

TIGHT LINES

April 2022 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!



April, 2022 Rabun Chapter Meeting

Thursday, April 14, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

"Hedden Creek Stream Conservation Project"

Sponsored by the US Forest Service, GA Department of Natural Resources, and Trout Unlimited

Meet at the Double Bit Dispersed Camping Area at 9:00 am. For directions and more information see page 2.





Directions to Double Bit Dispersed Camping Area

From Clayton, GA - Take Warwoman Road (at Ingles) east for 13 miles to the end of the road, at the intersection with GA Hwy 28. Turn right onto Hwy 28 east. Go 1.5 miles. Turn left onto Forest Service Road 646, Burrells Ford Road. This is a gravel road with some rough spots, but is suitable for passenger vehicles if care is taken. Go 5 miles. Turn left onto an unmarked woods road. This woods road is suitable for high clearance two wheel drive pickup trucks, but not passenger cars. Go 100 yards, cross the ford of Ridley Branch, then bear left and proceed 40 yards to the Double Bit Dispersed Campsite.

Parking may be limited at the Campsite, so parking along the Burrells Ford Road and walking into the Campsite may be your best option.

More Information on the Hedden Creek Stream Work Project from Sarah Baker

Hello Mr. Steve,

I hope that you are doing well!

Here are the plans for Hedden Creek Workday, Thursday, April 14th, 2022:

Start 9:00 AM and wrap up by 1:00 PM

20 volunteers maximum, 12 minimum

Rehabilitating previously installed habitat stream improvements so that they can continue to be appropriately utilized as trout habitat.

No need to bring equipment – Forest Service and GA DNR will have everything needed.

Bring work gloves, lunch, water.

U.S. Forest Service leads these workdays with support from GA DNR.

Rain date scheduled for: Thursday, April 28th, 2022

Please let me know if there are any further questions or comments from the Rabun TU chapter.

Thank you so much for all that you do!

With gratitude,

Sarah Baker, GA DNR

Important Upcoming Dates Mark Your Calendars Now!

- Thursday, April 14. Hedden Creek Stream Conservation Project. Meet at Double Bit Campsite at 9:00 am. *This will be our April Chapter meeting*. Contact <u>Steve Perry</u>, Chapter Conservation Chairperson, for more information or see page 2.
- Saturday, April 23. International Fly Fishing Film Festival. Fundraising event sponsored by the <u>Chattooga River Chapter TU</u>. 6:00 pm at the Walhalla Performing Arts Center, Walhalla, SC. <u>CLICK HERE</u> for more information or see page 4.
- Saturday, April 16. Long Creek Stream Conservation Project. Hosted by the <u>Blue Ridge</u> <u>Mountain Chapter</u>. Contact <u>Carl Riggs</u> for more information.
- Saturday, April 30. Beginner Fly Fishing Seminar, aka Rabunite 101. Meet at Clayton Methodist Creative Learning Center at 8:30 am. Contact <u>Kathy or Charlie Breithaupt</u>, Team Leaders, for more information or see page 5.
- Saturday, April 30. Troutfest. Fundraising event sponsored by the <u>Blue Ridge Mountain Chapter TU</u>. 10:00 am at the Downtown City Park, Blue Ridge, GA. <u>CLICK HERE</u> for more information or see page 6.
- Monday, May 2 through Sunday, May 8. Rabun Chapter Spring Campout at Oconee State
 Park. Campsite #91 will be the Gathering Spot. Make your own campsite reservation.

 Breakfast and suppers will be shared, lunch on your own. Contact <u>Terry Rivers</u>, Campout Coordinator, for more information or see page 7.
- Saturday, May 7. Mom's Day Out. Meet at picnic shelter #6 in the Day Use Area along-side Smith Creek, in Unicoi State Park. This is a GA DNR-sponsored education program and they are asking for volunteers from the Rabun Chapter to assist. Contact <u>Tammy Hopton</u>, Chapter Vice Prez, for more information or see page 8.
- Tuesday, May 17. Hot Dog Cook-Out and Fishing. Meet at the parking area on GA side of the Burrells Ford Bridge at 5:00 pm. *This will be our May Chapter meeting.*
- Sunday, June 5 through Friday, June 10. GA Trout Camp. To be held at Tallulah Falls School. Contact Kathy or Charlie Breithaupt, Camp Coordinators, to learn about opportunities to volunteer. CLICK HERE for more information.
- Wednesday, July 13. Electroshocking Chattooga River, Spoon Auger section.
- Wednesday, July 20. Electroshocking Chattooga River, Ellicotts Rock section.
- Wednesday, August 3. Rain date for Electroshocking Chattooga River.

CHATTOOGA RIVER CHAPTER, TROUT UNLIMITED

Presents

INTERNATIONAL FLYFISHING FILM FESTIVAL

At

Walhalla Performing Arts Center, 101 East North Broad Street, Walhalla, SC

APRIL 23 @ 6:00pm

TICKETS: \$20.00

Purchase at: flyfilmfest.com or walhallapac.com

GIANT RAFFLE

Orvis Helios 3 weight fly rod/reel outfit

Rainbow Valley Lodge in Ennis, Montana, includes two nights lodging + guided float trip + \$500 cash

Yeti Cooler

BUCKET & SILENT RAFFLES

Guided and unguided fishing trips on local waters

Restaurant & Business Gift Certificates

Fly Rods

Fishing Equipment & Accessories

Over 80 Raffle & Auction Prizes

FOOD TRUCK provided by COLE'S SOUTHERN BBQ "LIP SMACKIN GOOD"

For more information, **CLICK HERE**.



FLY-FISHING SEMINAR

www.rabuntu.org

- Ever wanted to try your hand at fly-fishing for trout but never learned the in's and out's of it?
- Ever wonder why some people seem to get so "hooked" on it?

Now's your chance! The Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited is planning a half-day fly-fishing seminar for adults (male and female 16 years and older). The seminar will cover equipment, casting, knots and entomology (the bugs we imitate for fish to eat).

Instructors include local experts for a hands-on learning experience that will be helpful and fun.

WHAT: Beginning Fly-Fishing Seminar "Rabunite 101"

WHEN: Saturday - April 30, 2022 8:30 am until 1:00 pm

WHERE: Clayton Methodist Creative Learning Center/ Gym

205 Ministry Mountain Drive, Clayton, GA 30525

(off old hwy 441 behind the radio station)

http://www.claytonmethodist.com/creative-learning-center/

HOW MUCH? Cost is only \$25

WANT TO SIGN UP??? FIRST COME FIRST SERVED! The session is limited to 28 participants.

Send the form below along with your check made payable to:

The Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited Charlie Breithaupt

194 Kitchins Lane

Clayton, GA 30525 <u>knc615@windstream.net</u> (706)782-6954

You will receive notification when you have been registered.

Please Print (NEATLY!) Yes, I want to attend the fly-fishing seminar!

Name

Address

City, State Zip

Telephone

Email



Celebrate Trout Fishing in the Trout Capital of Georgia ...

5th Annual

Blue Ridge Trout Festival & Outdoor Adventures!

10 am to 6 pm, April 30, 2022 Downtown City Park, Blue Ridge, Georgia

(03-08-22)

On April 30, 2022, 10 am to 6 pm, the 5th annual Blue Ridge Trout & Outdoor Adventures Festival – the Official Trout Festival of Georgia – returns to Blue Ridge, gathering fishermen, river sports enthusiasts, and outdoor recreation fans and their families in Blue Ridge, Georgia for fun, food, activities, entertainment, shopping and recreational services while increasing the public's knowledge of trout and the cold-water conservation associated with Trout Unlimited.

Located just 90 minutes north of Atlanta and 90 minutes east of Chattanooga, the 2022 Blue Ridge Trout & Outdoor Adventures Festival combines trout fishing with outdoor recreation, wildlife art, outfitter gear, guide services/information, a new Activity Zone -- AND LIVE MUSIC! -- in the historic district of Blue Ridge and the Official Trout Capital of Georgia.

Contact us:
Bob Borgwat, event coordinator
Phone: 706-838-5259
Email: <u>bborgwat@gmail.com</u>
BlueRidgeTroutFest.com



The selection of vendors will be greater than ever before for more than 4,000 visitors expected to pass through the festival gates. BE A VENDOR AT TROUT FEST '22 - GO TO: BLUERIDGETROUTFEST.COM



New! Trout Fest Activity Zone opens up a world of outdoor fun for our visitors with a climbing wall, mountain bike demos, a trout-fishing pond, long-saw crosscutting, axe throwing, gem mining and more!

New! Trout Fest Program Tents present expanded programs including mountain biking and kayaking. Professional fishing guides, kayak outfitters, mountain bike pros and more tell our visitors what they need to know for a successful day of outdoor recreation in the Fannin County — the Trout Capital of Georgia.



Atlanta Fly Fishing School returns with a new, free fly-fishing instruction program — the casting, the bugs, the fish!

Trout Fest Food Court features new and returning vendors, and our Beer/Wine Garden will feature brews from Grumpy Old Men Brewing Company and wines from North Georgia mountain farms.



THE KURT THOMAS BAND AND ANDREW LEAHEY & the HOMESTEAD

Please visit Trout Fest Sponsors:























































Rabun Chapter Spring Campout

When: Monday May 2 through Sunday May 8.

Where: Oconee State Park, Mountain Rest, SC

Who: All Chapter members and guests are invited!

Bring a friend!

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Details: The Chapter will use Site #91 in the Wooded Loop as the "gathering spot". Meals will be taken there along with story telling around the campfire at night.

Campers should contact the <u>Park</u> and make their own campsite reservations. There are a variety of sites available, including sites with full hookups.



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We will eat breakfast and supper together at Site #91. Lunch is on your own. If you sign up to cook a meal then all meals are free of charge to you. If you do not cook a meal, then pay the cook \$5.00 for each meal that you eat. What a deal! The Chapter will provide stoves, paper plates, silverware, cups. Even if you don't camp, come by to eat a meal or sit around the campfire!

We still need a volunteer to cook supper on Saturday night. We also need volunteers to cook breakfast on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday mornings.

Friday night will be a communal steak and baked potato supper. Everyone bring your own steak and potato. The Chapter will have the grill and hot charcoal ready for you to grill your own steak!

We need an accurate head count of who will be at the campout and what meals you will eat. This is needed for the cooks to adequately purchase and prepare the meals.

During the day you may explore the Park, hike to nearby scenic waterfalls, photograph spring wildflowers, visit nearby Cashiers, NC, or fish the many streams in the Tri-State area. Remember to carry the appropriate State fishing license!

To sign up to cook a meal or to say you are coming, contact the Campout Coordinator <u>Terry Rivers.</u>

Every day I see the head of the largest trout I ever hooked, but did not land.

Theodore Gordon (1914)

Loooooooooooooooooooooooooooo

May 7th- Trout Fishing with Mom- GA DNR; Unicoi State Park.

https://license.gooutdoorsgeorgia.com/Event/EventsHome.aspx

If interested, please contact Sarah Baker; sarah.baker@dnr.ga.gov



Trout Fishing With Mom

Saturday, May 7th 9:00am - 2:00pm, Unicoi State Park

OLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP NEW ANGLERS USE A SPINNING ROD!

How about a day of trout fishing with mom for Mother's Day? Whether you are a new or experienced angler, you can enjoy this special free event for you and your family. Limited spots available, so register soon at

https://license.gooutdoorsgeorgia.com/Event/EventsHome.aspx

Date: Saturday, May 7, 2022 Where: Unicoi State Park, Event Begins at Picnic Shelter #6 When: Check-in Begins at 9 am., event lasts until 1:30 pm

Questions? Call Sarah Baker at 770-535-5498 or email her at sarah.baker@dnr.ga.gov

... there are enough miles of bright water in the Blue Ridge to suple port the fly fisherman's deep-seated need to believe in infinite possibilities.

Christopher Camuto

A Fly Fisherman's Blue Ridge (1990)

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Rabun Chapter Participates in "Sweep the Chattoga"

A few brave and bundled Rabunites joined forces with the US Forest Service and other volunteers on Saturday March 12 for the Chattooga River Spring Sweep. Our group was assigned to pick up trash in the area around Burrells Ford. Most of the area was surprisingly clean but we still managed to load several bags of trash. It was a cold and blustery day but we stuck it out and we left our beloved area a little cleaner. Now let's hope it stays that way!

Thank you! to Rabunites Tammy and Pat Hopton, Terry Rivers, Larry Walker, and Keith Vickers for your service.







Another Trash Pickup Report from Sarah Baker, GA DNR Fisheries Biologist

I wanted to let you know that this past Saturday, March 19, four members of the UGA 5 Rivers Fly Fishing Club helped DNR collect over 1500lbs of trash, 15 tires, and the remains of a couch and a recliner from the banks of a wild trout stream in Rabun County. Rabun County Recycle and Solid Waste Department partnered with us to dispose of the trash at the landfill free of charge.

We are incredibly thankful for these guys' time and effort! They are awesome!









RABUN RENDEZVOUS - 2022

2021, as was 2020, remained an uncertain year. The COVID-19 virus continued to impact our daily lives. The RABUN Chapter of Trout Unlimited felt the effects as we did not hold our annual RABUN RENDEZVOUS in January of 2021. Concern over the virus and potential issues with the health and safety of our attendees warranted the cancellation of the event.

FELLOWSHIP AND FUNDRAISING!

These two words sum up the RABUN RENDEZVOUS.

With these two words in mind, we have decided to not hold the RABUN RENDEZVOUS in January, 2022. Concerns over the health and safety of our friends and neighbors, who have graciously supported the RENDEZVOUS, over the years, remained foremost in our minds while making this difficult decision. We are continuing to comply with state and local regulations and that of TU National, pertaining to indoor gatherings.

In 2021 we did not actively pursue fundraising for our chapter. We are making an effort to begin returning to a sense of normalcy and will be working on fundraising events, and other chapter activities, in 2022. To that end, we are using suggestions and guidelines from TU National on fundraising activities in these trying times and have benchmarked other chapters and organizations across the USA.

ONLINE AUCTION

We will be hosting an online auction in early 2022 to provide fundraising for the RABUN Chapter. To make the auction successful, we need your support in providing donations. We'll not focus as much on Bucket Raffle items this year. We still welcome all donations and items not used in the online auction will be retained and used during future events. We want to focus our online auction activities on, e.g., trips, lodging accommodations, fishing gear, and artwork.

More details will follow as to the actual date and times of the auction, site access information and "How to Bid" directions.

A virtual event will never be a replacement for the fellowship and fundraising we enjoy during the RABUN RENDEZVOUS, but it will allow us to continue to support the key pillars of Trout Unlimited! Thank you for your support.

Ray King RABUN Rendezvous Chair

GA Council of Trout Unlimited is pleased to announce the 2022 Dream Trip winners.

Proceeds From the Dream Trip benefit Georgia TU cold water conservation, Georgia Trout Camp, and other Georgia TU Council-supported activities. <u>CLICK HERE</u> for more information on this year's winners. *Thank you!* to all the prize donors, especially John and Laine McGarity! *Thank you!* to all who purchased Dream Trip tickets!

Winner Name	Prize		
Margaret Jones	Dream Trip Grand Prize Fly-Fishing Vacation for Two		
Jerry Jensen	1. Runner Up Prize		
Robert Stephenson	2. Runner Up Prize		
Bill Egeland	3. Runner Up Prize		
Andy Fleming	4. Runner Up Prize		
Brian Hazel	5. Runner Up Prize		
Phil Upchurch	6. Runner Up Prize		
Andrew Tubbs	7. Runner Up Prize		
Mike Karr	8. Runner Up Prize		
David Weems	9. Runner Up Prize		
Zac Mawhinney	10. Runner Up Prize		
Dave Guhde	11. Runner Up Prize		
jeff walters	12. Runner Up Prize		
Mark Romzick	13. Runner Up Prize		
Stephen Griner	14. Runner Up Prize		
David Saint	15. Runner Up Prize		



ATTENTION ALL RABUNITES!!

Kids need your help! It's not too late to help.

The Rabun Board of Directors voted unanimously to help with the following event. "The "Annual Becca Sue Klein All Kids Fish" event(s) aim to inspire the next generation of fly anglers and conservationists through two full-day fly fishing retreats.

Youth, ages 10 to 18, will spend the day in the headwaters of the Chattahoochee River learning to assemble and cast a fly rod, tie knots and use fly fishing gear, practice safe fish handling and conservation, and will learn about how a healthy river sustains life.

To date, we've received approximately four-dozen flies covering Squirmy Wormies, Wooly buggers and Nymphs. More flies are needed. I've received notification of a few more dozen flies being donated, and they will help! We have about three weeks left to get the flies to me, so we can have them mailed to Sarah Baker to ensure they have time to assemble the fly assortments / fly box for each participant.

REMEMBER: as part of the event, each kid gets to go home with a fly rod and reel, ensuring that they will have the opportunity to continue to practice fly fishing! The organizers would really like for each participant to go home with a box of flies. I am hoping that we could get a total of 330 flies donated to this event."

The call is still out there to help Sarah and the future of Trout Unlimited and the outdoors we love, and that's by supporting our youth. We can make a difference.

We still need some of the following:

Squirmy Wormies Wooly Buggers Eggs or Mop Flies

Nymphs Dry Flies

The BOD has chimed in for at least 10-12 dozen flies. We especially need help with Squirmy Wormies. We can always use more flies in the other categories.

Please send your fly donations to the following:

Ray King 121 Creek Road Otto, North Carolina 28763

Home Phone: 1-828-349-2786 Cell Phone: 1-828-342-9563

Email: rayking@frontier.com; rking072074@gmail.com

Thanks, Ray King

Rabun Rendezvous Chair



With our tight knit community, you have probably heard but if not, I wanted to share a dear friend's tragedy. Marc Lancaster, retired GA DNR Technician at Lake Burton Hatchery, recently lost his home to fire.

A GoFundMe account has been set up to help with his expenses.

https://www.gofundme.com/f/mark-and-rhonda-lancaster-housefire-rebuild?utm_campaign=p_lico+share-sheet&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_source=customer

Please keep the Lancaster's in your prayers.

John Lee Thomson
Trout Stocking Coordinator, Fisheries

Call for Nominations

The Board of Directors nominates the following slate of Officers, to serve from June 1, 2022 to December 31, 2024. The following positions will be voted upon at the upcoming May 17 monthly Chapter meeting:

Chapter Secretary: David Ruth (replaces Ben Deal)

Board Member: Terry Rivers (renewal of his position)

Board Member: Mike Anderson (replaces Justin English, who has served his term)

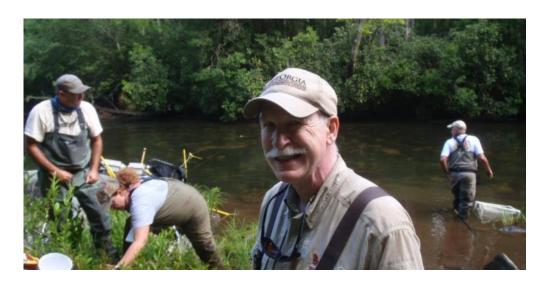
The call for nominations remains open. Any Chapter member may nominate any other person to any of these positions. If you wish to do so, contact Prez <u>Jeff Durniak</u>.

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... knowing a river intimately is a very large part of the joy of fly fishing.

Roderick L. Haig-Brown *A River Never Sleeps* (1946)

Honoring Jeffrey Peter Durniak Longtime Rabunite and Our Chapter Prez!



Please join the Georgia Trout Unlimited Council & Chapters in making a gift honoring Jeff Durniak for his outstanding career of 34 years with the GA DNR, 24 serving as the North Georgia Region Fisheries Supervisor. Jeff served the citizens of Georgia, along with the fish and water of our state. It was fitting that Jeff's last day prior to retirement was spent with members of the Georgia DNR, South Carolina DNR, US Forest Service, and Trout Unlimited as they sampled the Chattooga River for the annual study of the health of the river. Jeff has made a huge difference in the fishing and also in the work of Trout Unlimited. In 2006 the National organization of Trout Unlimited awarded him the Conservation Professional Award of the year. As a member of the Rabun TU Chapter, Jeff has given countless hours to the mission of TU, "to conserve, protect, restore, and sustain North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds." Jeff was and continues to be especially active in educating and encouraging youth.

Your gift in honor of Jeff will support the Coldwater Fisheries Student Research Endowment at the University of Georgia Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources. This fund provides research support for outstanding students studying coldwater fisheries, providing resources managers with vital information, and preparing the next generation of professionals to conserve, protect, restore, and sustain coldwater fisheries.

Join us in honoring Jeff by making your gift or pledge today!

CLICK HERE for more information.

Looks Like Our Chapter Vice Prez, Tammy Hopton, Had a Very Good 2021!



Brook Trout



Brown Trout



Cutthroat Trout



Rainbow Trout

And she's famous! See page 11 in the Winter, 2022 issue of Trout magazine for a picture of Vice Prez Tammy hard at work on the Crayfish Creek Restoration Project.

Fly of the Month

By Terry Rivers

Parachute Adams

HOOK: # 12-18 Dry Fly Hook TAIL: Brown Hackle Fibers

BODY: Grey Dubbing

PARACHUTE: Antron or Calf Tail HACKLE: Grizzly / Brown Mix



A great all-around fly to use during the Spring, it imitates many varieties of mayflies. Try attaching a small nymph as a dropper.

See you on The River! Terry

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.

Cell-828-371-1633

Assistant Team Leader- Justin English: email-trouter10@hotmail.com

Cell- 706-490-5032

Rabun Chapter Membership Update

Current membership: 159 adult members and 2 youth members.

Welcome New Members!

No new members this month.

Thanks for Re-Uping!

Brooks Adams, Perry Thompson, Gene Roberts, Dale Powell, Jesse Durham, Brian Weeks, David Ruth, Claudia English, Scott Edwards, and Willie Copeland.

Soon to Expire Members!

John Wall, Wesley Hopper, Larry Hutchens, Kelley Coty, and Mathew Harden.

ime of Month arly month	Time of Day Late am to Mid pm	Suggested Flies .
arly month	Late am to Mid pm	
	•	12-14 Quill Gordon
		12-14 Quill Gordon Nymph
arly month	Late am to Mid pm	16-18 BWO, Blue Quill, or Blue Dun
		16-18 Prince or Pheasant Tail
ll month	Late am to Mid pm	18 Brown Elk Hair Caddis
		18 Hairs Ear Nymph
ll month	Mid day to Late pm	12-14 Cream Elk Hair Caddis
		12-14 Dark Cream Caddis Pupa
II month	Late am to mid pm	12-14 Hendrickson or Adams Parachute
		12-14 Pheasant Tail Nymph
ll month	L am to Mid pm	12-14 March Brown or Adams Parachute
		10-14 Dark Hares Ear or Pheasant Tail Nymph
ate month	Early to late am	14-16 Yellow Stimulator or Yellow Elk Hair Caddis
		14-16 Yellow Stonefly Nymph
ate month	Early to late pm	12-14 Light Cahill
		12-14 Light Cahill Nymph
ate month	Mid to late pm	12-14 Dark Elk Hair Caddis or Deer Hair Caddis
		12-14 Dun or Yellow/Brown Caddis Pupa
ll month	All day	18-22 Griffiths Gnat
		18-22 Midge Pupa
ll month	All day	Dredging Nymphs:12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, Pheasant Tail,
III a III	month month te month te month month	month Mid day to Late pm month Late am to mid pm month L am to Mid pm te month Early to late am te month Mid to late pm month All day

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 **Chapter President** Tammy Hopton Chapter Vice President Treasurer Wayne Prosser Vacant Secretary Past President Kent Wilson Ray King Rendezvous Chair Jimmy Whiten Director thru 2022 Trey McFalls Director thru 2023 Vacant Director thru 2024 Vacant Director thru 2024

Non-Voting Leaders

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

Prez Notes

This note is simply a thanks and a reminder to all Rabunites. My first thanks goes to all members for promoting the sales of GATU Dream Trip tickets. Almost 350 tickets sold were attributed to your Rabun TU marketing efforts. We helped raise \$3,485 for the state council (and their annual kids trout camp) and earned us a \$1,044 rebate for chapter operations. That's outstanding! Take a bow!

My next thanks goes to the five Eskimos who braved the weather and helped the US Forest Service with its Chattooga River Cleanup. Tammy and Pat Hopton, Larry Walker, Terry Rivers, and new Rabunite Keith Vickers harvested trash from the Burrells Ford area and improved its aesthetics for all visitors. Thanks for representing our chapter on that cooperative project, folks.

My next kudo goes to each of you who has supplied Ray King with prizes for our online auction. Ray is working hard to catalog all of the loot and load the information on his auction website. The auction website will then be publicly displayed for a week or two before the site goes "live" and bidding will begin. Ray will let us know when the prize list is visible to the public. Kudos to Ray and all contributors of auction items.

And that brings me to some reminders. The first is an appeal to each of you for some auction advertisement. Once the prizes are displayed, please pass the word to all potential bidders: family, friends, and fishing buddies. Proceeds from this auction will fund our own chapter's operations in the near future, so please help us to get the word out early and drive those bids higher.

The next reminder is for our upcoming chapter activities. Thanks to Tammy, Steve Perry, the Breithaupts, and other motivated Rabunites, we have a nice menu of spring events for you to consider. From Reed Creek stream structure rehab to flyfishing instruction to instream mentoring, there is a niche or two that will fit you. Lend a hand where you can, make some new friends, and enjoy the fruits of your labors.

Lastly, this is a reminder that it's Spring, by golly! Get outside and enjoy our region's woods and waters. Take a hike or tempt a trout and you'll come home with a renewed zeal for life. You'll probably sleep better, too! Happy hiking, photography, and fly-flinging to y'all. And, as always, thanks for being a Rabunite!

Prez Jeff