



TIGHT LINES

June 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

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

[Rabun TU's FaceBook Page](#)

[TightLines Editor](#)

NEXT RABUN CHAPTER MEETING

Tuesday, June 19

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

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

Topic: "Business Travel Troutng Tips", presented by Bob Lux, Foothills Chapter

Bob, the Foothill's 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 this summer's airfares to locales "West of Hiawassee." Believe me, his photo results will make you a believer, too! Come join the Rabunite crowd on June 19 and learn how to "work" remotely in style.

Fly of the Month

By Terry Rivers

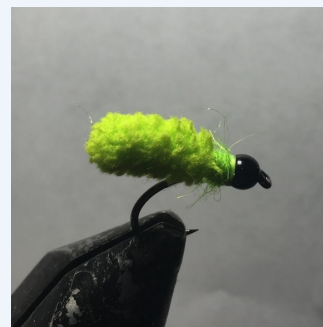
Mop Fly

Hook: #2X Long Nymph Fly Hook

Head: Black Tungsten Bead

Body: Mop material, color of your choice

Thorax: Dubbing of your choice



Not my fly of choice but it has worked when I could not get the fish to play!

See you on The River! Terry

Forward Casting - Important Dates for the Next Two Months

June 1 (Fri) Senior Fishing Rodeo 9:00 am—12:00 pm. Rock Creek Fish Hatchery. Sponsored by the [Chattahoochee Nantahala Chapter](#).

June 2 (Sat) GA DNR Free Fishing Day [CLICK HERE](#).

~~**June 2 (Sat) Kids Fishing Event** at Tallulah River. 8:00 am—12:00 pm. Sponsored by the [Rabun Chapter](#). **POSTPONED!**~~

June 2 (Sat) Kids Fishing Event at Lake Winfield Scott. 8:00 am—12:00 pm. Sponsored by the [Gold Rush Chapter](#).

June 2 (Sat) Kids Fishing Event at Rock Creek Fish Hatchery. 9:00 am—12:00 pm. Sponsored by the [Chattahoochee Nantahala Chapter](#).

June 2 (Sat) Fishing Dayz at Jones Bridge. 9:00 am—12:00 pm. Sponsored by the [Upper Chattahoochee Chapter](#).

June 3-8 (Sun-Fri) Trout Camp at Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School. Sponsored by the [Georgia Council](#).

June 9 (Sat) GA DNR Free Fishing Day. [CLICK HERE](#).

June 16 (Sat) Kids Fishing Event at Cave Springs—Rolater Park. 9:00 am—2:00 pm. Sponsored by the [Coosa Valley Chapter](#).

June 19 (Tues) Rabun Chapter Monthly Meeting. 6:30 pm at Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church. Contact [Kent Wilson](#).

June 26 (Tues) Rabun Chapter Board of Directors Meeting. 6:30 pm at Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church. Anyone can attend. Contact [Kent Wilson](#).

July 14 (Sat) Stream Improvement Project at Lovinggood Creek, 9:00 am—1:00 pm. Sponsored by the [Blue Ridge Mountain Chapter](#).

July 19 (Thur) Annual Rabun Chapter Family Picnic (in lieu of monthly Chapter meeting) at Kellys Waterfall Park. 5:00—8:00 pm. Chapter supplies the fried chicken, please bring a covered dish. Drawing will be held for the Mack Martin Rod Raffle. Contact [Kent Wilson](#).

July 21 (Sat) Fly Fishing for Vets Day at Cave Springs—Rolater Park. 10:00 am—2:00 pm. Sponsored by the [Coosa Valley Chapter](#).

July 24 (Tues) Rabun Chapter Board of Directors Meeting. 6:30 pm at Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church. Anyone can attend. Contact [Kent Wilson](#).

July 28 (Sat) Stream Improvement Project at Wilkes Creek. 9:00 am—12:00 pm. Sponsored by the [Georgia Foothills Chapter](#).

“Many men go fishing all their lives without knowing that it is not the fish they are after.”

Henry David Thoreau

Back Casting

RABUNITES PUT THEIR MONEY WHERE THEIR MOUTH IS!!!

The Rabun Chapter works hard to raise money to support our mission...protecting clean, cold water, especially in Northeast Georgia. We also like to support that same mission of Trout Unlimited nationwide so we recently sent donations of **one thousand dollars each** to the following areas at TU national: **Youth Education** (camps, etc); **Embrace A Stream** (nationwide “on the ground” conservation work); **Southeast Lands Protection** (procuring and protecting trout land); and, finally, the **Griffith Circle** (named for one of the founders of TU and supporting the general fund of Trout Unlimited).

We know that we are all in this together and are pleased that we can support others with the same goals.

Well done Rabunites!!!

Submitted 5/25 by Charlie Breithuapt, Chapter Treasurer



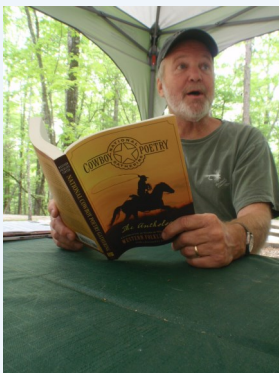
RABUNITES ENJOY SPRING CAMPOUT AT OCONEE STATE PARK in SC

The weather was perfect, the food was unbelievably good and plentiful, and the fishingwell, it could have been better. However, no one really seemed to mind. Some of us just sat around the fire and talked and ate, then ate and talked some more. Not a bad deal, even if most of the stories had been told many times before. On a Rabunite campout, fellowship and comradeship are never in doubt. Over twenty Rabunites passed through camp, some for all 5 days and some for just a meal. A new activity, the reading of Cowboy poetry, was initiated by our own rider of the Purple Sage...Pat “Hoppy” Hopton. With his bride, “Calamity Tammy” by his side, he entertained the camp with rhymes of sagebrush, saddles and six-guns. Thanks Pat!! I’m sure we’ll hear more in the future.

Our chapter campouts are a great way to get to know other members, as well as fish and camp. Brad Tucker, a Rabun member, made his first chapter campout and we hope he enjoyed himself. We sure enjoyed having him in camp.

Make plans to be there the next time we head out, probably next fall. You’ll be glad you did.

Submitted 5/29 by Charlie and Kathy Breithuapt



SCOUTS, FISHING AND HOT DOGS...IT JUST DON'T GET NO BETTER

On a Tuesday evening in late May the Rabunites hosted all the Rabun County Scouts... Boys, Girls, Brownies and Cubs...and their families to a time of fishing at Indian Lake on the campus of Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School. Armed with night crawlers and crickets the scouts went after 'em and a lot of bream and even a few bass were brought to hand. After the Scouts led everyone with the pledge to the flag and a blessing was said, a supper of hot dogs, hamburgers , lots of sides and even more desserts, was enjoyed by all. Scouts have conservation of our natural resources as part of their mission and so does Trout Unlimited. We enjoy working with the Scouts and greatly appreciate all they do for our community. Thank you Scout Leaders for the time, leadership and care you give to the boys and girls. It is an honor and a pleasure to spend this time with all of you every year.

A big "thanks" to Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School for the use of this wonderful facility and thanks to the Rabunites who bought, cooked, and served the food and who got all the fishing gear and bait. It takes work and cooperation to get things done and we did it!!

Submitted 5/29 by Charlie and Kathy Breithaupt



GETTING BETTYS CREEK READY FOR TROUT CAMP

Every year the bushes and trees along the banks of Bettys Creek grow and hang in the water. This makes fishing certain areas very difficult so the Rabunites annually cut, chop and drag this new foliage out of the stream in hopes of making fishing a little easier for the campers. With all the rain we have had this spring, the growth was even greater than usual. Eight Rabunites (Steve Perry, Wayne Prosser, Prez Kent Wilson, Jim Kidd, Terry Rivers, John Slater, Pat Hopton and Charlie Breithaupt) assaulted the stream with loppers, power limb trimmers (a great tool !!!) , rakes to pull limbs and even weed eaters to open it up for the campers who arrive Sunday June 3rd.

In the meantime, Kathy and Tammy spent their morning putting together Camp Notebooks and other material for camp. A lot of work goes into camp and we know it is worth our efforts to "pass on" our passion for trout fishing and cold, clean water.

There is plenty of cold, clean water in Bettys Creek this year and it's ready for the campers.

Submitted 5/29 by Charlie and Kathy Breithaupt





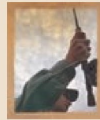
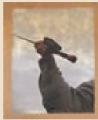
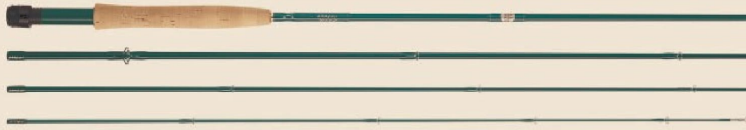
Rabun Chapter Trout Unlimited Fly Rod & Sage Reel Raffle

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 [Unicoi Outfitters](#), North Georgia's premier fly shop and guide service! Located on South Main Street in Helen, GA, Unicoi Outfitters is a Trout Unlimited endorsed business and offers a fully-stocked store with all the fly fishing gear you could possibly need for a successful day on the water. An authorized Orvis dealer, they stock many of their finest fly fishing products.

In addition, Unicoi Outfitters prides itself on having the most professional and most capable staff of any guide service anywhere. All of their guides have extensive experience on our local waters as well as streams across the country. They offer trophy trout fishing on private waters, drift boat trips, public water wade fishing trips, and shoal bass trips.

Unicoi Outfitters also has a range of fly fishing related classes includes fly fishing classes, fly tying classes, and occasional specialized workshops.

Unicoi Outfitters faithfully supports the GA Chapters and Council, Project Healing Waters, Casting for Recovery, and Trout Camp.

Thank you, Unicoi Outfitters, for all you do!

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



United States Department of Agriculture



Kids Fishing Rodeo

Tallulah River Campground

Clayton GA

June 2 - 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

POSTPONED!

Fish in stocked river.
Hot dog lunch with chips and drink.

Win prizes

Meet Forest Service Rangers and learn about forest stewardship

ALL FREE

Children age 2-16. Registration that morning or forms are available at go.usa.gov/x532G

For more information, call 706-754-6221.

This event is sponsored by the USDA Forest Service, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, the Rabun and Savannah Chapters of Trout Unlimited and is supported through donations and volunteer assistance from several other local groups and organizations. The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



Forest
Service

Chattahoochee-Oconee
National Forests

Brook Trout

Salvelinus fontinalis



Brook trout have a greenish to grey back, with silver to reddish-orange sides and belly. They have red spots, and pale wavy markings and spots along the back and sides. The lower fins all have white forward margins followed by a distinct black stripe. They differ from other trout in having pale markings on a darker background.

Brown Trout

Salmo trutta



Brown trout are olive to golden brown with yellowish to silvery sides. The back and upper sides have dark spots that are often encircled with a pale ring, and red spots lower on their sides. Brown trout differ from other trout in lacking pale spots on a dark background or dark spots on the lower part of the tail.

Rainbow Trout

Oncorhynchus mykiss



Rainbow trout have an olive-green back, a whitish belly, and a broad, pink to red lateral stripe on the sides. They have heavy black speckling on the fins and body. They differ from other trout in lacking red spots or pale spots on a dark background.

Ode to the Rabunites
By The Professor (a Rabunite)

Each year, when April rolls around,
a certain group on The River can be found.

Working all day with glazed, walled eyes
that eagerly anticipate the evening rise.

Hurrying from work with supper in a sack,
turning public roads into a race track.

Blasting flatlanders with all kinds of hell
before they have even reached Warwoman Dell.

Getting in front of every fisherman they see,
each thinking This River belongs only to me!

Fishing till dark to fill the sack,
showing no mercy in putting the little ones back.

Eating fingerlings and telling lies
about big browns that stole their flies.

Screaming and hollering like a troupe of baboons,
turning peaceful campsites into outdoor saloons.

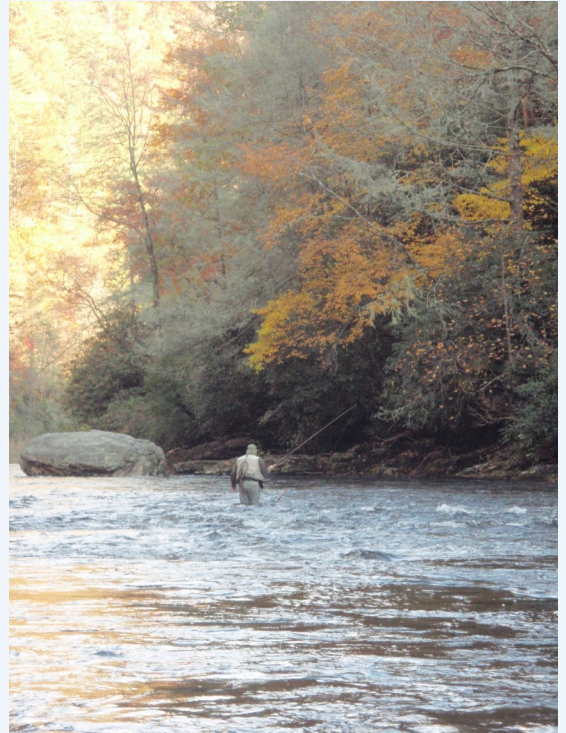
Returning home late, without a care,
bluegrass music pollutes the night air.

Reaching home to find all in bed,
except for the dog standing in grass over his head.

Hitting the sack and falling asleep,
counting rises instead of sheep.



Scenes from The River



June 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
Green, Brown Caddis	Early	L pm	12-14 Dark Elk Hair Caddis w/ Green 12-14 Dun & Green Caddis Pupa
Speckled Grey Caddis	Early	L pm	12-14 Grey Elk Hair Caddis w/ Green 12-14 Dun & Yellow Caddis Pupa
Small Dun Caddis	All month	Mid am	18 Brown Elk or Deer Hair Caddis 18 Grey Caddis Pupa
Giant Black Stonefly	All month	E am	4-8 Black Stonefly Nymph
Brown Stonefly	All month	E to mid am	10-12 Brown Stonefly Nymph
Golden Stonefly	All month	E am	6-10 Golden Stonefly Nymph
Light Cahill Mayfly	Late	E to L pm	12-14 Light Cahill 12-14 Light Cahill Nymph
Trico Mayfly	Mid to Late	Mid am	20 Parachute Trico
Trico Spinner Fall	"	Late pm	20-22 Polywing Black Spinner
Midges	All month	All day	18-22 Griffiths Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa
Terrestrials	All month	All day	Ants, beetles, crickets, inch worms, etc

Rabun Chapter Membership Update

Current membership: 163 members and 6 Stream Explorers

Welcome New Members!

None this month.

Thanks for Re-Uping!

Peggy Crowe, Scott Edwards, Justin English, Emil Leum, Sandy Morgan-Brungage, William Reno, and Monte Seehorn.

Members That Need to Re-Up!

John Heeney, Scott Low, John Ramsey, and Lewis Reeves.

FISHING REPORTS

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

From Brian Weeks, May 16

Last Thursday, I headed up to Smith Creek for one last day with the DH stockers. When I went to sign in, I noticed that no one, as in nobody, as in not a single person, had signed in for the day and only one person fished the day before. Sweet! I was the only angler on the entire creek.

I dry/dropped all day with a yellow stimulator and black wooly bugger with a dry:dropper take ratio of about 1:5. And when the fish wouldn't take the bugger on the dead drift, or if I came to a fishy looking woody area where I was too scaredy pants to dead drift close to it, the downstream bugger twitch made 'em go crazy.

The notables from the day were a thirteen inch brookie, a rainbow that shot every bit of three feet out of the water when he got hooked, and a sixteen and a half incher that hit the dry!

It was a great way to end the DH season. Thank you GA DNR for putting our increased license fees and brookie car tag money to work growing bigger fish for us!

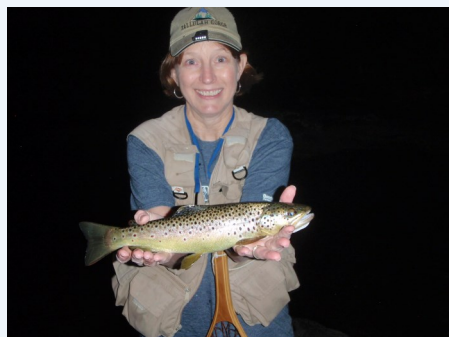


From Pat Hopton, May 12

Check out the 16" wild Old Timey Original brown trout that Tammy caught last night in the Upper Chattooga Backcountry! Caught - and released - at "dark thirty" on a #16 Light Ca-hill on 5x tippet, using a 4-weight rod.

Catching was slow until about 8:30, then the switch was turned on. NOW is the time to be fishing dark thirty!

Good job, TJ!



FISHING REPORTS, cont.

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

From Doug Adams, May 19

The green drakes are hatching! Tammy got a good 'un. Where? I.D.B.I.S.



From Pat Hopton, May 24

Yes, the green drakes are hatching and the coffin flies are falling! I saw this one rise well after dark in the tail of the pool. I didn't even get in the water, just stepped to the waters edge and made a roll cast to him. The result: another good "dark thirty" brown trout in the net!



Q – I've heard some Rabunites say there are 2 strains of brown trout in the Chattooga North Fork. Is that true?

A – That is true. There are the trout that come from the hatchery stock that some Rabunites call the "**Walhalla brown.**" And there are the wild trout that some Rabunites call "**old-timey original**" (OTO) or the "**German brown.**" The Walhalla browns spawn at the end of October and the wild OTO trout spawn about 3 weeks later, so they seldom, if ever, cross breed in the Chattooga. In a genetic analysis done by Auburn University in 1986, the OTO has a gene associated with longevity that was not present in the Walhalla browns. Therefore it seems the OTO are capable of longer life (and larger size) in the wild. In the annual DNR - USFS electro-sampling of the Chattooga North Fork, the largest brown trout captured are usually the wild OTO strain. Above Big Bend Falls the electro-sampling captures young-of-year OTO browns. The young-of-year seldom showed up in samples below the falls.

The brown trout first came to America from **Germany** in 1883, having been released into Michigan's Pere Marquette River. They survived and thrived. A year later, another batch of browns, these from Scotland's **Loch Leven** in Kinross, were brought to America and they, too, did very well. (These Loch Leven browns are known for their dark spots and lack of red spots.)

Reprinted from the [August, 2009 edition of Tightlines](#)

Prez Notes

A big thanks to those who participated in this year's Spring Family Cookout. We always enjoy the opportunity to get together with the Scout troops from throughout Rabun County. Not surprisingly, there was a little rain, but not enough to deter the scouts and their families from enjoying the opportunity to test their angling skills in Indian Lake. The turnout this year was lighter than in years past, but those in attendance made short work of the hot dogs and hamburgers grilled up by Rabunites Peter Croes, Jack Brandon and Frank Patton.

The annual Betty's Creek stream cleanup was held on Saturday, May 26th. This is done in preparation for the annual Trout Camp which will be at Rabun Gap Nacoochee School once again this year from June 3rd – June 8th. Rabunites Pat & Tammy Hopton, Kathy & Charlie Breithaupt, Steve Perry, Terry Rivers, John Slater, Jim Kidd, Wayne Prosser and yours truly rallied together on a rainy morning to trim brush and clear debris from the creek. The investment of a little sweat equity will prove to be very beneficial to the trout campers who will be stalking trout along this section of the creek throughout the week of camp. A big shout out to those who assisted in the very important work!

Ticket sales are currently ongoing for the 2018 Mack Martin Rod Raffle. The rod raffle is one of our chapters two main fund raisers each year. Funds raised from these events are used to support the mission of our chapter. Further details including a full description of the custom built flyrod can be found in this edition of Tight Lines. Tickets can be purchased from Pat Hopton or any member of the BOD. They can also be purchased online via PayPal at my email address which is kandcwilson@windstream.net.

Please plan to attend our next chapter meeting which will be held on Tuesday, June 19th beginning at 6:30 P. M. at Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church. I hope to see you there.

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

Non-Voting Leaders

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