

# TIGHT LINES

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Newsletter of the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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January 1994

## RABUN RENDEZVOUS

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!

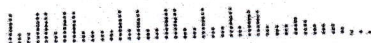
This is our one and only fundraising event during the year and we need everyone to help. So, if you can make a donation of a prize suitable for either bucket raffle or silent auction, please send it to P O Box 65, Rabun Gap, GA 30568. Heck, we'll even take cash! This is a real appeal to all of you chapter members who are unable to take part in the yearly activities - we do need your participation! Another point to ponder is let's not forget that we have many lovely ladies attending the Rendezvous and they may or may not be especially interested in fish stuff but absolutely wild over other non-gamey items in the raffles and auction. So, if you are donating or soliciting donations, let's not forget the ladies!!!

**THE JANUARY MEETING** will be held on January 18th 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!!!!

**THE DECEMBER MEETING** was taken up by discussion of the Rabun Rendezvous and whether or not the chapter should endorse the Georgia Council of Trout Unlimited's decision to join the Environmental Fund for Georgia. The first subject is pretty well set and we're looking for a great turnout on January 29th. Even our guest speaker is excited. (See letter elsewhere in the newsletter) If you do not plan to attend the January meeting on the 18th, please try to be on hand early, about 4:00 PM, to help get things ready for the evening.

The EFG precipitated a lively discussion of whether or not the Rabun Chapter belonged in the company of some of the other conservation or environmental groups. The EFG presently consists of fourteen members who will share in the funds received from the citizens of Georgia participating in a "check off" plan. They are extending an invitation to join the EFG and The Georgia Council of Trout Unlimited has made the decision to join. Chapters endorsing their decision share fully in the funds allocated to the Council, while those choosing to not participate receive a minimal amount, I believe \$100. Enclosed with this newsletter is a brochure outlining the objectives and listing current members of the EFG. Membership in EFG is \$3000 and in TU's case would be split between the various chapters participating. (Some of you from out of the state may not have one in your letter. If you really want one let us know and we'll try to locate some more.)

We would like to hear from members of the Chapter as to what course of action you wish the Chapter to take - endorse the Georgia Council's action or sit this one out and go it alone.



WAGA TV5  
1551 Briarcliff Rd. N.E.  
Atlanta, GA 30306

December 24, 1993

Dear Jeff,

Please don't get the impression that I'm excited about coming up for the Raybun Rondeyvoo, but I have already recruited a couple of fellow flatlanders to come along and help when the fighting breaks out. Among them are Don "Rocky" Pfitzer, and Jimmy "Kid" Jacobs, but the fiercest of all is my bride, Val.

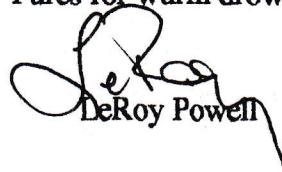
We'll (Val and I. The others have to make their own arrangements) try to get there by 5:00 for the whiskey drinking, but for sure we'll be there by 6:30, because Powells don't miss no meals if they can help it.

I'll plan on giving my usual rabble-rousing polemic which is guaranteed to drive even the most rowdy audience into a somnolent torpor. What I usually do is talk until the crowd's eyes roll back in their heads and their snoring drowns out my speech.

I realised last week that I hadn't fished the Chatooga at all in 1993, so I called Henry Williamson and we met in Clayton and terrorised your helicopter stockers for the afternoon. Actually, I terrorised them while Henry amused himself by offering helpful commentary on my shortcomings as a flyfisherman. The fly I used was a #12 bead-eye tellico nymph that I tie myself to distract me from the temptation to do any meaningful work. I have enclosed a half dozen in case you want to put them in the silent auction or something. They may not be the prettiest flies you ever saw, but the fish find them appealing.

Me go now. See you on the 29th.

Yures for wurm drownin,

  
DeRoy Powell

CLEARLY AN EDITORIAL Taking advantage of my last shot as editor of *TIGHTLINES*. I throw this out for thought. During our December meeting it was clear that all members of the chapter do not think alike on all issues and I say, thank God for that! I do, however, wish we could decide what our chapter is and in which direction we want to travel.

**Environmentalist:** a person working to solve environmental problems, such as air and water pollution; the exhaustion of natural resources; uncontrolled population growth; etc.

**Conservationist:** a person who advocates the conservation of natural resources.

Now, in my mind I wouldn't object to being referred to as either of the two. I also know what kind of environmentalist I am. Heck, I've been viewed as a Yuppie because, gasp, I sometimes carry an Orvis rod. I know that I am not. My best friend and favorite fishing companion thinks my reasons for favoring limited or experimental special regs is based on social reasons! And helicopter stocking isn't?

Perhaps the objection is how we perceive a group or individual. Hugging and spiking trees is extreme. Working with government agencies and private companies to eliminate environmentally damaging practices is not extreme. Damaging government property is a crime and extreme. Pointing out poor road building and maintenance practices doesn't seem so extreme. Harrassing legitimate sportsmen in the field or on the stream is extreme and down right dangerous. Insisting on strict enforcement of the game and fish laws is not extreme. A lot of what a group does is judged by the shrillness of their voice. I don't think we are guilty of shrillness.

The Rabun Chapter, working with federal and state agencies, assisted by individuals and private enterprise, has made a difference in Rabun County. We have done it without resorting to extreme measures. We can do even more with the addition of funds to further enhance, protect and improve the cold water fisheries in Northeast Georgia.

With more and bigger highways planned running in all directions through Northeast Georgia, our natural resources are going to be impacted. To what extent depends in large measure on the activism of groups such as ours in partnership with similar minds in government, industry and individuals. *Selah!*

## Dates and Events to Remember

Jan 18, 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
Feb 26		Georgia Council Work Project on Waters Creek		
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
April 9th		Rabun Chapter Work Project on Reed Creek	Details Later	Mark Calendar NOW
May 14		Foothills Chapter Work Project at Nancytown Creek		
June 4th		Rabun Chapter Work Project on Popcorn Creek	Details Later	Mark Calendar NOW
June 11th		National Kids Fishing Day		

Kyle Burrell - President  
P O Box 295  
Clayton, GA 30525  
(706) 782 - 4951

Tom Landreth - Editor  
Rt 2 P O Box 2355  
Clarkesville, GA 30523  
(706) 754 - 9202