



TIGHT LINES April 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/>

"A fisherman is always hopeful - nearly always more hopeful than he has any right to be."
Roderick Haig-Brown

RABUN TU CHAPTER'S MEETING PLACE

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

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

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

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

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

"The sporting qualities of a fish are dependent neither on its size nor its weight, but on the effort of concentration, the skill and mastery the fish demands from the fisherman." Charles Ritz

"FORWARD CASTING" Important Dates - See you there!

March 31 – Annual Satolah Fire Department and opening day of trout season fundraiser & celebration WhaaahWHooooo!

Apr 12 (Thurs) Stekoa Creek WWTP Public Meeting – 7 PM Courthouse

Apr 13 & 14 (Fri & Sat) Workday with Campout on a "Back-the-Brookie" stream, Ramey Creek, with USFS and GA WRD leadership. Contact Terry Rivers Ph 706 782 7419 E-mail tlr1121@alltel.net or Bill Kelly Ph 706 746 2104 E-mail bkjk1@alltel.net, they buy the groceries and can give more info.

Apr 14 (Sat) - The Oconee River Chapter Banquet – Athens <http://orctu.org/>

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 on Smith Creek with GA WRD leadership.

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

April 27 - 29 (Fri - Sun) TU SE Rally at Hungry Mother State Park near Marion VA

May 2 – 6 (Wed - Sun) Camping & Fishing the Upper Chattooga backcountry with camping at Cherry Hill Campground. Y'all Come! **WHaaaahWHOOoooo!**

May 5 (Sat) Tailwater Chapter Banquet – Buford <http://tailwatertu.com/>

May 15 (Tues) Annual Family Cookout with Mentoring of Girl & Boy Scouts at Indian Lake on RGNS Campus.

May 19 (Sat) Workday on Betty Creek preparing for the GA Trout Camp

May 19 Blue Ridge Mtn. Chap High Country Boil

<http://www.blueridgemountaintuonline.com/>

May 22 (Tues) BOD 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



OLIVE E-C CADDIS

THE E-C STANDS FOR EMERGING CRIPPLE CADDIS. WHEN YOU SEE FISH RISING AND THEY ARE JUST SIPPING AND NOT TOO AGGRESSIVE AND YOU ARE NOT HAVING TOO MUCH SUCCESS, TRY TYING ONE OF THESE ON AND LET IT GO BELOW THE SURFACE. MORE THAN LIKELY THE FISH ARE TAKING CADDIS EMERGERS. TIE THESE UP IN ALL THE COLORS OF THE CADDISES, AND HOPE FOR SOME BETTER LUCK.

HOOK: 14 TO 16 DRY FLY HOOK
TAIL: ANTRON OR CRYSTAL FLASH (COLOR TO MATCH BODY)
BODY: CRYSTAL OLIVE DUBBING
WING: DARK DEER HAIR OR ELK HAIR

"I cannot, personally, be happy with a fly unless I can rediscover it, relating it to the naturals and to such few wild trout as have escaped the notice of the Army Engineers. Lots of flies will catch some fish. The interesting thing is to learn Why."

Datus Proper

April 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
Quill Gordon Mayfly	Early	L am to M pm	12-14 Quill Gordon 12-14 Quill Gordon Nymph
Blue Quill Mayfly	Early	L am to M pm	16-18 Blue Quill, BWO, or Blue Dun 16-18 Prince or Pheasant Tail
Small Dun Caddis (Important)	All Month	L am to M pm L pm to dark	16-18 Gray Elk Hair or Deer Hair Caddis 16-18 Gray Caddis Pupa
March Brown Mayfly (Important)	All Month	L am to M pm	12-14 March Brown or Adams Parachute 10-14 March Brown Nymph, Dark Hare's Ear, or Pheasant Tail
Cream Caddis (Very important)	All Month	M day to L pm	12-14 Elk Hair Caddis 12-14 Dark Cream Caddis Pupa
Yellow Stonefly	Late	E to L am L pm to dark	14-16 Yellow Stimulator or Elk Hair Caddis (Yellow) 14-16 Yellow Stone Nymph
Light Cahill Mayfly (Important)	Late	E to L pm	12-14 Light Cahill 12-14 Light Cahill Nymph
Speckled Gray Caddis	Late	M to L pm	12-14 Dark Elk Hair or Deer Hair Caddis 12-14 Dun & Yel/Brn Caddis Pupa
Midges	All Month	All Day	18-22 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa

'Website-of-the-Month': <http://www.flinttu.org:80/>
Check out the "news", visit http://www.flinttu.org/news.htm#Upcoming_Fishing_Trips

The Rabunite Social Calendar – Y'all Come, You Hear!

March 31 – Annual Satolah Fire Department and opening day of trout season fundraiser; Bar-B-Que and bluegrass by the Foxfire Boys (all Rabunites) and Curtis Blackwell's Dixie Bluegrass Boys. Meals start at 5 and music start at 7 PM.
WAAaahWHOooooo!

April 14 - The Oconee River Chapter of Trout Unlimited <http://orctu.org/> of Trout Unlimited cordially invites you and your chapter members to an evening of fun in Athens! Our Annual Spring Fundraiser will be held April 14, 2007, at Flinchum's Phoenix Lodge in Athens, GA. Reservations and money are required no later than April 7 to ensure your seat. If you have any questions, please call JOSH BARNETT-President, at 706-354-8500.

April 27 to 29 - TU SE Rally at Hungry Mother State Park near Marion VA. Any interested TU member is invited to attend

especially those interested or involved in Back-the-Brookie. Currently Bob Foster, Garland Stewart and Kevin McGrath are attending and representing the GA Council. Please contact Gary Berti at GBerti@tu.org directly if you would like to attend

May 5 -- Tailwater Chapter of Trout Unlimited <http://tailwatertu.com> Fundraiser at the Chattahoochee River Club Clubhouse in Buford. More details to follow.

May 19 - Blue Ridge Mountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited <http://www.blueridgemountainonline.com/> High Country Boil– This year's popular social/fund raiser for our Chapter will be held on Saturday, May 19 at Jay and Martha Campbell's place on the Toccoa. More details to follow from event chairman Mike Maginn.

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/html/trout_camp.html
 Or contact **Charlie Breithaupt, Camp Director** Ph 706 782 6954 E-mail knc615@windstream.net

"Izaak Walton wrote in 1653: 'He that hopes to be a good angler must not only bring an inquiring, searching, observing wit; but he must also bring a large measure of hope and patience.' In these days of hard-fished waters, ethics and philosophy play an ever increasing role in our enjoyment, and to Father Walton's measure of hope and patience, let us add the spice called charity." From "Matching the Hatch" by Ernest G. Schwiebert, Jr [1955]

Visitor Use Capacity Analysis, Upper Chattooga River

The Forest Service is using an integrated data collection approach for analyzing visitor capacity issues on the Upper Chattooga River. Multiple methods will be used to gather information on impacts of social uses as well as biological and physical conditions along the upper and lower corridors of the river. Data collection is the 4th step in the overall [Limits of Acceptable Change \(LAC\)](#) model, the framework for the visitor

capacity analysis process. Information needs were collaboratively identified through a series of public meetings in late 2005, and results of data collection will be used to set standards for desired conditions, identify appropriate use areas, and develop management actions.

To read more on the Forest Service collaboration plans
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/forest/projects/chattcollaboration.shtml>

The following Op-Ed is reprinted from The Macon County News, Franklin, NC (3/07/2007)

Upper Chattooga likely to suffer from boating By James T. Costa

http://www.maconnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=395&Itemid=35

There has been much discussion in recent days regarding the notion of opening the upper Chattooga River to boating. As a biologist and as a longtime resident of the Southern Appalachian region, I have studied the issue for the past several months in order to take an informed position on the potential impact that boating might have on the river and surrounding national forest.

My conclusion? The upper Chattooga watershed area is a unique biological and cultural resource that is likely to suffer significant degradation through the human impacts associated with boating. That the watershed is a valuable biological resource is beyond question. It is a rare example of a wild, high-gradient river coursing through a sizable tract of intact eastern deciduous forest.

Its "wilderness" designation in the Ellicott Rock Wilderness Area also makes the upper Chattooga a valuable cultural resource, an equally rare example of a vast and relatively unimpacted forest that now represents an island in a landscape in various stages of impact and degradation. As cultural resource, such wilderness areas give people the opportunity to realize profound solitude and contemplation.

Biologically speaking, the landscape of the upper Chattooga provides an astoundingly diverse mosaic of habitat types, from cove and upland forest to rock outcrop and spray cliff communities. The rugged and wet conditions that prevail in this area provide a haven for an assemblage of plant and animal species, including rarities such as tropical-affinity ferns. The area in general, but especially large intact tracts such as the Chattooga watershed, boasts peak or near-peak biodiversity in North America for many taxonomic groups. Most notably, the area is world renowned for its salamander diversity, and that of its flowering plants.

Opening this area to boat traffic and, more importantly, the related human activity in shuttling boaters, in portaging and in picnicking, will have the inevitable consequence of introducing significant biological threats to the integrity of the forest, despite the best intention of many such users. This will occur through both direct degradation by establishing high-use trails (and the elevated incidence of litter and refuse associated with such trails), and the unintentional introduction of pest species that will secure a foot-hold in the forest.

Aggressive exotic pest plants like Japanese knotweed, plantain, privet and others tend to be dispersed along trails by human vehicular and foot traffic. Elevated human traffic in the upper Chattooga will almost certainly introduce such pests,

ultimately creating "edge effects" via degradation that eats into the adjacent forest. At present, the upper Chattooga watershed can be seen as an ecological core area that acts as a refuge and source population. The fragmentation and edge effects stemming from intensive visitation and use will erode this core area.

A parallel degradation occurs with respect to the cultural value of the upper Chattooga watershed. This "Wild and Scenic River" area holds immense value for what it symbolizes and what it can offer low-impact visitors. The Wilderness Act of 1964 gained wide support because citizens and government leaders recognized that "wildness" and solitude were becoming scarce commodities. The spiritual and aesthetic benefits to be gained from such restricted access areas are incalculable; opening the upper Chattooga to intensive boating use immediately undermines its value as a place of solitude and contemplation.

I have boated on other rivers in the Southern Appalachians. The outfitters I boated with were conscientious about litter and other matters, but the noise and well-worn portage trails made it clear this was no wilderness experience. Must we leave our footprint absolutely everywhere? I believe that an intent of the Wilderness Act and the Wild and Scenic River Program is to save us from ourselves as much as to preserve the biological integrity of our environment.

We are fortunate to have an abundance of rugged and exciting river stretches in our mountain region, nearly all of which are open to boating. It is far from unreasonable to ask that this now-pristine and biologically significant area remain closed to boating traffic and the related impacts associated with boating.

At a time when the natural landscape of the Southern Appalachians is experiencing accelerated fragmentation through development and recreational pursuits, it is only sensible to safeguard the integrity of the few genuinely large and intact tracts of land remaining. The biological and cultural value of such tracts as the upper Chattooga watershed demands that we act responsibly for ourselves and future generations. Once our forests and rivers are degraded, their recovery is an exceedingly slow process.

James T. Costa is executive director of the Highlands Biological Station and the H.F. and Katherine P. Robinson Professor of Biology at Western Carolina University, where he has taught genetics, biogeography, environmental biology, bioethics, evolution and conservation biology.

"I assert that a man does not go fishing or hunting in order to obtain, or kill, as much game as he can. I assert that he does it in order to achieve a certain relationship between himself and wildness, to match himself against the land and against certain of its creatures, possession of which he has taught himself to desire. It is not merely his skill with rod and gun which he wants to exercise ... there is a more spacious feeling, the feeling of free agency within a large solitude ... the feeling of being alone and unhampered in one's pursuit, to follow it as one sees fit, by no man's sufferance."

Vance Bourjaily

Excerpts from the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968

Click on: <http://www.nps.gov/rivers/wsract.html>

Congressional declaration of policy.

(b) It is hereby declared to be the policy of the United States that certain selected rivers of the Nation which, with their immediate environments, possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values, shall be preserved in free-flowing condition, and that they and their immediate environments shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Management direction.

SECTION 10. (a) Each component of the national wild and scenic rivers system shall be administered in such manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused it to be included in said system without, insofar as is consistent therewith, limiting other uses that do not substantially interfere with public use and enjoyment of these values. In such administration primary emphasis shall be given to protecting its aesthetic, scenic, historic, archaeological, and scientific features. Management plans for any such component may establish varying degrees of intensity for its protection and development, based on the special attributes of the area.

Editor's notes:

The W&SRA directs the Agency (in this case the Forest Service) to protect and enhance the Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV) which caused the stream to be included in the W&SRA in the first place. For the Chattooga, the ORVs include geology, biology, scenery, recreation and history. *"The recreational values of the river and corridor are outstanding along its 57-mile course. The river offers a wide variety of activities in a high-quality setting. Activities range from swimming to hiking and horseback riding with spectacular scenery, to excellent trout fishing and nationally recognized white-water rafting opportunities. Other activities include backpacking, photography, and nature study. Most of these activities take place in largely unmodified natural surroundings, with many opportunities for remoteness and solitude."* (Quote from page 3-52 of the 2004 Sumter Forest Plan.)

The congressional declaration of policy states the ORVs, "shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations." That is why it is so important that Limits of Acceptable Change be established now for the foot travel only zone.

The W&SRA directs that the "primary emphasis shall be given to protecting the aesthetic, scenic, historic, archaeological, and scientific features" and to be done in the context of administering the ORVs. [Definition: aesthetic - Features or qualities that are pleasurable (as contrasted with the utilitarian features of a resource) such as the special attributes of remoteness and solitude found in the backcountry foot travel only "wild" sections above the Highway 28 Bridge.]

The W&SRA directs, "Management plans for any such component may establish varying degrees of intensity for its protection and development, based on the special attributes of the area."

There is absolutely nothing in the Wild & Scenic River Act that says ALL compliant uses must be permitted in ALL sections of the river.

The following is an excerpt from the USFS website titled "Four Threats:" *"Healthy forests make for a healthy nation. In the 21st century, the nation's forests and grasslands face four threats. Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth names them as: (a) fuel and fires (b) invasive species (c) loss of open space and (d) unmanaged recreation."* (underline added)

To read more, visit <http://www.fs.fed.us/projects/four-threats/index.shtml>

Excerpt from: Four Threats - Questions and Answers

Q: *When you call for managing recreation, are you interfering with my right to go out on public land and do whatever I want, as long as I do not hurt anybody?*

A: Americans have every right to use their public lands, but in responsible and sustainable ways—ways that do not diminish future use for everyone. It's a question of impact. The goal of managing the national forests for recreational use is to allow everyone to have a pleasurable experience. Management is called for when a use threatens to damage the land or affect the experience of others. (underline added)

To read more, visit <http://www.fs.fed.us/projects/four-threats/questions-answers.shtml>

Editor's Notes: *The example of "unmanaged recreation" used on this website is off-highway vehicles (OHVs). To some extent, the same problem (i.e. affect the experience of others) exists with several other forms of "unmanaged recreation" (i.e. bicycles, horses, boats, etc). The website states, "The phenomenal increase in the use of the national forests for all recreational activities raises the need to manage most forms of recreation, including the use of off-highway vehicles (OHVs)." Conflicts between different forms of recreation use have arisen with increasing frequency in recent years. Conflict resolution may involve zoning. To read more about managing recreation and use of zoning for conflict resolution, visit <http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/sustain/draft/socio6/socio6-09.htm>*

Zoning of conflicting uses is good stewardship, not discrimination. Stewardship encompasses far more than picking up litter; it includes the protection of the aesthetic values of natural resources such as remoteness and wildness, the proper regard for the rights of others to solitude, and the responsibility of preserving these values intact for future generations.

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/chattbackground.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.

Eastern Brook Trout: Status and Threats

Background: Brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) are the only trout native to much of the eastern United States. They have inhabited the East's coldwater streams and lakes ever since the retreat of the continental glaciers across New York and New England, and they have thrived in the ancient valleys of the Appalachians for the last several million years. Arguably the most beautiful freshwater fish, brook trout survive in only the coldest and cleanest water. In fact, brook trout serve as indicators of the health of the watersheds they inhabit. Strong wild brook trout populations demonstrate that a stream or river ecosystem is healthy and that water quality is excellent. A decline in brook trout populations can serve as an early warning that the health of an entire system is at risk.

In pre-Colonial times, brook trout were present in nearly every coldwater stream and river in the eastern United States. Sensitive to changes in water quality, wild brook trout began to disappear as early agriculture, timber and textiles economies transformed the eastern landscape by stripping the region's protective forests and filling the streams with sediment and pollution. As streams gained value as highways for log drives, water sources for farming, and prime locations for factories and mills, the resulting loss in brook trout populations mirrored the broader decline in the health of the region's lands and waters.

Many of these threats to water quality and wild brook trout persist today, as our population and resource needs increasingly expand. To read more, visit <http://www.brookie.org/atf/cf/%7BCFA4686E-CDCA-4399-9907-BBA7EC2507AB%7D/BrookieReportIntro.pdf>



(photo of WV brookie courtesy Clint Ferguson & National TU)

Eastern Brook Trout: Roadmap to Restoration - Our Brook Trout Heritage

The brook trout is an American symbol of persistence, adaptability, and the pristine wilderness that covered North America prior to European settlement. It is the only native trout that inhabits the cold, clear streams of the eastern United States. It is the state fish in many eastern states and is a prized sport fish by anglers. It is truly a heritage fish species.

Unfortunately, historical land uses have taken a toll on our landscape, greatly diminishing the presence of brook trout throughout its native range. Today it is estimated that less than 9% of the areas that historically supported brook trout are intact. Most brook trout are relegated to headwater streams, where forest cover is still prevalent. Unable to thrive in poor quality water or degraded habitats, brook trout are excellent indicators of clean water and healthy aquatic systems. Their disappearance within a watershed indicates environmental decline. The documented decline of brook trout throughout their eastern range should serve as a warning about the state of our nation's waters.

The situation is certainly not hopeless. Through a coordinated and focused effort, we have a unique opportunity to

reverse the trend of brook trout decline by restoring habitat and improving water quality, to benefit both brook trout and human habitat for generations to come. For the complete report, visit http://www.easternbrooktrout.net/docs/EBTJV_RoadmapToRestoration_FINAL.pdf

GA WRD News Release: Georgia Takes Initiative in Effort to Conserve Brook Trout Population SOCIAL CIRCLE, Ga. (3/1/2007) The brook trout is a one-of-a-kind in Georgia. As the state's only native salmonid (trout) species and the state's official coldwater game fish, the diminishing population of the brook trout has become high priority for some local agencies and conservation organizations. The Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Wildlife Resources Division (WRD) has joined with the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (EBTJV) along with a coalition of state and federal agencies, academic institutions and conservation organizations to support brook trout habitat and population restoration efforts across the eastern United States. To read more, visit <http://georgiawildlife.dnr.state.ga.us/content/displaypressrelease.asp?ArticleID=1060>

For the Status and Threats in GA and SC, visit www.easternbrooktrout.net/docs/brookie_GA-SC.pdf

Sent: Friday, March 09, 2007

Subject: Introduction

Gentlemen Chapter Presidents:

My name is Charlie Trettel and I am the Advocacy Chairman for the Back-the-Brookie, Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (EBTJV), Georgia Chapter. The EBTJV is a partnership to conserve brook trout, made up of state and federal fisheries managers and groups such as TU.

Currently, Georgia TU has raised approximately \$13,000.00 through grants and organizational support. These funds are being used to purchase test equipment (thermographs), etc. to conduct stream sampling studies (Ph) (ANC) and additional funds to employ interns.

In the near future, the Georgia BTB Committee will have speakers available to address Chapter meetings to discuss future planning for the BTB efforts.

For those Chapter members who have a more than curious interest in the Back-the-Brookie project, your support would be appreciated.

In my experience, one of the most productive Chapter efforts has been the conduct of "Introduction to Trout Fishing" classes at various High School and other Continuing Education programs. This effort has produced needed funding for Chapter activities, as well as membership enhancement. Some of the income could be earmarked for Back-the-Brookie support. Should you have an interest, course descriptions and outlines are available and your participation would be helpful.

In the future, we are planning a quarterly newsletter dedicated to Back-the-Brookie information, as well as other items of interest. In the interim, expect to receive emails directly.

From: Charlie Trettel, GA TU Back the Brookie – Murrayville, GA

What Can the Rabunites Do for the Brookies?

On April 13 & 14 (Fri & Sat) there will be a campout and in-stream habitat workday on a Rabun County "Back-the-Brookie" stream, Ramey Creek, under professional leadership by the USFS and GA WRD. To volunteer your

Stekoa Creek Update

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. The City of Clayton is entirely in the Stekoa Creek watershed. 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.

The following article is reprinted from The Clayton Tribune
<http://www.theclaytontribune.com/>

MORE SEWER LINE WOES PLAGUE CITY

By Donald Fraser/staff writer, (3/15/2007) Another large section of Clayton's deteriorating sewer lines is slated for replacement. About 4,000 feet of terracotta sewer pipe on land along the south side of Highway 76 West between Clayton Welding and Supply and the former elementary school will be replaced. Clayton City Council authorized having Mayor Tom Ramey Sr. spend between \$50,000-\$60,000 to replace the line at a Feb. 26 called meeting. Now, he has "just got to find the money to do it," he said. Ramey estimated the line was installed in the 1940s or 1950s. Some of the property traversed by the sewer line is owned by Dan Keller and the Rabun County Board of Education. Customers served by the line include residents along the highway and Mountain Lakes Medical Center, said City Manager Cissy Henry. Ramey later said city crews, using new smoke equipment for leak detection, discovered the extensive problem. "Hell, it looked like a sieve," he said. "it lets rainwater in and sewage out." The work will include installing 10 manholes in addition to replacing the dilapidated pipe. "It's not a matter of when we must do it, it's got to be done," Ramey said. According to Ramey, the new project is in addition to sewer line problems listed in a 2004 report by Wolpert Inc. The Atlanta engineering firm studied Clayton's sewer lines and listed 188 total defects. Ramey said he complained at the council meeting that they city "was not making adequate progress on (sewer system repairs)." "We've got other places that have got to be done," he added. On March 5, city crews were replacing a manhole on Liberty Lane. "Nothing has been done for years," Ramey said. He also cited replacing a terracotta line between Valley and Parish streets as a priority where about 200 feet of that line still needs to be replaced. Another project is replacing a sewer line near Ginger Creek Condominiums and Smokey Mountain Village, which is under construction on Ginger Creek Lane. Surveyor Bob Bowen has been hired by the city to establish a new route for the proposed 4,000 feet of line replacement along Highway 76 West, Ramey said. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division has promised an expedited review of the city's line replacement engineering plan, according to Ramey. Henry said she has been seeking a local assistance grant from Gov. Sonny Perdue's office and funding from the Department of Community Affairs imminent threat and danger program to try to cover the newly discovered sewer line problem. **Ramey also has contacted 50th District Sen. Nancy Schaefer and 8th District Rep. Charles Jenkins for assistance.**

Editor's Notes: *All of these sewage leaks go into Stekoa Creek. The 4000 feet of leaking terracotta line parallels the West prong (Scott's Creek). Our first monitoring samples (3/6) detected the leaking sewage. The certified laboratory results measured the fecal coliform count in the West prong as 347% higher than in the North prong and 744% higher than in the East prong.*

Please E-mail Sen. Schaefer senatornancyschaefer@alltel.net and Rep. Jenkins cjxbj@alltel.net and urge them to assist in securing financial assistance.

Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project

Thank you to the 14 Rabunites that have volunteered to deliver the weekly samples to the certified laboratory in Jefferson, GA. We started Tuesday (3/6). The volunteers and

the assigned dates for the first round of deliveries are: Doug Adams (3/6), Ray Kearns (3/13), Lea Richmond (3/20), Kathy Breithaupt (3/27), Gary Deal (4/3), Travis Barnes (4/10), Tom Matthews (4/17), Terry Rivers (4/24), Charlie Breithaupt (5/1), Bill Kelly (5/8), Russell Johnson (5/15), Fritz Vinson (5/22), Ray Gentry (5/29), and Jimmy Whiten (6/5).

The water samples will be collected from the creek on Tuesday mornings beginning about 8 AM. The samples will be at the Chattooga Conservancy office ready for pick-up at 10 AM. The samples must be in the Laboratory by 2 PM so the analysis can begin before the lab closes for the day; and also the samples need to be delivered within 6 hours of when they were collected.

Nicole (Chattooga Conservancy) will have the appropriate chain of custody forms that will have Nicole's signature (as the person who collected the samples), then relinquished by (etc.), received by (etc.), and so forth. The samples will be transported on ice, in a cooler (the Conservancy has the necessary supplies) and the cooler is to be returned to the Conservancy for reuse.

The certified laboratory is located at the Jefferson wastewater treatment plant (66 miles and 1 hour & 20 minutes each way).

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

April 12 (Thurs) Stekoa Creek WWTP Public Meeting 7 PM Courthouse

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) will be holding a public meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 12, 2007. A public hearing will immediately follow this public meeting at 8:00 p.m. in the Grand Jury Room of the Rabun County Court House.

The purpose of the public meeting and hearing will be to present and receive comments on the draft NPDES permit for the City of Clayton Waste Water Treatment Facility.

This is about expanding the Wastewater Treatment Plant flow capacity before or instead of repairing or replacing the failing and leaking sewage collection pipes (see above Clayton Tribune article).

At the public meeting, the permittee and EPD will answer questions and provide any further explanations that participants may desire. The public hearing will be to receive comments on the draft NPDES permit for the Clayton Waste Water Treatment Facility. Hearing participants will not be subject to questions from the audience.

Participants at the meeting and hearing are requested to register upon arrival and include their intent to give oral or written statements. Written comments are welcomed. To ensure their consideration, written comments should be received by close of business April 20, 2007. Address comments to: Director, Environmental Protection Division, Department of Natural Resources, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Suite 1152 S.E., Floyd Towers East, Atlanta, Georgia 30334. The permit application, draft permit, comments received, and other information are available for review Monday through Friday and during normal business hours at Clayton City Hall located at 99 N. Church Street, Clayton, Georgia 30525.

Please share this notice with interested friends and neighbors, because (click on):

What's New Elsewhere?

USFS - Road to Double Bit Campsite will NOT be Closed:

This decision was made by District Ranger Dave Jensen (decision notice mailed March 12) after receiving public comments and closer inspection of maps and records generated during the revision of the Forest Plan.

USFS - Public land on sale list again From [The Clayton Tribune](#) (3/22/2007) The Bush administration's land sale proposal that gave local conservation advocates a scare last year has again come in under the radar. U.S. Forest Service spokeswoman Karen McKenzie said the measure had previously caused a stir among locals. "I know last year there was quite a bit of community interest and some opposition to the idea. ... People just didn't like the idea of getting rid of public land, and I assume that would be the same this year," she said. In addition to the parcels in Rabun, more than 4,500 acres have been marked statewide, along with nearly 250,000 across the country. To read the complete article, visit <http://www.theclaytontribune.com/articles/2007/03/22/news/news01.txt>

SMNP - Towering record for park - Largest known eastern hemlock found in Smokies as part of documentation effort By MORGAN SIMMONS, (3/5/2007) PITTMAN CENTER - Will Blozan, a professional arborist from Asheville, N.C., is on a mission to locate and accurately measure the giant eastern hemlocks of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. On this day, Blozan and his crew hit a home run. The 400-year-old hemlock, dubbed the Laurel Branch Leviathan, was located at the headwaters of a stream in the park's Greenbrier area. Previous measurements taken from the ground strongly suggested the tree was a world record in terms of wood volume, or overall mass. To confirm the Leviathan's title as the largest known eastern hemlock, Blozan and his crew climbed to the top. "The only way to really know is to get up there with a measuring tape," Blozan said. The tree that the Leviathan had to beat was a hemlock in Highlands, N.C., named the Cheoah, which stands 158.7 feet tall. But what sets the Leviathan apart is its volume - 1,564 cubic feet of wood. To read more, visit

http://www.knoxnews.com/kns/gs_news/article/0,1406,KNS_392_539513_8,00.html

GA WRD Announces Educational/Watchable Wildlife Projects SOCIAL CIRCLE, Ga. (3/12/2007) The Georgia Wildlife Resources Division (WRD) announces the availability of funds for watchable wildlife and wildlife education projects. Organizations in the private, public and nonprofit sectors, as well as schools and local governments throughout the state, are invited to send in proposals for wildlife-related projects. Using funds earned from the sale of nongame wildlife license plates – the bald eagle tag and the hummingbird tag – the program has provided more than \$375,000 to fund watchable wildlife and wildlife educational projects throughout the state. Wildlife education projects can include programs, facilities, exhibits or other activities where the goal is to educate students, teachers, or the public about nongame wildlife conservation. Watchable wildlife projects can include facilities improvements or other activities that will develop or improve opportunities to observe nongame wildlife on lands accessible to the public, such as county or local parks. Requests should not exceed \$5,000 per project. To read the complete news release, visit <http://georgiawildlife.dnr.state.ga.us/content/displaypressrelease.asp?ArticleID=1064>

GA WRD - Georgia's Trout Season Opens with a Splash GAINESVILLE, Ga. (3/2/2007) Trout anglers anxious to hit the waters should prepare for some exciting fishing this season. The Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Wildlife Resources Division (WRD) has been hard at work increasing the potential for successful harvest this year. In fact, WRD will have over one million trout available for stocking in Georgia streams, rivers and small lakes by year's end. To read the complete news release, visit <http://georgiawildlife.dnr.state.ga.us/content/displaypressrelease.asp?ArticleID=1061>

Letters to the Rabunites

Thank you, Monte, for 20 years of successful leadership!

Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Subject: Minutes of 20th Annual Meeting of the Chattooga Coalition

Here they are, with some of the more detailed comments on the future of the Coalition. You'll have to look for an icon on the toolbar to get to the second page of Dan's comments. Just hit the appropriate arrow on the "page" icon.

As you can see by the comments (see Durniak), Rodney Dangerfield ain't the only one who "don't get no respect"! **From:** Monte Seehorn, Chairman – Gainesville, GA
Editor's Notes: *Thank you, Monte, for 20 years of successful leadership of the Chattooga Coalition. The accomplishments of the Coalition have been outstanding, returning the Chattooga's North Fork trout fishery to the legendary excellence of "The Mystery River" of the 1950s. The minutes and attachments are quite thorough and very interesting. If you want to review, please E-mail me at edadams1@alltel.net and I will forward you an E-copy.*

* * *

I am asking for your support and time.

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2007

Subject: Chattooga River Macroinvertebrate Study

I am beginning the process of putting together an agreement

to resample the benthic macroinvertebrate community in the Chattooga River watershed. The original study, An Assessment of Water Quality in the Chattooga River and Tributaries Through the Analysis of the Benthic Macroinvertebrate Community Structure, was conducted in the late 80's by Rockie English, Clemson University. Repeating the study should demonstrate any changes that have occurred in the watershed over the past 25 years. The success of the first survey depended heavily on Trout Unlimited volunteer hours; sampling the streams, "picking" the bugs, etc. These activities would be scheduled beginning on a Friday afternoon and ending either Saturday evening or Sunday, probably during the Fall of this year. I believe Rockie said that we would need 30-40 volunteers to sample and work up the samples over the weekend.

Some Trout Unlimited members have already approached Dan Rankin and I about repeating the study and it was discussed briefly this year at the Chattooga Coalition meeting. I am asking for your support and time. Please present this to your members and let me know if your chapters are in support of repeating the study. Thanks, Jeanne

From: Jeanne Riley, Fisheries Biologist with the Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests – Columbia, SC

Editor's Notes: *The Rabunites did this 20 years ago. Jeanne, the Rabunites are ready to volunteer again. Count on us!*

#

Stop I-3 Coalition sends THANKS to the Rabunites

Sent: March 9, 2007 by US Postal
Dear Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Thanks you for your recent \$250.00 contribution toward the Stop Interstate-3 Coalition. The Stop I-3 Coalition will ensure that your donation is directed toward efforts to protect the mountains, rivers, lakes and forests by preventing Interstate-3 or any similar highway project from being built in the Blue Ridge and Smoky Mountains.

You represent a growing confederation of local county groups, conservation organizations and interested citizens who realize that an interstate would do irreparable harm to mountain economics, forest, farms, streams, and to our rural qualities of life that are rooted in a strong sense of place. Your leadership and support will help us to stop this interstate from punching its way through the mountains of north Georgia, western North Carolina and east Tennessee. We are thrilled to have you as a partner in this campaign to Stop Interstate I-3 before it gets started. We couldn't do it without your support.

For helping to protect our region's wild places, thank you.

From: Stop Interstate-3 Coalition

Editor's Notes: *The GA TU Council also donated \$250.*

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Sent: Sunday, March 18, 2007

Subject: March 2007 Newsletter

Dear Stop I-3 Supporter,

The March 2007 Newsletter has been posted at: www.stopi3.org
Meet our new Executive Director, and read the latest news about the Stop I-3 effort and related issues.

The Stop I-3 Board needs your help. Do you have expertise or experience in transportation planning? Are you knowledgeable about rail, including regional rail, light rail, and magnetic levitation rail? If your answer is yes, we need you! Please contact us at stopi3@alltel.net. Thanks!

From: "Stop I-3 Coalition" <stopi3@alltel.net>

Stekoa Creek EAS Grant Request Partially Funded

Sent: February 27, 2007 by US Postal

Subject: 2007 Embrace-A-Stream Stekoa Creek

The EAS Committee has approved your grant application and has decided to partially fund your project in the amount of \$3,000. The EAS program was extremely competitive this year with a large number of outstanding applications. Rather than eliminate some good projects, the committee decided to provide partial funding for many projects so we could help more chapters.

Sincerely, John Hunt, EAS Committee Chairman – National TU

#

Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project Manager Thanks Rabunites

Sent: February 26, 2007 by US Postal

Dear Friends at the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited,

I'm writing to say thank you very much again, for your recent and quite generous \$1,000 donation to the Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project. Thank you also for your generous hospitality during my recent presentation about Stekoa Creek at your membership meeting, and for the gift of Tom Landreth's watercolor.

We are resuming the water-sampling program next week, and I'll keep the Chapter abreast of results. We look forward to working with TU to realize some progress in cleaning up – finally – Stekoa Creek. The Rabun Chapter's support is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely, Nicole Hayler, Stekoa Creek Project Manager – Chattooga Conservancy

Editor's Notes: *At the March meeting of the GA Council of TU, the Council voted to donate \$600 to help in pay the certified laboratory expenses of weekly monitoring. Several other GA TU Chapters have promised to also help with donations.*

For info on where you can send a personal donation, visit <http://www.chattoogariver.org/index.php?req=stekoa>

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Fishing Reports

Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2007

Subject: Fishing Tales

Ralph (Morgan, a St. Mary's Rabunite) and I drove the two blocks to the boat launch and headed out a small creek into the St. Marys River. We anchored just a few yards off a bluff, scattered with downed trees, resulting in "sweeps", much like out west of Hiawassee. The water was about 10-14 feet deep and the current swift. We used jigs tipped with live shrimp. We started catching Speckled Sea Trout almost immediately. They ranged from undersized 12' to keepers in the 13" to 17". I'm holding one of the smaller keepers and the largest one we picked up that day. We also caught a few hybrid bass and a catfish! But, the highlight of the day was that beautiful bull Redfish that Ralph is holding. It gave him quite a tussle before he boated it. It was 30", seven inches too large to keep, so back he went. He was a beauty! A great day with a most gracious host. We enjoyed the all too brief visit with Ralph and Sandy in their new digs at Osprey Cove.

From: Tom Landreth – Rabun Gap, GA



Tom With Sea Trout



Ralph's 30" Bull Red

Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2007
Subject: Greedy Pickerel

While fishing on (Lake) Rabun I saw some flopping around out in the cove on the surface. I eased over to check it out and found this Large Mouth Bass stuck in the mouth of this Chain Pickerel. The bass was hung up in the teeth of the pickerel (which are considerable) and struggling to get loose. The Pickerel was deceased. The bass too damaged to survive so I'll eat it instead.

From: Lea Richmond – Lakemont, GA

Editor's Notes: *By golly, you do have to believe this one!*



Cougar Update

Seen a cougar lately? Citizen-Times.com, Asheville, NC; by John Boyle (3/1/2007) <http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=200770301110>

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is seeking information on the status of the eastern cougar in the 21 states – from Maine to South Carolina and westward from Michigan to Tennessee – where the Endangered Species Act protects it. The service assumes the animals are extinct in the wild but wants to collect information on possible sightings. Cougars, sometimes called mountain lions or panthers, once roamed the mountains and most of the eastern states but were hunted heavily and their prey largely killed out. If you think you've spotted a cougar in the wild, send an e-mail to EasternCougar@fws.gov or send a letter to: Eastern Cougar, Northeast Regional Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 300 Westgate Center Drive, Hadley, MA 01035. Information must be received by March 30, 2007 for the status review.

Sent: Saturday, March 03, 2007

Subject: Seen a cougar lately?

Strange you should ask. We, Sally and I did hear a Florida panther just last week. We were near Ft. Myers in a new golfing/fishing community near the Orange and Caloosahatchee River. Late at night, across the pond and fairway in the large, undeveloped areas a loud, threatening growl lasting about 3 seconds got our attention. It was louder and deeper than a bobcat. We were told the next day that it was likely a panther.

You can believe ... Actually, you should believe it because Sally is not prone to telling tales. Three of us heard it.

I fished for reds, snook and whatever else wanted to hit. Casted to some really nice snook and reds but caught none. Caught some trout and ladyfish.

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

Wildlife Service: Is eastern cougar really extinct?

Daily News staff (2/28/2007)

http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2007/feb/28/wildlife_service_eastern_cougar_really_extinct/

The Florida panther may not be the only big cat roaming the wilderness of the eastern United States. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced today that it will begin reviewing evidence to determine whether the eastern cougar is really extinct. The eastern cougar is believed to have ranged from Maine to South Carolina and as far west as Michigan and Tennessee. Early American settlers killed off countless deer, bison and other prey, virtually wiping out the eastern cougar by the beginning of the 20th century. Verified cougar reports include a road-killed kitten in Kentucky in 1997, a cougar killed and another captured in West Virginia in 1976, scat from Massachusetts in 1997, and more. Videos, photos and other evidence of cougars also exist. Scientists suspect many of the sightings are actually cougars that escaped from captivity. The Florida panther, a cousin of the eastern cougar, isn't doing much better. There are between 80 and 100 panthers left, making the species one of the most endangered on the planet. South Florida is the panther's last bastion.

U.S. wildlife agency compiles information on mountain lions by Michael A. Sawyers, Cumberland

Times-News (3/5/07) This is your chance, those of you out there who have seen a mountain lion. Somebody in authority is ready to listen. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is seeking information, both scientific and anecdotal, about the existence of mountain lions in 21 Eastern states. "This is not something we are doing because all of a sudden there has been an increased number of sightings," said Diane Weaver, a public information officer for the agency. "We are required to prepare an update every five years on the status of every animal listed as endangered." For more, visit http://www.times-news.com/local/local_story_064093930.html

Cougar Confirmations: There are documented dozens of cases of confirmed cougar presence far to the East of the species' recognized range. visit

<http://www.easterncougarnet.org/cougarconfim.html>

Georgia Trout Unlimited is a Member of



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



A Rabunite Recipe (try it, you'll like it)

Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2007

Subject: Chattooga Potatoes

I have been cooking this for years while camping. I recently discovered adding the Parmesan cheese and Cilantro and Patsy loves it and asked me to write it down.

I named this for the place I plan to cook it often. BEWARE: It is habit forming!! :-)

From: Ray Gentry – Sautee, GA

Editor's Notes: We couldn't wait for a camp-out. Eedee fixed these the other night and they are yum-yum good. A KEEPER!

CHATTOOGA POTATOES

(2 large servings)

4 Small Potatoes
1 Small Onion
Parmesan Cheese
Cilantro
Chief Paul's (Magic Seasoning
Salt or Vegetable Blend)
Lawry's Season Salt
Olive oil
Salt & Pepper (coarse)
Use heavy pot or skillet with a
cover

Wash potatoes thoroughly and remove any blemishes. Cut un-peeled into small ¼ inch chunks. Dice onions and put in skillet with enough olive oil to brown (1/4 cup).
NOTE: Cook this only on low after browning the onions. Do not try to hurry it up as the potatoes and onion will stick & burn ruining the flavor. Stir frequently and add olive oil sparingly and only 2 or 3 tablespoons full at a time and only when needed to prevent sticking.

Add potatoes to pot when onion is sautéed clear and cook covered, checking frequently to prevent sticking. When the potatoes are slightly done (soft on the outside but firm in the middle) sprinkle over the potatoes the following: One pinch each of Cilantro, Lawry's salt, Chief's Paul's seasoning and 2 tablespoons coarse ground pepper.

When potatoes are firm & soft clear through (not mushy) sprinkle 3 - 4 tablespoons of Parmesan cheese over potatoes. Cover 5 more minutes then keep covered and warm but best when served immediately

"BACKCASTING"

Mar 6 (Tues) Fly Tying, 7 folks attended and Prez Terry taught how to tie black stimulator flies.

Mar 13 (Tues) Fly Tying, 9 attended and Doug (Banker) Hickman taught how to tie caddis emerger flies and soft hackle flies.

Mar 17 (Sat) GA TU Council Meeting, Vanna, GA

6 Rabunites attended. The subjects covered included: the Treasurer's report and revised annual budget, Dream Trip Raffle (Rabun TU sold 175 tickets and turned in \$1,750); CEI report; 2007 GA Trout Camp update; Chattooga River management update; Chattahoochee River Rescue; Back-the-Brookie; Stekoa Creek Monitoring; Training of GA TU Leaders by National; National TU Access Policy; Pickens County Trout Stream piping; reports for TROUT magazine; GA Council workday on Betty Creek; Year-round trout streams; GA Wildlife Federation's Teaming With Wildlife; Strategic Plan Update; Financial contribution to the Stop I-3 Coalition; and date of next GA Council Meeting.



Mar 17 (Sat) Mentoring Boy Scouts, 8 Rabunites helped with the 12 Boy Scouts camped for 2 nights on the Tallulah River.

Mar 20 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 24 folks were present. **Program:** – Dave Jensen: *Combining Tallulah & Chattooga Ranger Districts*. The new Ranger District will reach from Burrell's Ford to Dukes Creek Falls and from Tate City to Toccoa (275,000 acres). It has been named the Chattooga River Ranger District. The new office will be located in Tallulah Falls (Rabun County) on 9 acres secured from GA Power Co. The office will contain 7,000 sq ft designed for 29 employees with construction to begin in October. The Chattahoochee N.F. has gone from 6 Ranger Districts to only 3 Ranger Districts through combining districts. Because the majority of fieldwork is now contracted out and there is no "senior" program, most work centers are being closed and sold. Other changes include the transfer of the management of Annie Ruby Falls Recreation Area to the Unicoi State Park and contracting out the operation of up to 14 campgrounds in the Chattooga River Ranger District. The District has received authorization to hire a Wildlife Technician replacing Doug Watson. **The Meeting Raffle** had 10 buckets with some really neat items. The BIG surprise is Doc Lea Richmond did NOT win the 2 selections of flies! The raffle raised \$99 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 has now grown a so large he could not afford to have a replica mount made!



Mar 24 (Sat) Hoot on the Hooch:

About 150 good friends gathered (27 were Rabunites) and enjoyed some awesome bluegrass, great B-B-Q and banana pudding, a wonderful facility, with a nice bucket raffle and silent auction. Congratulations Foothillers! It was a fun event, you done real good guys and gals! A total of 1,500 Dream Trip Raffle Tickets were sold this year and Pat Foster purchased the last one (totaling \$15,000 gross revenue). The lucky winners were drawn as the evening's grand finale.

And the winners are:

2007 DREAM FLY FISHING VACATION! 5 days fishing and 6 nights lodging for two at the Green River Guest Ranch, Cora, WY, 2 Custom made rods, reels, lines, 2 loaded fly boxes, & \$650 in travel expenses. The winner is **Randy McCullough** (Fayetteville, GA)

FOR THE 7 RUNNER UP PRIZES:

> **Custom built Thomas & Thomas fly rod**, horizon series. Donated by Garland Stewart.

Won by **Rabunite Dale Powell** (Alpharetta, GA). Dale was present at the Hoot!

> **One half-day fishing for two people at Nacoochee Bend**. Donated by Jimmy Harris.

Won by **Mary Hardin** (Rome, GA)

> **A guided trip of 3 days fishing in Yellowstone area with 4 nights in a private log cabin** located in Island Park, Idaho. The trip includes meals, and transportation to and from the airport. Donated by John McGarity. Won by **Noel Rackie** (Kennesaw, GA)

> **4 Fly Boxes each with 6 dozen flies**. Donated by the Chapters of TU. Won by **David Kearns** (Ellijay, GA), picked up by his dad, **Rabunite Ray** (aka Stool Ray), at the Hoot! Won by **Jon Massey** (Commerce, GA), picked up by his friend Trey Barnett at the Hoot!

The other 2 were won by **Gene Long** (Loganville, GA) and **Steve Kemp** (Rome, GA).



Ray (aka Stool Ray) Kearns Takes the Prize

Mar 27 (Tues) Board of Directors The meeting was held in the Sandy Bottoms Campground on Tallulah River and 12 members attended. Items discussed included: Program for June Chapter meeting; April 12 Stekoa Creek WWTP public meeting in the Rabun County Courthouse; Ramey Creek BtB campout and workday; April Chapter Meeting program; 1-Day Fly Fishing School on 7/14; 2008 Rendezvous program; Boy & Girl Scout Mentoring at the May cook-out; Stekoa Creek EAS project publicity; monthly GON article on fly fishing for trout; proposed sale of USFS lands; National TU access policy; the 2 youths sponsored by Rabun TU to 2007 GA Trout Camp; USFS bug study in the Chattooga; state HB 463 which is a step backwards on erosion control protection; and the 4/3 USFS preplanning meeting on Ramey Creek.

Sent: Monday, March 26, 2007

Subject: UDC information site

The second draft of the Unified Development Code for Rabun County can be found on www.rabuncountygov.com.

The changes made to Chapters 1 and 2 by the UDC committee may soon be available there as well, but I won't know for sure until tomorrow night's meeting.

From: Lucy E. Bartlett – Member of the Rabun County UDC Review Committee

Editor's Notes: *Rabunite Joe Gatins is also a member of the 5 person committee.*

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Big Rabunite welcome to a **new member** this month: **David Nichols**, 2200 Nichols Lane, Clayton (Tate City), GA 30525

Thanks for re-upping: **Gene Roberts, Russ Tyre, Jim Barrett, Daniel Wall, Robert Womsley, Neil Anderson, Philip Koch, Will Pendry, and Don Kinser.**

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.**

*"The further you travel to fish, the worse the fishing will be.
However, it will improve immediately after you leave to return home, thus the old saying:
The fishing is always better the day before you get there and the day after you leave."
Anonymous*

Rabun TU Officers & Directors for F/Y2007

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

Ph 706 782 7419

E-mail tlr1121@alltel.net

Vice President - Jimmy Whiten

Ph 706 886 6546

E-mail jimmywhiten@nctv.com

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

Ph 706 746 2158

E-mail edadams1@alltel.net

Secretary (w/Publicity & Letters) - Tom Landreth

Ph 706 746 2295

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

Ph 706 782 9913

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Director (w/Programs & Campouts) - Bill Kelly

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Director - Lea Richmond

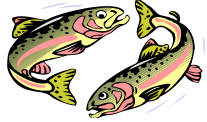
Ph 706 782 6898

E-mail learichmond@alltel.net

Director - Ray Gentry

Ph 770 455 6375

E-mail regentry@alltel.net



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

Hi Folks,

Trout season is here and the flies are hatching once again on THE RIVER!

Water temperature is in the 50s and the trout are feeding.

Why am I sitting here at this keyboard?

See 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

Please tell us if you have E-mail, it will
save the chapter \$1.23 per newsletter mailed:

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RABUN CHAPTER of TROUT UNLIMITED

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