

# TIGHT LINES

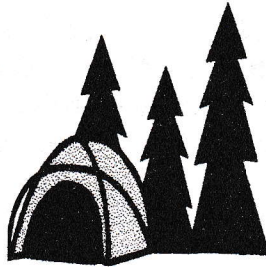


NEWSLETTER OF THE RABUN CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED

October 1998

## FAMILY CAMPOUT PLANNED FOR OCTOBER

The Forest Service says that **Appletree CG** is available. The Family outing is on as originally planned. Our problem now is that no one has committed to either go or volunteered to prepare a meat dish for Saturday night. So, as soon as you get this call either Bud Parker at work, 782-4219 or 746-2295. Tell us if you are a ham, a turkey or whatever, or one has told us anything and **are going to cancel the reservation**, the dates are Friday 17th. It's time to fish or cut



home 782-9224; or me, Tom Landreth, coming, how many and can you prepare bring side dishes for supper. To date no **unless we hear from you shortly, we vation and forget the whole thing.** Re- and Saturday nights, October 16th and bait!

## WORK PROJECT/CAMPOUT?

**Gene Roberts, Bill Kelly** and I set up camp in the fields closest to Reed Creek. This was early afternoon, Friday, the 25th of September. As we waited for the hordes of TUers, we swapped fish stories, war stories, cased out the river (spotted several rises) and as the evening drew near, decided to get supper on before dark.

At last, the sound of a vehicle! Mike and Sarah, came into the through the adjoining field to meager steak dinner, built a fire Terry and crew.. A little before retired to their camp and Bill and Lights penetrated the darkness of clearing came three vehicles



ers. These guys had gotten out of Atlanta as soon as they could but with that oft cursed traffic were running late. Don't sell these city slickers short. After a few words they drove through to the next field, lined up the vehicles and in the beams of the headlights, set up camp. We were now assured of having enough hands to do the necessary work.

Feeling sure this was it, Bill and I hit the sack about 10:30 and were promptly roused out of our sleeping bags with the sound of another truck coming into the camping area.

Again, leaving the Atlanta area late in the day, **Frank and Gail Tolbert** had made it in. (Gail was beginning to question our sanity in campsite selection). After helping Frank set up their equipment, we again went to bed.

A heavy mist greeted us Saturday morning and you could just feel that it was going to get hot later in the morning. Frank, Gail, Bill and I fixed breakfast and as we finished were joined by **Russell Johnson**. Shortly after, **Dave Deavors** and **Doug Watson**, USFS,

Terry Seehorn and two of his students, field and after our greetings moved on make their camp. We finished our and settled back for conversation with ten, the Rabun Gap Nacoochee bunch I thought about turning in. the road above camp and into the loaded with Boy Scouts and their lead-



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showed up.

Our small band of TU'ers, RGN students, and a little later, the Scouts, headed for Reed Creek and after some struggle with the trail, Dave & Doug arrived with the mechanical "mule" and the work began. We ended up filling three crib style structures with rock, and adding some depth in a couple of spots. With the aid of the mule some really large rock were placed and should help to hold the structures in place. **Travis Barnes, Ken and one of our newest members**, joined us up in the morning.

The job was completed and in the long run, we had enough hands to do it. This was a simple project requiring lots of rock but no log lifting or steel driving. Had it not been for Terry's students, the Boy Scouts from Buckhead *and their leaders*, our few chapter members would have had a very rough day.

Frank, Gail, Bill and I; Terry, Sarah and Mike, would love to have had company Friday night. Maybe next time, if there is a next time.

A Special Thanks to the **young men, and their leaders**, of the **Boy Scout Troop** at the **Episcopal Cathedral of St. Philip**; to **Sarah and Mike** of **Rabun Gap Nacoochee School**, for pitching in, physically and literally, on our project. Also, thanks to the Rabun Chapter members who participated. And thanks to Gail for brightening up our camp, and throwing rock.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Welcome to the Chapter, Chris Magazino of St. Petersburg, Florida; and Chris Taylor of Rabun Gap, Georgia. We are glad to have you aboard.

## **THE HERITAGE FUND**

You've heard about it before. The **Heritage Fund**. It will appear as **Constitutional Amendment #1** on the upcoming election ballot in November. Briefly, the real estate transfer tax will be increased from \$1 to \$2 per \$1000 of the purchase price of a real estate sale. All of this increase would go into the Heritage Fund and be protected from the General Assembly and be managed by the Department of Natural Resources.

The monies collected could be used for:

*Conserve and protect native wildlife habitat*

*Conserve and protect rare, threatened or endangered species*

*Protect river corridors and wetlands*

*Preserve significant historical, archaeological or cultural areas*

*Up to 25% of the money can be used for local government recreation & park projects*

*Funds may be used to manage state owned areas, i.e. habitat improvements*

### **Give this some thought:**

Georgia loses an estimated 100,000 to 200,000 acres of wildlife habitat each year, largely as a result of urban sprawl and land conversion.

Georgia's human population is growing by an estimated 150,000 plus per year. That's roughly the size of Macon.

Only 8% of Georgia's land base is under some type of conservation protection and less than 1% is under State protection as parks or recreation areas. That ranks us 13th



among the 16 Southeastern states for land in public ownership. Georgia's real estate transfer tax is among the lowest in the country. Florida's real estate transfer tax is \$7/\$1000; South Carolina's is \$3.70.

When you enter the booth in November, **think about it.**

*Georgia's Sportsmen and Women have paid for wildlife land acquisition for decades. A new funding proposal, called the Land, Water, Wildlife and Recreation Heritage Fund would create a funding source for land acquisition paid for by all citizens.*

## **FISHING FOR LOW-WATER TROUT**

Once this rainy spell ends and fall weather settles in the mountains, you can experience some of our best trout fishing of the year. But, with low and clear water, you may need to change your approach from the tactics you used back in May and June.

Make no mistake, the fish can see you sooner and more clearly at this time of the year.

So, approach is extremely important. The ripples sent out as you wade can seem like a tidal wave to super cautious trout - so move slowly, making as little wake as possible.

Longer (9-12 feet) leaders and light tippet (6-7X) will help, and you should avoid dropping your line over the fish. One way to avoid this is to cast to a feeding fish at an angle rather than casting directly upstream.

In most cases you will want to use the smaller flies in your box, 16-18, and, yes, 20's and smaller. If you have difficulty in seeing these smaller flies, a good solution is to tie on a larger, highly visible dry fly like an Elk Hair Caddis or a parachute Adams to your tippet, then tie on the smaller dry, terrestrial or whatever to the bend of the large fly. You can then spot your offering much easier.

Lastly, as the water cools, middle of the day fishing is apt to be more productive since the water has a chance to warm a little and hatches are more likely.

Tight Lines!

**Directions to the Appletree Campground:** Go west on US 64 out of Franklin; you will pass the USFS sign "Wayah Ranger Station" on your right. Stay alert for a sign on your right, "Wayah Bald". Turn right and almost immediately, just past the small convenience store, turn left on Wayah Bald Road. Continue up, up, up and over Wayah Crest, down pass Lake Nantahala and into the small town of Nantahala (You might pick up a cool million if you pick up Mr. Rudolph and give him a ride to the sheriff's office). Watch for the sign on your left "Appletree CG", turn left and continue to the entrance to the CG.

MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR:

October 16th & 17th Family Campout at Appletree CG

October 20th Monthly Meeting, Rock House, Clayton

November 17th Monthly Meeting, Rock House, Clayton

January 23rd, 1999 The Rabun Rendezvous

**Rabun Chapter on the Internet: "WWW.tu.org", then click on chapter news; our chapter number is 522**



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