



TIGHT LINES

October 2019 Newsletter

of the

Rabun Chapter (522) 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.

[CLICK HERE](#)

to visit our Award Winning Website!



Rabun Chapter Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, October 15

Fellowship Hall of Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church

8397 Wolfork Road, Rabun Gap, GA

Fellowship begins at 6:30 pm

Meeting begins at 7:00 pm

Guest speakers will be Ryan Foote, District Ranger of the Chattooga River RD and Robbie Sitzlar, District Ranger of the Andrew Pickens RD.

Topics will be "Summary of the Upper Chattooga River Recreation Monitoring Study Report" and "Update on Forest Service Activities within the Chattooga River Watershed"

See page 2 for more details.

More details on the October Chapter Monthly Meeting.

Ryan Foote, District Ranger of the Chattooga River Ranger District, Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest and Robbie Sitzlar, District Ranger of the Andrew Pickens Ranger District, Sumter National Forest will be presenting a summary of the findings from the Upper Chattooga River Recreation Monitoring Study Report recently made available to the public in July 2019. [CLICK HERE](#) to read the report.

This study synthesizes a two-year monitoring effort of recreation uses, including hiking, backpacking, fishing, and boating, within the Wild & Scenic River section located up-stream of GA Hwy 28.

The report is meant to assess current recreational management strategies, as well as guide future Forest Service decisions regarding this amazing natural resource.

Following this presentation, they will further provide a summary of ongoing and potential future management activities across the Chattooga River and Andrew Pickens Districts.



The Pulpit

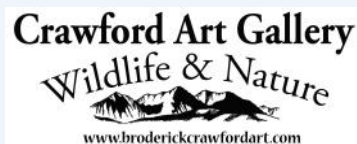


The Island



The Nugget

Click on the Images and Visit the Websites of our Sponsors



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.

Forward Casting - Important Dates for the Next Two Months

Oct 1 (Tues) NC Delayed Harvest Trout Season Begins. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

Oct 2-6 (Wed-Sun) Trout Unlimited National Annual Meeting. Rogers, AR. Anyone can attend. Contact [Trout Unlimited](#).

Oct 15 (Tues) Rabun Chapter Monthly Meeting. Fellowship begins at 6:30 pm, meeting begins at 7:00 pm. Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church, Dillard, GA. Contact [Kent Wilson](#).

Oct 22 (Tues) Rabun Chapter Board of Directors Meeting. 6:30 pm at Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church. Anyone can attend. Contact [Kent Wilson](#).

Oct 22 (Tues) Autumn on the River. Annual fundraiser for the Upper Chattahoochee Chapter TU. 5:00 pm at Ipolito's Restaurant in Roswell, GA. Contact [Connor Reynolds](#).

Nov 1 (Fri) GA Delayed Harvest Trout Season Begins. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

Nov 1 (Fri) SC Delayed Harvest Trout Season Begins. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

Nov 13-17 (Wed-Sun) Chapter Fall Campout. Oconee State Park, Mountain Rest, SC. See Page 7 for more information. Contact [Terry Rivers](#).

Nov 19 (Tues) Rabun Chapter Monthly Meeting followed by Rabun Chapter Board of Directors Meeting. Fellowship begins at 6:30 pm, meeting begins at 7:00 pm. Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church, Dillard, GA. Contact [Kent Wilson](#).

Dec 10 (Tues) Annual Chapter Christmas Dinner. 6:00 pm at the Rock House at the Dillard House Restaurant, Dillard GA. \$35 per person. Contact [Kent Wilson](#).

Dec 17 (Tues) Rabun Chapter Board of Directors Meeting. 6:30 pm at Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church. Anyone can attend. Contact [Kent Wilson](#).

Jan 18 (Sat) 33rd Annual Rabun Rendezvous. Dillard House Conference Center, Dillard, GA. Contact [Ray King](#).

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE A CHAPTER MEETING IN NOVEMBER, TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 19.

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 [Tammy Hopton](#) for more details.



October Hatch Chart

<u>The Bugs</u>	<u>Time of Month</u>	<u>Time of Day</u>	<u>Suggested Flies .</u>
Small Dun Caddis	All month	Mid am to Late pm	18 Brown or Grey Elk Hair Caddis 18 Grey Caddis Pupa
Blue Wing Olive and Blue Quill (IMPORTANT)	All month	Late am to Mid pm	16-18 BWO, Blue Quill, Adams Parachute 16 BWO Nymph, Pheasant Tail
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

Fly of the Month

By Terry Rivers

Orange Stimulator aka October Caddis



HOOK: #2x Long Nymph

HEAD: Yellow Dubbing with Palmered Grizzly Hackle

TAIL: Deer Hair

BODY: Orange Dubbing and Brown Hackle

WING : Deer Hair

Great fly for the upcoming Delayed Harvest season! Drop a caddis nymph behind this fly and drag the bottom.

See you on The River! Terry

Backcasting

Chapter Meeting Sept 17, 2019

A large turn-out of Rabun Chapter members and guests were at the monthly Chapter meeting to hear Jimmy Jacobs speak about trout fishing opportunities in North Georgia. It was a great program!



Chapter Assisting with Boy Scouts Merit Badge Requirements Sept 14, 2019 Reported by Steve Perry, Past Prez Photos by Tammy Hopton, BOD

On Saturday morning, September 14th, the Rabun Chapter Trout Unlimited conducted a mini-Rabunite 101 for sixteen Scouts at Camp Rainey Mountain. We were tasked to teach six of the eight requirements for the fly fishing merit badge. We set up four positions- equipment and stream manners, knot tying, fly tying, and casting. The Scout leaders conducted a position on first aid.

Over the next four hours, we completed the requirements, thanks to the volunteers and coordination with the Scouts. From our Chapter was Terry Rivers and Doug Hickman at fly tying; Trey McFalls and Ben teaching casting; Jeff Durniak and Justin English doing the five required knots; and Tammy Hopton and Steve Perry at the equipment station.

After action discussion says that, if we do this again, we need to extend the length of the sessions to avoid having to rush through each of the requirements.



Fall, 2019 Honor Air Flight

Steve Perry, Past Prez and Vietnam Vet

On Saturday, September 21st, 2019, I had the honor of traveling with the Blue Ridge Honor Air veterans group to Washington, DC to visit the memorials, to participate in a wreath-laying ceremony to commemorate the three wars represented by our veteran group, and to attend the changing of the guard at Arlington National Cemetery. There were ninety veterans on the trip from World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. There was one guardian assigned to each of two veterans, in addition to having a physician and three paramedics on board. We departed Asheville, NC airport at 8:00 AM with a water cannon salute.

Upon arrival at Baltimore Washington International, again with a water cannon salute, we loaded onto four buses, along with forty-four wheel chairs, and headed to Washington with a police escort, that remained with us for the day. Our first stop was the Lincoln Memorial, where we had a Lt. General/Air Force conduct a wreath-laying ceremony by one veteran from each war.

From there, we walked or guardians wheelchaired their veterans to both the Vietnam Memorial wall and the Korean War Memorial, on either side of the Reflecting Pool. After those stops, we boarded the buses and had lunch while doing a downtown tour of Washington. After the tour, we went to the World War II Memorial, the Iwo Jima Memorial, and then to Arlington National Cemetery for the changing of the guard ceremony.

Then, back on the buses, and police escort to BWI for the plane ride home. From Arlington to BWI is normally an hour and a half or more trip, depending on traffic. We made it in an hour and ten minutes! During the flight home, we had "mail call"- something very important to any soldier away from their family.

Our families arranged to have friends, family, organizations, church members, etc. to send notes, letters, and emails to us with congratulations. The flight home was preceded again with a water cannon salute, and again, with one when we arrived in Asheville. At the Asheville airport, we had a huge (over 750 people) welcoming crowd there, to include a couple color guards, two ROTC units, Scout troops, family members, and members of the community. It was a very emotional welcome home.

The day was very long, beginning at 5 AM, and finally arriving home at midnight. There was not a person on that flight that didn't shed a tear during the day, and there wasn't a person on that flight who wasn't extremely happy to have been on board the fall Honor Air flight.

As a veteran, I encourage you, if you are a veteran, to contact your Honor Air organization and go. If you are not a veteran, and want to contribute in some way, you can volunteer to go as a guardian, or you can sponsor a veteran. But PLEASE, tell every veteran you know: **WELCOME HOME.**

See next page for pictures.



**Make Plans Now to Attend the
Rabun Chapter Fall Campout
 November 13 through 17, 2019
 Oconee State Park
 Mountain Rest, SC**

This is always a great campout! The Chattooga River Delayed Harvest section should be stocked and full of big, uneducated fish. The fall leaves will be in full color, with warm days and cool nights: perfect camping weather. We will use Site #93 as the “gathering spot” to eat meals, sit around the campfire, and fellowship. If you cook a meal, all other meals are free; otherwise meals are a reasonable cost. Make your own campsite reservation at www.southcarolinaparks/oconee.com. Contact [Terry Rivers](#) if you plan to come.

Fishing Reports
Send your fishing reports to [Tightlines Editor](#)

Fall Alaska Salmon Trip
Kent Evans, Chapter Prez

Fellow Rabunite Jack Brandon along with Don Robertson, who is one of my long-time fishing buddies, and I recently returned from a trip out “West of Hiawassee”. We departed Atlanta on September 8, 2019 and after an overnight stay in Anchorage, Alaska we arrived at the “Mudhole Smith” Airport in Cordova, Alaska the following afternoon. Cordova, which is located in a rain forest, had not experienced any significant rain since May.

Our arrival signaled a change to all of that. We fished in relatively dry conditions on day one and ventured offshore on the final day under a bluebird sky to try our hand in the saltwater. The remainder of the time we fished in the liquid sunshine. Despite the challenging conditions, we enjoyed a great trip which included a few cold Alaskan Amber beers and some amazing food to conclude each day of fishing.

And for the record, we did manage to bring our limit of silver salmon to hand each day. We even topped the fish boxes off with some halibut which was an unexpected bonus.



Orca Adventure Lodge



Transitional Troutling in Fall DH Streams

By Jeff Durniak

Two themes: Temperature and Training

I) Temperature:

- above 65: slowing
- 50-64: game on
- 50-40: slowing
- Below 40: dead
- Remember trends... is the water warming or cooling?
- Start cooler NC, end in warmer GA

II) Training - Four stages of Stocked Trout:

A) The Dumplin'

Dumb as a stump!

Trained on pellets

Hang in pods

What: moving or flashy flies

Bugger twitch

Squirmy

Flashy nymphs -Landon

Dropper – pheasant tail soft hackle

Where: famine and feast.

Cover ground til you find honey hole(s). Then pound it. Call tails instead of heads. (fish the tails of pools)

B) The Trainee

Dead drifted calories- leech, rubber legs, egg

Prince or pheasant tail (ptail) dropper

C) The Graduate

Big in front : Small bugger or rubberlegs

Small trailer – pheasant tail, hares ear, zebra midge

D) Mixed bag - grads and dumplings

Enemy - diameter (fly line and leader butts)

Friend- lots of tippet

Try Euro rigs and jigs

Egg and ptail combo

The Dinsmore split

The Home Stretch

A) Delayed Harvest Stream Tips. Fish the:

Ledges : Chattooga River, Tuckaseegee River, Chattahoochee River, Amicalola Creek

Logjams: Smith Creek

Boulders: Nantahala River

Seams: Upper Toccoa River

B) More Intel:

WRD fishing blog: <https://georgiawildlife.blog/category/fishing/>

New online trout map: <https://georgiawildlife.com/Fishing/Trout>

Secrets of the Rabunites: <http://rabuntu.org/site/about/educational-programs/secrets/>

Rabun Chapter Membership Update
Current membership: 175 adult members and 6 Stream Explorers.

Welcome New Members!

No new members this past month.

Thanks for Re-Uping!

James Bruce, Dean English, Wayne Gipson, Mike Hamilton, Filmer Kilby, Michael Leonard, Steve McCall, Tom Nixon, David Ruth, and Ronald Spearman.

Members That Need to Re-Up!

Tom Graham, Joe Kitchens, John Slater, and Larry Walker.

You are Invited to Join Trout Unlimited!

[CLICK HERE](#) 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 Chapter Prez [Kent Wilson](#).

We look forward to having you in our Chapter!

Rabun Chapter Leadership Contacts

Voting Leaders

Kent Wilson	Chapter President
Jeff Durniak	Chapter Vice President
Charlie Breithaupt	Treasurer
Kathy Breithaupt	Secretary
Steve Perry	Past President
Ray King	Rendezvous Chair
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
Tammy Hopton	Director thru 2022
Jimmy Whiten	Director thru 2022

Non-Voting Leaders

Michele Crawford	Women's Outreach, Memorials
Jerry McFalls	Scouts Liaison
Pat Hopton	Tight Lines Editor

2020 Dream Trip tickets are now on sale!

Contact [David Ruth](#), Ticket Chairperson, or any member of the BOD to purchase tickets.

Prez Notes

Fall traditionally signals the beginning of improving fishing conditions with cooler water temperatures. While we are still enduring drought conditions, we did see some much-needed rain this past weekend with an additional chance for more over the next few days. The temperatures are also projected to cool down by next weekend. With that being said, you can still get out and ply your skills in the meantime if you don't mind going early or staying late. The low, clear water will require a stealthy approach to avoid spooking the fish.

I recently discovered that it isn't only our local trout waters that are suffering from drought conditions. Many of the rivers in my fall fishing destination of Alaska have also experienced exceptionally high temperatures as well as a serious lack of rainfall this summer. Tragically, this has resulted in some rather significant fish kills in a number of rivers across the state due to both much higher than normal water temperatures and exceptionally low water conditions. I will include a short recap of the trip in this newsletter.

As a reminder, the fall chapter campout will take place at Oconee State Park from Wednesday, November 13th through Sunday, November 17th. The stocking of the delayed harvest section of the Chattooga River will have occurred beforehand so hopefully there will be some great fishing opportunities.

We have a great program planned for the October chapter meeting so mark your calendars and plan to show up at Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church on Tuesday, October 15, 2019. Fellowship time will begin at 6:30 P. M. followed by the program at 7:00 P. M.

Kent Wilson