



TIGHT LINES

December 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!



No Rabun Chapter meetings or activities for the month of December, 2020.

See Page 2 for info on January, 2021 Chapter meeting.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

January, 2021 Chapter Meeting

Rabun TU's January 19 zoom program will be "Taking Better Fishing Fotos" by longtime chapter friend and commercial photographer David Cannon.

<http://www.davidcannonphotography.com/>

David's pics and stories, from the Amazon to Alaska, are now seen in national magazines and catalogs from Cabelas to Gray's Sporting Journal. His latest work is a Georgia photo spread in the Nov/Dec 2020 edition of American Fly Fishing Magazine. David's second edition of Fly Fishing Georgia is expected to hit bookstore shelves next year. David gave us this program a decade ago and I've invited him back for a "new and improved" session on Fish Pics 101. If you want to take great fish pics, don't miss it!

The program will start at 7pm, but we'll open up the Zoom room at 645 so folks can get settled in.

Zoom meeting ID and password here:

Meeting ID: 880 0710 1363

Passcode: 638273



Call to Action! Attention All Rabunites!

During the 12/5/20 Georgia Council meeting, DNR and the Council Conservation Chair are looking for stream conservation projects to consider for upcoming work schedules. Fellow Rabunites, if you are out fishing and see a stream conservation need (erosion control, bank restoration, trout structure maintenance, etc) please contact me (Conservation Team Leader) or Justin English-Assistant Team Leader.

Thank you
Steve Perry

flygide@gmail.com

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 Legs

HOOK: #12x Nymph Hook

THREAD: Match Chennile Color

LEG: Medium Rubber Leg—Any Color

BODY: Medium Chennile—Any Color

Great attractor fly to use during the Delayed Harvest season! Or a great dropper pattern any-time.



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 professional guide. He has been fishing for trout for over 20 years and has been a member of the Georgia Trout Unlimited Council for over 10 years. He is also a professional guide and has been guiding clients for over 10 years. He is a very experienced and knowledgeable guide and is always ready to help his clients catch the fish of their dreams.

"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
 - 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



GEORGIA COUNCIL TROUT CAMP 2021

JUNE 5TH & 6TH

8:00 AM to 5:30 PM

SPONSORS PARTNERS



PROGRAM:

- Fly fishing basics
- Equipment
- Lines/leaders
- Knots
- Fly casting
- Conservation program (DNR)
- Fly tying
- Trout Unlimited's Mission
- Entomology
- Safety on the water
- Fishing at Nacoochee Bend

DETAILS:

Lunches, snacks & fly-fishing equipment provided by Georgia Council
Fishing at Nacoochee Bend will follow lunch on Sunday (June 6)
Transportation & overnight accommodations provided by parents or guardian

LOCATIONS:

Atlanta Fly Fishing School
5060 Pittman Rd, Cumming, GA 30040
&
Nacoochee Bend – Unicoi Outfitters
7280 S Main St, Helen, GA 30545



COST: \$200 per camper

REGISTRATION: www.georgiatu.org



Fishing Reports

Intel from the Dredger

Trout fishing has remained pretty darn good this fall. We've had to dodge a few high stormflows and some chilly mornings, but the afternoons have been very good. Some have been great! DNR redosed our DH streams just before Thanksgiving, so there's a mix of naive and educated fish available for Rabunites. As recently as last Thursday (12/4), my friend Sautee had a fine afternoon of little wild rainbows on top.

Go on uncrowded weekdays or hike to remote weekend waters to avoid crowds. Dredge your eggs and nymphs on the cold days, but take some dries (dark caddis, little black stones, adams, and BWO's) in case the sunshine warms afternoon waters to fifty degrees and convinces a few bugs to emerge.

More weekly intel is provided in my Unicoi Outfitters Friday Facebook posts.



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

Prez Notes

I hope that all of you, my fellow Rabunites, had a warm, safe, and happy Thanksgiving, even if it was a bit smaller and quieter than normal. Our holiday season continues and we have a nice, light agenda this month to give everyone more time to focus on your important topics of the season: faith, family, and friends. While it sure seems like we've lost a lot this year, maybe we really didn't. We still had plentiful gifts falling into our laps while retaining those three most important blessings in life. And the really good news is that this long, odd year is just about behind us, with a much brighter 2021 on our horizon!

Here are the latest TU goings-on. First, let's count our gifts. Let's see, the Pebble Mine permit got denied, the Great American Outdoors Act was passed so that our federal friends can acquire more public land and finally fix their overused properties, our former district ranger, Ed Hunter, is now our forest supervisor, his agency picked up the whole tab for Chattooga copter stocking, and the GA Council has a \$10K grant for future copter drops. We balanced our chapter budget and have a very safe cushion going into the new fiscal year in April. Kathy, Charlie, and Rodney Tumlin have hatched a new plan for a smaller, weekend GA Trout Camp, if the virus situation improves by next June. We've had some great Zoom program speakers and really enjoyed Karl and Karen's Chattooga/Chauga tips last month. We have teams of Rabunites starting to form and making plans for good deeds when the covid coast clears. Most of us live in the middle of trout country and our definition of "*social distancing for mental health maintenance*" involves a fishing pole. A few recent excursions even resulted in some holiday trout on top! Hey, maybe it wasn't as slim a year as I thought last summer!

What's coming up? First, our best worker bees need our help. Read this as they need **YOUR** help and **mine**. Nobody does more for us than Kathy and Charlie! They just reminded us (via personal emails) that the chapter needs to step up our Dream Trip ticket sales. So please do **YOUR** part! Sell some or buy some, just get them sold so we sell the chapter's 150-ticket allocation. If each member buys 2-3 tix, we can knock this out. Please do this – if simply to honor our dedicated duo. Dream Trip tix can't be beat as stocking stuffers.

Second, we'll continue to work with our state and federal partners on some loose ends, from Tallulah pier repair and streambank stabilization to a new "fishing trip trout survey" designed by TU regional rep Jeff Wright and blessed by our great new DNR biologist, Sarah Baker. Stay tuned for details as we "fish" for some Rabunite vols to do stream trout surveys via angling in the new year.

Third, we'll see what Ray King and his minions might cook up for an online Rendezvous auction in the new year. If you have a potential auction item to donate, please contact Ray (Rayking@frontier.com) or me.

Last, we have a super program planned for January, so be ready to zoom on the 19th. If you don't know David, you should, for he's a nice, humble guy that even the crusty old codger, Doug Adams, took a liking to in his rookie season. Together, David and Doug had a trout fishing column in Georgia Outdoor News for several years. Now David is a real pro, but hasn't forgotten his Rabunite roots. Don't miss his tips if you wanna capture some great lifetime memories with your photos.

Continued on next page...

Prez Notes, cont.

I will close with how I started: counting my own blessings and encouraging you to do so, as well. Faith and perseverance will “shepherd” us closer to the rainbows on our horizons. And if you need a reminder on those two attributes, I’ve got a real fresh one for y’all. Chapter vets will recall that nearly twenty years ago, an 11-year old Jersey kid lost his hero dad, who saved thousands before the South Tower crushed him on September 11. A call was made and the Rabunites rallied. Young Patrick was given immediate hillbilly membership and a special place at our spring campsites for a decade. Ole codger Adams greeted him to every April camp with a bearhug and a walk to the hottest hole on IDBIS Creek. “Tom”, “Kelly,” Terry, Pat, Kidd and other charter members took him in like their own kid. And the fishing and fibs, and the campfires and grits, healed that kid. He “grew up” on us and now wears his dad’s unretired badge number, PAPD 1712. But young Pat now has a new name, which reminds us all of this season of joy. You see, yesterday, December 5, a beautiful girl named Emily gave birth to her first child, a ten-pound whopper named James Patrick Gorman. And today, our young friend and birthday boy Patrick has a new nickname, **Daddy**. Congrats and thanks for reminding your fellow Rabunites of our true riches in life, Pat and Emily.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays, Rabunites!

And to all a good night.

Jeff

