



TIGHT LINES

DECEMBER 2001

NEWSLETTER OF THE RABUN CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER MEETING

The Chapter looks forward to this meeting each year. We'll gather at the Dillard House at the "Rock House" building at **6 PM** on Tuesday night, **December 18th**. Dinner will be served family style about 7PM.

If you have been to the Dillard House, then you know there will be plenty of good food. And it's a great time to visit with members

family, who we don't see that often.

Several members have already made their reservations; so, don't delay. Give Doug Adams (**746-2158; adams@rabun.net**) or Tom Landreth (**746-2295; lan-dreth@rabun.net**) a call or E-mail soon.

The cost is \$15 per person.

This is a BYOB affair.

RABUN CHAPTER SCHEDULES THREE WORK PROJECTS WITH IN 2002

Representatives of the Chapter agreed to spearhead three work projects and to participate in the USFS Kids Fishing Day on the Tallulah River. Stream and habitat improvement projects are planned for Hick's Branch, West Fork of the Chattooga and Moccasin Creek in the coming year. At least one of the work days will include a campout. Other work projects were scheduled involving several streams at the annual TU Council/USFS planning session in , Gainesville, Saturday, December 8th. Other Georgia Council business will be reported on by President Charlie Breithaupt at upcoming Chapter meetings .

Dates for the work projects may be found under the Comming Events section of the newsletter.

FLYFISHING MERIT BADGE TO BE OFFERED BY THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

According to TU's "Lines for Leaders", the Boy Scouts will add a **flyfishing merit badge** to their long list of skill and service oriented awards. This is a golden opportunity for the chapter to get young people interested in trout, trout fishing and the Rabun Chapter. There are not many details at this writing, but it is understood that this will begin in early 2002.

RENDEZVOUS

Saturday, January 26TH

Dillard

MAKE EVERY \$\$\$\$ COUNT FOR YOUR CHAPTER

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!

CHAPTER ELECTS OFFICERS FOR 2002

In a splendid example of non-partisan politics, the Chapter unanimously elected the following slate of folks to blindly lead us in the coming year:

Charlie Breithaupt	President
Frank Tolbert	Vice President
Russell Johnson	Treasurer
Russ Burken	Corresponding Sec
Travis Barnes	Membership
Terry Seehorn	Programs
Bill Kelly	Activities
Doug Adams	USFS Liaison
Tom Landreth	Publicity
Kathy Sparks	Newsletter

In a serious vein, thanks to all the officers for their work in 2001 and to those who have agreed to take the reins in 2002

POISONING WATER TO SAVE TROUT

from the December 2001 Wildlife in North Carolina Brook trout may get more living space in the Great Smoky Mountains, but at another species expense.

Brookies, the only trout species native to the Smokies, are losing habitat to the rainbow trout, which was introduced to eastern mountain streams. The bigger more aggressive rainbow has already captured low and middle elevation waters, leaving higher elevation streams to the native Brook trout.

But acid rain is polluting those headwaters. Steadily losing habitat, brookies - also known as speckled trout or specks - are in danger of becoming endangered.

To create more space for the native trout, the U.S. National Park Service in October cleared out rainbows from a 2 mile stretch of Sams Creek, located on the North Carolina - Tennessee border. After catching and removing the Brookies, park crews dropped the antibiotic antimycin into the water, killing the remaining fish. A neutralizer added to waters at the bottom of the project area prevented fish kills downstream.

The doses should not affect other wildlife or humans, although the creek was closed to visitors temporarily. Park managers also waited until the caddis fly's mating season, when it leaves the water, to make sure the rare insect was not harmed.

If the Sams Creek project is successful, the Park Service hopes to restore brook trout habitat to another 40 miles of the park's 2,000 miles of streams.

(EDITORS NOTE: *Quoted verbatim....do not attack the messenger*)

COMING EVENTS.....

Tue Dec 18	Annual Christmas Dinner at the Dillard House
Tue Jan 15	Monthly Chapter Meeting at the Rock House
Sat Jan 26	Rendezvous 2002 at the Dillard House
Tue Feb 19th	Monthly Chapter Meeting at the Rock House
Tue Mar 19th	Monthly Chapter Meeting at the Rock House
Fri Apr 26th	Campout on Hicks Branch
Sat Apr 27th	Work Project on Hicks Branch
Sat Jun 8th	Kids Fishing Day on Tallulah River
Sat Jul 13th	Work Project West Fork and Nicholson Tract on the West Fork (Two locations)
Sat Sep 21st	Work Project on Moccasin Creek

The Chapter meets on the 3rd Tuesday each month at the Rock House on Main Street in Clayton, GA. Fellowship begins at 6:30 PM and the meetings begin at 7:00. Some meetings will take place at other locations depending on the event scheduled. These changes will appear in Tight Lines as scheduled.

I get all the truth I need in the newspaper every morning, and every chance I get I go fishing, or swap stories with fishermen, to get the taste of it out of my mouth. Ed Zern