



TIGHT LINES August 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/>

"What are more delightful than one's emotions when approaching a trout stream for the initial cast?"
T. Nash Buckingham

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 spent the entire dream fishing a single Griffith's gnat." From Rivers of Memory by Harry Middleton (1993)

"FORWARD CASTING" Important Dates – See you there!

Aug 18 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust;
Program Roger Caylor, owner of Caylor Custom Flies

<http://caylorcustomflies.com:80/> (a small fly-tying company that specializes in fly patterns which imitate aquatic insects indigenous to the Southern Appalachian Mountains as well as traditional Smoky Mountain 'fly hooks'). Some topics for his presentation: local fly patterns and what makes them good, fly tying tips, his thoughts on size vs. color when choosing a fly.

Aug 18 –22 (Tues-Sat) Trout Unlimited 50th Anniversary Celebration,
Traverse City, MI. For details, click [HERE](#)

Aug 25 (Tues) Board of Directors 6:30 PM, Community B & T

Sept 15 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Community B&T;
Program: Alex Bell "WNC Fly Fishing Trail" <http://www.flyfishingtrail.com/>
Sept 16-20 (Wed – Sun) Fishing & Camping has been RESCHEDULED to October 8 – 12th.

Sept 19 (Sat) Mountaineer Festival 10 AM – 4 PM; in Clayton.
Volunteers needed to man the Rabun TU booth.

Sept 19 (Sat) GA TU Council Meeting at AFFS 9AM

Sept 22 (Tues) Board of Directors 6:30 PM, Community B & T

Sept 26 (Sat) Outdoor Adventure Day at Unicoi S.P./Smith Creek

2010 Rabun Rendezvous - Saturday, Jan 23rd

Program: David Cannon <http://www.cannonoutdoors.com/>

"Experiences of an Outdoors Writer"

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

FLY OF THE MONTH

by Terry Rivers



Griffith's Gnat

(The TU 50th Anniversary Fly of the Month)

Quick and easy: a great fly for the novice to get started on, kinda like a small, no-tail, floating woolly-worm. No fly box would be complete without several in a range of sizes. It's versatile; you can float it, skate it, clip the bottom and emerge it, or sink it. I'm sure it has been sucked in, gulped in, slashed at and refused as much as any other great fly.

The Griffith's Gnat was developed and named after TU founder, George A. Griffith.

Hook: TMC101 14-22

Thread: 6/0 Olive

Rib: Fine Gold Wire (optional)

Body: Peacock Herl

Hackle: Grizzly or Blue Dun Palmered.

SETTING PRIORITIES

"On the ride home, we discussed whether or not we were up for trying it again the next day, Saturday. When you roll in after 11 PM, you have to fight the urge to sleep late the next day. So, we decided to meet again the next morning and head back to the Smokies then finish up the day harassing the smallies again. Sleep can come later."

By Rabunite Jimmy Harris (7/10/2009)

"Got up yesterday morning all set to cut grass. Found the belt broken on my mower, so I went to Reeves to buy a new belt. While there I also bought some new leaders and tippets. Got home, had the belts in one hand, the fishing supplies in the other, weighed them both and decided I would much rather go fishing than cut grass."

By Rabunite Pat Hopton (7/12/2009)

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 Notes: *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 Hiwassee".*

Learn what the Shenandoah National Park website says about brown trout
 'Website-of-the-Month': <http://www.nps.gov/shen/naturescience/brown-trout.htm>
 Check this Yellowstone N.P, brown trout slide show: [HERE](#)

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.

**Stekoa Creel Water Quality Monitoring – A TU Partnership with the Chattooga Conservancy
 Trout Unlimited Funds Committed to the Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project - \$31,059 Total**

TU has paid for 28 months of laboratory fees & supplies at a total cost of \$14,465 and has budgeted for \$3,260 more. (\$6,000 from EAS, \$2,800 from GA TU Council, \$1,000 from 3 other TU Chapters, \$500 from AFFS & \$7,425 from Rabun TU)
 The total value of 28 months of "Driving for Trout" donated by the 20 volunteer members of Rabun TU is \$13,334.

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.

Here is a Chance to "Pass It On"

Give a child a Trout Unlimited Youth Membership today.

Now that summer has started and school is out, you can introduce that special child in your life to the wonders of trout streams. TU has introduced a new youth membership called Stream Explorers and it's the perfect way to teach kids about trout, the wild places they live and the things we can do to protect them.

For just \$12, your child, grandchild or other special young person will receive:

- Four issues of *Stream Explorers* magazine (kids over 13 will receive *Trout* magazine)
- Official TU membership card
- Stream Explorers sticker
- Access to activities and games at www.streamexplorers.org
- Membership in the local TU chapter with the opportunity to get involved in classes, activities, projects or even a summer camp

For a gift of \$25, the recipient will also receive A Kid's Guide to Flyfishing:

With a retail value of \$16, *A Kid's Guide to Flyfishing* is written by Tyler Befus, a fly angler who authored the book at age 8

Giving a child a TU Stream Explorer membership is a quick and easy first step in encouraging a life-long love of trout and coldwater conservation.

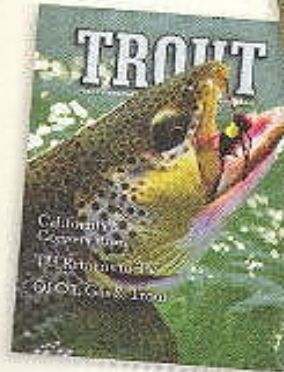


Thanks for your support, Dave Rogers – TU Director of Volunteer Operations, DRogers@tu.org

A CHANCE TO "PASS IT ON"

Trout Unlimited's new Stream Explorers youth membership offers the chance to introduce the child in your life to the love of wild fish and healthy rivers. For just \$12 a year, the child will receive:

- Four issues of *Stream Explorers* magazine (kids over 13 will receive *Trout* magazine quarterly)



- 16-month TU calendar (mailed in late summer)

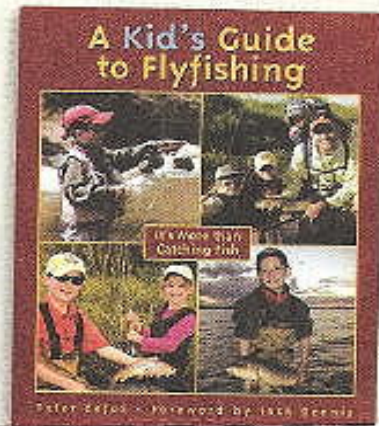
- Official TU membership card



- Stream Explorers sticker

- Access to activities and games on streamexplorers.org

- For a donation of \$24, kids also receive *A Kid's Guide to Fly Fishing* by Tyler Befus



To give a Stream Explorers membership, go to tu.org/youth, call 1-800-834-2419, or complete the application below and on reverse side, tear off and mail to: Trout Unlimited, PO Box 7400, Woolly Bugger, WV, 25438.

RECIPIENT INFO:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

DONOR INFO:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

By providing your email address, you are opting to receive TU communications in accordance with TU's Privacy Policy, which you may review online at tu.org/privacy.

Birth year: _____ We request year of birth to make sure we are sending the age-appropriate magazine to the SE member.

ASEFY09

PASS IT ON - Print, clip it out, fill it out & mail it in. Continued – top of next page

PASS IT ON - Print, clip it out, fill it out & mail it in.

Help create a new generation of stream champions. Give the child in your life a Stream Explorers membership today. Benefits include:

- Four issues of *Stream Explorers* magazine (kids over 13 will receive *Trout* magazine quarterly).
- 16-month TU calendar (mailed in late summer)
- Official TU membership card
- Stream Explorers sticker
- Access to activities and games on streamexplorers.org

For a gift of \$24, your child will also receive *A Kid's Guide to Fly Fishing*, written by 8-year-old Tyler Befus.

Payment amount:

- \$12 membership \$24 membership with book

Payment method:

- Check enclosed made payable to Trout Unlimited
or
 VISA MasterCard American Express Discover

Card Number

Exp. Date:

Name as it appears on card

Amount

Signature

**The Atlanta Fly Fishing School will again offer their
CASTING INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION PREPARATION SCHOOL**

on October 3, 2009. A number of TU members have expressed interest in FFF certification.

This course is offered to provide an overview on what skills are required to pass the examination, how to prepare for the oral examination, details of the examination process and what examiners are really looking for during the examination.

The class also provides an overview of the seminar that each student must attend prior to the exam.

The class will last approximately 5 hours and is limited to 6 students.

The cost is \$150. No equipment is needed, however it is suggested that students take careful notes.

Upon completion of the prep course a follow up mock test will be available at a future date at no extra cost.

Don't take the CCI test when you THINK you are ready....take the test when you KNOW you are ready!

Regards... **M. A. (Mack) Martin Jr.** - Manager & FFF Certified Master, Fly Casting Instructor
Atlanta Fly Fishing School <http://www.atlantaflyfishingschool.com>

FROM CRAWFORD ART GALLERY

<http://broderickcrawfordart.com/>

Broderick has done a new print called "Trout". It is all the trout one could catch in America. It's very colorful and beautiful. Crawford Art Gallery is giving print #1 framed to Rabun TU.



The Rabun TU Chapter Board of Directors has decided to offer the artist signed and framed #1 print for sale at a live auction during the 2010 Rabun Rendezvous - Saturday, Jan 23rd.

All proceeds from the sale of this beautiful #1 print will be donated to the Georgia ["Back-The-Brookie"](#) program.

Comments From Readers on The Campfire Story in the July Issue: **"The Search For Mystery River"**
**"All of us search for that perfect trout stream. Those who find it treasure it the rest of their lives.
Those who don't keep on searching."** From Trout Streams I've Known by Jimmy D. Moore

Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES July 2009 Newsletter

Great story in the July issue of TIGHT LINES on "The Search for the Mystery River"! I especially enjoyed the part where you described going into Everett Roach's Sporting Goods store in Buckhead. You see, I also went there often in the 1960's and 70's with my Dad to buy fishing supplies. You are right; it was the only place in the Atlanta area to buy trout fishing supplies. It was a great store, a magical place for a kid who loved fishing.

The first trout I ever caught was a 12" rainbow, caught in Frogtown Creek just upstream from Desoto Falls Campground. Somewhere there is an old picture of me - probably around 6 years old - with a rod in one hand and holding up the trout in the other while the game warden (the one who lived in the house on Waters Creek, can't remember his name) looked out the window of his truck smiling down at me.

I was fortunate in that my dad took us boys fishing at least 6-8 times a year. We fished mostly in the Lumpkin County area, around Turner's Corner. I've spent many a night in the old cabins there and gave the bear in the cage many a Coke to drink. An early morning breakfast in the Turners Corner cafe before a day of fishing Dicks Creek, Waters Creek, Frogtown Creek, Boggs Creek, and the Chestatee River... good memories.

We also went to White County and fished the upper Chattahoochee River (I remember the check station where we had to sign out and show our fish. Daddy used to occasionally keep some over his limit and would make a game out of hiding them and sneaking them past the wardens at the check station. Maybe I've got a little Kelly in me...). We also fished Smith Creek and stayed at Unicoi State Park in the old cabins, long before the new, round cabins and lodge was ever built.

For some reason, I never fished streams in Rabun County until moving here in 1986.

After I got my drivers license I would drive myself down to Everett Roach's Sporting Goods from our home in Roswell - it was a favorite way for me to spend a Saturday afternoon. I was born in 1958, so it must have been around 1975 when I was finally able to save enough money to buy my own fly rod. I bought a 6-foot, 5 weight Fenwick fiberglass rod at Roach's store. I don't remember if it was Mr. Roach who helped me pick the rod out or not but I do remember whoever it was spending a lot of time with me and I walked out with a brand new rod and feeling like a prince!

I still have that old fiberglass rod bought at Roach's more than 30 years ago - and I still have the love of trout fishing my Daddy instilled in me. Thanks, Doug, for bringing back the memories... good memories. I've heard you say, that when we get old that memories are often all we have. I believe you are right, so I think I'll go fishing every chance I get and make some more memories!

From: Pat Hopton - Clayton, GA

Editor's Notes: *Pat, thank you for sharing your memories of fishing with your dad and of Everett Roach's store. By the way, the game warden's name was A. C. Abernathy.*

Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2009 **Subject:** The Mystery River

Sally and I are in Durham, NC awaiting the birth of our second grandchild to Kristi and Bob Wescott. I have been passing time by reading and enjoying John Gierach's latest book Fool's Paradise. Tonight I opened your always incredible "book", "Tight Lines", issued monthly. I browsed through all the news and came upon your campfire story on the Mystery River, and I thought, "At last, the real story in print." I put down the Gierach book.

As I read your story, I recalled the countless campfires where this story was told along with the many complementary tales regarding the details, back even to WW II that you had heard and passed on to us -- generally, late at night. What wonderful memories were brought back as I read. Names and words ... Russ Tyre, Hedden Creek, Webb Short's cabin, the Black Hole, the Stovepipe, the 22" brown and Everett Roach's statement of accomplishment. As I read, you can imagine the memories that were recalled. I began to wonder why it has been so long since I have been there and why ...

I can't tell you of the feelings my second, slow reading of your Campfire Story brought back ... with the pride of knowing I had heard the Doug Adams' stories in person many times. I was humbled and honored to be even mentioned in the overall story.

Thanks once again for all your dedication and hard work to the persistent preservation of the Chattooga North Fork River country and for continuing to "pass it on".

Tight Lines and Safe Journeys,

From: Don B. K. Atkinson - Sylvania, OH

Editor's Notes: *"- - life is just a collection of memories. And memories are like starlight: they go on forever." An excerpt from the lyrics of "Aurora Borealis" by C. W. McCall*

Sent: Friday, June 26, 2009

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES July 2009 Newsletter

Great newsletter! I particularly enjoyed the story of the Secret River. That's a classic. Do you mind if I reprint it either on our blog or in our newsletter. Would like to share that story with our readers. If not, that's fine too. Thanks for giving me a brief respite while sitting here in my office.

From: Jimmy Harris - Unicoi Outfitters

Editor's Notes: *Jimmy, you have my permission to reprint in either place. I would be honored.*

Sent: Saturday, June 27, 2009

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES July 2009 Newsletter

Hello Ole Buddy. I got your latest issue (JULY 2009). Really enjoyed reading "The Search for Mystery River". Memories like these always choke me up a little. Those sure were some good times. Thanks for sharing,

From: Russ Tyre - St. Petersburg, FL

Editor's Notes: *Russ, the good times are right now. Lets make more memories. Lets go fishing*

Sent: Friday, July 24, 2009 **Subject:** Unicoi Newsletter

Doug, I loved your article in the Unicoi Newsletter. And I remember Everett Roach's shop. Regards,

From: Mike Williams - Social Circle, GA

*And, one more technique, for summer: **Summer Stealth Dropper***

By "The Dredger" a.k.a. Jeff Durniak

Use a short (7 ft) 4X or 5X leader to a buoyant dry (#14 stimulator). Then tie a long 6X tippet to dropper fly, with one tiny dinsmore 8 inches above that fly. Dropper line has gotta be long enuf to let the sunk fly get near bottom.

On Saturday I had a seven ft dropper to a prince, and the 'luftee fish ate it. Call the dry a "stealth indicator." Sorta like a stealth bomber- sneaky. Worked on Dukes gin clear water in front of Cannon, too, last summer.

Q & A

Q – I've heard some Rabunites say there are 2 strains of brown trout in the Chattooga North Fork. Is that true?

A – That is true. There are the trout that come from the hatchery stock that some Rabunites call the “Walhalla brown.” And there are the wild trout that some Rabunites call “old-timey original” (OTO) or the “German brown.” The Walhalla browns spawn at the end of October and the wild OTO trout spawn about 3 weeks later, so they seldom, if ever, cross breed in the Chattooga. In a genetic analysis done by Auburn University in 1986, the OTO has a gene associated with longevity that was not present in the Walhalla browns. Therefore it seems the OTO are capable of longer life (and larger size) in the wild. In the annual DNR - USFS electro-sampling of the Chattooga North Fork, the largest brown trout captured are usually the wild OTO strain. Above Big Bend Falls the electro-sampling captures young-of-year OTO browns. The young-of-year seldom showed up in samples below the falls.

The brown trout first came to America from **Germany** in 1883, having been released into Michigan's Pere Marquette River. They survived and thrived. A year later, another batch of browns, these from Scotland's **Loch Leven** in Kinross, were brought to America and they, too, did very well. (These Loch Leven browns are known for their dark spots and lack of red spots.) More [HERE](#)

Q – How can you tell which is which in the Chattooga North Fork?

A – By the difference in the spots and coloration. See below;



Typical Walhalla brown: Most Walhalla brown trout have a large number of random pattern black and orange spots. It has a large dark blue dot on the upper cheek at eye level. The above wild Walhalla brown trout was caught on a dry fly, photographed & released above Burrell's Ford by Pat Hopton.



Non-typical Walhalla brown: Notice the large number of black spots in a random pattern on the upper portion of the body and lack of red or orange spots. The bronze color is unusual, even on a Walhalla brown. The above trout was caught on a nymph, photographed & released in the Delayed Harvest section by Jeff Durniak. Loch Leven brown? Maybe it is. Click [HERE](#)



Old-timey original (OTO) brown: The most distinguishing feature of the OTO is the bright red spots surrounded by white halos located on the lateral line with the staggered row of red-haloed spots underneath the lateral line. Notice the butter color on its side below the lateral line. There is a large dark blue dot on the cheek at eye level. The above trout was caught on a #16 parachute light Cahill, photographed & released above Burrell's Ford by Larry Vigil. German brown? Maybe it is. Click [HERE](#)

Q – Are OTO brown trout found in trout streams other than the Chattooga North Fork.

A – Yes. There are brown trout that appear to be the same as the OTO found in numerous wild trout waters all across the country.

The following photos are of other brown trout with various markings caught & released in area streams.



Notice the olive background. The back of this wild brown trout has the worm-like markings similar to a brook trout and it has the large blue dot on the upper cheek behind the eye. The above trout was caught, photographed & released in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park by Jeff Durniak.



Notice the reddish-bronze background. This wild brown trout has the red spots towards the tail and red on the adipose fin. The above trout was caught, photographed & released in the Nantahala River by Pat Hopton.



Notice the random black spots, the lack of red or orange spots and the large gut typical of a fed trout. The above trout was caught, photographed & released in Dukes Creek by the late Tom Landreth.

"Catchin' Corner" August Trouting Tips
Duane's Top 10 Helpful Hints for Stealthy Fishing

10. No Bright colored clothing
9. Wade quietly
8. Watch your shadows
7. Approach from downstream when possible
6. Quiet casting, no line slap
5. Use bushes and trees for cover when possible
4. Use lightest tippet possible
3. Don't wade where you should be fishing and don't fish where you should be wading
2. Use polarized sunglasses
1. Approach the stream with a plan

Editor's Notes: *The above helpful hints were presented by Duane Stalnaker to the campers at the 2009 GA Trout Camp on their first day in camp and reprinted here with Duane's permission.*

Fishing Reports - Passing it on!

Sent: Via E-mail June 15, 2009

To: Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited

The 19th Annual Kids Fishing Event at the Tallulah River Campground, Camp 5, on the Chattahoochee National Forest turned out to be a big success. A total of 121 children and their parents experienced a fun Saturday morning catching fish, enjoying refreshments and receiving goodie bags and prizes. The attendance was up compared to last year's 90 kids. All 60+ prizes of tackle boxes, rods, reels, fishing nets and other miscellaneous items were given away by random drawing.

All the kids enjoyed fishing and almost everyone caught several fish. Several did catch their limit of 8 trout. We estimate about 600 – 650 fish caught. We had 8 kids that had never fished before. Twenty-eight counties in GA were represented, and one county each from FL, NC, SC, and NH.

The kids and their parents enjoyed refreshments after the fishing was over. Kool-aid, cookies, hotdogs, and chips were served and "goodie bags" were handed out.

We truly believe this is a great opportunity to get kids interested in fishing and hopefully get them "hooked on fishing" for the rest of their life. By doing this we hope to give children something to do that is fun and beneficial, thus occupying their free time and keeping them off the street, off of drugs and out of trouble.

Thanks to you and your generous donation; the Kids Fishing Event was a great success. The US Forest Service could not have accomplished this without your help. I assure you it was used wisely. Sincerely,

From: David Vinson – Biological Science Technician, Chattahoochee N.F.

Editor's Notes: 11 Rabun TU members were there helping. Rabun TU Chapter donated \$300 for this event. **PASSING IT ON!**



Lewis Reeves IV at the Tallulah KFE

Sent: Monday, June 22, 2009

Subject: Fishing Report

Early is the key, and wet-wading is fun! Make some weekend plans now.

Rabunites Ray Gentry and Dredger fished right above the Cherokee Visitors Center on Saturday. Water temp 59 F at our 10AM, after we got Ray licensed at "the Outpost" tackle shop on Highway 74W, just north of Dillsboro.

(NC state licenses are not sold in Cherokee or in the park, so get one before you come)

Outpost Sporting Goods; 4768 US Hiway 74 W; Whittier, NC 28789; (828) 586-8400

We each caught a mixed handful of browns and rainbows. Biggest rainbow was 14" and was a stocker, likely an upstream migrant from the reservation (now there's a hint, as the summer heat warms that trophy section and the fish look for refuge...). Browns were all wild, and our two best were 12 and this 15 inch "troll" who lived right under the bridge. Smaller fish hit small flies (bead head prince, starling and peacock wet), while the big ones hit big and ugly flies in shady depths (beaded black stone, Howell's Big Nasty). Catching slowed around 2 PM.

From: The Effervescent Older Gentleman (a.k.a. "The Dredger" or Jeff Durniak)



Ray Gentry & a good'un

Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2009

Subject: Fish Stories

Our foursome had a good day last weekend back on the Oconaluftee in the national park. A mix of small rainbows and browns hit caddis dries and prince and pheasant tail droppers. Biggest was 10 in BNT. Find the slow, deeper pockets in the shade, sneak up, and be ready for a lightning strike on the very first cast. If no strike by cast 3, move on upstream.

From: The Effervescent Older Gentleman (a.k.a. "The Dredger" or Jeff Durniak)

Editor's Notes: For an explanation of the "Effervescent Older Gentleman", click on <http://blog.thefin.com/thefincom/2008/05/index.html>

About halfway down the page, this blog reads as follows: "One late-autumn overcast day while fishing the Chattooga river tail-water off of scenic country Highway 28 (juxtaposed between the Georgia-South Carolina border), I happened upon a calm, methodical, yet effervescent older gentleman. He slowly extended his hand, which soon culminated in a playfully asphyxiating shake, and introduced himself as "The Dredger". Aptly named for his crafty nymphing technique, I came to find out he worked for the Georgia Fisheries Department; and after a pleasant and incalculably informative conversation, I had finally landed one fish to his three. He set down his rod, and reached into his vest for his camera. Before he snapped the photo, he asked me, "Do you know what US 'Rabunites' call this?" (referring to members of the TU chapter of Rabun Co., GA). After I replied, "Cheese?", he eagerly and emphatically retorted "Nope...we call this the "Grip and Grin." I instantly smiled, as the photographer's end fully justified his means."

Status Update – Chattooga North Fork Visitor Use Capacity Analysis

In a letter to American Whitewater dated 7/1/2009, USFS Deputy Chief Joel Holtrop provided a brief update on the status of the Chattooga North Fork management plan. He stated, "Most recently, we have been conducting an extensive legal review to ensure that we have addressed all relevant concerns." And, "At this time we are expecting a final decision before the end of summer." 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/>.

Letters To and From The Rabunites

Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES July 2009 Newsletter

Loved the thoughts of Bob Kornegay as expressed in his story about trout. Also found history of the Andrew Pickens R.D.

interesting. Maybe with a new FS Chief there will be a decision soon on the upper river and boating. Enjoy.

From: Edwin Dale – Athens, GA

Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES July 2009 Newsletter

Thanks Doug! Always enjoy reading the newsletter with my morning coffee - - beats the hell out of whatever is in the newspaper. And I dearly loved this bit: "***It is easy to tell tourists from tarpon. Tarpon have a narrow, bony plate inside the mouth on the lower jaw. Tourists, especially in St. Petersburg, have both upper and lower plates.***"

Here in my neighborhood (Hendersonville, NC) we always say we know spring is here when we see the blooming of the white Lincolns with Florida tags :-))

From: John Kies – Hendersonville, NC

Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES July 2009 Newsletter

If you get any good photos of Trout Camp, please send to my work address? I can download them and use in newsletters hopefully.

From: Sheila Humphrey – Smithgall Woods Conservation Center, Helen, GA

Editor's Notes: *I'm sending you a CD with my 2009 Trout Camp photos. Thanks for all you do to "pass it on" to the young people.*

Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES July 2009 Newsletter

I don't know if any of the trout folk are interested in this, but J-MCA is holding its 2nd Green Living Fair in Highlands on July 25th and having a booth on trout fishing would be a great opportunity to educate folks about NC, SC and GA fishing.

Nonprofits get a booth registration for \$25.00 in the Highlands Civic Center and we expect 40 + vendors, nonprofits and crafters. I have attached registration/information FYI.

Please circulate this to folks who may be interested. We also are accepting "green" articles 700-800 words (arial font. 10 pt. and pictures 300 dpi jpeg, tif or pdf that we will publish in the program guide. I know that you can get something related to trout/clean water etc., because you always publish an your excellent newsletter.

Could you let us know by the end of the week so we can plan for space.

From: David M Bates - Jackson-Macon Conservation Alliance, Highlands, NC

Editor's Notes: *Thanks for the kind words. It is too late for us to do anything this year. Will try to visit the event and consider for next year's planning. Feel free to "forward" TIGHT LINES to anyone that would be interested.*

Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Subject: help please!

Doug, My wife deleted your chapter newsletter, while I was getting a cup of coffee..... About half read, so send me another, please! Thanks, Rocketroy

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

"More than half the intense enjoyment of fly-fishing is derived from the beautiful surroundings, the satisfaction felt from being in the open air, the new lease of life secured thereby, and the many, many pleasant recollections of all one has seen, heard and done."

Charles F. Orvis

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Small Streams: Relief From the Heat, And Good Fishing, Too

In modern times, trout fishing has become a big-stream the Madison in Montana, are what sell magazines, plane tickets proposition. Large, wide rivers, like the Delaware in New York or and guided trips.

From: Roy Lowe – Clarkesville, GA

Editor's Notes: *Roy, it has been resent. Enjoy.*

Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES July 2009 Newsletter

Thank you so much for including the Hemlock Help for Homeowners article in your newsletter -- and so quickly! We feel a tremendous urgency to get the Hemlock Help for Homeowners program off the ground and start helping folks save their trees as quickly as possible. So thanks for sharing the word, and look for more news to come shortly. Cheers,

From: Donna Shearer - Save Georgia's Hemlocks

Sent: Friday, June 26, 2009

Subject: Perfect.

Born 4:04 AM, 6/26/09, Nathaniel Robert Wescott, 8# 4 oz., Nurse rating 10, mom, son and dad doing fine. We now have two grandchildren, Ellie and Nathaniel. Perfect.

(I was giving Ellie fly casting lessons yesterday afternoon. 3 years old. She had a 16" one hooked, on the side lawn ... but, you know, it got off.)

From: Don B. K. Atkinson - - Sylvania, OH

Editor's Notes: *CONGRATULATIONS, Grandpa.*

Sent: Wednesday, July 01, 2009

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES July 2009 Newsletter

Nice work on the Newsletter.

We could use the help of all the Rabun Trout Unlimited members at the next Commissioners' Meeting July 28 and at the Public Hearing on the Second Reading to Rescind the Zoning Amendments on the Highway Business Ordinance. Protection of our watersheds from excessive storm run-off and erosion caused by huge treeless parking lots that channel storm water into adjoining streams is most important in Rabun County. The idea that private property rights trump the overall rights of the people who live and visit in Rabun County to enjoy clean water and uneroded mountain sides costs us dearly. The courts have recently decided in the case of the James vs. Alan Taylor that individual property rights stop where the rights of one's neighbors begin. Hopefully, we can use this to protect our minimal Highway Business Ordinances and move onward to improve them, perhaps by allowing rain gardens instead of curbs in parking lots that will perk.

More people need to speak at the Public Hearing. The commissioners think that I am the only person who cares about protecting our magnificent scenic beauty.

From: Lucy Bartlett – Tiger, GA

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



There are lots of good reasons for that. Big rivers - the good ones, anyway - often mean big hatches and big trout. And then there's the intoxicating sense of possibility one experiences when wading into a 500 foot wide stream and looks out over acres of fishable water upstream and down. There's room there for hundreds of trout, and even if you guess wrong about which fly to use or put a few fish down with noisy wading or clumsy casting, you have plenty of chances to get it right.

But big rivers have drawbacks, too. For one thing, on the popular rivers, those acres of fishable water often support what seems like a permanent population of anglers. Big rivers can get blown out by rain or runoff in their sprawling watersheds - and stay that way for days or weeks at a clip. Those rivers that don't have the benefit of bottom releases of cold water from upstream reservoirs can get awfully warm in the summer, with all those acres of water lying out there in the hot July sun. And finally, not all of us have big rivers near where we live.

But those of us who have cool, shaded, un-written-about small streams near our homes have access to a fine summertime trout fishing experience.

Headwaters streams are often less susceptible to the summer heat because they're shaded by trees and cooled by springs. And while they will jump up to unfishable levels after heavy rain, they settle back down much more quickly than the big water downstream.

Small streams in mountain or upland areas often hold populations of wild trout, which always sweetens the fishing a little. Some even hold native trout - brookies in the east, cutthroats and rainbows in the west. Fishing for them has a "roots" quality, a connection to fly-fishing as it was originally done centuries ago.

Wild or native fish in small streams are sometimes thought of as easy to catch, and in some cases, they are. It's not because they're stupid; it's because they don't have as much food available as trout who live at the foot of quarter-mile riffles. Small-stream trout often have to grab anything that looks like it

might be food - including not-so-imitative flies like Royal Wulffs or Humpies.

Then again, trout in small streams often behave as though they feel more vulnerable than those trout that rise freely in the middle of large rivers. They're at much greater risk of attack by predatory birds or animals. So while pattern isn't necessarily of paramount importance, stealth usually is.

There is no mystery to the approach - it's common sense. Work your way upstream, staying low and avoiding big sudden movements. Fish the water near you first; if your first cast lands 15 feet away, you might "line" a trout lying five feet from your position. Try the shallow water at the tail of the pool, then reach upstream with successively longer casts, making sure to cover every seam and eddy. The edges of current tongues are especially good places to try.

Dry flies are often effective (and always fun), but if the trout are shy or just "not looking up," fish your favorite nymph or wet. Nymphs are very effective on small streams because it's easy to "high-stick," keeping your line and most of your leader off the water and getting a great, natural drift as a result. You'll feel the bites right away, too.

Don't spend too much time in any one spot. The trout can be anywhere, but they're not everywhere (unless you're really lucky!) This kind of fishing requires that you cover plenty of water. Fish a pool or pocket thoroughly but quickly, then move on. It's part of the fun -- satisfying your natural angler's curiosity about what's around the next bend. Small streams are ever-changing places; walk a few paces upstream and you get a whole new view to enjoy and a new field of play to figure out.

So if the summer begins to feel stifling and you don't have the option of jetting off to some huge river that's artificially chilled by a huge reservoir, treat yourself to a day on a shady brook. It might turn out to be some of the most memorable fishing of your season.

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What's New Elsewhere?

ANN MILLS appointed new USDA Undersecretary in charge of the U.S. Forest Service (7/8/2009) Most recently, as Executive Vice President at American Rivers <http://www.americanrivers.org/> - the nation's leading river conservation organization - Mills directed day-to-day operations, led the expansion of regional offices and directed a team of senior policy staff. To read more, click [HERE](#)

GA TU Back-the-brookie is on Facebook: [HERE](#)
Complete update for Back-the-Brookie in Georgia, click http://georgiatu.org/html/back_the_brookie.html

Update on STOP I-3 Coalition , click <http://www.wayssouth.org/newsletters/index.php>

"BACKCASTING"

July 18 (Sat) 1/2-Day Fly Fishing Seminar at Tallulah Falls State Park – 20 Attendees and 13 TUsers helped run the seminar. **Our thanks to the seminar organizer Terry Rivers** for another successful "passing it on" event.



July 21 (Tues) Family Picnic – A wonderful evening of fellowship and good food (about 50 to 55 attended). The covered dishes were outstanding and the plates were bigger this year. **Our thanks to Bill Kelly** for use of the beautiful facilities at the waterfalls. (Picnic photos on next page)



July 21 (Tues) Rod Raffle: Congratulations to the winner - Ron Larson of Hiawassee, GA



The raffle raised \$1,032 to be used to help fund the annual Georgia Trout Camp for kids ages 12 through 15. Our good friend Mack Martin of [North GA Custom Rods](#) donated the beautiful custom-made [Winston Bliz fly rod](#) to Rabun TU. The raffle manager Pat Hopton asked Miss Alex Whitley to assist by drawing the winning ticket. **Our thanks to Pat Hopton** for conducting an excellent fundraiser.



July 28 (Tues) BOD Meeting - 10 participated. **Agenda items included: Recaps** – Fly Fishing Seminar; Family Picnic; Fly Rod Raffle **Updates** – LWCF; BTB 4-Stream Water Sampling; Stekoa Creek Monitoring; Nomination of Chapter Officers & Directors for F/Y 2010; Assignment/Duties for Officers, Directors & Members; 9/19 Mountaineer Festival booth; 9/19 GA TU Council Meeting **New Business** – Date Conflict with Sept Campout; Aug, Sept, Oct & Nov. Meeting Programs; TU 50th Anniversary Celebration in Aug. Purchase of projector **Updates:** Publicity; Membership; Treasury Report

THANK YOU

Leigh Wyatt (Rabun Gap, GA) for your cash donation to the Rabun TU Chapter.
Mack Martin of [North GA Custom Rods](#) for donating the beautiful custom-made Winston fly rod for the raffle.
Donations to Rabun TU (a Federal Tax Exempt 501(c)3 non-profit) are tax deductible.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Congratulations to **Don and Sally Atkinson** on the birth of their grandson, Nathaniel Robert Wescott
Congratulations to **Broderick Crawford** for being selected 2010/2011 Idaho DU Artist of the Year. <http://broderickcrawfordart.com/>
We wish speedy and complete recuperations for **June Landreth** and **Doug Mansfield**.
We extend our condolences to **Louise and Jim Nixon** on the passing of her 106-year old grandmother.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

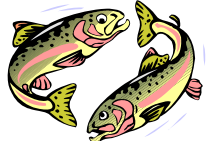
A Big Rabunite "WELCOME" to **2 new members** this month: **Leigh Wyatt**, PO Box 128, Rabun Gap, GA 30568 and **Steve Perry** (transfer), PO Box 2068, Highlands, NC 28741
Thanks for re-upping: **Arthur Guthas, June Landreth, William Reno, Ralph Morgan, David Jordan** and **James Moore**
It is time to renew your membership: **Hal Avery, Chris Bedea, Randal Corbin, Sidney Doster, Joe Gatins, Reb Hester, Neil Anderson, Doug Hickman, Joe Kitchens, Walt Landreth, Thomas Stroud, Jimmy Whiten, Gary Deal, James Butler, David Cantrell, Raymond Taylor, Justin Tyson, Frank Allan, and Donald MacLeod**

Rabun TU Officers & Directors for F/Y2009

President - Jimmy Whiten , PO BOX 881, TOCCOA GA 30577-1414	Ph 706 886 6546	E-mail jimmywhiten@nctv.com
Vice President (w/Notices in newspaper)– Larry Walker	Ph 706 244 4345	E-mail amosndixie@windstream.net
Treasurer (w/Newsletter & Meeting Raffles) - Doug Adams	Ph 706 746 2158	E-mail edadams1@windstream.net
Secretary (w/Communications) - Doug Mansfield	Ph 706 896 7445	E-mail mansfpd@windstream.net
Past President (w/Campouts) - Terry Rivers	Ph 706 782 7419	E-mail tir1121@windstream.net
Director (w/Rod Raffle) - Pat Hopton	Ph 706 782 4978	E-mail scotts_creek58@yahoo.com
Director (w/Programs) - Bill Kelly	Ph 706 746 2104	E-mail bkjk1@windstream.net
Director (w/Website) - Kathy Breithaupt	Ph 706 782 6954	E-mail knc615@windstream.net
Director (w/Education) - Charlie Breithaupt	Ph 706 782 6954	E-mail knc615@windstream.net
Director (w/Meeting Refreshments) Ray Kearns	Ph 706 782 9913	E-mail raykearns@windstream.net
Director Ray Gentry	Ph 404 680 6736	E-mail regentry@windstream.net
Director Jim Kidd	Ph 706 782 2474	E-mail Jikidd@windstream.net

The Board of Directors offers the following nominations for Rabun TU Chapter's F/Y2010 officers and directors:

President – Larry Walker; Vice President – Pat Hopton; Treasurer – Doug Adams; Secretary – Ray Gentry; Past President – Jimmy Whiten; Directors thru F/Y 2010: Ray Kearns & Bill Kelly; Directors thru F/Y 2011: Kathy Breithaupt & Charlie Breithaupt; Directors thru F/Y 2012: Jim Kidd & Terry Rivers; Directors thru F/Y 2013: Jeff Durniak & Tony Allred. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the Aug. & Sept. Chapter meetings. Election will be at the Sept. Chapter meeting. F/Y 2010 begins October 1, 2009.



From the Fly Tying Desk of Jimmy Whiten

As I ponder my great mind for thoughts to share with you this month, my mind goes way back for me and I remember some of the sayings I heard back then. With some of you I'm sure you never have heard of these sayings and if the rest of you are honest I'm sure they will bring back old memories.

History always repeats itself only with different \$\$\$ amounts. If they raise the minimum wage to \$1.00 per hour nobody will be able to hire any help. What, gas will be over 25 cents per gallon this summer, are you crazy? School lunches will be 25 cents per meal this year? No snacks for my kids at school, 5 cents for a candy bar and 6 cents for a coke, are you crazy? When I get my electric cook stove I still want to be able to use my wood stove to save on the power bill and be able to cook when the power goes off.

And then there are the sayings that are cost free. I will never trade with a store that is open on Sunday. If it came from Japan I will never buy it. At my house none of my family will ever go fishing/hunting nor to the picture show on Sunday. Listen to the neighborhood ladies saying I will never wear pants to church. When that new plant opens it will be air-conditioned and so big if you are inside you will never know if it is raining or if the sun is shining, I don't know if I could ever work inside like that are not.

All memories from the past. And of course some of you have heard but never used the saying, "OH FOR THE GOOD OLD DAYS." I will just enjoy today as it is now - thank you: the computers, the big screen TV (HD of course) the I-pod, DVD's and of course the cell phones (with at least three or four phone numbers to be able to get in touch with one family member".

STOP - just think what the younger generation is hearing you say now and what they will put in the newsletter fifty years from now.

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

Please tell us if you have E-mail, it will save the chapter \$1.28 per newsletter mailed:

E-Mail edadams1@windstream.net

RABUN CHAPTER of TROUT UNLIMITED

PO BOX 371

CLAYTON, GA 30525