

RABUN CHAPTER #522

TIGHT LINES

MARCH 2018 NEWSLETTER

EDITOR: MICHELE CRAWFORD mcrawfordtu@windstream.net RABUN TU'S AWARD WINNING WEB SITE: **RABUNTU.ORG**

KEEP UP WITH RABUN TU ON FACEBOOK. EVENTS, HAPPEN-INGS AND MORE POSTED

REGULARLY





Join us for our regular monthly meetings every third Tuesday of the month. This month the date is March 20.

Our Meeting Place is at Rabun

Gap Presbyterian church Fellowship Hall

Social & Story telling (Truth or Lies) starts At 6:30 pm, then at 7:00 – Program & Meeting. The church is located just past Rabun Gap Nachoochee School

at 8397 Wolffork Road, Rabun Gap, GA 30568.

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 and to raise money to pay for our storage building. Bring an item to donate and a dollar or two for raffle tickets. Our meetings are

always fun and very informative.

Great times with your fellow Rabunites.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Scholars have long known that fishing eventually turns men into philosophers. Unfortunately, it is almost impossible to buy decent tackle on a philosopher's salary."

Patrick McManus

WEB SITE OF THE MONTH



Winter is going to give

in to spring before to long. Now is the time to prepare for successful fishing trips. One of the best web sites available to do just that is put out by GA DNR. Check it out by clicking <u>here</u>.











FROM THE RABUN TU PRESIDENT KENT WILSON:

This has been a most unusual winter/spring from a weather perspective. The temperatures have been extremely unpredictable and rain seems to be an almost constant companion. The fifteen-day forecast is calling for more frigid night time temperatures for a while yet. The exceptionally warm weather we enjoyed in late February was apparently just a tease to get your appetites whetted for some spring time fishing. Unfortunately, it appears the groundhog may have been correct when he predicted six more weeks of winter.

Despite the unpredictable weather, a sure sign of spring is just around the corner. March 24, 2018 is the date for the "Hoot on the Hooch" in Helen, Georgia. This will be a great opportunity to come together for a fun evening of friendship, good food and a great time. I hope that you are all planning to attend. I will see you there.

The March edition of Tight Lines will be the final newsletter for Michele Crawford who is stepping down as our Editor. Michele has done an amazing job and has logged an untold number of hours in publishing our monthly newsletter for the last several years. On behalf of the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited and Tight Line readers both near and far, I would like to express my deep appreciation to Michele for her outstanding work! Please take the opportunity to personally thank Michele for all that she has done whenever you bump into her. You can usually find her at her normal hangout at Crawford Art Gallery in Clayton. Long time Rabunite Pat Hopton will be taking over as Editor with the April edition of Tight Lines and we look forward to seeing what Pat has in store for our readers. Special thanks go out to Pat for his willingness to step into this very important role.

I would encourage you to join us at our upcoming chapter meeting which will be held on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 beginning at 6:30 P. M. at the Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church located in Rabun Gap, Georgia.

Tight Lines, Kent Wilson

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR TROUT UNLIMITED ACROSS NORTH GEORGIA



Each purchase or renewal of a <u>Trout Unlimited license</u> <u>plate</u> supports <u>Georgia's trout</u> <u>conservation and management</u> <u>programs</u>. These efforts affect trout production, stocking and stream restoration throughout North Georgia.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CLICK <u>HERE</u>! TALK ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF JUST A FEW \$\$\$.









STAY INFORMED & GET INVOLVED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 17 (Sat): Quarterly meeting for the Georgia TU Council. UC Chapter is hosting the event at the Chattahoochee Nature Center from 9 am till noon.

March 20 (Tues): Regular monthly meeting for Rabun TU starting at 6:30. Our March speaker will be "business travel trouting tips" by Foothills TU's frequent flyer, Bob Lux. Bob was going to be our speaker in January until mother nature decided it was time for a little snow. Bob, the Foothills chapter's newsletter editor, has perfected the art of packing light to pack in some fishing along with his distant business travel far to the north and west. Come learn some secrets from this expert, just in time to start watching the internet for deep discounts on next summer's airfares to locales "West of Hiawassee." Believe me, his photo results will make you a believer, too! Come join us and learn how to "work" remotely in style.





MARCH 24 (Sat): HOOT ON THE HOOCH! Event starts at 5:00 pm at the Helendorf River Inn Suites and Conference Center. Tickets are at the door for \$30.00 each. Great BBQ, auction and raffle items. Plus the DREAM TRIP TICKET WINNER WILL BE DRAWN!! GET YOUR DREAM TRIP TICKETS ASAP! For more info click <u>here</u>!

March 27 (Tues): Regular monthly Board meeting starting at 6:30.

April 7 (Sat): Rabunite 101. Beginning Fly-Fishing Seminar 8:30 am until 1:00 pm. Clayton Methodist Creative Learning Center/ Gym . Cost is only \$25.00. Event limited to 28 participants. See the full sign up sheet on page 5.











ADDITIONAL EVENTS

April 21 (Sat): In celebration of Earth Day Rabun TU will be joining in with others across our nation on that day to do some clean up. Rabunites will be doing some stream bank cleaning on the Chattooga River in the Earl's Ford area. Be sure to check out the April newsletter to find out our meeting place and time. Stream clean up's are always a good way to give back. Rabun TU has done many stream clean up's through the years. For Earth Day it's great to see so many other groups coming together to join in for a county wide clean up effort. While we, along with the Chattooga Conservancy will be concentrating our efforts on the river banks, many other will organize in town to do road sides in the county. On April 21, if you have the time please volunteer with one of the groups and give back. It's a mess out there at times...



RABUNITE SPRING CAMPOUT AND FISHING: Our annual Spring campout will be May 2 (Wednesday) through May 6 (Sunday) at Oconee State Park in South Carolina. Campout

hosts will be Kathy and Charlie Breithaupt. They have reserved site #93 which will serve as the gathering place for meals and sittin' around the fire. We will cook/eat breakfast and supper together every day and you are on your own for your noon meal. Click on the following link to make your reservations. <u>http://</u> <u>southcarolinaparks.com/oconee/camping.aspx</u> Come out and have a good time with your fellow Rabunites!



Camping sites book up quick so get your reservations soon!! More details to follow!











FLY-FISHING SEMINAR

www.rabuntu.org

- Ever wanted to try your hand at fly-fishing for trout but never learned the in's and out's of it?
- Ever wonder why some people seem to get so "hooked" on it?

Now's your chance! The Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited is planning a half-day fly-fishing seminar for adults (male and female 16 years and older). The seminar will cover equipment, casting, knots and entomology (the bugs we imitate for fish to eat).

Instructors include Federation of Fly Fishing Certified Instructors and other experts for a hands-on learning experience that will be helpful and fun.

 WHAT: Beginning Fly-Fishing Seminar "Rabunite 101"
WHEN: Saturday - April 7, 2018 8:30 am until 1:00 pm
WHERE: Clayton Methodist Creative Learning Center/ Gyml 205 Ministry Mountain Drive, Clayton, GA 30525 (off old hwy 441 behind the radio station) http://www.claytonmethodist.com/creative-learning-center/

HOW MUCH? Cost is only \$25

WANT TO SIGN UP??? FIRST COME FIRST SERVED! The session is limited to 28 participants.

Send the form below along with your check made payable to: The Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited Charlie Breithaupt 194 Kitchins Lane Clayton, GA 30525 <u>knc615@windstream.net</u> (706)782-6954

You will receive notification when you have been registered.

Please Print (NEATLY!) Yes, I want to attend the fly-fishing seminar!



Name

Address

City, State Zip

Telephone

Email







FISHING REPORTS

By: Michele Crawford - This fishing story is a little different. Instead of being about catching the fish, it's about stocking the fish. I'm talking about flying fish. Not the kind in the ocean, but the traveling trout from the Lake Burton fish hatchery. Last fall I had the honor to distantly observe the stocking of the Chattooga River for the Delayed Harvest season. I was wanting to show my fellow TU members some of their donation dollars at work. Donation dollars that they technically received back when they went fishing on the DH and had one great time after another. So since I had loooonnng camera lenses I was allowed to photograph the men and women at work that day stocking the trout to document and share with our readers. So following is my experience from that day to share. Keep in mind, my regular job is in retail behind a counter most of the time. For the men and women there that day they were just doing their job, but to me I thought they all rocked!! What cool jobs they have in my opinion! If I put this story into a video, the only song I can think of that would go with what I witnessed would be "Bad to the Bone".

It was early and chilly that day. Not too cold, just damp and cloudy. When I arrived all the employees from Georgia DNR and the US Forest Service were in a holding pattern, waiting to see if the clouds lifted enough for the ship (helicopter) to fly. While we

waited, the agencies reviewed maps and discussed showing the first time pilot for this stocking the dropping points in the Chattooga. About an hour later the fuel truck showed up. "That's a good sign" I was told. Sure enough, it wasn't long we heard the chopper coming in from Clayton over the mountains. As the



bird come in he landed

ever so gently, then he and his crew came over for the safety briefing. The pilot was young looking and he perhaps knew the reservations some might have about him having



never worked with this group before. As he approached the staging area he joked that he wasn't that familiar with that kind of helicopter so if anyone

had any tips he would appreciate it. Yes, we all laughed. Apparently working

with long lines on a helicopter takes a lot of talent and experience. Any



apprehension anyone had on this pilot was soon to be put to rest. He was super talented working with long lines. Experience he had gained working with a helicopter in the logging business in south GA.

The pilot would hover over the river with the large orange "Bambi" firefighting bucket then dip it in to fill it

up with water. From there he would lift up and over the trees into the field where the group was ready to fill up the bucket with trout. Using a large pipe, they would open up a compartment in the stocking truck for the fish to slide down into a big plastic trash can filled with holes. (Continued on next page)



RESTORE







FISHING REPORTS

The holes in the bucket drained the water from the holding tanks while the trout were transferred into the big bambi bucket. Once the bucket filled with trout, the long tether line was straightened out for lift off. The pilot would slowly lift, after having cleared the trees he took off up the river with each full bucket of trout. On this particular day he made 10 trips up the Chattooga River.

To see all that's involved you would think it would take all day. But once the ship got started, the experience and expertise of the crew on the ground had thousands of trout swimming in the Chattooga River in just a few hours. To say what I watched was impressive would be an understatement.



dollar



PROTECT







CONSERVE

FISHING REPORTS

FELLOWSHIP AND FLY FISHING

Hello Members and all;

In thinking and dreaming of our streams that I think would be enjoyed by our chapter, I have come up with a schedule of our up-coming F&F trips.

MARCH - 21st : Tuckaseigee River delayed harvest

APRIL – 3rd : Smith Creek DH

APRIL – 8th thru 13th : Shenandoah Nat. Park VA. This is a away trip and we will fish the Shenandoah. Some will camp @ Shenandoah Hills Campgrounds and others will stay at Graves Mountain Lodge. For details call me. 706.201.0138

APRIL – 24th : Ravens Fork Cherokee Reservation.

MAY – 2nd thru 6th : This is our chapters Spring campout. We will be camping @ Oconee State Park, SC. As you know, most will target the Chattooga DH and that is all good but there are some other streams might be interesting to fish. One that comes to mind is the Chauga DH. This campout is always fun put it on your calendars.

MAY – 16th: Tallulah – Coleman Rivers

JUNE 6th: Noland Creek GSMNP

JUNE – 22nd: Moccasin Creek headwaters

I hope that there are a few of the streams that interest you. The list will be added to as the year counts down. 2018 should be a fun fishing year with a lot of good fellowship and loads of fishing . Contact me (<u>Mike Fuller</u>) for more information!! Click on my name for an immediate email pop up.

WHAAAAAAA WHOOOOOOOOOOO!!







BACK CASTING

Our guest speaker at our February regular monthly meeting was our own Brian Weeks. Brian provided great tips for our group when it comes to catching trout in the cold winter months. For all of those who thought winter meant fishing season was over, Brian gave us enough tips on staying warm, where to go and how to fish in cold months successfully so there doesn't have to be any more off seasons! Thanks Brian!



From the Editor: After four 1/2 years this is the last time I will show up in your "inbox" on a monthly basis. I have thoroughly enjoyed putting together the newsletter for Rabun TU since October of 2013. I hate to give it up now, but my business takes every waking hour I have to give, including my time I wanted to give to something else. When you're responsible for everything from the toilet paper to the taxes it takes a toll on your available "free time." I will still be around though helping out with social media and with a few other things that I can. I love the group, the people and their mission! In the five + years that I have worked closer with Rabun TU and other GA Chapter members, I have become addicted to being around such positive, generous, kind and genuine people. The TU Chapters across Georgia are full of folks who give so much to the complete mission of Trout Unlimited. Our country would be a better place if politicians could hold a candle to the same level of dedication I've witnessed working around the groups during different events. So if you're looking to escape the boredom, and the depressing TV, go out and join your local Chapter! Get involved with the people and the mission and you too will get addicted to the positive vibe! As for me, I never got to fish one time last year....to busy. I hope to change that this spring a couple of afternoons late on the Chattooga DH. I'm feeling entitled since I haven't got to fish in a while, so I may ignore the be kind to other fisherman rule this year and become a hole hog and butt right in. Wishing everyone as always Tight Lines!

Mr. Rabunite "Dark Thirty" himself, Pat Hopton will be taking over the newsletter next month. So please forward newsletter material to Pat at <u>522rabuntu@gmail.com</u>. He's ready for all the spring fishing stories you come up with!





BACKCASTING

Rabun Rendezvous 2018

THANK YOU! To our individual donors: Doug Adams, Brian Weeks, Mark Whitney, Jeff Durniak, Ray King, Jim Kidd, Maria Rhodeghiero, Jim Casada, Tammy Hopton, Frank and Gail Tolbert, Terry Rivers, Eedee Adams, Pat Hopton, Noland Smathers, David and Paulette Tanner, Frank Patton, Glen Ivie, Jeff Samsel, Mike Sobaski, Jimmy Whiten, Fritz Bertz, Rodney Tumlin, Noland Smathers, Ryleigh Brotherton, Emmelyn Rivers, Etta King, Carl Riggs, Wayne Prosser, Charlie and Kathy Breithaupt, and Avril Adams.

THANK YOU! To our business donors: Highlands Hiker, Gary Merriman - The Fish Hawk, The Savannah River TU Chapter, Lewis Reeves - Reeves Outdoor Center, Mane Design, Jordyn Ward - Peachy Keen Designs, Little Bee Body Care, The Rusty Bike, Smitty's Spirits, Reeves Building Supply Clayton, R.M. Rose Company, Jimmy Harris - Unicoi Outfitters, Jake Darling - Unicoi Outfitters, Moonrise Distillery, Louise Dillard - The Dillard House, Steve Hudson - Chattahoochee Media Group, Gene Barrington - Project Healing Waters, Johnny Amrine - Amrine Rentals, Vaughan Rogers - Reeves Hardware Dillard, TU National, LL Bean, Highlands Aerial Park, The Coosa Valley Trout Unlimited Chapter, Reeves Hardware Clayton, Chris Scalley - River Through Atlanta Guide Service, Mack Martin - Atlanta Fly Fishing School, Shannon Messer - Blackrock Outdoor Company, Unicoi State Park & Lodge, Smithgall Woods State Park, Brookings Anglers, Monte Seehorn - Seehorn Cellars, Bud O'Neal - Walmart Clayton, and Broderick & Michele Crawford -Crawford Art Gallery.

For the event we had 191 guests. After our Budget meeting in February the board voted on the following expenditures: Chapter Operations \$4340.00, Youth & Education \$11,317.50, Conservation Projects \$3600.00, National TU \$4000.00, Chapter Outreach - \$9972.00.

Thank you to all who donated and came to our event. Please always keep our donors in mind when you're needing to make purchases, book fishing trips, plan fun things to do, a place to stay for you or some friends coming to the mountains. They're always ready to support Rabun TU so pay it forward when you can. THANK YOU AGAIN!!!!!!!!! WHHHHHaaaaaaaaa WHHooooooo!

See you at the 32nd Annual Rabun Rendezvous in 2019!!





IN THE NEWS

Going back to early February if you happen to tune in to the Super Bowl, do you recall seeing an ad by the Chrysler Jeep Corporation? Well Trout Unlimited President Chris Wood and his son saw it. Anyone into stream and river conservation were not moved to buy a jeep but rather appalled at the notion that jeep would suggest driving up the middle of streams while "muddin" with your buddies. Chris Wood wrote a letter to the corporation with his concerns. I encourage everyone to read his letter and all other responses from social media regarding the commercial. You can find the letter at this link , <u>letter to jeep</u> and Chris's letter to TU members and social media response at that link <u>here.</u>



Other TU National News : Call to Action. From our friend and fellow TU member from Connecticut "The Arm Chair Angler" John Springer.

Perhaps you have heard about the mining company that wants to start up at one of the head waters of the famous Smith River. Perhaps you have not. Perhaps you will never go there either. But I'll share with you my thoughts. This is not the first nor will it be the last company, many from out of the United States that want to come here and make money and endanger something that can't be replaced or fixed. You may know about what acid mine drainage has done to many rivers and how much it cost to fix them up if they can be fixed up at all this after the companies are long gone and US tax payers must come up with the money to fix the problems. You can see what Trout Unlimited is doing as well as the Theodora Fly Fisher's. Money, that's what it takes and letters saying this is another bad idea that has the potential to cause great damage to a place not many get to go to or ever see. That does not mean it is any less important. I'm sure you have seen on the news about our rules and regulations that are being changed that effect air and water quality that does affect you no matter where you live. Take a moment to read what is written here if you can send them a few bucks and take a moment to send a response to this. Don't wait for the other person to do it, you're getting this because you fish and you know how much fishing means to you. Thank you for your time, John Springer

For more information I have included the PDF files with your newsletter downloads. Just click on them to read up and become informed.















MEMBERSHIP NEWS

IF YOU'RE NOT ALREADY A MEMBER JOIN NOW AND BECOME A CARD CAR-RYING RABUNITE! NO WHERE ELSE IN THESE PARTS CAN YOU BE A MEMBER OF A GREAT CONSERVATION GROUP THAT LOVES TO GO FISHING ! SIGN UP <u>HERE!</u>

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP: 166 members; 26 Life members;

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: Greg Tallis and Kane Williams! Hope to see you on the river real soon!

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP: Bob Biebel, Peggy Crowe, Scott Edwards, Kaden Mitchell, Richard Mueller, David Ruth, Phil Upchurch, and Michael Williams.

THANKS FOR RE UPPING YOUR RABUN TU MEMBERSHIP: Brooks and Amanda Adams, Tony Allred, Dick Daniel, Ray Hannah, Julian Patton, Margaret Richardson, Corey Smith and Fritz Vinson.

Please keep good ole Rabunite Monty Seehorn in your thoughts and prayers. Last month before celebrating his 85th birthday he had to undergo bypass surgery at N.E. Georgia Medical Center. He is now at home resting and recuperating.

Please also keep member Jim Blalock and his family in your thoughts and prayers. Jim's wife Kathy was recently diagnosed with cancer. Jim and family are staying strong in helping Kathy fight her battle!!

YOUR BOARD OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR FY 2018

Kent Wilson	Wayne Prosser	Charlie Breithaupt	Kathy Breithaupt	Steve Perry	Doug Adams
President	Vice President	Treasurer	Secretary	Past President	Director Emeritus
kandcwil-	<u>wp0968 @ wind-</u>	knc615@windstream.	knc615@windstream.	flygide@gmail.com	edadams1@windstre
son@windstream.net	stream.net.	<u>net</u>	<u>net</u>		<u>am.net</u>
Ray King	Mike Fuller	Tammy Hopton	Ray Gentry	David Ruth	Brian Weeks
Rendezvous Chair	Thru -018	Thru - 2018	Thru - 2019	Thru- 2019	Thru - 2020
<u>rayk-</u>	<u>da-</u>	teajatee@gmail.com	<u>re-</u>	<u>deruth@truvista.n</u>	second50270@gmail.
ing@frontier.com	vid2053@windstrea		gentry@windstream.	et	<u>com</u>
	<u>m.net</u>		<u>net</u>		
Tony Allred	Colby Nichols	Justin English -	Non - voting	Non- voting	Non - voting
Thru - 2020	Thru - 2021	Thru - 2021	Jeff Durniak	Michele Crawford	Larry Walker
tallred@gamountains.c	back-	trouter10@hotmail.com	Meeting Programs	Newsletter	Advocacy
om	woods124@rocketmail.		jeffdurni-	mcrawfordtu@windstream.net	dixien-
	<u>com</u>		ak@yahoo.com		amos@yahoo.com





'ECT RESTORE

FISHING INFORMATION

March Hatches

THE BUGS	Time of Month	Time of Day	Suggested flies
None at all	All year	All Day	Dredging Nymphs: 12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, PT #14 Parachute Adams is al- ways a good searching pat- tern
Midges	All year	All Day	18-22 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa
Terrestrials – Ants, Bee- tles, Crickets, Inch- Worms, Etc	Various Times & Sizes	Various Times & Sizes	Various Times & Sizes
Blue Winged Olive & Blue Quill (important)	Late	Late AM to Mid PM	16-20 BWO, Blue Quill or Adams Parachute 16-20 BWO nymph or Pheasant Tail
Quill Gordon	Late	Late AM to Mid PM	12-14 Quill Gordon 12 Quill Gordon Nymph
Early Black Stone	All month	Late Am to Mid PM	16-18 Black Elk-hair Cad- dis or Griffith's Gnat 16-18 Black Stone Nymph
Cream Caddis . (Very Important)	Late	Mid AM to Late PM	12 -14 Elk-hair Caddis 12 - 14 Dark Cream Cad- dis Pupa

To view a Hatch Chart for all month click <u>Hatch Chart</u>

More tips and helpful information from Dredger and other Georgia DNR fisheries staff. Click <u>here</u> for the latest reports.





March Brown

March fly of the Month

Get the instructions for tying <u>here.</u> GOOD FLY FOR YOUR BOX IN MARCH. LOOK FOR THE HATCH.

SEE Y'ALL ON THE RIVER.

How's the river? Click on the name of the river to check water levels.

Chattooga Level

Tallulah River Level

<u>Nantahala</u>

Little Tennessee







