



TIGHT LINES

April 2018 Newsletter

Rabun Chapter (522) of Trout Unlimited

The mission of the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited is to conserve, protect, and restore Northeast Georgia's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

[Rabun TU's Award Winning Website](#)

[Rabun TU's FaceBook Page](#)

[TightLines Editor](#)

NEXT RABUN CHAPTER MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, April 17

6:30 pm – Social & Yarn Spinning 7:00 pm – Program & Meeting

Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church, 8397 Wolfork Rd, Rabun Gap, GA

Meeting Topic: "Dark Thirty Fishing", presented by Past Prez Pat Hopton

Come learn how to catch that wild brown trout of a lifetime on a dry fly!

At every regular Chapter meeting there will be a raffle of 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.

Fly of the Month

By Terry Rivers

Yellow Stimulator

Hook: 3X #12 Nymph Hook

Tail: Deer Hair

Body: Yellow Fine Dubbing

Wing: Deer Hair

Thorax: Yellow Dubbing with Brown Hackle Palmered

Head: Black Thread



A great fly to have in your box in case there's a stonefly hatch. Trail a nymph off the bend of the hook and double your chances of catching a fish!

See you on The River! Terry

Forward Casting - Important Dates for the Next Two Months

April 7 (Sat) Rabunite 101. 8:00 am-12:00 pm at Clayton Methodist Church Life Center. Contact [Charlie or Kathy Breithaupt](#)

April 8-13 (Sun-Fri) Fishing and Fellowship Trip to Shenandoah National Park. Contact [Mike Fuller](#).

April 14 (Sat) NGTO Spring Fling at Buford Fish Hatchery. [CLICK HERE](#).

April 14 (Sat) Fly Fishing Film Tour at Young Harris College. 6:00 pm. Sponsored by the [YHC 5 Rivers Chapter](#).

April 17 (Tues) Monthly Chapter Meeting. 6:30 pm at Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church. Program will be "Dark Thirty Fishing" by Past Prez Pat Hopton.

April 21 (Sat) Chattooga River at Earl's Ford Stream Clean-Up Project. 11:00 am—2:00 pm. Meet at Hatch Camp, at intersection of Joe Speed and Earls Ford Road. Contact [Steve Perry](#). *This work project will be conducted in memory of Travis Barnes, Rabun Chapter.*

April 21 (Sat) Gold Rush Chapter Fundraising Event at Frog Hollow. [CLICK HERE](#).

April 24 (Tues) Fishing and Fellowship Trip to Ravens Fork. Contact [Mike Fuller](#).

April 24 (Tues) Rabun Chapter Monthly Board of Directors Meeting. 6:30 pm at Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church. Contact [Kent Wilson](#). Anyone is welcome to attend.

April 28 (Sat) TroutFest at Blue Ridge, GA. Sponsored by the [Blue Ridge Chapter](#).

May 2-6 (Wed-Sun) Rabun Chapter Spring Campout at Oconee State Park. Contact [Charlie or Kathy Breithaupt](#).

May 4 (Fri) Veterans Appreciation Fishing Event at Rock Creek National Fish Hatchery. Sponsored by the [Chattahoochee Nantahala Chapter](#).

May 5 (Sat) Kids Fishing Event on Rock Creek. 8:00 am—12:00 pm. Sponsored by [Coosa Valley Chapter](#).

May 14 (Mon) GA Delayed Harvest Season Ends.

May 15 (Tues) Annual Scouts Cookout. 4:00 pm at Indian Lake on the campus of Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School. Contact [Ray Gentry](#).

May 16 (Wed) Fishing and Fellowship Trip to Tallulah River and Coleman River. Contact [Mike Fuller](#).

May 18-20 (Fri-Sun) Southeastern Trout Unlimited Regional Meeting at Davis, WV. [CLICK HERE](#).

May 19 (Sat) Kids Fishing Event at private pond. Sponsored by the [Savannah River Chapter](#).

May 22 (Tues) Rabun Chapter Monthly Board of Directors Meeting. 6:30 pm at Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church. Contact [Kent Wilson](#). Anyone is welcome to attend.

May 26 (Sat) Bettys Creek Stream Trimming Project. 8:00 am—12:00 pm. Meet at Bettys Creek and US Hwy 441. Contact [Charlie or Kathy Breithaupt](#). *This work project will be conducted in memory of Doug Mansfield, Rabun Chapter.*

Back Casting

March 20—A packed room of Rabunites and guests were present at the March Chapter meeting to hear a presentation by Jeff Durniak, GA DNR Regional Fisheries Biologist, on “[Dredger’s Springtime Dries and Droppers](#)”. Thanks, Jeff, for a great program!



March 24— A group of 15 Rabunites and spouses made the trip to Helen, GA to attend the Hoot on the Hooch, the annual fund raising event for the Foothills Chapter. They were treated to music, barbeque, and lots of laughter and fellowship. The winner of the Dream Trip was Vic Alosio, from the Tailwater Chapter. Congratulations, Vic! And a big shout out “THANK YOU!” to all who sold Dream Trip tickets!! For a complete list of all the winners of runner-up Dream Trip prizes, [CLICK HERE](#).



“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

Back Casting cont.



Kent Wilson, Chapter Prez, presents a Crawford Art Trout Blanket donation on behalf of the Rabun Chapter to Bill Egeland, Tailwater Chapter.



Kent Wilson, Chapter Prez, presents a \$1,000 donation on behalf of the Rabun Chapter to Beverley Booth, Director of GA Casting for Recovery.



Kent Wilson, Chapter Prez, presents a Crawford Art Trout Blanket donation on behalf of the Rabun Chapter to Bruce Johnson, Foothills Chapter.



Carl Riggs, Georgia Council TU Chair, presents a birthday cake on behalf of the GA Council to Charlie Breithaupt of the Rabun Chapter for his 79th birthday!.



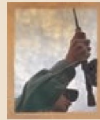
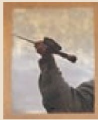
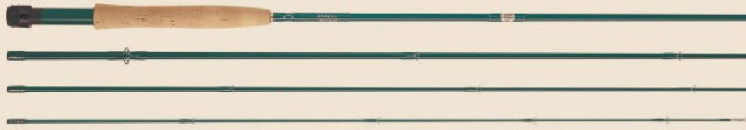
Rabun Chapter Trout Unlimited Fly Rod & Sage Reel Raffle

Winston 8.5', 4 piece, 4 wt., BII-X Custom
boron/graphite rod & Sage 2230 fly reel

Raffle tickets \$3.00 each or 4 for \$10.00

*Drawing will be July 17, 2018 at
the Rabun Chapter Family Picnic*

www.rabuntu.org



*Donated by Mack Martin & the Atlanta Fly Fishing School
www.atlantaflyfishingschool.com*

Mack Martin Rod Raffle

To purchase tickets for the custom built Winston fly rod built and donated by Mack Martin of the [Atlanta Fly Fishing School](#), contact [Pat Hopton](#).

To purchase tickets online using PayPal, contact [Kent Wilson](#).



Last year's winner!

Sponsor Spotlight

This month we spotlight [Reeves Ace Hardware](#), one of the long time sponsors of the Rabun Chapter Trout Unlimited! With stores in Clayton, Dillard, and Highlands, NC, Reeves has served the Northeast GA area since 1928.

The Reeves Outdoor Center, found at the Clayton location, features a fly shop complete with everything you will need to have a fun and successful day on the water.

In addition to fly fishing supplies, Reeves Outdoors offers a pro archery shop, guns and ammo, camping supplies, live bait, and outdoor clothing and shoes.

So stop by the Reeves Outdoor Center, located at 16 South Main Street in Clayton, and have Ken Knowles, Fly Fishing Specialist, help you with all your fly fishing needs.

Thank you, Reeves Ace Hardware, for your support of the Rabun Chapter!

All donations to Rabun TU (a Federal Tax Exempt 501(c)3 non-profit) are tax deductible.

People in the News

Congratulations to Jim Wentworth, Wildlife Biologist for the Blue Ridge Ranger District of the Chattahoochee National Forest, for his upcoming retirement after 29 years of service!

A retirement dinner will be held Friday, April 27 at 5:00 pm in the Brackett Room of the United Community Bank, Blairsville, GA at a cost of \$10 per person.

Contact Sherry Payne for more information at (706) 745-6928.



Congratulations to Chad Bell, who was selected to be the next Forest Wildlife and Fisheries Biologist for the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest. Chad currently works as the Forest Wildlife Biologist on the Klamath National Forest in California. Chad's reporting date to Georgia will be May 27.

Rabun Chapter Membership Update

Welcome New Members!

Frank Crane of Clayton, GA and Robbie Head of Clayton, GA.

Thanks for Re-Uping!

Ray Hannah of Fairburn, GA; Richard Mueller of Clayton, GA; Frank Patton of Martin, GA; David Ruth of Clayton, GA; Clifton Smith of Dillard, GA; Corey Smith of Clarkesville, GA; Bradley Tucker of Lilburn, GA; Phil Upchurch of McDonough, GA; and Mike Williams of Social Circle, GA.

Members That Need to Re-Up!

Wesley Hopper of Clayton, GA and Ronald Leslie of Clayton, GA.

APRIL Hatch Chart

<u>The Bugs</u>	<u>Time of Month</u>	<u>Time of Day</u>	<u>Suggested Flies</u>
None at all	All Month	All Day	Dredging Nymphs:12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, Pheasant Tail
Quill Gordon Mayfly	Early	L am to M pm	12-14 Quill Gordon 12-14 Quill Gordon Nymph
Blue Quill Mayfly	Early	L am to M pm	16-18 Blue Quill, BWO, or Blue Dun 16-18 Prince or Pheasant Tail
Small Dun Caddis*	All Month	L am to M pm L pm to dark	16-18 Gray Elk Hair or Deer Hair Caddis 16-18 Gray Caddis Pupa
March Brown Mayfly*	All Month	L am to M pm	12-14 March Brown or Adams Parachute 10-14 March Brown Nymph, Dark Hare's Ear, or Pheasant Tail
Cream Caddis*	All Month	M day to L pm	12-14 Elk Hair Caddis 12-14 Dark Cream Caddis Pupa
Yellow Stonefly	Late	E to L am L pm to dark	14-16 Yellow Stimulator or Elk Hair Caddis (Yellow) 14-16 Yellow Stone Nymph
Light Cahill Mayfly*	Late	E to L pm	12-14 Light Cahill 12-14 Light Cahill Nymph
Speckled Gray Caddis	Late	M to L pm	12-14 Dark Elk Hair or Deer Hair Caddis 12-14 Dun & Yellow/Brown Caddis Pupa
Midges	All Month	All Day	18-22 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa

* IMPORTANT!

Come Join the Chapter Spring Campout!

The Rabun Chapter will hold its Spring Campout May 2-6, 2018 at Oconee State Park just across the SC line from Rabun County. It's a great time for fishing and fellowship. Campsite #93 will be the official gathering site or, if you don't camp, just come by for a meal and/or sit by the fire.

So far, sixteen (16) Rabunites have signed up to camp. We will cook/eat breakfast and supper together every day and you are on your own for your noon meal.

If you have questions or plan to eat a meal, contact Kathy and Charlie Breithaupt knc615@windstream.net who are acting as hosts for this campout.

Wooded Loop - <http://southcarolinaparks.com/oconee/camping.aspx>

FISHING REPORTS

Send your fishing reports to [TIGHTLINES EDITOR](#)

From Tammy Hopton, March 16

Pat and I went to the Chattooga River today around 2:00. We walked down the Turnpike and crossed the river to walk down the Chattooga River Trail. The water was a little high but manageable. The Gauge Rock was covered by brush. I started fishing at the nice pool below The Steps, Pat started fishing at Hogwaller. We did not see any fishing folks on the way down. Only a couple of backpackers.

I was a beautiful day and had warmed up nicely. There were Quill Gordon and Caddis flying by the time we started fishing. I had a Parachute Adams on my line. After several (many) casts, I caught a nice little brown and then a smaller rainbow. Both at bottom of the pool.

I moved on up the river and crossed below the falls. I caught a couple more small rainbows and hung a nice jumping rainbow but he got off before I could land him. Pat met me above The Steps. We fished up past the Pulpit Rock and then got back on the trail from there. No luck for either of us there but it sure was pretty! There were tons of midges flying around the pools below The Pulpit.

Totals for the day, Pat caught 2 browns and hung several more, I caught 3 very small rainbows and one bigger brown. One fall for me but I landed on the grass and Pat had just a minor slip on the way out. Not sure if that counts. Loads of fun and relaxation.

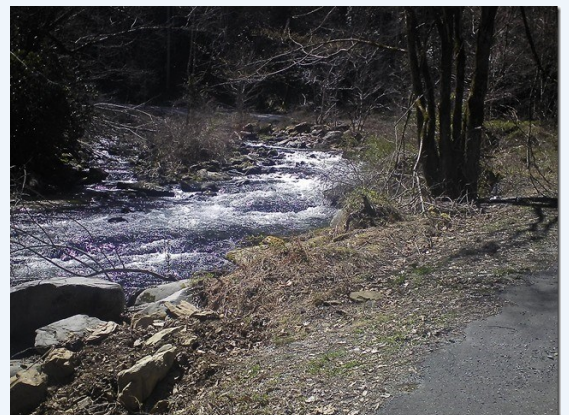


From Mike Fuller, March 14

Well I traveled over to the Nantahala DH and the North weather met me. Bad photo but maybe you can see the snow flakes coming down. The temp. was in the 20's and the wind was 20 plus mph. Not the best for fishing.

Don't get me wrong, I enjoyed getting outside. The snow and wind lasted all morning. I fished for about a hour or so but caught no fish. Even though the conditions were not the best for fishing, I am glad that I drove over the mountain yesterday. It was good to get out and I did enjoy fishing for the first time this year with more to come.

TIGHT LINES Y'ALL.



Prez Notes

This will be the first edition of Tight Lines with Pat Hopton as the new Editor. As most of you know, Pat is a long time Rabunite with tons of information to share so you can expect the great newsletters from the past to continue. Pat is also a renowned "Dark Thirty" fisherman so you can also look forward to learning some of his secrets.

April is going to be a busy month for the Rabunites. In addition to springtime trout fishing, we will also be offering Rabunite 101 again on Saturday, April 7, 2018. This is an excellent opportunity for anyone looking to take up the sport of fly fishing to learn all about equipment, casting basics, knot tying and entomology. If you know someone who would like to attend, you can contact Charlie or Kathy Breithaupt to secure a spot.

Rabun TU will also be joining forces with the Chattooga Coalition on Saturday, April 21, 2018 to hold a cleanup at Earl's Ford in recognition of Earth Day. We look forward to a time when everyone becomes good stewards of our natural resources and these river cleanups won't be necessary. Until then, it is up to those who believe strongly in the restoration/protection of these resources to stay the course.

I would encourage you to join us at our upcoming chapter meeting which will be held on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 beginning at 6:30 P. M. at the Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church located in Rabun Gap, Georgia.

Kent Wilson

Rabun Chapter Leadership Contacts

Voting Leaders

Kent Wilson	Chapter President
Wayne Prosser	Chapter Vice President
Charlie Breithaupt	Treasurer
Kathy Breithaupt	Secretary
Steve Perry	Past President
Doug Adams	Director Emeritus
Ray King	Rendezvous Chair
Mike Fuller	Director thru 2018
Tammy Hopton	Director thru 2018
Ray Gentry	Director thru 2019
David Ruth	Director thru 2019
Brian Weeks	Director thru 2020
Tony Allred	Director thru 2020
Justin English	Director thru 2021
Colby Nichols	Director thru 2021

Non-Voting Leaders

Michele Crawford	Women's Outreach, Memorials
Larry Walker	Advocacy
Jeff Durniak	Meeting Programs
Pat Hopton	Mack Martin Rod Raffle Chair
Jerry McFalls	Scouts Liason, Trout in the Class Room