



Newsletter March, 2013

Chattahoochee/Nantahala Chapter 692
Trout Unlimited
www.ngatu692.com

President: Joe Duket
Secretary: Alan Sirmans
Webmaster: Larry Bundy

Vice President: Pat Bradley
Treasurer: Frank Glowaski

The next meeting will be:

Thursday, April 11th
Cadence Bank, Blairsville, GA

The fly tying session begins at 5:00 pm and the business meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

March's Meeting: The program was presented by Mickey Cummings, County Extension Coordinator for Union County. The county extension program is a part of the University of Georgia's Cooperative Extension which covers agriculture, environment, family, food, lawn & garden and 4H. Mickey spoke on a study conducted several years ago on the wilderness headwaters of Brasstown Creek. The study gathered data on fecal coliform and E. coli bacteria to determine the root causes and to see if the level of bacteria fell within state guidelines. They found that both fecal coliform and E. coli were present in the creek, but below the accepted guidelines. Since no homes or farms were located near the headwaters of Brasstown Creek, the presence of these bacteria can only be attributed to wildlife. As we all know, "wild bears do *%#@ in the woods---along with deer, raccoons, possums, foxes and every other living creature." Mickey showed how the extension office works with farmers to help them rotate pastures to prevent overgrazing and silt runoff into the streams.

Mickey also presented his idea for a Fishing Day in Union County to be held sometime in the summer at the Farmer's Market. He said it would be for all interested in fishing and/or learning to fish. He said that it would be great for one of our members to give a brief talk about fly fishing and for another member to demonstrate fly tying.



April Meeting:

Jim Wentworth, wildlife biologist of the Forest Service's Blue Ridge Ranger District, will bring us up-to-date on various programs in which the Forest Service has been involved during the past year. One of the programs, the former Back-The-Brookie, will be addressed along with USFS efforts to fight the wooly adelgids that are attacking our hemlocks. Since we are all now keenly aware of the hemlock situation, Jim will explain how he has been working with Save Georgia's Hemlocks to treat threatened trees on forestry land.



Trout Camp Update:

The board of directors has decided to send the grandsons of two of our members to camp this summer. The lucky boys are Benjamin Telenko, grandson of Ben Telenko, and Tom Conley, grandson of Burl Conley.

If any adult member wishes to attend Trout Camp, either as a mentor or to simply help chaperone, contact Pat Bradley ASAP so that a background check can be performed.

Trout Camp 2013 will run from June 9 - 14.

E-mail Pat at: landpbradley@yahoo.com

Chapter Work Projects in 2013:

Thanks to our members and non-members who have volunteered to help at our work projects this year. Here is the list to date:

4/20*: River Project: Toccoa Sweep (9:00 - 1:00). *Blue Ridge chapter is Lead.*
Volunteers: Frank Glowaski, Marcus Tuschel and Larry Bundy

4/20: Georgia Fly Fishing for Vets Day (8:00-3:00): *Paces Mill Park, Atlanta*
Volunteers: Joe Duket, Pat Bradley and Skeeter Biltswitch

5/8: Hatchery Event: Special Kids Fishing Rodeo (9:00 - 12:00)
Volunteers: Joe Duket, Ben Telenko, Marcus Tuschel, Sam Hogsed, Jody Williams, Jim Williams, Burl Conley, Skeeter Biltswitch, Larry Bundy, Alan Sirmans, Pat Bradley, Stephanie Marchal, Dan Skinner, Steph Skinner, Paul Robertson, Roger Rashid, Carol Rashid and Clay Durrett

5/10: Hatchery Event: Veterans Appreciation Fishing Rodeo (9:00 - 12:00)
Blue Ridge chapter is Lead.
Volunteers: Burl Conley, Marcus Tuschel, Harold Hogan and Larry Bundy

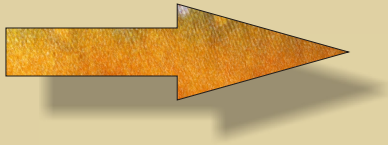
6/7: Hatchery Event: Seniors Fishing Rodeo (9:00 - 12:00)
Volunteers: Ben Telenko, Marcus Tuschel, Burl Conley, Harold Hogan and Larry Bundy

6/8: Hatchery Event: Family Fishing Festival (9:00 - 12:00)
Volunteers: Frank Glowaski, Marcus Tuschel, Ben Telenko, Harold Hogan and Larry Bundy

6/15: Stream Project - Pretty Branch (9:00 - 1:00). *Blue Ridge chapter is Lead.*
Volunteers: Joe Duket and Frank Retter

8/24: Stream Project - Boggs Creek (9:00 - 1:00). *Tailwater chapter is Lead.*
Volunteers: Larry Culpepper, Joe Duket and Frank Retter

***NOTE: The date for the Toccoa Sweep may change due to the conflict with Georgia Fly Fishing for Vets Day.**



New Meeting Time

Attention all members! Cadence Bank has changed its banking hours and is now closing at 4:00 p.m. on Thursdays. Since our normal fly tying session starts at 5:00, this means that someone has to come at least an hour earlier to pick up the key to open the conference room.

The board of directors has proposed that we change our meeting time to the following:

***4:00 pm to 6:00 pm for fly tying
6:00 pm for our educational program***

Although the board has the authority to pick the date, time and place for our meetings, we feel that our members should vote on this important change. Therefore, the motion will be made and voted on at our April meeting which will take place at the normal time.

Changes to Bylaws

In addition to the proposed change to our meeting time, the board of directors has also proposed a change to the bylaws as it relates to contributions made by the chapter to other groups and organizations. The proposed change to Article XII (Assets) is shown below:

Section 2A: Assets of the Chapter shall be used to further the purposes of Trout Unlimited in the geographic area the Chapter serves, i.e. the states of Georgia and North Carolina.

Section 2B: Any member who plans to make a motion for distributing a portion of Chapter assets to an organization which meets this criterion must submit the request to the president seven (7) days prior to a regularly scheduled meeting. The president will incorporate the request into the agenda which shall be distributed to all members via the website forum prior to the meeting.

Section 2C: A motion for distributing a portion of Chapter assets to an organization which meets the criterion stated in Section 2A shall be open for discussion, but tabled for a vote for a period of one month until the next regularly scheduled meeting. This shall allow for all members to be notified of the pending vote via the newsletter, minutes and meeting agenda, as well as the opportunity for proper vetting of the request.

Section 2D: In certain circumstances, if the member making the motion for distributing a portion of Chapter assets can show a just reason why funds must be paid prior to the one month delay period, a vote shall be made by the members present as to the emergency nature of the motion. If the vote is in favor of eliminating the one month delay, the vote on the motion shall be made at that time.

The board feels that whenever a motion is made to disburse a portion of our hard-earned funds, the decision should be carefully considered and not spontaneously voted upon. The proposed change to Article XII (Assets) will give all members 30 days to consider the request, as well as give the person making the motion time to provide more information, if requested or needed. The motion to amend the bylaws must pass by a 2/3 majority of the members present at the April meeting.



The motion was made at our March meeting to continue our tradition of contributing \$250 to both the Great Smoky Mountains National Park Intern Program, as well as the former Back-The-Brookie intern program (which has now been expanded to include rainbow and brown trout).

The former Back-The-Brookie program has been divided into two groups, one for advocacy and the other for conservation efforts. This year the program will have two interns working under the auspices of the NPS.

For those who want to know more about the GSMNP intern program, there is an excellent document on-line that spells out all of the intern positions and what each will be doing. The link is:

<http://www.nps.gov/grsm/supportyourpark/upload/2013-Park-Internship-Listing-010913-2.pdf>

The motion will be voted on at the April meeting.



Check Presentation:

Joe Duket presented our chapter's check for \$250 to Donna Shearer, founder and chairman of Save Georgia's Hemlocks, at the quarterly meeting of Mountain High Hikers.

The photo and caption which explained our TU chapter's and SGH's roles in conservation were published in both the North Georgia News and Towns County Herald newspapers the week of March 18th.



Bob Kern made a motion at the March meeting that the chapter donate some money to the Evergreen Hand Project. The Federation of Fly Fishers and its Fly Tying Group have worked with one of its members to invent an attachment for a normal fly tying vise that enables those with only one arm or hand to still tie flies.



The main focus of the Evergreen Hand Project is to assist disabled veterans through Project Healing Waters. For more information on the Evergreen Hand Project, visit the following link:

<http://www.fedflyfishers.org/Tying/Projects/TheEvergreenHand.aspx>

On the website, you can see a short video demonstrating how the attachments are used.

The devices cost \$25 each and the motion was made to donate \$100 initially for 4 of the Evergreen Hands. The vote will be made at the April meeting.

Trout Adventure Trail



Carl Riggs with the Blue Ridge chapter has worked with the National Forest Service, TU and the Boy Scouts to create a series of fun and educational hiking trails in north Georgia. To learn more about the Trout Adventure Trail, visit their website at:

<http://www.troutadventuretrail.org/>