



# **TIGHT LINES**

## **October 2020 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!



## ***October Chapter Meeting***

***“Heavy Metal, Fish-head Bangers and Passing on Genes: Tails from the Smokies”***

***Tuesday, Oct 20 at 7:00 pm***

***To be held using Zoom video conferencing.***

Veteran Rabunites will recall Matt's excellent program to us at Tallulah Gorge State Park years ago. We learned about native brook trout restoration and some hot Smokies fishing tips for specks, bows, and browns.

Matt returns, albeit virtually, to update us on Smokies fish communities, ongoing research, and those valuable fishing tips once again. He oughta know, for he cheats, too, with electricity! His agency's annual fish population samples don't lie when it comes to trout abundance and sizes.

All fans of your national park's great trout fishing don't want to miss another super program by Matt. So Zoom in at 7pm on October 20 and get the skinny on the Smokies from veteran biologist Matt Kulp.

To Join the Zoom Meeting—Click Below and Enter the Meeting ID and Passcode

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3424822877?pwd=cDlFdKpzSmR0Zyt1TmRzV0o1SDZmdz09>

Meeting ID: 342 482 2877

Passcode: 9kpE08

## 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***



# 2021 Dream Trip Tickets Now On Sale!

The GA TU Council has voted to conduct the 2021 Dream Trip raffle online. TU National has partnered with Eventgroove to offer us this service. The link below will take you to the site where you can purchase Dream Trip tickets.

<https://go.tulocalevents.org/georgia-trout-unlimited-dream-trip-2021>

Tickets are \$10.00 each. Only 2,000 tickets will be sold. There will be a small online fee added to each purchase. The winners will be announced at the Council meeting on Saturday, March 20, 2021.

Thanks again to Laine and John McGarity for their generosity in providing us with this opportunity!!!!

Kathy Breithaupt, Ph.D.  
GA TU Council Chairman

**DREAM TRIP - FLY FISHING FOR TWO!**





**GRAND PRIZE**

**John McGarity**  
owner and host of  
the 2021 Dream Trip

John McGarity is a fly fishing enthusiast and a successful entrepreneur. He has been fishing for trout for over 30 years and has been a member of the Georgia Trout Unlimited Council for over 10 years. He is also a successful businessman and has been a member of the Georgia Trout Unlimited Council for over 10 years.

**"The 2021 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."

John McGarity  
owner, Unicoi Outfitters

- **5 days hosted fishing / 6 nights lodging in Idaho July 25-30, 2021**
- **\$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 - Finesse fly rod - 4 wt. 8'9", 4 piece fly rod (perfect trout rod). Donated by The Atlanta Fly Fishing School.
  - Peak rotary fly-tying vise. 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.
  - AFS gift certificate for a fly fishing or fly-casting class during 2021. 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 2021 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. 2021.
  - 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](http://www.rivertroughatlanta.com)
  - Gift card in the amount of \$500 for goods and services with Cohutta Fishing Company of Blue Ridge Georgia. Donated by the Cohutta Chapter.
  - Two draws of Six Dozen Trout Flies each. Donated by the 12 TU chapters in Georgia.



For complete rules and details visit [www.georgiatu.org](http://www.georgiatu.org)



## Fishing Reports

### From Jeff Durniak

High-elevation trout fishing was good throughout our wet summer and it has improved even more with fall's cooler weather and water. Go soon if you like dry flies because the top-water action will slow down when water temps dip below 50. For small stream wild fish, just sneak upstream and toss a #16 tan elk hair caddis or stimulator (yellow or orange) on 4 or 5X tippet into the soft spots. On bigger streams and/or during higher flows, first upsize your dry to a 14 or maybe even a 12. Stick a dropper fly 3 feet off the back of the dry on 5X tippet. You want a heavy dropper that will get down a couple feet to wary fish that won't come up to the dry during high sun. Good droppers for us recently have been silver tungsten beaded versions of: sexy walt's worm, tan mops, and soft hackle yellows or hare's ears. The bows and browns are aggressive again in the cool waters, so enjoy some fine fall fishing. If you hit the Smokies, quit an hour or two before dark and go elk-watching next to the NPS Cherokee visitors center. You can "catch" more fishing tips in my Friday fishing reports on the Unicoi Outfitters Facebook page. Then submit your own reports to our all-star newsletter editor. Pat will appreciate your fodder!





## Fishing Reports, cont.

### Pictures From Jim Kidd's Trip Out West





## **Fishing Reports, cont.**

### **Tammy's Report from Out West**

Pat and I took a trip to one of our favorite spots in Wyoming at the end of August. Driving across country is always exciting but this year was more of a challenge with the crazy Covid environment. There was a lot of negotiating rules of safety at the rest stops along the way.

We found our familiar places looking about the same as last time we were there, except for low water and more people. Most folks were hiking or camping but there were many fishing. The weather was mostly hot, dry and windy. We did get caught in a big hail storm which blew up quickly and ended our first day of fishing on a soggy note.

We met up with some Rabunites (Jim Kidd, Lewis Reeves III and crew) while there and told lots of tall tales during dinner. It's always fun to see friends in faraway places.

The fishing was spotty, (at least for me) and Pat fared better than I did. Lots of pretty butter browns. Animal sightings included 5 moose, 2 bald eagles, tons of pronghorn antelope, and 1 red fox. We did some hiking in the higher elevations one day. Fished 2 main rivers with the last day on a smaller creek, where we met some nice ladies picking thimble berries. I wish I had taken their pictures because they fit the Wyoming local image to a tee. Strong and independent with a good dose of adventure and a pistol on the hip just in case.

It was a great trip! But it's sad to see the area we had just visited engulfed in a big forest fire now. This crazy year 2020 goes on.



## Fishing Reports, cont.

### ***Calder Adams Tries Out His New Birthday Present***

We picked up Calder's new creek rod from Jimmy Harris at his new shop in Clarksville, GA today. Poor kid was shaking so badly that he could not assemble it easily. To Jimmy, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. [Unicoi Outfitters](#) is the best!

We immediately went fishing with the rod. Calder loves his birthday present.! This isn't the only fish Calder caught, but it was the only one he landed.

That's one happy kid!





## 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.*

## 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 [Jeff Durniak](#).

*We look forward to having you in our Chapter!*

## Rabun Chapter Leadership Contacts

### Voting Leaders

[Jeff Durniak](#)  
[Tammy Hopton](#)  
[Charlie Breithaupt](#)  
[Kathy Breithaupt](#)  
[Kent Wilson](#)  
[Ray King](#)  
[Tony Allred](#)  
[Justin English](#)  
[Terry Rivers](#)  
[Jimmy Whiten](#)

Chapter President  
 Chapter Vice President  
 Treasurer  
 Secretary  
 Past President  
 Rendezvous Chair  
 Director thru 2020  
 Director thru 2021  
 Director thru 2021  
 Director thru 2022

### Non-Voting Leaders

[Michele Crawford](#) Women's Outreach, Memorials  
[Jerry McFalls](#) Scouts Liaison  
[Pat Hopton](#) Tight Lines Editor  
[Steve Perry](#) Conservation Chairperson



***From Steve Hudson at [Flykits.net](http://Flykits.net)***

**This Saturday on The Tying Bench we'll be focusing on tying a classic trout nymph - the Prince Nymph!**



**The Prince Nymph traces its origins back to California in the 1940s and fly tyer Doug Prince. Sources differ on the details of its origin, but it appears that the fly developed from a pattern that Prince called the Brown Forked Tail Nymph. Eventually (and with some modifications) it became known simply as the Prince Nymph, and that's what fly fishers know and love today.**

**The Prince Nymph uses some familiar materials (peacock herl, ribbing wire, a bead, and a brown hen feather) and one less-familiar material (biots) in two colors, typically brown and white. Biots are the short, stiff, pointed barbs from the leading edge of primary wing feathers. Typically, goose biots are used for this fly.**

**In this session of The Tying Bench, you'll learn how to put these materials together to create this great nymph. We'll focus in particular on the techniques used to tie the biots to the hook. The result will a nymph that you're sure to enjoy on your favorite water!**

**I'm excited to let you know that a Tie It & Try It kit is available for the Prince Nymph! It's available from our [webstore](#), from many fly shops, and from Amazon.**

**Zoom details:**

**Saturday, Oct. 10**

**10 a.m. Eastern time**

**Meeting identifier 952 1793 9899**

**Password FlyTying10**

## Prez Notes

Hey, congrats, we've made it to Fall! Enjoy the wonderful weather and the great trout fishing sparked by our cold nights. Little wild trout streams are on fire and we also have two Delayed Harvest programs kicking in on 10/1 (NC) and 11/1 (GA). The Smokies have been very good to us, also, and are within an hour's drive of Rabunite locals. Socially distance yourselves on Fires, Nantahala, the Tuck, or the Chattooga soon, especially if you can escape on a weekday. You'll be glad you did.

Let's get to some Chapter news. First, thanks to the twenty of you who zoomed in for our September program. We had a good time cruising through Yellowstone Park together. Second, I'd like to encourage even more Rabunites to tune in at 7PM on October 20 for this month's program, Smokies fish and fishing updates, by the national park's managing biologist, Matt Kulp. Matt is a personal friend, a fan of the Rabunites, and always gives a good program. You can enjoy him even more from the comfort of your favorite chair at home! Set your phone alarms now and dial in your computers on the 20<sup>th</sup> for some hot Smokies intel.

GATU Dream Trip tickets are now on sale. We need all Rabunites to do their part in selling them (and buying a few for yourselves). Remember that these ten dollar tickets (plus a small handling fee) give purchasers a shot at a weeklong fishing trip in West Yellowstone and a long list of great runner-up prizes. It's super-easy this year because it's all online! I gave it a test run and bought one ticket myself. The online system was very quick and easy. Folks can go online, select the number of tickets, select the TU chapter to credit the tickets sales to, and put in their credit card number. Poof, tickets will be on their way. Help our chapter to sell our allocation (and get our \$\$\$ rebate), and help GATU to fund its annual operations, especially the weeklong Trout Camp for kids. And if you win, remember me, your best-est fishing buddy who will gladly head west and take your pictures!

We keep most of the admin business out of regular meetings to keep them fun for y'all, but I do want to thank our great Board of Directors for helping Tammy and me through our admin tasks each month. September was busy again, as we dealt with midyear budget assessment and proposed adjustments, team building, contributing to Kathy's GATU quarterly Council meeting, and dealing with USFS on multiple issues, from copter stocking to Tallulah pier repair plans. Please join me in thanking our great BOD for making our own lives easier and funner.

Lastly, thank YOU! Thanks for hanging in there while we "wheel and deal at a distance" to keep everyone safe. We deeply miss the monthly church gatherings, Mike's chapter fishing trips, and Charlie and Terry's campouts. But we are staying the course and will be rewarded with a lot of great gatherings and work projects in our safer future. BOD membership Chair Jimmy Whiten reports no drop in our numbers, despite our 8-month isolation. Here's a tip of my ole fishing cap to each and every one of you dedicated Rabunites! The present is still challenging, but our future is bright. And that's because of each and every one of you and the roles you play as conservation volunteers. Happy leaf season to you, and thanks for being a Rabunite!