

The mission of the Rabun

Chapter of Trout Unlimited is to conserve, protect, and

restore Northeast Georgia's coldwater fisheries and

their watersheds.

TIGHT LINES

April 2019 Newsletter

of the

Rabun Chapter (522) Trout Unlimited

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to visit our Award Winning Website!

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There will be no monthly Rabun Chapter meeting in April. Instead, you are invited to the

Annual Scouts Appreciation Dinner and Fishing Event

Tuesday, April 16

Indian Lake Picnic Area, Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School, Rabun Gap, GA

Fishing begins at 4:00 pm

Supper begins at 6:00 pm

All Rabun County Boy and Girl Scouts, leaders, and parents are invited!

The Chapter provides the hamburgers, hotdogs, buns, plates and silverware, drinks and ice, and condiments.

Chapter members are asked to please bring a covered dish, such as cole slaw, potato salad, baked beans, casseroles, and desserts. Please contact <u>Tammy Hopton</u> and let her know what you are bringing.

To get to Indian Lake Picnic Area: from Clayton, GA take US Hwy 441 north to Rabun Gap, GA. Turn left (west) onto School Farm Road. Go 1/2 mile, turn left onto Indian Lake Road. Go to the end of the road.

Scenes from previous Scouts Appreciation Dinner and Fishing Events





















Forward Casting - Important Dates for the Next Two Months

April 2 (Tues) **Chattooga River Roundup**. 6:00 pm at Lighthouse Event Center in Seneca, SC. Annual fund raising event for the <u>Chattooga River Chapter</u>.

April 6 (Sat) **Fly Fishing 101**. 8:30 am—1:00 pm at Clayton Methodist Creative Learning Center, Clayton, GA. See Page 5 for more information. Contact <u>Charlie or Kathy Briehaupt.</u>

April 6 (Sat) **Sweep the Hooch Conservation Project**. 9:00 am—2:00 pm at the Island Ford National Park Service office, Sandy Springs, GA. Stream cleanup sponsored by the <u>Upper</u> <u>Chattahoochee Chapter</u>.

April 13 (Sat) Rock Creek Stream Conservation Project. Contact Coosa Valley Chapter.

April 13 (Sat) Vogel State Park Stream Conservation Project. Contact <u>Chattahoochee-</u> <u>Nantahala Chapter.</u>

April 16 (Tues). **Annual Scouts Appreciation Dinner and Fishing Event**. Fishing begins at 4:00 pm, supper begins at 6:00 pm. Indian Lake Picnic Area at Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School. Contact <u>Jimmy Whiten</u>.

No scheduled Chapter Monthly Meeting for April.

April 24-28 (Wed-Sun). **Rabun Chapter Spring Campout.** <u>Oconee State Park</u>, Mountain Rest, SC. See Page 4 for more information. Contact <u>Charlie or Kathy Briethaupt</u>.

April 26 (Fri) **Rabun Chapter Board of Directors Meeting**. 6:30 pm around the campfire at Site #93, Oconee State Park, Mountain Rest, SC. All Chapter members are invited to attend. Contact <u>Kent Wilson</u>.

April 27 (Sat) Blue Ridge Trout Fest. All day in Blue Ridge, GA. Contact Blue Ridge Mountain Chapter.

May 3-5 (Fri-Sun) **Trout Unlimited Southeastern Rally.** Dillard House Conference Center, Dillard GA. Sponsored by National Trout Unlimited. <u>CLICK HERE</u> for more information.

May 4 (Sat) **Rock Creek Kids Fishing Event.** 8:00 am—12:00 pm at Rock Creek near Fairmount, GA. Sponsored by the <u>Coosa Valley Chapter</u> and US Forest Service. <u>CLICK HERE</u> for directions.

May 14 (Tues) GA Delayed Harvest Season Ends.

No scheduled Chapter Monthly Meeting for May.

May 21 (Tues) **Rabun Chapter Cookout and Fishing on "The River**". Hot dog supper and fellowship at 6:30 pm at the parking lot on the GA side of the Burrells Ford bridge. Fishing before and after supper. Contact <u>Charlie Breithaupt</u>. See Page 6 for more details.

May 28 (Tues) **Rabun Chapter Board of Directors Meeting**. Gate opens at 3:00 pm, meeting begins at 6:30 pm. To be held at an undisclosed location in North Carolina. Anyone may attend, contact <u>Pat Hopton</u> for more details.

Rabun Chapter Spring Campout

When: Wednesday April 24 through Sunday April 28

Where: Oconee State Park, Mountain Rest, SC

Who: All Chapter members and guests are invited! **Bring a friend!**

Details: The Chapter will use Site #93 in the Wooded Loop as the "gathering spot". Meals will be taken there along with story telling around the campfire at night.

Campers should contact the Park and make their own campsite reservations. There are a variety of sites available, including sites with full hookups.



paper plates, silverware, cups.

Even if you don't camp, come by to eat a meal or sit around the campfire!

On Friday, April 26 at 6:30 pm, the Board of Directors will hold the monthly BOD meeting around the campfire. Everyone is encouraged to attend and provide your input into the Chapter activities.

During the day you may explore the Park, hike to scenic waterfalls, photograph spring wildflowers, visit nearby Cashiers, NC, or fish the many streams in the Tri-State area. Remember to carry the appropriate State fishing license!

For more information, or to sign up to cook a meal, contact the Campout Hosts Charlie or Kathy Briehaupt.

Fly of the Month

By Terry Rivers

Yellow Stimulator

HOOK: 3X #12 Nymph TAIL: Deer Hair **BODY:** Yellow Fine Dubbing w/ Grizzly Dubbing Palmered WINGS: Deer Hair **THORAX:** Yellow Dubbing w/ Brown Hackle Palmered **HEAD:** Black Thread



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RABUN CHAPTER #522

GREAT FLY TO HAVE IN YOUR BOX JUST IN CASE THERE IS A STONE FLY HATCH. DROP A NYMPH OFF THE BACK AND DOUBLE YOUR CHANCES.

See you on The River! Terry



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 6, 2018 8:30 am until 1:00 pm

WHERE: Clayton Methodist Creative Learning Center/ Gym 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

Rabun Chapter Cookout on "The River " Tuesday, May 21

We will gather on the Chattooga River in the parking lot on the Georgia side at Burrell's Ford for Hot Dogs and all the fixings. Kathy and Charlie Breithaupt will bring all the food , including drinks, and do the cooking.

Supper Time: 6:30 PM. Please bring your own chair and stronger drink, if you want. Fish before or after supper or both. Maybe we'll see the twinkies and fairies. Or you don't have fish at all - just come to sit and fellowship by the river.

IMPORTANT: Contact Kathy & Charlie (<u>knc615@windstream.net</u>) by Friday May 18 to let them know you will attend.

Chapter Donations

Each GA TU Chapter was asked to contribute some item to be used for fund raising at the upcoming TU Southeastern Rally, to be held May 3-5 at the Dillard House Conference Center. The funds raised will be used by the GA Council to help defray some of the costs incurred from hosting the Rally.

Pictured at right is Charlie Breithaupt, Rabun Chapter Treasurer, presenting a Trout Blanket from <u>Crawford Art Gallery</u> to Carl Riggs, Past Chair GA Council, on behalf of the Rabun Chapter.



Each year the Rabun Chapter presents items to the other GA TU Chapters for their use in fund raising activities. These Chapters use the funds raised for various conservation and education projects.

Pictured at right is Charlie Breithaupt, Rabun Chapter Treasurer, presenting a Trout Blanket from <u>Crawford Art Gallery</u> to Ken McKinnon, President of the Gold Rush Chapter, on behalf of the Rabun Chapter.



Mack Martin Rod Raffle

Once again, Mack Martin of the <u>Atlanta Fly Fishing School</u> has graciously donated a custombuilt fly rod and reel to the Rabun Chapter to be used for fund raising. *Thank you, Mack!*

This year the rod is a four piece, 8' length, 3 weight <u>Winston AIR</u> fly rod. Mack says "I have one and it feels like a feather in my hand!" The reel is a <u>TFO BVK</u> 1 Large Arbor reel.

Raffle tickets cost \$3.00 each or four tickets for \$10.00. The drawing for the rod and reel will be held Tuesday, July 16 at the Chapter Family Cookout at Kelly's Water Park.

See Pat Hopton or any Board of Director member to purchase tickets.



Hey everyone,

We're excited to be bringing the 2019 TU Southeast Regional Rendezvous to your home state and I hope you'll consider joining us in Dillard, Georgia on May 3-5!

Designed specifically for TU volunteer like you, regional rendezvous are occasions to be inspired and learn from the work of your fellow volunteers and TU staff across the region. A mix of workshops, round-table discussions, networking opportunities and, of course, fishing, the Southeast Regional Rendezvous is a great way to meet people who share your passion for conservation and learn from each other tips, tactics and ideas to take home and make your own chapter or council stronger!

You will spend a weekend full of inspiring conversations with more than 100 TU volunteers like you, and find the learning from each other to be just as valuable as the relationships you build with like-minded conservationists and anglers from the region!

To help us plan the trainings, and make sure we are meeting your needs, the volunteer-led planning committee asks that you please <u>click here to take this brief survey</u>. Your responses will help us shape the agenda and provide the kind of topics and discussions that are important to you and your local efforts.

More details, including lodging and registration information will be provided in the coming weeks ahead. The cost of the rendezvous will be \$130 for the full weekend, with options to attend for just one day, as well as other options for joining parts of the event.

Thanks for all you do for TU as a volunteer, and we hope to see you in Georgia in May!

Jeff



Jeff Yates / Director of Volunteer Operations jyates@tu.org / 203-216-7078

Trout Unlimited 1777 N. Kent Street, Suite 100 Arlington, VA 22209 <u>http://www.tu.org</u>

Rabun Chapter Caps Will Be For Sale at the Chapter Meetings

Baseball-style caps in various colors with the "Rabun Chapter TU" logo will be available to purchase at the monthly Chapter meetings.

Cost is \$15 per cap.

Contact <u>Tammy Hopton</u> for more details.



April Hatch Chart

<u>The Bugs</u>	Time of Month	<u>Time of Day</u>	Suggested Flies
Quill Gordon Mayfly	Early month	Late am to Mid pm	12-14 Quill Gordon 12-14 Quill Gordon Nymph
Blue Quill Mayfly	Early month	Late am to Mid pm	16-18 BWO, Blue Quill, or Blue Dun 16-18 Prince or Pheasant Tail
Small Dun Caddis (Important)	All month	Late am to Mid pm	18 Brown Elk Hair Caddis 18 Hairs Ear Nymph
Cream Caddis (Very important)	All month	Mid day to Late pm	12-14 Cream Elk Hair Caddis 12-14 Dark Cream Caddis Pupa
Hendrickson Mayfly	All month	Late am to mid pm	12-14 Hendrickson or Adams Parachute 12-14 Pheasant Tail Nymph
March Brown (Important)	All month	L am to Mid pm	12-14 March Brown or Adams Parachute 10-14 Dark Hares Ear or Pheasant Tail Nymph
Yellow Sally Stonefly	Late month	Early to late am	14-16 Yellow Stimulator or Yellow Elk Hair Caddis 14-16 Yellow Stonefly Nymph
Light Cahill Mayfly (Important)	Late month	Early to late pm	12-14 Light Cahill 12-14 Light Cahill Nymph
Speckled Gray Caddis	Late month	Mid to late pm	12-14 Dark Elk Hair Caddis or Deer Hair Caddis 12-14 Dun or Yellow/Brown Caddis Pupa
Midges	All month	All day	18-22 Griffiths Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa
None at all	All month	All day	Dredging Nymphs:12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, Pheasant Tail

Be the Heron

One of my reliable sources of intel, Dredger, always instructs his new anglers to "*be the heron.*" Well, based on Buford Hatchery technician Andy Wentworth's pics from today's stocking run to Buford Dam, the <u>Heron Model</u> might be a good one to follow.

Some pointers on how to "be the heron":

- Study the water carefully;
- Be stealthy;
- Wade very slowly;
- Make short, accurate casts;
- Make short, quick hooksets;
- Catch a bunch of trout right in front of you!

CLICK HERE for more secrets from the Rabunites!



Congratulations, Trout Campers!

The Rabun Chapter Board of Directors is pleased to announce their selection of the two campers to be sponsored by the Chapter for this year's Trout Camp!

Avril Adams, age 15, from Easley, SC and the granddaughter of Chapter Charter member Doug Adams and daughter of Chapter members Brooks and Amanda Adams, has been selected.

Jay Kearns, age 15, from Covington, GA and the grandson of Rabunite Ray Kearns, has also been selected.

Congratulations, Avril and Jay!

Wildcat Creek Road Closed

A popular stocked trout stream in Rabun County, Wildcat Creek, will have its trout stockings delayed for several weeks this spring due to the closure of Wildcat Creek Road. The US Forest Service has closed this road due to a landslide that occurred this winter.

The US Forest Service has indicated that the public can still walk the road to fish and camp but, for safety reasons, it will remain closed to vehicles for a short period while repairs are made. <u>CLICK HERE</u> to find more information regarding road closures on the National Forest.

GAWRD's scheduled weekly trout stockings will resume when the road is repaired and reopened to the public. Need more trout info? <u>CLICK HERE</u>.

John Lee Thomson Trout Stocking Coordinator GAWRD – Lake Burton Hatchery 706-947-1508

Backcasting

Monthly Chapter Meeting

On March 19 a full house Rabun Chapter members and guests attended the monthly Chapter meeting. There we listened to a very informative program entitled "Law Enforcement off the Pavement", given by Chad Chambers, GA Department of Natural Resources Game Warden for Rabun County.

Chad is a 20 year veteran of the GA DNR and has worked in 7 of the Law Enforcement Work Units across the state. He is currently one of 7 law enforcement officers working in the Mountain Work Unit.

Chad gave us an excellent presentation covering the DNR's efforts in many areas, including youth development, hunter safety, boating enforcement, coastal commercial boating enforcement, and environmental crimes. He discussed the DNR's Special Permits Unit, the K-9 Unit, Wildlife Investigations Unit, and Aviation Unit, among others.



His dedication and willingness to assist Rabun TU in our efforts was apparent throughout his presentation.

He stressed that if we were to witness game law violations we may contact the Ranger Hotline (formerly TIPS) at 1-800-241-4113, or we may contact Chad directly at his cell phone at (229) 539-0668.

Thank you, Chad, for all you do!

Following the program, a raffle of donated items was held. A total of \$106 was raised. *Thank You!* to those who donated items: Frank Patton, Gordon Fowler, Steve Parry, <u>Mack</u> <u>Martin and the Atlanta Fly Fishing School</u>, Jeff Samsel, Charlie Breithaupt, Justin English, and <u>Crawford Art Gallery</u>.

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

Hoot on the Hooch

On March 23 approximately 9 Rabunites attended the Hoot on the Hooch, the annual fund raising event for the GA Foothills Chapter. In addition to silent auction items, bucket raffles, bluegrass music, and good barbeque, the drawing for the Dream Trip and runner-up prizes was held. Congratulations to Keith Maness, for purchasing the winning ticket for the Dream Trip! <u>CLICK HERE</u> for a complete list of all the winners of the drawings.



Rabun Chapter Membership Update

Current membership: 163 adult members and 5 Stream Explorers.

Welcome New Members!

Kathy Breithaupt from Clayton, GA.

Thanks for Re-Uping!

Tony Allred, Jim Blalock, Robert Blalock, Charles Pennington, Susan Respess, Clifton Smith, Phil Upchurch, Stephen Weinelt, and Kent Wilson.

Members That Need to Re-Up!

Peggy Crowe, Scott Edwards, Jacob Houston, Ken Knowles, Richard Mueller, Steven Platek, Robbie Shead, , Kane Williams, and Michael Williams.

You are Invited to Join Trout Unlimited!

<u>CLICK HERE</u> to go to the membership page of Trout Unlimited. Once you join, TU will assign you to the nearest Chapter according to your Zip Code. If you wish to be a member of the Rabun Chapter regardless of your Zip Code, specify Chapter 522 in your application.

If you have any questions, contact the Rabun Chapter Membership Chair Mike Fuller.

We look forward to having you in our Chapter!



Thank you, Sponsors! We appreciate your support of the Rabun Chapter! All donations to Rabun TU (a Federal Tax Exempt 501(c)3 non-profit) are tax deductible.

FISHING REPORTS

Send your fishing reports to <u>TIGHTLINES EDITOR</u>

Warwoman Creek at <u>Hatch Camp</u>, March 11 Submitted by Mike Fuller

Today was our first Fellowship and Fly-Fishing for 2019. It was a wonderful time had by all. There were some fish stretched, fish caught and some food eaten. Today was a little damp but not enough to call our trip. I have been accused of bringing on the rain, even in a draught. We had about 14 attend which considering it being not the best of weather is a good showing. About 1/2 of those fished while the other half told tall tails. While some were fishing some decided that a fire needed to be built. Has anyone ever decided to build a fire in wet weather? It is very hard to do with wet wood. Rabun TU members finally over came and a fire was made. Good job! After a while I lit my dry charcoal with some fluid and got it burning for a stream side hot dog lunch. With some time the dogs were cooked and with all the fixings spread and the food blessed by Charlie, we sat down and consumed those grill dogs. Liz Perry made her famous home baked cookies for some after lunch sweets. Thank you Liz. I had to include this snap for no other reason but I think Scott built it to make people smile. It did !

Those that fished and caught were impressed by what Scott has created. I think most everyone that fished, caught. These were trophy fish and were abundant. Give Scott a call to fish his part of Heaven here in Rabun County.

Here are some pictures that Scott took; ENJOY this report doesn't get your trout fishing blood boiling, I don't know what will.

Well chapter members, it was another wonderful Fellowship and Fly-Fishing outing. <u>CLICK</u> <u>HERE</u> for a video of the day.











FISHING REPORTS, Cont.

Send your fishing reports to <u>TIGHTLINES EDITOR</u>

Smith Creek, March 27 Submitted by Mike Fuller and Brian Weeks

On Wed., Prez. Kent Wilson, BOD member, Brian Weeks and I traveled over to Smith Creek DH to do some trout fishing. We met at the parking area and got fishing about 11:00 AM, The weather was perfect I really like SC. It is a beautiful piece of God's creation .There were a few people fishing and some were catching all were friendly and willing to share their day on the water even telling you what they were using to lure the trout to their hook. I found out myself, that the Pat's Rubber Legs can work it's magic on Smith Creek trout. Like I have heard it said, "Experience is the best teacher".

I am trying to decide where would be some stream that would be enjoyable for Fellowship and Fly-fishing. If you have any ideas please shoot me your suggestion. I will be posting soon.

<u>CLICK HERE</u> to view the action from our Wednesday's trip.

FISH ON, MIKE FULLER

Hey Mike,

Wednesday was a great time of fellowship and fly fishing with you and Kent. What an absolutely beautiful day. I'm already looking forward to the next one.

<u>CLICK HERE</u> to see my video from that day.

Check to see that the video quality at the bottom of your player (the gear icon) is set to 1080p to get the most out of it. And be sure to check out the underwater releases - especially the last one where the trout released goes under a ledge and then she and another come out!

The water temp in mid-afternoon was 52F. As far as the number of trout in the net goes, double digits, brown and rainbows, with a few up to 14".

All in all, it was a really enjoyable day with y'all. Thanks again, Mike, for organizing these outings and encouraging us to get out together. Looking forward to next time.

Brian

FISHING REPORTS, Cont.

Send your fishing reports to <u>TIGHTLINES EDITOR</u>

Undisclosed Location, March 24 Submitted by Pat and Tammy Hopton

Sunday, March 24 was just too pretty of a day to stay home, so we traveled north of Clayton across the state line to a spot we love to fish. Tammy went up the smaller tributary stream while Pat stayed in the larger main stream. We both caught some fish, nothing big and no great numbers of fish, but it sure was good to be back on the water and fishing dry flies!

It was also good to freshen up our casting skills, strengthen up our wading, fill in the missing gear in our vests, and just generally get ready for the big push come April and May.



Doug and Eedee Adams met us that evening for a wonderful streamside dinner. What fun!

Dukes Creek, March 29 Submitted by Pat Hopton

On Friday, March 29 I took the winning bidder of the "Catch and Release Fly Fishing for Two People on Private Waters of Dukes Creek" on his trip. This trip was donated to the Rabun Rendezvous by Doug Adams, the owner of the waters, and Pat Hopton, the host of the trip. The winning bidder was Warren Philips of the Upper Chattahoochee Chapter. Warren brought his son-in-law, Johan Falkman, along on the trip.

The weather and stream conditions were perfect! Warren and Johan both did very well using wooly boogers and small nymphs, fished either using a tight line and sighters on the tippet or using weights and strike indicators. Warren ended up landing 8 fish, with his largest being 22", and Johan landed 25 fish with his largest being 26 1/2"!

Doug came and we enjoyed a nice lunch in the warm sunshine. The trout lilies were really blooming along the creek. All in all, it was a wonderful day. Warren said he was going to bid on the trip again at the next Rendezvous!







Rabun Chapter Leadership Contacts

Voting Leaders

Kent Wilson **Chapter President** Jeff Durniak Chapter Vice President Charlie Breithaupt Treasurer Secretary Kathy Breithaupt Steve Perry Past President Doug Adams **Director Emeritus** Rendezvous Chair Ray King Frank Patton Director thru 2019 David Ruth Director thru 2019 Brian Weeks Director thru 2020 Tony Allred Director thru 2020 Justin English Director thru 2021 Terry Rivers Director thru 2021 Director thru 2022 Tammy Hopton Jimmy Whiten Director thru 2022

Non-Voting Leaders

Michele Crawford	Women's Outreach, Memorials	
Larry Walker	Advocacy	
Pat Hopton	Tight Lines Editor	
Jerry McFalls	Scouts Liaison, Trout in the	
	Class Room	
Mike Fuller	Membership Chair	

Prez Notes

Fishing season is now upon us and the Rabunites have begun venturing forth in search of hungry trout where stream conditions permit. Approximately fourteen Rabunites enjoyed a day on the water with Scott Low at Hatch Camp Art Farm last month. Despite the water being a little high and rain threatening, everyone managed to catch fish. Zack Moran, the new DNR Fish Biologist, lead the field with the most fish brought to hand. It is quite evident that Zack will continue in the steps of the soon to retire Jeff (Dredger) Durniak when it comes to trout fishing expertise. Mike Fuller treated those in attendance to a lunch of grilled hotdogs and trimmings. We are very appreciative to Scott and Nicole for their exceptional hospitality and for Mike Fuller's work in pulling it all together.

As you will discover in this newsletter, spring is going to be a busy time for the Rabunites who will, no doubt, work in some time for fishing in addition to hosting a variety of activities including Rabunite 101 and the Spring Scout Cookout. The chapter's Spring Campout will also take place this month at Oconee State Park just across the line in South Carolina. Check out the newsletter for further details relating to these and other happenings and plan to come out and join us as we celebrate the arrival of the spring fishing season.

Of special note, the Trout Unlimited Southeastern Conference will take place in Dillard, Georgia this year and will be hosted by the Georgia Council of Trout Unlimited with assistance from the Rabunites. This is a fantastic opportunity for trout fishing enthusiasts to come and enjoy not only some excellent training but also a time of fellowship with leadership from the national office of Trout Unlimited as well as other Trout Unlimited members from around the southeastern United States.

I hope to see you at one or more of these events or out on the river. Kent Wilson