



TIGHT LINES

January 2023 Newsletter

of the

Rabun Chapter (522) Trout Unlimited

[CLICK HERE](#)

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.

January, 2023 Rabun Chapter Meeting

Tuesday, January 17

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” and
“Rabunite Revival”***

Presented By Ray King and Jeff Durniak

Ray will give us an update on preparations for the event, including how you can help. This is the primary fund-raising event for the Chapter and we need as many volunteers as possible.

Jeff will discuss our BOD proposal to revive and reinvigorate our chapter in the new year. We are looking for your feedback on the concept of Conservation, Outreach, and Socialization teams to lead our chapter priorities. Come and comment on the proposed organization chart and the duties for each team. Most importantly, look for your own niche on a team or two that you'd be willing to fill. We look forward to your feedback!

Important Upcoming Dates Mark Your Calendars Now!

- Tuesday, January 17. **Monthly Chapter Meeting.** Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church, Rabun Gap, GA. See page 1 for more information.
- Tuesday, Jan 24. **Board of Directors Meeting.** Anyone can attend. Contact Prez [Jeff Durniak](#) for more information.
- Friday, Feb 3 —Sunday, Feb 5. **Atlanta Fly Fishing Show.** Gas South Convention Center, Duluth, GA. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.
- Saturday, Feb 18. **2023 Rabun Rendezvous.** Dillard House Conference Center. Pig Pickin' starts at 4:30 pm, dinner at 6:30 pm. See page 3 for more information.
- Tuesday, Feb 28. **Board of Directors Meeting.** Anyone can attend. Contact Prez [Jeff Durniak](#) for more information.
- Thursday, March 16. **Drawing for Dream Trip.** See page 6 for more information.
- Saturday, March 25. **Stream Clean-Up Project.** Location to be determined. Contact [Tammy Hopton](#) for more information.
- Wednesday, April 26—Sunday, April 30. **Rabun Chapter Spring Campout.** Oconee State Park. Contact [Terry Rivers](#) for more information.
- Thursday, April 27. **Stream Conservation Project.** Upper Reed Creek. Contact [Tammy Hopton](#) for more information.
- Sunday, June 4—Friday, June 9. **Trout Camp.** Tallulah Falls School, Tallulah Falls, GA. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information. Application can be found on page 8.

Rabun Chapter Membership Update

Current membership: 166 adult members and 2 youth members.

Welcome New Members!

Jason Spangler, Buford, GA.

Soon to Expire Members

Tom Matthews, Jimmy Whiten, Broderick Crawford, Larry Ekman, Preston Pitts, Melanie Vickers, and Jesse Harkins.



The Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited proudly presents
A Celebration of Rivers, Streams, Trout, and Trout Fishing!

Please join us for the 36th Annual **RABUN RENDEZVOUS**

"The Rendezvous was unlike anything before or since, a gathering of uninhibited men down from the mountains. The event attracted perhaps a hundred mountain men, their Indian wives, and assorted visiting tribesmen. Amusements included gambling, drinking, storytelling – continuing day and night." Quote from [The Mountain Men](#), by George Laycock.

WHEN: Saturday, February 18, 2023. *Please note change of date from previous years.*

WHERE: The Dillard House Conference Center, located behind the Dillard House Restaurant in Dillard, GA.

WHO: The more the better! Everyone interested in conserving and protecting our cold-water resources, including their families, friends, and all who love cold streams, trout, and trout fishing.

SOCIAL: Doors open at 3:00 pm. Around 4:30 pm folks will start gathering to "pick the pig" and enjoy the rocking chairs on the porch of the Conference Center. There will snack trays of cheeses, crackers, veggies with dip, and fruit. Soft drinks and ice will be available. If you want something stronger to drink, BYOB. There will be a nice fire inside to warm your buns.

The Foxfire Boys will again provide their 'down home' style of bluegrass picking and singing for your enjoyment from 5:00 to 6:30 pm. CD's will be available for purchase.

Raffle and silent auction items will be available for your chance of purchase. We welcome donations of raffle and auction items!

DINNER: Fish, chicken, beef, and pork with all the side dishes and desserts that have made the Dillard House famous will be served at 6:30 pm. It is a serve yourself buffet and you will not leave hungry!

COST: \$45 for adults and \$25 for youth age 15 and younger. *Seating is limited, so purchase your tickets in advance by [CLICKING HERE](#) or by scanning*



LODGING: The Dillard House has set special rates for rooms starting at \$99 (plus tax) for those that make reservation and say they are attending the Trout Unlimited Rabun Rendezvous. [Contact Dillard House Here.](#)

To Friends of the Rabun TU Chapter and Fellow Rabunites:

CALL FOR DONATIONS!

The 2023 Rabun Rendezvous, February 18, 2023, is fast approaching. We need your help in making our annual Rabun Rendezvous a success. Please help by providing donations which we will use to raise funds through the Silent Auction and Bucket Raffle. Fishing items, art work, books, DVDs, trips, gift certificates and baked goods are all items which we can use to generate funds. The funds will continue to support the conservation and education efforts of the Rabun TU Chapter.

We need your donations as soon as possible to advertise for the Rendezvous. This allows us to photograph and advertise the items we receive. You can contact any Rabun TU Chapter Board of Director member and / or send donations directly to the following:

Ray King

121 Creek Road

Otto, North Carolina 28763

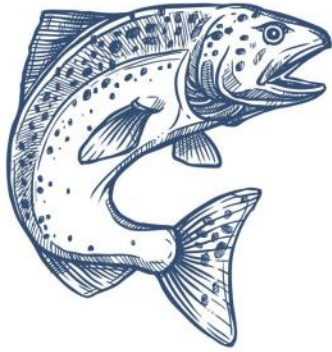
**BETTER YET, BRING YOUR DONATIONS TO THE JAN. 17TH CHAPTER MEETING!
I'LL BE GLAD TO ACCEPT THEM.**

Help us make this year's Rabun Rendezvous one of the best ever.

Thank you,

Ray King

Rabun Rendezvous Chair



Rabun Rendezvous

February 18, 2023

@Dillard House Conference Center



A fundraiser to benefit rivers,
streams, trout and trout fishing

Pig Pickin' at 4:30 pm
Dinner, music, and
silent auction following

\$45 per person
\$25 youth under 15

Buy tickets online at rabuntu.org



Rabun Chapter

FLY-FISHING DREAM TRIP FOR TWO!

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

The Grand Prize Winner and Guest receive: Five days hosted fishing/six nights lodging in Idaho for two/July 23 - 28, 2023; \$500 total in travel expenses.

The Grand Prize Winner and Guest each receive: A float trip on the Madison River, plus choice of Winston AIR2 - 3 wt-6 wt. or Alpha + 5 wt. - 10 wt. Fly reel with Scientific Anglers or Winston Energy Fly Line, a fly box and flies for the trip. (approx. 5-7 dozen per box.)

Proceeds Benefit TU Cold Water Conservation, Georgia Trout Camp,
and other Georgia TU Council supported activities.

Tickets are \$10.00
a small credit card service fee will be added.

Choose your Chapter when you buy your tickets.

If you don't designate a Chapter, you can still buy tickets!
The Georgia Council of TU will still get the credit.

The sale ends March 12th

We are required to pay a raffle site fee of 7.5%.
You may elect to cover this charge as an additional contribution from you.
Thanks in advance if you choose that option!

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.riverthroughatlanta.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.



Scan here to purchase your tickets!

For complete rules and details visit www.georgiatu.org



Georgia Trout Camp 2023 Application

Please fill out the application below and give it to your local TU Chapter President.

Dates: June 4-9 (Sunday – Friday) Age: 13 – 15 years Fee: \$700.00

Includes room, board, and all activities for the five-day camp. In May, after your signed application and fee have been received, you will be sent a list of what to bring, as well as the required health and release forms. Please make your check payable to the Georgia Council of Trout Unlimited. By submitting this application, the camper, if accepted, is committed to attending camp for the entire session.

**Deadline to apply: Set by each Chapter – Check with your local TU Chapter for details.
The application and payment must be in the Camp Coordinator's office by April 15th.**

(Please Print)

Name _____

Name you wish to be called by _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date of Birth _____ Age at time of camp _____ Male _____ Female _____
(Must be within the ages of 13 – 15 at time of camp)

T-Shirt size (adult size only; circle one) S M L XL

I have a friend attending camp and we would like to room together.

His/her name is _____

Yes, my child is interested in conservation and the sport of fly fishing and has reached a level of maturity to enjoy spending 6 days and 5 nights away from home at camp.

Parent or guardian's signature

Print: Parent or guardian's name

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parent's Email _____ Parent's Emergency Phone _____

I am sponsored by: (each camper must be sponsored by one of the 12 TU Chapters in GA)

The _____ Chapter of TU

President/Chapter or Trout Camp Representative Signature

After completion – the application and fee will be forwarded by the sponsoring Chapter to the Camp Coordinator

Charlie Breithaupt, GA Trout Camp Coordinator 194 Kitchens Lane Clayton, GA 30525

For more information call: (706) 782-6954 or email: knc615@windstream.net

For information on the 12 TU chapters in GA go to www.georgiatu.org

Don't Fall for Email Scams!

By David Ruth

It looks like the Holidays have brought out the online scams in force and that Rabun TU has appeared on at least one scammer's radar. That we have been found is probably not that surprising, but I found the scammer's knowledge of chapter structure was quite surprising. Not only did he know members names and emails, but he picked members Jeff would be likely to contact for help with something like this. On December 31 several chapter members (Steve Perry, Pat Hopton, Tammy Hopton, and I) received the following email:

David, are you available to assist? I am out of the State now and I've got credence in you to take care of this. I would have called your phone but I presently do not have access to my mobile phone.

Rabun Chapter Trout Unlimited needs some gift cards for donations to Veterans at Hospice and Palliative care units for preventive items from Corona Disease (COVID 19). I have decided to make it a personal duty. I will be responsible for the reimbursement.

Jeff Durniak

PRESIDENT

RTU

Pretty slick, huh? So what alerted me that this was a scam? Three things made me suspicious: the email address, Jeff's title in bold caps (that's just not Jeff), and the statement that he didn't have his phone (definitely not Jeff).

The "from" email address was love_nicole1978@aol.com. Seriously? Everyone else stopped right there and just deleted the email but I was curious to see just how big a score he was after.

So I replied that I'd be happy to help and asked what was needed. In his reply the scammer asked for 6 \$100 VISA, Target or eBay gift cards and explained they could be bought at Kohl's, CVS, Kwik, Macy's or Walgreens (another hint as we don't have many of those around here). Good grief.

He expressed that time was short and the purchase should be today. After buying the cards I was to open them and expose the PIN. Then I was to take a photo of the cards with PIN exposed and email those photos to veterans@anglewingscare.com (the last hint took me careful reading as it would be a real domain if it were angel not angle). He then asked if a check would work for reimbursement for the purchase.

That's when I stopped! SCAM! Don't fall for them - just delete any suspicious emails.

Fly of the Month

By Terry Rivers

Parachute Blue Wing Olive

HOOK: #14-22 Dry Fly

TAIL: Dun/Gray Hackle Feathers

BODY: Olive Dubbing

TPARACHUTE: Antron or White Calf Body Hair

WING : Dun/Gray Hackle



Great fly to have when things slow down during the winter months. On warm afternoons a hatch will usually come off. Size does matter!

See you on The River! Terry

January Hatch Chart

<u>The Bugs</u>	<u>Time of Month</u>	<u>Time of Day</u>	<u>Suggested Flies</u>
Blue Wing Olive and Blue Quill	All month	Late am to Mid pm	16-18 BWO, Blue Quill, Adams Parachute 16 BWO Nymph, Pheasant Tail
Midges	All month	All day	18-22 Griffiths Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa
None at all	All month	All day	Dredging Nymphs:12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, Pheasant Tail

I just read a book on how to get control of my time and therefore of my life. My time has always had a tendency to slip away from me and do as it pleases. My life follows it, like a puppy after an untrained bird dog.

Come night, my life shows up, usually covered with mud and full of stickers, exhausted but grinning happily.

My time never returns.

Patrick F. McManus

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](#)

Vacant

[Trey McFalls](#)

[Terry Rivers](#)

[Mike Anderson](#)

Chapter President

Chapter Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

Past President

Rendezvous Chair

Director

Director thru 2023

Director thru 2024

Director thru 2024

Non-Voting Leaders

[Michele Crawford](#)

[Jerry McFalls](#)

[Pat Hopton](#)

[Steve Perry](#)

[Charlie Breithaupt](#)

Women's Outreach

Scouts Liaison

Tight Lines Editor

Conservation Chairperson

Memorials

Prez Notes

“Happy New Fishing Season!” That’s the traditional January greeting I always received from our late, great Rabunite founder, Doug Adams. I can’t think of a better way to ring in the New Year than to keep my fishing buddy Doug’s slogan alive and wish y’all the happiest of times to come.

Speaking of happy times, we have three big events to start off 2023 with a bang. All three are fun, but two also require a bit of effort on your part to be successful. First and foremost is our Rabun Rendezvous on February 18. Now is the time for each of you to handle two tasks and ensure another memorable gathering at Dillard House. First, **WE NEED LOOT**. Help Rendezvous leader Ray King by gathering raffle and auction prizes. Donate some items yourself and solicit neat equipment, homemade crafts and baked goods, and experiences (from oil changes to spa visits to golf rounds to fishing trips) from your family members, friends, and local businesses. The Rendezvous is our one large fundraiser of the year and directly depends on your benevolence in gathering these prizes. I am counting on all of you members to come through again.

Our second task for the Rendezvous is volunteering. Ray needs our traditional help on the 18th with room setup, prize labeling and placement, guest registration at the door, prize distribution to the winners, and after-event cleanup. Please raise your hand and lend it to Ray once again.

On to event #2. That’s the Georgia TU Dream Trip raffle by the state council and all chapters. Once again, the raffle ticket sales are totally online. All you have to do is promote ticket sales with your family and friends and maybe buy a few yourselves. Who wouldn’t want to win a week of West Yellowstone lodging, dining, sightseeing, and flyfishing with our dear Athens TU friends, Laine and John McGarity? And the long list of runner-up prizes are worth the ten dollar raffle ticket on their own. The winner is drawn at Foothills TU’s March banquet, the Hoot on the Hooch, so we have two months to push those sales. It’s important to our chapter, as well, since all ticket purchasers who credit “Rabun 522” on their online sale will generate a \$3 rebate from the GA Council to our chapter. We made a grand last year, Waah- HOOO, so push those tickets! Learn more in the following link, and I’m sure Pat will have more info in our next newsletters.

<https://georgiatu.org/>

Cont. next page

Big Winter Event #3 is the Return of The Fly Fishing Show to the Gwinnett Center. It's been expanded to a three-day event and is scheduled for February 3-5. The latest, greatest name for the Gwinnett Center is the Gas South Convention Center. It's on Shallowford Road, on the west side of I85, while Bass Pro Shops is on the east side of the highway. If you wanna overdose on flyfishing, this is the place for you! From exhibitor sales booths to casting and tying seminars, and from free programs to more intense, fee-based instructional lessons, there's something for everyone. It's a nice, warm place to hang out and tell lies with hundreds of fellow flyfishing addicts in the dead of winter. Mark your calendars and ready your Rabun wagon trains to amble south in a few more moons.

<https://flyfishingshow.com/atlanta/>

That's what's going on as we welcome new opportunities for fun, fundraising and fibbing with our fishing friends. Please join me in doing your part to keep our chapter vibrant and hopefully expanding in the warmer months to come. As always, thanks for being a Rabunite. Tight lines in 23!

Sincerely,

Prez Jeff