



TIGHT LINES

March 2007 Newsletter of the
Rabun Chapter (522) of Trout Unlimited

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

"The true fisherman approaches the first day of fishing season with all the sense of wonder and awe of a child approaching Christmas." Robert Traver

CHAPTER'S MEETING PLACE

Community Bank & Trust, On US 441 next to Ingles, Clayton, GA

We meet in the Community Room (Outside Entrance on South Side)

3rd Tuesday of the Month 6:30 pm – Social & Yarn Spinning 7:00 pm – Program & Meeting
(You don't have to believe the yarns - - if you don't want to)

At every regular chapter meeting there will be a raffle for fishing or camping items to help pay the cost of mailing the newsletter to members without E-mail.

Bring an item to donate and a dollar or two for raffle tickets - you might win something.

"Only an extraordinary person would purposely risk being outsmarted by a creature often less than twelve inches long, over and over again." Janna Bialek

"FORWARD CASTING" Important Dates - See you there!

Mar 6 (Tues) Fly Tying, 7 pm, with Terry Rivers in his shop at his home near Persimmon; Call or email for directions (706) 782 7419 tlr1121@alltel.net

Mar 13 (Tues) Fly Tying, 7 pm, with Terry Rivers in his shop near Persimmon.

Mar 17 (Sat) GA TU Council Meeting 9 AM at Vanna Bar-B-Que in Vanna, GA.

Mar 17 (Sat) Mentoring Boy Scouts camped on Tallulah R w/Doug Hickman.

Mar 20 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust
Program: – Dave Jensen: *Combining Tallulah & Chattooga Ranger Districts*.

Mar 24 (Sat) Hoot on the Hooch, 6:30 pm. Foothills TU Chapter event in the banquet hall at the Helendorf Inn (in Helen, of course). Bluegrass, Bar-B-Que and more! The dream trip raffle drawings will take place.

Mar 27 (Tues) Board of Directors meeting, 7 pm, followed by **Fly Tying** in Terry Rivers' shop.

Mar 31 (Sat) Opening Day for Seasonal Trout Streams in GA

Apr 13 & 14 (Fri & Sat) Workday with Campout on a "Back-the-Brookie" stream Ramey Creek with USFS and GA WRD.

Apr 17 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust
Program: – Jimmy Harris: *The New Toccoa River DH Section*

Apr 21 (Sat) Workday: Smith Creek with GA WRD.

Apr 24 (Tues) Board of Directors Meeting, 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust

REMEMBER – 2007 GEORGIA TROUT CAMP! June 10 through 15th!

We need you to mentor our campers – put it on your calendar!

FLY OF THE MONTH

by Terry Rivers



FLASH BACK PHEASANT TAIL NYMPH

DROP THIS FLY 3 TO 4 FEET BEHIND A DRY FLY DURING MARCH THRU MAY AND YOUR CHANCES OF CATCHING A DOUBLE WILL GREATLY INCREASE.
IT WORKED FOR ME LAST YEAR.

HOOK: 12 TO 18 NYMPH HOOK
TAIL: 3 TO 4 PHEASANT TAIL FIBERS
BODY: 4 TO 5 PHEASANT TAIL FIBERS
TWISTED AND PALMERED 1/2 LENGTH OF HOOK SHANK THEN TIE DOWN WITH COPPER WIRE (SMALL TO MEDIUM). YOU CAN WEIGHT THE HOOK WITH LEAD IF PREFERRED.
THORAX: PEACOCK HERL
WING: PHEASANT TAIL FIBERS
WING CASE: FLASH TINSEL OR ANY MATERIAL YOU PREFER SO LONG AS IT HAS SOME FLASH.

"It is not a good idea, either, to attach material such as Krystal Flash or Flashabou, then trim all strands at one spot. This gives most of the reflectiveness at one location-where the strands were severed. Instead, clip off the strands at different lengths along the entire body-that way you'll see little sparkles of light throughout the pattern."

From Advanced Fly Fishing Techniques by Lefty Kreh

March Hatches

The Bugs	Time of Month	Time of Day	Suggested Flies
None at all	All Month	All Day	Dredging Nymphs: 12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, PT
Early Black Stone	All Month	L am to M pm	16-18 Black Elk-hair Caddis or Griffith's Gnat 16-18 Black Stone Nymph
Small Dun Caddis (Important)	All Month	L am to M pm	16-18 Brown Elk-hair or Deer-hair Caddis 16-18 Grey Caddis Pupa
Blue Winged Olive & Blue Quill	All Month	L am to M pm	16-18 BWO, Blue Quill or Adams Parachute 16-18 BWO or Pheasant Tail Nymph
Quill Gordon (Important)	All Month	L am to M pm	12-14 Quill Gordon 12 Quill Gordon Nymph
Cream Caddis (Important)	Late	M day to L pm	12-14 Elk Hair Caddis 12-14 Dark Cream Caddis Pupa
Red Quill (Hendrickson)	Mid to Late	M day to L pm	14-16 Red Quill or Hendrickson 14-16 Pheasant Tail Nymph
March Brown (very Important)	Mid to Late	L am to M pm	12-14 March Brown or Adams Parachute 10-14 March Brown, Dark Hare's Ear, or Pheasant Tail Nymph
Midges	All Month	M am to L pm	18-20 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa

'Website-of-the-Month': <http://www.cumberlandtu.org/>

Tennessee's **Cumberland Chapter** received the National TU best website award for 2006.

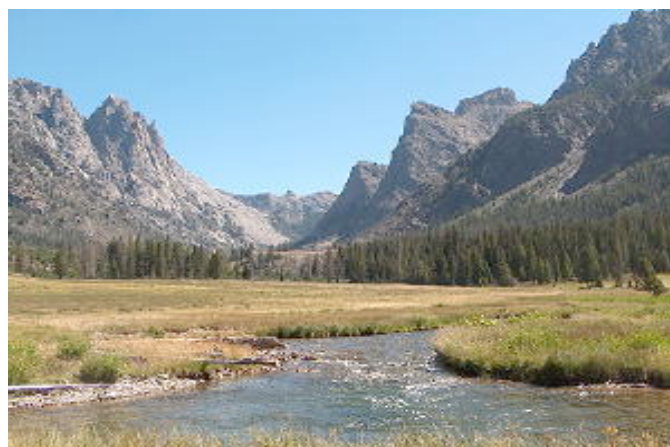
Check out "News Reel" >"Archives" <http://www.cumberlandtu.org/newsreel/archives.php>

Dream Trip Raffle For A Fly Fishing Vacation!

The winner and their partner will each receive:

- 5 days fishing and 6 nights lodging and meals at the Green River Guest Ranch in Cora, WY
<http://www.grquestranch.com/>
Dates July 21-27, 2007
- 9 ft 5 wt Winston Boron II X custom made fly rod
 - An Orvis Battenkill barstock reel with line
 - A fly box and flies for the trip.
(Approx. 5-7 dozen per box)
- \$650 in travel expenses (this is total, not per person)

For complete rules and details visit www.georgiatu.org



There are 6 consolation prizes for lucky ticket holders including a 4 night stay in an Idaho log cabin with 3 days of guided Yellowstone area fishing, 2 Georgia trophy trout outings, a custom made Thomas & Thomas 9' 5 weight 4 piece fly rod, and 2 sets of 6 dozen flies & boxes.

All 7 winning tickets will be drawn March 24th at the "Hoot on the Hooch" TU event in the banquet hall at the Helendorf Inn (in Helen, of course). You do not have to be present to win.

Ticket price is \$10 and proceeds will go to the Georgia Council of Trout Unlimited to help fund the annual Georgia Trout Camp and the Back the Brookie campaign which helps brook trout restoration and educational projects.

Contact Prez Terry Rivers for your raffle tickets: Ph 706 782 7419 E-mail tlr1121@alltel.net

"The man who coined the phrase "Money can't buy happiness", never bought himself a good fly rod!"

Reg Baird, from his video "Labrador Trout"

March 31st (Sat) Opening Day for Seasonal Trout Streams in GA *Waaaah Whoooooo!*

Who needs a fishing license? All resident anglers between the ages of 16 and 64 must have a current Georgia fishing and trout license to fish in designated trout waters and to fish for or to possess trout. Resident Senior (65+) Lifetime and Honorary license holders are not required to have a trout license. All nonresident anglers, 16 years and older, regardless of physical condition, must possess a current nonresident fishing and trout license to fish for or possess trout or to fish in designated trout waters.

How long are licenses valid? All recreational hunting and fishing licenses will be good for one full year (12 months) from the day that they are purchased rather than expiring on March 31 of each year.


Click for a map of trout streams in  [Rabun County](#)

Rabun's Seasonal Streams: Bad Branch watershed (flows into Lake Seed); Bad Creek watershed (flows into Tugaloo Lake); Bridge Creek watershed; Crow Creek watershed (flows into Lake Seed); Dickenson Branch (flows into Lake Burton); Dicks Creek watershed (flows into Lake Burton); Falls Branch watershed (flows into Lake Rabun); Flat Creek watershed; Joe Creek watershed (flows into Lake Rabun); LaCounts Creek watershed (flows into Lake Seed); Moccasin Creek watershed, except Moccasin Creek downstream from the Burton Hatchery water intake to the sign marking the approximate normal pool level of Lake Burton; Popcorn Creek watershed; Seals Creek watershed (flows into Lake Seed); Slick Shoal Creek (flows into Lake Seed); Timpson Creek watershed; Wildcat Creek watershed; Worse Creek watershed (flows into Tugaloo Lake); all other streams or parts of streams not listed below as Year-round. Note: Tallulah River downstream from Lake Burton dam and tributaries to Burton, Seed, Rabun, Tallulah Falls, Tugaloo, and Yonah lakes not listed as Year-round are not trout streams and may be fished year-round and without a trout license.

Rabun's Year-round Streams: Chattooga River upstream from the mouth of Warwoman Creek; Little Tennessee River downstream from US Highway 23-441 bridge; Moccasin Creek downstream from the Burton Hatchery water intake to the sign marking the approximate normal pool level of Lake Burton; Overflow Creek watershed; Stekoa Creek watershed; Tallulah River downstream to Lake Burton; Warwoman Creek; West Fork Chattooga River.

The following GA trout streams have special regulations. Click on the stream name to learn more before fishing:

Artificial Lures Only: [Chattahoochee River](#), [Coleman River](#), [Conasauga River](#), [Hoods Creek](#), [Jones Creek](#), [Mountaintown Creek](#), [Noontootla Creek](#), [Stanley Creek](#), [Walnut Creek](#)

Delayed Harvest Streams:  A [Delayed Harvest Program information sheet](#) has been developed to help explain the program and offer some tips for enjoying the DH streams.

For Other Special Regulation Streams, visit <http://georgiawildlife.dnr.state.ga.us/content/displaycontent.asp?txtDocument=7&txtPage=12>

Stekoa Creek Update Embrace-A-Stream (EAS) Grant Awarded

Full Amount as Requested for First Year (2/19/2007)

Back in December, the Rabun TU Chapter and the Chattooga Conservancy submitted a proposal to National TU for an EAS grant of \$3,000 per year for 2-years to pay the certified laboratory fees for the Stekoa Creek Water Monitoring project. The lab will be testing 8 water samples per week for fecal coliform and turbidity. The EAS committee considered the 53 projects submitted asking for over \$375,000 and awarded \$210,000 in grants. With the Stekoa Project grant approval came the following suggestion *"that you get the project up and running, get it as well-publicized as you can, document results as soon as you can, and take those demonstrated results back to the EAS committee next year, requesting the remaining funding."*



STEKOA CREEK AS IT ENTERS THE W&S CHATTOOGA RIVER

Executive Summary - Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project

Stekoa Creek is classified as primary trout water, and should be capable of supporting trout reproduction. Stekoa Creek is also infamous as a major, very polluted tributary to the National Wild & Scenic Chattooga River. Persistent lack of corrective actions by state and local authorities to address excessive fecal coliform and sediment levels has been responsible for the continued deterioration of the stream for over 30 years. Thus, Stekoa Creek is currently listed as an impaired waterway by state and federal agencies for not supporting its designated uses as a primary trout stream and recreational resource.

Overall Goal: The overall goal is to restore the water quality of Stekoa Creek to its designated uses as a primary trout stream and recreation resource, and to restore the National Wild & Scenic Chattooga River downstream of the Stekoa Creek confluence to the water quality standards that have been set for swimming and associated water contact sports.

National Conservation Agenda and Strategic Plan issues addressed by this project include water quality and healthy populations of native and wild fish.

The **Strengthening TU goal** is to increase TU presence in the local community, build recognition for collaborative efforts that improve water quality and restore a wild trout fishery, and engage more members in chapter activities. To accomplish this goal, members of the Rabun Chapter will assist with water sampling efforts and undertake community publicity about TU and the project.

Proposed Action Plan: Rabun Chapter will partner with the Chattooga Conservancy in the Conservancy's ongoing water testing program for identifying pollution sources in Stekoa Creek. This partnership will boost the program by allowing for an intensified sampling schedule of testing once a week at 8 sites along Stekoa and its suspect tributaries. The intensified sampling will speed discovery of fecal coliform sources and catalyze community and civic government activity to clean up the creek.

Visitor Use Capacity Analysis, Upper Chattooga River

Since the early 1980s, the Forest Service and other natural resource management agencies have developed a variety of planning models to evaluate visitor use and potential impacts on the environment. Conflicts between use and protection are a continuing management challenge, and these models provide a framework for collecting and evaluating information on multiple recreation uses and impacts. All of these models have common elements that include:

- ▶ Defining the recreation opportunities for an area,
- ▶ Selecting indicators and standards to quantitatively describe appropriate conditions for each experience,
- ▶ Choosing the best management actions to meet the selected standards, and
- ▶ Involving the public and stakeholders throughout the process.

For more information, visit <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/forest/projects/steps.shtml>

POINT> and <COUNTERPOINT The Fifth of a Series:

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the Chattooga Headwaters

Editor's note: A boater posted a link on the Sumter National Forest Bulletin Board to "Frequently Asked Questions." To read all 17 boater questions and answers, visit http://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Wiki/aw:chattooga_faq. We believe readers also should have the "counterpoint" answers provided by the "foot travel only" stakeholders. Here are the next 2.

Is it true that the upper Chattooga is the only river in the entire Forest Service system that is banned to boating?

Boater's point: Yes.

Counterpoint: Not true. The Forest Service filed a brief in the AW lawsuit dated 7/7/06 that stated, "Three sections of the Upper Rogue WSR, totaling about 21 miles, are closed to private whitewater boating and the entire length of the river is closed to commercial whitewater boating. Although administered by the National Park Service, whitewater boating is also prohibited in rivers present in Yellowstone National Park."

Zoning to ensure that different types of users are physically separated was implemented on the Wild and Scenic North Umpqua River, in Oregon's Umpqua Nation Forest. The river has seasonal restrictions to prevent boating on certain stretches of river from the end of June until the first of November because of high potential for conflicts between anglers and boaters. The Umpqua NF posted on their website, "A 5-mile section upstream of Bogus Creek Campground is closed to boating between July 15 and October 31 to minimize conflicts with anglers. Also, between July 1 and the end of October, boating is restricted before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m. to lessen conflicts with anglers." Visit, <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/umpqua/recreation/watersports/rafting.shtml>

A portion of the Wild and Scenic North Umpqua River is managed by the BLM. The following excerpt is quoted from "The News-Review" of Douglas County, OR, "With a dripping mountain snowpack in the spring, the North Umpqua River becomes swollen with jade-green, rushing water. Kayakers flock to it from April to June to ride its rapids and fast-moving current and navigate boulders and columnar basalt chutes. The North Umpqua is also a Mecca for fly fishermen. A 31-mile stretch becomes closed during the summer to all other water activity except fly-fishing." Visit, <http://www.newsreview.info/article/20060519/DISCOVER22/105180146/-1/DISCOVER>

Can "unlimited use" be expected to have ecological impacts on the Chattooga?

Boater's point: No. Unlimited use by noncommercial paddlers is occurring on almost every floatable river in the entire USFS system – and on every river in the region. Paddling is a very low impact activity, and the small amount of use the upper Chattooga is expected to receive will have negligible impacts. There are no other similar headwater streams in the region with any limits on use by non-commercial boating because use numbers are low enough to have negligible impacts. There is no reason to expect the Chattooga will be any different.

Counterpoint: Yes. The combination boater publicity about Chattooga's North Fork (upstream of the Highway 28 Bridge) and a wet summer as we had in 2003 and 2005, "unlimited use" access would mean unprecedented numbers of boaters. The ecological effects on wildlife displacement as a result of increases in human activities are well documented. An excerpt from an authoritative guide to managing the ecological impacts of recreational activities (*Wildland Recreation: Ecology and Management* by Hammitt & Cole) states "These studies show that human disturbance result in changes in wildlife physiology, behavior, reproduction, population levels, and species composition, and diversity." To read more of this text, visit <http://books.google.com/books?id=6u4ESjX9daMC&pg=PA68&lpg=PA68&dq=%22knight+and+gutzwiller+1995%22&source=web&ots=Hd8oz9iQtQ&sig=e7HWguD6Za8wjfhTeKhaZFm7lxM>

A few conscientious whitewater boaters may have little physical impact on the environment. A limited numbers of conscientious boaters that avoid low-water boating, have the knowledge to avoid trampling sensitive areas, and curtail wildlife disturbances may cause minimum impact to the Chattooga North Fork's ecosystem. However, for decades a few insensitive but otherwise skilled boaters have made a practice of removing the large woody debris (LWD) that hinders their passage in headwater streams, such as the Chattooga's West Fork headwaters. LWD has incredible ecological importance in river systems. The Forest Service streams are managed in a manner that emphasizes and recruits LWD. The desired condition is approximately 200 pieces of LWD per stream mile (Sumter Forest Plan, page 3-41). Visit <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/forest/projects/plan.pdf> (page 86 of 208).

"Unlimited use" incorporates all boaters and that includes the less-skilled low-water boaters (a.k.a. Bubba boaters). Historically when less-skilled boaters have attempted to float the North Fork's Rock Gorge section, it resulted in serious degradation to the physical environment of the backcountry, including littering, impact to spray-zone flora, and search & rescue ingress/egress.

"Unlimited use" will create social conflicts with the walk-in backcountry visitors through invasion of solitude issues and through direct interference with anglers. The source of the conflict is goal interference, therefore zoning is proper management. Zoning can ensure that different types of users are physically separated. For more on recreation conflict management, visit:

<http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/sustain/draft/socio6/socio6-09.htm>

For more info about the importance of LWD, visit http://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Wiki/stewardship:woody_debris

For years the boaters have been telling the Forest Service the only time the Chattooga's North Fork is boatable is during high water periods over 2.0 feet on the gauge "when angling is less desirable and when wading is dangerous." This is simply not true and the January flow trials proved it. Anglers regularly fish there at gauge readings up to 2.5 feet and higher, - - and without getting hurt. From 2003 through 2005, the level was over 2.0 feet an average of 159 days/year.

What's New in the Chattooga Zoning Issue?

Feb 8 (Thurs) Boaters Withdraw Their Lawsuit: On May 18th last year, several boating organizations and 3 individuals signed-on as the plaintiffs for the filing of a lawsuit against the Forest Service (FS) in federal court in Gainesville, GA. The lawsuit sought immediate and "unlimited use" (any number of boats, anytime, any water level) for rafting, canoeing, and kayaking of the Chattooga's North Fork. The boaters said, "The user capacity analysis falters with delays, communication breakdowns, and inherently flawed study designs." When the federal court threw out the boaters' lawsuit (on Oct 6th) the plaintiffs stated they "will promptly appeal this decision." Then on Dec 21st, the plaintiffs entered negotiations to resolve differences with the FS assisted by a court appointed mediator. As the Feb 14th deadline approached for filing their brief with the 11th Circuit Court, the plaintiffs decided to withdraw their appeal and instead to "- opt for collaboration over lawsuit." To read the Smoky Mountain News article on the lawsuit withdrawal, visit: http://www.smokymountainnews.com/issues/02_07/02_14_07/out_whitewater_suit.html

The "foot travel only" stakeholders have always seen the boaters' lawsuit as a waste of FS resources and taxpayer funds, an attempt to pressure the FS and to bias the ongoing Visitor Use Capacity Analysis. This decision to withdraw the lawsuit, however late in the process, paves the way for the Forest Service to concentrate its efforts, without court distraction, on the ongoing Visitor Use Capacity Analysis and establishing Limits of Acceptable Change to protect the outstandingly remarkable values (ORV) of the Chattooga's North Fork. The congressional declaration of policy for the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act states the ORV "shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations." That is why it is so important that appropriate Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) be established now for this foot travel only zone.

The Forest Service is presently in step 4 of a 9-step process to establish the LAC standards.

The public is still very much involved:

In Step 6: Collect input from stakeholders and identify zones for acceptable recreation uses.

In Step 7: Stakeholders provide input and recommendations on preferred options and management actions to meet standards.

By the fall of 2007, the Forest Service will have chosen the best management actions (which may or may not include boating) to meet the selected standards. To read more about the process, visit <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/forest/projects/steps.shtml>

Obviously, however this issue is resolved it will be precedent setting with far reaching consequences into the future and across all federal agencies that manage and zone recreational waters. You need to share your views NOW.

Have you experienced user conflict or interference from whitewater boating on a mountain trout stream? Is it worse now than it was 20 years ago? What's it going to be like in another 20 years? Do we need more stream sections zoned like the North Fork of the Upper Chattooga, for "foot travel only"? If you have an opinion, please take a few minutes and tell the Forest Service.

SEND YOUR COMMENTS TO: PROJECT COORDINATOR – JOHN CLEEVES, E-MAIL jcleeves@fs.fed.us

USDA FOREST SERVICE, 4931 BROAD RIVER ROAD, COLUMBIA, SC 29212

FOR MORE INFO ON THE VISITOR USE CAPACITY ANALYSIS, VISIT: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/forest/projects/chatbackground.shtml>

"I held the tiny nymph on my fingertip, a mere speck that I duplicated with a clumsy fake. As I cast it into the fast-moving current, I too became a speck, held by the expanse of beauty that surrounded me, engulfed by a sense of peace as enormous as the nymph had been small. Amongst the mighty scheme of things, I felt I had a place"

Chiyo Sagara, "Thoughts While Fishing" in *The Flyfisher*, Winter 1981

What's New Elsewhere?

USFS - Budget Again Calls for Sales of National Forests Lands (2/5/07) WASHINGTON – The proposed budget released today by the Bush administration for the U.S. Forest Service would require the agency sell land holdings in order to pay for many basic conservation and recreation programs. The proposal includes selling 4523 acres in Georgia's National Forests. The agency also came under fire for wanting to make double digit cuts in funding for recreation and wildlife programs while also pushing to increase subsidies for commercial timber sales. Specifically, the draft budget includes language that would require the Forest Service to raise \$800 million through land sales and use half of the proceeds for payments to states and half for land acquisition and other programs such as "conservation education, access to public lands, habitat improvement and to cover the administrative costs of disposal." A similar proposal last year met with strong bipartisan opposition from state and federal lawmakers as well as

hunting, fishing, and other recreation and conservation groups. To view the official list of potentially eligible lands for sale by the Forest Service, visit www.fs.fed.us/land/staff/spd.html

USFS – GA, New Deputy Forest Supervisor (1/17/2007) Gainesville: The Chattahoochee and Oconee National Forests have a new Deputy Forest Supervisor. Paul Bradley accepted the post and began work in early January in the U.S. Forest Service's Gainesville office. The Deputy Forest Supervisor is the second in command of the two National Forests in Georgia. Bradley comes to Georgia from the Appalachian Ranger District in northwestern North Carolina where he served as a District Ranger since 1990. He also worked as a Natural Resource Specialist for the Department of Interior and the Bureau of Land Management in Washington, DC, Alabama and Colorado. In his spare time, he loves to fly fish. To read the complete news release, visit <http://www.fs.fed.us/conf/press/20070117-newdeputy.htm>

WRD-GA Conservation Partners in Action (10/25/2006)

Volunteer groups (such as TU, NGTO, & GWFF) have helped with some recent stream habitat restoration and enhancement projects in north Georgia. Volunteers also help us with special projects such as annual Delayed Harvest Stream stockings. We wanted to take this opportunity to recognize the hard work and contributions by these individuals and groups. For photographs and to read more, visit

<http://georgiawildlife.dnr.state.ga.us/content/displaycontent.asp?txtDocument=455>

USFS & DNR – SC: Jeanne Riley and Dan Rankin awarded the Wildlife Conservation Award by SCWF (1/20/07)

Jeanne Riley, Fisheries Biologist with the Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests, and Dan Rankin, Fisheries Biologist with the S.C. Department of Natural Resources, were awarded the Wildlife Conservation Award by the South Carolina Wildlife Federation (SCWF) at its 42nd Annual Conservation Awards Banquet. Riley and Rankin were among the 11 individuals and organizations recognized by the SCWF for their major part in conserving South Carolina's natural habitats for future generations. Riley and Rankin led a team effort to restore the state's only native trout, the Eastern brook trout, to selected streams in the mountains of the state. Their efforts are part of the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture, a multi-partner effort with the goal of halting the decline of brook trout in the Eastern United States and to restore the species to much of its original habitat. In the Eastern U.S., wild stream brook trout populations have either disappeared or been greatly reduced in nearly half of the sub-watersheds they originally occupied at the turn of the 20th century. To read more, visit

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/forest/news/2006/jeanneriley.shtml>

USFS – GA, New Ranger District Office in Rabun County:

After months of speculation about where the new U.S. Forest Service office will be located, a tract of land south of Clayton along Highway 441 has been identified as the site to house the new Forest Service complex. The new office complex will be located on a 9-acre parcel along Highway 441 across from the Rabun County Recycling Center near the town of Tallulah Falls. The new Forest Service office complex will be built in phases over the next five years and will include a new District Office, a work center, and a helibase. Tallulah Ranger District, headquartered in Clayton, will be combined with the Chattooga Ranger District, headquartered in Clarkesville. When the new office is completed, 16 additional employees will be moving into the complex from the Clarkesville office. The new combined district will be named the Chattooga River Ranger District. To read the complete news release, visit

<http://www.fs.fed.us/conf/press/20060703-tallulah-office.htm>

WRD – GA, The Go Fish Georgia Initiative: Governor Sonny Perdue has proposed \$19 million in his 2007-2008 budgets for The Go Fish Georgia Initiative. The purpose of the Initiative is to promote and enhance boating and fishing tourism and to boost economic development in communities across the state. This initiative will result in a quality fisheries resource statewide, including family friendly fishing and recreation access points that will increase fishing participation in Georgia.

To read more, visit

<http://georgiawildlife.dnr.state.ga.us/content/displaycontent.asp?txtDocument=532>

NPAA and RBFF Announce Anglers' Legacy Partnership

Alexandria Va. (2/1/2007) – The Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation (RBFF) and the National Professional Anglers Association (NPAA) today are announcing a new partnership to promote the Anglers' Legacy program. The partnership, which was formed at the 2007 NPAA Annual Meeting in Dubuque, IA in January, outlines NPAA's commitment to adopt Anglers' Legacy messaging and promote the program throughout their various efforts. Anglers' Legacy was launched in July 2006 and targets the country's estimated 7.5 million most avid anglers. The program asks avid anglers to share their passion for fishing and help grow the sport by "Taking the Pledge" at AnglersLegacy.org and promising to take one new person fishing each year. For more info and to take the pledge, visit

<http://www.anglerslegacy.org/default.aspx?id=755>

WRD - GA, Stream Survey Team: The team was established in 1997 and tasked with providing input to the [Total Maximum Daily Load](#) process by assessing the biotic integrity of streams using fish as indicators. In 2004 we began work in the Blue Ridge Mountain region of northeast Georgia and that work continued in 2005. Wadeable streams throughout the state are sampled primarily using backpack electrofishers, although a tow barge electrofisher is sometimes utilized in larger streams. With these electrofisher units, we apply a low wattage electrical current to the water, which temporarily stuns fish. Stunned fish are then netted and held in aerated live buckets until identified, sorted by species, counted, and released. We also have the capability of expanding our work to include larger streams and rivers by using a boat-mounted electrofisher as this program expands. The primary technique we are using to determine the quality of fish communities is called the [Index of Biotic Integrity](#). This index utilizes the numbers and types of fish species present in a stream to produce a stream score or rating for comparison across streams within a particular ecoregion or to the same stream over time. Additionally, traditional physical and/or chemical parameters such as habitat availability and water quality are sampled in order to help explain why IBI scores are similar or differ among streams. To read more info, visit

<http://georgiawildlife.dnr.state.ga.us/content/displaycontent.asp?txtDocument=335>



Letters to the Editor

Sent: January 27, 2007 by US Postal

The family of Howard Lee Rivers acknowledges with deep appreciation your kind expression of sympathy.

Dear members, Thanks for the donation to my father's church. You are my family away from home; I have found a great friendship in you all.

From: Terry (Rivers) – Clayton, GA

Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Subject: Rendezvous

Further, it should be said that the next Rendezvous speaker will be following a very tough act. Durniak's program was hilarious and will be hard to beat.

From: Mitch Logan – Lawrenceville, GA

Sent: Monday, January 29, 2007

Subject: Rendezvous

It was a privilege to join all the folks who attended the event. In all my years with TU, it was one of the best, if not the best gatherings of great people and spirit that I have witnessed. I look forward to reporting back to the board of TU that "This is how it's done!"

Thanks again and look forward to seeing you over some trout water this season,

From: Weldon Baird – Atlanta, GA

Editor's notes: *Weldon is a member of National TU's Board of Trustees.*

Sent: Monday, January 29, 2007

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES February 2007 Newsletter

Thanks for the newsletter... made me want to run out and get on the river! Regards,

From: Robin Sargent – Atlanta, GA

Editor's notes: *Good! Then run right out and GO FISH!*

Sent: Monday, January 29, 2007

Subject: Feb Tight Lines

I always enjoy receiving the Rabun Chapter's "Tight Lines" from you, and find it both entertaining and very informative. In my opinion, you do a great job in balancing its content between the fun part of trout fishing and the tougher issues we all face today.

When I saw C. C. Barrett's redfish in the latest issue, I just had to send you a couple that may not need any stretching. Good Fishing and Thanks,

From: David Sarratt, member of Saluda River TU – Columbia, SC



Editor's notes: *David, those are good'uns all right. Don't believe I need to stretch them.*

Sent: Monday, January 29, 2007

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES February 2007 Newsletter

I was looking over Don Kinser's report and noticed something I overlooked the last time I nosed through it. On page nine of his report, he said, "They (the boaters) also saw David Cannon, one of the angler panelists. David was just leaving the river as they approached."

There has been some confusion about this, so I wanted to clear it up. After landing seven fish in the last half-hour before the boaters came through the area I was working, I stopped casting and drifting while they passed by. We exchanged hellos and after they had all passed, I began fishing again. After about five or ten minutes of working new seams and not even getting a strike, and upon noticing that one of the boaters was parked behind a rock filming me, I pulled out of the river to rest the hole.

As the boaters pulled away and floated downstream, I decided to follow them for a bit and snap a few pictures. I followed them down to the area where you ford the river when coming from the SC parking lot, took the pictures of them drifting away, then hoofed it back to the spot I was

Sent: Monday, January 29, 2007

Subject: RE: TIGHT LINES February 2007 Newsletter

Wow...what a newsletter!! Never seen such a robust, interesting TU newsletter before.

From: Dan Rankin, Fisheries Biologist, SC DNR – Clemson, SC

Editor's Notes: *Dan is leading the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture in SC.*

Sent: Monday, January 29, 2007

Subject: RE: TIGHT LINES February 2007 Newsletter

What an excellent newsletter. Thanks for sharing. Good fishing!

From: Buzz Bryson – Raleigh, NC

Editor's notes: *Buzz is a fisheries biologist and a contributing editor of "Fly Rod & Reel" magazine.*

Sent: Saturday, February 03, 2007

Subject: RE: Council 2007 Budget

Back-the-Brookie appreciates this (Rabun TU Financial) support very much. Please pass along our thanks to the Rabunites. I hope THE RIVER treats them kindly! Tight lines,

From: Kevin F. McGrath, Chairman of Back-the-Brookie for GA TU – Atlanta, GA

originally working.

I worked that area for another, I don't know, twenty minutes or so to no avail. The fish had been spooked by the boats and weren't coming back up anytime soon.

I made my way to the parking lot as it was nearing 2:45. We were due back at the FS office at 3:00.

Since that time, I've been accused of making all of this up by some of the boaters. Why in the world would I make this up?

Anyhow, how it all really happened, for what it's worth.

From: David Cannon – Madison, GA

Editor's notes: *I know the time is correct because I was in the parking lot waiting for David. He was riding with me. There was a link to Don Kinser's report in the February issue of TIGHT LINES.*

Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Subject: Cougar encounter on THE RIVER

You don't have to believe this if ... Oh, never mind.

I do think that you may be the only person who has genuine proof of a cougar's existence at the Cougar Pool. In fact, you used to have a prize paperweight with cougar shunga encased inside acrylic. You could take that evidence to the forester or conservation officer and start out with the famous line by J. Nixon that began with,

I believe, "Honest officer we weren't intending to get this cougar we were really just jack-lighting deer and ..." Naw, that's a different story.

Clearly though, this critter described below is not of the same family as the namesake of the Cougar Pool. As you will recall, the color was described then, years ago, as ... yes it was ... beige! Not black. The beige ones are the natives of "The River". Or, perhaps the cougar's genetic structure was somehow changed years ago when the Allegheny Botanical Institute attempted to save and preserve the bio-diversity of the area. Possible?

How am I doing Kelly?

WAAAah WHOohhh! damn, never could do that right.

From: Don "Broken Knee" Atkinson – Sylvania, OH

Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Subject: Cougar on the Upper Chattooga Story

Great story, I hope to get a similar story started about a large cat vs. man chase on the Little T, Nantahala, and Deep Creek....since I plan on fishing the "story area" this spring, I will try to enhance the tale...but, then again, I am sure you ole Rabun boys will help out.

Did I tell you about the huge black rattlesnake that was out of hibernation, lying sunning on the old rock wall that runs the length of the Oconaluftee River above the horse camp....and then we saw another lying on a rock in the Middle of Raven's Fork...danger, danger...

I try to advise as many folks as possible about the dangers of snakes, big cats, killer bees and wild hogs all thru this area of No. Ga., WNC, and Eastern Tenn.

From: John Duncan – Franklin, NC

Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Subject: Cougar on THE RIVER

You know what Bill Kelly says...." You don't.....if you don't want to!"

I think it's a great idea....a publicity stunt to keep people off the river. Why didn't we think of that before?

From: Russ Tyre – St Petersburg Beach, FL

Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Subject: The Cougar Story

Guess we all will be carrying a bigger light and taking an occasional look behind during the long walk back to the car after dark.

If you have a comment or an opinion to share with the readers of TIGHT LINES, please submit it in 250 words or less to edadams1@alltel.net

Early to bed, early to rise; fish all day, make up lies.

Fishing Reports and Some Good Tips

Sent: Thursday, February 01, 2007

Subject: Hello from Culebra

Hey everybody,

So I'm sitting here drinking a cup of coffee and watching The Weather Channel. I'm wearing flip-flops and shorts and a hat. It's 78 degrees. The Weather Channel cuts to a reporter in Rabun County, GA. He's standing across the street from the Chick-fil-A and showing the viewers the inch of snow on the ground. Looks cold there. Excuse me while I pause for a moment and put on some sunscreen....

OK, I'm back, where was I? Oh yeah, something about it being cold in the US. I really don't care :-)

The daytime high here is about 83, nighttime low about 70. Same every day. I've been here a week and every day the weather is the same. Just imagine a rare cloud passing by, and a 15 mph constant wind (just like Wyoming) and you'll get the picture. Pretty much perfect.

I would not be surprised to hear about some character hiding along the trail after dark with a loud squalling varmint call and scaring some unsuspecting flatlander out of his waders. Actually, this might help relieve some of the crowded conditions.....then again, the guy might be packing iron.

From: Tom (Shirley) – Clayton, GA

Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2007

Subject: Wild Cat Story

Don't discount that federal forester. I live on a high ridge next to USFS - about 15 minutes from the Chattooga.

Last fall I heard a REALLY LOUD cat scream one evening. My beagle jumped & all four legs were off the floor!!! (YIPES! Me, too.) Nothing screams like a cat. I didn't get to see that animal, but the sound that traveled through the walls told me -- it was large; it was wild; and it was probably on the pounce!

I don't know what Terry Fletcher saw, but I sure wish I could've seen what I heard!!!!

From: Donna Claridad – Clayton, GA

Editor's Notes: Wild Animals on the Forests: Our national forests are a refuge for wild animals, including dangerous animals such as bears, alligators and venomous snakes. Wild animals can be upset by human presence and can unexpectedly become aggressive. Do not give them a reason or an opportunity to attack. Always keep your distance. Your safety is your responsibility. (Reprinted from the Sumter NF website, visit <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/>)

The Anderson, SC newspaper recently ran this Chattooga cougar story. Visit <http://www.independentmail.com/news/2007/feb/25/big-cats-sighted-dnr-still-wants-proof/>

Now just where the heck did I put that shunga?



Was it a melanistic "black jaguar" or a "black panther"?

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Panther

Another recent article about cougars in Georgia:

<http://www.pickensprogress.com:80/archive/easterncougars.html>

Have seen over 100 bonefish in the last week, but boy are they hard to catch. Between the coral grabbing your fly, the wind, the spookiness of the fish, etc, etc these are definitely the hardest fish I know of to catch. Jimmy Buffet was here last week bonefishing with a local guide. I didn't get to meet him but I heard that he caught some nice fish.

Haven't seen any tarpon as of yet. Guess they come and go. That's about it. Pretty quite around here. Not much to do but fish and work on your suntan. Ya'll enjoy the North American

winter weather. I'll send another report when I can find the time. I'm using Bonnie's laptop, and the Internet works about half the time. The USB ports don't work on this computer either (too much salt air we think), so I can't download photos. If I happen across a way to make that work, I'll send pics.

Positive waves to everyone back home,

From: Kyle Burrell – Somewhere in Culebra

Editor's notes: *Is that south of Tallulah Falls?*

Smithgall (Dukes Creek) trout report 1/28/06 by The Dredger, who told me:

"I learn something from each and every angler I encounter. Sunday was no exception. Thanks to a poor weather report, many outa-town anglers had cancelled their reservations and allowed some of us to "walk on." I had tied a new fly to try, thanks to Rabunite Prez Terry's advice in his Fly of Month column (<http://www.rabuntu.com/Rabun%20TU%20-%20TIGHT%20LINES%202006-10.doc>). I used a tiny dull brown craft bead for the recipe's bright one, on a #18 hook.

I also got a great tip on a pattern from NGTO's "Deepwader", who I met in the parking lot and exchanged flies with. He's a great angler himself, and told me at the end of the day that he had landed a 24 incher! (But if I told you what he told me, it wouldn't be a secret fly any more, would it?).

Terry's fly worked well, helping me to hook about 9 fish and land 5, including the 18 incher early and 21 incher late (see picture). In the middle of the day, Deepwader's suggested fly helped me hook the bottom... At least I thought it was the bottom until it moved slow, then fast, and up and out! It was a heartbreaker, a 22-inch (est) headshaking, and tailwalking, brute rainbow that broke me off after a 5-minute battle and a false sense of pending victory as I reached for the net. At least the 21 incher came later and was a heck of a consolation prize, given that awesome red stripe!

Hints: deep and slow and 6X and small (16, 18, 20) and keep casting to the sweet spot at the head of each pool where you think they're sitting on the bottom. If you're quiet, persistent, and drag-free (practice on Smith DH fish!!!), you'll finally bump one in the nose, he'll sip your tiny fly, and then you'll pray your 6X holds when he bolts for the submerged log.

If I bat .500, I've had a good day. Three brutes beat me, but 3 good'uns (16, 18, 21) and a couple of smaller rainbows made it all the way to the net.

PS- that used 7 ft rod I picked up for \$25 at the NGTO Fall Fling's swap table works well! I guess fish don't read labels or price tags."

As thin-blooded anglers await the perfect weather day, the crazy fleece folks have some great chances for "grip and grin" shots of their own. Go Fish Georgia? You might wanna put that slogan to practice during the next warming trend, or even in the snow!!!

From: "Jeff Durniak" <Jeff_Durniak@dnr.state.ga.us>
Good luck. www.gofishgeorgia.com



Fly Rod Fishing on Lake Lanier

Sent: Monday, February 12, 2007

Subject: I forgot to tell you guys about this one...

I don't know how, but I completely forgot that I even caught this fish in Lanier in December. Silly me.

From: David Cannon – A Young Rabunite

Editor's notes: *NICE FISH (a flatlander term for good'un)!*

By Golly, we don't have to - - well, you know!



"By the time I had turned thirty, I'd realized two important things. One, I had to fish. Two, I had to work for a living."

Mallory Burton

Georgia Trout Unlimited is a Member of



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"Thank You" to the following for their cash donations to be used as Grants-in-Financial-Aid for deserving youths sponsored by Rabun TU going to the 2007 GA Trout Camp:
Margaret & Russ Burken – Toccoa, GA; **A Friend** – Atlanta, GA; and **Regions Bank** – Clayton, GA

Georgia Trout Camp Application Process

Charlie Breithaupt, the Camp Director, is taking applications NOW for the **2007 Georgia Trout Camp**. Twenty-four campers (boys and girls from ages 12 – 15) will be selected for the 2007 Georgia Trout Camp, June 10 – 15th. For details, visit: <http://georgiatu.org/id3.html>
Or contact **Charlie Breithaupt, Camp Director** Ph 706 782 6954 E-mail knc615@windstream.net

"BACKCASTING"

Feb 3 (Sat) 2007 Annual Planning Meeting with 14 members present. After a delicious Dillard House breakfast the group got down to business. **Items discussed included:** 2007 Rabun Rendezvous Debriefing; "Thank You" letters to Rendezvous Donors; Program Speaker for 2008 Rendezvous; the Calendar of Events (Workdays, Mentoring, Camping, etc.); the 9 Meeting Programs; and the detailed 2007 Financial Budget (see below):

FUNDS In Checking Account - \$20,703 (including the EAS Grant for the Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project)

TOTAL Budgeted Expenditures for 2007 - \$18,500 (including the EAS Grant)

Chapter Operations - \$1,630 for Newsletter; Website; Meeting Expenses (Refreshments, Raffle, Speaker Meals & Gifts); Administrative (P O Box, Stamps, etc); Planning Breakfast; Awards; Memorials; etc.

Youth & Education - \$5,420 for Sponsoring 2 Deserving Youths to GA Trout Camp; Smithgall Woods Conservation Education Program; 2 Summer Interns with GA WRD; Kids Fishing Event at Black Rock S.P-DNR; Kids Fishing Event at Tallulah River - USFS; GA WRD Outdoor Adventure Day at Unicoi State Park; Local High School Enviro-thon; and Gift TU Memberships (3 Libraries, 3 State Parks & other Membership/Student Aid).

Projects - \$6,750 (including EAS Grant) for Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project; Clayton Greenway Project; Stop I-3 Coalition; Chattooga Backcountry Helicopter Stocking with USFS & GA DNR (Fall on North Fork & Spring on West Fork); "Back-the-Brookie" Program; 2 In-Stream "Back-the-Brookie" Work Outing Campouts; and the Casting for Recovery Project.

National TU - \$2,000 for "First Cast" Program; "Embrace-A-Stream" Program; and General Fund.

Outreach to GA TU Chapters - \$700

Contingency - \$2,000

Feb 6 (Tues) Fly Tying session was attended by 6 Rabunites. Prez Terry taught the group how to tie the February "Fly of the Month," the zugbug nymph. Did you know Jimmy W. caught a 20-inch rainbow trout that is now 30-inches long? Just ask him about it.

Feb 13 (Tues) Fly Tying session was attended by 7 Rabunites. Prez Terry taught the group how to tie the March "Fly of the Month," the flashback pheasant tail nymph. Unfortunately, Jimmy W. was not in attendance so we don't know how long his 20-inch trout is now.

Feb 20 (Tues) Chapter Meeting was attended by 25 members and guests. Nicole Hayler of the Chattooga Conservancy gave a PowerPoint presentation on the *Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project*. She described the problem and the effects on Stekoa Creek and the W&S Chattooga River, a description of the causes, the water testing needed to locate the sources of the fecal coliform pollution, and the measurable progress made so far. She then answered questions. We discussed what sources of funding might be available to repair or replace the failing City of Clayton sewage collection system. The members present were asked to volunteer their time and their vehicle expenses to drive the weekly water samples to the certified lab for the next year (a 3 hour; 160 mile round trip). 13 Rabunites immediately stepped forward and volunteered on the spot! Prez Terry presented Nicole with a Rabun Chapter check for \$1000 donation to help cover other expenses in the Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project.

If you can volunteer to be a driver of samples to the lab, contact **Doug Adams**, Ph 706 746 2158; E-mail edadams1@alltel.net

Subject: *Stekoa Creek Memories - - "when I was a boy."* **Sent:** Thursday, February 15, 2007

When I was in junior & senior high school.....c.1948-54 there were some monster Rainbows in Stekoa Creek. After school we would regularly put in where McDonalds is now and fish down toward what was then the stave mill. Never landed too many of them but we sure had a lot of lines broken.....plus an occasional rod.

From: Tom (Shirley) – A Charter Member of Rabun TU, Clayton, GA.

The Meeting Raffle had 10 buckets with really neat items including a Travis Barnes original hand crafted maple/turquoise bowl, 2 assortments of flies, 2 LED headlamps, and a Rabunite MRE pack (featuring beanie weenies, of course). Prez Terry was the BIG winner with 5 buckets (unbelievable), Ray Gentry won 2 buckets, and (you guessed it) Doc Lea Richmond won both fly selections, AGAIN (37 flies this time)! The raffle raised \$140 (a new record high for a meeting raffle) to be used toward the cost of mailing newsletters to members without E-mail and for the meeting hospitality expenses. A BIG "thank you" goes to all the Rabunites who donated the items and to those who purchased raffle tickets. PS Jimmy W. said his 20-incher was now a 32" RAINBOW TROUT!

Feb 27 (Tues) Board of Directors was attended by 14 members. Items discussed included programs for the March and April meetings, mentoring boy scouts on 3/17, BtB workday on Ramey Creek in April, mentoring Westminster students in April, inviting the Clayton boy and girl scouts to the May cookout, planning for the 1-day fly fishing school in July, and the Stekoa Creek project. The **Fly Tying** session followed the BOD meeting with 7 participants. Prez Terry taught the group how to tie the deer hair caddis fly.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Big Rabunite welcome to **6 new members** this month: **John Ramsey**, 3909 Grove Trail S.W., Loganville, GA 30052; **Glenn English**, P.O. Box 763, Clayton, GA 30525; **Steve McAdams**, 2116 Pinnacle Drive, Clayton, GA 30525; **Eugene Keener** (transfer), 3645 91st Avenue, Pinellas Park, FL 33782; **John Eaves**, 667 Wolf Den Road, Royston, GA 30662; and **Devin Anderson**, 1139 B Dawson Court, Andrews Air Force Base, MD20762

Thanks for re-upping: **David Jordan, Ron Grob, Billy Cook, Robert Larsen, Dave Schmidt, Ray Hannah & Family, John Patrick, Tom Shirley, Charlie & Kathy Breithaupt, David Lash, and Cecil Beehler.**

It is time to renew your membership: **Virlyn Florence, Duane Campbell, Jeremy Strauss, Kyle Burrell, Lindsey Gilbert, Allison Adams, Cari Westbrook, Chris Shackelford, William Hamlett, Bruce Mitchell, Connie Keener, and Anthony Welch.**

2007 Calendar - You Don't Want to Miss These

Regular Chapter Meetings with Programs & Raffles on 3rd Tues evenings: 2/20, 3/20, 4/17, 6/19, 8/21, 9/18, 10/16, 11/20 & 1/15/08.

Mentoring - Fly Tying Sessions on Tuesday evenings in Feb and Mar (6 sessions total - 2/6, 2/13, 2/27, 3/6, 3/13 & 3/27).

Mentoring - Boy Scouts camped on the Tallulah River with Doug Hickman on Sat (3/17).

Hoot-on-the-Hooch on Sat evening (3/24) where the 2007 Dream Trip Raffle winners will be drawn.

Workday - for BtB with Camping with USFS/GA WRD leading work on Ramey Creek and camping at Thomas Creek from Fri - Sat (4/13 - 4/14).

Workday - Smith Creek for DH with GA WRD on Sat (4/21).

Mentoring - 2-Days with Westminster Students on Fri & Sat (4/27 & 4/28).

Camping & Fishing the Upper Chattooga backcountry Wed - Sun (5/2 - 5/6) with camping at Cherry Hill Campground.

Workday - Betty Creek In-Stream Trimming/Clean-up in preparation for GA Trout Camp on Sat (5/19).

Mentoring - Annual Spring Family Cook-out at Indian Lake on Tues evening (5/15) with the Boy & Girl Scout Troops as our guests.

Mentoring - Annual Kids Fishing Event at Tallulah River with USFS on Saturday morning (6/9).

Mentoring - 4th Annual Georgia Trout Camp from Sun - Fri (6/10 - 6/15) We need all the help we can get for this.

Workday - Electro-fishing Reed Creek with Camping with GA WRD, Mon & Tues (6/18 & 6/19).

Workdays - Annual Chattooga River Electro-fishing with USFS, GA & SC DNR on Tues & Wed (7/10 & 7/11) and campout at Cherry Hill Campground on Mon & Tues (7/9 & 7/10).

Mentoring - The 1-Day Fly Fishing School taught by the Rabunites, Sat (7/14)

Annual Summer Family Picnic at Kelly's Waterfall Park on Tues evening (7/17).

Workday - for BtB with Camping, North Moccasin Creek with USFS / GA WRD leading the work along with the 2 summer interns that Rabun TU sponsors - Fri & Sat (8/17 & 8/18).

Workday - Waters Creek In-Stream Workday with USFS, GA DNR, NGTO & TU on Sat (9/15).

Mentoring - Outdoor Adventure Day with GA DNR at Unicoi State Park on Sat (9/22).

Camping & Fishing with camp at the Blackwell Place and fishing in the West Fork watershed from Wed - Sun (10/3 - 10/7).

Camping & Fishing with camp at Long Bottom and fishing in Chattooga DH and backcountry from Wed - Sun (11/7 - 11/11).

Annual Family Christmas Dinner at Dillard House on Tues evening (12/11).

21st Annual Rabun Rendezvous on Sat (1/26/2008).

Annual Planning Meeting on Sat, 8 am (2/9/08) with breakfast meeting at the Dillard House where we set our budget and planned expenditures for 2008.

Rabun TU Board of Directors Meetings on 4th Tuesday evenings: 2/27, 3/27, 4/24, 5/22, 6/26, 7/24, 8/28, 9/25, 10/23 11/27 & 1/22/2008.

GA TU Council Meetings (3/17) at Vanna BBQ, (6/6) at BPS, (9/8) at AFFS, & (12/1) at USFS.

National TU Annual Meeting (9/14 - 9/16) in Boise, ID

Summary:

19 Mentoring Days
8 In-Stream Volunteer Workdays
9 Meeting Programs & 3 Social Family Meetings
1 Major Fundraiser - The Rabun Rendezvous
20 Camping Days (with fishing, campfire stories, & bluegrass)

WAAaaahWHooooo!

Rabun TU Officers & Directors for F/Y2007

President - Terry Rivers, PO Box 371, Clayton, GA 30525

Vice President - Jimmy Whiten

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

Secretary (w/Publicity & Letters) - Tom Landreth

Past President (w/Membership & Hospitality) - Ray Kearns

Director (w/Programs) - Bill Kelly

Director (w/Website) - Kathy Breithaupt

Director (w/Campouts & USFS Work-outsings) - Charlie Breithaupt

Director - Larry Walker

Director - Lea Richmond

Ph 706 782 7419

Ph 706 886 6546

Ph 706 746 2158

Ph 706 746 2295

Ph 706 782 9913

Ph 706 746 2104

Ph 706 782 6954

Ph 706 782 6954

Ph 706 244 4345

Ph 706 782 6898

E-mail tlr1121@alltel.net

E-mail jimmywhiten@nctv.com

E-mail edadams1@alltel.net

E-mail landreth@alltel.net

E-mail raykearns@alltel.net

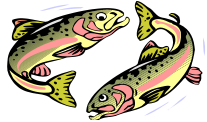
E-mail bkjk1@alltel.net

E-mail knc615@windstream.net

E-mail knc615@windstream.net

E-mail amosndixie@alltel.net

E-mail learichmond@alltel.net



News from the President..... **Terry Rivers**

Hi Folks,

I hope everybody is doing fine and looking forward to a great fishing season just around the corner. Every one should have all their fly boxes full, reels lubed up and ready to hit THE RIVER.

I want to thank Nicole for a wonderful program on the Stekoa Creek project. She surely opened a few eyes of some of the people that were not aware of the condition of the creek flowing through town. I hope some of the people there will speak their opinions to the city council.

The Ga. Council just finished two weekends of seminars at the Bass Pro in Macon and Duluth; we had a good time, tied a lot of flies, and meet a lot of nice people.

Just a reminder to everyone that the drawing for the Dream Trip is just a few weeks off so if you have not purchased a ticket see Charlie or me; we have a few left.

The fly tying session has been going great and we have three more scheduled. So if you have been attending and there is a fly that you want to learn to tie just let me know and if I never have tied it before we will figure it out before we leave.

Thanks for all your support. Looking forward to fishing with you on THE RIVER.

Terry

Have a great day - Hope you catch a lot of fish.

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

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

We would love getting your "Letters to the Editor", suggestions, stories, articles, and questions for our panel of experts in the Q & A section, or your comments about our Website and Newsletter.

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

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RABUN CHAPTER of TROUT UNLIMITED

PO BOX 371

CLAYTON, GA 30525