



TIGHT LINES December 2010 Newsletter of the Rabun Chapter (522) of Trout Unlimited

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

“For the true angler, fishing produces a deep, unspoken joy, born of longing for that which is quiet and peaceful, and fostered by an inbred love of communing with nature.” Thaddeus Norris

THE DECEMBER MEETING is the ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER!

In the Rock House at the Dillard House – 2nd Tuesday, December 14th
6:00 PM Social (BYOB) with set-ups provided along with soft drinks. & 7:00 PM Dinner
With the usual fabulous hors d’oeuvres, family style meal and scrumptious desserts.

Cost: \$26 per person (pay to “Rabun TU” at the event) –
 You must contact June Landreth to reserve your place! Reservations Required by Friday, 12/10.
 E-mail: landreth@windstream.net Phone: 706 746 2295
 There will not be a raffle at the Annual Christmas Dinner.

“Anglers...exaggerate grossly and make gentle and inoffensive creatures sound like wounded buffalo and man-eating tigers.” Roderick Haig-Brown

“FORWARD CASTING” Important Dates – See you there!

Dec 4 (Sat) GA TU Council Meeting Annual planning meeting with USFS and, GA WRD. 9 AM at the USFS office in Gainesville

Dec 14 (Tues) Annual Family Christmas Dinner Social starts 6 pm and Dinner served 7 pm in the Rock House at the Dillard House. Entire family invited, \$26/person, BYOB. Must make your reservations by Friday, 12/10, with June Landreth, Ph 706 746 2295, E-mail landreth@windstream.net

Jan 10 (Mon) Deadline for 2010 Trout Camper applications.

Jan 11 (Tues) BOD Meeting 6:30 PM, RE/MAX Office.

Jan 18 (Tues) Chapter Meeting 6:30 PM, RE/MAX Office
Program: Jeff Durniak – *“Winter Troutng Tips”*

Jan 22 (Sat) 24th Annual Rabun Rendezvous, 5 PM ‘til
Program: Rabunite Kyle Burrell,
 Trout Fishing Guide in GA & WY

FLY OF THE MONTH

by Terry Rivers



BRASSIE (MIDGE PUPA)

THIS IS A GREAT FLY TO HAVE DURING THE WINTER MONTHS; LOT’S OF MIDGE’S ALONG WITH A BLUE WING OLIVE HATCH CAN MEAN GREAT CATCHING DURING THE COLD SEASON.

HOOK: 18-22 NYMPH OR STREAMER
BODY: COPPER OR BRASS WIRE
THORAX: PEACOCK HURL OR ULTRA CHENILLE WITH FLASH

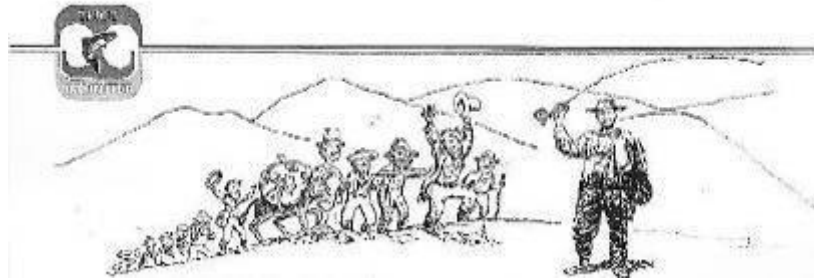
“Fly making gives us a new sense, almost. We are constantly on the lookout, and view everything with added interest. Possibly we may turn it into a bug of some kind.”

Theodore Gordon

December 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 |
| Blue Winged Olive & Blue Quill | All Month | Late AM to Mid PM | 16-20 BWO, Blue Quill or Adams Parachute 16-20 BWO nymph or Pheasant Tail |
| Midges | All Month | All Day | 18-22 Griffith’s Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa |

To view a Hatch Chart for other months, click [Hatch Chart](#)



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

Please Join Us for the 24th Annual

Rabun Rendezvous

"The Rendezvous was unlike anything before or since, a gathering of uninhibited men down from the mountains. The event attracted perhaps a hundred mountain men, their indian wives, and assorted visiting tribesmen. Amusements included gambling, drinking, storytelling – continuing day and night." Quote from The Mountain Men by George Laycock

When: Saturday, January 22, 2011

Where: The "NEW" Dillard House Conference Center (doubled in size), located behind the Dillard House in Dillard, Georgia.

Who: The more the better. Everyone interested in protecting our cold-water resources, including their families, friends, and all who love clean cold streams, trout, and trout fishing.

Social: About 5 o'clock PM folks will start gathering to "pick the pig" and enjoy the rocking chairs on the porch of the Conference Center. There will be snack trays of cheeses, crackers, veggies with dips, and fruits. Soft drinks and ice will be available. If you want something stronger, better bring it yourself. There will be a fire inside to warm your buns.

The Foxfire Boys (as seen in the Chattooga River episode of TUTV's "On The Rise") will again generously provide their 'down home' style of bluegrass picking and singing for your musical entertainment.

Remember to ask about The Foxfire Boys CDs (now 4 of them), which will be available.

The large screen TV will be showing the Rabunites trout fishing some of their favorite 'secret spots'. This will be the ideal time to be looking over the raffle and silent auction items. **We welcome donations of raffle and auction items at the door, fellow TU'ers.**

Dinner: Fish, chicken, and pork with all the side dishes and desserts that have made the Dillard House so famous, will be served about 6:30. It is a serve yourself buffet, so you will not leave hungry.



Program presenter - Rabunite Kyle Burrell, trout fishing guide in GA & WY, sharing photos and tales of memorable experiences.

Cost: \$30 for adults and \$25 for youth of 15 and under. Cash, personal checks, VISA or MasterCard credit cards. We don't do advanced tickets or reservation; just pay at the door.

Lodging: The Dillard House has set special rates for rooms starting at \$49 (plus tax) for those that call and **tell them you're attending the Trout Unlimited Rabun Rendezvous.** Call: 706-746-5348 or Toll Free 1-800-541-0671

You must say you are there with Trout Unlimited to get the special rate.

The 2010 Rabun Rendezvous provided funds for the following: GA Trout Camp for youth; Sponsorship of student interns working in NE GA fisheries with the GA WRD and the USFS; Sponsoring two youngsters attending the GA Trout Camp; Financial support of the GA DNR Smithgall Woods Conservation Education Program; GA "Back-the-Brookie" Program; Kid's Fishing Events at Black Rock Mountain State Park (GA DNR) & Tallulah River (USFS); Stekoa Creek clean-up day, In-stream habitat improvement workday with USFS on a Rabun County brook trout stream, Fly Fishing for Vets Wounded Warriors Program; Stop I-3 Coalition; Georgia Wildlife Federation's Camo Coalition, EarthShare of GA, National TU's "First Cast", "Embrace-A-Stream", & "Back-the-Brookie" Programs; Design of Rabun TU's award winning website; and Trout Magazine subscriptions to all school & public libraries and 3 state parks in Rabun County

Here are photographs of 4 of the artist signed and framed limited edition prints that will be available on silent auction at the Rabun Rendezvous



From left to right:
"Evening Hatch" by Tom Landreth, 111/300
"Appalachian Rainbow" by Tom Landreth, 53/200
1985 Colorado "Rainbow Trout Stamp" by H. C. Hertling, 403/950
"Over the Rainbow" by Randy McGovern 15/980

Request to the Rabunites and Friends

With the budget crunch faced by the agencies (the US Forest Service and GA WRD), Trout Unlimited can again step-up in 2011 and be the lead financial partner in protecting, preserving, connecting and enhancing the coldwater resources in Northeast Georgia, including the "Back the Brookie" activities. The Rabun Chapter's major fundraiser of the year, the Rabun Rendezvous, is just a few weeks away. As we near the end of the year and the Christmas season, now is a good time to ask friends and supporters for donations of goods and services for the silent auction and bucket raffle.

Need an idea for what you can donate?

Art, crafts (wood working, fishing flies, etc), a campout with fishing, a day of lake fishing, a day of deer hunting on a lease, a day of wild turkey hunting, vacations, golf packages, raft trips, weekend use of mountain cabins or condos at beach, and goodies from the kitchens of the Rabunites (cakes, breads, baskets with canned veggies, jams, jellies and preserves) have always been popular with our guests. Instead of buying something to donate, consider just donating the cash.



Rabun TU's Award Winning website <http://rabuntu.org/site/> !

'Website Page-of-the-Month': <http://rabuntu.org/site/events/the-rabun-rendezvous/>

The Annual Rabun Rendezvous

Click > [View a photo gallery of the Rabun Rendezvous](#) (click on pictures to enlarge)

Please send comments & suggestions to Pat Hopton, Website Project Manager, scotts_creek58@yahoo.com

Site Design by [Allison O. Adams, Editorial and Multimedia Services](#)

Now is the time to make an application for the 2011 Georgia Trout Camp

Deadline to apply: January 10, 2011

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 5 (Sunday) - June 10 (Friday); **Cost:** \$450 per camper (financial aid is available)

Includes room, board, and all activities for the five-day camp.

Instructions: Applications must be completed and turned in to Rabun Chapter by 1/10/2011. (Campers must be within the ages of 12 – 15 at time of camp) Information and application forms are available on the Council website <http://georgiatu.org/> Mail applications to: Rabun TU, PO Box 371, Clayton, GA 30525. Rabun Chapter will select 2 campers from the applicants to sponsor.

Each of the 13 chapters in Georgia has 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

Letters to the Rabunites

Sent: By US Postal **To:** Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited
The Board of Sarah Simpson Gossett Home, Inc (Greenville, SC) gratefully acknowledges your memorial to Miriam Walker. We know Larry & Beth will appreciate her being remembered in a way that helps others. We miss having her as a part of our "Home."

To: Fellow Rabunites
Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, and memorial gift in honor of my Mother upon her recent passing. Larry
Editor's notes: *The Board of Directors approved a memorial donation.*

if you have a comment or an opinion to share in TIGHT LINES, please submit it in 250 words or less to edadams1@windstream.net

Know Your Forest: 18th in a series:

Walhalla Fish Hatchery

<http://hatcheries.dnr.sc.gov/walhalla/index.html>

The hatchery is one of five in South Carolina and the only one involved in the culture of trout, a coldwater species. There are three types raised here: rainbow, brook and brown trout.

The Appalachian Mountains streams are not very fertile due their origination bedrock which produces low alkalinity in the water. The growing cycle begins in the incubator room usually not open to public to protect the very sensitive eggs. Inside the hatchery building there are 12 concrete tanks where young trout is fed until it reaches 2 inches long and then is moved to the outside raceways. Each raceway is about 100 feet long and flows 600 gallons of water a minute. It takes about 14-16 months for the fish to reach the stocking size of 9 inches.

Each year over 200,000 trout fish are stocked by truck to rivers in Greenville, Pickens and Oconee counties. See a list and a map with all the streams at the interpretive display kiosk. Some remote locations along Chattooga River get stocked by helicopter!

Best time to visit is in the fall where you can see more of the trout's lifecycle stages, particularly the eggs and the sac fry. Main attraction for little kids is feeding the fish.



There are feed stations along the tanks and the food is 25 cents.

Where: Address: 198 Fish Hatchery Rd, Hwy 107 N, Mountain Rest, SC 29664. The hatchery is near the intersection of Hwy 107 and 130 and [here is the Google Map](#). Admission is free. Open daily from 8 AM till 4 PM except on Christmas Day. May close occasionally during winter if the inclement weather conditions make it unsafe for visitation.



Facts and history The Works Progress Administration and the Civilian Conservation Corps built the Walhalla State Fish Hatchery (WSFH). Hatchery construction began in mid 1930s and first trout was released in 1937. In 1990 an oxygen supplementation system was added to increase production. In 1996, supervision of the hatchery was transferred from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. The WSFH is the only cold water fish hatchery operated by the SCDNR. Funding for the operation of the Hatchery is provided by Duke Power, US Corp. of Engineers, Sport Fish Restoration (Federal Aid), and revenue from the sale of fishing licenses. The hatchery is staffed by a fisheries biologist, three technicians, and one part-time employee. WSFH raises brown, brook and rainbow trout for stocking the public waters of South Carolina. Most of the trout are cultured to a catchable size of 9-12" before they are released. Fingerling trout are also produced to enhance the trout fishery. Very large trout (5-15 pounds) are also kept at the Hatchery on display for the public viewing enjoyment.

Status Update – Chattooga North Fork Recreation Management Plan

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/sumter/resources/Chattooga.php>

(June 8, 2010) Columbia, SC - When we (the USDA Forest Service) are prepared to release new, sound, reasoned decisions based on the very best information and analysis, we will let stakeholders, the public and media know. Once the final decisions are made, we will ensure that the decision is implemented in a timely and efficient manner.

25 Years Ago This Month - The meeting that started the turnaround of a declining fishery!

Beginning in the mid 70s and continuing through the early 80s, THE RIVER (a.k.a. Chattooga North Fork) suffered a steep decline in the quality of the angling experience, especially solitude and catch rate. In 1985, about 15 members of SC and GA TU leadership from Atlanta, Greenville and Columbia met in a cabin on Ford Mountain in Rabun County on October 19th for a lengthy discussion of their concerns and possible actions. Doug Adams, a Chattooga angler since 1955 and member of TU, was invited to serve on a working committee of 5 members. The committee spent the next month preparing a joint resolution which was sent on December 5th. The cover letter and resolution requested a meeting with the fishery professionals in the US Forest Service and Georgia and South Carolina Departments of Natural Resources to express concerns about the decline in THE RIVER fishery. It was the meeting that led to the formation of the Chattooga Coalition.

See the recent article about the Chattooga Coalition on the next page.

Editor's Notes: The following article was published here <http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/ssrs/story?id=5529>

Chattooga Coalition Tracks Success of River Species

posted Tuesday, October 10, 2010 by [Gwyn Ingram](#)

The findings of an unusual scientific partnership exceed its original intent.

About every other year, on a sleepy section of the upper Chattooga River, an invasion of sorts takes place.

A wall of wader-clad biologists, students and anglers spread across the waters of the wild and scenic river, armed with electricity-generating backpacks and dip nets. At the upper end of their selected stretch of river, an independent curtain of electric current restricts the intended quarry from escape. Then, the wall of people wade slowly forward, netting every fish that had been stunned by the electric prods.



The Chattooga Coalition and its volunteers at work.

No, these are not the actions of a rogue group too lazy to wet a line for dinner, nor one bent on utter destruction. In fact, it's quite the opposite.

The Chattooga Coalition, a remarkable partnership comprising state and federal agencies from South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia, as well as members of Trout Unlimited (TU) collects the stunned fish to monitor their population status in the river. Species, size, numbers, and distribution data are recorded and studied to help determine the general health of the river.



Variety of species, including brown trout, in live cage.

The coalition was formed in 1986 after a group of fishing enthusiasts from the Georgia and South Carolina Trout Unlimited Councils noticed a dramatic decline in the trout fishery in the Upper Chattooga. They asked the federal and state agencies responsible for the river's management to investigate the decline. The management agencies include the Sumter National Forest of South Carolina, the Chattahoochee National Forest of Georgia, the Nantahala National Forest of North Carolina and the Department of Natural Resources from all three states.

"Prior to that there really wasn't a coordinated effort to do field work and sampling, or meetings to coordinate management," said Dan Rankin, Region 1 Fisheries Coordinator for the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. "Forming the coalition began the first real on-the-ground work involving state agencies and the Forest Service from all three states and Trout Unlimited members getting out there and starting to sample--to collect fish--and see what was going on in the river and what the status of the fishery really was."

Because there were no creel surveys or monitoring data at that time, the only indication of the fishery's decline was anecdotal evidence from the anglers. Designation of the river as 'wild and scenic' more than 10 years earlier, and the subsequent designation of the Ellicott Rock Wilderness, subsequently necessitated changes in river management. Those designations and the increased popularity of whitewater boating also facilitated a significant spike in the use of the river.

"Looking back, it's pretty evident what happened in that backcountry area. After designation, roads accessing the river used to stock adult-size trout were closed, which was probably a really good thing for water quality, but not so for the fishery," explained Rankin.

"The coalition quickly learned from the sampling that there wasn't much of a wild population to support the fishery. When the roads were closed and stocking ceased, the fishery went south," said Rankin. "The fishery was dependent on the stocking that had been occurring prior to the wild and scenic designation."

Today, said Rankin, selective stocking has restored fishing opportunities on the Upper Chattooga. But the coalition sampling has proved valuable in many more ways.

"It started with an emphasis on just trying to determine what was going on with the trout fishery. Had things really dramatically declined? If so, why? And could we improve the management from a fishery standpoint? Although our original coalition focus was to address the game fish concern, increasingly the community sample --which comprises all species, both game and non-game--has proven tremendously important," Rankin explained.

"Of the 15 species we found in the July 2010 sample, several species were of conservation concern (SCDNR designation). We had two high-priority conservation species and five moderate-priority species," said Rankin. "We track those, and we can look all the way back to 1986 when we established the initial baseline and compare how populations have changed over 25 years. It's important to be able to validate that we're not losing these conservation species. Just like the trout, they're good indicators of water quality and management of the river."



Turquoise Darter, a species of conservation concern.

In fact, the coalition has sampled downstream of the trout waters as well, with native species specifically in mind. There the group monitored the success of native redeye bass, one of the highest-priority conservation species in the Chattooga. In addition, Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests' Fisheries Biologist Jeanne Riley, in conjunction with the coalition, implemented a macro invertebrate survey of the Chattooga drainage to collect aquatic insects, often an even more sensitive indicator of a river's general health. The coalition partnered with Clemson University to conduct sampling.

Rankin described the early sampling as "kind of a scattergun approach," and said that methods have improved over the years to include three long-term monitoring sites. Such sites allow the coalition to compare data on species such as brown trout with past samples from the same site.

The partnership aspect of the coalition has been the key to its great success.

"Much of the work that has been done couldn't have been accomplished with one agency or its limited resources-it was all about pooling expertise and resources, and that's what made the whole thing work," said Rankin. "It's fostered more communication: the annual sampling, the annual meeting to talk about issues among the partners. It's really grown into a dynamic and interesting project with those lines of communication open."

Editor's Notes: To read more about the Chattooga Coalition, click <http://rabuntu.org/site/about/work-projects/the-story-of-the-chattooga-coalition/>.

"There's been a social aspect to this as well as a professional one that is very important," insists Rankin. "You have new folks coming in every year, but they'll return year after year and get to know each other. You see a lot of friendships develop over this project. I think that's really important to morale, to people wanting to work in the interest of the river. People just develop a real affection for the project. It's fostered communication professionally and personally well outside of the Chattooga management."

Three members of the original Chattooga Coalition remain involved to this day. Monte Seehorn, a retired Forest Service biologist and member of the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited, has chaired the coalition from its inception. Jeff Durniak of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and Doug Adams, also of TU's Rabun Chapter and a Chattooga angler since 1955, have been active from the start.

Nearly 25 years of coalition efforts have provided invaluable information about the effects of habitat, temperature, water quality and even erosion and sedimentation on the Chattooga watershed, all factors that ultimately figure into the long-term health of this wild and scenic river.

That's not bad for a project hatched originally by a handful of dedicated anglers who noticed that the fish weren't biting and pushed to find out why.

Rabun TU Lending Library News



The following items were recently donated to the lending library:

BOOKS:

| Title | Author | Year | Pages | Donated by |
|--|--------------------------------|------|-------|---------------------------|
| <u>The Night The Bear Ate Goombaw</u> | Patrick McManus | 1989 | 182 | Frank Tolbert |
| <u>The Life of the Pond</u> | William Amos | 1967 | 232 | Frank Tolbert |
| <u>The Life of Rivers and Streams</u> | Robert Usinger | 1967 | 232 | Frank Tolbert |
| <u>Fly Fishing Strategy</u> | Doug Swisher and Carl Richards | 1975 | 183 | Terry Rivers/Tom Landreth |
| <u>Steelhead Fly Fishing</u> | Trey Combs | 1991 | 494 | Terry Rivers/Tom Landreth |
| <u>Fly-Tying Methods</u> | Darrell Martin | 1987 | 276 | Terry Rivers/Tom Landreth |
| <u>The Versatile Fly Tyer</u> | Richard W. Talleur | 1990 | 337 | Terry Rivers/Tom Landreth |
| <u>Fly Tying with Synthetics</u> | Phil Camera | 1992 | 190 | Terry Rivers/Tom Landreth |
| <u>Guide to Aquatic Trout Foods</u> | Dave Whitlock | 1982 | 216 | Terry Rivers/Tom Landreth |
| <u>The Trout and the Fly</u> | John Goddard and Brian Clarke | 1980 | 192 | Terry Rivers/Tom Landreth |
| <u>Emergers</u> | Doug Swisher and Carl Richards | 1991 | 117 | Terry Rivers/Tom Landreth |
| <u>Designing Trout Flies</u> | Gary Borger | 1991 | 214 | Terry Rivers/Tom Landreth |
| <u>Nymph Fishing for Larger Trout</u> | Charles E. Brooks | 1976 | 184 | Terry Rivers/Tom Landreth |
| <u>How to Fish from Top to Bottom</u> | Sid Gordon | 1955 | 384 | Doug Adams |
| <u>The Experts' Book of Freshwater Fishing</u> | Steve Netherby | 1974 | 317 | Doug Adams |

VIDEOS:

| | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|---------------|-----|---------------|
| <u>Introduction to Muzzle Loading</u> | Sportsman's Workshop Video Library | 30 minutes | VHS | Frank Tolbert |
| <u>Ride Safe, Ride Smart (ATV)</u> | Yamaha | 9 minutes | VHS | Frank Tolbert |
| <u>A River Runs Through It</u> | Norman Maclean | 2 hours 4 min | VHS | Frank Tolbert |
| <u>Tying and Fishing the Dave Whitlock Originals Vol 3</u> | | 100 min | VHS | Frank Tolbert |
| <u>Fly Fishing Made Easy</u> | Scientific Anglers | 57 min | VHS | Frank Tolbert |

To review the complete listing of items available for you to checkout of the Rabun TU Lending Library, click [HERE](#)

Editor's Notes: The lending library now contains over 100 items. Several are by 3 of my personal favorite writers: John Gierach & Robert Traver for their entertaining trout fishing short stories and Patrick McManus for his humorous short stories.

All donations to Rabun TU (a Federal Tax Exempt 501c3 non-profit) are tax deductible.

What's New Elsewhere?

PARTNERSHIPS: SC DNR, GA WRD, USFS, TU & AFFC working together for backcountry trout fishery management.

The USFS firefighting helicopter with ground support from GA and SC Forest Service personnel delivered trout to the backcountry of the Chattooga's North Fork again this fall. The trout that were stocked ranged in size from 5-inch sub-adults (for put and grow management) to adults. The trout were provided by SC DNR and GA WRD and paid for by fishing license and trout stamp fees.



The Chattooga North Fork has received annual helicopter trout stockings for about 40 years. Due to Forest Service budget constraints in GA during the past 20 + years, TU in GA has had a "challenge cost share agreement" with the USFS. Anglers and the USFS split the helicopter costs 50-50. Currently Rabun TU's Tom Landreth Memorial Fund [HERE](#), GA TU Council [HERE](#), and the Atlanta Fly Fishing Club (AFFC) [HERE](#) contribute \$2,000/year to deliver GA WRD's trout to the lower backcountry of the Wild & Scenic Chattooga's North Fork and West Fork.

USFS – GA Projects Support the Economy The USDA Forest Service is carrying out \$4.25 million worth of projects funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) in the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest. These projects include work such as; recreation area maintenance and improvements; maintenance and repair of roads, bridges and dams; surveys of archaeological resources; non-native invasive species surveys and treatments; and restoration and maintenance of sensitive ecosystems such as longleaf pine and bog areas, and red-cockaded woodpecker habitat. A total of 40 projects will be completed when the work is done.

The New York Times Profiles [Casting for Recovery.](#)

(11/11/2010) Lori Simon, the group's executive director, said the program had grown significantly; in 2005, it had 331 patients in 30 events and this year 556 patients in 42 events. Casting for Recovery, a nonprofit support and educational program founded in 1996 and based in Manchester, Vt., now is looking for a ripple effect, so to speak. Ms. Simon said the group, which will have retreats in 34 states in 2011, would eventually like to organize 100 retreats a year across all 50 states. "This is really inserting them into a new and unexpected environment," Kate Fox, the national program manager for Casting for Recovery, said of the participants. "They say, 'It's the kind of thing I never thought I'd do, but I'm having a blast.' It's a support group that's not a support group." Read more [HERE](#)

GA DNR, WRD - Ted Will Named New Assistant Chief of Fisheries Management

SOCIAL CIRCLE, Ga. (10/29/2010) He fills the position left vacant by Michael Spencer who took the position of License and Boat Registration Unit Supervisor. Ted Will previously served as Region Supervisor for the West Georgia region. More [HERE](#)

"Catchin' Corner" - Troutng Tips

"There is, of course, a knack in whipping a fly and casting a lure, but you can learn that in half an hour. If you really want to know what's what about fishing, by all means learn to read the water."

From [How to Fish from Top to Bottom](#) by Sid Gordon (a Rabun TU Lending Library book)

Knowing where to put the lure is the single most important skill in trout fishing. It's called '*reading the water*'. An angler who can '*read the water*' but can't cast very well will consistently catch more trout than a skilled caster who cannot '*read the water*'. Just about anywhere you fish there are some general principles that apply to reading trout streams. To learn how to read water, an angler must consider the habitat from the trout's perspective. After satisfying the basic needs of clean cold water and oxygen, a trout has three major requirements in finding a place to hold:

Cover - to protect a trout from kingfishers, great blue herons, ospreys, otters, and other predators (such as anglers)

Energy - a place to hold that doesn't require a trout to expend any more energy than it will take in

Food - a trout's holding spot must provide it with opportunities to feed frequently

Fish The Edges! (to improve your chances of catching trout)

"The first principle of reading water is this: Fish are found at the edges of things." Charles F. Waterman

- > A simple and effective method to read water is to think "edges" or "seams." These occur where the faster water meets the slower water.
- > Edges occur where the water is broken by a rock (sometimes by a completely submerged rock).
- > Check the edges of a log, a different current, or a tributary stream entering.
- > Look for edges where there is any change in the water, such as where a chute of water dumps through a constriction, leaving the fast water churning in the middle.
- > The edges of the fast water are where the trout will be holding.
- > In a pool, the smaller trout will hold at the edges of the head of the pool while the larger trout will hold at the edges of the tail of the pool. The current through the pool will bring the fish a continuous supply of food while they sit on the edges, rising or cutting out into the food line only when they spot something tasty.
- > And remember the edge under fast water where it passes over a drop-off or bolder!
- > Also think edges of day and night (dawn and dusk)
- > And fish the edges of weather changes (just before a storm and as the water begins to get dingy; and also just after a shower).
- > Both edges of winter (Spring & Fall)

Always be alert for: Insects on the water, rises, flashes, shadows, shade, etc.

In the Winter & Early Spring: fish when the water temperature is rising

"BACKCASTING"

Nov 3 – 7 (Wed–Sun) Fall Camping & Fishing Outing at Long Bottom. "The interaction of two or more substances to produce a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate effects", is called **synergy**. Synergy happens for the Rabunites when we combine trout fishing, camping out, and bluegrass music. "O, it was wonderful" says Terry Rivers. The Long Bottom outing was enjoyed by 22 Rabunites. Chattooga River fishing (backcountry, delayed harvest, and front-country), fellowship, storytelling, bluegrass & blues music around the campfire, and camp cooked meals were all great. Injun Frank put up his teepee, fired up his wood fueled heater outside and (with Danny's help) backed it inside. He made another good campfire story with that trick. Our thanks to Martha Gail and Frank for preparing the menu, buying the groceries, and the recipes/instructions for the fixings (Martha Gail, Frank did NOT burn the chili). Our thanks to Terry Rivers for bringing the camp kitchen and to everyone that brought firewood (it was in the mid 20s for 3 mornings in a row). It was a grand last campout of the year. **WAaaaaahWHOooooo!**



SETTING UP CAMP



THE CAMP KITCHEN - SOURCE OF GREAT VITTLES



THE RIVER



EVENING CAMPFIRES WITH STORY TELLING AND LIVE BLUEGRASS & BLUES MUSIC



We love you, Ray.



Frank, we love you - too!



Breaking camp & Going home

Nov 16 (Tues) Chapter Meeting – 26 attended. **Tony Allred** was elected Chapter Treasurer replacing **Doug Adams** who had served as Treasurer for 6 years. **Program:** UGA graduate and 4-year Back-the Brookie intern **Jay Payne** presents: *"Evaluation of artificial stream structures for wild brook trout in North Georgia."* With an informative PowerPoint presentation, Jay described how he conducted the evaluation last summer on several North Georgia streams that received engineered wood habitat enhancement structures one year earlier. The sections with structures compared to control sections in the same streams showed a 30% to 40% increase in number of wild brook trout. The average length and weight of the trout was essentially unchanged. An informative Q & A session followed the presentation. The **Meeting Raffle** had 9 buckets with 3 fly assortments, a jar of sourwood honey, a buck knife, a fly box and much more. The raffle raised \$111 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 the meeting raffle. A BIG "Thank You" goes to all the Rabunites who donated the items and to everyone who purchased raffle tickets



Nov 23 (Tues) Board of Directors meeting – only 6 of 13 participated (lack of a quorum, no official actions could be conducted). Agenda items included: Recaps – Middle School mentoring; Fall Camping & Fishing Outing; Chris Wood to be keynote speaker at 2012 Rendezvous; Tony Allred elected new Chapter Treasurer Status Updates – 2011 Rabun Rendezvous Donations; Revision of the Chapter By-Laws; Applications received for 2011 Trout Camp; Reservations for Christmas Dinner; Chapter Logo ; 2011 Stekoa Creek Clean-up Day 6/18/2011; Date for 2011 Rabunite 101; E-mails to the 74 Expired Memberships; Website views in past month; Facebook; Chapter Lending Library news; LWCF; Chapter Accident Insurance; Donation to GA BtB in 2011 Upcoming – 12/3 (Fri) Middle School mentoring; 12/4 (Sat) GA TU Council Meeting; 12/14 (Tues) Annual Family Christmas Dinner; 1/10 (Mon) Deadline for 2010 Trout Camper applications; 1/11 (Tues) BOD Meeting (select 2 campers); 1/18 (Tues) Chapter Meeting Program; 1/22 (Sat) 24th Annual Rabun Rendezvous; 2/5 (Sat) Annual Planning Meeting; Fly Tying On Thursday Evenings in Feb & March, New Business – Nominate a new Director to fill Tony Allred's unexpired term; TU General Brochures Reports – Publicity; Membership-166 (up 2); Treasury Report - \$3,432 in checking, \$7,647 in 3 CDs & \$5,329 in Tom's Fund CD

Angels are Sent Time and Time Again

By Patsy Lewis-Gentry (October 24, 2010)

Since September 7th when Ray had his stroke, I have wanted to write regarding what fly fishing has meant to the on-going recovery of my husband, Ray.

One day healthy and a stroke the next, one can't help but wonder if you are dreaming or not. However, angels are sent time and time again, during times of stress. God has a way of insuring these blessing. One such angel, Jeff Durniak and another Jimmy Harris, continued to fly into our lives during these past few weeks offering fly lines of support as well as calls from fellow fly fisherman and dozens of cards came through as well.

Realizing, Ray was having occupational, speech and physical therapy three times a week in Gainesville, Jeff came by the house one night with Ingles best; pints of assorted cooked vegetables and fruits. Not only did Jeff bring food, but he continued to come offering support to Ray as Ray worked on his speech. Encouraging Ray to tie flies, Jeff asked him to begin to tie simple flies for the two of them to go fishing.

One afternoon, Jimmy Harris and Jeff Durniak, took Ray to a "honey hole" for fly fishing. For only a few hours, my husband fished catching one 18" trout and more while his mentors observed. I recall Ray walking into the house after that first day of fly fishing. For the first time since September 7th, Ray had a twinkle in his eye. "I caught a big one", he said. Two wonderful busy men had taken time from their hectic lives to "jump start" Ray's on-going recovery with fly fishing. Two men who have wings; Jimmy Harris and Jeff Durniak.

But, the therapy didn't stop that day for Jeff Durniak. He has taken Ray fly fishing three times, encouraged him, listened to him and told Ray fishing tales one after another. One highlight was the surprise Jeff gave Ray; taking Ray to see all of his fly fishing buddies at camp in North Carolina. Was Ray happy or what!

It is hard to express what unconditional friendship means to a friend and his family during stressful times in their lives. It is hard to express what gifts meant to Ray from the Rabun Chapter when Jeff brought in a shirt and a wading stick. It is hard to express what a mantel full of get-well cards and calls mean to Ray and our family. Would a twinkle in Ray's eye and a tear in mine do? We are most appreciative.

I can only tell you from the depths of our hearts what Jeff Durniak has meant to Ray's recovery. If someone is to ever receive wings, it would be Jeff Durniak. And, to all of his fly fishing buddies, I can't thank you enough for your support, your kind words and your cards. Thank you!

Ray continues to improve. Fly fishing has been the tool keeping him focused on recovery. It will be months before

Ray is totally "up to snuff", but right now, I could not be more thankful. My loving husband, Ray is working hard, doing four hours of homework on his days away from therapy (Tues and Thurs), ties flies, restores guns and reads. When Saturday rolls around, an angel usually calls. Ray sits on the front porch waiting for Jeff to arrive.



About dark-thirty, two smelly men get out of Jeff's vehicle. "I caught a big brookie today," Ray beams.

On behalf of Ray, his children and my children, I can't thank fly fishing enough for the confidence it has given my husband to forge ahead. And, for the angels like Jimmy Harris and Jeff Durniak, there are no words or gifts that could ever repay what they are doing for Ray. I just know sometime, somewhere, somehow, angels will be blessed a zillion times for the good they do for others.

Thank you all for being the best catches Ray could ever have in his life and the therapy which comes from fly fishing. Ray is extremely blessed to have GA Trout Unlimited fishermen as his friends, Rabun TU, and two angels, Jeff Durniak and Jimmy Harris. God bless all of you.

And, especially thank Charlie, Cathy and the Rabun Chapter for the gifts. Ray was like a little boy. He had to put on his shirt right away.....

THANK YOU

Michele & Broderick Crawford, of Crawford Art Gallery <http://www.broderickcrawfordart.com/>, Clayton GA, for the donation of discounts on prints and framing services.

Frank Tolbert, Doug Adams and Terry Rivers for the donation of several books and videos to the Chapter Lending Library.

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

"Catchin' Corner" - Troutng Tips

DH Streams - "Three Feet Longer" from Jeff "Dredger" Durniak (11/17/2010)

Big streams have hidden stocked fish better from anglers and they are still naive. Most anglers really don't get deep enough to exploit the majority of these fish, but those that do are rewarded handsomely.

As an example, the troutng trio of BigBrowns, Sautee, and Dredger hit the Toccoa DH last Saturday. [HERE](#) & [HERE](#)

Water temp was 46F at 12:30. Fishing was great in a low, crystal clear stream framed by fall leaf colors on the high mountains. While fishing was great, the catching started a bit slow. As the water warmed and leaders were lengthened, hookups happened more often, right up til dark.

Let's call their tip for success the "Three Feet Longer" rule. When they added enough 3X tippet to make their leaders

three feet longer than their nine-foot rods, they finally had enough length (depth) of thin diameter line to get down to the fish in most pools. A 12-foot leader, 1 to 3 size B split shots, and pink San Juan worms, egg flies, and prince nymphs dredged along the bottom, in a drag-free drift, were their keys to success. They adjusted their strike indicators as they changed pools to ensure the indicator was about twice the water depth at each spot [HERE](#)

The next time you're fishing big water, measure your leader and see if you're getting deep enough to entice a cold, bottom-hugging trout. Is your offering coming by the fish's nose or way above it?

Is that leader "three feet longer" than your rod?

2011 Dream Trip Raffle for a Fly Fishing Vacation for 2 People!



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 float trip on the Madison River • 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.

For details, click <http://www.georgiatu.org/index.php?mid=news&iid=dream2011&sid=>

Winner will be drawn at the Georgia Foothills Chapter's annual banquet, the "Hoot on the Hooch" in Helen, GA in March 2011. One winner will be drawn and the winner will choose a partner to accompany them on the trip.

Ticket price is \$10 and proceeds will go to the Georgia TU Council to fund Council projects such as the GA Trout Camp for youth and the Back the Brookie campaign. Contact Jimmy Whiten for your raffle tickets: E-mail jimmywhiten@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We wish **Gene Nolte** a speedy recovery following his recent surgery.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

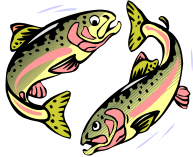
A Big Rabunite "WELCOME" to **5 new members** this month: **PARRISH LAKE**, 4624 SYLVIA LANE, ERIE CO 80516; **SETH HILL**, 722 WORLEY CREEK RD, LAKEMONT GA 30552 & **JAKE TOLLER**, 1447 GRIZZLEY RIDGE ROAD, LAKEMONT GA 30552 (all 3 Stream Explorers); **WAYNE A. PROSSER**, (transfer) 228 GRIMES NOSE, SAUTEE NACOOCHEE GA 30571-5156 & **RON SHARPE**, (transfer) 2647 STANISLAUS CIR., MACON GA 31204-2849

Thanks for re-upping: **Mike Williams, John Hoppes, Chris Whitley, Bob Blalock, Kyle Burrell, Joe Kitchens, Rad Smith, Tony Allred & Doug Mansfield**

It is time to renew your membership: **Chuck Breithaupt, James Moore, Larry Peevy, Lewis Reeves III, Gilbert Turner, Russ Burken, Claude McDill, David Smith, Ron Wilson, Brent Escoe, Jimmy Whiten, Donna Claridad, Bill Coon, David Cannon & John Hill**

Rabun TU Officers & Directors for F/Y2011

| | | |
|--|-----------------|---|
| President – Larry Walker (w/Mtg Refreshments, Media, Awards & Budget) | Ph 706 244 4345 | E-mail amosndixie@windstream.net |
| Vice President - Pat Hopton (w/Website, Social Media, NGTO & Rod raffle) | Ph 706 782 4978 | E-mail scotts_creek58@yahoo.com |
| Treasurer - Tony Allred (w/Reports & Budgets, Entrance table at R/R) | Ph 706 746 3892 | E-mail taallred@windstream.net |
| Secretary - Ray Gentry (w/Correspondence & Scouts fishing event) | Ph 404 680 6736 | E-mail regentry@windstream.net |
| Past President - Jimmy Whiten (w/Dream Trip Raffle) | Ph 706 886 6546 | E-mail jimmywhiten@yahoo.com |
| Director thru F/Y2011: Kathy Breithaupt (w/101 & Camp) | Ph 706 782 6954 | E-mail knc615@windstream.net |
| Director thru F/Y2011: Charlie Breithaupt (w/101, Camp, Library, Nametags & Mtg host) | Ph 706 782 6954 | E-mail knc615@windstream.net |
| Director thru F/Y2012: Jim Kidd (w/Instream projects & Scouts M/B) | Ph 706 782 2474 | E-mail Jkidd@windstream.net |
| Director thru F/Y2012: Terry Rivers (w/Festivals, BTB, Campout Equip & Mtg Raffles) | Ph 706 782 7419 | E-mail tr1121@windstream.net |
| Director thru F/Y2013: (To be nominated and elected at January Chapter meeting) | | |
| Director thru F/Y2013: Jeff Durniak (w/Mtg Programs & Hosting speaker) | Ph 706 892 6576 | |
| Director thru F/Y2013: Chris Whitley (w/Membership recruitment & retention) | Ph 404 455 3861 | E-mail cwhitley@curraheclub.com |
| Director thru F/Y2013: Frank Tolbert (w/Annual river clean-up, OAD & KFE) | Ph 770 363 1967 | E-mail gtolb1@jcpenny.com |
| Non-voting: | | |
| Newsletter Editor - Doug Adams (w/Newsletter, BOD Agenda & Rendezvous) | Ph 706 746 2158 | E-mail edadams1@windstream.net |
| Any member of Rabun TU may attend the BOD meetings | | |



Letter From The Chapter President

Fellow Rabunites,

November was another great month for our Chapter. We started off with our support of the annual USFS and GA DNR's helicopter fall stocking of the Chattooga North Fork backcountry between the Delayed Harvest section and Burrell's Ford. All of you who have contributed to the Tom Landreth Memorial Fund [HERE](#) had a hand in providing this support for our partners and the fishery.

Our campout at Long Bottom on the SC side of the Chattooga was great. Hats off and thanks to Frank Tolbert and Terry Rivers for setting it up and making it happen.

Our November program on the progress of the brook trout work we support was encouraging. A recently graduated student, Jay Payne, who has been a UGA intern working on the Back-The-Brookie project for four summers gave an excellent presentation.

Our next function is our annual Christmas party. June Landreth has that all set up for us at the Dillard House, and I'm sure it will be a great event. If you can join us, please contact June at landreth@windstream.net or 706-745 2295.

We have much for which to be thankful. I hope you join me in thanking our Maker for allowing us to enjoy and conserve the great natural resources in and around the area we call Rabun.

Best regards, *Larry*

For more pictures, info, and back issues of TIGHT LINES, visit the Rabun TU website: <http://rabuntu.org/site/>

Georgia TU Council website <http://georgiatu.org/>, & National TU Website: <http://www.tu.org/>

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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