



TIGHT LINES September 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/>

If all the big fish that got away were in the sea, there wouldn't be any room for the water.

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 only reason I ever played golf in the first place was so that I could afford to hunt and fish."

Sam Snead

"FORWARD CASTING" Important Dates – See you there!

Sept 8 (Sat) GA TU Council Meeting 9 AM at the Atlanta Fly Fishing School in Cumming.

Sept 13 (Thurs) Deadline for Comments - Chattooga North Fork on 6 Preliminary Management Alternatives. Click [HERE](#)

Sept 13-16 (Thur - Sun) TU's Annual Meeting Grove Hotel in Boise, Idaho.

Sept 18 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust;
Program – Russ Burken –Why I go to Alaska each year

Sept 22 (Sat) GA DNR Outdoor Adventure Day at Unicoi State Park. Lots of volunteers needed to help. For details on how you can volunteer, contact Carl Riggs, President of UCCTU. He has agreed to coordinate the TU volunteers again this year. E-mail CRiggs@Pactiv.com

Sept 25 (Tues) Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 PM, Community B & T

Sept 29 (Sat) Forest Service Workshop on the 6 Prelim. Alternatives. Click [HERE](#) Location to be announced soon.

Oct 2 – 6 (Tue – Sat) Campout and Fishing Camping at Cherry Hill C.G. (with hot shower, flush toilets & tables). Fishing on Tues – Thurs then (See next item)

Oct 5 & 6 (Fri & Sat) The Chattooga River Macroinvertebrate Study 9:30 AM at Stumphouse (SC) USFS Office – Many volunteers needed!

Oct 16 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust;
Program – To Be Announced

Oct 23 (Tues) Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 PM, Community B & T

21st Annual Rabun Rendezvous - Sat, January 26 2008
Program by Sally (Our Gal Sal at National TU) Armstrong

FLY OF THE MONTH

by Terry Rivers



BROOK TROUT CROUSER

I'M NOT TOO MUCH INTO WARM WATER FLY FISHING BUT LATELY I'VE HEARD TOO MUCH ABOUT WHEN THE TROUT ARE JUST NOT CO-OPERATING. I'VE FOUND OUT THAT THERE'S A LOT OF FUN TO BE HAD DURING THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER. I'VE FOUND OUT THAT THERE'S A LOT OF FUN TO BE HAD WITH POPPIN BUGS AND CROUSER'S. IT'S EASY TO TIE AND THE FISH LOVE THEM. I LANDED 8 SHOAL BASS ON THIS FLY ON AUG 20TH.

HOOK: # 1 / #2/0

THREAD: WHITE 6/0

EYES: SMALL LEAD BARBELLS PAINTED WHITE WITH BLACK PUPILS

BELLY:: WHITE BUCKTAIL (SPARSE) OVER WHICH IS TAN BUCKTAIL (SPARSE)

UNDER-WING: A FEW STRANDS OF PINK KRYSTAL FLASH OVER WHICH IS ORANGE BUCKTAIL (SPARSE)

WING: BLACK BUCKTAIL (SPARSE) OVER WHICH IS PEACOCK (SPARSE)

NOSE: FIRE ORANGE 6/0 UNI-THREAD

Dear Mr. Charlie,

Trout camp was a lot of fun. I now get to show my dad and other people things that they do not know how to do. Thank you for a great time.

Sincerely, Bill Flowers – Columbus, GA

September Hatches

The Bugs	Time of Month	Time of Day	Suggested Flies
None at all	Can happen any time on any day		Dredging Nymphs: 12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, PT #14 Parachute Adams is always a good searching pattern
Small Dun Caddis	All Month	Mid AM to Late PM	18 Brown Elk or Deer Hair Caddis 18 Grey Caddis Pupa
Speckled Grey-Brown Caddis	Late	Late PM	14-16 Dark Elk Hair Caddis w/Yellow-Brown 14-16 Dun & Yellow Caddis Pupa
Large October Caddis	Late	Early AM and Late PM	8-10 Ginger Elk Hair 8-10 Ginger Caddis Pupa
Trico Mayfly Trico Spinner Fall	Early	AM 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, Hoppers, Yellow Jackets, Etc			Various Times & Sizes

First Installment in a 3-Part series:

Lay Down Your Misconceptions and Pick Up a Fly Rod

Learning the sport of fly-fishing, and how to do it on the cheap, is a lot easier than most people think.

By David Cannon – A Young Rabunite

I find that as I'm out on the water or anywhere that fly fishing might come up in conversation, I'm consistently running across people who have a lot of incorrect assumptions about my favorite pastime. And it just so happens that there's just not really a whole heck of a lot to write about regarding Georgia trout fishing in August, save the tailwaters and headwaters we've talked about the last two months. So I thought it would be a great opportunity to address some of the misconceptions that keep many from ever giving the fly rod a chance.

Misconception No. 1: Fly-fishing is too expensive. If anyone can argue *against* this point, it's me! I'm 24, at the beginning of my career, have just purchased my first house and am recently married. (Catch-and-release won't be practiced on this one!) Case-in-point: I can pinch pennies!

Regardless of what you may have heard, you can get completely outfitted for the trout stream for peanuts. So, let's begin by making a list of everything that you'll need to get started in the sport.

A rod (graphite)

A reel

Fly line (weight-forward or double-tapered)

Leaders and tippet material

Waders and felt-soled wading boots (or boot-foot waders)

Flies

A fly box

Tools (nippers, forceps and tie-fast)

A vest or chest pack

What we'll do from here is go with the least-expensive equipment that actually works. I recommend starting this way because, even if you can afford to sink a few-thousand dollars into outfitting, it's frustrating when you get all geared up for a new activity and find that you hate it. I don't think that will happen with fly-fishing, but you never know. Above and beyond that, you will be able to find suitable upgrades when you feel the need for them. Trust me, catalogs will begin to magically appear in your mailbox once you buy your first piece of equipment. Funny how that happens, huh?

Alright, so let's talk rods. From my experience, \$40 seems to

be the magic number. The first rod I bought was \$40; a graphite nine-foot five-weight that I still use as my primary rod (make sure that the rod you buy is graphite, not fiberglass; either IM-6 or IM-7). No, it doesn't have the action of a \$600 rod, but it does exactly what I need it to do: get my line and my fly (or flies) to the desired target. Will I eventually upgrade to a better rod? Absolutely!

My most recent rod purchase was a 7'6" 5-weight Eagle Claw Trailmaster fly rod. It's a five-piece rod that fits nicely into a backpack or duffle bag, which makes it great for vacations or for someone who frequently travels for their job. The cost of this rod was also \$40. And, I found that I got a lot more than a good rod for that price; I got outstanding customer service. The rod was broken several months after the purchase due to my own neglect. I left it sitting in the driveway after a good cleaning and a certain member of my family backed over it with their car. I sent an email to the people at Eagle Claw and received a quick reply. In a matter of days, I had a brand new rod with a hard case at no cost to me, even though it was completely my fault. So, you don't have to buy a top-of-the-line rod to receive top-of-the-line service.

I paired the nine-foot rod with a \$10 reel nabbed off of eBay wound with \$10 fly line (if you're going to be fishing bigger waters like the 'Hooch, Chattooga or Toccoa, buy better line). The reel has a click-drag system, which is alright, but I've recently upgraded to a large-arbor reel with a disc-drag system that works like a dream. Combined with my \$40 rod. This set-up has helped me land around 400 fish, including numerous fish over 20 inches, in the past year and a half. That's about 20 cents per fish!

Leaders and tippet material can be grabbed for a few dollars at your local evil-corporate-retailer or pick them up at your local fly shop and get some free expert advice while you're there. Start off with 3X, 4X, and 5X leader packs and tippet spools. You should be able to get all of this for around \$40 total.

Installment 2 in the next issue will cover waders, basic flies & fly box, tools, and vest or pack

Follow-up comments on the July 14th Fly Fishing Seminar for Adults - Rabunite 101

For photos of the seminar activities, visit [HERE](#)

Editor's notes: See the seminar report in the August *TIGHT LINES* under "Backcasting" [HERE](#).

Sent: Monday, July 16, 2007

Subject: Congrats On TU Program Success
Dear C and K, Nice newbie program!

Thanks for teacher accommodations. We're easy. If we're fed and watered, we'll work, right? I felt special- I had Sheila as our lead instructor. She did great!!!!

Here is fly box key- electronic version. Edit and use any way you want to. My point to audience is that fly-fishing can be fun, simple and inexpensive. <http://www.bigflyco.com/> ; <http://www.percysflies.com/> ; <http://www.blueflycafe.com/> ; <http://www.troutflies.com/tutorials/>

I said they could catch fish 90+% of the time with just these flies. It's not WHAT they use, it's WHERE and HOW they use it. And they ought to start on a golf course bream pond before adding moving water, tree branches, and trout to the fly-fishing mix. <http://www.troutnut.com/> "Lead is my friend."

I see a "canned" program developing, one that all TU chapters and other clubs can use to teach newbies and chum up new members. Thanks for invitation to help out Rabun TU. Good luck on future efforts!

From: Jeff Durniak – Gainesville, GA www.gofishgeorgia.com

Key To Trout Fly Box

Dry: Adams- dark mayfly (sizes 14-18)	Dry: Light Cahill- light mayfly (sizes 14-18)	Dry: Elk Hair Caddis (tan) (sizes 14-18)	Dry: Stimulator (stonefly) (size 14)
Nymph: Pheasant tail (sizes 16-18)	Nymph: Hare's ear (sizes 14-18)	Larva: Caddis (olive) (sizes 14-18)	Nymph: Stonefly (sizes 12-14)
Nymph: Prince (attractor) (sizes 14, 16)	Streamer: Woolly bugger (black, olive, size 8)	Egg Fly: peach Glo bug (size 12)	Worm: San Juan worm (size 12)

Fly pattern honorable mentions:

Dries: black ant, Griffith's gnat, blue wing olive, yellow humpy, royal coachman

Wets: soft hackles- pheasant tail, hare's ear, partridge and yellow, Lafontaine sparkle pupa

Nymphs: bead heads of nymphs above, lightning bug, midge larva (size 18, 20)

Streamers: white zonker, muddler minnow

NOTE: To fool a trout, look at existing bugs in or on stream, then match: 1) place in water column, 2) size, 3) color.

NOTE: Most trout are near the bottom 95% of the time, where the groceries are and the predators are not!

NOTE: Search (Google) for local hatch chart for your target stream (ex: "Tight Lines" [HERE](#))

'Website-of-the-Month': <http://www.troutnut.com/>

Check out: [Landscapes & Trout](#)

Forest Service Requests Your Comments on Alternatives for Managing Recreation Uses on the Chattooga North Fork [HERE](#)

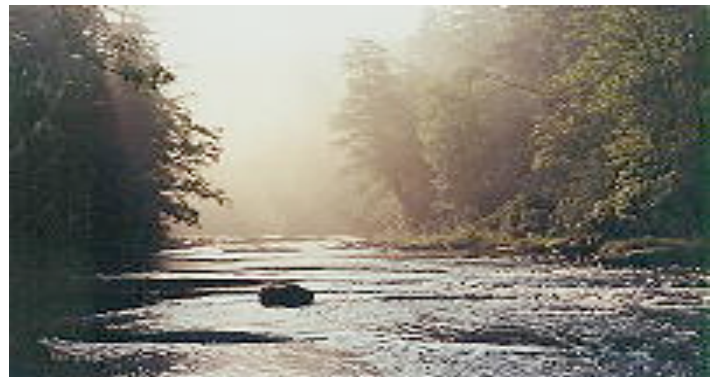
Throughout this process, the public has expressed agreement on their desire to protect and enhance the outstandingly remarkable values of the Chattooga River (geology, biology, scenery, recreation and history); maintain a sense of solitude away from modern life; offer a remote wilderness experience; preserve the spectacular scenery and setting; and protect the natural resources of the North Fork of the Chattooga Wild and Scenic River that make this area a special and unique place. In the NEPA process, these goals collectively are called a "desired condition." Issues related to how to achieve this desired condition include:

1. Should there be new standards limiting trailheads, trails and/or campsites?
2. Should there be new standards limiting group sizes, encounters between user groups and/or access?
3. Should there be new boating opportunities on the Chattooga River?
4. Should there be new standards limiting group sizes, encounters between user groups and/or access if new boating opportunities are allowed?

a world apart

CHATTOOGA'S NORTH FORK

the last refuge for remoteness and solitude and FREE OF USER CONFLICTS



Scoping Package Now Available: [HERE](#) The following are brief descriptions of the 6 management alternatives”

Alternative #1: Maintain Current Management; foot travel only. Enhance woody debris recruitment. No boating above the Highway 28 Bridge.

Alternative #2: Primary objective is to manage encounters among existing users; foot travel only. No parking lots inside the Corridor boundary & a permitting system will be implemented for all existing users. Enhance woody debris recruitment (no removal). No boating above the Highway 28 Bridge.

Alternative #3: Primary objective is to manage biophysical impacts on natural resources; foot travel only. Emphasis is on trail and campsite mitigation. Enhance woody debris recruitment (no removal). No boating above the Highway 28 Bridge.

Alternative #4: Primary objectives are to manage biophysical impacts on natural resources and encounters between users. Emphasis is on trail and campsite mitigation. Limited woody debris removal allowed. Year-round any level boating on USFS lands upstream of Bull Pen Bridge and Limited boating in the Wilderness to ¼ mile above Burrell’s Ford Bridge (4 winter months & 2.4 ft level and higher). Up to 4 groups of 6 (24 boaters) per day. No boating between Burrell’s Ford and Highway 28 Bridge.

Alternative #5: Primary objectives are to manage biophysical impacts on natural resources and encounters between users. Emphasis is on trail and campsite mitigation. Limited woody debris removal allowed Boating allowed between Grimshawes Bridge and Lick Log Creek (year-round at 2.3 ft and higher). Up to 4 groups of 6 (24 boaters) per day. No boating between Lick Log Creek and Highway 28 Bridge.

Alternative #6: Primary objectives are to manage biophysical impacts on natural resources and encounters between users. Emphasis is on trail and campsite mitigation. Limited woody debris removal allowed. Unlimited boating is allowed on entire river and tributaries upstream of Highway 28 Bridge (year-round, any time, any water level, any number of floaters per day).

For more details of these alternatives and a side-by-side comparison table, click [HERE](#)

Even if you have commented previously, you need to share your views specifically on these 6 alternatives. **The Forest**

Service would appreciate your comments on potential environmental effects of the alternatives, such as:

Biological (effects on flora and fauna, large woody debris, natural ecological and biological processes, etc)

Physical (parking, trailhead, trail, campsite, erosion, litter, sanitary, etc)

Aesthetic values (solitude, remoteness, wildness, protecting endangered experiences, intangibles, psychological components, etc)

Social (law enforcement, interference with activities such as angling, bird watching, wildlife viewing, encounters, user conflicts, etc)

Two more items for you to comment on to the Forest Service:

Economic: How will the local economy be affected by each of the alternatives? Positive or negative?

Values / issues of local or national significance: What is unique about the North Fork on a local, regional or national level?

In order for your comments to be adequately considered, **please send them in by September 13, 2007.**

Please send your comments via e-mail to comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us or by US Postal to: PROJECT COORDINATOR – JOHN CLEEVES, USDA FOREST SERVICE, 4931 BROAD RIVER ROAD, COLUMBIA, SC 29212 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.

For more information on this process, please click [HERE](#) .

Q & A about the Chattooga North Fork (3rd of a series)

Q - Where can I read about today’s Chattooga North Fork?

A - The following comments are by Doug Adams, newsletter editor:

: About a year ago I read a book titled Chattooga: Descending into the Myth of Deliverance River by John Lane (University of Georgia Press, Athens, 2004). The book is a personal narrative and describes the natural beauty of the river by a gifted author and poet. I found the book enjoyable reading because it describes, through someone else’s observations, places I have visited hundreds of times and it included conversations with several local people whom I’ve known for years. A few months ago I had the pleasure of meeting the author and we talked at some length about THE RIVER we both love.

The book has chapters titled: “Headwaters: Cashiers, North Carolina” pg 25-44; “Chasing Deliverance, Clayton, GA” pg 45-65; “The Wilderness Upstream, Burrell’s Ford Bridge to the Ellicott Rock Wilderness” pg 67-85 (this chapter was about a hike guided by Rabunite Kyle Burrell); and “Trail Mind, Russell Bridge to Lick Log Creek” pg 87-106. The remainder of the book (pg 107- 207) is about boating the lower river.

The author, John Lane, is a boater who first paddled the Chattooga in 1983, when over 50,000 other folks floated it [HERE](#) . John said in his book, “*Adventure tourism on the Chattooga has reached levels some consider impossible for maintaining a ‘wilderness’ experience*”

On page 112 he addresses the issue of the zoning of the North Fork for foot travel. He wrote:

“I’ve always liked the symmetry of the current rules concerning use on the river. Legally, here at Long Bottom Ford is where the boating of the Chattooga can begin. The wild and scenic experience of the beautiful, benign Section II is the initiation passage. Just above Highway 28 bridge, fines are levied for dropping a boat in the moving current or running numerous waterfalls upstream through the headwaters. Only fishermen and hikers fording the river are welcome, though renegade boaters in pursuit of new adventure occasionally do risk the fines to run the forbidden Chattooga above the bridge.”

“Deep in me there is a person who likes established limits and respects them. I could spend the rest of my life paddling the three familiar sections of the Chattooga below Russell Bridge and never feel boxed in or cheated.” Then he goes on to describe the issue raised by American Whitewater, which is presently being reconsidered by the Forest Service.

(This review with these excerpts is printed here with permission of the author)

To read reviews of this book on Amazon.com, click [HERE](#). To read more about the John Lane and the Chattooga, click [HERE](#).

Q & A about the Chattooga North Fork's FISHERY

Q – What were the results of the July 11th Annual Electro-Shock Sampling of Chattooga North Fork upstream of Burrell's Ford?

A – The fish population diversity and quantity indicated very good water quality and stream health. The 3-pass sampling of a 100-meter long stretch just below the Wilderness boundary produced 15 different species of fish; only 2 of them were trout (browns and rainbows). The non-trout species (in order of abundance) were: Sculpin, Stoneroller, Bluehead Chub, Yellowfin Shiner, Mirror Shiner, Longnose Dace, Warpaint Shiner, Turquoise Darter, Striped Jumprock, White Sucker, Blacknose Dace, Redbreast Sunfish, and Rosyside Dace. To learn more about these species, visit <http://www.nanfa.org/>

Q – How many trout were captured in the 100-meter sample?

A – There were 3097 fish captured and released, 81 were trout (2.6%). There were 69 browns and 12 rainbows. Most of the browns were wild (stream hatched) and there were 13 “young-of-the-year” browns.

Q – How does this compare with 20 years ago?

A – The same 100-meter section was sampled 9/15/1986 using the same technique. The same 15 species of fish were captured. There were 901 fish were captured and released, 38 were trout (4.2%). There were 31 browns and 7 were rainbows with 8 “young-of-the-year” browns.

Q - Why the huge increase?

A - Probably the improved water quality (less sedimentation) is the biggest factor. Weather patterns are also a major factor.

Q - What species of fish would have been native at Burrell's Ford before Europeans arrived, say around 1600?

A - *I don't know if anyone has answered your question yet, but I will give you my opinion. I think that there were probably warm water species present at Burrell's Ford at that time, similar to what we see there now. Because of that, I doubt that there were any brook trout that low in the watershed, since they do not compete well with large populations of chubs and suckers.*

There is a possibility that there were no brook trout in the Savannah drainage at that time. Most native populations of brook trout seem to be in west slope (Tennessee) drainage streams south of Virginia, but records are lacking to determine this with any certainty. Native populations exist in east slope streams, but they may have originated from the transfer of fish from "over the mountain". Others and I have talked to old-timers who remember granddaddy hauling fish from one creek to another way back when, because the creek had no fish in it, and he felt it needed some. Also, fledgling game and fish agencies moved a lot of fish in the 1940's, 50's and 60's, and most records of such activities were sketchy or non-existent at that time.

At this point, we assume that the southern brook trout are native to the Savannah watershed because of the existing populations in GA and SC streams and the lack of evidence to the contrary. Even so, I still doubt that brook trout were present at Burrell's Ford even in 1600. Others may disagree with that view, but there is no hard data anywhere to support such a position.

Submitted by: Lee Keefer, Coldwater Fisheries Biologist, GA Wildlife Resources Division, GA DNR

Stekoa Creek Update

Stekoa Creek Monitoring - A National Trout Unlimited “Embrace-A-Stream” Project [HERE](#)

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 and preventive actions to address excessive fecal coliform and sediment levels has been responsible for the continued deterioration of the stream for over 30 years.

DRIVING FOR TROUT

Seventeen (17) members of Rabun TU have volunteered their time and vehicle expenses to drive the weekly Stekoa Creek Monitoring 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: Doug Adams (9/4), Bill Kelly (9/11), Jimmy Whiten (9/18), Terry Rivers (9/25), 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



Submitted Photo

Eedee Adams, with the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited, presents Stekoa Creek water samples to Terry Bleckley, supervisor at the city water laboratory in Jefferson. The Chattooga Conservancy collects samples, and Trout Unlimited members transport them every week to Jefferson.

PICTURE REPRINTED FROM [The Clayton Tribune](#) (8/2/2007)

During August, the samples helped to locate a blocked sewer line at City Housing #2. When the Chattooga Conservancy informed the City Manager, a crew was dispatched to make repairs.

To see a spreadsheet with the weekly fecal coliform counts for all sample sites, click on

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

A big **THANK YOU** to Tracy McCoy, publisher of [The Georgia Mountain Laurel](#) magazine, for the \$250 donation to the Rabun TU Chapter to help pay for the fees of the certified testing laboratory.

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

To see a partial list of organizations and individuals that have donated, click [HERE](#)

Everything was great. I really loved it and I am sorry I got a little homesick.

Thank you so very much. Sam Talley – Rome, GA

Not many people know that Thomas Edison was an avid fisherman.

He usually included some trout fishing on his infrequent vacations. During one such trip to the west an Indian tribe befriended him. They provided free room and board, as well as expert fishing guides for his stay. On his first night he discovered that the only sanitary facility was an old-fashioned outhouse. To make things worse, it had no light, even though the village had electricity in the homes. As a thank-you gift for their kindness, Edison purchased the necessary materials and personally installed lighting in the Indians' privy. Thus, he became the first person to wire a head for a reservation.

Kelly sez: "By golly, you don't - -" you know the rest!

Our thanks to Charlie Breithaupt for sharing this one with us.

TROUT FISHING MEETS THE BLUES

**Jimmie Rodgers' Blue Yodel #1 "T for Texas"
Could be "T for Trout"**



**Cartoon from "Trout Fever" by Bruce Cochran
Willow Creek Press, Minocqua, WI**

Dear Charlie and Kathy,

*"Give a person a fish, feed them for a day;
Teach a person a skill, feed them for their life"*

*This is what you did for us, you taught us the skills of fly fishing and fly tying.
For that we are grateful.*

*Thank you, Elizabeth Farquharson and Ian Farquharson – Grayson, GA (2006 Campers)
Elizabeth returned in 2007 as a "young mentor".*

Unicoi Outdoor Adventure Day (Sept 22) - Call For Vols!

Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007

Hello Georgia Anglers,

It's almost that time of year again. <http://www.nhfdays.org/>

We're finalizing our Outdoor Adventure Day (OAD) venues, funding, and other logistics for the big annual event at Unicoi.

This year it is on Sept 22.

<http://gastateparks.org/info/unicoi/> (reminder: Bill Couch also hosts a kids fishing event at Buford Dam).

This event is only possible because about 150 Georgians volunteer their Saturday to help us grow the next generation of

conservationists. Please consider stepping up and helping out. If you are a member of one of the large trout clubs in north GA (TU, NGTO, GA Women Flyfishers), just volunteer via your club's OAD coordinator: Carl Riggs, Don Davis, Julie Stalnaker. For those of you unaffiliated, consider taking me up on this offer.

I will attach last year's instructions to give you an idea of what's expected of volunteers. Instructions for this year's event are not yet finalized, but they will look very similar to last year's

To fill out my roster, I'd like to know your:

First and last name: _____

Contact phone number or email address: _____

First choice of venue: _____

Second choice: _____

Willing to work at any venue, if needed: () Yes () No

I think we'll have the same venues as last year (still confirming with some guests).

For anglers, the primary venues will be:

- 1) fishing tent admin (hand out loaner poles)
- 2) stream fishing guides (bait hooks, help catch trout)
- 3) fly tying
- 4) fly casting
- 5) For the "flexible" vols, help with visitor registration

(if we can't first get visitors in the door, they can't have fun!)

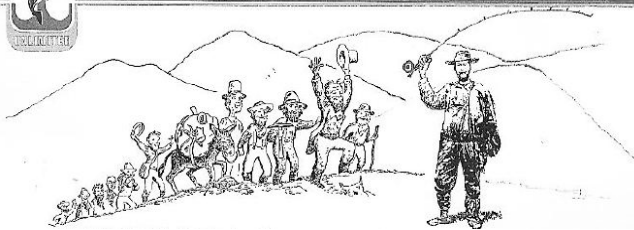
6) Canoe (administrative tasks like check-in; no canoe experience necessary)

Let me know if I can once again count on the generosity and expertise of north GA's angling community to help me build a 150-strong volunteer force. Together we can once again encourage the next generation of Georgians to enjoy the outdoors and become conservationists. Looking forward to your replies. Thanks in advance for your help.

And for any folks out there who have enjoyed an uncompensated (fundraiser donations) fishing trip with me (no names, but--- Fitfisher, Ninja, PMIMan, Trout Tackler, Atkins, etc), I'm calling in my chips!

PS- While many just come for the day, some of the fishing vols traditionally camp at Creekwood (Resort) Campground, on 356 east of Unicoi Park. Others stay at Unicoi State Park. Watch NGTO. You may enjoy some post-event fun and fishing stories by hanging out with them. <http://www.creekwoodresort.com/>

From: Jeff Durniak, Regional Fisheries Supervisor; Georgia Wildlife Resources Division, 2150 Dawsonville Highway, Gainesville, GA 30501, Phone: 770.535.5498
Fax: 770.535.5953, email: Jeff_Durniak@dnr.state.ga.us



Our good friend Mack Martin of North Georgia Custom Rods has donated this fly rod to Rabun TU.

<http://www.mackmartin.com/CustomRods.htm>

Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited

SAGE Custom Fly Rod Raffle

Z-axis, 9 ft, 5 wt, 4 pc,

Over \$600 Retail Value!!

Drawing October 16, 2007 at the Chapter Meeting

Tickets are \$3 each or 4 for \$10

Contact Terry Rivers for Tickets

Ph 706 782 7419 E-mail ttr1121@alltel.net

What's New Elsewhere?

Congratulations Charlie and Kathy!

Charlie and Kathy Breithaupt selected co-recipients to receive the first National TU "Youth Education Leadership Award." (8/17/2007) The award will be presented during the Annual National TU Meeting in the Grove Hotel in Boise, Idaho during the Awards luncheon on Friday, Sept 14th. The award recognizes the fundamental importance of creating a new generation of conservationists in a manner that sustains TU's conservation legacy. The award honors individuals who demonstrate exemplary leadership, and a deep passion for inspiring young people to become thoughtful, responsible stewards of North America's coldwater fisheries. The Breithaupts are certainly deserving of this national honor.

NC - FERC How-to of dam removal still a source of debate (the following are excerpts from an article by Becky Johnson – Smoky Mountain News) (8/15/2007) Duke got approval from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission last month to tear down the nearly 100-year-old Dillsboro dam. Removal could happen as early as next year, or it could be two to three years away depending on whether critics of dam removal appeal the decision. The biggest sticking point is what Duke will do with some 100,000 or more cubic yards of backlogged sediment

behind the dam. Those in favor of tearing down the dam include state and federal environmental agencies, paddling groups and outfitters, fishermen and some environmentalists. The approval of dam removal was a disappointment to others, however, including Dillsboro merchants, some environmental camps and Jackson and Macon county leaders, for starters. To read the complete article, click [HERE](#)

NC - USF&WS Sicklefin redborse and the Cherokee

(7/25/2007) The following are excerpts from an article in the Smoky Mountain News by George Ellison: An article by Jon Ostendorff headed "Rare fish released into Oconaluftee River" appeared in the Asheville Citizen-Times. "Biologists are trying a new experiment in Cherokee with a rare fish that science is just now starting to study," Ostendorff noted. "Wildlife and environmental officials with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and the federal government have released 800 young sicklefin redborse fish into the Oconaluftee River on the Qualla Boundary with the hopes that they will grow and spawn in the river's rocky bottom. The fish was once a mainstay in the diet of the Cherokee. They caught the fish with stone weirs and baskets. It was typically smoked and dried and used in soups." To read more, click [HERE](#) and [HERE](#)

It was a unfregetadle experiance
(Note from Charlie: We taught fishing, not spelling !!)

Letters - To and From the Rabunites

Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2007

Subject: RE: TIGHT LINES August 2007 Newsletter

Great newsletter! Thanks for the plug about ORCTU's donation to the Stekoa Creek Project.

From: Joshua Trey Barnett – President, Oconee River TU Chapter, Athens, GA

Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2007

Subject: RE: TIGHT LINES August 2007 Newsletter

Thanks for sharing. Ya'll have quite the communiqué! Would it be possible to post material from the newsletter on the Stop I-3 website?

From: Holly Demuth, Executive Director – Stop I-3 Coalition

Editor's notes: *Sure, go for it!*

Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2007

Subject: The North Fork zoning issue.

In the August newsletter, something was mentioned about the argument given by many that "since I pay my taxes, I have the right to _____ on public land. It is mine, you know." This is not a good mindset to have and it definitely does not make for a good, logical argument, at least for anyone not concerned with the long term.

Unlike private land, anyone can set foot on public land, whether they enjoy boating, birding, 4-wheeling, or underwater basket weaving. The point is, it doesn't matter what you enjoy doing, **you can** access public land.

BUT, that doesn't mean you can just do whatever you please once you get there. And the notion that you could because "you paid for it" is flat out irresponsible. As has been said before, if not for zoning, anyone could do anything they please on any piece of public land. The result would be chaos and a sub-optimal experience for all.

If boaters were not allowed to enter this corridor at all, THAT would be discrimination. Not allowing a woman to vote; that was discrimination. Not allowing a minority to use the same restroom as everyone else; that was discrimination. But... boaters are as allowed as the rest of us to come and enjoy the ORVs that make this place so great. They just can't bring their boats. That's the difference between **zoning** and **discrimination**.

I truly hope that the right decision is made. That's a special place and it needs to stay that way.

From: David Cannon, Young, Inexperienced and Opinionated (A Deadly Combination) – Madison, GA

To: Charlie Breithaupt – Rabunite and GA TU Council Chairman

Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2007

Subject: Stekoa Creek

I saw the article on Stekoa Creek in Georgia Sportsman (August 2007). Great work! I just wanted to thank you and all the Rabunites for all the hard work you do for TU, the trout and the State of Georgia.

From: Vic Aloisio Jr. – President, Tailwater TU Chapter, Suwanee, GA

Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2007

Subject: Letter to "The Ole Editor"

Hey Ole Editor, Great job on the latest "Tight Lines!" Informative as always and entertaining, too – I think we were all happy to see that Kelly joined the 21st Century with his first email. Now all we need to do is get him set up with a blog and the rest of us can kick back and enjoy. Thanks,

From: David Cannon – Madison, GA

Sent: Saturday, July 28, 2007

Subject: RE: TIGHT LINES August 2007 Newsletter

This is an excellent newsletter, with some really good, useful stuff on the river issue.

I went into the lower end of Rock Gorge last Sunday, late in the day, first time I have been able to get down there for several months.

It had rained the day before...I saw bear tracks and bobcat tracks right down along the river at the head of the boulevard...no cougar!

I climbed up-ridge on the Georgia side. There are numerous rock outcrops and enclaves all along up that steep ridge that comes down to the river right at the rock wall at the gorge's end. There is one spot where you can crawl up under a huge rock overhang, if you are fairly determined, and work your way all the way up and out of a porthole crevice back into the light of day, as it were, a "flight or two" higher up above where you started. This is very spooky, and not something that I do in the snake season.

I saw not a soul...no one at Lick Log, no sign of human presence in the gorge, either going in or coming out.

These days I savor such trips, each trip down in is undertaken as if I were uncorking one of my last, best bottles of rarest red wine. Knowing that once it is gone, I will never see the like again. Cheers

From: Butch Clay – Mountain Rest, SC

To: Chattooga River Ranger District Office, Mr. David W. Jensen, District Ranger

Sent: July 31, 2007 by US Postal

Subject: Proposed prescribed burning: Chintilly 2 area, Located northeast of Clayton, GA and just east of Sarah's Creek Campground and within the Warwoman Wildlife Management Area

On July 18, 2007 our Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited received your notification about a proposed prescribed burning to improve forest health, wildlife habitat and diversity on approximately 230 acres of National Forest system land in Rabun County.

On behalf of Terry Rivers, President and the members of the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited, we offer this letter of support for your plan as proposed. Sincerely,

From: Patsy P. Lewis-Gentry for Terry Rivers, President - Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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



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Fishing Report - Kinda

Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2007

Subject: A New Way To Rig A Dropper

I'm now very glad that I started working for the Morris Sporting Group (*Gray's Sporting Journal*, *American Angler*, *Fly Tyer* and *Saltwater Fly Fishing*) when I did. The timing was great because we had a national magazine conference my second week there that was very beneficial to me. I learned much about the company, met a lot of great people and learned more in those three days in how to better do my job than I would have in five years of OTJ experience. And, I learned a new way to rig a dropper.

A few of the people I met at the conference are the editors of some of the finest fly fishing magazines available; namely Jim Babb of *Gray's Sporting Journal*, Phil Monahan of *American Angler* and Dave Klausmeyer of *Fly Tyer*. I met these fellas that Monday and had a great time listening to stories and observing how they think about our industry, and even got to float the Savannah with them later in the week (which got me in trouble with my wife, by the way – ALWAYS call before you decide you're coming home about four hours late!). But, on Tuesday morning, I think I really found my "in" with this crowd, and it was totally by accident.

During Tuesday's breakfast, I was drinking some coffee and standing in the typical circle that men always end up in while talking to one another. Phil Monahan was on my right and one of our account executives was on my left. While turned away from Phil, I felt two hands grab my shoulders and Phil's voice said, "DON'T MOVE!" "WHAT IN THE WORLD??" I said. "Guys, come

look at this," Phil said, motioning with his head for the others in our circle to come around behind me. Then, I felt him point at something that was clearly clinging to the back of my nicest suit jacket.

Dry cleaner tag?

Oh dang, is it toilet paper?

"We've got either the biggest brown-nose in the world, or Walburn (Steve Walburn, GM of the fly fishing group and editor of *Saltwater Fly Fishing*) just hired the right man for the job!" Monahan announced to the laughing group of guys.

I shook free of the group and quickly removed my jacket to find, to my delight, not a piece of TP or a tag or who-knows-what-else, but an olive gold-ribbed Hare's Ear nymph (size 16, in case you were wondering).

Apparently the little guy was in the back seat of my truck when I laid out my suit for the drive to Augusta. It did a great job of piggy-backing itself to the conference and into the midst of a bunch of guys who make a living off of it, its many relatives, and the fish they catch.

Needless to say, I was relieved my first impression wasn't too embarrassing. And, in a moment of clarity I responded, "I guess if you're gonna have a fly stuck on your suit, this is the job to have when that happens."

From: David Cannon – Madison, GA

PS - I'm sad to say that this is the best I can do for a "fishing report." Now that I'm driving to Augusta everyday, my chances of driving up north on the weekends seem to keep getting slimmer. At least I get to talk about fishing all day.... Right??

I learned to become a fly-fisherman and others. I would really like to be a mentor cause all the kids were nice. It's a great experience 4 kids.

Corey Curtis – Blue Ridge, GA

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Trout Camp was fun and well-organized. I did not know anything about fly-fishing before the camp, and now I have an appreciation and understanding of the sport.

Mr. B. was very kind & friendly, and I appreciate his commitment to the camp. It was an honor to attend the camp, and I am most appreciative of the opportunity.

Mitchell Hardman – Athens, GA

BUT I DIDN'T BRING A WATCH

I recently went West of Hiawassee with two friends. We decided to fish a small stream (somewhere West of Hiawassee). Due to the smaller size of the stream, it was decided that we split up, fish different segments of the stream and meet back at the vehicle at a designated time. I explained to my companions that I would have to estimate the time as I did not have a timepiece. As a result, I was late. This happened not once, but twice.

Well, we returned home after a safe and successful trip. As I was cleaning out my fishing vest the other day, guess what I found....(No, not a watch). I suddenly realized that my camera (one which I always carry) has a time feature, accessible by merely touching a button, Duh!

DawgTyred – a Rabunite



What a time! This was my first camp away from home and I was excited, but nervous. When my mom, dad & I got to the dorm and saw all the banners, I got more excited. When I walked in and saw all the stuff, met "Grizz", and especially Charlie and Kathy my nervousness went away. They were so friendly!

After check-in things happened so fast and continued that way for the whole week. One thing I noticed was how organized the camp was. Every night we would have a meeting and talk about what we were going to do and review what we did that day. I felt very safe, but most of the time I didn't think about that because I was having so much fun. I think out of all the camps I've ever been to the trout camp was the best and probably the best I will ever go to. That is how much fun I had!

Before, as a fly fisherman, I thought I knew a lot, but after this camp I found out that there is so much more to be learned. You can't learn it all, but you can learn most of it and that is what they did. They taught us everything they knew. (Well, probably not everything, like their secret fishing spots or special flies).

I met a lot of new friends and every boy and girl became my friend. I had a lot of fun at the camp led by Charlie and Kathy. I want to thank them very much for such a great time that I will never ever forget. I promise to try and get more young people into this program and Trout Unlimited and maybe I could be a mentor next year.

Joseph Fincher – Silver Creek, GA

“BACKCASTING”

Aug 17 & 18 (Fri & Sat) Workday with Campout “Back the Brookie” in-stream workday on North Prong of Moccasin Creek with USFS and GA WRD leadership. The campout was enjoyed by 11 Rabunites and 33 people, including 12 Boy Scouts, participated in the BtB in-stream habitat improvement project. It was a great project and a lot of good habitat work was accomplished.



Before, the stream section was shallow water and was lacking trout cover (a basic trout need along with clean cold water and food). Large woody debris (LWD) was installed, the stream channel constricted, cover created and pools deepened to create desirable trout habitat for native brook trout. All stream habitat modifications were designed by and the installation lead by professionals from the USFS and GA WRD.



Aug 21 (Tues) Chapter Meeting was attended by 22 folks. The program, “A Different View of Trout”, was presented by Dr Gary Grossman, Distinguished Research Professor – Animal Ecology at UGA. Using a PowerPoint presentation, Gary explained how Southern Appalachian streams work. He explained how streams evolved, the food web, the 100% dependency on leaf litter, the value of poplar leaf litter as fuel, the 12 or 14 non-trout native to our streams, the major problems created by sedimentation, and the dynamics and resilience of our native brook trout, including how their populations are affected by stream flow variations. It was a very informative program. **The Meeting Raffle** had 9 buckets with some really neat items, including a fly selection, a Wind River tent by Eureka, a tippet dispenser, a jar of Emmy’s home canned peaches, and several spools of tippet. The raffle raised \$85 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.

Aug 28 (Tues) Board of Directors Meeting 8 attended. Items discussed included: Stekoa Creek Monitoring, Commenting on the 6 Management Alternatives for North Fork, Chattooga bug study, October campout, Publicity & Outreach update, Water sampling 14 brook trout streams, Fall helicopter stocking, Sept, Oct & Nov Chapter Meeting Programs, Officers & Directors election, Treasury report, Work on Betty Creek, Sept GA Council Meeting, TU National Annual Meeting, Outdoor Adventure Day, SAGE Rod Raffle, and Sept 29 Forest Service Workshop on the 6 preliminary alternatives.

Dear Mr. Breithaupt,

Thank you for letting me come to camp this year, it was one of the most fun things I have ever done. At camp this year I learned a lot about fishing and the responsibilities needed to run a summer camp. I really liked fishing with the kids because they were a lot of fun to be with. I made a lot of friends and gained a lot of memories in the process. My favorite part of the camp was seeing the excitement from the kids as they landed a fish. Hopefully, I can experience this again next year.

Thank you again. Gavin Carson – Marietta, GA (a young mentor)

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Big Rabunite “WELCOME” to **5 new members** this month: **Radford “Rad” Smith**, 246 Peace Creek Lane, Clayton, GA 30525; **Walter Godfrey**, PO Box 307, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920, **Tracy McCoy**, PO Box 2218, Clayton, GA 30525; **Tony Allred**, 49 Tennessee Ridge, Dillard, GA 30537; and **Patsy Lewis-Gentry**, 264 Laurelwood, Sautee-Nacoochee, GA 30571

Thanks for re-upping: **Eugene Pipkin, Doug Adams, Jack Bates, James Moore, and Lonnie English.**

It is time to renew your membership: **Mike Brod, Greg Rose, Andrew Rose, Ben Houston, Arnold Deitz, Paul Hanson, Chuck Breithaupt, Frank Holden, George Custer, Donald Thomas, Gary Breece, Edwin Wayne Clark, Terrell Dodgins, Brooks & Amanda Adams, David Bentley, Dylan Bradley, David Cannon, Reid Cannon, Rachael Davis, James Friedman, Dwayne Hunnicutt, Greg Roane, and Adam Wilkerson.**

Mack Martin, a camp mentor, said “*After it was all over, both campers and mentors wonder who was the most fortunate for the opportunity to participate in the Trout Camp.*”

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/Communications) - Tom Landreth

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

Director (w/Programs & Campouts) - Bill Kelly

Director (w/Website) - Kathy Breithaupt

Director (w/Education) - Charlie Breithaupt

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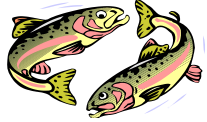
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The Board of Directors offers the following nominations of Rabun TU Chapter’s officers and directors for F/Y 2008:

President – Jimmy Whiten, Vice President – Larry Walker, Treasurer – Doug Adams, Secretary – Tom Landreth, Past President – Terry Rivers, Directors: Ray Kearns, Bill Kelly, Kathy Breithaupt, Charlie Breithaupt, Patsy Lewis-Gentry, Ray Gentry, and Doug Mansfield. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the August and September Chapter meetings. Election will be at the September Chapter meeting. F/Y 2008 begins October 1, 2007.



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

Hi All,

Hope this finds everybody doing well, and have had a wonderful summer, except for the dog days. We have set records for temperatures and I'm sure the rivers we fish have set record lows for their flows.

I want to thank Gary Grossman for a very good program at our August meeting, and those that attended his great presentation.

Those that came to the work project on Moccasin deserve a big thank you also. We had some great help from the Boy Scouts and also NGTO was there. Thanks Everyone

We have several events coming up soon with Outdoor Adventure Day, the Macroinvertebrate Study and several campouts with no work - just socializing and fishing. I'm asking for your help with these events, and come join us at the campouts. Bring a buddy and invite him to join TU.

Thanks for all you members do. Looking forward to fishing with you all 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.
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