



TIGHT LINES November 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/>

“The restorative powers of a few carefully drawn breaths on the edge of a trout stream with the rest of the day ahead of you can be miraculous, don’t you think?”

From Flashes In The River by Ed Gray (1996)

RABUN TU CHAPTER’S **NEW** MEETING PLACE

NEW> New RE/MAX (old US Forest Service) Office, Clayton, GA **<NEW**

US 441S, just south of MAMA G’s restaurant

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.

“Last Sunday I fished up a certain river most of the day and through my supernal skill and encyclopedic knowledge of angling was able to take a dozen brook trout. If I had kept them I would have had the makings of a nice can of sardines.”

Sparse Grey Hackle, the pen name of Alfred W. Miller (1892-1983)

“FORWARD CASTING” Important Dates – See you there!

Nov 1(Sun) GA Fishing for Vets Day Click <http://www.flyfishingforvets.com/>

Nov 4 – 8 (Wed – Sun) Fishing & Camping at Long Bottom and with fishing in the Chattooga DH, backcountry, and front-country. Contact person - Larry Walker (he buys the grub): Ph 706 244 4345 E-mail amosndixie@windstream.net

Nov 17 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, New RE/MAX (old US Forest Service) Office Program: Dr Tom Guest “Take Care of Yourself”

Nov 21 (Sat) Gold Cup Challenge Click <http://www.goldrushtu.org/>

Nov 24 (Tues) Board of Directors 6:30 PM, Community B & T

Dec 5 (Sat) GA TU Council Meeting Annual planning meeting with USFS, GA WRD, and NPS. 9 AM at the USFS office in Gainesville

Dec 8 (Tues) Annual Rabun Chapter Christmas Dinner Social starts 6 pm and Dinner served 7 pm in the Rock House at the Dillard House. Entire family invited, BYOB.

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



BEADED HEADED GREY CADDIS

FOR A SEARCHING PATTERN DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER DROP A GREY CADDIS BEHIND A #14 PARACHUTE ADAMS; HOPEFULLY YOU WILL MAKE A LIFETIME MEMORY. SEE Y’ALL ON THE RIVER.

HOOK: 14 TO 18 2X NYMPH
HEAD: COPPER/BLACK/BRASS BEAD
THORAX: PEACOCK OR DARK GREEN DUBBING
BODY: GREY DUBBING PALMERED WITH GOLD FINE WIRE

“Once there were brook trout in the streams in the mountains. You could see them standing in the amber current where the white edges of their fins wimpled softly in the flow. They smelled of moss in your hand. Polished and muscular and torsional. On their backs were vermiculate patterns that were maps of the world in its becoming. Maps and mazes. Of a thing which could not be put back. Not be made right again. In the deep glens where they lived all things were older than man and they hummed of mystery.”

From The Road by American novelist Cormac McCarthy, Knopf - 2006

The mission of the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (EBTJV) is to halt the decline of the eastern brook trout and restore fishable populations. The current EBTJV Newsletter is available [HERE](#)

November Hatches

The Bugs	Time of Month	Time of Day	Suggested Flies
None at all	Can happen any time on any day		Dredging Nymphs: 12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, PT #14 or #16 Parachute Adams is always a good surface searching pattern
Small Dun Caddis	Early	Mid AM to Late PM	18 Brown Elk or Deer Hair Caddis 18 Grey Caddis Pupa
Blue Winged Olive & Blue Quill	All Month	Late AM to Mid PM	16-18 BWO, Blue Quill or Adams Parachute 16-18 BWO nymph or Pheasant Tail
Midges	All Month	All Day	18-22 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa

'Websites-of-the-Month': <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv?02176930>

New USGS Gauge on the Chattooga North Fork at the Burrell's Ford Bridge

Water Temperature – To convert: $^{\circ}\text{C} \times 9 / 5 + 32 = ^{\circ}\text{F}$

The following gauge correlation was prepared by a consultant for the USFS and published in the [Environmental Assessment](#)

	0	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900	1,000	1,100
Burrells Ford in cfs		0.8	1.1	1.4	1.6	1.8	1.9	2.1	2.2	2.4	2.5	
Burrells Ford in feet		300	600	900	1,200	1,600	1,800	2,100	2,500	2,800	3,100	
~ Highway 76 in cfs		1.3	1.7	2.1	2.4	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.3	3.5	3.9	
~ Highway 76 in feet												

Boating will be allowed in the Chattooga North Fork above Burrell's Ford Bridge annually during December, January and February when the flow at Burrell's Ford is above 450cfs or 1.7 feet. No boating will be permitted between Burrell's Ford and Highway 28 Bridge or in the North Fork tributaries. The Forest Service plans to announce the available boating days in advance.

Stekoa Creek Update

Stekoa Creel Water Quality Monitoring – A Trout Unlimited Partnership with the Chattooga Conservancy

Trout Unlimited Funds Committed to the Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project - \$31,059 Total

Project Update 10/27/2009 submitted by Nicole Hayler – Project Manager, Chattooga Conservancy

Starting in the first week of July, the water-sampling program was switched to the area around the confluence of Stekoa Creek and the Chattooga River, about mid-way down the Chattooga's "Section IV." The objective of collecting samples in the Chattooga was to obtain a contemporary record of data that could show the impact of Stekoa Creek on the Chattooga's water quality. For the next seven weeks, water samples were gathered once a week at the following 5 sites: Beaver Skull Rapid @ 200 yards above the Chattooga/Stekoa confluence; in Stekoa Creek @ 20 feet above its entry into the Chattooga; Raft Trap Rapid @ 100 yards below the Stekoa/Chattooga confluence (and 75 yards above Long Creek); at the mouth of Long Creek; and, at Deliverance Rock Rapid @ ¼ mile below Long Creek. A few Southeastern Expeditions raft guides, who were trained in collection techniques and protocols by Chattooga Conservancy staff, collected the water samples. Chattooga Conservancy members who commuted regularly to the Clemson area volunteered to deliver the water sample cooler to Texidyne, a fully certified lab based near Clemson University.

Testing results were expected to support U.S. Forest Service Hydrologist Bill Hansen's assertion that due to the negative effects of Stekoa Creek, Chattooga River water quality below the Stekoa confluence periodically exceeds regulatory standards set for recreational contact such as fishing and swimming. This is expected to occur primarily in conjunction with rain events, when the chronic inflow and infiltration problems with Clayton's sewage collection system are greatest.

As we know, local weather was quite dry during most of the July-August '09 season. Correspondingly, the fecal coliform counts for most of the Chattooga water samples collected during this period were acceptable—with two exceptions. These include a notable, high reading in excess of 1,000 fc/100ml that was recorded after a moderate rain event in mid-August.

Towards the end of August, the Stekoa water-sampling program moved back up to sites in and near the City of Clayton, with Chattooga Conservancy staff back to collecting the grab samples, and still using the Texidyne lab in Clemson to obtain test results. Since then, and often in conjunction with a few rain events, numerous high fecal coliform readings have been recorded well in excess of 1,000 fc/100ml, with some extraordinarily high fecal coliform counts, like one at 37,000 fc/100ml. All water sampling results have been shared with the Clayton Public Works Director as well as other city officials, to continue to keep the issue of repairing and replacing the city's sewage collection infrastructure at the forefront of their awareness and civic responsibilities.

At the Clayton City Council's October '09 meeting, council members voted to redirect (away from the doubtful Black's Creek water project) over \$1 million of the city's SPLOST funds to address their sewage and water infrastructure problems. There is no doubt that the Stekoa Creek water-sampling program can be credited with bringing about this new action. It's hopeful that the GA State Legislature will approve the city council's initiative, and substantial on-the-ground progress to improve Stekoa Creek's water quality can begin in earnest.

To view 31 months of lab results for the Stekoa Creek Monitoring water samples, click [HERE](#)

To view the spreadsheet showing the effects Stekoa has on the Wild & Scenic Chattooga, 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.

"Catchin' Corner" - November Troutng Tips

The following excerpt is reprinted with permission from the Fly Shack Newsletter <http://www.flyshack.com/>

Eggs on the Menu for Autumn Trout: Every fly-fisherman knows that trout love bugs, and the ones who specialize in catching lunkers know that trout love baitfish. In the fall, we're reminded that trout also love eggs. Most species of trout and salmon spawn in the fall, and if all goes as planned, thousands upon thousands of pea-sized fish eggs are deposited in spawning nests, known as redds, dug by the hen trout in the stream-bottom gravel. We anglers celebrate this, since we'd rather fish for wild trout born the stream than hatchery trout any day. We also take a clue from this phenomenon for our fishing. A great many fish eggs end up loose from their nests and adrift in the current. Trout in the river - both spawners and those not lucky enough to get a date - gladly eat their neighbors' potential offspring. Eggs are a great source of nutrition, and unlike many insects or other prey, are helpless, unable to dart away or crawl under a rock. Even rainbow trout and steelhead, which don't spawn until spring, will hang around in hopes of an easy meal when browns, brookies and salmon are doing the wild thing. And so, starting in the fall and going right through the winter on streams that are open year-round, flies that imitate fish eggs are a good bet. In fact, they're probably a good bet all year long. It seldom occurs to fly-fishers, especially if flies are hatching, but many spin-fishers fish eggs (usually bound in mesh sacs) right through the summer with good results. The most common egg-style fly is the humble and very effective Glo-Bug. The most popular color is orange, but anglers use them in lots of colors, including pink, red, chartreuse, peach and flame. Hook sizes typically range from 6 to 10, which translates roughly from a quarter-inch to a half-inch in diameter. They are usually made of yarn but in some cases are made of sparkly chenille. To read more, click <http://www.flyshack.com/Newsletter.aspx>

HAPPY SECOND TROUT SEASON - Delayed Harvest!

After the long summer, it is like having another "opening day". It gives us the perfect excuse (as if we really needed one) to enjoy the beautiful fall colors while practicing "catch and release" trout fishing. **Waaaah Whoooo!!**

The following excerpt reprinted with here permission of Unicoi Outfitters October Newsletter <http://www.unicoioutfitters.com/> We want to remind you that the **North Carolina Delayed Harvest** season began October 1st. So many Georgians utilize these great fisheries that it's almost as if they are our home waters. We're fortunate to have several of them close by, almost within the same driving time as many of our own streams. They're fun to fish and a great place to either learn how to fish or improve your angling skills. We recommend investing in an annual non-resident license for those of you not living in NC. It's a good deal at \$40.00 and you're assured of going back again once you try it. [You can even purchase your license online.](#) You'll also find some good online articles on North Carolina trout fishing over at the [North Carolina Game and Fish Magazine website.](#)

The Georgia delayed harvest trout season starts November 1st. "Delayed Harvest" usually provides anglers with higher catch rates and the opportunity to catch a few memorable trout (really good'uns). It is also the perfect time to teach that newbie friend that has wanted to learn about trout fishing but has the misconception that, "*It takes years to become a successful fly-angler*". On delayed harvest streams in November, it takes only a few minutes to become successful with someone coaching and helping. For all the details, visit: <http://www.gofishgeorgia.com/> or pick up a fishing regulations pamphlet at your nearest tackle dealer.

Fall Afternoon on THE RIVER in Long Bottom (right in front of the November campsite)



Photo by Doug Adams

Editor's notes: *Some things just naturally go together; like a Varsity chillidog, onions, and mustard or like a good movie, popcorn, and a Coke or like a Christmas tree, gift packages, and kids. Take each alone and they are really nice, but combine them and something magical happens. It is called **synergy** (I "googled" it), "The interaction of two or more substances to produce a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate effects." For me synergy happens when I combine camping out, bluegrass music, and trout fishing. I really do enjoy them all separately. I camp out in the mountains near trout streams about 40 nights per year. I listen to bluegrass every time I crank up my truck. I usually go trout fishing over 100 times every year. And those are all nice, but when you mix them together with a few friends that enjoy the same things, then that is real special! Rabunites do just that 3 or 4 times every year. We are going to do it again November 4 - 8 (Wed - Sun) with camping out on Forest Service land, bluegrass music playing, and trout fishing in the Chattooga Delayed Harvest section. **It just don't get no better than that! Waaaah Whoooo!!***

Want to join us? Contact person - Larry Walker (he buys the grub): Ph 706 244 4345 E-mail amosndixie@windstream.net

Have fun and take a kid fishing.

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.

6th in a series of Bob Kornegay short stories about North Georgia:

MOUNTAIN MAGIC

by Bob Kornegay

Looking back, it occurs to me that I write quite a bit about mountains. Even when the highlands are not my main thrust, I often mention them in passing. An automatic thing, I suppose. We all tend to speak often of things we love best.

Just what is it about the mountains that stirs certain flatlanders' souls? Could it be a lack of familiarity? Are the highlands places about which I'd feel more complacent, even jaded, if I lived there or visited more often? I mean, I love my south Georgia/south Alabama/north Florida homeland, but I don't as a rule run on and on about them.

No, I don't think that's the case. Consider mountain folks, even those who have never once trod level ground. They harbor no complacency bred by familiarity. They are apt, even the most inarticulate, to sing the praises of their beloved high country to a fault.

Well, then, is it distance? Sometimes, after all, we do yearn for places far removed from what we know, often the farther the better.

Nope, that's not it. Not for me anyhow. I'm but a handful of hours from the wondrous Southern Appalachians. It's a pleasant journey, but certainly no great adventure getting there.

So, what is it about the mountains? Well, I'll tell you, at least from one old outdoor scribe's point of view.

Mountains, you see, draw outdoors-oriented people like some gigantic human-attracting lodestone. Our inner compasses, it seems, no matter our beginnings, eventually and inevitably point upward.

There are those who love the Rockies and others who are inexorably drawn to Appalachia. Still more gravitate to these same mountain ranges in places where local lore has bestowed upon them different names; such titles as Smokies, Catskills, Cascades, Sierras. Yep, that's the secret. It took me awhile, but I figured it out some years ago.

Outdoorsmen (and women) love mountains because in many ways one is simply more "outdoors" in the mountains than he is in any other place on earth.

If you've never touched a mountain or had it touch you, you can't understand that. If you have, then you know precisely what I mean. It's like I heard a wise lady once say, "You can worship God anywhere, boy, but you can only feel like you're in church when you're in church."

Likewise, one can fish, hunt, camp, and hike practically anywhere, but there's an added sort of "special" about doing such things in the mountains.

The mountains, compared to the flatlands, are extreme on both ends of the scale and at all points between. When the mountains are calm, they are very calm, even eerie in their pristine, quiet solitude.

When the mountains are angry, they can be very angry. Just ask anyone caught halfway up a slope in the Chattahoochee National Forest in the middle of a sudden, unexpected summertime mountain thunderstorm. The hailstones whistle as they fall. The lightning flashes sear the eyeballs and the senses. The scent of ozone is pungent after a nearby strike.

One's senses may be heightened in the mountains. They'll "get your fur up," an old man once told me. Then, in the next instant, the mountains can dull the senses with opiate bliss.

Carry a gun or a bow in the mountains and they're simply part of the hunter's uniform. If you use them, fine. If you don't, that's okay, too. You're in the mountains. That's what counts.

Hike the Appalachian Trail. Drive Wolf Creek Pass in winter. Face a mountain's anger with raw, unbridled courage. When it spits in your face, spit back.

Or don't. If you prefer, walk a mere mile along the tiny Coleman River. Brave Wolf Creek Pass only in benign summer sunlight. Either way you're fulfilled. You're in the mountains.

Limber up your fishing rod beside a cool mountain creek. Look upstream toward the falls spilling whitewater toward the pool. Gaze downstream at the shoals where the ghostly mist rises early in the morning.

Cast your fly? Only if you feel like it. Or just take a seat on a rock overhang and dangle your feet. Who cares? Somehow, you're where you should be, regardless.

But why belabor the point? There's just something about the mountains.

You should go.

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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.*

Photos of Interest



New Burrell's Ford USGS Gauge



Midnight Visitor to Doug & Eedee's Front Glass Door



Rabun TU's 4 Mousketeers

Status Update – Chattooga North Fork Recreation Management Plan

(8/26/2009) The Forest Service (FS) selected Alternative 4: Boating will be allowed upstream of Burrell's Ford annually during Dec, Jan and Feb when the flow is above 450cfs. No boating will be permitted between Burrell's Ford and Highway 28 Bridge or in the North Fork tributaries. Boating, using single/tandem hard boats, or canoes, and inflatable kayaks, will be allowed (no rafts, no commercial guiding and no commercial shuttles). The FS plans to announce the available boating days in advance. The FS set the limits on boating group size to no more than six crafts and no fewer than two crafts (no limit on the number of boating groups on a boating day).

In the North Fork backcountry upstream of the Highway 28 Bridge, the maximum size of a group that can hike together on a trail is 12 people (no daily limit on the number of hiking groups), the maximum size group that can use one campsite is 6 people (backcountry camping will be in designated sites only and there will be one or more sites designated for larger groups) and the maximum group size that can fish together is 4 people (no daily limit on the number of fishing groups). Backcountry is defined as more than ¼ mile from the bridges and the Burrell's Ford walk-in campground.

Limits of acceptable change have been established for encounters. Monitoring and adaptive management will be used to protect and enhance backcountry solitude and remoteness.

To read more, click [HERE](#)

Recent Proceedings

(10/2/2009) Friends Of The Upper Chattooga (FOTUC) filed a limited administrative appeal, not to contest the agency's final decision but rather to support and strengthen it. The limited appeal is about the wording of the forest plan amendments to close a potential loophole. FOTUC is an alliance of citizen organizations from Georgia and the Carolinas (including the TU Councils of GA & SC) working collectively to protect the Chattooga's wild and scenic values and to educate the public about threats to these values. For more, click: [HERE](#)

(10/8/2009) News Release - GA ForestWatch announced they would file a vigorous administrative appeal of the FS decision to permit limited boating on the North Fork. Click [HERE](#)

(10/14/2009) Boaters take the FS to Federal Court – AGAIN (Greenville, SC) The complaint challenges the FS decision because it imposes limits on boating while allowing "artificially" increased angling use and inequitably allowing all other uses of the North Fork river corridor to occur in unlimited numbers. The boaters claim the zoning of boating on the North Fork is the only boating zoning of its kind in the entire FS, and is intended to benefit anglers who pursue non-native stocked and wild trout. The lawsuit claims the "artificial fishery created by the USFS-sanctioned stocking has significant impacts including hatchery pollution, backcountry helicopter disturbances, near elimination of native brook trout, user created angling trails, and the elimination of boating from the upper Chattooga River." The boaters suggest the FS decision actually harms anglers across the country by "creating potential competition for wild rivers that are currently shared by all forms of backcountry recreationists, and by degrading the rights of anglers to fish from a boat." Click [HERE](#) and [HERE](#)

(10/15/2009) Michael Bamford of Cashiers NC filed an administrative appeal raising questions concerning EA bias that favored boating. Click [HERE](#)

(10/16/2009) GA ForestWatch filed an administrative appeal asking the FS to reverse its decision and continue the foot travel only zoning for the North Fork. GA ForestWatch agrees with the FS that action is needed to protect the outstandingly remarkable values of the North Fork. Click [HERE](#)

(10/17/2009) Chattooga Conservancy filed an administrative appeal asking the FS to adopt the "alternative" designed by the Conservancy, which allows for more boating but not unregulated boating. Click [HERE](#)

(10/19/2009) Boaters filed an administrative appeal and filed as Intervene in the FOTUC limited appeal, Click [HERE](#)

(10/20/2009) GA ForestWatch filed "stay" request. Click [HERE](#)

Newspaper Report/Opinions

(10/19/2009) Boaters, conservation groups unhappy with FS decision: The Anderson Independent newspaper article, [HERE](#)

(10/21/2009) Chattooga groups should move on Excerpt from The Clayton Tribune lead editorial, "We would not be shocked or disappointed if all appeals were denied and the lawsuit thrown out, for, perhaps, it's time for all groups involved in the decision to live with it and put this belabored, divisive issue to rest." [HERE](#)

(10/20/2009)

Comments on the current situation from a couple of Rabunitis:

"Good grief. Let it go already. This is going to piss off a judge or two."

"blahhhhhkkkkkkkkkk....can they not give it up?"

Editor's notes: Very simply, my vision for the Chattooga North Fork river corridor is for a place where present and future generations can experience backcountry solitude, remoteness and wildness that is free of user conflicts.

Man can create additional whitewater rivers (e.g. the Charlotte US National Whitewater Center <http://www.usnwc.org/> and the FS created Ocoee Whitewater Center <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/ocoe/>); **but man can only protect and preserve solitude, remoteness and wildness.**



"When I go fishing I . . . want to get away from it all, for it is silence and solitude even more than it is fish that I am seeking"

From [My Moby Dick](#) (1978) by William Humphrey (1924-1997)

What's New Elsewhere?



(Click logo for more info)

Trees Too! Fannin County, GA (9/1/2009) - Cold, clean water, adequate cover, plentiful food, and trees; these are just some of the requirements for good trout habitat. While many people probably don't spend a lot of time thinking about the living requirements for the brook trout, fortunately for the 'brookie,' as the fish is affectionately known amongst anglers, there are some people that do. They not only care about the fish's habitat needs, but they are willing to spend time doing something about it.

On August 1st, 27 TU volunteers spent the better part of their Saturday building structures in Stover Creek, a cold-water trout stream in Fannin County, to provide for the habitat needs of the brook trout. "This completes a two year brook trout enhancement project on Stover Creek that included the strengthening of a natural barrier and the installation of 45 habitat improvement structures," said Jim Wentworth, USFS Biologist. The project was a cooperative effort involving biologists from the state, the USFS and volunteers from several local chapters of TU. The project was funded by a Gold Rush and Oconee River Chapters of TU Embrace-a-Stream grant and a U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture grant. Over the last two summers, TU volunteers provided over 700 hours of donated labor to the project. "Thanks to volunteers who are willing to give up their weekends to do hard physical labor in a cold, wet stream, we hope to improve the brook trout's chances and increase the population in this stretch of Stover Creek," Wentworth said. To read more, click [HERE](#)

(10/14/2009) **USFS-NC Upper Tellico OHV trail system closed:** The Forest Service announced that it is permanently closing the Upper Tellico OHV trail system in order to correct

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The Story Of Hunter's Big Brown On A Dry Fly



Hunter Gossard is 8 years old and we live in Buford, GA. He attends 3rd grade at Harmony Elementary School. Hunter's been fishing since the age of 5, but only recently took up fly-fishing (around July).

We got to Moccasin Creek that Sunday (October 11th) around 1:30 p.m. We went there because on October 13, 2008, Hunter caught a 4.25lb./25" rainbow trout at the creek, so we decided to try our luck there again. We almost left shortly after getting there to try another spot because we couldn't see any trout in the creek.

serious erosion problems in the watershed in Cherokee County, NC and to improve habitat for native brook trout. The agency will close most trails in the Tellico area and invest substantial resources to restore those lands, and convert the remaining ORV trails to forest roads for public access for other types of recreation. Muddy runoff in the Tellico watershed has been devastating one of the last, best strongholds for brook trout. The Tellico area, located in the Nantahala National Forest in the headwaters of the upper Tellico River, was one of the largest and most heavily used ORV destinations on public lands in the Southeast. "The results of the Forest Service's extensive study make it clear that the agency could not maintain this trail system to acceptable standards," said Michael "Squeak" Smith, with the North Carolina Council of TU. "I have been fishing in the Tellico River in Tennessee since I was a boy. Closing this unsustainable ORV area will ensure that future generations will have the same opportunity," said George Lane, Council Chair of the Tennessee Council of TU. For more info, click [HERE](#) or [HERE](#)



(Click logo for more info)

Stop I-3 (WaysSouth) – GA (10/7/2009) On the I-3 front, officials at the Federal Highway Administration have still not set a date for launching the highway study. Now, instead of telling us that a study will begin "shortly," they are saying it's their "top priority."

Rabun TU is featured in Autumn WaysSouth newsletter. RABUN TU is one of the original supporting organizations of the Stop I-3 Coalition, "That's because our membership understands that any new major transportation corridor through this region will adversely impact water quality," explained Doug Adams, the chapter's treasurer and newsletter editor. To read more, click [HERE](#)

Then I spotted a nice one, but not as nice as the one Hunter eventually caught. Shortly after spotting that one, we saw about 4 or 5 other big ones hanging together near the fast water. Hunter tried a variety of flies before he eventually got one to take a golden nymph about an hour after we got there. However, that one broke off rather quickly. Hunter was very upset that he lost that one, but I assured him he would catch another one just as big or bigger. I also told him to let the next one run and not try to land him right away like the smaller trout he was used to catching.

Hunter continued to fish until it was almost dark. He managed to catch a small (8") rainbow, which he released. I felt somewhat relieved that at least he caught something and we could be going soon. I told Hunter he had about 3 or 4 more casts before we had to leave. I also noticed the Big Brown he caught had moved out to the middle of the creek and appeared to be feeding now. So I told Hunter to cast out to the left of him and let his dry fly (Bugmeister) drift by him. On the 2nd or 3rd cast the creek erupted and Hunter started shouting like a madman. I reminded Hunter to let him run, but I seriously thought the fish was going to run the whole way to the lake. He stopped and Hunter started reeling and the fish took off again - this time towards some brush in the water, which I thought for sure he was going to get tangled in and break off. I think the fish had two more good runs in him before he finally tired and Hunter was able to get him close to the bank where his mother netted him. The brown measured 6.5 lbs, 23 in. long.

I appreciate Hunter's recognition for his accomplishment. He is a very special young man, not just because he's my son, but also because he's been battling Leukemia for the past 3 years. He's in remission now and due to finish his chemotherapy this December. He'll be monitored for several years after that. I tell you this to convey how much more meaningful your interest and efforts mean to my family.

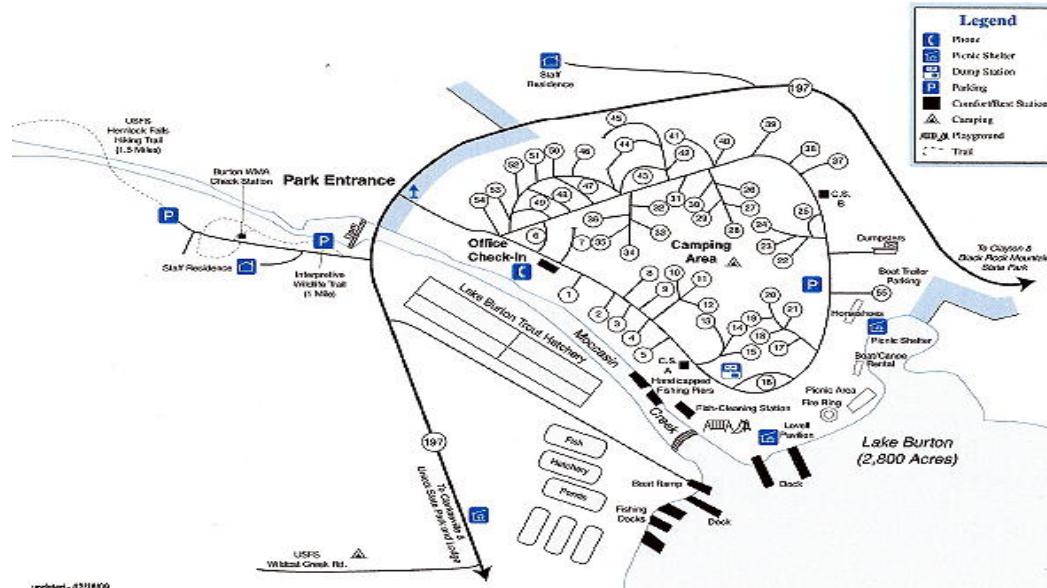
Thanks again, Hunter's Dad

Know Your Forest: 5th in a series

Moccasin Creek State Park and Burton Trout Hatchery

<http://gastateparks.org/info/moccasin/> & <http://www.georgiawildlife.org/documentdetail.aspx?docid=359&pageid=2&category=fishing>

The park and hatchery are located in Rabun County on the west side of Lake Burton at Moccasin Creek on GA Highway 197.



Known as the park "where spring spends the summer," Moccasin Creek S.P. is nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains on the shores of lovely 2,800-acre Lake Burton. Despite its mountain location, the park is relatively flat, offering easy navigation for large RVs, children's bicycles and wheelchairs. A fully accessible fishing pier sits above a trout-filled creek open only to physically challenged visitors, senior citizens and children like Hunter (see page 6). Tour the adjacent trout rearing station, hike on several nearby mountain trails or simply relax in this peaceful setting. The park's central location makes it a perfect jumping off spot for mountain exploration. You may tour Lake Burton Hatchery to see rainbow and brown trout being raised for stocking into mountain streams in North Georgia. The hatchery is open daily from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. for visitors to learn about trout, trout habitat, and aquatic life in cold and warm water habitats. Guided tours are also available year-round for organized groups. Reservations are required.

Editor's notes: The State budget is tough. Part of Parks budget is income generated: lunch, cabin rental, park pass, Friends of Park membership, etc. If anglers eat at a park instead of McDonald's it can help keep that park around!



Raceways for growing trout at Burton Trout Hatchery



Moccasin Creek State Park where Moccasin Creek enters Lake Burton

Burton Hatchery provides stocking support for Georgia trout streams and public waters. In the photo below, hatchery staff stocks trout into Lake Burton.



Angler fishing special regulations section of Moccasin Creek next to Burton Trout Hatchery (at Moccasin Creek State Park where Hunter caught his Big Brown – see page 6)



Now is the time to begin the application process for Georgia Trout Camp 2010.

Think - your kids, grandkids, nieces and nephews, neighbor's kids, or any kid that is excited about the outdoors and fishing.



(Click logo for more info)

Rabun Chapter will sponsor 2 campers. Here are a few facts and instructions:
Camp Dates: June 6 (Sunday) - June 11 (Friday); **Cost:** \$450 per camper (financial aid is available)
Includes room, board, and all activities for the five-day camp.

Deadline to apply: January 11, 2010

Instructions: Applications must be completed and turned in to Rabun Chapter by 1/11/2010.

Information and application forms are available on the Council website <http://georgiatu.org/>

Mail applications to: Rabun TU, PO Box 274, Clayton, GA 30525

By not later than 3/31/2010, Rabun Chapter will select 2 campers from the applicants to sponsor.
(Campers must be within the ages of 12 – 15 at time of camp)

Each of the 12 chapters in Georgia has two spots to fill and each chapter decides how they want to select their campers. Once a chapter chooses a camper, the application, along with their tuition check, is forwarded to the Trout Camp Coordinator (Charlie Breithaupt). Campers will be notified of their acceptance as soon as possible. Later, around early May, more detailed information will be sent to each camper.

Questions and/or concerns should be directed to the Camp Coordinator, Charlie Breithaupt,
194 Kitchens Lane; Clayton, GA 30525 knc615@windstream.net (706) 782-6954

Fishing Reports

Click [HERE](#) Can you name the happy Rabunite in the photo across the top of the Chattahoochee-Oconee NF web page?



Fishing is life. The rest is just details. This picture says it all! Pass it on!

The Bobber Bugger

Rabunites are an adaptable bunch. They have to be, to survive in those mountains.

Two of them celebrated "second season" today with a PM trip to the IDBIS section of THE RIVER. The water matched the air at 48F, so the Rabunites adapted by opening their winter bag of tricks-fleece, Gore-Tex, and lots of lead. Buggers and prince nymphs skidding along the sand bottom encouraged a nice handful of rainbows and one real good'un, a 14-inch brown, to come out and play.

But the real trick of the day was a new adaptation of the tractor-trailer rig. Let's call it the bobber-bugger! Seems that the Walhalla hatchery orphans had hunger pangs and confused our football indicators for their missing, daily Purina fix. After the second rise to the strike indicator, we perfected our technique. We lobbed that bobber-bugger combo down and across, and stripped it back upstream, covering a lot of water. Just like a big ole hookless Marlin teaser behind a 40-foot Bertram, that bright orange strike indicator turned into a fish finder. After the splash, we'd strip in 8 more feet of line and then wiggle that bugger right where the nose had poked. WHAM!

Dry fly purity? Nope. Fish-catchin' fun on a cool day!

#

Waaa-HOOOO!

We wish the purists good luck as they patiently await next spring's hatches. As for many Rabunites, may the bobber-bugger rig be one more tool for your fish-catchin' toolbox.

Fishing's fun. Catchin's funner.

Good luck this fall. Take your passion and pass it on to a new member. Then you'll both take good care of your river.

From: The Dredger – Passing it on! (10/19/2009)

Kellyism – By golly, you don't have to believe it - -
if you don't want to!!!

The Nantahala DH

October 25 was great with quite a few in the shallows on dries in the middle of the day. However, most came on the Prince and San-Juan worms dredged deep & slow. Wait for the sun to warm the water a little. I lost two 'gooduns' – long release, but we saw them jump. The hills were golden with a high clear blue sky making the fishing grand with a special friend. The "Catchin" was not fantastic but it was good - five for me and 20+ for Jeff.

Well the "Dredger" has ruined me. Now, when I go into Jimmy's shop, it is all changed. I used to immediately ask John for the latest "hot" fly pattern. Now, after the "Dredger" training, I ask John "Where is you selection of split shot?"

Funny how life changes. ☺

From: Ray Gentry, Rabunite (10/26/2009)

Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2009

Subject: Stephanie... Caught a TARPON on the fly!!!

My wife, Stephanie, and I just got back from a western Caribbean cruise. The only real fishing we did was with a guide, Ed Taylor, on Grand Cayman. The baby tarpon were very cooperative! Stephanie and I both landed them up to about six pounds on the fly rod - TONS of fun! Stephanie - who's pretty green with the fly rod - even spotted a fish, cast to it, stripped the fly perfectly (stripping the fly for tarpon is done by performing many very short, very quick strips without pausing - pretty odd if you haven't done it before), felt the hit, set the hook and fought the fish all the way to the net! It was great!

From: David Cannon, Rabunite - Madison, GA <http://cannonoutdoors.blogspot.com/>



Editor's notes: **Way to go, Steph! WAAAahWHOooo!**

David will present the program at the 2010 Rabun Rendezvous

Q & A

Q. Do you have to live in Rabun County to be a Rabunite?

A. No, not at all. It does not matter where a Rabunite lives. Even if you live too far away to attend the monthly Chapter meetings you can still support the Rabun TU mission (to conserve, protect and restore Northeast Georgia's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds) and be a Rabunite. Support can include volunteering for work projects, mentoring youth at summer camp or a Kids Fishing Event, writing letters to elected officials and agencies, make financial contributions, and/or writing educational articles/letters for our newsletter. Rabun TU has members living in NC, SC, FL, OH, MI, PA, NJ, & TX. We have over 44% of the membership that live in GA but not in Rabun County. Some live as far away as St Simons Island, St Marys, and Americus. Only 43% of the membership lives in Rabun County.

But we all share a common bond, the love of clean cold streams and rivers, trout and trout fishing.

Rabun Chapter of TU Organization Chart for F/Y2010

Revised: September 23, 2009

Chapter Mission: To conserve, protect and restore Northeast Georgia's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

To accomplish our Mission, we will organize ourselves and manage our activities according to the following division of responsibilities. The person(s) responsible will organize & coordinate the event (but it is expected they will get help from others to accomplish each function):

Organizational Functions:

Meeting Programs (scheduling & hosting speakers) - Bill Kelly
Meeting host (greet and introduce visitors) - Charlie Breithaupt
Meeting refreshments - Ray Kearns
Meeting arrangements (a/v, podium, etc.) - Charlie Breithaupt
Board of Directors meeting agendas - Doug Adams
Membership recruitment - Pat Hopton
Membership retention - Charlie Breithaupt

Funding & Financial:

Raffles: Custom Fly Rod - Pat Hopton
Raffle: GA TU Council Dream Trip - Jimmy Whitten
Raffle: Monthly meeting - Terry Rivers
Landreth Memorial Fund - Doug Adams
Grants (coordinated on a Project basis) - Project Leader
Budget preparation - Doug Adams & Larry Walker
Budget & expenses management - Doug Adams

Conservation Projects:

Stekoa Creek clean up - Doug Adams
Chattooga recreational zoning - Doug Adams
Chattooga fishing diaries for GA WRD - Doug Adams
Back the Brookie water sampling - Terry Rivers
Stream improvement projects w/USFS & GA WRD - Jim Kidd
Annual river clean up - Chris Whitley

Youth Outreach:

GA Trout Camp - Charlie & Kathy Breithaupt
Mentoring Scouts for merit badges - Jim Kidd
Scouts picnic & Indian Lake fishing event - Ray Gentry

Procuring & repairing rods & reels for youth functions - Ray Gentry
Recruiting youth for "Stream Explorer" - Pat Hopton
Kids fishing events with GA WRD & USFS (Tallulah, OAD, etc.) - Pat Hopton

Public Outreach:

Monthly TIGHT LINES Newsletter - Doug Adams
Newsletter supplements and other emails - Doug Adams
NGTO posting for Chapter events - Pat Hopton
Position advocacy correspondence - Ray Gentry
"Thank You" letters to donors, etc. - Ray Gentry
Publicity and Media correspondence - Larry Walker
Chapter website - Kathy Breithaupt
Fly fishing 101 at Rec Center - Charlie & Kathy Breithaupt
Fly fishing 101 at Tallulah Falls State Park - Terry Rivers
Chapter Library (lending books, magazines, videos, etc.) - Charlie Breithaupt
Chapter records & scrapbook - Doug Adams
Mentoring adults for fly fishing, fly tying, rod building, etc - Terry Rivers
Mountaineer Festival - Terry Rivers
Celebrate Clayton Festival - Terry Rivers
Civic Clubs (Rotary, Garden Club, Homeowners Groups, etc.) - Larry Walker

Annual Rabun Rendezvous Banquet & Fundraiser:

Organizing: contract facilities, menu, rooms, set up, advertising, etc - Doug Adams & Larry Walker
Gate, auctions & raffles: pricing, set up, runners, takedown, financial summary, etc - Doug Adams & Tony Allred

Social Functions:

Campouts & fishing trips (equipment) - Terry Rivers
Campouts & fishing trips (food for Nov '09) - Larry Walker
Summer picnic - Bill Kelly
Christmas dinner - Doug Adams & June Landreth

2010 Dream Trip Raffle For A Fly Fishing Vacation!

The winner and their partner will each receive: • 5 days fishing and 6 nights lodging and meals at a private cabin in Island Park Idaho • Custom made fly rod with reel & line • A fly box and flies for the trip (Approx. 5-7 dozen per box) • \$1,000 in travel expenses (this is total, not per person) Runner up prizes will include custom made fly rods, fishing trips, and boxes of flies. Winner will be drawn at the Georgia Foothills Chapter of Trout Unlimited annual banquet the "Hoot on the Hooch" in Helen, GA in March 2010. One winner will be drawn and the winner will choose a partner to accompany them on the trip. Contact Jimmy Whiten for your raffle tickets: E-mail jimmywhiten@yahoo.com

"BACKCASTING"

Sept 25 (Fri) Mentoring Rabun County Middle School Students: Students without unexcused absences, tardies and uncompleted class work are eligible for an hour of flex time every other Friday. Flex time activities include the great outdoors, jewelry making, intramural sports, art, cross stitch & crochet, make-up application, pet care and several more. On this date, 40 students signed up for "the great outdoors" and **Rabun TU Chapter President Larry Walker** supplied the students with loaner fishing rods (borrowed from the GA WRD Burton Hatchery) and crickets to fish the pond at the Rabun County Recreation Center. The students learned to bait their hooks and caught several bream. Larry demonstrated fly-casting. For more info, see the article in The Clayton Tribune, 10/8/2009 on page A12.

Sept 26 (Sat) Outdoor Adventure Day at Unicoi State Park - CANCELLED, a rainout! - 10 Rabun TU Members had volunteered to help. A big thanks to all who volunteered and several who showed up before the event was cancelled due to lightning, along with heavy rain. A special thanks to Ron Cheslock of the UCCTU who coordinated about 40 TU volunteers from across Georgia. Just wait till next year!!! Report filed by Charlie Breithaupt.

Oct 7 - 11 (Wed - Sun) Chapter Fishing & Camping Outing: Tents, trailers, cab-overs and the ubiquitous Kelly motorhome circled the Rabunite cook shelter and the much appreciated and over used yellow and red "Johnny-on-the-Spot" as 19 Rabunites braved rain and wind to camp at the Blackwell Place off the Hale Ridge Road. Fish were caught, stories were told (again and again), food was cooked and eaten and a lot of quality "sittin' by the fire" time was had by all. Highlights included the attendance of Dale Powell and brother Dean from South Carolina and Steve Perry who brought wife Elizabeth along for an evening meal. Hopefully they will all be regulars at these events. All were new to Rabunite camping but took to it like a stocker to a cheese ball. Charlie Brown - the 4-legged camp mascot - ate everything that hit the ground or that he could reach in the cooler. Land O Lakes butter seemed to be his favorite... but we got it back and ate it... A cameo appearance by Jim Darnell and also by Jeff Durniak added to the fun. If you missed this adventure, there'll be another chance in November at Long Bottom. Report filed by Kathy Breithaupt



Oct 20 (Tues) Chapter Meeting - Attended by 31 Rabunites. **The program** was a PowerPoint presentation titled "Rabunite Tips On How To Fill Your Creel" presented by Jeff "Dredger" Durniak. Don't let the title fool you; the program was about how to "catch" additional stream stewards to fill our TU membership "creel." It was a powerful and entertaining program that featured some recruitment strategies that have been proven to work. For young and old alike, the common denominator is the joy of trout fishing and a special appreciation for the beautiful places where trout live. Membership recruitment and membership retention are two

areas we will giving special emphasis for development of the next generation of TUErs to conserve, protect and restore Northeast Georgia's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds. A special thanks to Jeff for being a last minute substitute program presenter. Jeff's requested this "homework assignment" for all TUErs: <http://www.takemefishing.org/community/anglers-legacy/home>

The Meeting raffle had 10 buckets with 2-fly assortments, Tom's leaders & tippets from his vest, a pair of neoprene booties, a book, a LED visor lamp, and much more. The raffle raised \$196 (the most ever for a meeting raffle) to be used toward the cost of mailing newsletters to members without E-mail and for the meeting hospitality expenses. Thanks to Terry Rivers for handling meeting raffles. A BIG "Thank You" goes to all the Rabunites who donated the items and to everyone who purchased raffle tickets.



Jeff's program included the "catching" at Trout Camp



Jeff & Bill Kelly, both Rabun TU charter members

Oct 26 (Mon) Mentoring Rabun County Middle School Students: Prez Larry Walker mentored 24 students.

Oct 27 (Tues) BOD Meeting – 10 members participated. Some agenda items included: **Recaps:** Mentoring at Rabun County Middle School; Chattooga Boating Zoning; Helicopter Stocking; October Campout; RE/MAX Meeting Room; Asset Inventory - \$5033; LWCF; GA Wildlife Fed Funding for Lobbying **Updates:** 11/4-8 Campout; Assignment/Duties for Officers, Directors & Members; 2010 Dream Trip Raffle; TU Accident Insurance; 11/17 & 1/19 Chapter Meeting Programs; 12/8 Annual Rabun Chapter Christmas Dinner **New Business:** 2010 Rendezvous; 1-week trip to lodge in Alaska as fundraiser; Membership Recruitment Plans; Redesign Website; Membership Retention Plan; Chapter Lending Library News; 2010 Campers Application Deadline 1/11/2010; F/Y 2009 Annual Report to National TU; F/Y2009 IRS Tax Return; Donations to Other Chapters **Updates:** Publicity; Membership; Treasury Report

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We wish **Patsy Gentry** a speedy recovery from her recent illness

THANK YOU

Barbara Gary, Clyde NC, for a cash donation.

Eedee & Doug Adams, Rabun Gap GA, for donation of material goods.

Jowers Antique Appliances <http://www.antiqueappliances.com/>, Clayton GA, for a cash donation.

Gap Graphics & Printing <http://www.gapgraphics.biz/>, Clayton GA, for discounts on services.

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

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

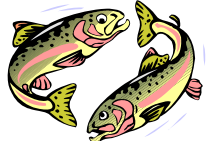
A Big Rabunite "WELCOME" to **2 new members** this month: **JACK BRANDON**, 1147 N. LAKESHORE BLVD., LAKE WALES FL 33853 & **CHARLES E. PENNINGTON**, 673 SMOKEY HOLLOW DR., DILLARD GA 30537

Thanks for re-upping: **Patsy Gentry, John Hoppes, Dan Cox, Jim Kidd, Doug & Eedee Adams, Gary Deal, Russell Burken & Allison Adams**

It is time to renew your membership: **Ron Grob, Jerry Webb, Peggy Crowe, Lonnie English, Walter Godfrey, Charles Jenkins, Rad Smith, Chelsea Adams, Nancy Gribble, Kevin Lash, Billy McClain, Hal Avery, Randal Corbin, Sidney Doster, Joe Gatins, Reb Hester, Neil Anderson, Doug Hickman, Joe Kitchens, Walt Landreth & Thomas Stroud**

Rabun TU Officers & Directors for F/Y2010

President – Larry Walker (w/Media, Awards & Budget) POB 371, Clayton, GA 30525	Ph 706 244 4345	E-mail amosndixie@windstream.net
Vice President - Pat Hopton (w/Membership recruitment & Youth outreach)	Ph 706 782 4978	E-mail scotts_creek58@yahoo.com
Treasurer - Doug Adams (w/Newsletter, BOD Agenda, Rendezvous, Reports & Budgets)	Ph 706 746 2158	E-mail edadams1@windstream.net
Secretary - Ray Gentry (w/Communications & Scouts fishing event)	Ph 404 680 6736	E-mail regentry@windstream.net
Past President - Jimmy Whiten (w/Raffles)	Ph 706 886 6546	E-mail jimmywhiten@yahoo.com
Director thru F/Y 2010: Ray Kearns (w/Mtg refreshments)	Ph 706 782 9913	E-mail raykearns@windstream.net
Director thru F/Y 2010: Bill Kelly (w/Mtg Programs & Picnic)	Ph 706 746 2104	E-mail bkjk1@windstream.net
Director thru F/Y 2011: Kathy Breithaupt (w/Website, 101, & Nametags)	Ph 706 782 6954	E-mail knc615@windstream.net
Director thru F/Y 2011: Charlie Breithaupt (w/Member retent, 101, Library & Mtg host)	Ph 706 782 6954	E-mail knc615@windstream.net
Director thru F/Y 2012: Jim Kidd (w/Instream projects & Scouts M/B)	Ph 706 782 2474	E-mail jikidd@windstream.net
Director thru F/Y 2012: Terry Rivers (w/Festivals, BTB, Campout Equip & Mtg Raffles)	Ph 706 782 7419	E-mail tr1121@windstream.net
Director thru F/Y 2013: Tony Allred (w/Rendezvous & Membership retention)	Ph 706 746 3892	E-mail taallred@windstream.net
Director thru F/Y 2013: Jeff Durniak	Ph 706 892 6576	E-mail Jeff_Durniak@dnr.state.ga.us



Letter From The Chapter President

Fellow Rabunites,

I appreciate your selecting me to be our Chapter leader for the next year. As I think of what a leader really ought to be, I can't help but draw a comparison to our fishing leaders. So, I guess I'll try to be strong, keep us on target and be nearly invisible much like a good leader on the end of a fly line.

One thing your Board has been working on over the past few weeks is a game plan for the coming year. As you know, everything we do involves volunteers, and there are very few, if any, of our activities that doesn't involve several members. However, I do believe it is best that we have one person on point for each of our significant functions.

Therefore, we have developed the Organization Chart that is included elsewhere in this newsletter. This identifies the leader of each function or activity, but in no way does it mean that any of these activities are a one-man or one-woman show. Hopefully, it will give us all an understanding of who to go to for involvement in any particular aspect of our Chapter.

As you browse this list, I hope you'll think about which areas you'd like to be involved in over the coming year, and let the leader know you'd like to be part of the line backing him or her up.

Regards, Larry Walker

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

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