

Tight Lines

January 2014 Newsletter of the Rabun Chapter (522) of Trout Unlimited Editor: Michele Crawford <u>crawfordart@windstream.net</u> Rabun TU's Award Winning Web Site <u>http://rabuntu.org/site/</u>

"The solution to any problem -- work, love, money, whatever -- is to go fishing, and the worse the problem, the longer the trip should be." John Gierach

<u>RABUN TU CHAPTER'S NEW MEETING PLACE</u> 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 !!

Don't miss these opportunities to learn from Terry Rivers !! Bring your own equipment if you have it. Then 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 !

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!!

Start your new year off right by not missing the 27th ANNUAL RABUN RENDEZVOUS JANUARY 25, 2014

At the Dillard House Conference Center !! Come support conservation and enjoy all the food, fun and fellowship !! More information on page 2. WEB SITE OF THE MONTH From Georgia Wildlife Resources Division. Go to link then scroll down a little to find info for trout and North Georgia from our own "Dredger". http://georgiawildlife.wordpress.com/



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Please join us for the 27th Annual Rabun Rendezvous

"As always I am looking forward to the Rendezvous, it's like a big old family reunion." Garland Stewart

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

Saturday January 25, 2014 starting at 5 pm

Where: The "NEW" Dillard House Conference Center (doubled in size), located behind the Dillard House in Dillard, Georgia.

Who: 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.

Social: 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.

Dinner: 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.

Cost: \$30 for adults and \$25 for youth of 15 and under. Cash, personal checks, VISA or MasterCard credit cards. We don't do advanced tickets or reservation; just pay at the door. Preschoolers receive a free ticket.

Lodging: 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.

Program Presenter: Shelia Humphrey from Smithgall Woods State Park. Shelia is a Wildlife Interpretive Specialist who works with various youth groups on location at the park and at other venues around North Georgia. Shelia will be sharing with us the opportunities for youth at Smithgall and some of her past experiences working with the youth. Her enthusiasm alone is worth attending this event. Shelia can light a spark in all ages about water and trout conservation!!!



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Request to the Rabunites and Friends

With the budget crunch faced by the agencies (the US Forest Service and GA WRD), Trout Unlimited can again stepup in 2014 and be the lead financial partner in protecting, preserving, connecting and enhancing the cold-water resources in Northeast Georgia, including the "Back the Brookie" activities. The Rabun Chapter's major fundraiser of the year, the Rabun Rendezvous, is just a few weeks away. Now is a good time to ask friends and supporters for donations of goods and services for the silent auction and bucket raffle.

Need an idea for what you can donate?

Art, crafts (wood working, fishing flies, etc.), a campout with fishing, a day of lake fishing, a day of deer hunting on a lease, a day of wild turkey hunting, vacations, golf packages, raft trips, weekend use of mountain cabins or condos at beach, and goodies from the kitchens of the Rabunites (cakes, breads, baskets with canned veggies, jams, jellies and preserves) have always been popular with our guests. Instead of buying something to donate, consider just donating the cash.

Don't miss all the fun !! See you there!!!



WHAT ARE THEY BITING ON ???

By: Guest Fly Expert Jeff Durniak

Oreck's Easy Egg Not only do you get to learn about a great egg pattern for winter fishing, it comes with a great story also.

A handful of these were given to me by a young Daniel Rabern, one of my first trouting adoptees from more than a decade ago. He saw the pattern on TV and tied them up. We tried them out on the best trouting classroom ever created by Mother Nature and NCWRC, the Nan DH. They worked!!!

Daniel was a trouting fanatic and a heck of a stalker. He was one of the Ole Rabunites favorites on The River and at Salmon Camp on IDBIS stream. When Daniel was about 17, Adams summoned him over to the campfire bench. Adams explained that "Hoover" was already assigned to Kyle. Then Adams ordained Daniel as "Oreck!"

Enough about the pedigree; on to the pattern:

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Cut about 1.5 inches of apricot egg yarn and split it lengthwise so you'll have supplies for two flies. Lay one strand lengthwise across the top of a size 12 or 14 egg or nymph hook in your vise. Cinch it down with 4 thread wraps at shank mid-length. Then grab both ends, pull them together vertically over the hook, and wrap them together to form a parachute post, like you would tie for a dry.

Hold the end of the yarn post with one hand and cut it about 1/3 inch long from the shank with the other. Cut with an up, across, and down motion so the end is a slight semicircle.

When you let go, it should splay out into a mushroom, or half an egg on top of the hook. Put a red dot on top, in the middle, with a red sharpie.

Tie at least six at one time to practice technique and get proportions right. Then take all six and dab the posts with superglue or head cement.

Fish the egg on 4 or 5x tippet about 8 inches behind a knot and enough shot to bottom-roll it. It you're greedy, add 16 inches of the next lighter tippet to the hook bend and tie a #18 or 20 pheasant tail to the tag end. Fish seem to eat half an egg as well or better than a whole egg, and these things are just so darn easy to tie!

That's my winter go-to combo. Give the Oreck Easy Egg a try this winter and see if you haul out six to ten fish per Chattooga DH pool.

And take a newbie fishing. These folks can get good quickly and teach us old dawgs some new tricks, like the Oreck Easy Egg. Maybe that next Rabun County Boy Scout will show ole Steve Perry a trick or two...

Thanks for my Christmas present from more than a decade ago, Daniel!! We're passing it on.

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To view a Hatch Chart for all month, click Hatch Chart

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

Jan. 16 (Thurs) : Regular Meeting at the new TU/Scout Hut. Fly tying starts at 5 pm. Social at 6:30 then meeting and program at 7 pm. This month is "Angling Alaska" by Kent Wilson. Kent will be sharing some of his Alaska fishing stories . Learn some tips on fishing that area and come to listen and judge for yourself if Kent is telling some true stories or not.

Jan. 23 (Thurs) : BOD Meeting at the TU/Scout Hut starting at 6:30. Everyone welcome.

Jan 25 (Sat): RABUN RENDEZVOUS !! 5 pm Dillard House Conference Center ! You don't want to miss all the fun !!











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Feb 4 (Tues): Chattooga Coalition 2014 Annual Meeting. 9 AM Chattooga R.D.

Feb 8 (Sat): Annual Planning Meeting at 8 am Breakfast at the Dillard House.

Feb 20 (Thurs): Regular Monthly Meeting a the new TU/Scout Hut. "Readying Your Vest for Spring" by Steve Perry will be the program. Steve is a veteran trout fisherman & Rabunite 101 Instructor. Just about all anglers can pick up a tip or two to prepare for the new trout season to catch more fish.

Feb 27 (Thurs): BOD Meeting at the TU/Scout Hut starting at 6:30. Everyone Welcome.

March 8 (Sat): Georgia Women Fly Fishers (GWFF) will hold their annual Mardi Gras themed fund raiser at the Sweet Water Brewing Company in Atlanta starting at 7 pm. For more info or tickets go to http://www.georgiawomenflyfishing.com/#!donate/c1vud

March 20 (Thurs): Regular Monthly Meeting at the new TU/Scout Hut. "Stripping Streamers for trophy trout " by Unicoi Outfitters guide & asst. manager Jake Darling. Jake's "Big Fat Resume" is impressive and rumor has it he may spill some secrets to a select few Rabunites gathered at the hut. Don't miss out on this chance to learn so you can get yourself more grip n' grin moments.

March 22 (Sat): Rabunite 101. (1/2 Fly Fishing Workshop)

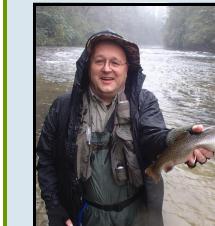
March 22 (Sat): Hoot on the Hooch. 5 pm to 10 pm, Hellendorf Inn, Helen, GA (Foothills Chapter)

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Just before Christmas two men went fishing.

Their story as told by Jeff (dredger) Durniak:

Ken "Cheesegrits" Riddleberger had a mystical day on the Chattooga DH as he broke in the new Mystic rod he "stole for a song" at the 2013 Rabun Rendezvous' silent auction. Saturday (12 - 21)was a wet, but warm day on the river, and the hot fly was a red copper john dropped behind an apricot Oreck egg - and just enough lead to tick the bottom. Cooperative fish were packed into the heads of shallow pools. Despite the steady rain, the warm air temperatures, rising water temperature, and moderate stream flow combined for an early Christmas gift of a day on The River for two fishing buddies. Gortex, fleece, and cooperative fish helped the duo dismiss all the raindrops.





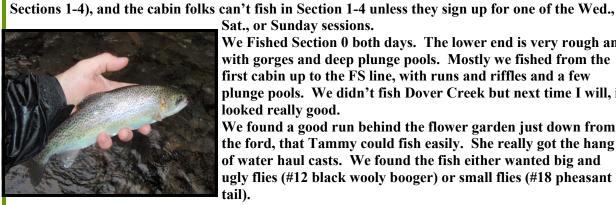


Prez Pat and Tammy spend New Year's fishing at Smithgall Woods State Park

On New Years Eve and New Years Day Tammy and I spent two days and nights at a cabin in Smithgall Woods State Park (the Chapter had given us one night as a wedding gift). It was great: the cabins are very nice, fully furnished, with a wood stove and firewood, and a hot tub outside on a privacy deck (we really liked that!).

Folks who stay in the cabins are allowed to fish the uppermost section (Section 0) of Dukes Creek. That section starts just above the picnic area and goes up to the FS line, and includes Dover Creek to the FS line. Continued on next page

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Sat., or Sunday sessions. We Fished Section 0 both days. The lower end is very rough and with gorges and deep plunge pools. Mostly we fished from the first cabin up to the FS line, with runs and riffles and a few plunge pools. We didn't fish Dover Creek but next time I will, it looked really good.

We found a good run behind the flower garden just down from the ford, that Tammy could fish easily. She really got the hang of water haul casts. We found the fish either wanted big and ugly flies (#12 black wooly booger) or small flies (#18 pheasant tail).

She hooked one pig of a rainbow , but it jumped and threw the hook. She turned with a look of amazement at me - "Did you see that???" She hooked one other in that same run but lost it too. Unfortunately the switch just was not on and those were the only two fish she hooked. But I think she is now hooked on fishing. I'm a lucky man. Prez Pat ps - I landed three and lost 4 big ' uns.

Pat and Tammy cont... The Wed, Sat and Sun fishermen can't fish that section (they can only fish

The ice cube trip

Two certifiably crazy Rabunites and an adopted youth, who was too young to know better, decided to hit The River today (1/4/13). It was cold, but we had fun. Fly guide and Dredger enjoyed the crisp clean air, gin-clear water, and awesome winter scenery (code words for their slow catchin' in the 36 degree water), while College Boy cleaned out the rest of the river with his darn Euronymphing technique. His 23 fish to hand nearly quadrupled the combined catch of the two senior citizens. Since the trio was dressed warmly , it was a great day on the river when most folks had shied away from the outdoors due to the January chill. By: Jeff "Dredger" Durniak



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BACK CASTING

On Tuesday December 10, 2013 we held our annual Christmas Dinner. If you didn't get to attend you sure missed a wonderful evening. The owners at the **Rabun Manor in Dillard**, **GA** spared no time and labor on decorating so festive, cooking a delicious buffet, endless hospitality, a dessert table that had you drooling before you ever made your selection. Of course no one sampled only one dessert. Our buffet consisted of a Caesar Salad, Roasted Pork Loin with cranberry stuffing and rosemary glaze, herb crusted Rainbow Trout with a sherried crab cream. Our extraordinary sides included baked macaroni with ham and three cheese sauce, mashed or roasted potatoes, green beans with a mushroom sauce and collard greens.



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Learning Corner

Cold Weather Dress Tips http://www.georgia-outdoors.com/forum/

Cold Weather Fly Fishing Tips

Rabun TU

http://www.fieldandstream.com/articles/fishing/troutfishing/where-fish-trout/2012/12/flyfishing-tips-

rabuntu.org

Did you know that the Rabun Chapter has an award winning web site? Awarded best web site in 2010 from TU National, it is full of information covering every aspect of our chapter and chapter happenings. This is great place to click on to when needing information, fishing advice, and chapter happenings. One of the best places to start on the web site is the chapter history. How did the Rabun Chapter come to exist? It's a story of how three anglers befriended others in the area with similar interests to form a fishing club which lead to the official Rabun Chapter of TU being chartered on August 7, 1986. Take a look and start learning or refreshing your memories about how it all got started.

To commence go to : http://rabuntu.org/site/about/chapter-history/

tu.org

Trout Unlimited recently updated their web site. The new web site features even more information, news, events, fishing tips, conservation efforts, trip ideas, and much more. Like Rabun TU they have a great article on the history of how Trout Unlimited came to be. Once again, it all began with a group of friends with the same love and interest in trout fishing. It too is a unique story. So like our local chapter web site it is a great place to start to learn about the successful group that formed TU over 50 years ago.

To commence go to :

http://www.tu.org/about-tu/history

Beginner's Box

Don't know quite where to begin? Just know you want to start trout fishing. Then click on the link below to an article about how to get started. Information contained in the article gets your mind to moving and gets you in the water fast. That's the best way to learn ...jump right in !!

Click here: <u>http://adventure.howstuffworks.com/outdoor-</u> activities/fishing/freshwater-tips/trout/trout-fishing-gear.htm

Experienced Angler Box

One bug or two on that fly line? Going with the thought if one works good then two ought to land your picture on the cover of a fishing magazine, you might as well learn how to tie two on right. Lessons learned include how and what to pair with what. For more information to perfect this tactic click below :

http://globalflyfisher.com/fishbetter/more-than-one-fly/

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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, 2014 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 <u>http://www.georgiatu.org/index.php?mid=education&iid=troutcamp2014&sid=</u> 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 <u>knc615@windstream.net</u> or at (706) 782-6954

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.





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MEMBERSHIP NEWS & UPDATES

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

Our deepest condolences are extended to Tom Matthews on the death of his brother last month. We also extend our sympathy to the family of Homer Parker. Homer passed away just before the end of the year 2013. He was an avid fisherman.

A big congratulations goes out to the family of Jerry McFalls on the graduation of their daughter Allison. She received her degree from West Georgia College last month.

DREAM TRIP - FLY FISHING FOR TWO!



GRAND PRIZE

"The 2014 Dream Trip reaches new heights. The opportunity 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. Having been a restauranteur, John is also an excellent cook... you will not go hungry on this trip! TU couldn't ask for a better host and guide for this year's Dream Trip."

• 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 winner

Each winner receives: Choice of Winston BIII-x or Sage ONE 4, 5 or 6 wt rod A fly reel with Scientific Angler line A fly box and flies for the trip (Approx. 5-7 dozen per box)

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

RUNNER UP PRIZES:

- Temple Fork fly rod. (9' 4 piece, Professional series or TiCr, 4, 5 or 6 wt). Donated by Atlanta Fly Fishing School.
- Temple Fork BVK 4-5 reel. Donated by Atlanta Fly Fishing School.
- Six dozen flies in nice fly box. Donated by Atlanta Fly Fishing School.
- Five day trip to Kasba Lodge, NWT, Canada for one person. Trip is set up for two people for 5 days. Winner or partner must pay for second person @\$3695 individual rate. Dates are open for selection at http://ww.kasba.com. Donated by the Kasba Lodge, NWT, Canada.
- Certificate to Fly Fishing Class or Fly Casting Class at the Atlanta Fly Fishing School. Donated by Atlanta Fly Fishing School.
- Custom made Temple Fork fly rod of winner's choice. (Professional series, TiCr or TiCrX). Donated by Garland Stewart.
- Full day guided float trip on the Chattahoochee River for 2 people. Includes lunch and soft drinks. Donated by River Through Atlanta Guide Service. Gordon Walker will be the guide.
- Half day guided fishing trip with Henry Cowan on the Chattahoochee for carp, Lake Lanier for stripers or Lake Allatoona. (Anglers' choice.)
- One half-day unguided fishing for two people at Nacoochee Bend. Donated by Jimmy Harris, Unicoi Outfitters.
- Fly Box with 6 dozen flies, donated by the Georgia TU Chapters 2 drawings.
- Surprise gift Must be present to win!

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For complete rules and details visit www.georgiatu.org





DREAM TRIP 2014

It's time to get your dream trip tickets. Give a holler to one of our board members to get your tickets for this great trip. We will be selling tickets up to the Hoot on the Hooch event on March 22, 2014. This is a trip of a life time so don't miss out on your chance.

You can also contact Ray Gentry at regentry@windstream.net

or at 404-680-6736 For tickets or ticket information.



Notes from the President

Why should you attend the Rendezvous?

For the 27th year the Rabun Chapter will host the famous "RABUN RENDEZ-

VOUS", to be held on January 25, 2014 at the Dillard House Conference Center, Dillard, GA. Along with a buffet meal, a program speaker and great bluegrass music we will have a live auction, silent auction, and bucket raffles.

Our Chapter is committed to protecting and improving the cold-water fisheries in our area and supporting other chapters in their efforts. However it takes funds to provide the support, equipment, and expenses of this work. The annual Rabun Rendezvous is our main source of funds for the work.

Last year 174 people attended the Rendezvous and we raised over \$9,000, all of which went into projects to support the mission of TU. Here are a few examples of the projects we accomplished with the funds received from last year's Rendezvous:

* Financial support for GA Council Trout Unlimited Youth Trout Camp, held annually at Rabun Gap-Nachoochee School;

* Sponsorship of student interns working in Northeast GA cold-water fisheries program with the GA Department of Natural Resources and the US Forest Service;

* Sponsoring two youngster to attend the Trout Unlimited Youth Trout Camp;

* Financial support of the GA Department of Natural Resources Smithgall Woods Conservation Education Program;

- * Financial support for the Kid's Fishing Event at Tallulah River (US Forest Service);
- * Financial support for the University of Georgia's Coldwater Research Endowment Fund;
- * Funding for the construction of a handicap accessible fishing pier on the Tallulah River;
- * Financial support for the Rabun County Middle School mentoring program;
- * Equipment and manpower for the West Fork Chattooga River clean-up day;
- * In-stream habitat improvement workday with USFS on a Rabun County brook trout stream;
- * Financial support for Casting For Recovery and Fly Fishing for Vets Wounded Warriors Program;
- * Financial support for National TU's First Cast, Embrace-A-Stream, & Southeast Lands programs;
- * Financial support for the GA Council Trout Unlimited Back-the-Brookie program;
- * Design of Rabun TU's award winning website and Face Book page;
- * Trout Magazine subscriptions to all school & public libraries and two State Parks in Rabun County.

What a list of worthy projects! And your attendance at the Rabun Rendezvous helps to the raise funds that support the mission of the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited! I hope to see you there.

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Pat Hopton Chapter Prez

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Rabun TU Officers & Directors for F/Y2014

Voting Board of Directors :

| President Pat Hopton | Social Media, Awards, Donations, BOD Agenda, Budget | 706-782-4978 | <u>scotts_creek58@yahoo.com</u> |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------|---|
| Vice President Steve Perry | Membership Recruitment & Reten- tion, Nominating Committee Chair | 706-746-3558 | flygide@gmail.com |
| Treasurer Pat Hopton (Interim) | Reports & Budget | 706-782-4978 | <u>scotts_creek58@yahoo.com</u> |
| 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 | <u>tcmclure64@gmail.com</u> |
| Director - 2014 Michele Crawford | Tight lines Editor, Women's Outreach, Memorials | 706-490-4574 | <u>crawfordart@windstream.net</u> |
| Director - 2015 Kent Wilson | Mack Martin Rod Raffle, Property Manager | 706-746-7488 | kandcwilson@windstream.net |
| Director - 2015 Frank Patton | Kids Fishing Events | 770-339-7095 | julianfpatton@yahoo.com |
| Director - 2016 Jerry McFalls | Liaison with Local Scouts, Stream Projects, Safety Coordi- nator | 706-782-8357 | <u>threeforksadven-</u> <u>tures@hotmail.com</u> |
| Director - 2016 Ray King | Rabun Rendezvous, Audio -Visual Set Up | 828-349-2786 | <u>rayking@frontier.com</u> |
| Director - 2017 Tony Allred | Media Outreach | 706-490-4755 | <u>tallred@gamountains.com</u> |
| Director - 2017 Ray Gentry | Annual Family Fishing Day At Indian Lake, Dream Trip Raffle | 404-680-6736 | <u>regentry@windstream.net</u> |

Non Voting Leaders :

| Charlie & Kathy Breithaupt | Trout Camp, Fly Fishing 101 | 706-782-6954 | knc615@windstream.net |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Terri Allred | Christmas Dinner | | <u>taallred@windstream.net</u> |
| Terry Rivers | Fly Tying Workshops | 706-782-7419 | <u>tlr1121@windstream.net</u> |
| 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 |

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