



TIGHT LINES June 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/>

"Blessings upon all that hate contention, and love quietness, and virtue, and Angling." Izaak Walton

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.

Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime. A Chinese Proverb
Or today maybe it should read:

Give a man a fish, and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish; and you can sell him fishing equipment.

"FORWARD CASTING" Important Dates - See you there!

June 3 (Sun) Chattooga River Clean-up, Meet 8 AM at Highway 28 Bridge, Clean-up from bridge downstream to Earl's Ford. For details visit, <http://www.georgia-outdoors.com/forum/showthread.php?t=60890>

June 9 (Sat) USFS Kids Fishing Event – Tallulah River, 8 AM in the 1st campground. Sponsors: USFS, GA WRD, & TU Volunteers and mentors needed. (Rabun TU is supporting this KFE with a donation of \$300)

June 10 - 15th (Sun – Fri) 2007 GEORGIA TROUT CAMP RGNS; All Day & All Night; we need all the help we can get! Contact **Charlie Breithaupt**, he is the Camp Director: Ph 706 782 6954 or E-mail knc615@hughes.net

June 18 (Mon) USFS Open House Meeting - Upper Chattooga River Capacity Use Analysis; 5 – 8 PM, Rabun County Civic Center, Clayton, GA

June 18 & 19 (Mon & Tues) Workday – Campout on Monday and Reed Creek electro-fishing sampling with GA WRD on Tuesday. Details to follow.

June 19 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust

Program - Allison Hughes, GA DNR: *Adopt-A-Stream & Trout-in-the-Classroom*

June 21 (Thurs) USFS Open House Meeting - Upper Chattooga River Capacity Use Analysis; 5 – 8 PM, St. John's Lutheran Church, Walhalla, SC

June 26 (Tues) BOD Meeting 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust

July 10 (Tues) USFS Public Hearing - Upper Chattooga River Capacity Use Analysis; 5 – 8 PM, St. John's Lutheran Church, Walhalla, SC

July 10 & 11 (Tues & Wed) Annual Electro-Shock Sampling of Chattooga River (USFS, SC DNR & GA DNR). Lots of Volunteers needed! Camping at Cherry Hill C.G. on Monday & Tuesday nights.

July 14 (Sat) USFS Standards Workshop - Upper Chattooga River Capacity Use Analysis; All Day, St. John's Lutheran Church, Walhalla, SC

July 14 (Sat) 1-Day Fly Fishing School for Adults; Rabun County Recreation Cent.

July 17 (Tues) Family Picnic, 6 PM, Kelly's Water Falls Park

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

2008 Rabun Rendezvous - Sat, Jan 26 – Program by Sally Armstrong

FLY OF THE MONTH

by Terry Rivers



YARN-WING SPINNER

SOMETIMES SPINNERS GATHER OVER THE WATER IN HUGE SWARMS WHERE THEY MATE, LAY EGGS AND FALL TO THE WATER SPENT WING. WHICH MEANS THERE ARE NOT UPRIGHT BUT HORIZONTAL AND FLUSH WITH THE SURFACE OF THE WATER. SOMETIME THE FISH GO INTO A FEEDING FRENZY AND IF YOU JUST HAPPEN TO BE THERE WHEN THIS OCCURS YOU ARE THE LUCKY FISHERMAN OF THE DAY. JUST BE SURE YOU HAVE A FEW TIED UP IN VARIOUS COLORS AND IN YOUR BOX. IT'S A SIGHT TO BEHOLD.

HOOK: #12-20 FINE WIRE DRY FLY
THREAD: 8/0 TO MATCH DUBBING
TAIL: LIGHT DUN MICROFIBRETS
BODY: SUPERFINE DUBBING, COLOR TO MATCH NATURAL
WING: WHITE HI-VIS YARN (I USE SAME MATERIAL AS A PARACHUTE POST)

The issue of imitation has always occupied fly fishers, and part of its endless attraction has been the imponderable uncertainty of how much it matters to the fish in the first place.

From American Fly Fishing by Paul Schullery

June Hatches

The Bugs	Time of Month	Time of Day	Suggested Flies
None at all	Any Day	Any Time	Dredging Nymphs: 12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, PT
Grey-Brown & Green Caddis	Early	Late PM	14-16 Dark Elk Hair Caddis w/Green 14-16 Dun & Green Caddis Pupa
Speckled Grey-Brown Caddis	Early	Late PM	14-16 Dark Elk Hair Caddis w/Yellow-Brown 14-16 Dun & Yellow Caddis Pupa
Small Dun Caddis	All Month	Mid AM	18 Brown Elk or Deer Hair Caddis 18 Grey Caddis Pupa
Giant Black Stonefly	All Month	Dawn to early AM	4-6 Black Stonefly Nymph
Brown Stonefly	All Month	Early to Mid AM	10-12 Brown Stonefly Nymph
Golden Stonefly	All Month	Early AM	6-10 Golden Stonefly Nymph
Light Cahill Mayfly	All Month	E to L pm	12-14 Light Cahill 12-14 Light Cahill Nymph
Trico Mayfly Trico Spinner Fall	Mid to Late	Mid AM Late PM	20 Parachute Trico 20-22 Poly Wing Black Spinner
Midges	All Month	All Day	18-22 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa
Terrestrials – Ants, Beetles, Crickets, Inch-Worms, Etc		Various Times & Sizes	

You **MUST** read about [Trout in the Classroom](#) That is the subject of our June Chapter Meeting Program on June 19th.
TU Chapter 'Website-of-the-Month': <http://www.blueridgemountaintuonline.com/>
 Great story in newsletter about the Trout in the Classroom release into the Toccoa River: [HERE](#)

Visitor Use Capacity Analysis, Upper Chattooga River

For Status Update April 30, 2007, click [HERE](#)

Forest Service to Develop Alternatives for Upper Chattooga River Recreation Use (5/25/2007 News Release, read it [HERE](#))
 USFS officials announced today completion of the data collection phase for the Upper Chattooga River visitor use capacity analysis. They also outlined plans for a series of meetings to work with the public to develop and evaluate specific alternatives for management of the Upper Chattooga River.

The upper 21 miles of the Chattooga River in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia above US Highway 28 has been zoned to exclude whitewater boating since 1976, shortly after the river was declared a National Wild and Scenic River. Boating is allowed on the lower 36 miles of the Wild and Scenic River. A decision by the Forest Service in 2004 to continue this zoning was challenged by whitewater boaters. Local Forest Service managers in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia were then directed by their Washington Office to conduct a visitor use capacity analysis and reassess the current zoning of recreation uses on the Upper Chattooga.

"We have concluded that the data collected to date is adequate for us to move ahead with the public to develop specific alternatives for management of the Upper Chattooga," said Sumter National Forest Supervisor Jerome Thomas, who is the lead responsible official for conducting this analysis. "We have gathered a considerable amount of data on water flows, user preferences and current on-the-ground conditions. The expert panels we conducted in January gave us useful information about boating and fishing potential of the Upper Chattooga," he said.

He also noted that many citizens worked with the agency as

they collected information for the visitor use capacity analysis.

"We now want to continue to work with the public to develop and evaluate specific alternatives," Thomas said. A final decision the Upper Chattooga is scheduled for December, 2007.

The Forest Service will hold open house meetings in June in Clayton, GA (6/18), Highlands, NC (6/19), and Walhalla, SC (6/21), to share the results of the visitor use capacity analysis and outline how the public can be involved in the development and analysis of alternatives. On July 10, the Forest Service will also hold a formal hearing to document public comments regarding specific suggestions for managing the Upper River corridor. This public hearing will be followed by a full-day workshop on Saturday, July 14 where the public will be asked to provide input on proposed standards for all resources along the Upper Chattooga and management actions that might be needed to ensure those standards are met.

"The Forest Service will use the open houses, public hearing and workshop to provide opportunities for the public to help us develop specific alternatives to analyze in an environmental assessment," Thomas said. There will be additional opportunities for the public to be involved as the environmental analysis is completed this fall. "We hope this continuing public involvement will help establish areas of common ground among the many interests as the Forest Service moves toward a final decision on future management of the Upper Chattooga River," Thomas said.

Additional detailed reports documenting the analysis are scheduled to be posted on this site by June 1.

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/>.

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.

Our Opinion: There should be sections of public streams set aside for “foot travel only” visitors. Bicycles and horses are zoned from certain trails, ATVs are zoned to designated areas, and boating, which substantially interferes with nature-watching, swimming, fishing and other uses, has been zoned away from a relatively small portion of the Chattooga River, the North Fork above Highway 28. The prohibition of select recreation uses in order to preserve the unique qualities of a wilderness or to prevent user conflicts is essential and has been recognized as standard management policy with regard to other unique backcountry areas. For example, Yellowstone National Park continues to not allow whitewater boating, a decision reached after extensive analysis of the impacts of boating on the park resource. The Park Service stated after its analysis, “Whitewater boating would conflict with other established park uses that require the atmosphere of peace and tranquility...” Whitewater boating on the Wild and Scenic Chattooga’s North Fork above Highway 28 similarly compels a decision that the peace and tranquility must be maintained.

On April 30th, the Forest Service posted the [Chattooga River - Phase 1 Data Collection - Literature Review Report](#). To read the complete report, click [HERE](#)

> **On page 5 the report says:** “Several elements can contribute to social conflicts within a recreational setting. Recreational use conflicts can be influenced by user type, the number, type and location of encounters, and user experiences and expectations. Conflict can arise when different types of uses and different types of desired experiences and outcomes occur. Conflict can also occur when expectations about the type and amount of use, such as anticipated encounters, are not what experienced. In addition, place bonding, such as desire to maintain the area under the existing conditions due to familiarity and other emotional bonding factors, can play a role in expectations for the desired recreational experience at a particular location.”

> **Then on page 7 the report says:** “Vaske et al (2006) provide a distinction between interpersonal conflict and social values conflict. Interpersonal conflict occurs when the presence or behavior of an individual or group interferes with the goals of another individual or group. Social values conflict occurs between groups who may not share similar norms and values about an activity and the conflict can occur even when there is no direct contact between the groups.”

> **Then on page 25 the report states:** “*Use Zoning:* Vaske et al (2006) states that zoning incompatible users to different locations can be an effective method of managing conflict that stems from interpersonal conflict.”

> **And in conclusion on page 27, the report states:**

“2.5.1 Summary of Key Findings - Management strategies - As recreational use conflict is an outcome of the recreational use experience, management actions should emphasize protection of high quality resource values and provide measures to monitor the quality of natural resources and user experiences. Specific types of management actions can include providing a range of recreation opportunities, separating conflicting types of uses by temporal or spatial restrictions, or educating users about potential sources of conflict and appropriate behaviors. Management techniques can include factors such as recreational use zoning (separating uses in either time or space); and educating users and managers about the issues.”

Prior to 1968 (the year the Chattooga was recommended for Wild and Scenic River status) a visitor could hike to any section of the 57 miles of the Chattooga River and have a remote backcountry solitude experience. There were only 100 private floats on the entire Chattooga in 1968; in 1974 (just 6 years later) the number of private floats had increased to over 22,000. Click [HERE](#)

The present zoning was implemented in 1976 on the Chattooga’s North Fork to avoid interpersonal recreation conflicts and to protect the outstandingly remarkable values (ORV) of recreation that include wildness, remoteness, and solitude in a “foot travel only” backcountry setting. For the last 30 years the zoning has done exactly that. Now the boaters are demanding “unlimited use” (any time, any number of boats, any water level) of these last few miles of the last truly wild backcountry trout river in the East. For the benefit of present and future generations (and to avoid recreational conflicts) the North Fork must continue to be managed with lower degrees of intensity to protect and enhance the ORVs of this unique section of the Chattooga.

There is absolutely nothing in the [Wilderness Act](#) and/or the [Wild and Scenic Rivers Act](#) that says all compliant uses must be permitted in all sections of a river. **To avoid recreational use conflicts, there should be sections of public streams zoned for “foot travel only” visitors.**

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, Click: [HERE](#)

“When I go fishing I ... want to get away from it all, for it is silence and solitude even more than it is fish that I am seeking ... As for big fish, all is relative. Not every tuna is a trophy.”

William Humphrey

IN MEMORY OF OUR FRIEND, CHARLIE WHARTON

The following article was published 65 years ago in the Outdoor Georgia magazine about our long time friend and Rabun TU member, the late **Dr. CHARLES WHARTON (1923 – 2003)** when he was only 19 years old. Charlie, a resident of Tate City at the head of the Tallulah River, was adjunct research associate at the University of Georgia's Institute of Ecology. His best-known work is The Natural Environments of Georgia. He was highly regarded by his peers. His passionate advocacy of preservation helped save some of the southeast region's unspoiled locations, including the Cooper Creek Scenic Area, the Chattooga National Wild and Scenic River, the Southern Nantahala Wilderness and the Shining Rock Wilderness. To read more about Charlie, visit [HERE](#)

CHARLIE WHARTON, MUSEUM EXPERT LOANED TO OKLAHOMA

CHARLES H. WHARTON, who from time to time has written stories for OUTDOOR GEORGIA on birds, snakes and taxidermy left early in August for Oklahoma. The Division of Wildlife "loaned" Charlie to Oklahoma to organize their museum.

A lasting tribute to the excellence of Charlie's workmanship may be seen in the museum in the state capitol. He caught, mounted, and arranged a representative snake exhibit showing all the poisonous and many non-poisonous species found in Georgia. His wildcat display is a work of art. When his dexterous fingers go to work in a wildlife collection you can be assured of splendid results.

And the lad is gifted. His specimens are amazingly lifelike. In addition he has absorbed a great deal of knowledge on wildlife. He is casually known around the capitol as Curator, Herpetologist, Ornithologist, Taxidermist, Photographer, Geologist, Fossil Expert, and General Handy Man. He's good—no fooling.

Charles is a junior at Emory University. He hopes some day to join an Expedition of the



Charlie is quite an expert on snakes. He is shown here with a glass "snake" which he says is not a snake at all, but a lizard.

Museum of Natural History—that is his pet ambition. In the woods he is a modern Daniel Boone. He seems to glide silently through the forest, and nothing escapes his sharp eye. He would be a marvel at guerrilla warfare. His friends claim he can rub two boy scouts together and start a fire.

At times Charlie seems to appear out of no place at all. You just look around and BINGO—there's Charlie looking solemn and serious. Under the skin, he's a regular fellow and great company. He isn't much given to hilarity, but when his funny bone is touched—you never have seen a fellow get so much pleasure out of a laugh.

And—he plays the fiddle—just like those you find up in the North Georgia Mountains. He thoroughly enjoys hill-billy music. And he can handle the harmonica too, but we will skip the singing.

But Charlie is working on a museum in Oklahoma City and you can bet your chips—when he turns it loose it will be something Oklahoma can be proud to show. Charlie doesn't know how to turn out a bad job.



Charlie inspects one of his specimens.

Our "Thanks" to Rabunite **TOM LANDRETH** for discovering this 1942 article and sharing with **TIGHT LINES** readers.

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.

STEKOA CREEK 2007 Water Samples - Fecal Coliform Counts (#/100ml)

The criteria for body contact sports such as swimming is under 200 #/100ml

Prong	Location \ Date	Mr6	Mr13	Mr20	Mr27	Ap3	Ap10	Ap17	Ap24	My1	My8	My15
7 North	RV Park, Mt City											
1 North	Don'l											
3 North	Dairy Queen	34	53	30	34	22	179	97	48	267	88	118
19 East	Saddle Gap	18										
18 East	Polly Gap	19										
16 West	Kastner Road		245						103			
14 West	Pat Marcellino								181			
8 West	Old Elementary			17								
9 West	Scotts Creek											
11 West	Cool Spring Trib									TNC 230	120	(Leak located & corrected)
2 West	Dental Off, GingCk	89	32									
15 West	Ginger Creek							34				
West	Civic Center									290	176	
21 West	Marsengill				214	149	134	355	346	218	>668	>4080
22 West	Marsengill Sewer X									183		
10 West	City Housing	152	156	119	553	68	124	262	248	209	>664	1867
4 Main	Wedgy's		91			34				134		
20 Main	Stonebrook Inn			51								
5 Main	Radio Lane				194	26	61	173	202	150	326	193
6 Main	Bethel Church		416	339		164						

The following Op-Ed is reprinted from [The Clayton Tribune](#) (5/2/2007) Visit [HERE](#)

Clayton not getting enough credit by Thomas H. Ramey

A lot has been said and written about the conditions of Stekoa Creek. Clayton has done a great job in correcting a lot of the problems. In the last few days, we have been smoke testing a lot of our lines. The lines from the old Clayburne factory were smoked and were clean all the way to Warwoman Road. The line from North Valley Street was done, and all problems were corrected. The line from Stornoway to the elementary school also was tested, and any deficiencies were corrected. The stream that flows alongside the line was tested and showed zero fecal coliform. There are still some problems in Mountain City, and we are preparing to start back on the lines there. Scotts Creek has a hot spot of 217 colonies per 100 milliliters. However, that is above our sewer line and cannot be coming from our collection lines. At any time, we will be working on that line replacing the line with 8-inch plastic SDR 36 or ductile iron where required. We will install manholes with watertight lids and the proper number of manholes for the entire section of the replacement line, approximately 4,000 feet. It was interesting to find the fecal coliform count lowest at a point below our sewer treatment plant. The city should be allowed to proceed with the sewer plant expansion. There is a moratorium on sewer tap-ons

except in Clayton. I want to be able to make tap-ons available anywhere we serve. There are some who do not want growth, and no one wants it to get out of hand; but we need jobs, and our people need places to live. At the hearing held last week, people laughed when Mark Beebe, with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, said some of our problems could be coming from animals, maybe chicken houses and possibly septic tanks. The hot spot on Scotts Creek above our collection lines indicate that Beebe's remarks were right on. Sometimes I think Beebe is too hard on some rules, but he has been fair and has offered good advice, a credit to any department. Clayton has not had adequate funds to do all the things we would like to do, but we are making headway. The criticism that has been hurled at us is not deserved. Our employees have worked hard to improve all our problems, collection lines, meters, roads, sidewalks and many other problems that are dealt with on a daily basis. I want a city I can be proud of. I want streams pretty and clean. I want pretty flowers and trees all around. I want people who will help us, not stand and criticize when we are doing our best.

Thomas H. Ramey is Mayor of Clayton.

Seventeen (17) members of Rabun TU have volunteered their time and vehicle expenses to drive the Stekoa Creek water samples to the certified lab in Jefferson, GA (132 mile round trip) on Tuesday mornings. The volunteer schedule through the summer is as follows: Ray Gentry (6/5), Travis Barnes (6/12), Tom Matthews (6/19), Eedee Adams (6/26), Ray Kearns (7/3), Gary Deal (7/10), Terry Rivers (7/17), Tom Landreth (7/24), Lea Richmond (7/31), Russell Johnson (8/7), Ray Gentry (8/14), Larry Walker (8/21), Kathy Breithaupt (8/28), Charlie Breithaupt (9/4), Bill Kelly (9/11), Jimmy Whiten (9/18), Doug Adams (9/25), and Fritz Vinson (10/2). 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

The May 2007 issue of Rabun's Laurel magazine included an article about the Rabun TU Chapter receiving the National TU's "Embrace-A-Stream" grant for the Stekoa Creek Monitoring. To read the article, visit [HERE](#)

Georgia ForestWatch Joins Stekoa Creek Team

[Georgia ForestWatch](#) members in Rabun County have joined the push from partner organizations [The Chattooga Conservancy](#) and the [Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited](#) to try to convince local, state and federal officials to finally do something to clean up Stekoa Creek. Key to the latest push was the public hearing April 12 in Clayton, where Georgia's Environmental Protection Division took citizen comments on a proposal to vastly increase the capacity of Clayton's sewage treatment plant. Everyone agrees that Clayton must first repair and replace its aging sewer lines – before pumping more pollution into one of the Wild and Scenic Chattooga River's main tributaries. To read the current GA ForestWatch newsletter, visit [HERE](#)

Click on, [We All Live Downstream](#)

Point > and < counterpoint

(The following are excerpts from recent Op-Eds in The Atlanta Journal-Constitution). Visit [Here](#)

POINT: Nature needs a voice – for Georgia's sake (05/08/07)

By Former Governor Roy Barnes

Sally Bethea was recently refused confirmation by the state Senate on the specious basis that she represents an environmental group in real life. That did not keep the same state Senate from confirming several others of like ilk who were on the same appointment list upon which Bethea appeared. Does that mean that no current member of the Board of Natural Resources can serve because they have a development interest or formerly worked as an executive to a utility? Of course not, and neither should it disqualify Bethea. I will tell you from a lifetime of experience in politics, Bethea's non-confirmation was not the result of a serious advice-and-consent role of the state Senate, but rather the work of lobbyists who did not wish to answer some of the tough questions she posed about the safeguarding of our natural resources. With the departure of Bethea, and fellow Board of Natural Resources members Ralph Callaway, Sara Clark and Jim Butler, there is no voice that speaks only for the environment.

For the complete Op-Ed, visit [HERE](#)

COUNTERPOINT: Environment still has defenders on board (5/11/07)

By Earl D. Barrs of Cochran, member of the Board of Natural Resources.

Mr. Barrs operates forestry, real estate and investment companies.

I do not agree with former Gov. Roy Barnes' assumption that it was because she represents an environmental group. I also disagree with Barnes' opinion that with the recent removals of certain board members there is no one left who speaks for the environment. I am not an employee of an environmental organization or any other organization that pays my salary to lobby the legislature for their position. Any opinion that I have is a result of years of life's experience and education, trying to understand more about the world in which we all live, and not one that was formulated by any special interest group.

For the complete Op-Ed, visit [HERE](#)

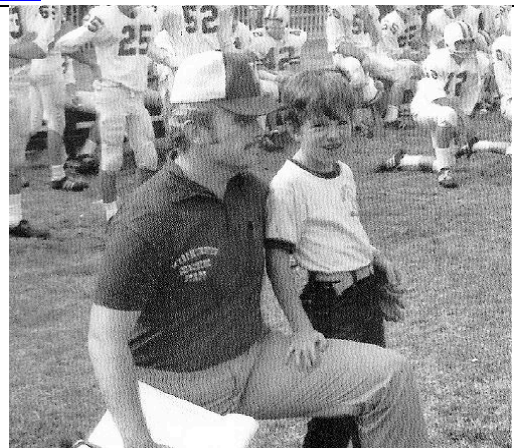
Can You Name These 2 Future Rabunites?

This photograph of 2 future members of the Rabun TU Chapter was taken in 1971, the same year the movie "**Deliverance**" was being filmed over on THE RIVER.

You say you believe they are Burt Reynolds and Brad Pitt?

GOOD GUESS! Certainly they do favor, but Burt and Brad are not current members of Rabun TU.

E-mail your guesses to edadams1@alltel.net. Your guesses and the correct answer will be in the next issue of TIGHT LINES.



Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish; and you will not have to listen to his incessant whining about how hungry he is.

What's New Elsewhere?

Another Chattooga DH Parking Lot Vehicle Break-in on Saturday, 5/12. For details, click [HERE](#)

Chattooga boater at US76 also victim of the "red pick-up truck" thieves on Tues, 5/15. For details, click [HERE](#)

New Executive Director for Little Tennessee Watershed Association (LTWA): Jenny Sanders, formerly the Stekoa Creek Project Manager for the Chattooga Conservancy, has been named the new LTWA Executive Director. Her office is in Franklin, NC.

Editor's Notes: Congratulations Jenny, and best wishes in your new job. Currently Rabun TU volunteers are collecting a series of water samples for laboratory analysis from 3 brook trout streams in the Rabun County headwaters of the Little Tennessee River. In June (under the direction of USFS and GA WRD professionals), the 2007 GA Trout Campers will work on in-stream habitat enhancement in one of those brook trout streams.

Betty Creek Fisheries Study is Underway: Dr. Gary Grossman [HERE](#) is conducting a study in upper Betty Creek of

the displacement of native non-trout species by the introduction of stocked trout. The study has been authorized and funded by GA WRD, click [HERE](#).

Editor's Notes: Gary will be our program speaker for the August Chapter meeting. Rabun and GA TU volunteers just this month worked on the private RGNS section of lower Betty Creek to prepare and enhance in-stream habitat in preparation for the 2007 Trout Camp [HERE](#)

The Wilderness Society opens office in Franklin NC: Brent Martin, the former Executive Director of the LTWA and GA ForestWatch before that, has opened a Wilderness Society office in Franklin, NC. Click [HERE](#)

West Fork Backcountry receives annual helicopter stocking: The equipment and personnel were occupied with the wildfires in south GA and FL, but a break in the weather in early May provided the opportunity. The trout were provided by GA WRD and paid for by fishing license and trout stamp fees. The USFS and anglers split the helicopter costs 50-50. Rabun TU, GA TU Council, and the Atlanta Fly Fishing Club contribute \$1500/year for stocking of trout in the backcountry of the Wild & Scenic Chattooga's North Fork (fall) and West Fork (spring).

The Stop I-3 Coalition is hopping with activity. Investigations have been conducted into inappropriate relations between transportation lobbyists and public officials (click [here](#) for full story from the Atlanta Journal-Constitution). With chronic transportation budget shortfalls, federal highway funds are being rescinded. June elections are approaching to replace the late Charlie Norwood, the Congressman from Georgia's 10th District, who introduced the Interstate 3 legislation. These are among the

factors that add to the Coalition's leverage in stopping this inane proposal. To read the current Stop I-3 newsletter, click [HERE](#)

Unfortunate incident at Burrell's Ford Opinion Expressed in The Macon County News, Franklin, NC (4/27/2007) The writer, Bruce Hare, says "my good friend decided to take his two small children fishing" at Burrell's Ford. He "wanted to take the kids to an easy place with high probability of catching fish." He said that the area was littered with "fishing trash." He also said that illegal fishing activities were observed and there was a complete lack of law enforcement by all responsible county, state DNRs ("even though it's their 'put and take' fishery"), and federal agencies. To read his complete Letter to the Editor, Click [HERE](#)

Editor's Notes: We wonder if Mr. Hare's friend took the time to get descriptions of the violators and their vehicle tags and then report to 911 or the GA DNR 24/7 hotline (800-241-4113). Help from the public is always appreciated. See in **Letters** below "**At 76 Bridge, I discreetly took the tag number**" and the story "**Poachers Caught with the Help of an Alert Angler.**" Click [HERE](#) This is the same Mr. Hare that wrote the Op-Ed we "linked" to in last month's TIGHT LINES. His Op-Ed in the *Smoky Mountain News* (3/28/2007) titled "**In truth, boating won't harm the Chattooga**" stating in part, "As a scientist Mr. Costa completely sidesteps the implications of the Department of Natural Resources' policy of stocking non-native rainbow and brown trout and their infamous 'put and take' fishery that the agency has created at the stocking points and bridges on the headwaters. Those non-native hatchery raised fish bring with them diseases and parasite and genetic deficiencies that are unavoidable with hatchery raised fish." For the complete Op-Ed, Click [HERE](#)

Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, and he will sit in the boat and drink beer all day.

Letters - To and From the Rabunites

At 76 Bridge, I discreetly took the tag number

Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2007

Subject: Re: Macon County News - Letter to the Editor

This is unfortunate and I hate it. As you know, this is a problem on all public lands. Like you said, lots of land and few LEO's. I'm passing this along to our LEO as well. Our new district LEO is still in training and has not arrived yet, but once he does, I'm sure his presence coupled with SC FS and both state agencies will help curtail some of the vagrants. I had a similar unfortunate experience while swimming with family at 76 Bridge this weekend. I discreetly took the tag number, called our LEO and he took care of the problem!

On the bright side, the folks around here take a heck of a lot better care of the land than the last place I worked. Check out this pic of a dead end road. Unfortunately this was not unusual across the forest. I once saw a young boy and father wading through this mess in order to go hunting. Pretty frustrating.

From: Mike Brod – USFS Biologist (and member of Rabun TU) Clayton, GA



Rabun's Laurel publisher sends "Thanks" the Rabunites

Sent: Sunday, April 29, 2007

Subject: Stekoa Creek

Thank you and the rest of the members of Trout Unlimited for your efforts to preserve the beauty God has given us.

From: Tracy McCoy – Publisher, [Rabun's Laurel](#), Clayton, GA

Editor's notes: Tracy, we truly appreciate your publication's continued support of Rabun TU.

Kidd retires and "Thanks" Rabun TU and other partners

Sent: Friday, May 25, 2007

Just a short note to inform everybody - May 31, 2007 will be my last day as a Forest Service employee. I will retire and move on to other things. I sincerely appreciate being able to work with everybody in an effort to protect, conserve and manage our natural resources on the Chattahoochee-Oconee and North Carolina National Forest in the past 30 years. Without your support and help we could not have accomplished what we have been able to do. Strong working partnerships are absolutely essential in being successful in today's world. I sincerely appreciate your help and support over the past years.

The Forest will bring me back as a contractor for a few months to keep ongoing projects on tract. You may reach me at my extension or on my Cell Phone (706) 782-2474. I will only be working two days a week and will probably only be in the office one day. This will last until they fill my position. I estimate that will take around 3-4 months. Fire may impact this, and I may be out of touch on occasion as I will be working as a safety officer when needed.

Once again - Thank You - The Forest map is much greener due to your help and support.

From: Jim Kidd (a Rabunite) – Lakemont, GA

Editor's notes: I believe Jeff Durniak spoke for all of us when he replied: "Congrats, my friend. Nice to hear you'll be hanging

around a while to turn that map just a bit greener. I truly enjoyed working with you for twenty plus years to make coldwater habitat and angling opportunities better in north GA. You deserve much of the credit for maintaining the glue between USFS, DNR, and NGO partners like Trout Unlimited.

There's a lot of green drake hatches on your horizon. All are well deserved. Send me daily, confidential reports, of course. An offer of a ride to the streamside locale would be nice, too. I am too busy working to support you, Adams, Seehorn, Kelly, and other hooligans to have much time myself to scout, you know."

Stekoa - sewage transport system first

To: Dr. Carol Couch - Director Ga. EPD

Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2007

Subject: Ga. Permit 0020923 (City of Clayton Sewage Permit)
I would like to express my reservations about this permit for the following reasons:

- This plant and its system is in the Stekoa Creek watershed. This stream is on your TMDL list and is impaired for fecal coliform.
- This creek has been channelized and has a tremendous sediment load, both of which cause it not to function as it should. Plus, there has been a recent deposition of fill in the flood plain (a mountain has been leveled and moved) which may cause the plant to flood.
- The infrastructure of the system is in disrepair.
- This system serves much of the developed (and future developed) areas of Rabun County. However, it is run by the City of Clayton which is not accountable to the full citizenry of the county.
- Rabun County should have Comprehensive Plans that address flood plains, ground water recharge, wetlands protection, etc. This plant and its transport system cannot operate without impacting these. I don't understand why the county is not the principle party in this matter, or at least involved responsibly.

There is no doubt the plant expansion is needed, but I believe better planning and involvement by the County and an extensive, funded plan to upgrade the sewage transport system should precede the plant's permit approval.

From: Respectfully, Larry S. Walker - Lakemont, GA (Member of Rabun TU)

Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Subject: Statewide Water Planning

The plan should include support for local governments to fund the replacement and repair of old sewage treatment infrastructure. For example, the city of Clayton, Georgia's sewage piping system is 50-60 years old and is polluting Stekoa Creek (a trout stream tributary of the Chattooga River). So far, the city has taken a hit and miss approach to fixing the problem.

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

Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Unless he doesn't like sushi - then you also have to teach him to cook.
(Auren Hoffman)

Fishing Reports & Trout Tips

Sent: Friday, May 18, 2007

Subject: Burton Fishing Report

Lake Burton is noted for trophy fish and currently holds the state record for spotted bass and yellow perch. For those interested in an overlooked species, Lake Burton is an untapped resource for trophy-sized carp. Yes, CARP! The 32 lb carp in the picture was one of many big carp that we observed while electrofishing

A long term, fully funded, plan to upgrade the system is needed. I suggest the statewide water plan provide grants for this type of project. Thank you,

From: Larry Walker - Lakemont, GA

PS Here is a link to the statewide water planning going on. We missed the public meetings in NE GA, but there is still opportunity to track the process and have input (to EPD, and ultimately to the legislature). <http://www.gadnr.org/gswp/>

Sen. Schaefer works for Stekoa Clean-up

Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2007

Subject: Stekoa Creek Update in TIGHT LINES May 2007

I have brought the Stekoa to the attention to many at the Capitol. Solutions should have been decided upon. I trust work has been or is being done. Let me know.

From: Nancy Schaefer - State Senator, 50th District

Old Fiends write they enjoy the newsletter

Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2007

Subject: Re: TIGHT LINES May 2007 Newsletter

Thanks for sending the Tight Lines newsletter. I enjoy reading your chapter's good work and fishing tales. Have a good year fishing.

From: Don Eng - Columbia, SC

Editor's notes: *I have known Don since the start of The Chattooga Coalition in 1985.*

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2007

Subject: Tight Lines Surprise

I usually skim Tight Lines for pictures and mentions of the Adams family and read some of the articles about the North Fork fight, but today I saw something I never thought to see - the words "jetes" and "pirouettes" mentioned. You included a wonderful quote from "I Don't Know Why I Swallowed the Fly" (creative use of that title) by Jessica Maxwell where she used dance terms for her fishing quote. It was so picturesque -even non-fisherpersons could appreciate.

From: Jane Miller - Woodstock, VA

Editor's notes: *You just never know what an Editor may decide to print. Jane is not an angler, but she is a longtime family friend.*

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2007

Subject: RABUN TU NEWSLETTER

Want you to know what an incredible job you're doing with the newsletter. It couldn't be better. I look forward to each issue. A five star publication.

From: Russ Tyre - St Petersburg Beach, FL (a charter Rabunite)

Editor's notes: *Russ has been my buddy since we first met in the 7th grade. We have camped and trout fished together for over 50 years. He may be saying all those nice things in hopes I will share my latest "secret spot."*

along the shoreline upstream of the Lake Burton Bridge (Hwy 76). The area around the YMCA Camp is loaded with trophy-sized carp that are cruising the shoreline in preparation of spawning. I imagine that fly fishers armed with a 9-weight rod could have a blast that matches the excitement of a coastal bone fishing trip.

From: "Anthony Rabern" <Anthony_Rabern@dnr.state.ga.us>

Dredger Report (5-19 and 20): Hit unnamed river two evenings this past weekend, one with new fishing buddy Pat S from Athens. Fishing slow while sun was up, but the switch turned on as the sun fell and the bugs came out. "Dark-thirty" is on! It can start anywhere from 7 til 8:15 PM, depending on when the insects hatch or come down to lay eggs. Caddis, mayflies, stoneflies- a buffet! Saturday's switch-flip was early (6:30) but Sunday was later (8). Best bets: #14 yellow stimulator with a long dropper (4 ft) to a #16 pheasant tail nymph or soft hackle hare's ear during the day. Add a small shot above the wt fly. Fish deeper water in the SHADE. Near dark, cut the dropper in half (2 ft) and tie on either a #16 yellow sally stonefly (dry) or #16 light cahill (dry). We had luck with one brook trout, a bunch of rainbows, and even some strong, sleek wild browns up to 11 inches. Find the bug hatches and you'll find the fish! Rabunites

will understand that we "stepped" into them! As it gets flat-out dark at 9 PM, you can still see that big ole Stimulator out there, 20 feet from you, acting as your strike indicator. Drift drag-free til the fish you don't catch on round 1 smarten up. Then jiggle your tandem rig to make it look like your flies are laying eggs, so you can catch the rest of them! You have another week or two on these big, freestone rivers until they warm, the hatches subside, and you wait til next fall or begin to travel uphill, north to NC, west to MT, or below a big GA dam. The current drought does not bode well for our larger trout streams. Start your rain dances! Check your flashlight batteries and your stream thermometer.

From: Jeff Durniak – A Rabunite
Good luck. www.gofishgeorgia.com

Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish - and you've got the whole weekend to yourself.

A True Story: The Turkey Foot and my Aged Naivety By Patsy P. Lewis-Gentry

Naïve at my age, I think not! At least this is what I thought until my family and I decided to drive up to Clayton, GA to support our fellow Rabunite (fly fishing buddy) Tom Landreth as he displayed his artwork on the square. Arriving around noon, my husband, Ray immediately found the perfect parking place one-half a block from the town square. As my son, John, his wife, Susan, Ray and I emerged from the car excitement filled the air. Making our way up the sidewalk from our vehicle we could hear bluegrass music playing with throngs of folks wandering throughout Main Street "taking in" the wares of the various vendors and artisans. Approaching Main Street was Tom Landreth's white tent with all of his superb paintings, framed and unframed. Always smiling, Tom chuckled signaling he was in rare form as his lovely wife looked on. After making pleasantries and introducing the Landreth's to my children, John and Susan, we looked at all of Tom's new pieces of work. We couldn't have been prouder of our friend and his talent. From Tom's booth, we spied another one of Ray's fly-fishing friends, Doug Adams and his wife, Eedee. They were keeping time to the bluegrass music sitting near the stage of the musicians. Having talented offspring in the music profession, this was only natural for them to be front row and center. I smiled. This was going to be the best day, for I could feel it in my bones. Taking lead, I began "to smoke over the vendors" as I meandered down the corridor in front of Reeves Hardware. Talented and not so talented artisans displayed their wares for sale. Then something caught my eye. A turkey foot! A real preserved turkey foot mounted on a wooden base. My first thought: This will make a wonderful addition to our fly tying/art studio at home. The room had become the center of family and friends when they visited. No matter how hard we suggested our guest to retire into our living room to sit, they would always come back to our family room. Why, I do not know? You see, the room is filled with antlers on the mantel from Montana, a spear from Kenya, mounted antelopes, deer, trout and even a badger. Glass eyes peep out at you from all angles of the room. From fly-fishing creels to old bamboo rods on the walls to the displays of bugs and pickled snakes on the wide windowsills, the room speaks of wildlife. There is even a converted gun cabinet housing my collection of native American artifacts. Throughout this crowded room are the trappings of my husband and my individual passions; fly tying bench with all Ray's fly tying paraphernalia and my art-journalism files, art supplies, computer and drawing desk for me. With the comfortable chairs and the fireplace, our personal cozy nest pleases us and seems to attract everyone else. "I have wild turkey feathers on the mantel, but nothing like a mounted wild turkey on the walls. This preserved turkey foot will work." I thought. "It seems logical to buy this foot, besides it was mounted on a wooden base perfect for placement on the mantel next to the elk horns, buffalo horns and the bronzes." More stuff..... As I reached into my pocket for the \$5, I noticed my husband giving me "the look". "Honey, it is only \$5. With all the wild turkey we feed each day, this will be perfect. It will go along with all of your other mounted animals in our family room." Ray just shook his head and murmured. I couldn't quite understand what he said. Picking up the turkey foot, I turned to Ray and I recall questioning him about the color of the foot. "Don't you think this is the better likeness of a turkey foot in color?" By then, Ray was slipping out of the booth. Handing the \$5 for my prized purchase to the artisan, she said, "Would you like to have the saying that goes with the turkey foot?"

Thinking this to be a paragraph regarding the specie of wild turkey, I immediately smiled and said, "Why, thank you." As I walked out of the booth with mounted turkey foot in hand, I read the saying the friendly artisan had given me; *"Shoot the Bird and They won't Say a Word."* Here I was proudly walking through the throngs of crowded attendees of Celebrate Clayton on the Main Street in Clayton, GA holding a turkey foot with the middle toe pointed to the sky (the other toes were curled back). I had just bought an obscene turkey foot and didn't even realize it; at my age, too, and a Grandmother, no less. As I tried to hide the foot in the curve of my hand and against my blouse, I noticed Ray....far, far away. Rushing to meet him, I was embarrassed at my stupidity. "Ray did you know this turkey foot was "shooting the bird?" He only bowed his head while shaking it from side to side. I could hear him laughing inside as he left me walking alone down the crowded corridor. Looking up I saw my two children, John and Susan. All I heard from my forty year old son, John was, "Oh, Mother," as he quickly turned and walked passed me toward our automobile. Now, how can a grown woman not see what the significance of this foot represented? I was only thinking of another part of our wildlife collection for our special room at home. And, what a special specimen it is! Naivety doesn't go away with childhood, I found out Saturday at Celebrate Clayton. Apparently, this trait is going to follow me to the grave.....along with the mounted turkey foot pointed toward the sky.



Shoot the Bird and They won't Say a Word.

Sally Armstrong, TU Volunteer Operations Coordinator, will present 2008 Rabun Rendezvous program

Sally ("Our Gal Sal" at National Trout Unlimited - Arlington, VA) is a native of Greenville, South Carolina. She graduated from Wofford College with a Bachelor of Arts in Religion. Sally believes that there is a definite correlation between fishing and religion. (like in "A River Runs Through It" ?) She has been fly-fishing since an early age and her recent adventure lead her to Labrador, Canada. When she is not on the river she loves to read, travel, and cook. Sally has been attending the Rabun Rendezvous since she was in middle school. If you want something done at National, call "Our Gal Sal". Her program will be stories from the "inside of operations" at Headquarters.

"BACKCASTING"

May 2 – 6 (Wed - Sun) Camping & Fishing Chattooga Backcountry with Camping at Cherry Hill C.G. About 20 folks participated. The food and fellowship were great, as usual. The menu featured a chef's special each evening with gourmet Dutch oven cooking both for breakfast and dinner. The backcountry fishin' and catchin' were wonderful, as were the campfire stories. **WAaahWHooo!**

May 5 (Sat) Tailwater TU Chapter Fundraiser – 2 Rabunites attended: A small but enthusiastic crowd gathered and shared a great meal of ribs and all the trimmings. A lot of work had gone into collecting an impressive array of bucket raffle items and stuff for the silent auction, including one of Griz's rods and a Tom Landreth painting. Vic Alosio, Pat Mawhinney and Duane Stalnaker kept the evening moving smoothly and some folks went home with a truckload of loot. It was a fun evening in a good location and the Tailwater Chapter raised some money for their projects. **WAaahWHooo!**

May 15 (Tues) Annual Family Cookout with Mentoring of Boy and Girl Scouts About 35 Rabunites and about 25 Scouts and leaders enjoyed a beautiful evening of fishing and fellowship. We want to express our appreciation to [Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School](#) for the use of this wonderful facility. We also want to thank the [GA WRD - Burton Hatchery](#) for the loan of the 28 rods and reels. And a big "Thank You" to the [Bass Pro Shops](#) that donated fishing reels so that every boy and girl went home with their own personal fishing reel. **WAaahWHooo!**

May 18 (Fri) Community Awareness Day, Rabun County Civic Center (8am to 5am) – 12 Rabunites helped with the set-up, the manning of the booth, and the take down the Rabun TU booth/display. The mission accomplished was to inform the public about the activities of the Rabun TU Chapter, to sign-up folks for the one-day fly-fishing school on 7/14, and to recruit new TU members. Patsy (drawing flies) and Ray Gentry (tying flies) were in 3 photos on the "feature" page of the 5/24 issue of The Clayton [Tribune](#).

May 19 (Sat) Workday - Betty Creek: About 20 folks representing 4 GA TU chapters (ORCTU, UCCTU, TWCTU, and 14 Rabunites) gathered at 8:30 am for hot coffee and donuts provided by Charlie B. Everyone put on their wading attire and went to work at 9 am preparing Betty Creek for the 2007 GA Trout Campers. For the entire ¾ mile length, the low limbs were cut and cleared in short order. Two 3'w X 3'h X 6'long gabions (wire baskets) were assembled and placed in beat #2. The crew went to work filling the gabions (54 cu ft each) with native creek stones. The entire work project was completed before noon and beat #2 now has some new and improved trout habitat. Two more gabions are assembled and waiting for the next workday. PS Guess who forgot and left one wading boot in the field. No, it wasn't Frank. Yep, it was Prez Terry. And Frank found it and Frank got to return it! **WAaahWHooo!**

May 19 (Sat) Blue Ridge Mountain TU Chapter High Country Boil –2 Rabunites attended: A bunch of self-professed hillbillies that make up the Blue Ridge Mountain TU Chapter gathered at Jay Campbell's home conveniently located on the banks of the Toccoa River for their second annual "High Country Boil". A high country boil is just like a low country boil except you do it up in the mountains where there ain't so many bugs and the water is clear and cold. After an afternoon of fishing, a crowd of at least 40 folks enjoyed some good eating and a lot of fun with a raffle and a live auction. A "year in review" PowerPoint presentation showed the many activities of the members, especially the "Trout in the Classroom" project. The evening was a big success.

May 22 (Tues) BOD Meeting Beside (I.D.B.I.S.) trout stream with 10 BOD members attending. The items discussed included: renaming Stool Ray to Chili Ray, the 1-Day Fly fishing School for adults (7/14); our 2008 Rabun Rendezvous program presenter – Sally Armstrong, National TU Volunteer Operations Coordinator; progress with the Stekoa Creek Project, nominations for F/Y 2008 Chapter officers; Chapter treasury report; GA TU Council meeting (5/29); 14 BtB stream water samples to be collected on (5/31); Chattooga River Clean-up (6/3); 2008 GA Trout camp; Reed Creek electro fishing with GA WRD (6/19); Chapter meeting program (6/19); annual Chattooga North Fork electro sampling (7/10 & 11); family picnic (7/17); bug sampling on a Sat & Sun in Sept or Oct; fundraiser for the purchase of an AED (Automated External Defibrillator); fly hatch over the outhouse; green drakes & coffin flies.

"Cannon's Creel" has a new location (5/17/2007)

I have just recently left [Georgia Outdoor News](#) and began working in Augusta for Morris Communications. I will be helping out in the "Sporting Group" in the National Magazines Division, which produces [Gray's Sporting Journal](#), [American Angler](#), [Saltwater Fly Fishing](#), and [Fly Tyer](#) Magazines.

In light of this, I'm sad to say that "Cannon's Creel," my monthly column on fly-fishing Georgia, has been discontinued. Daryl Kirby, GON's Managing Editor, was the one who came up with the idea to reach Georgia's fly anglers with the column. So, I can't thank him enough for the opportunity - it was a lot of fun putting it together each month and a great learning process for me. And, to all of the many people who gave me fishing reports and great content to relay to the beginning and novice fly anglers in our state, well, I really appreciate it.

Over the months, the response to the column really grew and at every TU Chapter meeting and fly-fishing gathering I attended, more and more people would approach me and tell me that they had started reading it. And, that's all because of the great help I received from the real experts in our state. Since it will no longer be in print, I've decided to continue the "column" online. It can now be found at the following web address: <http://CannonsCreel.blogspot.com>

If you have any feedback, or if you would like to see a certain topic covered or simply have a question, feel free to leave a comment on the blog. Thanks to all of you who read the column while it was in GON. I really appreciate it!

From: David Cannon (a young Rabunite) - Morris National Magazines

Georgia Trout Unlimited is a Member of



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The Chattooga Fairies

(By golly, you don't have to believe it, - - if you don't want to.)

Imagine yourself walking on the trail from the East Fork down to Burrell's Ford just after nightfall (about 9:30 on a moonless night) and seeing hundreds of little blue lights hovering about two feet off the ground, emitting a continuous, dim, blue glow as they move ever so slowly about, here and there. If you believe in the mythology of fairies, why, there they are carrying little blue lanterns as they make their way to wherever it is fairies go at night. If you insist on reality, then you're looking at Blue Ghost fireflies, (Phausis reticulata) a species that calls the moist forests of the Southern Appalachians home, and one that makes it's yearly appearance in the Chattooga's North Fork watershed in mid May. To read more, visit <http://hometown.aol.com/tdon1511/myhomepage/index.html>

Each year in May, many Rabunites take their spouses, children, and grandchildren for a night walk in the Ellicott Rock Wilderness "to see the fairies." Here is the report of one recent walk:

Sent: Friday, May 11, 2007

Subject: Chattooga Fairies

We had a fantastic experience last night. What a wonderful display of Gods wonders. Those little glowing critters were all over the area and floating softly over the forest floor. Patsy was also overwhelmed and we both appreciate you mentoring us to enjoy this special experience. Twinkies and Fairies do really exist and what a great experience to see them. Thanks

From: Ray Gentry (a Rabunite) - Sautee, GA

Editor's notes: Look for **Patsy's** story of this experience in the next issue of TIGHT LINES.

Our thanks to **Buzz Williams** of the Chattooga Conservancy for giving us the Latin name for the "Chattooga fairies".

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Big Rabunite welcome to **4 new members** this month: **Donald Early** (transfer), PO Box 87, Wiley, GA 30581; **Taylor Marchman**, 265 Timber Creek Drive, Clayton; **John Hill**, 1780 Lake Dow Road, McDonough, GA 30252; and **Randy Suddeth**, 1760 Rickman Airfield Road, Clayton.

Thanks for re-upping: **Philip Koch, Charles Jenkins, Monte Seehorn, Max Gates, Ronald McKenney, Joseph Gatins, Terry Rivers,, Allan Ramsay, Arthur Guthas, and Walt Landreth.**

It is time to renew your membership: **Terrell Dodgins, Edwin Wayne Clark, Gary Breece, Dylan Bradley, Dwayne Hunnicutt, Adam Wilkerson, Reid Cannon, Greg Roane, James Friedman, David Cannon, David Bentley, Rachael Davis, Maria Rodeghiero, Brooks & Amanda Adams, Virlyn Florence, Duane Campbell, Jeremy Strauss, Kyle Burrell, and Allison Adams.**

Our best wishes to **Jim Kidd** as he begins his next life following his retirement from the Forest Service at the end of May. We wish a speedy recovery to **Ray Kearns** following his surgery to be re-kneed. Congratulations to Rabunite **Pat Gorman**, his tennis team won the central New Jersey championship for his high school size. Must be the fly-casting that helped the stroke....

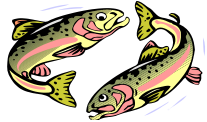
Rabun TU Officers & Directors for F/Y2007

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 & Campouts) - Bill Kelly
Director (w/Website) - Kathy Breithaupt
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Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to use the Internet and he won't bother you for weeks.



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

Hi All,

Well the month of May has past and I hope you all had some exciting fishing. I know I have enjoyed it greatly. I just hope the rains come soon; we certainly do not need another summer like last year.

We had a busy month of May, with the Boy Scouts at our family get together at Indian Lake all seemed to have had a great time.

Thanks to all that helped at the Civic Center, maybe we impressed a few, only time will tell.

The camping trip we had at Cherry Hill turned out to be a great trip. Lots of good fellowship and great food. Thanks to all that came and helped.

Our chapter has had a great year and I just hope it will continue to grow. With your support and dedication it will continue to protect and enhance our coldwater resources. We have a great bunch of people and we need more so spread the word. Invite your neighbors and friends to join us.

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

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