

February 1996

President's Corner

Rendezvous '96

Another Rabun Rendezvous is now history and you will be glad to know that it was successful from every viewpoint. Final figures are not in but we should net somewhere in the neighborhood of \$4500. This will go a long way, with our current bank balance, to ensure our goals for the year do not fail because of finances. Once again, a big thank you to all who pitched in and helped pull it off. Thanks are due to the merchants in the area who donated items for raffles and door prizes; thanks to all the Rabun TU members for their time and their donations of items and money for items; thanks to the TU Chapters for their usual fine support with attendance and great prizes; and to the Dillard House and their fine crew. It takes a great effort on the the part of a lot of people to hold a successful Rendezvous. Luckily, we have those folks.

Elsewhere you will note other get-togethers on behalf of our region and nation's cold water resources. I urge you to give them the same support that we have come to expect up here in Rabun County - and the last time I figured, it is about the same distance from here to Atlanta and suburbs as it is from there to here.

Tight Lines,

Tom

Rock Creek Hatchery To Close in April

Chattoochee National Fish Hatchery is slated for closure on April 1, 1996, by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The State of Georgia has been offered the facility free of charge with partial operating funds for the first three years. Governor Zell Miller has refused the offer so far. Sportsmen throughout North Georgia have expressed a willingness to absorb much of the operating costs through an increase in the annual Trout Stamp.

Rock Creek supplies Georgia with thirty percent of it's catchable size trout and sixty to seventy percent of it's fingerling trout. DNR then raises those fingerlings in state hatcheries such as Burton to catchable size before they are stocked into Georgia streams.

Unless the Legislature acts this session you will have a lot less trout to fish for in North Georgia. **It will help tremendously if you will write or call:**

Governor Zell Miller 201 State Capitol Atlanta, GA 30334 404/656-1776	Lt. Governor Pierre Howard 240 State Capitol Atlanta, GA 30334 404/656-5030	Speaker Tom Murphy 332 State Capitol Atlanta, GA 30334 404/656-5020
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State Senator Guy Middleton
Legislative Office Bldg. 319A
Capitol Square
Atlanta, GA 30303
1-800-282-5803

Representative Ralph Twiggs
State Capitol Room 218
Capitol Square
Atlanta, GA 30304
404/656-7153

Certainly, you wouldn't want to be impolite, but as a suggestion, I would remind the Governor that when he asked the hunters and fishermen of Georgia to underwrite his Preservation 2000 program, we responded with our support for an increase in the license. Now, we need his help.

No Net Pens On Appalachia Reservoirs!

TVA denies the Carolina Trout Company's request seeking TVA's approval to construct and operate floating net pens facilities on Fontana, Hiawassee and Appalachia reservoirs. This plan was heavily opposed by both Trout Unlimited and the folks living close to these reservoirs. The TVA's decision was based on the potential for adverse environmental impacts, potential conflicts with current reservoir uses, and overwhelming public opposition. The announcement was contained in a letter from TVA's Knoxville office.

The first work project of the year is scheduled for February 24, 1996 at the Dukes Creek Conservation Area. The Georgia Council of TU will be furnishing lunch - you will need to bring your drink. Some of us will wind up in the water so throw your waders in as the water is sure to be in the 45-50 degree range. We'll be building access trails to the stream and steps leading down the bank into the water. The Rabun Chapter will hold a short meeting immediately following the work project. This will constitute our February meeting. Call Tom Landreth if you plan to attend (746-2295)

The March meeting of the chapter will be on our regular third Tuesday, March 18th, but we have been invited by Henry Williamson to his classroom at the Fish Hawk Flyfishing School on Ford Mountain near Sky Valley. Henry promises to show us how to tie a couple of sure fire opening day flies so be sure to bring your vises and supplies. The usual time, 6:30 social and the meeting at 7:00. We'll have a map in the March issue of Tight Lines.

February

1996

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February 24th, Work Project at Dukes Creek

Bird Dog Burrell's Fly of The Month

Blue Wing Olive Parachute

- Hook: Standard Dry Fly
- Mustad #94840
- Size: 18 and 16
- Tail: Blue Dun Hackle
- Hackle: Blue Dun
- Wing Post: White Poly Yarn
- Thread: Olive
- Body: Olive Dubbing

Last week, on an un-named stream in Rabun County, there was a hatch in the afternoon. I watched trout rise and then consume these flies. The kicker was that the water temperature was a chilly forty three degrees! These are the kind of conditions for which you must have the exact imitation!

Tight (and cold!) lines,

Kyle

Tight Lines



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