

TIGHT LINES November 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/

"People tend to get the politicians and the fishing tackle they deserve." John Gierach

RABUN TU CHAPTER'S MEETING PLACE

New RE/MAX Office, Clayton, GA

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.

"They say you forget your troubles on a trout stream, but that's not quite it. What happens is that you begin to see where your troubles fit into the grand scheme of things, and suddenly, they're just not such a big deal anymore." John Gierach

"FORWARD CASTING" Important Dates - See you there!

Oct 30 (Sat) Learn About I-3 (details about the study underway) at Ezzard Farms from 3-7 PM. Bands, barbeque dinner, games for children, Tickets in advance are \$15 each with children 10 and under admitted free. Contact Lucy Bartlett at <u>hlbartlett@windstream.net</u> or Stacye Morgan at <u>stacyemorgan@windstream.net</u>.

Nov 1 (Mon) GA Delayed Harvest Season Begins: Waaah Whoooo!

Nov 3 – 7 (Wed–Sun) Fall Camping & Fishing Outing at Long Bottom and with fishing in the Chattooga DH, backcountry, and front-country. Contact person - Terry Rivers Ph 706 782 7419 E-mail <u>tlr1121@windstream.net</u>. To allow time to purchase groceries, the deadline to contact Terry is noon on Monday, 11/1.

Nov 6 (Sat) UCTUC Autumn on the River Fundraiser UCTUC HERE

Nov 6 & 7 (Sat & Sun) Gold Rush Cup Fly Fishing Challenge GRTUC HERE

Nov 16 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, RE/MAX Office **Program**: UGA graduate and Back-the Brookie intern Jay Payne presents: *"Evaluation of artificial stream structures for wild brook trout in North Georgia."*

Nov 23 (Tues) BOD Meeting, 6:30 PM, RE/MAX Office

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 <u>landreth@windstream.net</u>

2011 Rabun Rendezvous - Saturday, Jan 22, 2011 Program Presenter – Rabunite Kyle Burrell, Trout Fishing Guide in GA & WY FLY OF THE MONTH by Terry Rivers



BLUE QUILL

DURING THE FALL FISHING SEASON, THE FLIES CAN BE SEEN LIKE LITTLE SAIL BOATS ON THE SURFACE WITH THE FISH JUST SIPPING. HAVE SOME VARIOUS SIZES EVEN UP TO SIZE 22. SEE YA ON THE RIVER

HOOK: 14/18 TAIL: BLUE DUN HACKLE FIBERS BODY: STRIPPED BLUE DUN HACKLE QUILLS WINGS: MALLARD THORAX: PALMERED BLUE DUN HACKLE FIBERS

l am a Fisherman!

It is not something merely that I do, it is who I am! Fishing is not simply my escape; it is where I belong, where I am supposed to be. It is not a place to go, but a lifelong journey I am taking. It was the passage that was shown to me, and that I will continue to show to others. When you understand all of this, you will then know me, and we will fish together. Author Unknown

Nave webs at Units in a						
November Hatches						
<u>The Bugs</u> None at all	Time of MonthTime of DayCan happen any time on any day		<u>Suggested Flies</u> Dredging Nymphs: 12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, PT			
#16 or #18 Parachute Adams is 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 (Important)	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 TU Chapter has an Award Winning website http://rabuntu.org/site/ !						
TROUT	'Website	Page-of-the-Month	': http://rabuntu.org/site/gallery/chapter-campouts/			
BEST WEBSITE AWARD			on the pictures to enlarge them.			
rabuntu.org	Please send	comments & suggestions	to Pat Honton, Website Project Manager scotts, creek58@yaboo.com			
Please send comments & suggestions to Pat Hopton, Website Project Manager, <u>scotts_creek58@yahoo.com</u> Site Design by <u>Allison O. Adams, Editorial and Multimedia Services</u>						
2010		Sile Design by Anis	on O. Adams, Editorial and Multimedia Services			
Now is the time to make an application for the 2011 Georgia Trout Camp						
Think - your kids, grandkids, nieces and nephews, neighbor's kids, or any kid that is excited about the outdoors and fishing.						
Georgia						
(
Trout Camp						
(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.						
Deadline to apply: January 10, 2011						
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 Kitchins Lane; Clayton, GA 30525 <u>knc615@windstream.net</u> (706) 782-6954						
2011 Dream Trip Raffle for a Fly Fishing Vacation for 2 People!						

Ser -

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

3 Letters Rabun TU sent to the Forest Service in October

To: Michael B. Crane - Andrew Pickens District Ranger, SC Subject: Outfitting and Guiding Special Use Permit Scoping Letter

As President of the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited representing our 160 memberships, I'm offering the following comments for your consideration.

As you know, the Rabun TU Chapter and many of our members letter dated September 10, 2010. have been active stakeholder participants in the visitor use capacity analysis for the management of recreation uses for the your scoping letter. Our Board of Directors meets only once a Chattooga North Fork. The following comments are made with the protection and preservation of the Chattooga North Fork backcountry's biophysical resources and Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV) of solitude and remoteness for the present and future generations as our principal concern.

- > We are very pleased that no commercial outfitter/quide activities are being proposed inside the Ellicott Rock Wilderness.
- > We are disappointed that you are considering these commercial outfitter/guide activities before a final decision for the future management of recreation uses has been released.
- > We have no issues with the proposed guided fishing trips involving up to two clients and one guide per trip as proposed by 3 outfitters. Our experiences with these have not been a problem.
- > We believe the group size for North Carolina Outward Bound, Wildwater Ltd., Cherokee Creek Boys School, and The Baylor School should be maximum of 12 per group on trails, including guides, and 6 at campsites including guides, except at group campsites. This would be consistent with the alternatives in the Forest Service's draft EA for the management of recreation uses for the Chattooga North Fork.
- > We believe no group larger than 2 clients and a guide should be allowed to park at the Thrift Lake trailhead. The parking area is small (3 or 4 vehicles maximum) and the camping areas near the Lick Log Creek falls are overused.
- > Our members have expressed to me that their major concern is the lack of enforcement of the maximum group sizes for noncommercial (clubs, schools, scouts, church, etc) visitors in both the Wilderness and the backcountry.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views and comments. Sincerely.

From: Larry Walker - President of the Rabun Chapter of TU

To: Michael B. Crane - Andrew Pickens District Ranger, SC

Subject: Simms Field and Fishermen's Trail Reconstruction > All plowed dozer lines should be waterbarred and seeded Scoping Letter

As President of the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited representing our 160 memberships, I'm offering the following comments for your consideration.

Many of our members are very familiar with these 2 trails and use them regularly to access portions of the backcountry.

Both trails are old roadbeds (logging roads, homesteader wagon road, etc). Some of our older members recall driving on the old road to the Simms Field prior to the closure to motorized vehicles in 1975. For several years prior to the construction of the designated trails, these were the only backcountry trails in the Chattooga North Fork backcountry.

Both trails called "user-created hiking trails" are shown on USGS topographic maps. The Simms Field trail is shown on the existing map sold by the Forest Service titled "Trail Guide -Andrew Pickens Ranger District - Sumter National Forest".

These roadbed trails are serving a need and help to disperse backcountry visitors, decreasing encounters.

Once or twice each year the Chapter has a 5-day campout at the USFS Cherry Hill Recreation Area and Chattooga North Fork backcountry fishing as our principal activity. Usually 20 to 25 members participate in this outing. These 2 trails are used to help disperse our group for fishing in backcountry solitude.

We agree they both need some relocation and ⊳ reconstruction.

 \triangleright We recommend that both trails be assigned Forest Service trail numbers.

We fully support the proposal as described in the scoping \triangleright

We are sending these comments within 30 days of receiving month to discuss issues such as this. That is the reason our comments are being sent to you after October 1st.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views and comments. Sincerely,

From: Larry Walker - President of the Rabun Chapter of TU



To: Chattooga River Ranger District

Proposed Action (Prescribed burning of 14,410 acres of National Forest)

The Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited is in receipt of your letter of July 12, 2010. This letter addresses proposed prescribed burns on the Chattahoochee National Forest during the year 2010. In general, the Rabun Chapter supports the appropriate and careful use of prescribed fire on the National Forest. These burns should meet specific needs and address management issues. These burns should not be just to burn for the sake of burning. Each area should be carefully analyzed and issues such as impacts to water quality and wildlife considered. Also, impacts to young forest growth should be considered. Please consider the following specific concerns:

- > Stand replacement burns should not be done in sensitive areas such as the headwaters of brook trout habitat.
- the day they are plowed. They should not be allowed to sit for days or weeks before this is done. These lines will erode if this is not done immediately.
- > No dozer line should be plowed into a stream. Stay 50 feet from the stream and complete the line with hand crews.
- > Any burn taking place within a sensitive watershed (Chattooga River) should be done in the early or late spring. This will allow immediate growth of herbaceous plants and provide guick mitigation to impacts from runoff from bare and burned soil, especially if hot spots occur on steep slopes. If the burns occur in the fall or winter they will be exposed to rain and runoff for months, allowing sediment and burn ashes and debris the opportunity to enter the watershed.

If these suggestions are followed and the burns are carefully implemented to generate moderate to low intensity surface fires, the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited supports the project. These large scale burns will take careful management of helicopter operations and distribution of fire into the forest, otherwise extreme fire behavior can occur on steep south slopes and damage the soils and young timber in the area. Sincerely,

From: Larry Walker - President, Rabun Chapter of TU

Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2010

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES October 2010 Newsletter

As always I enjoy hearing from the Rabunites. I hear better when it is in print. Looking forward to seeing all of you soon and certainly at the Rendezvous.

Sent: Friday, October 01, 2010 Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES October 2010 Newsletter Gotta have my Rabun fix each Month. Thanks, and congrats on the fistful of awards! Regards,

From: Rocketroy (aka Roy Lowe) - Clarkesville, GA

From: Griz (aka Garland Stewart) - Canton, GA

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

Letters to the Rabunites

Report from the 2010 TU Annual Meeting,

Report excerpts from Bryan K. Moore - VP for Volunteer Operations/Watershed Programs/Communications

The 2010 TU Annual Meeting, held in Waterville Valley, NH, is now history, and I'm pleased to announce that the meeting was one of our most successful. We broke past attendance records and well-attended sessions resulted in a number of new changes and directions for TU.

An important outcome from the meeting was the approval of new Model Chapter Bylaws by the NLC and the Board of Trustees. While the new bylaws contain some basic requirements to align chapters with the new national bylaws, many areas allow flexibility for chapters to make adjustments for their own specific operating practices. The plan is for all chapters to adopt the new bylaws over the next 12 months.

As always, one of the best events at the Annual Meeting is the volunteer awards luncheon, where outstanding councils, chapters and individuals are honored for their ongoing conservation efforts.

Editor's notes: Below are a few of those awards,

Best Website Award: Rabun Chapter



Editor's notes: The website of was designed and built by Rabun TU Member **Allison Adams** in partnership and **Patrick Hopton**, Rabun TU's vice president for the website and social media. They traveled to Waterville Valley, NH, to accept the award.

From the Awards Luncheon Program:

"In 2010, the Rabun Chapter decided that its website needed to be rebuilt. The Chapter collaborated with <u>Allison O. Adams</u>, <u>Editorial and Multimedia Services</u> and <u>www.rabuntu.org</u> was born. The aim was to create a site that powerfully showcases the chapter's hands-on, pragmatic, and collaborative approach to its mission to conserve, protect, and restore Northeast Georgia's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

The website is a content-rich site that emphasizes two major aspects of the chapter's activities: conservation and education. Using an extensive collection of photographs, a substantive and compelling story is told about the chapter's mission and program of activities. The site also emphasizes the Chapter's success in influencing public processes related to policy and management of public owned and protected natural resources.

Chapter members frequently access the calendar of chapter activities to find timely, relevant, and always accurate information. The site also has an easily accessible leadership contacts page and a full archive of one of the Chapter's greatest assets, its very popular newsletter, *Tight Lines*. Significantly, the most visited page on the site after the home page and newsletter is the Chapter Camp-Out photo gallery – showcasing the great level of commitment and camaraderie within this grassroots organization.

One of the most useful and entertaining pages on <u>www.rabuntu.org</u> is the "Rabunite 101" page, intended to attract new anglers in northeast Georgia – and, thus, to the Rabun TU Chapter. The site also captures the Chapter's creative collaborations with other local conservation groups and management agencies, including the Chattooga Coalition, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, U.S. Forest Service, and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, among many others. These partnerships have resulted in numerous habitat improvements in local streams, as well as programs such as the Chapter's annual Family Cookout/Mentoring of Scouts Fishing on the Lake."

Editor's notes: Waaaah Whooooo !!!

State Council Award: Georgia Council



Bryan Moore, Charlie Breithaupt, Mack Martin, Larry Vigil Editor's notes: Three Rabunites were Council Officers, Charlie Breithaupt (Chairman), Kathy Breithaupt (Secretary) and Ray Gentry (Treasurer).

Recognizing that the southeast's growing population and ever encroaching development are creating a severe threat to coldwater resources, the Georgia Council has spent the last few years setting a strategic, well-built course for its home waters. Through the longtime leadership of **Charlie and Kathy Breithaupt**, the Georgia Council has raised the visibility and credibility of TU within the state. The Council has partnered with groups such as the Georgia Water Coalition, the state Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Forest Service to accomplish specific objectives like the acquisition of a 469-acre tract containing over two miles of Amicalola Creek and operating one of TU's finest youth trout camps.

It's the old "golden rule," he who has the gold... rules. And Georgia rules. The council has worked hard in the last few years to creatively raise funds for its conservation efforts through innovative outlets such as the Dream Fly Fishing Trip Raffle -- raising \$59,000 through ticket sales alone. One of the goals of Editor's notes: Dave has presented programs at Rabun any successful council should include providing support to strengthen existing chapters, re-invigorating inactive chapters and creating new chapters to serve areas of the state not currently served by a chapter. The council added another chapter this past year, and some of the proceeds from the raffle went towards seed money to help the new Savannah River Chapter get on its feet.

The Georgia Back the Brookie Program is an excellent example of organizing and executing a successful volunteer program -- with more than 6,000 volunteer hours logged. The Georgia Back the Brookie program has received over \$72,440 in grants, as well as \$34,140 from Georgia TU chapters. Working with landowners, schools, agencies and lawmakers, this all volunteer council is working hard to make the peach state a haven for trout and anglers alike.

Distinguished Service Award: David Van Lear



It's the combination of long-term dedication and success that make us give the Distinguished Service Award to David Van Lear. For 37 years, he has been dedicated to TU and its mission. A charter member of the Chattooga chapter, he has done it allchaired committees, acted as a TU representative to the state council and has worked with federal and state partners to achieve results. He has also served as a board member and a chapter president. A professor of Forestry at Clemson University, David's knowledge has been invaluable to the chapter and its work. Whether working on stream habitat or a youth conservation program, David has personally been responsible for restoring several South Carolina streams and ensuring that a major South Carolina trout river corridor has its own special protection plan.

As his nomination reads, "as much as any member since Chattooga River Chapter member Ray Mortenson, Dave is deserving of being recognized by TU with the Distinguished Service Award."

We couldn't say it better.

Chapter Meetings and was faculty advisor for Rabunite Kyle Burrell when he did his master's thesis on the movement of wild brown trout in the Chattooga North Fork.

Conservation Professional Award: Steve Moore

Reading through Stephen Edward Moore's credentials leaves one wondering if he has left any professional stone unturned.

A Supervisory Fisheries Biologist in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, he has been heavily involved with all aspects of native brook restoration. He has worked with numerous groups on fisheries projects throughout the country, served on over a dozen master's and doctoral students' graduate committees, has published many articles on fisheries management and water quality and has supervised more than 250 students and seasonal fisheries technicians during field services at the national park. He has written a field manual for restoring native fish and has, since 1992, worked with the Little River Chapter of TU to support the Great Smoky Mountains National Park fisheries program. A true partner of TU and a steward of our natural resources, we are happy to give Stephen Edward Moore the one distinction he has not had until now: the Conservation Professional Award. Thank you, Stephen Edward Moore, for all that you have done to partner with TU.

Editor's notes: Steve presented the program at the 17th Annual Rabun Rendezvous in 2004.

Conservation Professional Award: Doug Besler

Doug Besler began his career with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (Commission) in 1996 as an Assistant Fisheries Biologist. Today he serves as the Regional Fisheries Supervisor with responsibility for all the fishery resources, including the trout resources, in western North Carolina.

Doug has consistently demonstrated his dedication to sciencebased fisheries research and management, professional service and collaborative conservation. His leadership, vision and commitment to managing and conserving trout resources in North Carolina are unparalleled. Among many other things for which we have Doug to thank, is his recognition of the importance of protecting native brook trout genetics, specifically the Southern Appalachian strain brook trout. He was responsible for spearheading the identification and genetic typing of all known brook trout populations in North Carolina. This information will be critical for revising the Commission's Trout Management Plan.

As fisheries management challenges increase into the 21st century, forward-thinking and comprehensive approaches like Doug's will be recognized as the most effective means to meet those challenges. Doug is respected by many of the TU members in North Carolina because of his participation at NCTU council meetings and his willingness to speak at chapter meetings.

Editor's notes: Doug is a member of the Chattooga Coalition.

Status Update – Chattooga North Fork Recreation Management Plan http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/sumter/resources/Chattooga.php

(Oct. 13, 2010) Greenville SC - The decision whether to allow temporarily immediate and unlimited boating on the Chattooga North Fork is now in the hands of a judge who must consider arguments based on thousands of pages of documents and on the competing interests of conservationists, boaters, private property owners and the USFS. U.S. District Judge Michelle Childs heard arguments in a case brought by boaters who want immediate unrestricted access to the last 21 miles of the Chattooga and those who believe in protecting and preserving for future generations the aesthetic values of natural resources such as remoteness, wildness and solitude for foot-travel only visitors (no mountain bikes, no ATVs, no horses and no boats).

(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.

Rabun Bald

More HERE and HERE

Rabun Bald (4,696 feet) is the second-highest peak in Georgia; only Brasstown Bald (4,784 feet) is higher. An observation tower on the summit provides hikers with what many people believe is the most spectacular view from any one point in the Georgia mountains. Into the Georgia and South Carolina Piedmont, views on clear days extend for more than 100 miles. In other directions, the views of the Blue Ridge, Nantahala, Cowee, and Great Smoky mountains are outstanding.

According to <u>Native American</u> legend, Rabun Bald is inhabited by fire-breathing demon people: some campers still report hearing strange sounds throughout the night.

Rabun Bald was the site of the first <u>fire tower</u> in the area, which was constructed by <u>Ranger "Nick" Nicholson</u>, the first USFS <u>forest ranger</u> in Rabun County. The fire tower was



operated by the United States Forest Service until the early 1970s. After the fire tower was taken out of service, a <u>Youth Conservation Corps</u> (YCC) crew dismantled the tower's uppermost component, a metalframed enclosure with glass windows that sat atop a stone base. Leaving

the stone base intact, the YCC crew replaced the metal "cabin" with the railed wooden observation platform which hikers enjoy today.

Rabun Bald's main ridgeline, which is indicated by the Bartram Trail on maps, is the Eastern Continental Divide, dividing waters draining northward into the Tennessee/Mississippi Gulf system from those draining southward to the Atlantic Ocean. Most of Rabun Bald's streams are located on the mountain's southeast flank and drain via Warwoman Creek to the Chattooga River, then to the Savannah River, and finally to the Atlantic.

The Rabun Bald area rates among Georgia's leading botanical sites; spring wildflowers are exceptional. Near the summit is a zone of dwarf oak heath (mainly scarlet oak and purple rhododendron). Look for the striking red berries of mountain ash. In some places there is a thick ground cover of blueberries.

Together with the Chattooga River to the southeast and the Cowee Mountains to the north, the region is a prime habitat for deer, black bear, wild boar, and, reportedly, even mountain lion.

Directions: Take US 441 north from Clayton for 1 mile past Dillard; turn right onto GA 246 toward Highlands, NC; continue on GA 246 and NC 106 for 7 miles; turn right onto Hale Ridge Road (FS 7), which is beside the Scaly Post Office; go 2.1 miles and take the right fork (FS 7 goes left); go 1.3 miles and take a left fork on a steep dirt road toward Beegum Gap after 1.6 miles, park and walk 2 miles to Rabun Bald. There is an observation platform on the summit. Note the northern hardwood cove, boulderfield, and wildflower area.

Rabun Chapter of TU Organization Chart for F/Y2011

Rev: September 26, 2010

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

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

Organizational Functions:

Meeting Programs - Jeff Durniak Meeting host (greet visitors) - Charlie Breithaupt Board of Directors meeting agendas - Doug Adams Meeting refreshments - Larry Walker Meeting arrangements - Larry Walker Membership recruitment - Chris Whitley Membership retention - Chris Whitley

Funding/Financial:

Rabun Rendezvous Fundraiser: Organizing - Doug Adams & Larry Walker Auction & Raffle - Doug Adams Entrance Table (registration, raffle tickets, etc.) - Tony Allred Awards & recognitions - Larry Walker Raffle, Custom Fly Rod - Pat Hopton Raffle, Dream Trip (for GA TU Council) - Jimmy Whitten Raffle, Monthly Meeting) - Terry Rivers Landreth Memorial Fund - Doug Adams Grants - (coordinated on a Project basis) Financial Management - Treasurer Budget preparation – Treasurer & President Annual reporting to TU National & Ga. Council - Treasurer Federal & State Tax Return - Treasurer

Conservation Projects:

Stekoa Creek clean up (inactive) - Doug Adams Chattooga Coalition - Doug Adams Chattooga fishing diaries for GA WRD - Doug Adams Back the Brookie water sampling - Terry Rivers Stream improvement projects w/USFS & Ga.DNR - Jim Kidd Annual River Clean-up Day - Frank Tolbert

Youth Outreach:

GA Trout Camp - Charlie & Kathy Breithaupt Mentoring Scouts for merit badges - Jim Kidd Rabun Co Middle School Mentoring – Larry Walker Scouts picnic & Indian Lake fishing event - Ray Gentry Procuring & repairing reels for youth - Ray Gentry Recruiting youth for "Stream Explorer" - **TBD** Kids fishing events, OAD w/Ga.DNR & USFS - Frank Tolbert

Public Outreach & Education:

Position advocacy correspondence - Ray Gentry Chapter website, Social Media, NGTO, etc.- Pat Hopton Newsletter - Doug Adams Newsletter supplements and other E-mails - Doug Adams Publicity and Media correspondence - Larry Walker Civic Clubs Liaison - Larry Walker "Thank You" letters to donors, etc. - Ray Gentry Fly fishing 101 - Charlie/Kathy Breithaupt Chapter Lending Library - Charlie Breithaupt Chapter Scrapbook - **TBD** Mentoring adults (fly tying & rod building) - Terry Rivers Foxfire Mountaineer Festival - Terry Rivers Celebrate Clayton Festival - Terry Rivers Bass Pro Shops Trout Days – Terry Rivers

Social Functions

Campouts, Equipment - Terry Rivers Campouts, Groceries (Oct 2010) – Charlie & Kathy Breithaupt Campouts, Groceries (Nov 2010) - Frank Tolbert Christmas Dinner, 2010 - June Landreth Campouts Groceries (Spring 2011) – Steve Perry May Cookout Groceries - **TBD** July Picnic - Bill Kelly

"Catchin' Corner" - November Trouting Tips

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

To everything, there is a season.

Fall is the season for striking scenery, cool, comfortable weather and, best of all, big trout.

Dry-fly fishing can be hit-or-miss in the fall. When there are flies on the water, trout may very well rise and provide you with some memorable late-season action. Nymphing works as well in the fall as it does the rest of the year.

But two categories of flies are at their best after Labor Day: streamers and egg patterns



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

The reason, of course, is that fall is when most species of trout and salmon spawn. Brown trout, brook trout and Atlantic and Pacific salmon all ascend rivers to create the next generation of fish. The spawning act is fairly simple. The female digs a small nest, or "redd," in fine gravel on the streambed. Her mate sidles up next to her, and as she deposits her eggs, the male extrudes the milt which will fertilize them. Exactly when this happens varies from river to river and species to species. But even if the pregnant hens aren't doing the wild thing yet, the other trout in the stream seem to know by instinct that tasty, nutritious eggs are likely to spill from nests and drift downstream. That's why flies like Glo-Bugs, Sucker Spawn, Y2Ks and Egg-Sucking Leeches are so effective this time of year. Fish them on a natural, dead drift through any spot that looks like it might hold a trout. Deeper is better, and since egg patterns usually aren't weighted, you may need to add some split shot to pull your egg to the bottom.

Of course, the eggs won't hatch until spring, so the streamers that work so well in the fall aren't meant to suggest the offspring of the spawning fish. But the streams are full of minnows and young-of-the-year trout that love to raid spawning trout's nests, and grown-up trout in spawning mode will attack them with extreme prejudice. And even in streams where no spawning happens to be occurring, trout love streamers in the fall -- in all likelihood because they can sense that the long, lean winter is only weeks away and they'll need to fatten up to survive.

A wide range of patterns and colors will work well - everything from black Woolly Buggers to red and yellow Mickey Finn bucktails. Unlike the dead drift you're after with Glo-Bugs, your streamers need to swim. You can try and impart the curious, hungry movements of minnows foraging for roe, or you can make your streamers dart through the water as though they're terrified by their vulnerability. You should do both (unless one retrieve is working so well you have no reason to try anything else.) Again, deeper is better. Try a sinking line or detachable sinking tip with a very short leader - two or three feet of sturdy fluorocarbon is not too short - and work your streamer through every likely lie. Bunny Leeches, Muddlers, Zonkers, Deceivers and Clousers will all take fish this time of year, and have the potential to take big ones.

If you can, try to avoid wading through spots where the streambed is mainly gravel. Remember, if all goes well, those eggs will be nice trout in two seasons. Try to resist the temptation to catch trout that are actively engaged in the spawning process, but if it can't be helped, try to land them quickly and release them with as little fuss as possible. There are few things in the world as precious as wild trout, and this is where they come from.



Coldwater therapy is good for what ails you! Ray Gentry with Dr. Dredger on the Nantahala DH. Ray is recovering from the stroke he suffered less than a month before.



A Nantahala DH brown trout caught by Larry Walker on one of Tom Landreth's flies. Thanks Tom!

"BACKCASTING"

Oct 1 (Fri) Mentoring - Middle School at Rabun County Park Pond - Prez Larry Walker reported about 25 kids participated.



PASSING IT ON!

It is her first fish . . . EVER! Waaah Whooo!

Oct 2 (Sat) Foxfire Mountaineer Festival – 8 to 10 Volunteers spent part of their day at the Rabun TU booth greeting visitors and promoting TU., There were over 25 Chapter members in attendance at the festival, some making music, some manning other booths and others just enjoying the activities.



Oct 6 – 10 (Wed-Sun) Camping & Fishing Outing – 14 Rabunites Participated. Several years ago a planned Rabunite campout at Appletree Campground was cancelled because the FBI was headquartered there conducting its search for Eric Rudolph.. Well, Eric is in jail and the FBI has moved, on so an even dozen Rabunites gathered in Appletree Campground for five days of camping in a beautiful spot with even more beautiful weather. We had it all...cool nights, warm days, blue sky, a fire, good food and good fishing. Even the catching was good. This was a time to hear stories, both old and new, and to share fishing lore. Around a campfire strong bonds and memories are made. A cameo appearance by Ray Gentry, chapter secretary who is recovering from a recent stroke, along with his "guide for the day" Jeff "Dredger" Durniak highlighted the camp. Ray had landed both a rainbow and a brown on the DH section of the Nantahala and was looking and feeling good. There's another campout coming up soon. Don't miss it. Check the website and newsletter for details. Report prepared by Charlie Breithaupt.





Oct 19 (Tues) Chapter Meeting – 27 attended. **Jake Darling**, trout fishing guide with Unicoi Outfitters, presented an excellent program demonstrating (with flip charts and fly rods) several techniques about how to rig, what to use, when and where to use each rig for successful nymph fishing in the various water conditions found in the Chattooga DH section. He provided many useful tips, some of which were new for even the most experienced anglers. The **Meeting Raffle** had 9 buckets with a fly assortment, a wrench set, an automatic fly reel, wine and much more. The raffle raised \$104 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.



Oct 26 (Tues) BOD Meeting - 9 members participated. Some agenda items included: <u>Recaps</u> – Middle School mentoring; Foxfire Mountaineer Festival; Camping & Fishing at Appletree CG; F/Y2010 Financial, Volunteer Hours & CEI Reports. <u>Status Updates</u> – Website in past month; Facebook; Chapter Lending Library; LWCF; Chapter Logo; 2011 Rabun Rendezvous Donations; 2011 River Clean-up Day 6/18. <u>Upcoming</u> – 10/30 Learn About I-3; 11/3–11/7 Fall Camping & Fishing Outing; 11/6 UCTUC Autumn on the River Fundraiser; 11/6 & 7 Gold Rush Cup Fly Fishing Challenge GRTUC Fundraiser; 11/16 Chapter Meeting Program; 11/23 BOD Meeting; 12/4 GA TU Council Meeting; Annual planning meeting; 12/14 Annual Family Christmas Dinner. <u>New Business</u> – Youth Outreach discussion; Reassignment of BOD & Member duties for F/Y2011; EarthShare Program; Revision of the Chapter By-Laws per National TU; Nominate a new Chapter Treasurer; Location for 2011 fly tying; Program for 25TH Annual Rendezvous (2012); Date for 2011 fly fishing seminar. <u>Reports</u> – Publicity; Membership – 164 (up 4 this month); Treasury Report - \$2,123 in checking + \$1,800 receivable = \$3,923; Plus \$7,647 in CDs; Plus \$5,356 in Tom's Fund; Plus \$4,812 in Assets Inventory; Rabun TU Total Worth = \$21,738 on 10/25/2010

What's New Elsewhere?

Back the Brookie - September 2009 Update

This past year was a very successful one for GA TU and our stakeholder partners – GA WRD and USFS. Read all about the progress made this year: September 2009 Update



Study of Interstate-3 Has Started: The Federal Highway Administration has signed a contract for studying the "Steps and estimated funding necessary to designate and construct a route for the 3rd Infantry Division Highway," currently referred to as I-3. The interstate is proposed to run from Savannah to Augusta, GA; then to Knoxville, TN cutting through the mountains of North GA, Western NC, and Eastern TN. The I-3 study is both specifically authorized and funded for \$1.32 million by SAFETEA- LU, the transportation funding act passed in 2005. For more, click <u>HERE</u> **Editor's Notes:** *See the Rabun TU's Position, click <u>HERE</u>*

Consolidated Land, Energy, and Aquatic Resources Act of 2010 (7/30/2010) - The CLEAR Act was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives. The bill now goes on to be voted on in the Senate. The bill would repeal the current, harmful stormwater exemption for oil and gas development from regulation under the Clean Water Act and would repeal illconceived categorical exclusions from the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) used to issue permits to the oil and gas industry. To read more, click <u>HERE</u>

CLEAR Act included Full Funding for LWCF (Land and Water <u>Conservation Fund</u>). The CLEAR Act will dedicate \$900 million each year to LWCF. The fund, viewed by hunters and anglers as an essential tool for conserving intact fish and wildlife habitat and increasing recreational access to public lands, has long been undercut by a lack of funds. This year, for only the third time in its 46 year history, it may receive its full \$900 million authorization. In fact, that authorization may be made permanent. The bill now goes on to be voted on in the Senate.



Widening of US 441: An Update "The project is moving forward to be built," stated Steve Walker of the GDOT referring to plans to widen U.S. 441 from Clayton, GA to the North Carolina line. GDOT project manager Ms. Hiral Patel, stated that the project planning and engineering was finished in 2002, <u>GDOT must mitigate some trout stream problems</u> and has not yet submitted an environmental study to assess materials needed. The plans include an 8 foot raised median through Dillard but everywhere else plans include a 20 foot median with turn lanes at selected places. The GDOT feels that the median is essential for safety reasons.

To read more, click http://www.wayssouth.org/newsletters/index.php

Georgia Water Coalition (GWC) 2010 Election Platform: The GWC recently adopted the following proposed commitments for our next governor: 1. Regulate the transfer of water from one river basin to another and require strict limits on new interbasin transfers. 2. Ensure all Georgians have access to clean, reliable drinking water by specified measures. 3. Forbid rollbacks to environmental regulations that protect our water, air, forests, and land. 4. Make impartial appointments to the Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee and the Board of Natural Resources. 5. Allocate fees that are collected to fund conservation and environmental programs only for those purposes. For more, click <u>HERE</u>

Rabun TU Lending Library News



The following items were donated by Doug Adams to the lending library at the October Chapter Meeting:

Book - Outdoors Encyclopedia by Vin T. Sparano (1972) 621 pages

Book - International Fishing Guide by A. J. McClane (1971) 256 pages (Note: Good sections on trout in Argentina & Chile)

Audio Book - How to Fish a Creek by Patrick F. McManus, 70 minutes on tape

Audio Book - Mountain Goats Never Say Cheese by Patrick F. McManus, 70 minutes on tape

Audio Book – As Far As You Can Go Without a Passport by Tom Bodett, 2 cassette tapes

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

Summary of F/Y2010 Rabun TU Chapter Annual Financial & Volunteer Hours Report

(This annual report is required to maintain the Chapter's tax-exempt status)

Total Revenue (Cash inflow) - \$24,281 Total Expenses (Program services - \$17,418; Fundraising - \$8,132) - \$25,550 Total Assets (Cash, Receivables, CDs, Inventory) - \$23,742 Total Liabilities - \$0

Estimated Volunteer Hours: Conservation (restoration, connection, protection, and advocacy projects) – 264 hours Youth Education – 820 hours General Education – 349 hours Travel – 363 hours Fundraising – 640 hours General Operations (newsletter, website, membership, programs, reports) – 669 hours Total Estimated Volunteer Hours – 3105 hours

The Chapter Effectiveness Index (CEI) is 97 of a possible 100.

THANK YOU

John Mann representing the Greg Moran Estate (former GA TU Council Chairman), Atlanta GA, for the donation of 5 framed limited edition prints signed by the artists that will be offered on silent auction at the 24th annual Rabun Rendezvous (1/22/2011). Roger Davis, Decatur GA, for the donation of a fly rod that will be offered on silent auction at the next Rabun Rendezvous. Mack Martin, Manager of the Atlanta Fly Fishing School in Cumming GA, for donation of items for fundraising. Doug Adams, Rabun Gap GA, for donation of items for the Rabun TU Lending Library. Jimmy Whiten, Toccoa GA, for a cash donation.

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

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We are pleased to see Ray Gentry back trout fishing again and visiting the Appletree Campout after his recent stroke.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Big Rabunite "WELCOME" to **3 new members** this month: **SAMUEL D'ANGELO**, PO BOX 496, TIGER GA 30576; **CARL FACKLER**, 323 STANDING DEER LANE, TIGER GA 30576; & CLIFF JORDAN, PO BOX 44, MOUNTAIN CITY GA 30562.

Thanks for re-upping: Dan Cox, Tom Guest, Jim Blalock, Eugene Keener, Jim Nixon & Rachael Davis.

It is time to renew your membership: Tony Allred, Russ Burken, Doug Mansfield, Claude McDill, David Smith, Ron Wilson, Brent Escoe, Jimmy Whiten, Donna Claridad, Bill Coon, Kyle Burrell, David Cannon, John Hill, Cecil Beehler, Sam Bennett & Cecil Greene.

At the October Board of Directors meeting, Tony Allred was nominated to replace Doug Adams as Treasurer. (Doug has been Treasurer for 6 years and the bylaws require rotation).

At the November Chapter Meeting, nominations will be accepted from the floor and then the new Treasurer will be elected.

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 - Doug Adams (w/Newsletter, BOD Agenda, Rendezvous, Reports & Budgets)	Ph 706 746 2158	E-mail edadams1@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 Jikidd@windstream.net
Director thru F/Y2012: Terry Rivers (w/Festivals, BTB, Campout Equip & Mtg Raffles)	Ph 706 782 7419	E-mail tlr1121@windstream.net
Director thru F/Y2013: Tony Allred (w/Entrance table at R/R)	Ph 706 746 3892	E-mail taallred@windstream.net
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@curraheeclub.com
Director thru F/Y2013: Frank Tolbert (w/Annual river clean-up, OAD & KFE)	Ph 770 363 1967	E-mail gtolb1@jcpenney.com



Letter From The Chapter President

Fellow Rabunites,

Wow, what a month! We had a great campout and fishing adventure in N.C., an excellent program by Jake Darling and a good crowd at the meeting, a good outreach at the Foxfire Mountaineer Festival, a good youth outreach fishing event for Rabun County Middle Schoolers, and several new members joining up.

November looks like it will bring more good times and good things. We'll kick it off with our support (\$\$ from the Tom Landreth Memorial Fund) of the backcountry helicopter stocking of the Chattooga Delayed Harvest and upriver areas. Then, we'll camp at Long Bottom and try to catch some of 'em. We'll have another fishing event for the Middle Schoolers, and another good program is on tap for the November meeting, also.

I hope you are able to participate in some or all of our events. As always, if you want to step up and join in some of the events or take on some of the leadership responsibilities and are a little unsure how to jump in, please give me a call. I'll be happy to help you find the events and activities that fit your skills and desires.

May you have a Zip A Dee Do Dah month.

Best regards, Larry

For more pictures, info, and back issues of TIGHT LINES, visit the Rabun TU website: <u>http://rabuntu.org/site/</u> Georgia TU Council website <u>http://georgiatu.org/</u>, & National TU Website: <u>http://www.tu.org/</u> 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: <u>edadams1@windstream.net</u> 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 <u>edadams1@windstream.net</u> RABUN CHAPTER of TROUT UNLIMITED PO BOX 371 CLAYTON. GA 30525