

TIGHT LINES



NEWSLETTER OF THE RABUN CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED

January 1998 9

RABUN RENDEZVOUS CONVENES AT DILLARD CONFERENCE CENTER

The Chapter's major fund raiser of the year will begin with the popular pig pickin' at about five o'clock on the evening of *January 23rd at the Dillard House Conference Center in Dillard, Georgia.*

Those gathered to celebrate trout and trout fishing will have ample time to look over the silent auction and raffle bucket items while munching on roasted pork from the grill.

Around one of the two fireplaces will be the **Foxfire Boys**, one of the premier bluegrass bands in the land. Dinner will be served about 6:45 and anyone familiar

with Dillard House fare knows one will not leave hungry.

Mark Huddy, National Fishery Program Manager with the U. S. Forest Service will address the group, outlining the Forest Service Chief's, Mike Dombeck, four point program for the Forest Service. Mark, who is very familiar with trout in the Southern Appalachians, should provide a most informative program.

All members of the chapter who can lend a hand should be at the center about three o'clock to place the bucket and raffle items

in the appropriate spots. This is usually where we get behind and where we need lots of help. Individuals and other chapter representatives will be bringing in items all through the period between three or four o'clock and dinnertime. So, please, if you can be there to help, you will most assuredly be welcome.

Another time saver is for members to pay just as soon as the "box office" opens. That cuts down on the line.

We will also need volunteers to sell raffle tickets and other vital jobs.

Trout Unlimited and Forest Service Make Plans for '99

The U. S. Forest Service, Wildlife Resources Division and Park Service of the DNR met with members of TU in Gainesville on December 12th to lay the groundwork for work projects in the coming year.

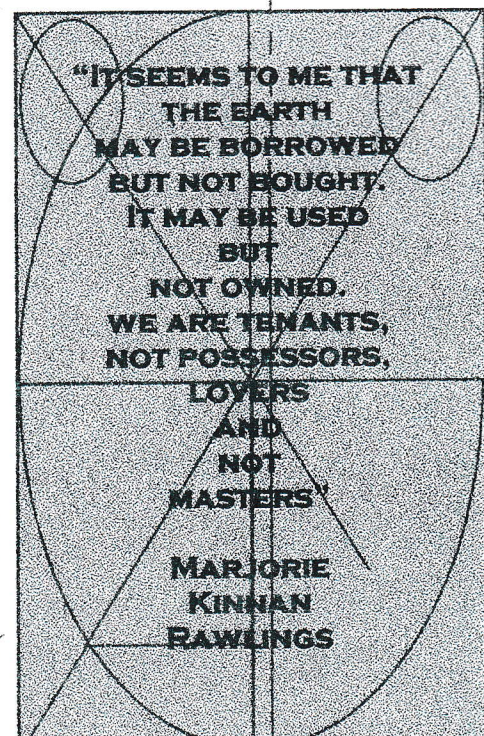
The Rabun Chapter will be directly involved in four of these projects. The first is on April 24th at the newly designated Delayed Harvest stream, Smith Creek in Unicoi State Park. This will be a Georgia Council effort with several chapters involved.

On May 15th another project is scheduled on upper Charley

Creek, a major tributary of the Tallulah River.

In September, another work day involving the entire Georgia Council is set for Smith Creek. Popcorn Creek is the site for the last project, on September 25th. Details of each project will be in future editions of TIGHTLINES; but this should be enough for chapter members to set time aside to attend one or more of these outings.

Camping is a possibility for two of them and may be of interest to the Chapter or individuals wanting to be on site.



YOUNG PEOPLES FISHING EVENTS PLANNED FOR SEVERAL LOCATIONS

In cooperation with the Forest Service and the DNR, TU will be taking part at several local streams in the area. As of this date, the first of these events is scheduled for Nancytown Creek on May 8th. With the new emphasis on trout fishing, Unicoi State Park will hold a Fishing Rodeo for kids on June 5th. The Tallulah River is the site for a

Forest Service kids fishing rodeo.

We can anticipate similar events at both Black Rock Mountain State Park and at Moccasin Creek State Park. We have no dates for these two but expect to be contacted for both labor and financial support. If you can spare the time, your help will be welcome.

"IF YOU INSTILL
IN YOUR CHILD A
LOVE OF THE
OUTDOORS AND
AN
APPRECIATION
OF NATURE, YOU
WILL HAVE GIVEN
HIM A TREASURE
NO ONE CAN
TAKE AWAY."
TED TRUBLOOD

BE EXTRA ALERT! THE GEORGIA STATE ASSEMBLY WILL BE IN SESSION SOON

We now have fewer officially designated trout streams in Georgia than we did a year ago. You will recall that in order to not have to defend the existence of some streams as "trout streams", the DNR removed some streams from the official list.

It is suspected that pressure will be brought to bare this year by the development, banking and real estate industries to now reduce the "set backs" or "buffers" on primary trout streams to something less than the current 100 feet.

At the recent Georgia Council Meeting of TU, a committee was formed to keep abreast of develop-

ments and to take steps to head off action by the Assembly that would further degrade the cold water fisheries and watersheds in north Georgia.

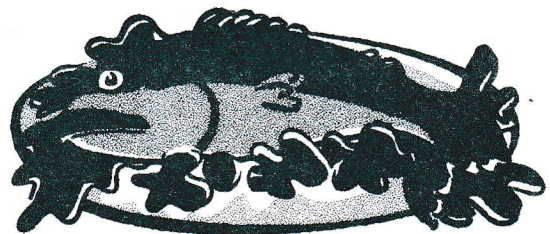
Ralph Twiggs, State Representative from our district is usually aligned with development interests in our area. A letter to Twiggs voicing your concerns would be a great help. Carol Jackson, the newly elected State Senator is an unknown quantity at this time.

We will keep the membership up-to-date through Tight Lines and monthly meetings.

KLEIN MEMORIAL FUND CONTINUES TO GROW

Contributions to the Klein Memorial Fund have been received from members Russ Tyre and Tom Landreth. Thank you.

The Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited contributes 25% of the cost of stocking the Chattooga River by helicopter each fall. The Georgia Council (made up of all the chapters in the state) puts up another twenty-five percent and the U. S. Forest Service the balance. After his death a memorial fund in Phil Klein's name was formed. Phil loved the Chattooga and fished it quite often. It was fitting that this memorial fund would help with the chapter's obligation.



**TO ALL FISH & FISHERMEN
BILL KELLY IS BACK IN
RABUN COUNTY**

WINTER IS A GOOD TIME FOR TYING FLIES AND ARRANGING FLY BOXES

With the weather turning cold and making times on the stream more than a little uncomfortable, it might be a good time to settle down at the vise and tie some of those flies you have been meaning to tie.

Another often overlooked off season task is tidying up those fly boxes. Do you separate your flies by type and size; or do you figure out what flies you use the most on certain streams and sort them accordingly. I know that sometimes I feel as though I have enough equipment in my vest that I could set up a small shop streamside. This year I'm determined to minimize all that stuff, and at the same time have what I really need with me.

If you have what you consider a good system, how about sharing it with other chapter members and let me know for the next issue of Tight Lines.

I posted this question on NGTOL and have begun to get a few suggestions.

Now you don't have to share that sure fire never miss pattern, just how to organize. Do you put dries in one box and nymphs in another? How about streamers such as Wooly Boogers - where do they go? Do terrestrials such as ants and grasshoppers have their own place?

What item other than flies, leaders and tippets do you find indispensable in that vest? (No, I do not carry George on the stream!)

Another worthwhile get ready for early spring task is playing out that fly line, stretch it, clean it and treat it with a good dressing. You will be surprised how much more speed you will get out of the guides and you won't have that irritating curling of the line. So, don't just sit there; get ready for those good fishing days - they will be here soon enough. Well, maybe not that soon!



The "Hooch" And Waters Creek

In the current issue of TROUT magazine, our old friend LeRoy Powell has written an article about fishing the Chattahoochee River and Waters Creek. You should really read it and then make it a point to fish these two streams this year.

I fished the Chattahoochee inside the perimeter twice several years ago, putting in at the National Recreation area near Johnsons Ferry and I285. I had been commissioned to paint this fellow doing his thing well down river from the put in point. We made the trip in belly boats, taking out at White Water Creek.

In most places you could wade but moving from one spot to another you needed the belly boats. In addition to taking many pictures, I caught quite a few really nice trout on the way.

It was October, the water cold as it is most of the

time, being a tailrace. I wasn't too adept at maneuvering through all those shoals and in doing so tore by lightweight waders to shreds. By the time we took out I thought I was going to freeze right there. If you like that kind of trout fishing, give it a try. The scenery was spectacular, considering you were practically in the city limits of Atlanta.

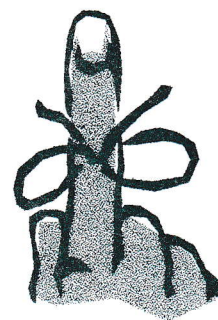
It would be best to go with someone familiar with the area, or at the very least, a buddy.

Waters Creek has quite a reputation as a tough place to fish; but, with the size trout hanging out there might be worth it.

At any rate, make yourself a promise to fish one or two totally new streams this year. And a good start will be during our planned campout and fishing trip to the Davidson River later this Spring. You haven't forgotten, have you?

Don't forget.....

to check with everyone you can think of to contribute an item, or a service to be raffled off or auctioned at the Rabun Rendezvous. It is what we make the money on!



MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR:

January 19th

January Meeting at Rock House in Clayton. Fine tune plans for
RABUN RENDEZVOUS

January 23rd

"THE RABUN RENDEZVOUS"

January 30th

Breakfast Planning Meeting at the Dillard House

February 16th

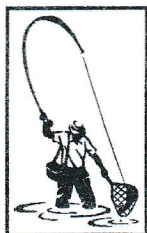
Monthly Meeting; Rock House, Clayton, GA

February 27 & 28

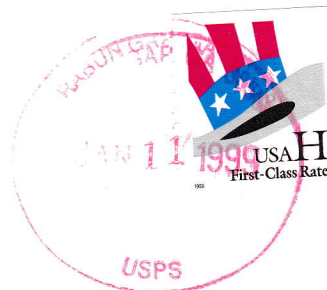
The Flyfishing Show, Charlotte, N. C.



Georgia Tech 35
Notre Dame 28



RABUN CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED
53 WILD ORCHID LANE
RABUN GAP
GA 30568-3116



25614405 SR 522 04 GA 9907
DOUG ADAMS
P.O. BOX 65
RABUN GAP, GA 30568-0065