



# **TIGHT LINES**

## **November 2022 Newsletter of the Rabun Chapter (522) Trout Unlimited**

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to visit our Award Winning Website!



The mission of the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited is to conserve, protect, and restore Northeast Georgia's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

### **November, 2022 Rabun Chapter Meeting**

**Tuesday, November 15**

**Fellowship Hall of Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church**

**8397 Wolffork Road, Rabun Gap, GA**

**Fellowship starts at 6:30 pm, Program starts at 7:00 pm**

***"Preparations for the 2023 Rabun Rendezvous"***

***Presented By Ray King***

Due to COVID-19, for the past two years the Chapter has cancelled many in-person gatherings. Now with the worst of the pandemic behind us, we welcome the return of the Rabun Rendezvous! Ray will give us an update on preparations for the event, including how you can help. This is the primary fundraising event for the Chapter and we need as many volunteers as possible.

**Come join us and learn how you can help!**

## Important Upcoming Dates Mark Your Calendars Now!

- Tuesday, Nov 1. **Georgia Delayed Harvest Season** begins.
  - Monday, Nov 7 through Sunday, November 13. **Rabun Chapter Fall Campout.** [Oconee State Park](#). Make your own campsite reservations. Meals will be communal at Campsite 93. Contact [Terry Rivers](#) to sign up to cook a meal.
  - Tuesday, Nov 15. **Monthly Chapter Meeting.** Fellowship at 6:30 pm, program at 7:00 pm. Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church.
  - Monday, Dec 19. **Annual Rabun Chapter TU Christmas Dinner.** To be held at 6:00 pm at The Rock House, at the Dillard House Restaurant, Dillard, GA. Cost is \$30 per person. Please RSVP to Tony Allred at (706) 490-4755.
  - **No monthly Chapter meeting for December.**
  - Saturday, Feb 18. **2023 Rabun Rendezvous.** Dillard House Conference Center. Pig Pickin' starts at 4:30 pm, Dinner at 6:30 pm. *Note change of date!*
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### ***Return of the "Rabun Rendezvous"***

The Rabun TU Chapter is in the planning stages for the 2023 Rabun Rendezvous. Normally, we hold the Rendezvous in January. Our long-term venue, The Dillard House, is undergoing renovations. Our original January date, due to the Conference Center upgrades, is being rescheduled to February. I apologize for any inconvenience or confusion with this date change.

**Rabun Rendezvous**

**The Dillard House – Conference Center**

**Date: Saturday, February 18, 2023**

**Time: 4:30 pm (Social Gathering & Pig-picking) 6:30 pm (Dinner)**

I hope you can make the revised date? We'll have the great meal, silent auction, bucket raffle, special announcements, and most importantly, the chance to see each other again! It will be two years since our last "live" Rabun Rendezvous.

Please continue to watch "Tightlines" for updates on the Rendezvous. More details will follow in upcoming newsletters. Safety of our friends and members will continue to guide us as we move forward.

I hope to see in February for the "Return of the Rabun Rendezvous"!

Ray King  
Rabun Rendezvous Coordinator

## Fall Chapter Campout!

The Rabun Chapter will hold its annual Fall Chapter Campout on Nov 7 -13, 2022 at Oconee State Park, just across the SC line from Rabun County. It's sure to be a great time for fishing and fellowship.

The Georgia Delayed Harvest trout season begins Nov 1 and the Chattooga River should be well-stocked by the time of our campout. Yee Haa!!!

Campsite #93 in the "Wooded Loop" will be the official gathering site. Bring your own chair to sit around the fire! Campsites fill up fast this time of year, so don't delay in making your campsite reservations.

We will cook and eat breakfast and supper together every day and you are on your own for your noon meal. If you volunteer to cook a meal, then all meals are free for you. If you don't cook a meal, then you pay \$5 for each meal you eat to the cook. Now that's a deal! Let Terry Rivers know of the meal you wish to cook, and what meals you plan to eat so the cooks can plan the meals. And hey! - if you don't want to camp, just come by for a meal or sit by the fire! Wednesday supper is *"Bring Your Own Steak"* night!

If you have questions or plan to eat a meal, contact your camp host by email [Terry Rivers](mailto:Terry.Rivers@troutunlimited.org) or at 706-782-7419.

To make campsite reservations, [CLICK HERE](#).

Let's have a big turnout.... see you there!



## Stream Clean-Up Opportunity!

The Rabun Chapter will have a stream clean-up work project on Thursday, November 10th. We will meet up at Campsite #93 at Oconee State Park at 10:00 am then drive to the Burrell's Ford bridge. There we will separate into teams and pick up trash up and down stream on the Chattooga River. Trash bags will be provided, but we suggest you bring thick gloves to protect your hands. Contact Tammy by phone or text at (706) 982-1315 or by email at [teajatee@gmail.com](mailto:teajatee@gmail.com) if you have questions. See you there!



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## GA 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.



## Report on Rabun Chapter Meeting, October

Approximately 15 Chapter members and guests met for the October Chapter meeting. Pat Hopton gave a presentation on “Brown Trout in the Chattooga River”. He discussed the two different colorations of brown trout found in the upper Chattooga River. These two colorations are commonly known as the ‘Old Timey Original’ brown trout and the “Walhalla” brown trout. If you have fished the Chattooga River very much you will recognize these two distinct colorations:



**Walhalla Brown has many black spots, few orange and red spots. No halo around spots.**



**Old Timey Original has fewer black spots, orange and red spots along and below lateral line. Has halo around spots.**



**"The best fishermen I know try not to make the same mistakes over and over again; instead they strive to make new and interesting mistakes and to remember what they learned from them."**

**From "Fly Fishing the High Country" by John Gierach**

## (Not Quite a Fishing) Trip Report

**Tammy Hopton, Vice Prez**

Being fairly new to fly fishing, years ago my husband Pat gave me instructions on fly casting. Later, I got more instructions from my dear friend, Doug Adams. Even though I kept trying I could never get my fly to go where I wanted it to go.

I have watched others with envy as they were able to skillfully place the fly right into the sweet spot on the river, with the reward of landing a big brown. That's what I wanted! Obviously, it was time to get serious about learning how to cast a fly. I needed help from the professionals.

So I snagged (pun intended) a place in a Fly Casting Class at the [Atlanta Fly Fishing School](#) in late October. I was lucky—it was the last class scheduled for 2022. It was there that our Chapter friend and AFS owner Mack Martin along with casting instructor Tom Rueping did their best to help me out. Tom and Mack, as well as three other instructors at the school are certified Master Fly Casting Instructors by the International Federation of Fly Fishers. They have a wealth of knowledge.

We started in the classroom with learning the key parts of a cast. Then we headed outside for some hands on instruction. We learned the roll cast and overhead cast. We practiced making adjustments for wind and terrain. Tom critiqued my cast and help me to change some bad habits as well as giving pointers for how to practice in the future.

I learned so much! But not only that it was a lot of fun. All the staff were professional, skilled and made me feel at home. Class size was small and personal and the setting was perfect! *Thank you Mack and Tom as well all the other staff at Atlanta Fly Fishing School!*

If, like me, you need a little help with your fly casting, consider a class at the [Atlanta Fly Fishing School](#). I highly recommend them.



## Fishing Trip Report

### Preston Pitts



Fishing was on fire in late October on IDBIS "River". The cool morning quickly retreated to a pleasant afternoon and plenty of hungry wild bows were looking up to the surface for treats. I cut my dropper off mid morning and a size 16 tan elk hair caddis was the ticket for a lot of smiles and fish to hand. The fall foliage may have stole the show though!

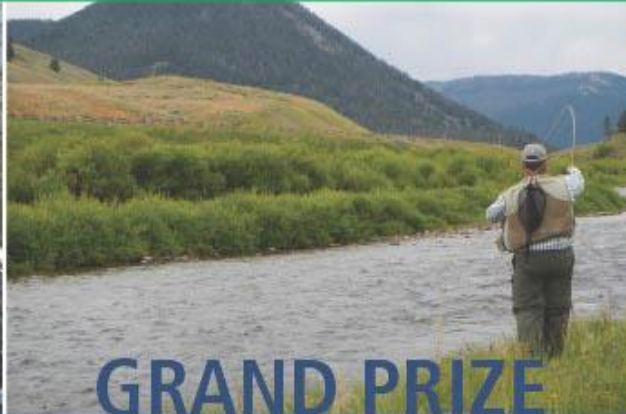


### November Hatch Chart

<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



# DREAM TRIP - FLY FISHING FOR TWO!



John McGarity -  
owner and host of  
the 2023 Dream Trip

"The 2023 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."

-Jimmy Harris,  
owner, Unicoi Outfitters

- **5 days hosted fishing / 6 nights lodging in Idaho July 23-28, 2023**
- **\$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)

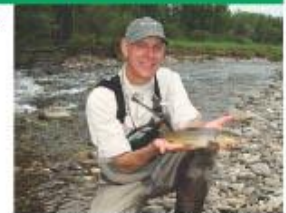


## Tickets \$10 Proceeds Benefit TU Cold Water Conservation and Trout Camp

The winner(s) of this raffle are responsible for any tax due on the value of the winnings.

### RUNNER UP PRIZES:

- TFO- Blue Ribbon - 4 wt. 8'9", 4 piece fly rod (perfect trout rod). 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 2023 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 of May thru Sept. 2023.
- A half day guided float trip for 2 on the Upper Toccoa River during the delayed harvest season. Value \$350. Donated by David & Becky Hulsey "Blue Ridge Fly Fishing School"
- 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)
- Renegade 8' 3wt plus Rod and Reel value \$350. Donated by the Renegade Rod Company in Canton, GA.
- Half day trip on Warwoman Creek in Rabun County - basic flyfishing skills and introduction techniques - gear included. Donated by Shady Creek Expeditions in Clayton, GA.
- Two draws of Six Dozen Trout Flies each. Donated by the 12 TU Chapters in Georgia.



Jimmy Harris owner of Unicoi Outfitters



2022 Winner - Peg Jones and her sister Rita.



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



# Casting for Recovery

Take a Chance!  
Make a donation and get some raffle  
tickets to win a Large Big Green Egg!

100% of the proceeds go to support  
**Casting for Recovery Georgia**

Tickets are \$20 each or  
6 Tickets for \$100

<http://weblink.donorperfect.com/gabge2022>  
or on the QR code below



One winning raffle ticket  
will be drawn by a  
participant at the CfR  
Georgia Metastatic Retreat  
on  
Sunday, November 6!

Winner will receive:  
Large Big Green Egg, Nest,  
Conveggtor Plate, Bag of  
Charcoal + More...



Egg will be available to the winner  
for delivery within a 50 mile radius  
of the Atlanta, GA area. Other  
delivery arrangements may be  
available.

## Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited is proud to lend a helping hand to our friends at Casting for Recovery.

Casting for Recovery (CfR) provides healing outdoor retreats for women with breast cancer, at no cost to the participants. CfR's retreats offer opportunities for women to find inspiration, discover renewed energy for life, and experience healing connections with other women and nature

For women who have had surgery or radiation as part of their breast cancer treatment, the gentle motion of fly casting can be good physical therapy for increasing mobility in the arm and upper body. Couple that with the emotional benefits of connecting with nature, and you've got powerful medicine. Our state CFR organization has 2 retreats a year.

For more information check out their website: [www.castingforrecovery.org](http://www.castingforrecovery.org)



10/14/2022

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

*"I no longer felt isolated and worn out.*

*After the retreat I felt that a huge burden had been lifted and light had poured back in my life."*

Dear Friends of CfR,

Thank you for your gift in support of the work of Casting for Recovery (CfR). It is your investment that brings light to women fighting, surviving and thriving through breast cancer.

Our retreat model is unique in the breast cancer space. Each year, over 700 women are matched with 50+ retreats throughout the country to spend 2.5 days together. One of the end goals is clear – learn to cast a fly rod and, if you're lucky, net a fish! The days leading up to the fishing, however, are where each woman finds something different. There are some common themes that emerge, sure. But like a breast cancer journey, the retreat experience is different for each woman. At CfR, our fullest hope is that each retreatant finds what she needs.

Each year in the U.S., over 280,000 women receive a breast cancer diagnosis. You know these women – they are your mothers, sisters, daughters, partners and friends. The impact of this disease is woven into the fabric of our families. The hope for a cure burns in each one of us. Until that time, however, CfR will continue doing what we do best – inviting women to spend the weekend sharing, connecting and learning. Thank you again for being a partner in lifting burdens and letting the light pour in.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Faye Nelson".

Faye Nelson  
Chief Executive Officer

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Date of Gift: 09/29/2022

Gift Amount: \$500.00

Comment: Thank you for supporting the CfR Georgia program.

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.

## The Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited with proud to lend a helping hand to Smithgall Woods Regional Education Center (SWREC).

SWREC offers programs for students of all ages in cooperation with the Georgia DNR& Wildlife Resources Division, State Parks and Historic Sites Division, and Pioneer RESA.

Teacher workshops are held to help teachers learn more about North Georgia's ecosystems and the unique opportunities available at Smithgall Woods.

What a wonderful resource for our community! See more information by clicking [SWREC](#).

October 18, 2022

Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited  
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.

Through TU's continued support and generosity, over 8,600 people have experienced more than 330 programs, immersing them in 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





## **Fly of the Month**

By Terry Rivers

### **Mylar Prince Nymph**

**HOOK:** #12x Scud

**HEAD:** Gold Bead

**TAIL:** Brown Goose Biots

**BODY:** Peral Mylar and Copper Wire Palmered

**THORAX:** Peacock Herl

**WING :** White Goose Biots



Great attractor fly to use during the Delayed Harvest season! Drop it behind a dry fly or fish it under a strike indicator.

***See you on The River! Terry***

“John Harder (of Orvis) tells me that though Orvis gets frequent requests for hackle necks with size 20 to 28 hackles on them, the company receives so few orders for hooks in those sizes that it’s hardly worth keeping them in stock. His opinion is that precious few people actually get around to tying up many size 24s compared to the attention those small flies get in the magazines. “

From American Fly Fishing by Paul Schullery

## **Rabun Chapter Membership Update**

Current membership: 164 adult members and 2 youth members.

***Welcome New Members!***

No new members this month.

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

Steve McCall, Robert Stephenson, Wayne Gibson, Mike Hamilton, Filmer Kilby, Frank Tolbert, Tom Graham, Cecil Greene, Dan Cox, and Dean English.

***Soon to Expire Members !***

Kyle Burrell, James Nixon, Mike Addington, Dale Powell, Claudia English, Jeff Houston, Michael Leonard, and Chris Silver.

## 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](#)

[David Ruth](#)

[Kent Wilson](#)

[Ray King](#)

[Jimmy Whiten](#)

[Trey McFalls](#)

[Terry Rivers](#)

[Mike Anderson](#)

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

First, let's all give a big thanks to Pat for his fine October program on short notice. Attendees got some interesting intel on our local brown trout. What do you think of the concept of Ole Timey Originals?

What's new in Rabuniteland, you may wonder. Well, lemme tell you! There's a lot of goings-on and some mighty fine fun and fellowship ahead for y'all. First let's start with the annual campout. This is one of our finest gatherings of the year. Do your best to make a showing; you won't regret it. Hopefully all campers have made arrangements already and have given their expected meal attendances to our fine event leader, Terry. Same for any daily visitors who wanna eat. Those meal head counts allow Terry and his fellow cooks to round up the right amount of groceries for the gang. Even if you can't commit to a day or more out there, consider just driving out for an evening of campfire fibs and fellowship. That's what I'm planning to do. Grab some quick supper in town or to eat around the campfire and come, join in the fun. You'll go home that night and to work the next day in much better spirits, I guarantee. Plus, Tammy's working with the Forest Service on a possible work project- a riverside trash pickup for one afternoon while we're out there. Come out, have fun, and give a little back to our favorite river by vacuuming its banks. Whaddya say?

Next up is our monthly chapter meeting. Revenue Ray will outline his February 18 Rendezvous plans and volunteer needs. Be thinking about how you can help, from checking folks in to helping with the raffle. Most importantly, go find some loot now! We need some quality small stuff for the bucket raffles and then bigger prizes for the silent auction. And the loot doesn't always have to be fishing stuff. Popular past gifts have ranged from home-baked masterpieces to local oil changes to weed eaters to golf rounds and to seaside condo stays. Think far and wide and start begging your friends, business buddies, and family members for neat donations. Our Rendezvous revenues basically fund our chapter operations for the year, so we need each member to chip in on this event, from your time to prize donations.

Then it's time to celebrate the season. Tony A has done his usual superb job of lining up a Christmas dinner at Dillard House. His details should be forthcoming. We can also celebrate some neat thank-you notes we've received from fellow nonprofits who received Wayne's chapter donation checks in October. You should see them soon in Tightlines and on our chapter Facebook page. Do y'all go there? Tammy and I have tried hard to refresh that Facebook page regularly. Please stop in on occasion and take a peek. Feel free to give us fodder for posting, too.



Thanks to Tammy, we've also been thinking ahead. We're currently in discussions with our great partners at GAWRD and the USFS on chapter work projects to benefit area trout waters. Stay tuned for what we are able to nail down for 2023. Hopefully that will be prior to December's annual planning meeting among the three state partners: USFS, WRD and Georgia TU. Tammy and the BOD are also working on a draft 2023 calendar of chapter events, so all you members will know, well in advance, of fun and productive gatherings, from chapter meetings to outings to work projects. If you have any ideas to add to that calendar, feel free to shoot Tammy or me an email or text.

Also looking ahead, we still need some of you to step up to leadership positions. Who would like to be on our BOD and help us guide the chapter? Who will spell Jimmy as our membership director? These positions aren't difficult or time-consuming, but they do allow us to divide the labor among our leaders and not burn out any individuals. Look in the mirror and decide whether it's your time to give a little back, after receiving such good cheer for years from your chapter. Contact me if you wanna know more about BOD member duties and/or would agree to be nominated. I'm at 706-892-6576 and [jeffdurniak@yahoo.com](mailto:jeffdurniak@yahoo.com).

Lastly, November is another great month to get outside. We've got to get past a little leaf clutter in our creeks for a week or two, but cold water and more of it, from seasonal rains, should restore our trout waters to prime shape. Small streams, Delayed Harvest streams, and the Smokies will all be in play. Add some elk-watching at that last spot, too. Get out and enjoy our great environs before cold weather and the December holidays put a pinch on you.

That's the latest from here on Leadpole Mountain. I hope to see many of y'all around Terry's campfire. PS- he said to bring some wood! May November be a magical month for you, my fellow Rabunites!

Sincerely,

*Prez Jeff*