TIGHT LINES

Newsletter of the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited

June 1993

TERRORA PARK SITE OF JUNE MEETING

The Rabun Chapter will hold it's monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 22 at Georgia Power's Terrora Park in Tallulah Falls. There will not be a formal social hour and the meeting will begin at 7:30. The Foothills and the Chattooga River chapters have been invited to attend as the program is on a subject of vital interest to all of us - How to Acquire Lands in the Chattooga Watershed from the viewpoint of the Trust for Public Lands. Jay Sargent, Director of the Trust, will address our group and make suggestions on how we may influence the acquisition process. Let's have a good turnout and please note the change in the time we will meet. Please note that this is not the 3rd Tuesday but the 4th

THERE WAS NO MEETING IN MAY

APRIL MEETING AND WORK OUTING HUGE SUCCESS

The Meeting

We held our April meeting on the 23rd on the banks of Charlie's Creek, not the Tallulah River as announced in the April issue of Tight Lines. Sorry about that but if I don't get the word, it's hard for me to get the word out. But, we had a good meeting and a good time around the campfire with Nugget telling tall tales of years gone by. We decided on a couple of issues:

1. Support the educational "diorama" to be located in the new Forest Service Building on Hwy 441 with a donation of \$1000 to help build an aquarium and promote fisheries in the National Forest.

2. Ask Congressman Deal to support allocation of funds to help purchase a large tract of land on the upper Chattooga. This has been done by letter, on May 10th.

3. Discussed plans for the outing on Fontana Lake. Unfortunately, as you now know this had to be canceled.

The Work Project

On Saturday morning, the Forest Service started rolling in along with three members of the Kanooka Chapter (Alex, Dan and Garland) and we got down to work on Charlie's. One fairly large "K" dam was completed, a

diversion dam built to block off one channel and increase the flow in the main channel, and several debris structures put in place. This was a good turnout and the work went well. The stream bed was in pretty good shape but our structures will help even more. Now, if that road could be fixed so that silt and just plain old mud wouldn't wash in, that would be good.

Thanks to all who turned out for the work project. Once again, it's a cooperative effort that gets the job done. We had the Kanooka Chapter, the U. S. Forest Service, the Georgia DNR and the Rabun Chapter on hand.

34TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN HERSHEY, PENNSYLVANIA ON AUGUST 4 TO 8 1993

I have received a packet from TU National with all the details of the convention, so if you plan to attend, <u>let me know</u>. Activities range from a picnic on <u>Yellow Breeches Creek</u> to trout fishing on the areas spring creeks. The banquet will not serve "Rabun Crispy Critters" but you have your choice of poached Salmon or Rock Cornish Hen.

Special rates for hotels have been arranged although I'm embarassed to tell my fellow chapter members what they are. <u>Just call, I'll give you all the details and I'll bring all the particulars with me to the June meeting.</u> The Georgia Council will probably have representatives there and we will get details on the convention later in the year.

I can't believe that TU National expects many of the "rank & file" when your costs would run about \$200 per day. Maybe some day they will have a campout type national meeting similar to the jamborees we use to have in the Boy Scouts. Of course you have to sleep outdoors and pass up the

poached salmon and stuffed Cornish hen. Uncivilized!

I might add that several years ago I fished Yellow Breeches and the nearby Letort. Yellow Breeches was pretty good fishing, but crowded with other anglers. The Letort was something else. You can fish the Letort but practice up on casting with fifteen plus feet of leader and perfect presentation in gin clear water choked with aquatic weed beds and *gigantic Browns* with doctorates in making fools of fishermen. You can't wade in most places, you stay low on the bank and keep your backcast high to avoid the grasses and shrubs. It's a beautiful stream and well worth sitting on the bank and observing. If you are religious, don't fish it!

FISHING REPORTS AND HOT SPOTS

Are you kidding? I will say this much - the fishing has been absolutely fantastic this spring. After the water dropped to near normal and the temperature got into the upper fifties - WOW!

GAME AND FISH CHANGES NAME

After listening to input from the staff and a focus group of interested outsiders, the DNR Board announced a change in name of the Game and Fish Division. The new name, Wildlife **Resources Division**, more accurately discribes the mission of the agency. Hunters and fishermen should have no concern that the name indicates a shift in the division's concerns, however. While management of game species continues, other priorities such as management of non-game and endangered wildlife, freshwater wetlands, a heritage inventory program and providing recreational opportunities has expanded. The name change simply reflects the changing role of the Wildlife Resources Division.

FISHING DAYS AND RODEOS

I've seen several reports of "kids fishing days" in the Clayton and Clarkesville papers. Did I miss something? Did we have a special day up at Moccasin Creek State Park or on the Tallulah and I didn't get the word? Or did we bow out of it this time?

U. S. FOREST SERVICE OFFICE MOVES

There will no doubt be an announcement forthcoming but one couldn't help noticing the moving van and the trucks around the new facility on 441. Trying to reach Kidd on the 3rd was impossible so I assume everyone is in route from downtown to down the hill.

Kyle Burrell - President P O Box 295 Clayton, GA 30525 (H) 706/782-4951 (W)706/782-3320 Tom Landreth - Editor Rt 2 Box 2355 Clarkesville, GA 30525 706/754-9202

SPECIAL EDITION OF TIGHT LINES

FONTANA LAKE CAMPOUT CANCELED

May 21, 1993 Due to a lack of interest and insurmountable conflicts, the campout at Fontana Lake on June 5th and 6th has been canceled. Our next meeting will be on June 15th. This meeting will be a joint venture of the Foothills and Rabun Chapters and will probably take place at the Terrora Visitors Center in Tallulah Falls. More details will be in the next issue of *TIGHT LINES*.

Tom Landreth - Editor