



TIGHT LINES

December 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 Christmas Dinner

Monday, December 9

The Rock House, at the Dillard House

768 Franklin St, Dillard, GA

Fellowship begins at 6:00 pm

Meal begins at 6:30 pm

Come join us for the annual Rabun Chapter Christmas Dinner! Everyone is invited, and we especially encourage any visitors to come!

The meal will consist of pork, chicken, vegetables, bread, tea, coffee and a variety of sumptuous deserts. BYOB if you wish. Cost is \$35 per person, payable at the door.

Please bring an unwrapped gift for a child up to 15 years old. We will collect these gifts and donate them to Toys for Tots on behalf of the Rabun Chapter.



Forward Casting - Important Dates for the Next Two Months

Dec 9 (Mon) 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 7 (Tues) Rabun Chapter Board of Directors Meeting. 6:30 pm at Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church. Anyone can attend. Contact [Kent Wilson](#).

Jan 14 (Tues) Monthly Chapter Meeting. 6:30 pm at Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church in Rabun Gap, GA. Contact [Kent Wilson](#).

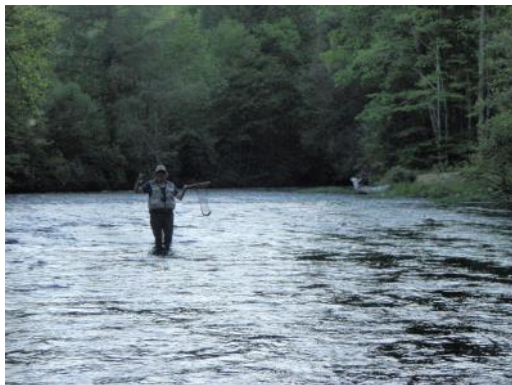
Jan 18 (Sat) 33rd Annual Rabun Rendezvous. Dillard House Conference Center, Dillard, GA. Contact [Ray King](#). See page 3 for more details.

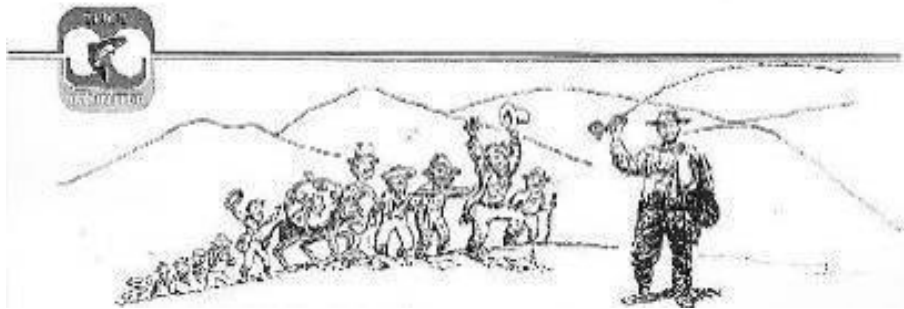
Feb 1 (Sat) Annual Planning Meeting. 8:00 am at the Dillard House Restaurant in Dillard, GA. Anyone can attend. Contact [Kent Wilson](#).

Feb 18 (Tues) Monthly Chapter Meeting. 6:30 pm at Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church in Rabun Gap, GA. Contact [Kent Wilson](#).

Feb 25 (Tues) Rabun Chapter Board of Directors Meeting. 6:30 pm at Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church. Anyone can attend. Contact [Kent Wilson](#).

Scenes from 2019





The Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited proudly presents
A Celebration of Rivers, Streams, Trout, and Trout Fishing!

Please join us for the 33rd Annual **RABUN RENDEZVOUS**

"The Rendezvous was unlike anything before or since, a gathering of uninhibited men down from the mountains. The event attracted perhaps a hundred mountain men, their Indian wives, and assorted visiting tribesmen. Amusements included gambling, drinking, storytelling – continuing day and night." Quote from [The Mountain Men](#), by George Laycock.

WHEN: Saturday, January 18, 2020.

WHERE: The Dillard House Conference Center, located behind the Dillard House Restaurant in Dillard, GA.

WHO: The more the better! Everyone interested in conserving and protecting our cold-water resources, including their families, friends, and all who love cold streams, trout, and trout fishing.

SOCIAL: Doors open at 3:00 pm. Around 4:30 pm folks will start gathering to "pick the pig" and enjoy the rocking chairs on the porch of the Conference Center. There will snack trays of cheese, crackers, veggies with dip, and fruit. Soft drinks and ice will available. There will be a nice fire inside to warm your buns. *Please note the earlier start time from previous years.*

The Foxfire Boys will again provide their 'down home' style of bluegrass picking and singing for your enjoyment from 5:00 to 6:30 pm. CD's will be available for purchase.

Raffle and silent auction items will be available for your chance of purchase. We welcome donations of raffle and auction items!

DINNER: Fish, chicken, beef, and pork with all the side dishes and desserts that have made the Dillard House famous will be served at 6:30 pm. It is a serve yourself buffet and you will not leave hungry!

Please note there will be no guest speaker this year. For this reason, we anticipate concluding the Rendezvous at an earlier time than previous years.

COST: \$35 for adults and \$25 for youth age 15 and younger. Cash, check, VISA or MasterCard are accepted. Pay at the door when you arrive.

LODGING: The Dillard House has set special rates for rooms starting at \$79 (plus tax) for those that make reservation and say they are attending the Trout Unlimited Rabun Rendezvous.

The 2019 Rabun Rendezvous provided financial support for the following: GA Council Youth Trout Camp; Sponsoring youth to attend Trout Camp; GA Department of Natural Resources Smithgall Woods Conservation Education Program; US Forest Service Kid's Fishing Event at Tallulah River; Fly-Fishing 101 educational event; Helicopter stocking program; In-stream habitat improvement on a brook trout stream; Casting for Recovery; Fly Fishing for Vets; National TU's Youth Education, First Cast, Embrace-A-Stream, Griffiths Circle, and Southeast Lands program; GA Council Conservation fund; and providing Trout magazine subscriptions to all Rabun County schools, public libraries, and Tallulah Gorge State Park.

Backcasting

Chapter Meeting November 19, 2019

A large turn-out of Rabun Chapter members and guests were at the monthly Chapter meeting to hear Ray King, Rabun Rendezvous Chairperson, speak about the upcoming 33rd Annual Rabun Rendezvous. The Rendezvous is the primary fund-raising source of funds for the Rabun Chapter and much planning goes into a successful event. Volunteers are needed to help with the Rendezvous; please contact [Ray King](#) if you wish to help.

One way that everyone can help is to contribute to the items used for the Silent Auction and Bucket Raffles. You may wish to contribute items yourself; items that have been popular in the past include

- homemade baked goods;
- gift certificates for golf outings, fishing or hunting trips, or vacation houses;
- fishing-related items such as rods, reels, nets, or boxes of flies;
- artwork;
- crafts;
- gift certificates for dinner at a local restaurant;
- or use your imagination! Have fun in thinking up items to donate!

Another way to help with the Rendezvous is to solicit donations from businesses in the area. Emphasize the good conservation work that Rabun TU is doing! A solicitation letter is attached on page 5 to help you.

And finally, if you wish to neither donate an item yourself or solicit an item from a business, a cash gift from yourself to Rabun TU is always appreciated!

Thank you in advance for your help! 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.





October 1, 2019

The Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited is planning our annual fund raising event and we are asking for your support. For the 33rd year we will host the famous "RABUN RENDEZVOUS" to be held on January 18, 2020 at the Dillard House Conference Center, Dillard, GA. Along with a buffet meal and great bluegrass music we will have a silent auction, bucket raffle and door prizes.

Our Chapter is committed to protecting and improving the cold-water fisheries in our area and supporting other chapters in their efforts. However, it takes funds to provide the support, equipment, and expenses required to carry out this mission. The annual Rabun Rendezvous is our main source of funding for these efforts.

Last year our Chapter raised approximately eight thousand dollars at the Rabun Rendezvous, all of which went into projects to support the mission of TU. Here are a few examples of the projects we accomplished with the funds received from last year's Rendezvous:

- Financial support for GA Council Trout Unlimited Youth Trout Camp;
- Sponsoring youngsters to attend the Trout Unlimited Youth Trout Camp;
- Financial support of the GA Department of Natural Resources Smithgall Woods Conservation Education Program;
- Financial support for the Kid's Fishing Event at Tallulah River (US Forest Service);
- Fly-Fishing 101 Education Event
- Helicopter Stocking Program
- In-stream habitat improvement workday with USFS on a Rabun County brook trout stream;
- Financial support for Casting For Recovery and Fly Fishing for Vets Wounded Warriors Program;
- Financial support for National TU's Youth Education, First Cast, Embrace-A-Stream, General Fund – Griffith Circle & Southeast Lands programs;
- Georgia Council Conservation
- And Trout Magazine subscriptions to all school & public libraries and one State Park in Rabun County.

With this letter we are respectfully asking you for a donation to support our mission of protecting and improving the cold-water fisheries in our area. We are appreciative of any donation, such as gift certificates or physical items that may be included in the raffles or auctions, or through cash donations. Appropriate recognition will be given to donors at both the event and through our monthly newsletter. Our non-profit Federal Tax Exempt 501(c)3 Tax ID Number is # 521766093 and our Georgia State Tax ID is # 067800056.

Please take time to visit www.rabuntu.org and look at the photos from last year's Rabun Rendezvous. And of course, you and your family and friends are invited to attend this year's event!

Thank you for your consideration of support for the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the Rabun Rendezvous fund raising event.

Sincerely,

KENT WILSON

Kent Wilson, President
Email: kandcwilson@windstream.net

Ray King

Ray King, Rendezvous Chair
Email: rayking@frontier.com

PLEASE SEND DONATIONS TO:
Ray King, Board of Directors
Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Mailing Address: 121 Creek Road
Otto, NC 28763

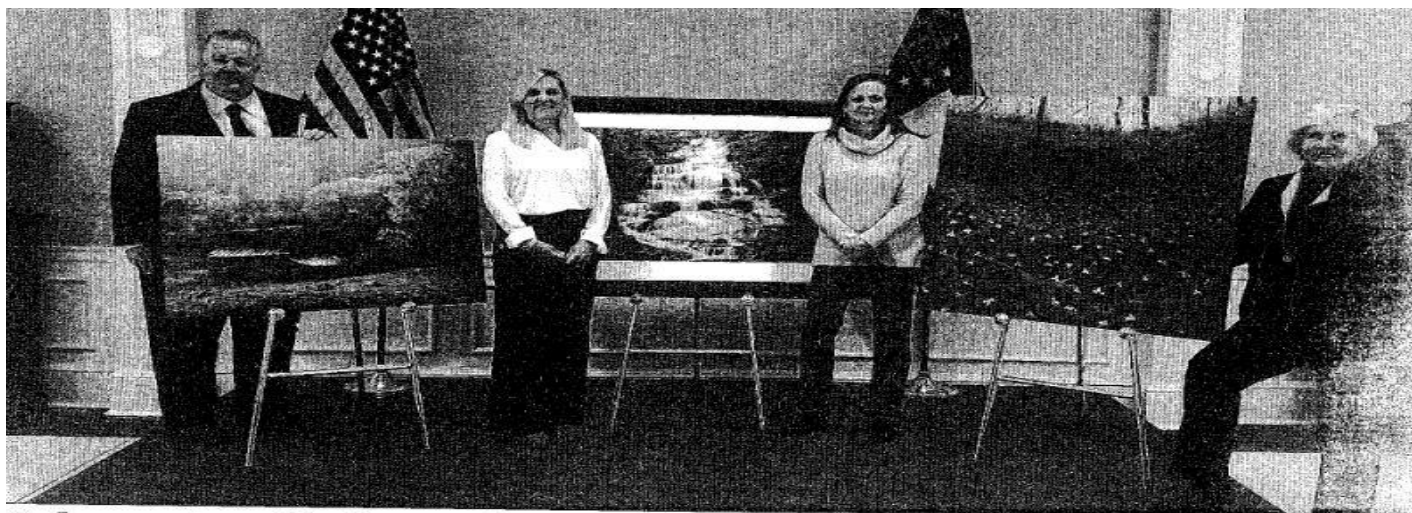
UPS Shipping Address: 121 Creek Road
Otto, NC 28763

Backcasting, Cont.
Rabun Chapter Fall Campout
Oconee State Park, Mtn Rest, SC
November 13-17, 2019

A large turnout of Rabun Chapter members and guests attended the annual Fall Campout at Oconee State Park from Wednesday Nov 13 to Sunday Nov 17. There was lots of fishing — and catching! — done when we weren't huddled around the campfire during the cold front that passed through! Everyone pitched in and cooked great meals and there was lots of stories told and memories made. Pictures submitted by Kathy and Charlie Breithaupt.



Congratulations, Michele!



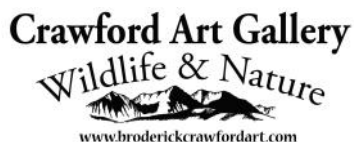
Rabun art on display at Governor's Mansion

Three Rabun County artists were recently honored by having their works selected for an inaugural art exhibit at the Governor's Mansion. Only Rabun County had more than a single winner out of 300 submissions. From left are Peter McIntosh, Libby Matthews, Michele Crawford and First Lady Marty Kemp. Keith Nelms of Tallulah Falls (not pictured) also had work selected for the display.

Michele and Broderick Crawford are faithful supporters of Trout Unlimited, along with many other conservation organizations. They offer outstanding wildlife prints and photographs at their [Crawford Art Gallery](#), located at 68 North Main Street, Clayton, GA.

Visit them soon and offer your congratulations for this great honor!

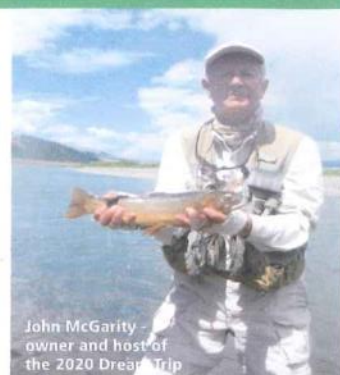
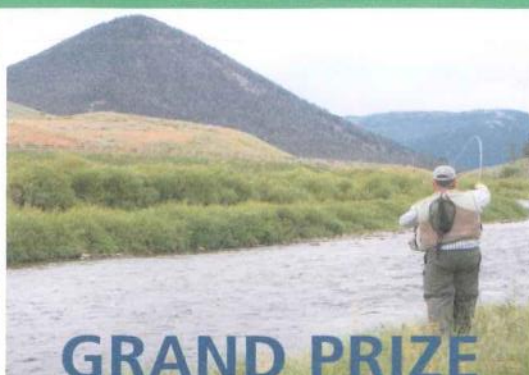
Click on the Images and Visit the Websites of our Sponsors



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.

DREAM TRIP - FLY FISHING FOR TWO!



GRAND PRIZE

John McGarity -
owner and host of
the 2020 Dream Trip

"The 2020 Dream Trip reaches new heights. The opportunity to fish with John McGarity, stay in his fabulous log cabin conveniently located between the Madison River, Yellowstone National Park and the Henry's Fork puts you smack dab in the middle of some of the most famous trout waters in North America. John is the consummate trout angler, fishing almost every day during the 5 or 6 months each year he resides in Idaho. Blue Ribbon Flies in West Yellowstone checks with John for fishing reports. Having been a restaurateur, John is also an excellent cook... you will not go hungry on this trip! TU couldn't ask for a better host and guide for this year's Dream Trip."

—Jimmy Harris,
owner, Unicoi Outfitters

• 5 days hosted fishing / 6 nights lodging in Idaho July 26-31, 2020

• \$500 total in travel expenses

* travel arrangements will be the responsibility of the winners.

* Fishing licenses, gratuities, and alcoholic beverages will be the responsibility of the winners during their stay.

• Each winner receives: A float trip on the Madison River, plus choice of Winston AIR 3 wt. - 6 wt. or BILL-x 4 wt. - 8 wt. fly rod. Fly reel with Scientific Anglers or Winston Energy Fly Line and a fly box and flies for the trip. (approx. 5-7 dozen per box)



Tickets \$10 Proceeds Benefit TU Cold Water Conservation and Trout Camp

RUNNER UP PRIZES:

The winner(s) of this raffle are responsible for any tax due on the value of the winnings.

- TFO- BVK fly rod - 6 wt. 9', 4 piece fly rod. Donated by The Atlanta Fly Fishing School
- RISE 5-6 fly reel with 5 or 6 wt. Wulff TT fly line. Donated by The Atlanta Fly Fishing School
- Fly box with 8+ dozen trout flies. Donated by the Atlanta Fly Fishing School
- Fly box with 3 dozen bass poppers. Donated by the Atlanta Fly Fishing School
- Fly box with assortment of Terrestrial flies. Donated by the Atlanta Fly Fishing School
- Complete assortment of fly-tying materials (thread, hooks, dubbing, flash, hackle, hair, beads, marabou, chenille and a few tools. Donated by the Atlanta Fly Fishing School
- Certificate for any Scientific Anglers fly line. Donated by the Atlanta Fly Fishing School
- AFFS gift certificate for a fly fishing or fly-casting class during 2020. Donated by The Atlanta Fly Fishing School
- A private fly-casting lesson including digital casting analysis and video analysis (this donation would apply to those having mastered basic casting skills already). Donated by the Atlanta Fly Fishing School for 2020 year
- Witching Hour (4 hour) Trip for Bass on Lanier or Carp on the Chattahoochee in the summer. Donated by Henry Cowen. Trip must be used from end May thru Sept. 2020.
- Gift Certificate valued at \$350 from Big T Fly Fishing Online Outfitter, Fly Shop and Guide Service. Good towards Guide Service or Merchandise. Donated by The Cohutta Chapter of TU
- Unguided half day fishing at Nacoochee Bend for two fishermen: Donated by Unicoi Outfitters.
- \$100 Gift certificate from the Mid-Georgia Chapter.
- Half day trophy brown trout guided float trip for two on Chattahoochee River, valued at \$375: Donated by Chris Scalley River Through Atlanta www.rivertroughatlanta.com
- Two draws of Six dozen trout flies each: Donated by 12 TU chapters in Georgia.



Jimmy Harris, owner of Unicoi Outfitters



Recent winner - Vic Aloisio - Tallapoosa Chapter member



For complete rules and details visit www.georgiatu.org

2020 Dream Trip tickets are now on sale!

Contact **David Ruth**, Ticket Chairperson, or any member of the BOD to purchase tickets.

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

Another Blueline Adventure
Brian Weeks, Nov 8, 2019

This past Saturday I followed the directions a DNR buddy gave me at this past Outdoor Adventure Day to a particular blueline I'd never fished before. The air temp on Saturday topped out around 55F - just warm enough to wet wade. After a pretty drive in on a long dirt road, then a nice hike framed by gorgeous fall leaves, I arrived. The water was 52F and running clear, and the flows were good. I tied on a #16 tan elk hair caddis and hit the water.

The relaxing solitude made the fishing all the better with nothing but beautiful, native brookies taking the dry fly. I caught somewhere in the double digits with the largest coming in at 8". The colors on some of them were just stunning. I couldn't tell the difference between these and backcountry Great Smoky Mtn National Park brookies. I'm not sure which were prettier, the fall leaves or the fish, but I sure was grateful for both.



Calling all Trout Campers!
Applications are now being accepted for the
2020 Trout Camp!



Where: Tallulah Falls School, Clayton, Georgia

When: May 31 to June 5, 2020 (Sunday – Friday)

Who: Boys and Girls, 13-15 Years Old

Learn and Practice the Sport of Fly Fishing!

Study Sound Conservation Practices!

Enjoy a Fun and Rewarding Experience!

Camp Location:
Northeast Georgia in
the town of Tallulah Falls.
The Heart of the Blue
Ridge Mountains.



2019
Georgia Trout Camp

PARTNERS



SPONSORS



Mail your application ([CLICK HERE](#)) for Trout Camp to

Charlie Breithaupt, GA Trout Camp Coordinator
194 Kitchens Lane
Clayton, GA 30525

Deadline for applications is March 15, 2020.

For more information, [CLICK HERE](#).

December Hatch Chart

<u>The Bugs</u>	<u>Time of Month</u>	<u>Time of Day</u>	<u>Suggested Flies .</u>
Blue Wing Olive and Blue Quill	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

Pat's Rubber Leg

HOOK: #12 Nymph Hook 2X

THREAD: Match Chenille

LEGS: Medium Rubber Legs (your choice color)

BODY: Medium Chenille (your choice color)



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.



Tips from The Dredger

With wintertime cold temperatures, the trout are “hunkered down” deep. For a successful day of catching, you must get your fly down deep to where the fish are at. A good technique for this is known as “Euro Nymphing”. Here’s some tips:

Technique:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=6xJiSb0wb1w>

Rod:

For a pure Euro rod, aim for a ten or eleven foot three weight. But if you’re like me and want something more versatile, try a ten foot four weight. I can Euro, indicator fish, toss dries, and even cast streamers with mine.

Here are some brands to look at:

<https://www.orvis.com/p/clearwater-4-weight-10-fly-rod/2S7F>

Also: Syndicate, Cortland, and even Cabelas:

<https://www.cabelas.com/product/CABELAS-CZN-FLY-ROD/2661237.uts>

My Fly pattern (sexy Walt’s worm):

<https://news.orvis.com/fly-fishing/video-how-to-tie-walts-worm-and-the-sexy-walts>

Tie in 10-16.

Other great patterns are Frenchie and Surveyor. Tie in 14, 16, and 18.

Jig Hooks:

<https://bigflyfishing.com/products/barbless-wide-gap-jig-hook>

Fly (maybe: not sure if they are using tungsten bead):

[https://www.bigflyco.com/Sexy Walt Worm-detail.htm](https://www.bigflyco.com/Sexy_Walt_Worm-detail.htm)

Hope you take a look into this. It’s another fun technique to catch trout when they are hunkered down.



**Congratulations,
Denise Whiten, on
your first trout!!**

Yaaa Hooo!!

Rabun Chapter Membership Update

Current membership: 182 adult members and 7 Stream Explorers.

Welcome New Members!

Jason Atkinson from Toccoa, GA; Christopher Daniel from Clayton, GA; David French from Rabun Gap, GA; David Heck from Franklin, NC; Cory McCall from Franklon, NC; and Sharon Smith from Marble, NC.

Thanks for Re-Uping!

Doug Bryant, Claudia English, David King, Jeffrey Pafford, Larry Peevy, and David Ruth.

Members That Need to Re-Up!

Derek Barlow, Kelley Coty, Jeff Durniak, and Terry Seehorn.

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

Prez Notes

It is that time of year as we once again continue with the final preparations for the 2020 Rabun Rendezvous. As I am sure you know, this is our primary fund-raising event of the year. The money raised from this event is utilized throughout the fiscal year to enable our chapter to carry out our primary mission of protecting our cold-water fisheries. We had a very successful event last year and with your help we hope to surpass that success for the upcoming Rendezvous.

I would like to encourage each of our chapter members to lend your full support this year. The Board of Directors relies on the help of everyone to make this event an ongoing success. Your attendance is strongly encouraged! Even if you are unable to attend, your assistance is still needed in helping the BOD with the solicitation of items for the silent auction and/or the bucket raffle. As you know, these items are critically important to the financial success of the Rendezvous. Your ongoing support is much needed and is greatly appreciated by the board as we work together to make this the best Rendezvous ever!

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, January 18, 2020 and join us once again for the Rabun Rendezvous where you will enjoy great food & fellowship and the opportunity to bid on some great silent auction items. The format for the Rendezvous this year will be much like last year as it is our intention to enable those who travel from out of town to get an earlier start on your journey home.

Please note that the chapter Christmas Party this year will be on Monday, December 9th this year. The Rock House was already booked for the date the party is normally held so please mark your calendars accordingly. Please plan to come out and join the Rabunites as we celebrate the Christmas season.

Wishing you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Kent Wilson