

July 1996

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Birdogs Fly of the Month

Coachman Trude

Hook: #16,14,12,10

Wing: White Calf Hair

Body: Peacock Herl

Tail: Golden Pheasant Tippet

Hackle: Brown rooster

A great fly for "searching" unknown pocketwater. Easy to tie, easy to see, and floats like a cork. An excellent western fly too. Take some west of Hiwassee and use them on the little creeks for speckled trout and on the big rivers during caddis hatches. Expect some explosive rises!

Kyle

First Aid For The Outdoorsman Is Topic For July Meeting

Dr. Russ Burken will take center stage at this month's meeting as he conducts his annual "First Aid For The Outdoorsman." As many chapter members know, Dr. Russ is always a very entertaining and knowledgeable speaker. He will bring along some samples that will help ward off the evils of poison ivy and heal the effects of too much sun. **Please plan to join us at the Rabun County Library on Tuesday, July 16th at 6:30 for refreshments and 7pm for the program.**



Presidents Message/July 196

The July edition of Trout Unlimited's *Lines to Leaders* contains a lead article regarding a coalition of sportsmen and environmentalists recently formed to encourage political candidates to address conservation issues in 1996 election campaigns. This action brings together over 6 million members of hunting & fishing groups with organizations thought of as "mainstream" environmental.

The Natural Resources Summit of America was spearheaded by the Bass Anglers Sportsman's Society (BASS Inc). Among the groups that have signed the Summit's "Statement of Principles" are Trout Unlimited, Bass Anglers Sportsmans Society, American Fisheries Society, American Oceans Campaign, American Rivers, American Sportfishing Association, Defenders of Wildlife, Environmental Defense Fund, Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, The Izaak Walton League of America, League of Conservation Voters, National Audubon Society, National Parks and Conservation Association,

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Chattooga River Brown Trout Telemetry Project Update

Interested groups will be pleased to know that the telemetry project is at its mid-point and so far has been a success. Seventeen trout are currently being monitored by Kyle Burrell and his partner Bo Bunnell. Each fish is checked weekly and a select number are followed periodically for a 24 hour period.

An electrofishing event was held on June 6th in the Reed Creek area. Approximately a half mile of river was sampled by a crew of 5 backpack electroshockers and their netters. Personnel from the USFS, SC-DNR, GA-DNR, Clemson University, and TU volunteers participated. A substantial effort was made to catch 10 inch or larger trout from the river, but none were caught. We did however catch two 11 & 12" browns in lower Reed Creek and they were successfully implanted with transmitters. To date these fish are still in the locations from which they were captured.

Although we have seen quite a few hot days this summer, we have had evening thunderstorms which have helped to keep temperatures tolerable.

We have seen water temperatures up to 70 degrees this summer during the day but nighttime temperatures fall well into the 60's. As expected, the trout stay inactive during the day and move into feeding positions at night. One large trout (17.5") has been documented chasing baitfish between 5 and 6 am on two different occasions! We have yet to see any long range migration by trout in search of cooler waters, but the summers only half over. More updates to come at the August meeting.

Kyle

Kyle will be doing an update on the project at the monthly meeting in October. *Ed.*

Delayed Harvest/Catch and Release

There was a tremendous amount of discussion at the last meeting about the advantages and drawbacks associated with delayed harvest designation. Chapter members that feel strongly about having a stream designated as such can address correspondence to:

**Lonice C. Barrett,
Commissioner
Ga. Dept. of Natural Resources
205 Butler St., SE
Suite 1252
Atlanta, GA 30334**

Copy to:

**Jeff Durniak, Fisheries Region
II Supervisor
Ga. Dept. of Natural Resources
2150 Dawsonville Hwy.
Gainesville, GA 30501**

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National Taxidermists Association, Natural Resources Defense Council, National Wildlife Federation, North American Waterfowl Federation, Northwest Sportfishing Industry Association, Sierra Club, Sports Afield Magazine, The Wilderness Society, The Wildlife Society, and the Wildlife Management Institute.

Charles Gauvin, President and CEO of TU is quoted as saying, "Formation of the Summit today sends a clear signal that conservationists of every stripe will hold our elected officials accountable if they continue to play fast and loose with our natural resources." To that I can only add *amen!*

TIGHT LINES, see you in August with tales of West of Hiawasse!

Tom

Fishing Rodeo Roundup

I made a couple of quick phone calls to find out how the local fishing rodeos went. After getting the results, I think we have plenty of up and coming trout fishing supporters!

Moccasin Creek State Park reported 80 children and 40 seniors attend the event.

Black Rock Mountain State Park reported that 100 children fished at the park along with 130 adults. Around forty fish were caught.

The USFS reports that there was a record turnout at the Tallulah River with 208 children participating.

Quick Casts.....

The chapter is providing \$1250 to the Highlands Ranger District to help fund a summer intern that will be working on soil and water/fishery projects.

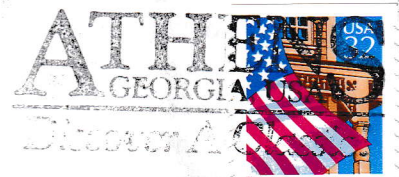
The fall work project will be on the south fork of Moccasin Creek on Saturday, September, 14th. Please note this date on your calendar.

The infamous Rabun Rendezvous has been scheduled for January 18, 1997 at the Dillard House. (it is never to early to put this on your calendar)

Kyle will be giving the chapter an update on the brown trout study at the October meeting.

A very special thank you to Gene Hansard of the Foothills Chapter for providing the gift certificate to *Egger's* - Appalachian Style Fly Fishing, Fly Tying & Rod Building Accessories.

**Tightlines - Rabun Chapter
TU**



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