



TIGHT LINES June 2009 Newsletter of the

Rabun Chapter (522) of Trout Unlimited

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

“Trout don't live in ugly places” 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.

“I like [casting clinics] because they keep a lot of people off the streams. I like any activity that keeps people out of the water. Reduces crowding. I think we ought to have contests—an all expenses paid visit to every casting clinic in the country for the best suggestion of a streamside activity that keeps people out of the water and away from the fish.

Examples would include a streamside fly tying clinic or an ice cream social at the firehouse.”

Stephen G. Saltzman, “Cast the Whole Line ... But Leave Me Out Of It” in *Flyfishing the West*, December 1981

“FORWARD CASTING” Important Dates – See you there!

May 30 (Sat) GA TU Council Meeting: 9 AM in Blairsville, GA

June 6 (Sat) Mentoring - Annual Kids Fishing Event, 8 AM at Tallulah River with USFS & GA WRD. Volunteers needed. **Passing it on!**

June 7 – 12 (Sun – Fri) 6th Annual GEORGIA TROUT CAMP at RGNS. **Passing it on!**

June 13 (Sat) Nationwide TU River Clean-up Day The Blue Ridge Mountain TU Chapter is hosting a river clean up on the Toccoa River. You are invited to join in.

June 16 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust **Program** – George Blankenship, program manager of Cherokee fisheries – *“The C & R Trophy Section”*

June 23 (Tues) BOD Meeting 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust

July 18 (Sat) 1/2-Day Fly Fishing Seminar (a.k.a. Alternate Rabunite 101) at Tallulah Falls State Park Starts 8:30 AM; \$20: **Call the park for reservations:** 706 754 7970; Rabunite volunteers needed to help. **Passing it on.**

July 21 (Tues) Family Picnic, 6 PM, Kelly's Water Falls Park

July 28 (Tues) BOD Meeting 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust

2010 Rabun Rendezvous - Saturday, Jan 23rd

Program: David Cannon – “Experiences of a Outdoors Writer”

He will share stories and pictures from his experiences researching for his book.

FLY OF THE MONTH

by Terry Rivers



GREEN CADDIS PUPA

DROP THIS FLY BEHIND DRY FLY ABOUT 18” AND LET IT SWING UNTIL THE END OF THE DRIFT. FISH THINK IT'S AN EMERGER. SEE Y'ALL ON THE RIVER.

HOOK: SEMI CURVE NYMPH HOOK 14/16

BODY: GREEN FLOSS

THORAX: GREY SQUIRREL

DUBBING

LEGS: SQUIRREL TAIL

“The reader may be aware that anglers differ widely in their theories respecting the choice of flies, some contending that the nicest possible imitations should be made of the fly on the water, or rather that on which the trout is feeding at the time; others holding directly the reverse, and asserting that no imitation deserving the name can be made, and that when the natural fly is abundant the fish will reject any resemblance of it which may be thrown to him one successful angler will lay down to you a set of rules, another, equally successful, directly the reverse. In fact, almost every practiced fly-fisher has a creed and system of his own, though the advocates of exact imitations speak with artistic contempt of all who differ from the; and are in their turn ridiculed as pedantic pretenders, or mad with too much learning. The truth, as in most vexed questions, lies between the two extremes. If nature be violently contradicted, the trout are too keen-sighted not to detect the clumsy trick, and the success of certain flies at certain seasons, and not at others, proves that the fish have some rule in feeding.”

By Rev. George W. Bethune, notes to Izaak Walton's *The Complete Angler*, published in 1653

June Hatches

<u>The Bugs</u>	<u>Time of Month</u>	<u>Time of Day</u>	<u>Suggested Flies</u>
None at all	Any Day	Any Time	Dredging Nymphs: 12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, PT
Grey-Brown & Green Caddis	Early	Late PM	14-16 Dark Elk Hair Caddis w/Green 14-16 Dun & Green Caddis Pupa
Speckled Grey-Brown Caddis	Early	Late PM	14-16 Dark Elk Hair Caddis w/Yellow-Brown 14-16 Dun & Yellow Caddis Pupa
Small Dun Caddis	All Month	Mid AM	18 Brown Elk or Deer Hair Caddis 18 Grey Caddis Pupa
Giant Black Stonefly	All Month	Dawn to early AM	4-6 Black Stonefly Nymph
Brown Stonefly	All Month	Early to Mid AM	10-12 Brown Stonefly Nymph
Golden Stonefly	All Month	Early AM	6-10 Golden Stonefly Nymph
Light Cahill Mayfly	All Month	E to L pm	12-14 Light Cahill 12-14 Light Cahill Nymph
Trico Mayfly	Mid to Late	Mid AM	20 Parachute Trico
Trico Spinner Fall		Late PM	20-22 Poly Wing Black Spinner
Midges	All Month	All Day	18-22 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa
Terrestrials – Ants, Beetles, Crickets, Inch-Worms, Etc			Various Times & Sizes

'Website-of-the-Month': <http://www.flyfishingtrail.com/>

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

Eighteen (18) members of Rabun TU are volunteering 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 weekly by trained employees of the Chattooga Conservancy and transferred (by a chain-of-custody procedure) to a TU volunteer. The volunteer schedule through the spring is as follows: **Eedee Adams** (5/26); **Doug Adams** (6/2); **Travis Barnes** (6/9); **Tom Matthews** (6/16); **Bill Kelly** (6/23); & **Fritz Vinson** (6/30)

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

Want to help with the Stekoa monitoring? For info on where you or your organization can send a donation to help pay lab fees E-mail edadams1@windstream.net. All donations to Rabun TU (a Federal Tax Exempt 501(c) 3 non-profit) are tax deductible.

What's New Elsewhere?

USDA - Career conservationist picked to oversee Forest Service (5/6/2009) by Allison Winter and Noelle Straub, reporters. President Obama nominated a career Agriculture Department employee yesterday to a political post overseeing the Forest Service and farmland conservation programs. If confirmed by the Senate, Homer Lee Wilkes -- currently the Mississippi state conservationist and a 28-year veteran of USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) -- would be undersecretary for natural resources and environment. The post directs the Forest Service and conservation projects at NRCS. The selection of a career NRCS employee for the job is a shift from the previous two administrations. Jim Lyons, who had worked on forestry issues on Capitol Hill and for the Society of American Foresters, held the post during the Clinton administration. A former timber lobbyist, Mark Rey, held the job in the Bush administration. To read more, click [HERE](#)

Chairman Collin Peterson (D.-Minn.) was apoplectic yesterday when he accused the Obama administration of trying to destroy the nascent biofuels industry by imposing more stringent GHG emissions standards. "I'm off the train," Peterson said yesterday at a hearing on ethanol's impact on land use and greenhouse gases. "I want this message sent back down the street. I will not support any climate-change bill. I don't trust anybody anymore." Peterson accused the administration of trying "kill off" the corn ethanol industry by including GHG emissions associated with land-use changes to calculate corn ethanol's carbon footprint. "You're going to kill off the biofuels industry before it even gets started," said Peterson. "You are in bed with the oil industry." To read more, click [HERE](#)

CLIMATE - 'I will not support any kind of climate change bill' -- House Ag chair (5/7/2009) House Agriculture Committee

GA WRD - Lake Burton WMA to close (excerpts from article in The Clayton Tribune <http://theclaytontribune.com/> (5/14/2009). Lake Burton WMA will be among three areas

statewide that will be returned to federally managed land. The area will remain open to hunting and fishing but will not receive oversight and law enforcement provided by a fulltime manager. It is estimated to cost \$45,000 to \$50,000 per year to operate the Lake Burton WMA. State budget ax means Warwoman will be the only WMA in Rabun County; Coleman River WMA was closed more than 10 years ago. To read the full GA DNR news release, click [HERE](#)

GA WRD - Toccoa Tagging Study Offers Anglers Chance at FREE Lifetime License CALHOUN, Ga. (4/10/2009) - Anglers looking to land trophy trout in the 15-mile stretch of the Toccoa River between Blue Ridge Dam and the Tennessee state line now also have a chance to hunt and fish in Georgia for life for free. For details, click [HERE](#)

GA - Governor Signs Bill Creating More Customer Friendly Hunting Fishing Licenses ATLANTA, Ga. (5/6/2009) - Governor Sonny Perdue announced today that he has signed House Bill 326, making customer service improvements to Georgia's resident hunting and fishing licenses and market-based adjustments to nonresident licenses. The bill authorizes a \$2.75 discount to all license holders who renew their hunting or fishing license prior to its expiration, simplifies license requirements by eliminating the primitive weapons license, reduces the cost of a Sportsmen License and allows resident sportsmen to purchase a two-year license for a reduced cost. For details, click [HERE](#)

Editor's notes: The following article appeared in *The Toccoa Record* <http://www.thetoccoarecord.com/> on 5/14/2009. Black Mountain is about 5 miles north of Toccoa and a mile or so west of Tugaloo River on USFS land, Chattooga River R.D.

Big cats possible on Black Mountain

BY TODD TRUELOVE
THE TOCCOA RECORD

Ed Powell and other residents in the Black Mountain area of Stephens County are treading cautiously these days thanks to sightings of what appears to be a panther or mountain lion roaming the countryside.

The prowling creature was first captured by a motion-detecting camera that Powell said his friend, Chris Jenkins, had set up in a secluded area of Black Mountain Road.

That photograph made its way around the neighborhood.

"The more we talked about it, the more intrigued everybody got," said Powell.

The neighbors began noticing the beast's footprints in the dirt and hear its distinctively eerie cry in the darkness.

He said the Black Moun-

SEE CAT - A12

Cat: Panther sounds, sightings on Black Mtn.

Black Mountain Road is relatively safe even with the suspected wild predator in their midst.

"I don't think it would hurt a person unless you tried to go after it," said Powell, adding he wouldn't take any chances or act foolishly.

"When I'm going to get lumber, I look around the corner [to make sure the mountain lion's not there]," he said.

tain area has had its fair share of bears, but that a mountain lion is something new.

Powell said his nephew, Charlie Powell, saw the four-legged creature and thought at first that it was a large dog.

"He couldn't figure out what it was," said Powell.

Still, Powell said he remains optimistic that



A security camera on the Black Mountain Road area recently captured this image of what appears to be a very large cat-like creature padding through the countryside.

The following short story appeared in the Miller County Liberal, Colquitt, GA <http://www.millercountyliberal.com/> and is reprinted here with permission of the author.

2nd in a series of Bob Kornegay short stories about trout fishing in North Georgia

DROP ME OFF AT THE NEXT WHITE BRIDGE

By BOB KORNEGAY

I love fishing for trout in mountain streams.

Trout fishing isn't much unlike fishing a creek in south Georgia. The water's colder, but it's basically the same. One would think all trout fishermen would be similar as well.

Not so.

Actually, there are two distinct breeds of trout fisherman: Type-A and Type-B.

Type-A trout fishermen are those seen in fancy outdoor magazines. Some call them "purists." The difference between them and their Type-B counterparts is glaring.

The purist wears a regulation trout-fishing uniform. He has a hat that costs more than a new set of tires for my pickup. He smokes a briar pipe packed with fine Cavendish tobacco. Mr. Purist sports a pricey Orvis shirt with patches on the elbows. He dons state-of-the-art waders and hand-sewn, felt-soled shoes. He makes a lovely picture.

We don't read about Type-B trout fishermen in outdoor periodicals. Some folks call Type-Bs "good ol' boys." Purists call them other names, most of which cannot be printed. These trout fishermen wear baseball caps emblazoned with company logos or NASCAR numbers. They never took up pipe smoking, but are partial to Red Man and Levi Garrett.

Any patches on Type-B fishing attire are there to cover up holes. In lieu of waders, they wear their oldest pair of pants. Their wading shoes are usually worn-out sneakers.

Type-As are fly fishermen, casting hand-tied flies on rods worth more than the average Type-B's monthly salary. They shun live bait and store-bought lures. They religiously practice catch-and-release.

Type-B trout anglers use rods and reels purchased at garage sales. Their bait is worms, spinners, or canned corn. If a Type-B releases a live trout it is because the fish dropped off the hook. Those he catches are "released" into a skillet of hot grease.

Type-A trout fishermen belong to angling clubs. They maintain fishing "cabins" on prime stretches of private water. These are

usually 3000-square-foot rock-and-cedar mansions rivaling the vacation homes of Arab sheiks.

Type-Bs have trout cabins, too. These are 20x20 clapboard cubicles with a leaky gas stove and army-surplus bunks. The outhouse is 100 yards away. The woods are somewhat closer.

As an outdoor writer, I've learned to move comfortably among members of both sects. On a recent trip to the north Georgia mountains, however, I discovered I may have a preference. In a little country grocery store near Brasstown Bald, I met an old man who resembled the common ancestor of Type-B trout fishermen everywhere. I asked him about the best place to pull off the road to get to a particular creek I wanted to fish.

"Yeah, boy," he said with a delightful mountain dweller's nasal twang, "You'uns just drive on up this road 'til you come to the first white bridge. Get out'n the truck right there, and good luck to ya."

White bridge? It was eight miles and six bridges later before my buddy and I finally figured out that "white bridge" was the old man's description of any bridge with concrete railings, as opposed to the older wooden variety. We about-faced and drove back to the span the old timer had in mind. It was there we entered the creek.

In threadbare tennis shoes, we fished crickets and wax worms on cheap spinning tackle, limiting out in just over two hours. We chewed Levi and Red Man while breathing beautifully intoxicating mountain air.

So, from now on, ya'll just refer to me as a Type-B and let me out at the nearest white bridge. I guarantee you I won't take offense.

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Editor's notes: Bob Kornegay's book of outdoor humor and nostalgia, [BUDDIES AND BOBTALES](#), is available for \$22.00 postpaid. Mail check or money order for personalized copies to Bob Kornegay, P.O. Box 568, Blakely, GA 39823.

Status Update – Chattooga North Fork Visitor Use Capacity Analysis

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

The draft EA public comment period closed on August 18, 2008. Almost 3000 public comments on the draft EA were received. Two-thirds of the comments called for protecting the values of solitude and remoteness of the Chattooga North Fork and one-third of the comments were for unrestricted year-round, any water-level boating access on the Chattooga North Fork.

The Sumter National Forest posted updated information on their website on May 11, 2009, to view click <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/sumter/resources/Chattooga.php>.

A final decision on recreation uses on the Chattooga North Fork has not been made. Any documents posted have been developed in response to or based on information in the pre-decisional Environmental Assessment. When a final decision is announced, the public will be notified and any new documents will be posted here <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/>.

"The psychology of trout remains in a backward state. Indeed, it is highly probably, though not subject to proof, that Neolithic man, after a day of it on the river with hooks made out of thorns, black or white, said precisely the same things about trout as are said today by every little assembly of fishers gathered at a wayside station to await the last train. He paid his tribute to the great mental powers of the trout; so do they. He remarked on its great ability to learn from experience; its mastery of the disguises of hooks; its profound wisdom in old age—so do they. He wondered what trout thought about him; and today they raise conjectures on the subject of what the old fellow "is saying to himself" about them as he lurks in his favorite hold beneath the big root of the alder-tree."

From [The Cunning of Trout](#) by Alexander Urquhart (1913)

History of Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests http://www.fs.fed.us/conf/chatto_history.htm

The Chattahoochee National Forest takes its name from the Chattahoochee River whose headwaters begin in the North Georgia mountains. The River and the area were given the name by the English settlers who took the name from the Indians living here. In one dialect of the Muscogee, (Indian language) Chatta means stone; ho chee, marked or flowered. These marked or flowered stones were in the Chattahoochee River at a settlement near Columbus, Georgia.

The Cherokee and Creek Indians inhabited North Georgia. When the pioneer colonists arrived, the Indians learned new farming skills and lived in harmony with the pioneers. Then, gold was discovered. Indians were driven off their land in the great "Trail of Tears" to reservations in Oklahoma. Their land was given away in land lotteries. Gold was mined and almost every stream in north Georgia suffered tremendous damage from hydraulic mining. But nothing lasts forever, the gold ran out and the timber companies moved in on steel rails.

In the 1880's, railroads began penetrating the North Georgia Mountains making timber easier to access. Large landowners built these railroads. These companies bought much of this mountain land for as little as \$1.00 per acre. Their goal was to cut the timber, sell the land, and move on to another location. They logged the land for lumber and for bark of Chestnut, Chestnut Oak and Hemlock trees. Tannic acid was extracted from the bark, which was used in tanning leather. This was big industry in those days as almost every household item was leather or involved leather in its use.

Wildfire also took a toll. Sparks from wood burning trains and skidders ignited thousands of acres. Farmers lost control of fires they set to clear land, to rid the woods of insects and snakes and to improve forage for cattle and swine, which roamed the woods. This loss of forest resources was about to change. Congress passed the Weeks Law authorizing land purchases from willing sellers to protect the headwaters of navigable streams and insure a continuous supply of timber.

The Forest Service purchased 31,000 acres in Fannin, Gilmer, Lumpkin and Union Counties from the Gennett family in 1911 for \$7.00 per acre. Thus, began the role of stewardship on lands that would become the Chattahoochee National Forest.

In the beginning, the Chattahoochee was part of the Nantahala and Cherokee National Forests in North Carolina and Tennessee. In the early days, managing the National Forests for the "greatest good" was difficult. Travel over the forest was mostly on horseback. Accommodations were rustic log cabins or tents, (acquisition camps) set up for land examiners making additional purchases to the National Forest. Many of these purchases were old homesteads but rangers slept out "in the field" on these management trips because many of the abandoned farm dwellings were infested with bed bugs.

The goal to manage timber, wildlife, soil and water, and recreation resources in the proper balance was hard to do. Scientific forestry practices were not widely accepted. It was into this setting that Rangers Roscoe Nicholson and Arthur Woody came to work for the Forest Service. These men did much to gain the support for forestry practices that nurtured the agency through its infancy.

Ranger Roscoe Nicholson, the first Forest Ranger in Georgia, negotiated the purchase of most Forest Service land on the Tallulah Ranger District. He was responsible for getting telephone lines run from Clayton to Pine Mountain, purchased bloodhounds to track arsonists, and built the first firetower on Rabun Bald. Ranger "Nick", as he was called, made many small timber sales to local people providing many of them their only source of income during the 1930's. Beautiful Coleman River Scenic Area near Clayton, Georgia was dedicated to Ranger Nick in honor of his promotion of conservation ideals.

Ranger Woody also promoted conservation. Unwise land and resource use had caused the deer and trout populations to virtually disappear. Woody brought trout and deer back to North Georgia. The trout were shipped to Gainesville and hauled across narrow, dirt, mountain roads and released in the streams. Woody also purchased fawns with his own money, and fed them until they could be released on what became the Blue Ridge Wildlife Management Area.

Later in the 1930's, the Chattahoochee entered into a Cooperative Wildlife Agreement with the State of Georgia and established additional wildlife management areas. Together, they brought in more deer, stocked trout streams and cultivated food plots for turkey and deer. (See Aug '07 TIGHT LINES, p7 [HERE](#))

Many landmarks bear Ranger Woody's name in tribute to his stewardship. Sosebee Cove, a 175-acre tract of prize hardwood along GA 180 is set aside as a memorial to Woody who negotiated its purchase for the Forest Service.

April 6, 1936, the worst tornado in Georgia history struck Gainesville. The Forest Service came in with its radios for communications and workers to help with clean up. Helping in this community effort built good will toward the Forest Service and established an atmosphere of trust.

On July 9, 1936, President Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed the Chattahoochee a separate National Forest. Also in July, 1936, the first Forest Supervisor's Office for the Chattahoochee National Forest was located in the Hosch Building in Gainesville. Walley Prater was the first Supervisor. His staff included Roswell Levitt, Milton Bryan, Crawford DuPree, Ted Seely, Richard Lowndes, Clint Johnson, and Art Grumbine.

In 1936, the Forest was organized into two Ranger Districts, the Blue Ridge and the Tallulah. Today, the Chattahoochee contains over 750,000 acres, has 3 (down from a maximum of 8) ranger districts and employs over 200 people.

One of the Chattahoochee's first tasks was to write management plans. These plans included management of soil and water, wildlife and recreation resources, with emphasis on reforestation since much of the timber had been cut before Forest Service purchase.

Implementing these management plans was given a boost by the Civilian Conservation Corps (the CCC's). Seventeen CCC camps such as Camp Woody near Suches were located on the Chattahoochee National Forest. These CCC'ers planted trees, checked and controlled tree disease and insect infestations, built firetowers, roads, ranger stations, and recreation areas, laid communication lines, and did erosion control work. The style of architecture developed for the CCC's was distinctive as the improvements harmonized with the environment and used native building materials.

World War II came and the CCC boys went directly into the armed forces. This greatly reduced the workforce of the Chattahoochee and put the Forests at risk to loss by fire. Out of this need arose the most successful advertising campaign in history—Smokey Bear. Posters, media ads, and appearances by Smokey the Bear soon made their way into almost every home with the message: "Only You, Can Prevent Forest Fires".

The Chattahoochee National Forest contributed timber toward the war effort. Red Oak was used for gun mounts and bridges. Basswood was used for dough boards and drawing boards. Poplar was used for airplane construction. After the War, new uses of wood and wood products emerged making the forests even more important. Recreation, home and industry use increased dramatically.

In 1959, President Dwight D. Eisenhower proclaimed 96,000 acres of federal lands in middle Georgia as the Oconee National Forest and the Oconee joined the Chattahoochee to become the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests.

The 60's began with the signing of the Multiple-Use, Sustained-Yield Act that specifies the National Forests be managed for outdoor recreation, range, timber, watershed, fish and wildlife purposes in such combinations and manner that they will best serve public needs. The 1960's were characterized by a wave of activity on the Chattahoochee. Tremendous construction efforts were undertaken to provide recreation areas within 50 miles of every major town. Roads such as the Richard Russell Scenic Highway were built for better access to the National Forest. Perhaps the most spectacular recreation area constructed was Brasstown Bald Visitor Center atop Georgia's highest mountain. Other recreation areas constructed or improved included Andrews Cove, Anna Ruby Falls, DeSoto Falls, and Lake Russell. Many of these improvements were made possible through human resource programs such as Accelerated Public Works and Operation Mainstream, which employed senior citizens.

Timber harvests also increased in the 60's as the timber in the 1930's began to mature. The largest timber sale on the Chattahoochee was made in January, 1964. It took five years to cut over 9,390 acres taking only 10 1/2 million board feet of timber. The explosive growth period in the 60's brought concerns and greater appreciation for the Nation's natural resources. Environmentalism became the critical factor in forest management in the 1970's. During the mid 70's Cohutta and Ellicott's Rock Wilderness areas were established. These areas offered forest visitors more primitive recreation activities in secluded areas.

The Chattooga River was designated a Wild and Scenic River during this time. One of the few remaining free flowing streams in the Southeast; the Chattooga offers exciting white water rafting

and beautiful scenery. The movie "Deliverance" starring Burt Reynolds and Jon Voight was filmed on the Chattooga River.

The 1970's also brought increased emphasis on Environmental Education. Woodsy Owl became the National anti-pollution symbol. Earth Day ushered in ecology curriculums in schools. The Youth Conservation Corps and Young Adult Conservation Corps were taught sound environmental principles while they worked on the Chattahoochee National Forest.

The 70's brought many changes in traditional Forest Management. Fire towers were phased out and replaced by aerial fire detection; the Chattahoochee hired its first minority professionals, and expanded disciplines brought more technical expertise to the Forest.

The Chattahoochee entered the 1980's in the midst of the energy crisis. Thousands of free firewood permits were given the public as people returned to wood as a method to heat their homes. Around 350,000 acres of the Chattahoochee National Forest were leased to oil companies for exploration, but as the energy crisis abated, some of these leases were not renewed.

The Land Management Plan for the Chattahoochee National Forest was the first Forest-wide management plan actively seeking public opinion in managing the National Forest. Most of the public responding to this Plan indicated they want more wilderness and areas to ride off-road vehicles, and are opposed to clearcutting, road building and pesticide use on the National Forest. Achieving the proper balance in resource management is as challenging for us today as it was for the first foresters. While the way we do things has changed many times during the last 60 years, our tradition of stewardship—caring for the land and serving people has remained the same.

"Catchin' Corner" Tips for Backcountry Anglers

For backcountry anglers, it is all about SOLITUDE and fishing in UNDISTURBED WATERS.

One of the most discourteous things an angler can do is jump in a stream just upstream of another angler. Or even worse, wade or float downstream right up to or past an angler; and then try to startup a conversation.

To avoid these types of disturbances and conflicts on public waters, here are some tips:

- Fish on weekdays when possible, fish boating-free waters and walk in for a half hour or more.
- When you see another angler in the water, pass on the trail without conversation and walk the trail for at least another 15 minutes to give the other angler plenty of undisturbed waters.
- When you approach the stream, stop and observe for 5 to 10 minutes before stepping into the water. Look for wet tracks on the rocks. If there are wet tracks the water is not "undisturbed"; you will need to rest it or hike the trail further.
- Stalk wild trout "like a heron" in order to preserve the undisturbed water; don't cast until you know where the trout are located and what they are feeding on. After one or 2 rejected presentations, don't flog – rest the waters. BE PATIENT!

Do these tips work? Just ask Pat Hopton (see "Backcasting " for a picture of his 17-inch backcountry reward).

A Case History in Fishing Regulations in Great Smoky Mountains National Park: 1934–2004

by Matt A. Kulp and Stephen E. Moore - Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Gatlinburg, TN

Published in: "North American Journal of Fisheries Management"; Article: 2005;25: pp. 510–524

Abstract — Since the establishment of Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GRSM) in 1934, fisheries managers have utilized about every angling regulation in the toolbox to manage salmonids. Our objectives here were to summarize the regulation history of GRSM and determine whether regulations affected the age or size structure, growth, and population dynamics of wild populations of rainbow trout *Oncorhynchus mykiss* within GRSM. Data inconsistencies made data comparisons among regulation periods difficult; however, where feasible, comparisons revealed similar population dynamics among periods. The number of legal rainbow trout per kilometer of stream ranged from 215 to 885 throughout the 70-year study period, regardless of regulation. There were no statistical differences in rainbow trout relative stock densities (RSDs) on Little River among the 1930s, 1950s, 1980s, and 1990s, despite liberal regulations prior to 1960. Rainbow trout mean length at

age data indicate no differences among populations for age-1 to age-4 rainbow trout. There also was no statistical difference between the age structure data for age-1 to age-4 rainbow trout collected in 1945 and 1993. Water quality data indicate that GRSM streams are naturally acidic and infertile, which results in populations that exhibit fast growth with high annual mortality rates. As a result, we determined that regulations provided no discernable effect on wild rainbow trout populations in GRSM. Most regulations were put in place for social reasons and were never evaluated over long-term periods (>5 years). Abiotic events, such as droughts and floods, have a much greater effect on salmonid abundance in GRSM than do regulations or fishing pressure. (underline added)

Editor's notes: *It's all about floods & droughts (and trout chow - Dukes, Waters, private waters, etc). By golly, you don't have to believe it - if you don't want to. For more, click [HERE](#)*

Letters To & From The Rabunites

Sent: By US Postal, dated March 11, 2009

To: 522 – Rabun

Dear Friend of Trout Unlimited,

Thank you for your \$1,000.00 contribution we received on February 20, 2009 for Trout Unlimited's Embrace-A-Stream fundraising campaign.

Embrace-A-Stream is among TU's most successful programs. It provides competitive grants to local TU chapters across the country, enabling them to undertake innovative conservation projects on behalf of their home streams and rivers. Since 1975, it has leveraged more than \$10 million in on-the-ground projects, improving the health of more than 900 waterways from Maine to California to Alaska. Chances are Embrace-A-Stream funding has helped a fishery near you.

We are deeply grateful for your support of our grassroots conservation work. Together, we are creating a legacy of cold, clean, fishable water nationwide. Sincerely,

From: Stephanie L. Davison – Membership Services Manager, Trout Unlimited, Arlington, VA

Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code, enacted in August of 1993, requires you to keep written substantiation of gifts of \$250 or greater in order to claim a deduction for your contribution. This letter serves as a receipt for the above gift.

Editor's notes: On February 11, 2009, Rabun TU sent a donation of \$2,000 earmarked as follows:

>\$1,000 for the "Embrace-A-Stream" program

Because we believe this program provides necessary seed money to address today's concerns in our coldwater resources.

>\$500 for the "FIRST CAST" - [Youth Fly Fishing Education Initiative](#)

Because we believe that today's youth are tomorrow's protectors of our coldwater resources.

>\$500 for TU's Southeast Land Protection Coordinator

Because as so many of the wood product companies are currently divesting of their SE land holdings, we believe now is time to preserve these coldwater resources for future generations.

Rabun TU has yet to receive a written receipt of the 2 each \$500 donations.

On December 15, 2008, we sent a \$1,000 Wal*Mart check for the BOT match to the TU General Fund. Terry Rivers, Rabun TU's Past President, requested the donation. Rabun TU has not received a letter of acknowledgement or a "thank you."

Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2009

Subject: Hatchery

With all of the new money going to the states, are they still planning on closing the hatchery at Moccasin Creek State Park?

I will be at Sandy Bottoms between 6/4 & 6/13. Hope to see ya'll again.

From: Walt Godfrey – A Rabunite in Cape Canaveral, FL

Editor's notes: The Burton Trout Hatchery will remain in operation thanks to letters sent to the Governor of GA by people like you. Looking forward to seeing you again with the GA Trout Campers during your stay at Sandy Bottoms.

Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2009

Subject: RE: TIGHT LINES May 2009 Newsletter

Thanks for keeping me in the loop. Love the pictures from the '50s and of the next generation of conservationists.

Rock snot!?! What an apropos name. YUCK. On many levels.

From: Holly Demuth - Executive Director, WaysSouth www.WaysSouth.org

Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2009

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES May 2009 Newsletter

"The fly angler who says they have never, ever fallen while wading, is either a pathogenic liar, or has never been fly fishing." Jimmy D Moore

What is a pathogenic liar? A liar who is capable of producing disease? Or did Jimmy D. Moore mean "pathological" liar??

From: Allison Adams – A Rabunite in Decatur, GA

Editor's notes: Good question. It must have been a misprint where I copied it. Jimmy would have meant "pathological" liar.

Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2009

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES May 2009 Newsletter

Reprinted article looks good. You folks have an impressive-looking newsletter. I'm proud to be a part of it. Your'n...

From: Bob Kornegay - Blakely, GA

Editor's notes: Bob's short story "OLD MEN, MOUNTAINS, AND UNEXPECTED PLEASURE" was in the May 2009 TIGHT LINES click [HERE](#). Another of his stories, "DROP ME OFF AT THE NEXT WHITE BRIDGE" is in this issue.

Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2009

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES May 2009 Newsletter

ENJOYED READING THANKS

From: Curtis Blackwell – Dixie Bluegrass Boys

<http://www.curtisblackwell.webs.com/>

Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2009

Subject: RE: TIGHT LINES May 2009 Newsletter

I have been very impressed with how TU engages the community including the scouting organizations and appreciate your time spent towards these kinds of efforts. Regards,

From: Robin Sargent - Andrews, NC 28901

Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2009

Subject: RE: TIGHT LINES May 2009 Newsletter

Great newsletter as usual - Thanks for writing something about my program -- I really appreciate it.

From: David Cannon - Idbis Creek, LLC

www.CannonOutdoors.com

Editor's notes: David is the author of "Fly Fishing Georgia: A No Nonsense Guide to Top Waters", available on Amazon.com. Click [HERE](#) David will present the program at the 23rd Annual Rabun Rendezvous. He will share stories and pictures from his experiences researching for his book.

Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2009

Subject: RE: TIGHT LINES May 2009 Newsletter

Thanks for the Newsletter!!! I really enjoyed reading it. Take care.

From: Mike Knight – Atlanta, GA

Sent: Wednesday, May 06, 2009

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES May 2009 Newsletter

Thanks again for keeping me on your mailing list for Tight Lines. I commend you for covering the Georgia Senate resolution asking the Federal government to approve building reservoirs on the national forest in order to help control Lake Lanier water levels. This is an excellent example of how ill-informed our legislators are and how important it is for us, their constituents, to push back when they do such silly things.

First of all, there simply are no sites on national forest land where a reservoir could be built that would provide any significant storage for augmenting Lake Lanier water levels. Period.

Secondly, even if such sites existed, the basic concept is ludicrous. Any reservoir in the watershed would simply hold back water that would have otherwise gone into Lanier anyway. The net result would be less water going into Lanier because of the evaporative loss from the smaller reservoir. A lot of fresh sediment would be washed into Lanier during the construction

phase of such a reservoir, and when it was drained to augment Lanier, a lot of bare soil would be exposed, adding more sediment to Lanier and reducing its storage capacity.

Finally, any new reservoir in the mountains would immediately develop its own clientele, with its own notion of how it should be managed (perhaps including water supply to support local growth). This would most certainly cause additional 'water wars' among competing counties whenever some outsider decided it was time for the reservoir to be drained.

Unfortunately, there are a lot of people who, like our legislators, will take this idea seriously. This is just one more issue where TU people have a golden opportunity to educate folks.

From: Russ England – Retired Fisheries Biologist, GA DNR
Editor's note: To read May 2009 TIGHT LINES, click [HERE](#)

Sent: via US Postal on May 9, 2009

To: Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Please pass on to the TU membership how much your support meant to us as we conducted our 19th annual kids fishing event. Skies were a little cloudy and somewhat threatening, but we had a great turnout nevertheless. A lot of children caught fish and many were presented with some great looking trophies, and every single child – regardless of their fishing success – was sent home with a prize. (See "Backcasting" in this newsletter for some photos from the event.)

Your organization has been hugely supportive of our fishing event, and the \$300 you contributed to us this year was put to very good use. It was especially useful this year in light of the difficult economy and dwindling availability of sponsorship funds. Thanks for all your support and your friendship, not only this year, but in past years, too. Hopefully, TU will be in a position to work with us again next spring. Sincerely,

From: Anthony Lampros, Superintendent – Black Rock Mountain State Park

Sent: Friday, May 15, 2009

Subject: AFFC raffle results

The raffle of Tom's Landreth's Chattooga watercolor at the Atlanta Fly Fishing Club meeting raised \$250 for T.U.'s Trout Camp. Please let me know where we should send the check.

From: Phil Sehenuk – Atlanta Fly fishing Club, Atlanta, GA

Editor's notes: *That is great. What a wonderful way to honor the memory of Tom Landreth. Tom was always a huge supporter of mentoring youth and the GA Trout Camp. All donations for the camp are tax deductible and can be made to GA trout Unlimited, c/o Kathy Breithaupt – camp administrator, 194 Kitchens Lane, Clayton, GA 30525*

To: USFS – Chattooga River Ranger District, GA

Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Subject: Re: Chattooga River RD, Trail Scoping Letter (1 of 2)

The Board of Directors of The Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited supports the USFD proposed improvement of the specified trails located on National Forest land within Habersham, White, and Rabun Counties. In as much as erosion and sediment pose a major threat to fish and other aquatic life, we believe the water quality in these watersheds will benefit from the proposed trail maintenance.

Thank you for asking our position on this matter.

From: Doug Mansfield - Secretary; Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Sent: via US Postal on May 15, 2009

To: Rabun TU

Dear TU members,

Thank you so much for the card. It means more than you know! I'm doing much better but have 3 ulcers and depression so I am taking time off. I do plan on coming back as I truly enjoy my job and thank you again for the card and your thoughts.

From: Russ Burken – Toccoa, GA

Editor's notes: *Charlie Breithaupt painted a special "get well" card for Russ and his friends signed it at the April Chapter meeting. Russ (Doc) has been a member of Rabun TU for 20 years and served 2 terms as Chapter President.*

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



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@windstream.net

"BACKCASTING"

May 1- 3 (Fri – Sun) Southeast Region TU Rally, Marion VA – Rabunite Charlie Breithaupt attended.

May 2 (Sat) Kids Fishing Event at Black Rock Mountain State Park – Passing it on!



May 9 (Sat) Blue Ridge Mountain TU Chapter High Country Boil – 4 Rabunites were among the 155 in attendance. The funds brought in to support the BRMTU Chapter's youth education, conservation and trout in the classroom programs, totaled over \$7000. Rabun TU donated a framed LE print titled "One for the Creel" by artist, angler and Rabun TU member Broderick Crawford. [HERE](#).

May 13-17 (Wed – Sun) Camping & Fishing – over 27 Rabunites and friends participated. A BIG "Thank You" to Terry Rivers!! If you were not there, you missed making some wonderful memories. The next one is in September. **WAaahWHOoooo!**



CAMP KITCHEN



PAST PREZ TERRY & MASTER CHEF



CAMPFIRE CIRCLE



CAMPFIRE SONGS



TELLING BEAR STORIES



TYING SECRET FLIES

A New Campfire Story:

The Saga of "38" Bill by Ray Gentry

Around the campfire the Rabunites were enjoying the pleasures of nature and "pontificating" about their many experiences when a stranger suddenly stopped his truck on the road and approached our camp. This man asked, "Where are you folks from?" We replied Rabun County. The man went on to say he was from Tennessee and his friend was from Kentucky. He related they had encountered a local man while fishing on THE RIVER over 20 years ago. He wondered if we happened to know the man. He went on to relate his story.

It seems the Tennessean and his friend had been fishing on THE RIVER and a local fisherman dressed in kakis, toting a fly rod and a 38 revolver on his hip came out of the bushes and confronted them. The "Kakis" man was polite, told them his name and simply asked if it was OK to pass through their fishing spot. Evidently, the "Kakis" man simply wanted to move on up river. The Tennessean said, "Can you imagine us denying any local armed man, polite or not, his request?" (Editor's notes: "Deliverance" remembered) He said they instantly agreed. Everyone was laughing when the Tennessean said he could not remember the name and he wondered if we happened to know the local armed man dressed in kakis.

You don't have to believe this - if you don't want to but there were 8 Rabunites around the fire and immediately, in unison, all 8 pointed directly to Kelly and in unison said, "That's your man." "What's his name?" asked Tennessean. "Bill Kelly," replied the red-faced slightly embarrassed "Kaki" man. "Yes, that's him," said the Tennessean, "I remember now, he said his name was Bill Kelly."

There sat Bill Kelly at the campfire dressed in kakis and looking sort of sheepish with a grin on his face. You don't have to believe it if you don't want to but the Rabunites were laughing and rolling around all over the ground. Bill, you can run but you can't hide. ©



Kelly – A Legend in His Own Time
Bill Kelly & Grandson Clay 5/15/09



SOME BACKCOUNTRY FISHING



STREAMSIDE BLUETTS



WILD BROWN TROUT



17- inch wild brown trout caught by Pat Hopton on a dry fly in the backcountry Friday evening, May 15th, photographed and released unharmed.

May 18 (Mon) Annual Spring Family Cookout with Mentoring – a wonderful evening with 50 girl & boy scouts; about 30 scout leaders, parents, grandparents, & siblings; and about 40 Rabunites (about 120 folks total). There were some huge bream caught by the kids, the food was plentiful and delicious, and every scout left with a fishing reel. Our thanks to Rabun Gap – Nacoochee School for use of the facility, to Community Bank & Trust for use of the cooking grill, to Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church for loan of the tables, to Bass Pro Shops for donating the reels, to Burton Trout Hatchery for loan of the rods, and to Reeves Hardware - Dillard for donating the bait. A special thank you to Rabunites Ray Gentry & Jimmy Whiten for checking /repairing the reels, Ray Kearns & Bill Kelly for cooking; Kathy Breithaupt & Terry Rivers for getting the supplies, and to Charlie Breithaupt and all the fishing mentors.

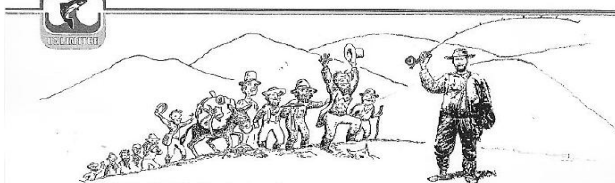


Passing it on to The Next Generation of Conservationists



May 23 (Sat) Workday - Betty Creek In-Stream Trimming/Clean-up – 9 Rabunites completed the task in short order.

May 26 (Tues) BOD Meeting - 11 members attended. Some agenda items include: Recaps - Southeast Region TU Rally, Blue Ridge Mountain TU Chapter High Country Boil, Cherry Hill Campout, Annual Spring Family Cookout with Scouts, Betty Creek In-Stream Trimming/Clean-up; Updates – Spring Custom Fly Rod Raffle, LWCF status of budget process, July 18th (Sat) 1/2-Day Fly Fishing Seminar at Tallulah Falls State Park, Program for 2010 Rabun Rendezvous – David Cannon - 20 minutes; “Stories of an Outdoors Writer”, BTB Water Sample – 4 streams sampled quarterly, 5/30 GA TU Council Meeting, 6/6 Mentoring - Annual Kids Fishing Event Tallulah River w/USFS & GA WRD, 6/7– 6/12 (Sun – Fri) 2009 GEORGIA TROUT CAMP, 6/13 Nationwide TU River Clean-up Day, 6/16 Chapter Meeting Program, 6/25 BOD Meeting; New Item - Need a program for August meeting. Updates – Publicity, Membership, & Treasury Report



**Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Custom Fly Rod Raffle
Winston Blx, 9 ft, 4 wt, 4 pc, Boron/Graphite
Over \$600 Retail Value!!**

Drawing on July 21st at the **Annual Summer Family Picnic**
Tickets are \$3 each or 4 for \$10; Contact Pat Hopton for Tickets

Ph 706 782 4978 E-mail scotts_creek58@yahoo.com

Our good friend Mack Martin of North Georgia Custom Rods has donated this fly rod to Rabun TU.

<http://www.mackmartin.com/CustomRods.htm>

Stocked with Bream, PFAs make Perfect Family Areas

SOCIAL CIRCLE, Ga. (5/7/2009) - For many anglers, good childhood fishing memories involve family fun and a stringer of bream. This spring, anglers can pass down the family fishing tradition and easily hook an impressive stringer of bream at a nearby public fishing area. To read more, click [HERE](#)



The May 22nd ribbon cutting ceremony for the new USFS Chattooga River Ranger District office in Tallulah Falls, GA.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Congratulations to **David Cannon** for being hired to write The Outdoors Page of the Athens Banner-Herald.

To check it out, click <http://onlineathens.net/ads/adbase/1000618446.pdf>

David will present the program at the 2010 Rabun Rendezvous. <http://www.cannonoutdoors.com/>

We share in the joy of the 106th birthday celebration of **Louise Nixon's** grandmother.

We wish speedy and complete recuperation for **Sandy Morgan, Lea Richmond** and **Bill Kelly**.

We extend our condolences to **Larry & Beth Walker** on the passing of Beth's brother.

We extend our condolences to **Jim Nixon** on the passing of his Cousin Ken.

We also extend condolences to **Larry Walker** in the passing of his loyal dog, **Dixie**.

And we share Larry's joy in his newly adopted dog, **Charlie Brown**.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Big Rabunite "WELCOME" to **new members** this month: **David & Stephanie Cannon**, 1311 WILDFLOWER WAY, MADISON GA 30650

Thanks for re-upping: **Shane English, Monte Seehorn, Erwin Ford, Max Gates, Bill Kelly, Allen Koleff, Stephen Weinelt, Bill Coon, Broderick Crawford, Dale Powell, Donald Early, Dave Schmidt, Sam Bennett, Hal Howard, Ray king, Philip Koch, Will Pendrey, Fritz Vinson, and Cecil Beehler.**

It is time to renew your membership: **Jimmy Whiten, Gary Deal, James Butler, David Cantrell, Raymond Taylor, Justin Tyson, Frank Allan, David Jordan, Donald MacLeod, and Steve Denman**

Rabun TU Officers & Directors for F/Y2009

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

Vice President (w/Notices in newspaper)– **Larry Walker**

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

Secretary (w/Communications) - **Doug Mansfield**

Past President (w/Campouts) - **Terry Rivers**

Director (w/Rod Raffle) - **Pat Hopton**

Director (w/Programs) - **Bill Kelly**

Director (w/Website) - **Kathy Breithaupt**

Director (w/Education) - **Charlie Breithaupt**

Director Ray Gentry

Director Ray Kearns

Director Jim Kidd

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Ph 706 746 2158

Ph 706 896 7445

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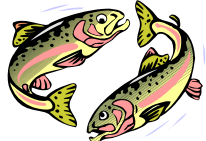
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E-mail raykearns@windstream.net

E-mail Jikidd@windstream.net



From the Fly Tying Desk of Jimmy Whiten

It's that time of year, best fishing time of the year. We just had one of our campouts; we did have rain, RAIN! (Well it takes a lot of rain to make the flowers bloom, to get those gardens really growing and, of course, to fill those streams and rivers.) Food was great; fishing was great, (my catching was not like I was hoping for, but never is like I hope for.) Then there were all of those stories around the campfire, always worth the cost of admission. If you missed this campout it was great, make plans to come to the next one.

We hosted our annual cookout at Indian Lake for the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. It is always a pleasure to watch the leadership of our future. Everyone seemed to enjoy the outing. MY THANKS to everyone that made it happen, helping the kids fish, everyone that prepared the food whether at home or at the picnic area. Also a special thanks to all of those Scout Leaders who got the kids there for the picnic and all of the different things they do to help mold them into tomorrows leaders. I can't ever decide what is the highlight of the whole picnic? I have it down to two choices, not counting food of course. It has to be the kids catching a fish or them selecting a reel of their choice when their number is called out.

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, or your comments about our Website and Newsletter.

Send them to: edadams1@windstream.net or to: Rabun TU, PO Box 65, Rabun Gap, GA 30568

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