

TIGHT LINES



NEWSLETTER OF THE RABUN CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED

November 1998

FAMILY CAMPOUT CANCELED DUE TO A LACK OF INTEREST

Well, maybe next year.

FIN CLIPPING AT THE BURTON HATCHERY

With short notice from the hatchery folks, members of the Chapter, another group of Terry Seehorn's students from Rabun Gap Nacoochee School and the employees of the hatchery met on Thursday, November 5th, and proceeded to prepare a huge number of subadult Brown Trout for their annual helicopter ride over the Chattooga.

It was a really good crew and by mid afternoon the job was finished. Hatchery personnel had begun the job two days earlier. Approximately 25,000 Browns are now ready to join the similar number of Walhalla Rainbows stocked by South Carolina.

As of this date no date has been established for the actual stocking but it shouldn't be long. U. S. Forest Service, it is your move.

CHATTOOGA FISHING LOGS DUE

If you have been keeping a log of your fishing activities on the Chattooga River this summer, please bring it with you to the November meeting. The U. S. Forest Service is ready to crunch the data, whatever that means. If for some reason you cannot be at the meeting, please mail them NOW to:

**P O Box 65
Rabun Gap, GA 30568**

MARK HUDY WILL ADDRESS 1999 RABUN RENDEZVOUS

The Chapter is pleased that Mark Hudy, Manager of the National Fishery Program, U. S. Forest Service, has agreed to join us at the Rendezvous and bring us up to date on what's going on in fisheries in the forest. Mark will also address the four point program, (1) watershed restoration and maintenance, (2) sustainability of the Forest Service Eco system; (3) Forest Service Roads-closing and proper maintenance; and (4) improving the recreation program, outlined by Chief Dombeck, U. S. Forest Service, when he assumed leadership. Before becoming a Washington bureaucrat, Mark served as biologist in the Sumter National Forest and was involved in the early studies of the Chattooga River Project. We know Mark. If his talk is either lengthy or drab, we will give him the hook. Thanks, President Doc, for getting Mark back where he belongs!

CHRISTMAS PARTY - THE ROCK HOUSE ON THE DILLARD COMPLEX

Reservations have been made with the Dillard House for our annual **Christmas Dinner**, Tuesday evening, **December** served at 7 PM but we will The menu will be the Dillard's that you should be familiar and plenty of it. The cost will be \$15 per person, payable at the dinner. *It will be greatly appreciated if you will call either **Doug Adams Landreth 746-2295** and let come and how many in your dinner and set-ups. Should or two of wine or other fa- you must bring it with you. turn out.*



15th. Dinner will be start gathering at 6PM traditional holiday fare with. You know it's good be \$15 per person, payable *greatly appreciated if you 746-2158 or me, Tom us know if you plan to party.* The price includes you desire to have a glass vorite alcoholic beverage, Hope we can have a good



THE HERITAGE FUND R.I.P.

ROBERTS - LANDRETH (MINUS ONE LANDRETH) ALASKA TRIP

What can I say. The membership was absolutely spellbound as the Landreth/Landreth/Roberts trip to Kodiak, Alaska; unfolded with stunning video recordings of the trip in quest of gigantic salmon on lightweight fly rods was shown. Sixteen, seventeen pound monsters of the Saltery River, leaped and sommersalted across the foam topped river as the expert salmon fishers from the Rabun Chapter of TU wrestled with rods and reels stretched to the limit of their mechanical capability. It was AWESOME! And no, this was not Catch & Release. This was a fight to the finish. The vanquished either threw rods down on the gravel bars in total dispair; or made the long trip back to Georgia to end up on the grill coated with a garlic, dill and butter sauce.

If you want to experience the thrill of a Silver (Coho) Salmon on the end of a 7-8 wt flyrod; Sockeye, Chum, Dolly's and Char; at a comparatively reasonable price, give Walt, Gene or I a call and we'll provide more lies and details.

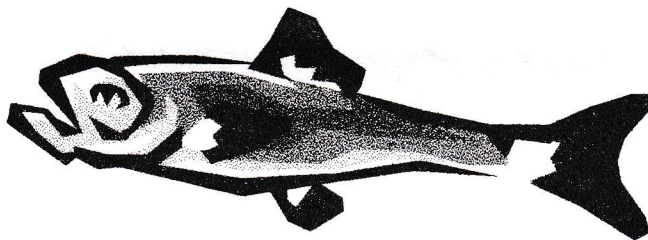
EDITORIAL An aside to the failure of the Heritage Fund to pass the electorate: in Sunday's Atlanta-Constitution, some one is asking Governor Elect Barnes his reaction to the failure of the ammendment to pass. He suggested that a continuation of Miller's Preservation 2000 Program would perhaps be necessary. In other words, the fisher and hunter men and women can continue to provide the funds for acquiring the lands to hike on, observe birds from, search for wildflowers from, hug trees from and whatever else you might do in the few wild places left for Georgians.

The developers, the real estate folks and the National Association of Home Builders, and the lending institutions can take satisfaction in the defeat of this referendum. The acreage that they, and of course, the home, commercial and industrial builder, have taken out of circulation will not be missed. They can enjoy the lands that the sportsmen and women have provided.

FISHING FOR LOW-WATER TROUT-CONTINUED

Gene Roberts and I recently fished the Davidson River, C&R Section. If ever there was a need to use low water tactics on trout, this was it. The water was LOW, LOW, LOW and as clear as gin. If you got into the same pool as the trout, they went down and stayed down. You had to cast well ahead of where you were wading and if you could stay out of the water entirely, it was to your benefit. Fortunately, this wasn't too difficult, given the water level.

I cautiously fished the formed by a small riffle had spotted at least or near the surface. I cast, the fly at the end settling lightly on the fly floated directly over



rising slowly to inspect my offering, only to settle back into their feeding stations without taking the baetis parachute. I switched to a smaller (18) fly and tried it again. The first trout in line hit and I missed and that was all she wrote on this pool. You either got them on your first strike or you put them down.

A little later, I tossed the baetis into the head of a small run, only this time I was trailing an ant dropper. First float a good size trout hit and I knew in an instance it was a Brown Trout. As I played him in, the pull became a little more positive. It was not until I reached down to release the Brown that I realized I had another trout on the ant! It turned out to be a 5-6" Rainbow. The Brown was 12-13".

While Gene and I were in the area, we scouted out some other streams. All looked very promising - when there is more water. Low, clear water with tons of leaves falling all the while makes for some spooky fishing.

This area, near Brevard, NC, could be a likely spot for a Chapter trip this Spring. You would of course have to have a NC license. **Catch & Release fly only; Delayed Harvest; Wild Trout and Hatchery Supported streams** are all within easy reach.

head of one pool emptying into it. I three trout feeding on made a really good of an extra long leader water's surface. The two of the 'bows, both

MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR:

November 17th Monthly Meeting, Rock House, Clayton

December 15th Christmas Dinner at the Dillard Rock House

January 23rd, 1999 The Rabun Rendezvous

Don't miss the November meeting. We need your input on the Rendezvous

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



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