



TIGHT LINES

May 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!



May, 2022 Rabun Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, May 18*, 5:00 pm at Burrells Ford.

“Chapter Meeting, Hot Dog Cook Out, Doug Adams Tribute, Dark Thirty Fishing, and Fairies!

* Please note change of date!

Join your friends for the May Chapter Meeting to be held outdoors at the parking area on the Georgia side of the Burrells Ford bridge. We will meet at 5:00 pm, and enjoy a hotdog—with all the fixin's—cookout. Contact Kathy Breithaupt to volunteer to bring food.

A short business meeting will be held to elect some leadership positions (see page 8). We will also pay tribute to our dear friend, [Doug Adams](#).

Then you are free to go fishing! This is a prime time of year to fish until [“Dark Thirty”](#) and there's just no better place to do it.

And on your hike out, you may get lucky and see “The Fairies”. What are the fairies? [CLICK HERE](#).

See you there—bring a friend!

Important Upcoming Dates Mark Your Calendars Now!

- **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 [Terry Rivers](#), Campout Coordinator, for more information or see page 3.
- **Saturday, May 7. Mom's Day Out.** Meet at picnic shelter #6 in the Day Use Area alongside 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 [Tammy Hopton](#), Chapter Vice Prez, for more information or see page 4.
- **Saturday, May 7. Black Rock Mountain State Park Kids Fishing Event.** No volunteers from Trout Unlimited are needed. Contact [Black Rock Mountain State Park](#) for more information.
- **Wednesday, May 18. May Rabun Chapter Meeting.** Hot Dog Cook-Out and Fishing. Meet at the parking area on GA side of the Burrells Ford Bridge at 5:00 pm. For more information, see page 1. Note change of date!
- **Tuesday, May 24. May Rabun Chapter Board of Directors Meeting.** Anyone can attend. To be held by Zoom conference call. Contact [Tammy Hopton](#) for more information.
- **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.
- **Saturday, June 11. Tallulah River Kids Fishing Event.**
- **Tuesday, June 21. June Rabun Chapter Meeting.** Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall. Social starts at 6:30 pm, meeting starts at 7:00 pm.
- **Wednesday, July 13. Electroshocking Chattooga River, Spoon Auger section.**
- **Thursday, July 14. Rabun Chapter Annual Family Picnic.** Potluck dinner, the Chapter supplies the fried chicken, paper plates, utensils. Meet at Kellys Water Park at 5:00 pm. More information and directions will be in the June issue of Tightlines.
- **Wednesday, July 20. Electroshocking Chattooga River, Ellicotts Rock section.**
- **Wednesday, August 3. Rain date for Electroshocking Chattooga River.**
- **There will be no August Rabun Chapter Meeting.**

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!

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 [Park](#) and make their own campsite reservations. There are a variety of sites available, including sites with full hookups.

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!

Friday night will be a communal steak and baked potato supper. Everyone bring your own steak and potato. The Chapter will have the 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 food and prepare the meals. Please contact the Campout Coordinator [Terry Rivers](#).

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!



Fishing is a test of character, but it's a test you can take over as many times as you want.

John Gierach

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

VOLUNTEERS 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

Often, I've been exhausted on trout streams, uncomfortable, wet, cold, briar-scarred, sunburned, mosquito-bitten, but never, with a fly rod in my hand, have I been unhappy.

Charles Kuralt



RABUN TU ONLINE AUCTION

Dates: May 17, 2022 thru May 24, 2022

Spring is upon us and O’Dark Thirty fishing is just around the corner. It’s been an unusual year and live events are starting to “spring” up everywhere. As discussed earlier in the year, the Rabun TU Board of Directors opted for staying safe.

We will be having an **ONLINE AUCTION** using the same format as seen on the Dream Trip Ticket site and other TU chapter sites around the state and country.

We’re finalizing the site set-up now and will critique the set-up over the next few days before starting live. The site will be available on or before May 9th to allow public viewing of items currently listed. This will run through the May 16th. During that time, we’ll also be adding items if new donations are received. Continue to visit during the early period to view items and see what may have been added! You won’t be able to bid on items until May 17th, when the auction actually goes live. Bidding will end on May 24.

REMEMBER: 2022 RENDEZVOUS “ONLINE AUCTION” GOES LIVE MAY 17TH!!

CAN YOU STILL HELP??

Absolutely! We can always use additional items to make the event as successful as possible. Items can take the form of trips, lodging packages, artwork, sculpture, fishing items, e.g., rods, reels, flies. We have talented individuals who create fantastic handmade crafts. Please put your talents to work for the Rabun Chapter of TU.

Tell your friends about the auction. Word of mouth is some of the best advertising we can receive.

Donations! This is one area in which you can still help. Donations can take the form of trips, lodging packages, artwork, sculpture, fishing items, e.g., rods, reels, flies. The list of items is not limited to just those suggested above. We have talented individuals who create fantastic handmade crafts. Please put your talents to work for the Rabun Chapter of TU.

Some examples received to date are as follows, that will help get your creative juices flowing:

SMITHGALL WOODS – 3 Bedroom Cottage Getaway for one night! This includes access to Catch and Release fishing while relaxing in the beautiful North Georgia Mountains.

UNICOI STATE PARK AND LODGE – 2-night lodging at the UNICOI lodge.

CUSTOM LANDING NET crafted by RON WILSON

CUTOM BUILT “BAMBOO FLY ROD”, 6’ 6”, 3-Weight, with 2-tips, rod sack and metal rod tube, by BILL BEACH

FRAMED PRINT OF the COLEMAN RIVER (BLACK & WHITE), Donated by STEVE PERRY, "RABUNITE"

FRAMED PRINT – "GARDEN OF THE LIONS", Measures 25&1/2" x 43", Donated by STEVE PERRY, "RABUNITE"

DUKE'S CREEK FISHING TRIP FOR TWO (2) ANGLERS ON THE PRIVATE WATERS OF DUKES' CREEK IN WHITE COUNTY, GA. Donated by the Doug Adams family and Pat & Tammy Hopton

UNICOI OUTFITTERS FISHING TRIP ON 1.5 MILES OF PRIVATE WATER AT NACOOCHEE BEND. Donated by UNICOI Outfitters, Jake Darling, Manager

CUSTOM SKINNER KNIFE & SHEATH. Donated by Dean English, RABUNITE

TEMPLE FORK OUTFITTERS PRO ii, 5 wt., 9' four-piece rod with rod sock and case; NTR-II Machined 6061-Y6 Aluminum Sealed Drag Reel. Donated by Mack Martin, Atlanta Fly Fishing School

FISHPOND THUNDERHEAD SUBMERSIBLE CHEST PACK. Donated by Reeves Outdoors, Clayton, GA.

There's a lot more!

To help advertise the items, you can help by sending a photo and writing a brief description of the item, and sending them in so we can get them posted. Send the information in a .jpg photo format or a word / text document. We can always help "wordsmith" to aid in describing the item.

BTW – Separate listing with photos and descriptions coming!!

Please list a minimum bid, if you have an idea!

Tell us who sent the item in and provide us with your contact information!

How we can get the item so that it's available to deliver to the winning bidder!

Help us in advertising for the Virtual Rendezvous. Tell your friends, send out emails, help us generate and distribute flyers!

My contact information is below. Please send me information on possible items and I'll be glad to work on getting the item listed and obtained so we can distribute to the winning bidder. We have a great group of "seasoned gophers" who are willing to help collect items and get them to a central location.

**RAY KING
RENDEZVOUS CHAIR
121 CREEK ROAD
OTTO, NORTH CAROLINA 27863**

**Home: (828) 349-2786
Cell: (828) 342-9563**

**rayking@frontier.com (Home)
rking072074@gmail.com
rking@tektone.com (Work)**

ATTENTION ALL RABUNITES AND FRIENDS!!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

The response from the Rabunites and Friends has been amazing. With your help, we provided approximately 11 dozen flies to Sarah Baker, our Fisheries Biologist, for use in the **“Annual Becca Sue Klein All Kids Fish”** event. They consist of the following:

Pats Rubberlegs (Stoneflies) – 12
Pheasant Tail Nymphs – 42
Squirmy Wormies – 45
Wooly Buggers – 15
Mop Flies - 24

Thanks to Dick Daniel, Jeff Durniak, Mike Anderson and Terry Rivers for donating their time and effort into providing the needed flies.

As mentioned earlier, the aim of this event is 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.

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.

With your efforts and those of other TU members across the state, I believe we’re going to have a **“VERY HAPPY GROUP OF KIDS”!**

Thanks,
Ray King
Rabun Rendezvous Chair



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 18 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 [Jeff Durniak](#).

Fishing is not a matter of life or death. It's more important than that.

Fly of the Month

By Terry Rivers

Light Cahill

HOOK: # 12-18 Dry Fly Hook

TAIL: White Hackle Fibers

BODY: Cream Super Fine Dubbing

WING: Wood Duck Shank Feathers

HACKLE: White Hackle Palmered



HAVE THESE IN YOUR BOX DURING THE MONTH OF MAY. FISH TILL DARK AND WAIT FOR THE GREEN DRAKES TO HATCH AND HANG ON. THIS IS THE FILET MIGNON TO TROUT!

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](tel:828-371-1633)

Assistant Team Leader-

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

Rabun Chapter Membership Update

Current membership: 158 adult members and 2 youth members.

Welcome New Members!

No new members this month.

Thanks for Re-Uping!

Wayne Prosser, Mike Brod, and Carol Jackson.

Soon to Expire Members !

Brad Tucker, Roger Kilby, and Ben Deal.

MAY Hatch Chart

<u>The Bugs</u>	<u>Time of Month</u>	<u>Time of Day</u>	<u>Suggested Flies</u>
None at all	All Month	All Day	Dredging Nymphs:12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, Pheasant Tail
Gray, Brown Caddis	All month	L pm	12-14 Quill Gordon 12-14 Quill Gordon Nymph
Red Quill Mayfly	All month	All day	12-14 Hendrickson 14 Red Quill
Light Cahill Mayfly*	Late	E to L pm	12-14 Light Cahill 12-14 Light Cahill Nymph
March Brown Mayfly*	All Month	L am to M pm	12-14 March Brown or Adams Parachute 10-14 March Brown Nymph, Dark Hare's Ear, or Pheasant Tail
Sulphur Mayfly *	All Month	L pm	12-14 Sulphur Parachute 12-18 Sulphur Dun
Green Drake Mayfly*	Mid-Late	L am to L pm	8-10 Green Drake Mayfly
Coffin Fly*	Mid-Late	L pm to dark 30	8-10 White Spentwing 8-10 Coffin Fly Parachute
Yellow Stonefly	Late	E to L am L pm to dark	14-16 Yellow Stimulator or Elk Hair Caddis (Yellow) 14-16 Yellow Stone Nymph
Giant Black Stonefly	All month	E am	4-8 Black Stonefly Nymph 8 Dark Stonefly Nymph

* *IMPORTANT!*

Hot tip: Don't leave early. Go late and stay later. Carry a flashlight! Many times the trout won't rise until the sun starts going down and the bugs come out to find a mate.

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](#)

Vacant

[Kent Wilson](#)

[Ray King](#)

[Jimmy Whiten](#)

[Trey McFalls](#)

Vacant

Vacant

Chapter President

Chapter Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

Past President

Rendezvous Chair

Director thru 2022

Director thru 2023

Director thru 2024

Director thru 2024

Non-Voting Leaders

[Michele Crawford](#)

[Jerry McFalls](#)

[Pat Hopton](#)

[Steve Perry](#)

Women's Outreach, Memorials

Scouts Liaison

Tight Lines Editor

Conservation Chairperson

Prez Notes

Step Up!

I sure hope y'all are having a great spring. The flowers are blooming, the river bugs are hatching, and we are right here enjoying this wonderful season in the mountains! By the time you read this, we've hopefully rustled up enough volunteers to rally behind Justin and pull off a successful Reed Creek restoration project with state and federal partners. I recall being part of our first Rabunite cohort's efforts in the late 80's to repair the Double Bit Campsite and enhance its two creeks with instream structures. Those dams and deflectors are showing their age now and are certainly worthy of our Conservation Team's love. We should also be celebrating the Breithaupt's restoration of our Rabunite 101 outreach program. With their chapter helpers, a couple dozen flyfishing wannabe's will have learned the basics, got bitten by our shared affliction, and have a year of Rabun TU membership paid for. I do hope several of them decide that we are fun and hang around with us for a decade or three!

Looking ahead, we have lots of spring and summer opportunities for your fun and your assistance on worthy projects with our partners. Pat's awesome April newsletter had that long list of events detailed for y'all. And if I can point out just one event, you oughta try the spring campout. It's fishing, eating, lying (about catches), and fellowship. Get a little wood smoke on your britches and get a taste of our true chapter roots. Our founding members fished, fibbed, camped, ate, and drank. And soon decided to "give back" to their beloved trout waters by birthing the chapter and working beside the state and federal resource agency partners. Even if you can only show up for a day or just an evening meal and campfire fibs, it will be well worth the gas you burn.

Looking farther ahead, I'd like to suggest a chapter theme of "Step Up." I want each of you to consider how you can step up and be an active part of chapter success. We will have more opportunities for each chapter member to find his/her comfortable niche and contribute to our Rabunite cause. How? Lemme explain.

During 2019-2020 BC (Before Covid), the chapter Board, current Prez Kent, and I worked on a "model" for Rabunite Resurrection. We wanted to knock the dust off our traditional operations and find what interested current and prospective members. We looked at all possible duties/positions that TU-National and the GA Council hoped to see in each chapter (from the Excom's elected slots to advocacy to membership), ranked them in terms of Rabunite importance, and assessed our members' likely interest in filling those roles. In other words, what could we handle (our "carrying capacity" in this old biologist's terms)? Then we picked the highest ranking roles/duties and suggested a four-team approach to

Cont.

achieving those program goals. Those four teams were the Excom, Team Conservation, Team Outreach and Education, and Team Fun and Fellowship.

The Excom was composed of us elected folks and maybe an interested Board member or two. We would handle the less romantic, but necessary tasks like membership, budgeting, advocacy, etc. Basically we'd do the admin stuff nobody else wanted to do and provide oversight and support to the three teams.

We envisioned the three other teams to each have a team leader, an assistant leader, and maybe ten members who volunteered to be within easy reach of team leaders. Of course, all chapter members will be welcomed to all activities, but those three core teams could get their activities planned, budgeted, and minimally staffed ahead of time, then ask for more help from the rest of us once plans were in place. Let me give you an idea of the events/ programs we envisioned for each team:

Conservation Team: examples include stream work projects with agency partners, assessment of complaints from members on environmental problems (ex: erosion and stream sedimentation), response to other resource agency needs/proposals beyond scheduled work projects, coordination with GA Council conservation director (currently Steve Westmoreland) on council topics (a good example is Tooga copter stocking). We were very fortunate for Steve Perry and Justin English to immediately volunteer as team leaders around Feb 2020 and begin to build their Conservation Team.

Outreach and Education Team: example chapter efforts include newsletter, social media, web page/webmaster, Project Healing Waters (wounded vets), Casting for Recovery (our gal friends), Womens Outreach (dear to Michelle's heart), youth education, Rabunite 101, and the annual scouts picnic.

Fun and Fellowship Team: examples are events coordination (ex: summer picnic, Xmas party), monthly meeting coordination, and the Rendezvous. This would be our member socialization crew.

So we had this big draft plan to roll out for y'all for spring 2020. Dangit, Covid hit and shut down nearly all of our operations, since they involved socialization. As we now hopefully emerge from those darker days, I wanted to put this draft operations model back on the Rabunite table. In February 2020, your BOD was just trying to shake 30 years of dust off our chapter operations and have some renewal. Now, after two years in our bomb shelters, the sun is shining and we are eager to reunite. And maybe do some good for the coldwater resource, the sport we love, and special friends whom we enjoy helping!

Cont.

Please look this draft model over, share your thoughts with Tammy, the BOD, or me, and consider Stepping Up! Do you like this approach? Do you have some better ideas? We need your passion, your smiles, your brains, and maybe a little elbow grease. Tammy and I are fishing for leaders and assistants for the Outreach and Fun Teams, so step up. And those leaders will then fish for volunteers to fill out their team rosters. Step up. If we all work a little bit, then we can achieve a lot, just like our founders did in the 80's and 90's. And we will not burn out the 10-15 longtime members who "do it all, all the time." That's an unsustainable model for long term Rabunite success, and one that I hope we can all change soon.

Thanks to each of you for your efforts to date. Thanks to the fine folks who are already stepping up, like our wonderful nominees on our election slate. And thanks in advance to each of you for reading this, taking it to heart, and considering your own little niche in our Rabunite party, err Resurgence! It's gonna be grand and you sure don't wanna miss the fun and success to come!

So Step Up!

Prez Jeff

PS —

Dream Trip Tix Sales.... in summary, Waaah-Hoooo and Thank Youuuu!!!!

The 2022 Georgia Dream Trip ticket sales program was a big success, with over \$23K raised. I'd like to thank all of you fine Rabunites for your sales efforts. Take a bow, as our little ole chapter snagged a silver medal in the statewide sales competition (Cohutta won). And we earned over a thousand bucks in ticket sales rebates from the state council. That's a nice shot in the arm for our chapter budget!

I heard a rumor that a Rabunite or two even won a consolation prize. They need to fess up and share their loot with us, don't you think?

Again, thanks for your outstanding sales efforts. We have more money in our chapter cof-fer. More importantly, the GA Council now has a nice amount of cash to fund their June trout camp for kids. That's sure a win-win outcome, thanks to y'all. Take a bow, Rabunites!