

Tight Lines

December 2013 Newsletter of the Rabun Chapter (522) of Trout Unlimited

Editor: Michele Crawford crawfordart@windstream.net
Rabun TU's Award Winning Web Site http://rabuntu.org/site/

I've gone fishing thousands of times in my life, and I have never once felt unlucky or poorly paid for those hours on the water."

William Tapply from "A Fly-Fishing Life".

RABUN TU CHAPTER'S NEW MEETING PLACE

The new TU/Scout Hut

US 76 west, the brick building located behind the Rabun County Library.

Parking is available in the Rabun County Library parking
lot and Rabun County Tax Office parking lot.

3rd Thursday of the Month! 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm Fly Tying is back for all ages!!

Bring your own equipment if you have it.

6:30 pm – 7:00 Social & Story telling (Truth or Lies),

Then at 7:00 – Program & Meeting. 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 email. Bring an item to donate and a dollar or two for raffle tickets You Might WIN something!

*** Remember though... December is our Chapter Christmas Dinner in stead of the regular monthly meeting*** See Calendar on page 3 for more information







WEB SITE OF THE MONTH

From the Blue Ridge Chapter. All about winter fishing. With some info from our own Jeff Durniak.

http://blueridgetu.com/uploads/ BRM_TU_SPECIAL_WINTER_Fishin_2013 .pdf

TROUT NEED OUR HELP !! The state of TU 2013 from CEO Chris Wood:

 $\underline{http://www.tu.org/blog-posts/the-state-of-tu-2013}$



CONSERVE

PROTECT





Some of the best winter fishing comes when you fish like the "Dredger". It's OK to drag the bottom sometimes.

WHAT ARE THEY BITING ON ???

By: Terry Rivers



EGG PATTERN

Hook: #12 SCUD HOOK

THREAD: COLOR TO MATCH EGG

MATERIAL: EGG YARN / McFLY FOAM

EYE/BLLOOD SPOT: EGG YARN / McFLY

FOAM

THIS IS A GREAT FLY TO HAVE IN YOUR BOX THIS TIME OF THE YEAR SINCE THE DELAYED HARVEST AND BACK COUNTRY HAVE BEEN STOCKED. TIE THIS BEHIND A DRY FLY OR SINK IT WITH SOME LEAD AND USE STRIKE INDICATOR. TIE THESE IN SEVERAL COLORS. WORKED FOR ME SEVERAL WEEKS BACK WITH 15 + FISH.

"SEE YA ON THE RIVER"

December Hatches

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.

THE BUGS

TIME OF MONTH

TIME OF DAY

SUGGESTED FLIES

Blue Winged Olive & Blue Quill

All month

Late AM & Mid PM

16-20 BWO Blue Quill or Adams Parachute 16-20 BWO nymph or pheasant tail

Midges

All month

All Day

18-22 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa

To view a Hatch Chart for all month, click Hatch

CONSERVE

PROTECT

Forward Casting: Calendar of Important dates to Take Action & Have Fun

Dec 10 (Tue) Regular Meeting is our annual CHRISTMAS DINNER, Rabun Manor Inn, Dillard, GA. 6:00 PM \$25.00 per person. Traditional Christmas servings. You are welcome to bring your own special beverage. Please RSVP Tony Allred at tallred@gamountains.com Hope to see you there!!



January 16 (Thurs) Chapter Meeting at the TU/Scout Hut. Fly tying starts at 5:00. Social at 6:30 and meeting starts at 7:00. "Angling Alaska" by Rabunite Kent Wilson is our guest speaker. Kent is a regular Alaskan fishing tourist. He's got great information and lots of stories. You'll have to come see for yourself if the stories are true.

January 23 (Thurs) BOD Meeting at the TU/Scout Hut at 6:30.

The Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited proudly presents A Celebration of Rivers, Streams, Trout, and Trout Fishing

Saturday January 25, 2014 27th Annual Rabun Rendezvous

Where: The "NEW" Dillard House Conference Center, located behind the Dillard House in Dillard, Georgia

<u>Who</u>: The more the better. Everyone interested in protecting our cold-water resources, including their families, friends, and all who love clean cold streams, trout, and trout fishing.

<u>Social</u>: About 5 o'clock PM folks will start gathering to "pick the pig" and enjoy the rocking chairs on the porch of the Conference Center. There will be snack trays of cheeses, crackers, veggies with dips, and fruits. Soft drinks and ice will be available. If you want something stronger, better bring it yourself. There will be a fire inside to warm your buns.

*The Foxfire Boys (as seen in the Chattooga River episode of TUTV's "On The Rise") will again generously provide their 'down home' style of bluegrass picking and singing for your musical entertainment.

**Remember to ask about The Foxfire Boys CDs (now 4 of them), which will be available. **

*The large screen TV will be showing the Rabunites trout fishing some of their favorite 'secret spots'. This will be the ideal time to be looking over the raffle and silent auction items. We welcome donations of raffle and auction items at the door, fellow TU'ers.

<u>Dinner</u>: Fish, chicken, and pork with all the side dishes and desserts that have made the Dillard House so famous, will be served about 6:30. It is a serve yourself buffet, so you will not leave hungry.

<u>Program presenter</u> – Shelia Humphrey. Shelia is a Wildlife Interpretive Specialist at Smithgall Woods State Park.

<u>Lodging</u>: The Dillard House has set special rates for rooms for those that call and tell them you're attending the Trout Unlimited Rabun Rendezvous. Call: 706-746-5348 or Toll Free 1-800-541-0671. You must tell them you are there with Trout Unlimited to get the special rate.



Shelia Humphrey working with the 2013 Trout Cam kids at Smithgall Woods.

The 2013 Rabun Rendezvous provided funds for the following: GA Trout Camp for youth; Sponsorship of student interns working in NE GA fisheries with the GA WRD and the USFS; Sponsoring four youngsters attending the GA Trout Camp; Financial support of the GA DNR Smithgall Woods Conservation Education Program; Rabun Co Middle School Mentoring Program; Gift Stream Explorer memberships; GA "Back-the-Brookie" Program; Kid's Fishing Event at Tallulah River (USFS); GA WRD Outdoor Adventure Day; River clean-up day at Chattooga DH; In-stream habitat improvement workday with USFS & GA WRD on a Rabun County brook trout stream; Fly Fishing for Vets Wounded Warriors Program; Handicap Access on Tallulah River; Casting for Recovery; UGA coldwater Research Endowment; National TU's "First Cast", "Embrace-A-Stream", & "SE Land Protection" Programs; Support of Rabun TU's award winning website; and Trout Magazine subscriptions to all school & public libraries and 2 state parks in Rabun County. In 2014 we plan on further expanding our outreach with "Trout in the Classroom" and other Trout Unlimited programs. So any and all support is APPRECIATED!!!!



...and now the Rest of the Story from Larry Walker





The guess who is Chris Whitley in the photo. He was on our BOD and led our first stream cleanup 3-4 years ago. He was a very active contributor but he moved to Montana. He hosted Glenn Ivie and I for part of our fishing trip in September. The guess where.. We fished in a river pretty close to the sign where Glen and I had our photo taken. The guess what.. Chris landed this nice Grayling.

From Peter Croes: My phone rang on Saturday November 16th . . . it was the Dredger calling to see if I wanted to assist him in his Mentoring Penance Project; of course, I said yes and agreed to meet him in White County later that afternoon. It was cloudy and overcast and most of the DH folks from ATL had already gone home having fished the creek. We started high-sticking and throwing everything at them in a methodical pre-planned paint the water. The switch went on and the first hooked, by the Dredger, was a nice brookie and then an hour later my bad shoulder began to remind me that the steroid shot had joined the dearly departed and I was on my own . . . even though it was fish on! There were numerous burndums and uncappings although not as frequent as the WAAaah WHOooo's which were in the net!

At the Dredger's suggestion I started fishing the seams using the bugger twitching technique on a 7.5' 5x leader . . . it was Rainbows for the rest of the day! I was using the same fly all the way downstream and even caught the Trolls in the culverts, downed trees, under the bridges and the work day constructed holding areas; and yes there were many unintended snags, and limb hooks which come with the territory as well as catching the occasional oak leaf grouper clusters. With the number of fish (even though they were stockers in very good condition) I was catching it was exciting, exhilarating, and humbling that someone else was helping me to re-learn techniques so long forgotten; no, it is not like riding a bicycle.

Trout fishing to slow for you this time of year? Need more success in your fishing time? Then check out this web site for some info on some keep and eat species.

https://m.facebook.com/photo.php? fbid=10151769721743388&id=101012503387&se t=a.107070953387.96574.101012503387&source= 46&refid=17 Need help with your fishing in any season? This article will either help you or just confirm what others are saying about you....??

http://www.orvis.com/news/fly-fishing/the-psychologyof-fly-fishing-managing-frustration? adv=352841&cm_mmc=linkshare-_-je6NUbpObpQ-_-1-_-352841&siteID=je6NUbpObpQ-8Ivd4D2Gz.x_UILzbBBVmg

CONSERVE PROTECT RESTORE

Cont.....





Jeff Durniak and Ray Gentry had a slow but fun day fishing in mid November. When asked for the location from the Dredger, it was the common response... IDBIS...



Proof it was cold..



Energy foods for the day...







Despite very cold water (39F), Dredger had a great Saturday afternoon (11/30) on the Chattooga DH by bottom-rolling apricot egg flies and tungsten beaded hare'sears along the bottom in riffles and runs. A brook, two browns, and a big bunch of rainbows came to hand. The Old Dog thanked young Landon for the recent lesson in Helen on the "French nymphing" technique, which worked well on the Chattooga. Hint: try a dab of Biostrike to save rigging time over the mono "sighter." For more info go here:

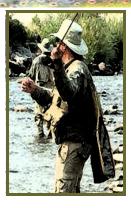
http:// www.flyfisherman.com/2011/09/21/ french-connection/ and here

http://www.onstream-guide.com/ French.html

Did I mention that Dredger's flies were bumping the bottom ???

CONSERVE

PROTECT



BACK CASTING

US Forest Service Southern Region Honors Georgians for work to Restore Brook Trout

Award recipients: Kevin McGrath and Alex Watson from Trout Unlimited; Jeff Durniak, Anthony Rabern, Lee Keefer, and Leon Brotherton from GA DNR; and Chattahoochee/

Oconee NF staff members Jim Wentworth, Jerry Wood, Mike Brod, David Vinson, Mike Joyce, and Mitzi Cole (now on the Ouachita NF).

The Georgia Back-the-Brookie Partnership was honored by the U.S. Forest Service Southern Region as an exemplary example of Partnerships and Community Engagement in Atlanta on November 7. The award was among 15 categories of exemplary employees and projects honored for their accomplishments and dedication in supporting the spirit and mission of the agency in 13 southern states. Since 2007, the Georgia Back-the-Brookie Partnership has been working to restore native brook trout on the Chattahoochee National Forest. The Forest Service has worked closely with partners including the Georgia Council of Trout Unlimited and Georgia Department of Natural Resources, which have provided funding and other resources.

The Southern Appalachian brook trout no longer exists in much of its native range, and is only present at greatly reduced levels in Georgia. Through the partnership, biologists have a better understanding of remaining brook trout populations, and the species is more secure in the southern portion of its range than it has been in recent years. The Back-the-Brookie project has included intensive monitoring, genetic analysis, youth education, stocking of fish, and other practices to benefit native brook trout such as placing barriers to prevent non-native trout from invading the native trout habitat. To date, partners have improved 80 miles of 32 streams through the placement of large woody debris. Treated areas have increased adult trout by 37 percent and young trout by 17 percent.

"This alliance of passionate and dedicated people is making a real difference here in Georgia in the preservation of this important native species," said Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests Supervisor Betty Mathews. "Anglers are some of our country's greatest conservationists, and we are proud to be seeing that in action here."

While a big brook trout in Georgia is about 7 inches, it remains popular for those wanting to catch a native trout. Through habitat enhancement work the partnership has increased brook trout fishing opportunities in Georgia. Contributions to the project by members of the Georgia Council of Trout Unlimited have also been recognized in *Field and Stream* magazine and by Trout Unlimited nationally.



Accepting the Partners and Community Engagement Award on behalf of the group at the Regional Forester's Award ceremony in Atlanta on November 7 were (L to R) Leon Brotherton, GA DNR; Jerry Wood, USFS; Betty Mathews, USFS; Kevin McGrath, Trout Unlimited; Mitzi Cole, USFS; Alex Watson, Trout Unlimited; and Mike Joyce, USFS.

CONGRATULATIONS !!!!

CONSERVE

PROTFCT



Five members from Rabun TU attended the Casting for Recovery fund raising event last month at the Chattahoochee Nature Center in Roswell. L to R Chapter Prez Pat Hopton, Tammy Hopton, Kathy Breithaupt, Charlie Breithaupt, Michele Crawford and Broderick Crawford.

Wanna see something cool? Check out this video made by the FS fire crew while helicopter stocking the Chattooga River last month. http://youtu.be/3dToDfOGynw

Class of 2013 Trout Camp camper Ryan Hartley recently got to fish the waters of Duke's Creek. Check out this cool video of his success landing fish while wearing his trout camp fishing vest !! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bp8uG8kr6tU&feature=youtu.be WHAAaaaaaa WHOOOOO!!

Have you enjoyed great fishing year round this year? Then give a big "Thank you" to mother nature for all the rain we've had this year. Over 90" has been recorded at Burrell's Ford so far this year. See info at http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/usa/nwis/uv/?
cb 00065=on&cb 00060=on&cb 00045=on&cb 00010=on&f ormat=gif default&period=&begin date=2013-01-01&end date=2013-12-06&site no=02176930



BACK CASTING cont....



Jeff Durniak (R) presents to Al Foster a Rainbow Trout print by Broderick Crawford in appreciation for his presentation.

The November regular monthly meeting was held on Nov. 21, at the TU/Scout Hut. Our guest speaker was Al Foster. Al is the Chattahoochee/ Oconee National Forest Land Acquisition Specialist. He gave us information about how the forest service goes about buying additional acreage to add to the public lands. Over 2100 acres have been acquired since 2007. Within that 2100 acres, 11 miles of streams was included in those purchases. Everyone enjoyed the information Al provided and we all walked away knowing how we can help the forest service acquire more land in the future. We also held our bucket raffle to cover the costs for those without email. Special Thanks to those who donated that helped us raise \$81.00. Tie One On tie fliers, Terry Rivers, Mack Martin-Atlanta Fly Fishing School, Peter Croes, Charlie Breithaupt and Broderick Crawford-Crawford Art Gallery.

The Rabun TU Board of Directors met on Thursday Nov 14 at the TU/Scout Hut. Agenda items included finalizing plans for the 2014 Rabun Rendezvous, developing the planning calendar for 2014 and Trout Camp 2014.

Dream Trip - Fly Fishing for Two

It's that time of year again. Start seeking out a TU board member to buy your tickets for the Dream Trip Fly Fishing for two 2014 trip. You can also contact Ray Gentry for more information or to purchase a ticket at regentry@windstream.net or at 404-680-6736. The winner gets to fish with John McGarity, stay in his fabulous log cabin conveniently located between the Madison River, Yellowstone National Park and the Henry's Fork puts you smack dab in the middle of some of the most famous trout waters in North America. John is the consummate trout angler, fishing almost every day during the 5 or 6 months each year he resides in Idaho. Blue Ribbon Flies in West Yellowstone checks with John for fishing reports. You get:

- 5 days hosted fishing / 6 nights lodging in Idaho July 28 August 2, 2014
- \$500 total in travel expenses travel arrangements will be the responsibility of the winners. *Fishing licenses, gratuities, and alcoholic beverages will be the responsibility of the winners during their stay.
- Each winner receives: Choice of Winston BIII-x or Sage ONE 4, 5 or 6 wt rod: a fly reel with Scientific Angler line and a fly box and flies for the trip (Approx. 5-7 dozen per box)

Tickets \$10 each - Proceeds Benefit TU Cold Water Conservation and Trout Camp

CONSERVE

PROTECT



Trout Camp 2014

Now is the time to begin the application process for Georgia Trout Camp 2014. Think - your kids, grandkids, nieces and nephews, neighbor's kids, or any kid that is excited about the outdoors and fishing.

The Rabun Chapter will sponsor 2 campers. Here are a few facts and instructions:

Deadline to apply: March 15, 2013 Camp Dates: June 8 (Sunday) - June 13 (Friday);

Cost: \$500 per camper (financial aid is available)

Includes room, board, and all activities for the five-day camp. (Campers must be within the ages of 12 – 15 at time of camp) Information and application forms are available on the Council website

http://www.georgiatu.org/index.php?mid=education&iid=troutcamp2014&sid=

Mail applications to: Rabun TU, PO Box 371, Clayton, GA 30525 Rabun Chapter will select 2 campers from the applicants to sponsor at the March Board of Directors meeting.

Each of the 12 chapters in Georgia has two spots to fill and each chapter decides how they want to select their campers. Once a chapter chooses a camper, the application along with their tuition check is forwarded to the Trout Camp Coordinator (Charlie Breithaupt). Campers will be notified of their acceptance as soon as possible. Later, around early May, more detailed information will be sent to each camper.

Questions and/or concerns should be directed to the Camp Coordinator, Charlie Breithaupt, 194 Kitchins Lane; Clayton, GA 30525 knc615@windstream.net or at (706) 782-695

Apply now, don't let your kid miss out on this wonderful opportunity to enhance the fishing and love of nature that you have already started to instill in your child.





MEMBERSHIP NEWS & UPDATES

Rabun TU currently has 173 Members, 16 Stream Explorers and 24 Life Members.

Time to renew your membership: Hector Balderas, Derek Barlow, Kayla Conner, Cecil Greene, Seth Hill, Miles Marquez, Bruce Mitchell, David Nichols, Larry Peevy, Mike Addington, Jim Blalock, Michael Breithaupt, Kyle Burrell, Billy Cook, Patsy Gentry, Doug Hickman, Jackie Hill, Eugene Keener, Steve McCall, Russell Burken, Jeff Durniak, Julian Heeth, Chris Jenkins, James Kidd and Lewis Reeves.

PASSING IT ON

Never pass up a chance to take a kid fishing!!









Enjoy this great story from a North Georgia Trout Online member as he captures the day he took his daughter fishing and she caught her first trout !! Click here http://www.georgia-outdoors.com/forum/showthread.php?t=100198



To all those who are buying the Trout Unlimited Car Tag; a big Thank You. The tag dollars are at work for the DNR fisheries division, which means they are at work for Rabun TU!!



CONSERVE

PROTECT



Notes from the President

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to all the members and supporters of the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited. During 2013 you have worked long and hard to fulfill our mission to conserve, protect, and enhance the cold water resources in the northeast Georgia area. Future generations of people will be exposed to the joys of fishing and to cleaner more abundant waters as a result of your tireless efforts.

Yes, you have truly made a difference! Every one of you is important and you have shown your support to the Chapter in your own unique and special way. Thank you for that!! So on behalf of the Rabun Chapter, I would like to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

PS: Make your plans now to attend the

2014 Rabun Rendezvous!

I hope to see you there.

PAS Hopm

Pat Hopton Chapter Prez



From the Editor: To continue the thoughts from the Prez, I too want to say "Thank You" to everyone who has helped me as the new Tight Lines Editor. Thanks for all the photos, fishing reports, story ideas, conservation reports, information, web site suggestions and miscellaneous news fodder. Please keep it coming. Also, thanks for all the kind words and words of encouragement as I continue to try to fine tune the newsletter into the new year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!



Rabun TU Officers & Directors for F/Y2014

Voting Board of Directors:

President Pat Hopton	Social Media, Awards, Donations, BOD Agenda, Budget	706-782-4978	scotts creek58@yahoo.com
Vice President Steve Perry	Membership Recruitment & Retention, Nominating Commit- tee Chair	706-746-3558	flygide@gmail.com
Treasurer Elizabeth Perry	Reports & Budget	828-200-9774	eperry04@gmail.com
Secretary Wayne Prosser	BOD Minutes, Correspondence, Records	706-746-6293	wp0968@windstream.net
Past President Larry Walker	Leadership Support	706-224-4345	amosndixie@yahoo.com
Director - 2014 Tim McClure	Meeting Refreshments, Meeting Raffle, Name Tags	706-782-6159	tcmclure64@gmail.com
Director - 2014 Michele Crawford	Tight lines Editor, Women's Outreach, Memorials	706-490-4574	crawfordart@windstream.ne
Director - 2015 Kent Wilson	Mack Martin Rod Raffle, Property Manager	706-746-7488	kandcwilson@windstream.ne
Director - 2015 Frank Patton	Kids Fishing Events	770-339-7095	julianfpatton@yahoo.com
Director - 2016 Jerry McFalls	Liaison with Local Scouts, Stream Projects, Safety Coor- dinator	706-782-8357	threeforksadven- tures@hotmail.com
Director - 2016 Ray King	Rabun Rendezvous, Au- dio-Visual Set Up	828-349-2786	rayking@frontier.com
Director - 2017 Tony Allred	Media Outreach	706-490-4755	tallred@gamountains.com
Director - 2017 Ray Gentry	Annual Family Fishing Day At Indian Lake, Dream Trip Raffle	404-680-6736	regentry@windstream.net

Non Voting Leaders:

Charlie & Kathy Breithaupt	Trout Camp, Fly Fishing 101	706-782-6954	knc615@windstream.net
Terri Allred	Christmas Dinner		taallred@windstream.net
Terry Rivers	Fly Tying Workshops	706-782-7419	tlr1121@windstream.net
Jim Kidd	Advocacy Director	706-782-2474	Jikidd@windstream.net
Jeff Durniak	Meeting Programs & hosting speaker to dinner	706-892-6576	jeffdurniak@yahoo.com
Glenn English	Chapter Campouts	706-212-9983	genglish09@yahoo.com

CONSERVE

PROTECT