
- > **Tate Branch** - NEPA and permit work to replace engineered fish barrier in a brook trout stream.
- > **Youth Conservation Education** - Worked with the Georgia TU Trout Camp kids and Boy Scouts installing in-stream habitat structures in native brook trout streams.
- > **Acid-neutralizing capacity (ANC)** sampling with TU volunteers and thermographs placed in brook trout streams by interns (25 water samples & 54 thermographs placed forest wide). Interns partially funded by Rabun TU.
- > **Stream surveys** - 15 forest wide and 3 additional brook trout populations located using interns, partially funded by Rabun TU.
- > **Completed NEPA** for 2008 work on Keener Creek, Thomas Creek, South Fork Moccasin Creek, Persimmon Creek, Ammons Branch, Holcomb Creek, Bailey Branch, Walnut Fork, and Tate Branch,
- > **Chattooga North Fork** - Analysis of volunteer TU angler's creel diaries
- > **Chattooga North Fork** - Placed 8 thermographs & analyzed the results, thermograph purchases were funded by TU.
- > **Chattooga North Fork** - Electro-sampled the fish population in 2 river locations with TU volunteers.
- > **Chattooga River watershed** - Conducted a survey of Large Woody Debris (LWD).
- > **Chattooga West and North Forks** - Spring & fall backcountry helicopter stocking, partially funded by Rabun TU.

As Rabun County's winter weather bites, so do trout

By Justin Raines
Staff Writer

The leaves have fallen and trees stand like skeletons on edges of cold winter forests. It is a season when much of nature seems to be sleeping, but beneath the quiet currents of Rabun's rivers, a party ensues.

Thousands of trout stocked as part of the Delayed Harvest program, instituted by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Division, have been feasting, and anglers need not wait until warmer months to take advantage the action.

"I like it because the leaves are off, and you can see a lot more of the country," local angler Ray Gentry said about winter fishing.

The section of the Chattooga River extending from the Highway 28 bridge to about 2 1/2 miles upstream to the mouth of Reed Creek is part of the delayed harvest section stocked for winter fishing.

Special regulations apply from Nov. 1-May 14, requiring anglers to release trout immediately. Only artificial lures with one single hook per lure may be used or possessed in the delayed harvest area.

Since harvesting of trout is prohibited during winter months, the number of fish in the delayed harvest zone is usually high.

"Compared to other sections of the river, (the area) has a lot of fish, it's uncrowded, and it's a pret-



Justin Raines/The Clayton Tribune

Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited member Ray Gentry makes a cast Monday morning near the Highway 28 bridge on the Chattooga River.

ty place," Jeff Durniak, regional fisheries supervisor with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources said.

Durniak recommended fishing between 11 a.m.-3 p.m. when water temperatures heat up past 40 degrees.

"Fish deep and slow," Durniak said. "The fish are cold-blooded, and you need to give them a chance to react."

Nymph patterns dredged along the bottom of the river are the lures of choice for most anglers during the winter, although dry flies can be effective at times.

Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited member Doug Adams suggested using sizes 14-16 prince or 16-20 pheasant tail patterns, which both imitate mayfly

and stonefly nymphs. Split-shot weights may be necessary to keep the lure on the bottom.

Adams recommended looking for breaks in the current, such as behind logs or rocks and "seams" where fast water and slow water meet.

Cast upstream of where the fish are holding, and let the lure drift past as naturally as possible, Adams said.

For anglers seeking quality fish in a pristine winter wilderness, the delayed harvest section of the Chattooga is a good option.

"The thing I really like about winter fishing is the beautiful environment," Gentry said. "More people than I have said that 'trout don't live in ugly places.'"

FISHING REPORTS (Cont.)

From: [Unicoi Outfitters](#)

Sent: Sunday, January 06, 2008

Subject: JANUARY, 2008 UNICOI NEWSLETTER

CHATTOOGA RIVER

The rains have helped the Chattooga DH section also in the past couple of weeks. While you can still fool some fish with junk food flies (San Juan Worms, Y2K Bugs, egg patterns), you should probably approach the river with the idea that the fish have gotten a little more selective since they were stocked at the first of November and may require something a little more technical. Hares ears, woolly buggers (brown, black, olive or cream colored), soft hackle partridge and yellows and even some dry fly action on small BWO and Parachute Adams in 18's and 20's. Water levels at the end of December were actually slightly above the historical mean but have since dropped back down. As we write this, the Chattooga is running at 1.35 on the gage at Hwy. 78. Remember, fishing is good here until the gage height starts peaking above around 2.4 feet. At that point it is likely to be either muddy or difficult to wade or both. We have fished it at 2.8 feet but you have to be very selective in where you wade at that point. Most anglers will probably feel comfortable wading at 2.0 or less. You also should observe the gage to determine whether the water is rising or dropping. If it shows an upward trend and is at or above 2.0, our recommendation is that you fish somewhere else. If it reads 2.0 and the line is trending downward, get on out there because the fishing can be awesome. Just be careful. You can find the gage for the Chattooga at

http://waterdata.usgs.gov/usa/nwis/uv?site_no=02177000.

Scroll to the bottom of the page to see the graph you need.

On a more gloomy note, it seems the vehicle break-ins on the Chattooga at the delayed harvest parking lot on the South Carolina side have begun again. We don't want to let this one scum bag take away one of the most beautiful trout fisheries we have so we're going to continue going there. However, be careful and don't haul more gear than you will take on the river with you. Don't take that spare rod, reel or extra two or three fly boxes that you will leave in your vehicle. Don't leave your cell phone or iPod in there either as they are obviously looking for items easy to fence. Locking gear in your trunk seems like a good idea but be aware that the most recent break-in involved a pickup truck with a covered bed. The thieves broke into the bed and stole about \$400.00 worth of gear. If you see something suspicious, please don't try to be a hero and make a citizens arrest. These folks could be very dangerous. Just observe their appearance, a description of their vehicle and a tag number if possible. Then drive out of the river bottom to where you can make a phone call to the authorities. Again, just as in wading when the water is high, be careful.

Don't forget, the entire length of the Chattooga River is open year round and while most anglers concentrate on the delayed harvest section, there is good fishing to be had along its entire length. Some of our most memorable days have been fishing above Burrell's Ford on mild winter days and catching wild browns on attractor dry flies. There can be some good blue winged olive hatches there but you can also just tie on a Royal Trude and have a ball. Experiment the next time you get up that way. You may be surprised at what you'll find. And you may just have it to yourself.

Editor's notes: I have been informed that a vehicle break-in occurred also at Burrell's Ford.

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.grguestranch.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



FISHING REPORTS (Cont.)

Sent: Monday, January 21, 2008

Fished the Tallulah Sunday (1/20) in the freezing cold, and I mean freezing cold!!! After 3 hours I had caught 21 and it was time to go. It was the first time I have had my guides freeze to the size of marbles!! I ended up highsticking do to the frozen guides. All were caught on either a y2k or a black wb. Despite the cold a beautiful day on the river!!! Tight lines,

From: John Eaves – Rabunite, Royston, GA

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

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

(706)782-1010

**Community
Bank & Trust**

An Equal Housing Lender www.corebanking.net Member FDIC

Congratulations to Damien Bateman from Duluth, GA and Mason Galloway from Canton, GA.

The Rabun TU Chapter will sponsor these 2 youngsters to the 2008 Georgia Trout Camp.

Status Update – Chattooga North Fork Visitor Use Capacity Analysis

The Forest Service plans to release the Preferred Alternative and EA for public comment by mid to late February.

[Public Comments](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/) (updated December 28, 2007) <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/>

“BACKCASTING”

Jan 15 (Tues) Chapter Meeting – 26 Rabunites attended. Doug Adams presented the program on the Chattooga River History. He told about the geological event that made the Chattooga River unique. Doug told how the actions of the Native Americans set the precedent that preserved the Chattooga backcountry. He covered the way the Cherokee managed the Chattooga watershed for the benefit of the eastern woods bison and elk. He told of the effects of the Europeans moving into the Chattooga corridor in the early 19th century and the effects of the industrial logging in the early 20th century. He told of the Forest Service and Georgia Power purchasing the river corridor and the work of the CCC in protecting and restoring the watershed. He discussed the rise, the fall, and the rise again of the trout fishery from the 1950s to present. Doug has given this Chattooga History program to 9 TU Chapters in the last 2 years (7 in GA & 2 in SC). **The meeting raffle** had 10 buckets including 3 fly selections, a LED light, a fly rod care kit, a set of 2 hand-etched plates by Patsy Lewis-Gentry, and more. The raffle raised \$140 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.

Jan 22 (Tues) Annual Chattooga Coalition Meeting – 3 Rabunites attended. Items discussed included: Chattooga North Fork user capacity analysis; proposed Ellicott Rock Wilderness additions; the 2007 microinvertebrate study; the effect on aquatic insects using chemicals to remove trout from streams; 2007 Chattooga angler's diaries; 2007 thermographs data; 2007 helicopter stocking; 2007 electro-fishing sampling data; work by interns working with GA WRD; invasive species; vehicle break-ins & law enforcement (signage, surveillance, etc); proposed wild & scenic corridor extension on Overflow Creek; fish sampling data from 1986 through 2007; native fish species data (non-trout); brook trout restoration in Chattooga tributaries in GA & SC; large woody debris survey in North Fork and West Fork headwaters; Forest Service plans for a meeting with the public on implementation of the new North Fork management plan; Stekoa Creek fecal coliform pollution and the effects on the Chattooga River water quality; possible additional DH section; progress on controlling the hemlock woolly adelgid with predator beetles; and plans for brook trout restoration in Pig Pen & Lick Log Creeks.

Jan 22 (Tues) BOD Meeting – 9 members attended. Items discussed included: planning details for the 2008 Rabun Rendezvous; Tom Landreth Memorial Fund; GA Trout Camp applications; Dream Trip raffle for GA TU Council; Chattooga North Fork recreation zoning allocation; Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project; brook trout streams ANC water sampling; Rabun TU Annual Planning Breakfast; February & March Chapter Meeting Programs; Update: Publicity, Public Relations, and Outreach; Treasury Report; Tom Landreth Appreciation Day expense report; and Forest Service (SC) scoping document to use herbicide on power line R-O-W clearing.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Congratulations to **Tom Nixon** and **Dean English** on the successful move of their Blue Ridge Music Academy into new quarters. Congratulations to **Allison Adams** for being a finalist in the singer/songwriter competition at the 2008 South Florida Folk Festival.

Wishing a speedy recovery to **Monte Seehorn**. He has been rekneed, - - - AGAIN!

Wishing **Bill Kelly** a continued speedy recovery from his recent illness. Bill has been featured recently on The History Channel telling about the building of Fontana Dam in the 1940s. By golly, you don't have to believe it - - - if you don't want to.

During the recent extremely cold weather, **Prez Jimmy Whiten** was featured on a news segment on Toccoa TV Channel 32 informing the public on actions homeowners should take to prevent pipes from freezing and splitting.

Our thanks to **Terry Rivers**, **Charlie Breithaupt**, **Ray Kearns**, and **Doug Adams** for volunteering to collect monthly water samples from several Rabun County brook trout streams. The samples will be transported to a lab in Clarksville for acid-neutralizing capacity (ANC) testing. The lab results will be compiled and analyzed by the Forest Service and GA WRD.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Big Rabunite “WELCOME” to 2 **new members** this month: **Tom Guest**, 1412 Lanier Manor, Atlanta, GA 30319 and **Bob Biebel**, 835 3rd Avenue, Decatur, GA 30030.

Thanks for re-upping: **Chuck Breithaupt**, **Lea Richmond**, **Charlie & Kathy Breithaupt**, **David Lash**, **John Ramsey**, and **John Starinchuck**.

It is time to renew your membership: **Nancy Gribble**, **Doug Hickman**, **Warren Stiles**, **Lee Prater**, **Tommy James**, **Joshua Watts**, **Mike Brod**, **Greg Rose**, **Andrew Rose**, **Ben Houston**, **Arnold Deitz** and **Paul Hanson**,

Rabun TU Officers & Directors for F/Y2008

President - Jimmy Whiten, PO BOX 881, TOCCOA GA 30577-1414

Vice President – Larry Walker

Treasurer (w/Newsletter & Meeting Raffles) - Doug Adams

Acting Secretary (w/Communications) - Doug Mansfield

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

Director (w/Programs & Campouts) - Bill Kelly

Director (w/Website) - Kathy Breithaupt

Director (w/Education) - Charlie Breithaupt

Director (w/Public Relations) – Ray Gentry

Director - Ray Kearns

Director– Patsy Lewis-Gentry

Ph 706 886 6546

Ph 706 244 4345

Ph 706 746 2158

Ph 706 896 7445

Ph 706 782 7419

Ph 706 746 2104

Ph 706 782 6954

Ph 706 782 6954

Ph 404 680 6736

Ph 706 782 9913

Ph 706 878 4693

E-mail jimmywhiten@nctv.com

E-mail amosndixie@alltel.net

E-mail edadams1@alltel.net

E-mail mansfpd@alltel.net

E-mail tr1121@alltel.net

E-mail bkj1@alltel.net

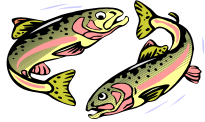
E-mail knc615@windstream.net

E-mail knc615@windstream.net

E-mail regentry@alltel.net

E-mail raykearns@alltel.net

E-mail patsygentry@alltel.net



From the Fly Tying Desk of Jimmy Whiten

Well it is that time of year most all of us have been waiting patiently for; well, forget the word patiently. Our annual Rendezvous is finally here (Sat. January 26th). If you do not fish, if you don't care anything about the outdoors, and you think you would not like our Rendezvous, come see what it is all about. If you never have been to one there is something for everyone. Plenty of food, more than you can eat, all types of displays, silent auctions of all kind of neat stuff, and bucket raffles for almost everything. Also enjoy entertainment, a live band, and oh did I mention plenty of food?

This will be at the Dillard House Conference Center. The Dillard House is known for its great food. Come early and enjoy the fun. We will start watching for each one of you around 4:30 or 5 PM, that is just before the pig pickin' begins. What is the pig pickin'? For all of you first timers you will just have to come and see, the rest of us already know. The Foxfire Boys begin playing at 5:00 PM and of course the major eating will begin at 6:30 P.M. This is for the whole family, if you ever come to one you won't miss the next one.

Happy fishing,

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

Please tell us if you have E-mail, it will
save the chapter \$1.25 per newsletter mailed:

E-Mail edadams1@alltel.net

RABUN CHAPTER of TROUT UNLIMITED

PO BOX 371

CLAYTON, GA 30525