

# TIGHT LINES

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Newsletter of the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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December 1993

## RABUN RENDEZVOUS DATE SET

The 1994 Rendezvous will be held at the Dillard House on January 29th. Festivities will get underway about 5 o'clock PM, a great dinner about 6:30. Our guest speaker will be Leroy Powell, Georgia humorist and, yes, trout fisherman. All of this, along with a blind auction, raffle buckets, refreshments and fellowship for the low, low price of \$15 for adults, \$7.50 for children under 12. Make your plans no later than 3:00 PM tomorrow to attend the Rabun Rendezvous, voted in Pass A Good Time magazine as one of the most infamous events in the Southeast. You'll regret it if you don't!

This is our one and only fundraising event during the year and we need everyone to help. So, if you can make a donation of a prize suitable for either bucket raffle or silent auction, please send it to P O Box 65, Rabun Gap, GA 30568. Heck, we'll even take cash! This is a real appeal to all of you chapter members who are unable to take part in the yearly activities - we do need your participation!

And next, to all of you chapter members living in the immediate chapter area, please plan to attend the December meeting to help line up our plans. Yes, we need volunteers to help at the door, sell raffle tickets, layout raffle buckets and silent auction items. There's lots to attend to and you are needed!

**THE DECEMBER MEETING** will be held on December 21st at the library in Clayton. We'll gather about 6:30 for fellowship and begin the meeting at 7:00 PM. The meeting shouldn't be a long one but all the loose ends need to be tied up for the Rendezvous. Please try to be there!!!!

## NOVEMBER MEETING RECAP

**Jim Kidd**, USFS and Chapter member brought us up-to-date on "The Chattooga River Project", an ongoing gathering of facts, information and desires of the public as to the future of the Chattooga River watershed and the management thereof. The Forest Service seeks to work with the public on reaching a shared vision on how to manage the Chattooga basin, using a more consistent approach to planning and integrating natural resource management across State boundaries, meet public demands for forest uses within the context of sustaining diverse, healthy, and beautiful forests and collaborating with researchers on new ways to manage the resource and test the success of these new ideas. If you want to stick your two cents in as an individual, call or write Chattahoochee National Forest, Tallulah Ranger District, P O Box 438, Clayton, GA 30525 (706) 782-3320. The viewpoints of various environmental groups are on record and they are quite vocal - witness the abundance of newspaper articles over the past few weeks. For groups such as Trout Unlimited, to be heard, we have to speak up - **LOUD AND CLEAR!**

In addition to Kidd's presentation, **Russ Burken**, herpologist, dermatologist, ichthaologist and world traveler, and chapter member, treated us to a slide presentation of some of the shocking things he's been up to with members of the DNR and USFS. He has some terrific slides of good'uns and bankers taken during stream survey work nearby. Not surprisingly, he also slipped



a couple of slides of the disgustingly large Brookies, Lakers and Grayling taken on his trip to Canada. Okay Russ, Okay! And thanks for the up date on the electroshocking activities.

Businesswise, we also elected by acclimation, officers for the coming year. And a fine group they are! Our new **President - Jim Kidd!** Our new **TIGHTLINES editor - Sharon Wilson!** Yea! Whoopee! and Whahoo! Our new **VP in charge of projects - Bill Kelly!** And, agreeing to another term, **Mike Hogelin** will continue holding the purse strings as Treasurer and **Jeff Durniak** will again be in charge of programs. As any of you who have held these offices know, it's work. Make a little promise to yourself to give these leaders a hand - volunteer for a committee, send material to Sharon for inclusion in the newsletter, try to make it to more projects in '94 and let Jeff know what programs you would like to see at our meetings. **THANKS TO ALL OF THE ABOVE FOR STEPPING UP AND AGREEING TO HOLD THESE OFFICES.**

Mike reports that we have **\$5,433.86** in the treasury. A check has been received from the **ABB Corporation in the amount of \$1,000 for the Chattooga River Coalition.** That's corporate cooperation. (The Coalition is not the same as the Project mentioned earlier. The Coalition is the group that's been coordinating all the work on the River for several years - you know, bug studies and the like)

#### LIFTED FROM THE NEWSPAPERS

"State purchases prime trout habitat in Dawson" 11/16/93 The Northeast Georgian

"When will ecosystem management start?" 11/11/93 Clayton Tribune

"Bill blocks roads, loggers in North Ga. mountains" 11/12/93 Atlanta Journal-Constitution

"Save the land - and preserve the South" 11/12/93 Atlanta Journal-Constitution

"Southern forests: Cut or conserve?" 11/18/93 Atlanta Journal-Constitution

*Question: After the Forest Service is forbidden to cut timber anywhere are there going to be any wildlife openings? Are the forests going to be allowed to burn when nature sets the fire? Are bushes and wildflowers growing in the streamside and ridge line trails going to be allowed to survive or will the trails be allowed to grow over? What are the grouse, turkey and deer going to eat? Is a puzzlement!!!*

#### Dates and Events to Remember

Dec 4, 1993	Saturday 9:00 AM	Joint Agency Meeting	U. S. Forest Service	Gainesville, GA
Dec 20, 1993	Tuesday 6:30 PM	Rabun Chapter Monthly Meeting	Rabun County Library	Clayton, GA
Dec 25, 1993		MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!!!!!!		
Jan 17, 1994	Tuesday 6:30 PM	Rabun Chapter Monthly Meeting	Rabun County Library	Clayton, GA
Jan 29, 1994	Saturday 5:00 PM	RABUN RENDEZVOUS	DILLARD HOUSE	DILLARD, GA
Mar 5, 1994	Saturday TBA	TU Southeast Regional Meeting	Dillard House	Dillard, GA
Mar 17, 1994	Thursday 6:30 PM	Tailwater Chapter Banquet	Cumming Kiwanis Club	Cumming, GA

**DO YOU FISH NORTH CAROLINA?** Well, now you don't have to drive up to Franklin, go to the shopping center and hope you're not early and that the sales clerk has issued licenses before. If you have a Visa or Master Card, just pick up the phone and dial (919) 715-4091. Have your credit card number, your driver's license number and social security number handy as well as a pencil and paper ready to write an identification code and license number down so that you can proceed to your favorite Carolina stream. They will mail you your license within two working days. So, if you haven't renewed since last year's

license expired on June 30th, now is the time. And wouldn't this be convenient if the State of Georgia offered such a service. Maybe twenty years from now.

**EXTENDING GEORGIA'S TROUT SEASON** Many of you, I'm sure saw the letter from TU's Georgia Council President, Bobby Bell, to the editor of the Clayton Tribune in which he elaborates on the reasons for opening our trout season to a year round status. If you missed it, give me a call and I'll send you a copy. If you believe, like many of us, in a year round trout season, let your elected representative know how you feel.

After the January issue of TIGHTLINES, Sharon Wilson will take over getting this little missile out each month. Her job will be a lot easier if once in a while, you will send her a fly tying idea, maybe an appropriate fly fishing cartoon or humorous story or describe a fishing trip or tip. (No, you don't have to spell out everything and include maps). Or you can even make up lies like I've done these past few years. But above all, if you expect to read about it in TIGHTLINES, the editor has to be made aware of what's going on.

*MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!*

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THE 8th ANNUAL RABUN RENDEZVOUS  
A CELEBRATION OF THE JOYS OF TROUT

"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.

Once again, the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited will host this annual gathering and want you to join with us in the celebration.

- EN: Saturday evening, January 29, 1994, starting at 5:00.
- WHERE: Henry's Playhouse, located in the Dillard House Complex in Dillard, Georgia. Well signed - you can't miss it!
- WHO: Everyone who has a sincere interest in protecting our cold water resources including TU folks. USFS people, DNR types their families and friends.
- SOCIAL: 5:00 - 6:30 - There will be musical entertainment; we will have a bucket raffle and a silent auction; and snacks, cola & beer. We'll show some exciting trout fishing videos and we'll have a cozy fireplace to backup to while storytelling.
- DINNER: The Dillard House is widely known for their country vittles and they will start laying it in front of you at 6:30. You will enjoy the food!
- PROGRAM: At 7:30, Leroy Powell, TV Personality, noted humorist & trout fisherman, will talk to us on a topic that will amuse & interest all trouters.
- COST: When talking quality, talking price is vulgar, but you will want to know that it will be \$15.00 per person.

And John Dillard has said a big welcome to Rabun TU guests with a special rate of \$38 per night, single or double occupancy at the Dillard House Motel or the Dillard Best Western, your choice. (Call 1-800-541-0671 for reservations & just show this invitation when you check-in).

AND WE ARE BRAZEN ENOUGH TO ASK ALL OUR TU CHAPTERS TO SEND SOME REALLY NICE STUFF OR BETTER YET, BRING IT WHEN YOU COME. YOU WILL BE GIVEN CREDIT IF IT'S GOOD AND WE WILL APOLOGIZE TO THE CROWD IF IT ISN'T.

There are no advanced tickets, but if your group would like to reserve a table for 10, please call:

Doug Adams  
706-746-5311 (W)  
706-746-2158 (H)

Jim Nixon  
706-746-5311 (W)  
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