



TIGHT LINES

MAY 2001

NEWSLETTER OF THE RABUN CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED

Family Outing At Indian Lake

Ahh...the aroma of burning hamburgers wafting across the water...the sounds of huge fish frolicking in the shallows...barbed flies whistling past your ear..If that appeals to you, make plans to attend the next meeting of the Chapter at the pavillion on **Indian Lake at Rabun Gap Nacoochee School. The date is May 15th..about 6:00 PM.**

Chefs Breithaupt and Seehorn will be cooking up a delicious repast for all of us to enjoy for a small donation from each of you. There will be experts on hand to offer their advice as to your casting technique, or lack thereof. The bream should be much bigger this year than last...and you might even land a bass or two.

For your added enjoyment we will have a **surprise guest** who will entertain you with tales of his guiding adventures, rubbing waders with the rich and famous and slopping the pellet pigs of the Soque. Maria will elaborate on the true meaning of Catch and No Release!

All in all, it should be a fun evening for all but the most squeamish...

May 15th...6:00PM...and here's how to get there....heading north on US441 through Mountain City, go past the big Flea Market on your left by about .7 miles and turn left on Wyatt Road. Go to the end of the road. Coming from the north headed South? Go past the Rabun Gap Post Office, look for Wyatt Road on your left.

STOCKING THE WEST FORK

Weather and helicopter availability caused the scheduled stocking of the West Fork of the Chattooga to be postponed several times before being accomplished on Tuesday, the 10th of April. Bill Kelly and Frank Tolbert lent a hand and the job was done. The trout were dropped in areas upstream from Tottery Pole, so, your are going to have to work to get to them. **Thanks guys and thanks to the USFS and the WRD of Georgia**

AND...COMING IN JUNE

According to the editor's notes, we will be brought up to date on the much postponed and delayed **Forest Service Land Management Planning** process. With a new chief coming aboard, a new administration in Washington, the Roadless Area Conservation Rule up in the air, we need to know what's going on. We will meet at the **Rock House on June 19th.** ...and then on Friday, June 22, about 5:50PM, we will meet at the Burrell's Ford Bridge on the Chattooga and play **Follow The Leader.** Remember, we were going to do this last year but no leaders showed up, so the followers went fishing and did just fine. We'll discuss both of these events, briefly, at the May meeting.

A FEW PROBLEMS AT THE CAMPOUT AND WORK PROJECT ON SARAH'S CREEK CREEK

Low attendance and a visit by **Forest Watch** failed to dampen the spirits of those who did make it to the campout on Friday night and for the work project on Saturday.

Thanks to **Doug Watson**, USFS, the chapter was assured of a camping spot in Apple Valley and from reports, those who were there had a good time swapping tales and enjoying each

other's fellowship.

Despite the low turnout for the work project, those who were there got the job done and would have gotten it done sooner had it not been that Forest Watch insisted that a front loader not be used.

(Editors Note: Why does Forest Watch have any influence on work being done in a non-wilderness area?)

JOHN BIAGI PROMOTED TO ASSISTANT CHIEF OF FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division (WRD) recently appointed **John Biagi** as the **Assistant Chief of Fisheries Management**. He assumes the position that will be left vacant by **Russ England**, who will retire in June 2001.

The Assistant Chief of Fisheries is responsible for directing the identification of regional and statewide program funding needs, overseeing the formulation of projects, administering federal grants and approving final reports. He also will assist the Chief of Fisheries Management in the development of statewide goals.

John Biagi holds both a bachelor's and a master's degree in Biology from Murray State University in Kentucky. He previously worked with the Florida Game and Freshwater Fish Commission. John began his career with WRD in 1990 as a biologist in

Region III. His duties in this position included managing the Chattahoochee River tailwater trout fishery in Atlanta, offering technical assistance to private pond owners, investigating fish kills and providing stream buffer variance reviews in north metro-Atlanta. In 1997, John was promoted to WRD Senior Fisheries Biologist and the head of the newly created Stream Team. This team surveys streams and evaluates fish populations across the state.

**ENJOY YOUR RETIREMENT
RUSS AND ACCEPT OUR
THANKS FOR ALL YOUR
YEARS ON BEHALF OF
GEORGIA'S FISHERIES**

**USFS TALLULAH RIVER KIDS FISHING DAY...JUNE 9TH...COME
ON OUT AND GIVE THEM A HAND...IT'S OUR FUTURE!**

Rabun Chapter Schedule of Coming Events

Tue May 15 **Chapter Meeting at Rabun Gap Nacoochee School on Indian Lake. Hamburgers, Hot Dogs & other nutritional delicacies. Casting instructions.**

Sat Jun 9 USFS Kids Fishing Day on the Tallulah River

Tue Jun 19 Monthly Chapter Meeting - Rock House, Clayton
Forest Service Land Mangement Planning update

Fri Jun 22 Follow The Leader on the Chattooga. Meet at
Burrells Ford Bridge

Fri Jul 20 Monthly Meeting on Friday nite; Work Project on
Saturday

Tue Aug 21 Monthly Meeting, Kelly's Waterfall Picnic
Ground Everybody bring covered dish

Tue Sep 18 Monthly Meeting, Rock House, Clayton, "Doc"
Burken's Annual First Aid Update

Sat Sep 22 Work Project, Sarah's Creek

PLEASE CALL ME IF ANY DATES OR EVENTS ARE INCORRECT:

Tom Landreth 706-746-2295

MAKE YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES COUNT

Many TU Chapters have "chapter dues" to supplement the funds necessary to fund their newsletter and other chapter activities. The Rabun Chapter has never seen the need for this, depending instead, on monies raised at the annual Rabun Rendezvous and in past years, raffles at the monthly meeting. So that we may continue this policy, make sure that when you renew your national membership, you send your renewal form and check to our treasurer, **Lewis Reeves, at PO Box 1222, Clayton, GA 30525**. National returns \$5.00 of your national dues to the Chapter. It helps!