

# **TIGHT LINES**

## **November 2021 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!



### **November, 2021 Rabun Chapter Meeting**

**Tuesday, Nov 16 at 7:00 pm**

#### **“Ranger Roundup” by Ryan Foote and Len Kring**

Rabun TU's November program will be “Ranger Roundup.” Our US Forest Service district ranger, Ryan Foote, will bring us up to speed on co-op projects near and dear to Rabunite hearts, from the Tallulah fishing pier to erosion control projects. He might also have some news on other projects and programs of interest to us. Lastly, he'll set aside some time for a Q&A session with y'all. Breaking news: special guest star, new Chattahoochee Forest wildlife biologist Len Kring will join us!

So Zoom in from your comfy chair on Tuesday (11/16) at 7PM and find out some new federal happenings that affect your trout waters. The Zoom invite follows:

Topic: Rabun TU Chapter Program

Time: Nov 16, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting Click This Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84208004246?pwd=YnFBOWpMcUxSQURsOS9qbFdSZm9iZz09>

Meeting ID: 842 0800 4246

Passcode: 371544



The Rabun Chapter Board of Directors has voted that, due to Covid-19, there will be **NO CHRISTMAS DINNER** this year.

**Attention All Rabunites! From the Rabun Chapter Conservation Team:**

We want to continue our efforts to conserve trout waters in Rabun County. Our team welcomes your help. While you are out fishing, if you see areas that could be improved or repaired, such as erosion problems, stream siltation, streamside or in-stream trash, feel free to take pictures, identify the issue and location, and send the information to Justin and me. Our team will look into the issue, discuss with BOD, and see if it's something we can remedy, or encourage our managing agencies to do so. Working together, we can all conserve the great water resources that make us proud to live, work, and play here!

Team Leader- Steve Perry: email- [flygide@gmail.com](mailto:flygide@gmail.com).  
Cell- [828-371-1633](tel:828-371-1633)

Assistant Team Leader- Justin English: email- [trouter10@hotmail.com](mailto:trouter10@hotmail.com)  
Cell- [706-490-5032](tel:706-490-5032)

**Rabun Chapter Membership Update**

Current membership: 168 adult members and 1 Stream Explorer.

***Welcome New Members!***

Mark Thomason from Tiger, GA.

***Thanks for Re-Uping!***

Monte Seehorn, David King, David Nichols, Hal Howard, Cecil Greene, Joe Kitchens, Richard O'Hara, Claudia English, Scott Havlak, and James Bruce.

***Members That Need to Re-Up!***

Kyle Burrell, Mike Addington, David Bentley, and Steve McMahon.

It is the constant—or inconstant—change, the infinite variety in fly fishing that binds us fast. It is impossible to grow weary of a sport that is never the same on any two days of the year.

Theodore Gordon (1914)

# Delayed Harvest Trout Fishing Streams: Open Nov. 1

Are you ready to Go TROUT Fish Georgia? Beautiful weather and fantastic scenery await you in the northern part of the state, and beginning in November, trout fishing on Georgia's delayed harvest trout streams will be in full swing, according to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Wildlife Resources Division (WRD).

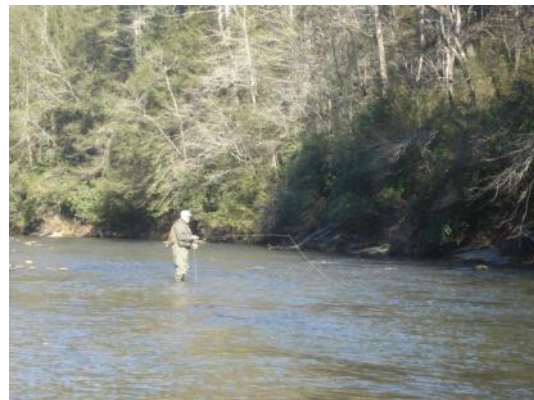
While trout fishing can be found year-round in Georgia, there are five trout streams that are seasonally managed under special regulations called Delayed Harvest (DH) to increase angler success. These streams have catch-and-release regulations from November 1-May 14 and are stocked monthly by WRD and other partner agencies like the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and South Carolina DNR. This combination of stocking and catch/release allows for good trout catch rates and high angler satisfaction.

This year, four delayed harvest streams will be stocked with trout. These streams include:

- **Toccoa River** located on U.S. Forest Service land upstream of Lake Blue Ridge in Fannin County (from 0.4 miles above Shallowford Bridge to 450 feet above the Sandy Bottom Canoe Access).
- **Amicalola Creek** on the Dawson Forest Wildlife Management Area (from Steele Bridge Road downstream to Georgia Hwy. 53).
- **Smith Creek** downstream of Unicoi Lake (Unicoi State Park).
- A portion of the **Chattooga River** (from Ga. Hwy. 28 upstream to the mouth of Reed Creek) on U.S. Forest Service land bordering South Carolina.

Georgia Trout Stocking Coordinator John Lee Thomson commented, "In an effort to provide excellent opportunities at the other DH sections, and due to current low trout inventories, anglers should note that stocking the delayed harvest section of the Chattahoochee River below the Morgan Falls dam will not be able to take place this year."

Between November 1 - May 14, anglers on all traditional delayed harvest streams are restricted to single hook, artificial lures. Beginning May 15, the general regulations to designated trout waters then apply to those streams.





October 18, 2021

Patrick Hopton  
Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited  
PO Box 371  
Clayton, GA 30525-0010

Dear Friends of CFR,

Thank you for your generous support of Casting for Recovery! Together we've impacted more than 10,000 lives with an introduction to the healing properties of fly fishing. We've cast more lines than we could count and given way more than 10,000 hugs.

*"I can't tell you how much it means to be around a group of women who know exactly what I've been through and exactly what I'm feeling. It's been a really long time since I felt like I belonged somewhere." - CFR participant*

Breast cancer impacts all of our families and communities. You know these women – they're our mothers, sisters, wives, partners and friends. Thank you for this donation, your gift helps us connect more women, cast more fly lines, give more hugs and continue to make a BIG difference.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Faye', is written over a horizontal line.

Faye Nelson  
Chief Executive Officer

*Thank you so much!*

Date of Gift: 10/03/2021  
Gift Amount: \$500.00  
Comment: Thank you for your support for CFR's Georgia Program!

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram:  
[facebook.com/castingforrecovery/](https://facebook.com/castingforrecovery/)  
[instagram.com/castingforrecovery](https://instagram.com/castingforrecovery)

*For your records, Casting for Recovery is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt organization, EIN 03-0354382. This organization did not provide any goods, services or other privileges, in whole or part, for the contribution received. Please consult your tax advisor regarding the deductibility of your contribution.*

109 East Oak St, Ste 1G | Bozeman, MT 59715 | 406.624.6583 | 406.624.6584 Fax

[castingforrecovery.org](https://castingforrecovery.org)   







October 15, 2021

Trout Unlimited Rabun Chapter  
Wayne Prosser  
PO Box 371  
Clayton, GA 30525-0010

Dear Wayne,

On behalf of the wounded and injured military service members and disabled veterans who are involved in Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing (PHWFF) activities, we thank you for your generous \$500 contribution received on 10/13/2021 for the Atlanta program. Your gift is an inspiration to us all and helps us give back to individuals who have given so much.

We use the restorative activities of fly fishing and fly tying to help the rehabilitation of those struggling with Post-Traumatic Stress, Traumatic Brain Injury, and physical limitations. Our program also provides participants with the camaraderie of fellow veterans; those who understand. Combine that with the peace of clean, fishable water and you have the recipe to change lives! Participation in our program is free for participants; so, gifts of money and in-kind donations are highly valued assets and provide us with the vital resources needed to sustain our programs. Your gift will help us purchase the fly fishing equipment and supplies we require to support fly tying instruction, fly casting workshops, and rod building classes, as well as fund activities beyond the classroom, like fishing trips. Please know that you are helping us make a difference and we will put your donation to good use. We invite you to learn more about PHWFF on our web site, [www.projecthealingwaters.org](http://www.projecthealingwaters.org) or follow us on social media to read about the extraordinary participants, volunteers, trips and activities across the nation.

Again, thank you for your charitable gift. Your support and encouragement is deeply appreciated, and needed as we carry out our mission to improve the health and well-being of our program participants.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd Desgrosseilliers".

Todd Desgrosseilliers, CEO & President

*Please note: PHWFF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. Our Federal EIN is 61-1518154. PHWFF did not provide you with any goods or services in consideration for your donation. Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code, enacted in August of 1993, requires you to keep written substantiation of gifts of \$250 or greater in order to claim a deduction for your contribution. This letter hereby serves as a receipt for the above gift.*



#82526

HEALING THOSE WHO SERVE

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc. • PO Box 695 • La Plata, MD 20646 • [www.projecthealingwaters.org](http://www.projecthealingwaters.org)

October 12, 2021

Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited  
C/O Jeff Durniak  
PO Box 371  
Clayton, Georgia 30525

Re: Donation for Smithgall Woods Education Programs

Dear Chapter Members,

Thank you, so much, for your most generous donation of \$500 to Smithgall Woods Regional Education Center (SWREC). With this wonderful donation, the SWREC will be able to continue providing top-notch environmental education to the 26 counties of WRD Region II.

Without TU's continued support and generosity, almost 5,000 people would not have experienced the wondrous magnificence of northeast Georgia's nature/wildlife since July of this year. The joy they gain and the experiences they will remember forever are all possible because of you. Again, thank you for all you do to support the SWREC!

Sincerely,



Kathy Church  
Wildlife Interpretive Specialist  
Smithgall Woods State Park



Dear Rabin TU,

We want to thank you all for your generous donation to our chapter. We have decided to donate the money to the Congress Creek Project, as it is something we are all very passionate about and want to see completed. Thank you so much for all that you do!

Sincerely,

UGA SRivers

Be Cantor, Kim A

Ellie Q. Kell

Preston N.

Ansley Whitley

May Mabe

Sack Cook



## Fishing Reports

Submitted by Tammy Hopton, 11/3/21

### *“You Sure Know How to Show a Girl a Good Time”*

Earlier this year Pat took me fishing to a very rugged section of the Chattooga River. We had left the trail and were going down a steep slope towards the river and got entangled in an awful rhododendron thicket. I didn't think we were ever going to get out of there! But we finally did, and at the time I told him (sarcastically), “You sure know how to show a girl a good time”.

Well, he did it again. Last week he took me into Three Forks, one of the most remote spots in Rabun County. If you don't know, Three Forks is where three creeks, Holcomb, Overflow, and Big Creeks all come together in one spot and form the West Fork of the Chattooga River. The FS trail ends on a knoll above the actual Three Forks; from there you follow a user-created trail down to Holcomb Creek just upstream from the Three Forks, cross Holcomb Creek above a huge waterfall, and then follow a faint path down to Three Forks.

When we got there, I was more than a little concerned about wading across Holcomb Creek at the top of that waterfall. A slip there would mean certain death! So Pat said maybe we could find a way down to Three Forks without crossing Holcomb Creek. Folks, let me tell you: it can't be done. We slid on our rear ends down steep mountainsides, around rock cliffs, past caves that I was certain each harbored a big old bear just waiting to jump out and eat us, and crawling on our hands and knees through the awfulest thickets anywhere. We got down to where we could see the West Fork far down below us and it appeared we were headed into a cliff-lined gorge and a raging river. Then it started raining. Luckily, we made the (wise) decision to bail out and get the heck out of there. We were cold, wet, and muddy by the time we got back to the truck, but I was just glad to get out of there alive. And I told him again: You sure know how to show a girl a good time.

But Pat is stubborn and insisted we go back. He had been to Three Forks many times before and said if I could just get my courage up and cross Holcomb Creek we could do it. So yesterday we packed a lunch and our gear and went back, bound and determined to make it down to the Three Forks this time .

It was a beautiful day and the hike in to Holcomb Creek went fine. And it turned out that crossing Holcomb Creek wasn't that bad after all. While the faint trail from there down to Three Forks was steep and rough, it was doable. At one point someone had tied a rope up to help go down a steep section and I'm glad they did. But we made it down to Three Forks in one piece—finally, on the second try.

And it was worth it! This place is absolutely beautiful. Rock cliffs; waterfalls; clean, clear streams all coming together in one spot. Add the beautiful fall colors of the leaves, the wildflowers, and blue skies and it was truly a magical day.

We fished the lower sections of all three creeks and the uppermost part of the West Fork. The only place we caught fish was in Holcomb Creek: wild, stream-born rainbow trout, all between 8” and 10”. There was a decent blue wing olive hatch coming off. Truthfully, I was too busy taking pictures, scrambling over rocks and exploring the area to do much fishing.



If there is anything bad to say about our trip to Three Forks, it is the amount of trash we found while there. Things like camping equipment left abandoned, food containers, beer bottles, clothes. This infuriates me to no end! How can folks go through the trouble to carry stuff in there and then not have the consideration to carry it out? We filled our fishing vests with as much trash as we could carry out and we plan to go back next week with trash bags to get the rest of it.

If you've never been to Three Forks then you may want to consider adding it to your list. Just be aware that it is a long hike, and the final mile or so is on a steep and rough unmaintained trail. If you get hurt in this area you will be in big trouble—there is no cell coverage and it's a long way out. Also, this is no "secret spot", as evidenced by all the trash.

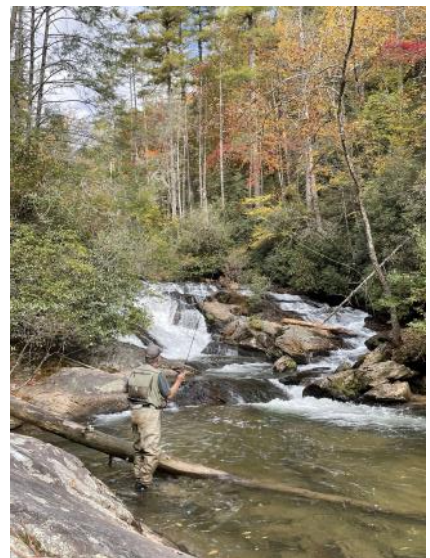
When we got back to the truck, tired but happy, I told Pat again "You sure know how to show a girl a good time". Only this time I really meant it and in a good way!



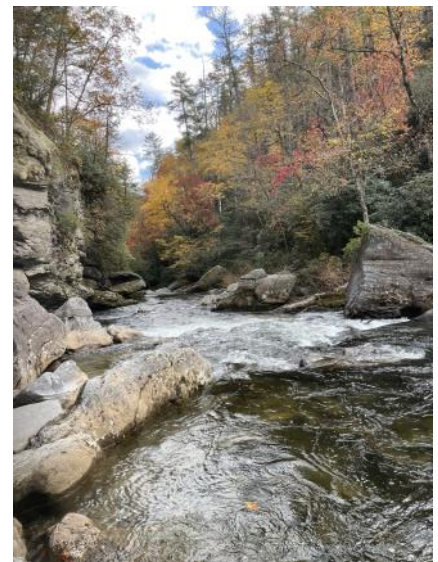
**Holcomb Creek**



**Overflow Creek**



**Big Creek**



**West Fork**



# 2022 Dream Trip Tickets Now On Sale!

The GA TU Council has voted to again conduct the 2022 Dream Trip raffle online. The link below will take you to the site where you can purchase Dream Trip tickets.

[GA Council of TU Dream Trip 2022 | Trout Unlimited \(tulocalevents.org\)](https://tulocalevents.org)

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 18, 2022.

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

## DREAM TRIP - FLY FISHING FOR TWO!



**GRAND PRIZE**

**John McGarity** - owner and host of the 2022 Dream Trip

**"The 2022 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."

**5 days hosted fishing / 6 nights lodging in Idaho JULY 24-29, 2022**

**\$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:

- TFO- Blue Ribbon - 4 wt. 8'9", 4 piece fly rod (perfect trout rod). Donated by The Atlanta Fly Fishing School
- BVK SD I (4-5 wt.) reel. Donated by the Atlanta Fly Fishing School
- Twin fly rod case for two 4 piece 9 ft fly rods. 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
- 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 2022 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. 2022.
- Unguided half day fishing at Nacoochee Bend for two anglers. 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 \$350. 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 Unicoi Outfitters in Helen or Clarkesville Georgia. Donated by the Cohutta Chapter.
- Half day guided trip for two on the Chattooga or Chauga River. Donated by Karl and Karen Ekberg owners of the Chattooga River fly Shop in Mountain Rest, SC. [www.ChattoogaRiverFlyShop.com](http://www.ChattoogaRiverFlyShop.com)
- Two draws of Six Dozen Trout Flies each. Donated by the 12 TU Chapters in Georgia.



Jimmy Harris owner of Unicoi Outfitters



Mark Martin working Ralph's new custom made rod for the trip.



2021 winner - Ralph Arigliano



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

## Fly of the Month

By Terry Rivers

### Parachute Blue Wing Olive

**HOOK:** #14-22 Dry Fly

**BODY:** Olive Dubbing

**TAIL:** Dun/Gray Hackle Feathers

**PARACHUTE:** Antron or Calf Body Hair

**WING:** Dun/Gray Hackle



**GREAT FLY TO HAVE WHEN THINGS SLOW DOWN DURING WINTER MONTHS. ON WARM EVENINGS A HATCH WILL USALLY COME OFF AND SIZE DOES MATTER.**

*See you on The River! Terry*

## November 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	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

## 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](#)

[Wayne Prosser](#)

[Ben Deal](#)

[Kent Wilson](#)

[Ray King](#)

[Justin English](#)

[Terry Rivers](#)

[Jimmy Whiten](#)

[Trey McFalls](#)

Chapter President

Chapter Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

Past President

Rendezvous Chair

Director thru 2021

Director thru 2021

Director thru 2022

Director thru 2023

### Non-Voting Leaders

[Michele Crawford](#)

[Jerry McFalls](#)

[Pat Hopton](#)

[Steve Perry](#)

Women's Outreach, Memorials

Scouts Liaison

Tight Lines Editor

Conservation Chairperson



## Prez Notes

Welcome to this season of thanks. Today, as I watched the Braves victory parade, this day reminded me of all the people and events that I'm thankful for.

First, I'm thankful for Pat, who faithfully produces a slick monthly newsletter that keeps our Rabunite Tribe entertained, educated, and connected. Let him know how much his work is appreciated.

I'm also thankful for a bunch of stand-up Rabunites who always answer our call for service. Tammy's been great as our VP, and ole Wayne keeps every penny counted. I've repeatedly counted on past Prez Kent for a second opinion and advice during these unusual times for TU chapter operations. He and another stand-up guy, Larry Walker, also gave us a fine Alaska program last month. If you missed it, you missed a good one. (Larry even spilled the beans on his secret weapon for big cohos and Kent said WHERE.) I've appreciated the opinions and guidance from your Board of Directors, and the YEARS of chapter service and guidance by B Squared, the Breithaupts. Trust me, the past 1.5 years isn't what we all signed up for with our \$35 TU membership fees. We expected stream structures, scout picnics, Rendezvous yahoos, kids fishing rodeos, and collective campfire smoke and fishing fibs. But Rabunite guys and gals, from young to old, have kept our chapter intact, safe, and on a good track for the future. I'm sure thankful for their Zoom perseverance!

I'm thankful for our region's abundant trout waters and the state and federal folks managing them. Without the hydrotherapy of "standing in a stream, waving a stick", these last two years would have felt like a decade. I hope you were also able to wet a line somewhere at the peak of a magnificent leaf season. My own Kodak moment was on the Nan DH. The GAWRD and USFWS staffs scrounged up enough fish to stock our mountain Delayed Harvest streams. Their SCDNR partners covered them on the Chattooga copter stockings during GA's year of shortage (due to disease), and our fine Forest Service pro's somehow found the time and money for the copter again this year. Dress warmly, get outside soon, and enjoy a cool fall day on your favorite stream.

Two fine feds have even stepped up this month. Please join us for District Ranger Ryan's program and meet your brand-new, forest-wide fish & wildlife biologist Len. Did you know that Ryan is a fish biologist by training and trade? Len, too. Dial in, listen and ask some questions. You might learn something from them and they will certainly learn something from you. And we will continue to strengthen the bridge of partnership between our club and the USFS.

Cont. next page

## **Prez Notes, cont.**

On the business front, your Excom and BOD made some hard but sound decisions. We will continue to play it safe and not gather indoors, at least thru January. So we punted on the December Xmas party and the January Rendezvous at Dillard House. In its place, Ray King and his helpers will set up an online auction, likely scheduled for late January or early February, for our bigger Rendezvous prizes. Ray will be in touch with his final plans soon. In the meantime, now is the time for each Rabunite to search for good auction fodder. If you can, aim for larger ticket items this year, since the number of auction items might be limited. We'll leave the smaller items for another year, in a future bucket raffle when we can reunite once again at Dillard House. Our hope is that an online auction presents us the best alternative right now with a) high revenue, b) lower chapter expenses, c) less administrative burden and, most importantly d) the greatest safety for our members, your families, and our guests. If we can clear about \$5K from some nice fishing trips, lodge stays, custom art and angling gear, and other traditionally top-selling auction items, we'll be in great shape heading into our new fiscal year on April 1. Thanks in advance for lining up some goodies for Ray. Feel free to contact Ray, VP Tammy, or me if you have questions or, better yet, some loot!

In closing, maybe we're like the Braves. One of them said they hit every bump in the road this baseball season, but just kept going. They really bonded as a team and it showed: during the season, in the playoffs, and definitely in the World Series. But the true heart of that team showed after they left the field. It was displayed in their hugs of teammates, love of their manager, and heartfelt thanks to their fans in the stands and along today's parade route. They overcame obstacles, worked together, bonded, and finally celebrated as champs.

Just like us, you and me. In this season of thanks, I'm thankful for each and every one of you Rabunites. Happy Thanksgiving, everyone. See you onscreen on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Until then, wet a line and line up an auction goody!

*Prez Jeff*

