



TIGHT LINES August 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/>

"One of the turning points of my life was when I got my first bait-casting outfit." – Pres. Jimmy Carter

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.

"Most fisherman, including this one, cling to their pet stupidities as they would to a battered briar or an old jacket; and their dogged persistence in wrong methods and general wrong-headedness finally wins them a sort of grudging admiration, if not many fish."

From the book *The Armchair Angler* by Robert Traver

"FORWARD CASTING" Important Dates – See you there!

Aug 19 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust;
Program – Leon Brotherton *"Info From The Chattooga Angler Diaries"*

Aug 21 (Thurs) Stekoa Creek Watershed Strategic Planning Meeting – All 4 groups to report.

Aug 26 (Tues) Board of Directors 6:30 PM, Community B & T

Sept 6 (Sat) GA TU Council Meeting at Atlanta Fly Fishing School

Sept 11-14 (Thurs-Sun) 2008 TU Annual Meeting near Salt Lake City

Sept 13 (Sat) Waters Creek Workday GA WRD, USFS, NGTO & TU

Sept 16 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust;
Program – Nicole Hayler *"Update - Stekoa Creek Clean Up"*

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

Sept 27 (Sat) GA DNR Outdoor Adventure Day at Unicoi State Park. Lots of volunteers needed to help. For details on how you can volunteer, contact Jeff Durniak Jeff_Durniak@mail.dnr.state.ga.us

2009 Rabun Rendezvous - Saturday, Jan 24th

The Program will be presented by Noel Holcombe,
Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

FLY OF THE MONTH

by Terry Rivers



JACK CABES HOPPER

DURING THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER AND THINGS BEGIN TO SLOW DOWN AND NOTHING IS HAPPENING ON YOUR FAVORITE STREAM, TRY THIS. TIE A FEW OF THESE; THEY HAVE DONE ME WELL WHEN NOTHING ELSE WOULD WORK.

HOOK: # 12 2X LONG

TAIL: RED HACKLE FIBERS

WING: WHITE CALF TAIL

BODY: BROWN DUBBING

HACKLE: GRIZZLY & BROWN OR GRIZZLY CREE

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

Steve Raymond, "What's in a Name?" *Flyfishing* magazine, May-June 1995

August Hatches

<u>The Bugs</u>	<u>Time of Month</u>	<u>Time of Day</u>	<u>Suggested Flies</u>
None at all	Can happen any time on any day		Dredging Nymphs: 12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, PT #14 Parachute Adams is always a good searching pattern
Brown Stonefly	All Month	Early to Mid AM	10-14 Brown Stimulator 10-12 Brown Stonefly Nymph
Golden Stonefly	All Month	Early AM	8-12 Ginger Stimulator 6-10 Golden Stonefly Nymph
Light Cahill Mayfly	All Month	E to L pm	12-14 Light Cahill 12-14 Light Cahill Nymph
Midges	All Month	All Day	18-22 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa
Terrestrials – Ants, Beetles, Crickets, Inch-Worms, Hoppers, Etc			Various Times & Sizes

Editor's note: *The hot weather and light hatches of July and August are two of the reasons why many Rabunites make annual treks to fish and camp "West of Hiawassee".*

'Website-of-the-Month': <http://nctu.org/>
Check this: <http://nctu.org/rivercourse.html>

Tom Landreth Memorial Fund

(Jan. 25, 1932 – Dec. 8, 2007) <http://www.tom-landreth.com/>



"Autumn Magic" by Tom Landreth

Knowing of Tom's love of trout fishing and the Chattooga backcountry; his family gave 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 his family to allow us to honor Tom.

As a small token of remembrance, each donor is mailed 3 flies from one of Tom's fly boxes. Carry one of his flies with you when visiting those places Tom loved.

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to the following July donors to the Tom Landreth Memorial Fund:

Ken and Sharon Bradshaw – Dallas, GA	Fritz and Joyce Vinson – Dillard, GA
Ralph and Sandy Morgan – St. Marys, GA	Monte Seehorn – Gainesville, GA
Clark Rodgers (a.k.a. Buck Henry) – Kennesaw, GA	Jack and Beth Tuttle – Lawrenceville, GA
Jack and Jan Edwards – Cartersville, GA	Joe Sce – Acworth, GA

To date, the donations have been sufficient to pay Rabun TU's share of helicopter costs for 5+ years, through 2012.

It is not too late to make a donation. Write your 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

In Memory of Donald Forrester

This month your Editor received 2 checks in the mail made out to "Trout Unlimited." They were donations made in memory of Donald Forrester and both were ear marked for restoration work in the Coopers Creek watershed. One donation came from the employer of Donald's son. The other came from Donald's daughter in law. She said in her note, ***"I am sending this donation in honor and memory of my wonderful father in law, Donald Forrester, who grew up fishing Cooper Creek. This would mean the world to him! Please put the money to improve and restore Cooper Creek. Lori Forrester"***

Donald was not a member of Rabun TU and I didn't know him, - - I wish I had. I shared with him a love of trout and places where trout live. The note from Lori brought back wonderful memories that I made on Coopers Creek with a good buddy over 50 years ago.

I sent Thank You letters to the donors and forwarded the checks to Mike Maginn, President of the Blue Ridge TU Chapter. Coopers Creek is just up the Toccoa River Valley from Blue Ridge. I'm sure those TUErs will use the funds wisely and as requested.

Status Update – Upper Chattooga Visitor Use Capacity Analysis

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/>

Forest Service Seeks Comments on Upper Chattooga (North Fork) Draft Environmental Assessment *Preferred alternative allows some new limited boating opportunities above Burrell's Ford*

(7/2/2008) The U.S. Forest Service released a pre-decisional Environmental Assessment (EA) of recreation uses on the Chattooga North Fork Wild and Scenic River. The public has 30 days to comment on the agency's preferred alternative and accompanying EA. "After two years of considerable analysis and extensive public involvement, we reviewed eight alternatives in detail and selected a preferred alternative, Alternative 4, which allows some new limited boating opportunities on portions of the upper Chattooga," said Sumter National Forest Supervisor Jerome Thomas. "It also takes steps to reduce resource damage from existing and future recreation uses."

"Our proposal maintains the existing high quality trout fishing experience on the Chattooga while providing some additional opportunities for challenging whitewater boating in a remote setting," said Thomas. "Specifically, boating will be allowed from County Line Road Trail in North Carolina to Burrells Ford Bridge between December 1 and March 1 when mean daily flow levels at Burrell's Ford average 450 cfs (about 2.5 feet on the US76 gauge) or more, which is above those levels considered optimal for fishing."

The Forest Service preferred alternative (#4) also calls for limiting overnight camping in the Chattooga North Fork to designated sites and closing and/or rehabilitating a number of user-created campsites and trails. To relieve congestion and reduce impacts, roadside parking will also be prohibited within ¼ mile of Burrell's Ford Bridge.

Thomas said, "**Alternative 4 is not the agencies final decision.** Based on your comments, we will finalize our decision in December 2008. I would appreciate your comments on potential environmental effects of the alternatives, the range of alternatives and suggested changes to the alternatives."

Comments on the pre-decisional EA are due to the Forest Service by August 1, 2008. They may be e-mailed to comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us or surface mailed to U.S. Forest Service, Chattooga River Project, 4931 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29212. A copy of the predecisional EA and a summary of the alternatives is available on the Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests' web site at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/forest/projects/ChattoogaDraftEA.shtml> where additional background information can be found.

Editor's notes: *I would rather the preferred alternative had been "no change" (Alternative 1 or 3), but I can accept this (Alternative 4). It preserves a "foot travel only" backcountry zone between Burrell's Ford and the Highway 28 Bridge. Enforcement is the key to the successful management of this plan.*

More importantly, this alternative preserves the ability to zone public recreational waters for all federal agencies (USFS, NPS, and BLM) by section of stream, by time of year, by water level (flow), and by number of boats/day. To maintain the quality of experience for all visitors and/or protect riparian resources, zoning of public recreational waters is absolutely necessary now and in the future, particularly as recreational demands on limited public waters increase near population centers and in the Rocky Mountain Region.

The Forest Service preferred alternative also calls for limiting overnight camping in the corridor of the Upper Chattooga to designated sites and closing and/or rehabilitating a number of user-created campsites and trails. To relieve congestion and reduce impacts, roadside parking will also be prohibited within ¼ mile of Burrell's Ford Bridge. In addition to 'Put and Take' trout fishing, Burrell's Ford is the most popular trailhead for the Ellicott Rock Wilderness, the trailhead for Kings Creek Falls, the trailhead for Spoonauger Falls, the trailhead for the backcountry trails down the river, plus the Burrell's Ford walk-in campground. As a result the Burrell's Ford Bridge area is the most congested and overused/abused section of the Upper Chattooga. Limiting camping and parking are needed to protect the area for future generations.

*I believe that the Forest Service's preferred alternative is a compromise that is fair to all stakeholders. It is obvious that not all recreation activities are compatible. 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.***

I urge you to send the Forest Service your comments and suggestions. I'm sending mine.

Doug Adams – Member & Volunteer Newsletter Editor
Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited
A visitor to the upper Chattooga since 1955

a world apart

the upper

CHATTOOGA'S NORTH FORK

the last refuge for remoteness and solitude

and FREE OF USER CONFLICTS



Stekoa Creek Update

Stekoa Creek Monitoring - A National Trout Unlimited "Embrace-A-Stream" Project in 2007 & 2008 [HERE](#) Stekoa Creek is classified as primary trout water, and should be capable of supporting trout reproduction. Stekoa Creek is also infamous as a 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). The samples are collected by trained employees of the Chattooga Conservancy and transferred (by a chain-of-custody procedure) to a TU volunteer in the parking area at the Stekoa Creek Trading Co. on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 AM. The volunteer schedule through summer is as follows: Larry Walker (7/29), Tom Matthews (8/5), Kathy Breithaupt (8/12), Russell Johnson (8/19), Gary Deal (8/26), Bill Kelly (9/2), Lea Richmond (9/9), Ray Gentry (9/16), Jimmy Whiten (9/23), Fritz Vinson (9/30)

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

Summary of Stekoa Creek Watershed Action Plan Meeting (6/26/2008)

Welcome/Purpose: **Stacey Bouma**, US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), Region 4 Watershed Management Office, welcomed everyone to the meeting. She explained that the purpose of the meeting was to review the four proposed action plans and discuss next steps. (28 people participated – including 6 members of Trout Unlimited)

Review of Proposed Action Plans: Each of the four group leaders presented information on the action plan their group is working on.

Nicole Hayler (Chattooga Conservancy) presented the proposed *Fix Sewer System Action Plan* **OBJECTIVE:** Phase 1: Engage a qualified engineering firm to consolidate the various reports and surveys of The City of Clayton's sewage collection system, with the primary deliverables being: 1) a comprehensive assessment of the current state of the entire sewer system (needed for each gravity sewer segment and each force main segment is the pipe length, diameter and pipe material type), and 2) an engineering analysis that features an implementation plan, projected costs, and a prioritized schedule of proposed actions to fix the sewage collection system's infiltration and inflow problems. Nicole mentioned that they are working on consolidating existing reports and that Lee Robertshaw is updating the sewage collection system layer in GIS based on the known information. She also plans on setting up a meeting with the City Council to brief them on the Action Plan. Larry Walker suggested integrating the storm water issues with the sewer issues.

Chuck Mashburn (Rabun Green) presented action items for the *Secure Funding Action Plan*. There was some discussion on SPLOST; what it is and how it might be used. There was also discussion on the hotel/motel tax and investigating the use of this money and how improvement of water quality in Stekoa Creek and other water bodies in the Stekoa Creek Watershed could be instrumental in tourism development. It was suggested that the group see if there are any grants from the Appalachian Regional Commission that may be applicable. Someone also suggested contacting the Congressional representatives to see if there is a possibility of earmarking some funding. However, before this is done, a strategy needs to be prepared on why the funding is needed and how it would be used. Additionally, the *Secure Funding group* will coordinate with the *Fix Sewer System group* on areas where there may be some overlap on action plan items (e.g., mapping of onsite septic systems and municipal connections).

Ed Dibble (Geologist) presented the proposed *Improving Compliance with Regulations Action Plan*. Kathryn Granberg shared that the county is in the process of having all ordinances indexed and codified. Linda Johnson said there is a North Carolina guidance document "10 things you should know before building in the mountains" (~30 pages) that could be a useful tool. Larry Walker suggested including the realtors in the outreach efforts. Ed Dibble mentioned a fourth component that should be added to the action plan. This is school

education/outreach efforts; possibly through Adopt-A-Stream or part of science curriculum.

Linda Johnson (Stekoa Creek Greenway) presented the outline for the proposed *Stekoa Creek Vision Action Plan*. This plan will incorporate the action items from the other three action plans and will serve as a master plan for the Stekoa Creek Watershed Partnership. For instance, under the water quality category, some of the issues related to fecal coliform will be addressed through the *Fix Sewer System Action Plan* and *Secure Funding Action Plan*. Some of the sedimentation issues (runoff, construction) will be addressed through the *Improving Compliance with Regulations Action Plan*. The *Stekoa Creek Vision group* will also work on identifying action items under the Aesthetics and Biota categories that will be addressed later. For example, under Biota/native species an action step could be to provide outreach and education materials to realtors on the use of native species. In addition to working on the master plan, the *Stekoa Creek Vision group* will also work on identifying some action items to develop an aesthetic vision of the Stekoa Creek Watershed.

Action Items: Next Scheduled Meeting - August 21

1. Contact GA EPD Floodplain Management Program to determine status/timeline to develop Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM) for Rabun County. **[Stacey Bouma, EPA]**
2. Develop communication plan to include communications with local government officials, media, and external organizations. **[Stacey Bouma, EPA]**
3. Develop overall vision/guidance document (master plan) for whole process (for stakeholders) that incorporates the Fix Sewer System, Secure Funding, and Complying with Regulations Action Plans. **[Stekoa Creek Vision group]**
4. Develop aesthetic "vision" for the Stekoa Creek Watershed in form of brochure/website. **[Stekoa Creek Vision group]**
5. Analyze existing sewer rates to see if they cover O&M. **[Secure Funding group]**
6. Follow up to determine why buffer variances in the Stekoa Creek Watershed have previously been approved by GA EPD, and by whom. Also, see if can be notified of any future buffer variance requests. **[Mary Gazaway, GA EPD and Stacey Bouma, EPA]**
7. Get a copy of the North Carolina document on "10 things you should know before building in the mountains" from Linda Johnson. **[Improving Compliance with Regulations group]**
8. For the *Complying with Regulations Action Plan*, in addition to the HBA, include realtors in outreach efforts. **[Improving Compliance with Regulations group]**
9. Update the *Complying with Regulations Action Plan* to include a fourth component to educate high school kids; maybe Adopt-A-Stream or part of science curriculum. **[Improving Compliance with Regulations group]**

The following is an excerpt from a Clayton Tribune article <http://www.theclaytontribune.com/news/> **In a Clayton City Council meeting on Tuesday (7/8/2008)** that lasted nearly three hours, Clayton City Council addressed issues ranging from property rezoning to improving the city's water and sewer infrastructure. Nicole Hayler, representing a group formed at a May 22 Stekoa Creek Watershed Strategic Planning meeting, approached the Council. She asked for the city's approval of an action plan to conduct a "comprehensive assessment of the current state of the entire sewer system." In addition to the assessment, Hayler's plan recommended "an engineering analysis that features an implementation plan, projected costs, and a schedule of actions to fix the sewage system." Council members reacted favorably to the idea in theory, but said financial constraints would interfere with the implementation of such a proposal. "It actually involves money, and that's the problem," Councilwoman Chisholm said. Councilman Marcellino said no action could be taken without an estimated cost of hiring an engineering firm to carry out the plan. "To commit to this action plan is a little bit premature at this point," he said.

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

Want to help with the Stekoa monitoring? The 2008 Trout Unlimited 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. There are also additional expenses associated with weekly sample collections and supplies. 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.

Letters - To and From the Rabunites

Sent: Friday, June 27, 2008
Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES July 2008 Newsletter
As usual GREAT job Doug.
Ray Gentry – A Rabunite in Sautee, GA
Editor's notes: *Thank you*

Sent: Friday, June 27, 2008
Subject: interns - work to date
To date (with the help from DNR, USFS, Monte Seehorn and TU) the interns have completed the following: 30 Stream Structures, One completed Barrier - Tate Branch, One barrier 3/4 done - Stover Creek, Cleared 1.5 miles of gated administrative road, Cleared over 5 miles of stream for electrofishing and electrofished three streams many times in the brook trout renovation effort (Walnut Fork, Tate Branch and Stover Creek). Were tired and we will be taken off next week for the 4th.
From: Leon Brotherton - Fisheries Technician, Burton Hatchery
Editor's notes: *Thanks for the excellent work and good report.*

To: Jimmy Whiten – President, Rabun TU Chapter
Sent: Sat Jun 28
Subject: Fwd: NGTO Wants to Help with the Tom Landreth Fund
Jimmy, I have had a conversation with the BOD of NGTO and we would like to help out with the Tom Landreth Fund. This is what I would like to propose. NGTO would like to set up a matching fund challenge on our board. NGTO will match up to \$1000 of funds donated by our members. My thoughts are that they would be able to send a check to your Treasurer with a note of NGTO Matching Fund on the check. Probably run this for 2 months and then total up the amount and match that. I would hope we could get at least \$1000 from our members so NGTO overall support would equal \$2000. This is just a small amount for all that Tom did to help support us. What do you think? Can we put this together?

From: Jeff Fields – President, North Georgia Trout Online
Editor's notes: *What a wonderful idea. Thank you for your generous proposal. The Tom Landreth Memorial Fund was established so friends could give in his memory to something that meant a great deal to Tom. To have his NGTO friends participate will have special meaning for us and his family.*

Sent: Sunday, June 29, 2008
Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES July 2008 Newsletter
Your quote by Nick Lyons perfectly captures why I fish. I have thought the same thing many times but this is the first time I have seen it in print.

From: Alex Watson – Cohutta TU Chapter Member
Editor's notes: *Me too.*

To: People that sent comments
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2008
Subject: Recent Chattooga Decisions
Hi everybody, just wanted to let you folks know that I signed both the Moody Creek culvert replacement and Wheelchair Access Project Decision Memos recently. These decisions are not appealable so we will be getting started on those this summer. Thank you all for your interest and support, let me know if you want a hardcopy of these decisions.

From: Mike Crane - District Ranger, Andrew Pickens Ranger District, Sumter NF
Editor's notes: *GREAT! Hardcopies are not needed.*

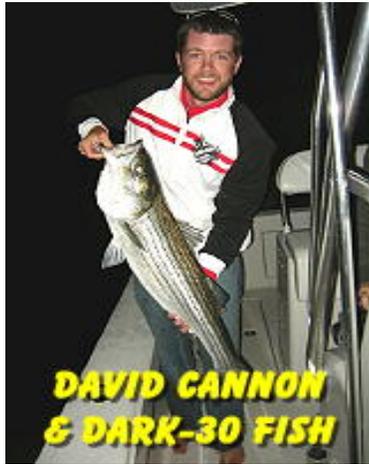
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008
Subject: Re: Upper Chattooga -- The Forest Service requests your comments

Are you aware of the white water park that was built in Charlotte, N. C. It is a first class white water river. Olympians train there, races are held there, Olympic trials are held there and the public can canoe, raft, kayak the rapids. The flow can be manipulated by pump speed and volume. It is a Mecca for folks that like the thrill of white water rush. The point is one can build a white water center like the one in Charlotte, NC. But, one cannot build the Chattooga. One cannot replicate the wilderness of the Chattooga. A wilderness that the trout and all other species, animal and plant need to survive. Indeed a wilderness that even the human species needs if one is to experience the fullness of being alive. My visits to the river were few. They left an indelible mark on my life. The river, the stillness, the peace, the quite, the calm, the force, the sounds of the water, the thunder from the sky, the thunder from the water, the whisper of the wind, the sky, the hatch, a trout on the rise. the music, the people, the people. I look forward to the days ahead in my retirement and the hopes of re-establishing my contacts with the river and the people I remember so fondly. I can take my grandsons to Charlotte for the thrill of the white water. I can only take them to the Chattooga to experience the wildness and the unspoiled beauty that is exclusive to the river,

From: Bob Roberts – An Ole Friend from over in NC
Editor's notes: *We recently reconnected with Bob after about a dozen years. We also look forward to his retirement.*

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

FISHING REPORTS



**DAVID CANNON
& DARK-30 FISH**



**SHANNON'S 27 INCH
BROWN TROUT**

More Dark-Thirty fish? Maybe Where? I.D.B.I.S.

"BACKCASTING"

July 8 (Tues) GA Foothills TU Meeting – 5 Rabunites attended and participated in a program about the proposal for the upper Chattooga recreation management in the draft EA and preferred alternative.

July 15 (Tues) Annual Family Picnic – A wonderful evening of fellowship and good food (about 50 to 55 attended). The covered dishes were outstanding, especially the green beans, the cakes, and that grapes & pecans desert that Sheila Mansfield brought.



July 22 (Tues) Board of Directors meeting – 6 BOD members attended and V.P. Larry Walker presided (everyone else is west and north of Hiawassee). Items discussed included: July 23 & 24 (Wed & Thurs) Annual Electro-Shock Sampling of the Chattooga River; Comment letter to Forest Service on the upper Chattooga draft EA; Update: Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project and commitment by Rabun TU through June 2009; Programs for August and September meetings; Program for 2009 Rabun Rendezvous - Noel Holcombe, Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources; Update: Publicity, Public Relations, &/or Outreach; Treasury Report; and Tom Landreth Memorial Fund update.

July 23 & 24 (Wed & Thurs) Annual Electro-Shock Sampling of the Chattooga River – About 60 to 70 people turned out from SC & GA DNR, USFS, and TU volunteers for the July 23rd Electro-Shock Sampling in the Big Bend section. 6 Rabunites plus crews from Chattahoochee/Nantahala and Gold Rush Chapters were volunteer participants. Thanks to all, job well done!



MORNING SAFETY MEETING



What's New Elsewhere?

USFS - ARNEY NAMED ACTING REGIONAL FORESTER (7/1/ 2008) ATLANTA – Ken Arney, Deputy Regional Forester and former Tennessee State Forester, has been asked by Chief Abigail Kimbell of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, to serve as Acting Regional Forester in the Southern Region until a permanent replacement is named. The Regional Forester position was vacated in March when Charles L. "Chuck"

Myers moved into a new assignment in the Forest Service's Washington Office (WO). Tom Peterson, another Deputy Regional Forester in Atlanta, was Acting Regional Forester behind Myers until he also moved into a new assignment in the WO.

NC/TN GSMNP Group throws lifeline to trout Smokies habitat gets boost to protect, conserve 'brookies' (7/10/2008)

For brook trout in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, even a man with a hook and rod can be a best friend. The Little River Chapter of Trout Unlimited has donated \$14,000 to help replace rainbow trout with native brook trout in an 8-mile section of a stream in the park. The donation is the most recent installation of approximately \$60,000 the organization of conservation-minded anglers has raised for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park Fisheries. Besides donating money, the chapter also volunteers year-round, helping with fish surveys and other projects. To read more, click [HERE](#)

USFS-SC Long Bottom Ford Campground closed after bear rips tent (7/18/2008) U.S. Forest Service officials closed the Long Bottom Ford Campground on the Chattooga River after a black bear ripped open a camper's tent in search of food. The Forest Service said in a statement that a mother bear and three cubs also were seen at the campground, which was closed Thursday, the Anderson Independent-Mail reported. Forest Service spokeswoman Michelle Burnett says no one was injured

at the campground. All campers have been asked to leave as soon as possible. The statement from the Forest Service says the campground will remain closed for at least a week while the site is monitored. Department of Natural Resources wildlife biologist Skip Still said that once food sources are removed from the campground, the bear and her cubs likely will leave. To read more, click [HERE](#)

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



Rabunites Receive "Thank You" Notes

July 8, 2008
Dear Jimmy,
The girls enjoyed everything! They had fun catching fish and they loved the delicious picnic! It was just an enjoyable event overall!
Betsy Smith – Brownie Leader
Thank You! We really enjoyed the fishing trip and picnic, Brownie Troop 242 – Lindsay, Kerrigan, Mckaxla, Cindy, Kirsten, Autumn, Grace, Kaily, Haley, Calin, and Bree

July 10, 2008
Dear Rabun chapter of TU Members,
Thank you so much for inviting me to speak at your Chapter meeting. I enjoyed all the thoughtful questions about our work! I'm very impressed with all of the great things your group accomplishes and delighted to have water-lovers like you all in the watershed. Keep up the good work and thanks again for your hospitality!
Sincerely, Jenny Sanders – Exec. Dir.
Little Tennessee Watershed Association

July 20, 2008
Dear Charlie, Terry, & All trout Unlimited!
Thank you so much for your amazing and informative program at the Rabun County Public Library. Your generous and kind attention to the young people of Rabun County is such a gift to us all! These young men and women will always remember that as a special day in their lives.
Sincerely, Candace Walton

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We wish a speedy recovery to our friend **Don Eng** of the Saluda River TU Chapter in SC. Congratulations to Rabun TU member **Don Kinser** who was recently elected President of American Whitewater. P.S. Don, it is time to renew your TU membership.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Big "Thank You" to Rabunites that recently upgraded to "Life" TU memberships: **Pat Hopton, Charlie and Kathy Breithaupt**. Rabun TU now has 19 Life memberships.

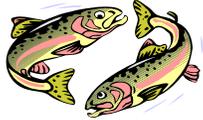
Thanks for re-upping: **David Smith, Charles Jenkins, Max Gates, Nancy Gribble, Chris Bedea, Doug Hickman, and Maria Rodeghiero**.

It is time to renew your membership: **Allison Adams, Jim Blalock, Ronald McKenney, Mike Fuller, Ron Grob, Arthur Guthas, Taylor Marchman, Jacob Shelton, Randy Suddeth, Charles Cawthon, Lewis Reeves III, Johnny Cannon, John Duncan, Don Kinser, John Patrick, Devin Anderson, Steve McAdams, and Terry Roderick**.

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) - 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 (w/Hospitality) - Ray Kearns
Director– Patsy Lewis-Gentry

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From the Fly Tying Desk of Jimmy Whiten

As you are reading our news letter this month (my thanks to Doug Adams for all of the hard work he does every month putting this together and getting it out) I will be out west and north of Hiawassee - sight seeing and maybe fishing somewhere. This trip Doris and I will see the Glacier National Park in Montana.

As I had an opportunity to go west with my friends Bill Kelly, Terry Rivers and Ray Kearns (summer of 2005) this was my first trip out west. I saw sites that I have never seen in my life. Along the way Bill Kelly was explaining to me that once you go on a trip out west you would never be the same. This is true. On this trip I knew that somehow, some way Doris and I would see Yellowstone National Park next year.

Since then Doris and I have been to Yellowstone National Park (summer of 2006) and other sites along the way, then summer of 2007 back to Yellowstone National Park and on to Redwood National Park in California and on to San Francisco.

Totally out of Doris' and my comfort zone, each of those years we had neither time nor money but each time we came back with our credit card almost maxed out and plenty of work that I had left undone along with lots of new work, but I survived.

I leave you with one challenge, one thought; any way you can work out a trip that you will enjoy, DO IT and worry about the consequences when you get back.

Happy Fishing,

Jimmy

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