

Minutes of Chattahoochee Nantahala Chapter TU692

Date Of Meeting November 13, 2025

Time 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Meeting called to order by Bruce Marchette

Officers in attendance:

Bruce Marchette, Howard Nutt, Bill Sturgeon, Jeff Brackett

Total Number In Attendance:

23 Members and 1 guest

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the last regular meeting were approved as posted on our website.

Treasurer's Report:

Bill Sturgeon reported the auction brought in over \$1000, we have \$140 in petty cash, and our balance in the Chapter account is now at \$6,311.

Social Media:

Our social media views were down to 6030 on Facebook with only 98 new posts and we need more engagement to drive up the numbers.

New Business:

USFWS Confiscated Flies Donation Status

Members Kelly and Keriann Corcoran have been working hard at sorting and boxing the donated flies, some of which were destined for Trout Camp in 2026. With Trout Camp off the calendar, there are more flies available for other youth education and Georgia Council programs and activities as mentioned in last month's meeting. A couple of the fly boxes were auctioned during the November TU692 meeting.

Tailwater issue at Blue Ridge and Nottely Lakes

A couple of the TU 692 chapter members attended a meeting addressing the tailwater temperature issue at Blue Ridge and Nottely lakes. Repairs are ongoing at both lakes causing warmer than normal water to be discharged from the dams into the tailwaters. An unusual odor was noted at both sites too. The warm water situation should be ending as of the meeting date, however, there are concerns the lake is not turning over due to the warmer temperatures.

April 26 Float Trip

Harold Hogan is scheduling a float trip to Johnson City, TN in April 2026. The last trip cost \$450 for two fishermen per guide plus hotel and food. He is waiting for fee and deposit information and to nail down the timeline, but April 21st was mentioned as a possibility. A deposit is needed by some time in January and there will be no cancellations later than 2 weeks or so before the trip. That said, keep in mind it's standard practice that the guide can cancel without a refund due to unforeseen circumstances. A sign-up sheet was passed around and the tentative maximum count for this trip is ten people. Let Harold know if you are interested.

Self Recovery Equipment Discussion

The subject of self recovery came up when one of our members shared that the road out of the area he was fishing was blocked by a downed tree on his way out. Although he had a very capable vehicle for the trip, he was lacking one or two items needed to open the road for passage. This started a discussion about recovery gear and things we should have on hand when we venture into the wilderness. It was mentioned that a show and tell training session may be a good topic for a future meeting. In our fellow member's case, a near by camper had just what was needed to move the tree and he was on his way soon after.

New meeting time and place discussion

In 2024 we were forced to find a new location for our meetings and the current location was the best option available at the time. Though it is a great location, the time slot isn't optimal for some due to work schedules or other obligations. So, we're looking into other locations, times, and days and an email will be sent to members to see what the majority prefers (Sent Nov 27, 2025).

Old Business:

Trout Camp Status

It's possible trout camp 2025 may have been the final year if no one steps up to fill the director's position. The president is looking for ideas and it was suggested we discuss solutions at the next TU meeting. Current ideas include change of venue such as religious campuses like Western NC uses, lending equipment for camps, and changing from a full on-campus week to a day camp over several days with campers providing their own sack lunches. Long term leadership is needed for the program to continue in any capacity.

To recap, Bruce reported that there may not be a Trout Camp in 2026 because Kathy and Charlie Breithaupt are retiring from their administrative role. A subsequent notice from Rodney Tumlin, Chair of the GATU that was sent to all of the state chapters confirmed that there will be no Trout Camp for 2026. He also stated that the Dream Trip Fundraiser will continue with funds and donations to be used for youth education and other Georgia Council programs and activities. This may include the 5 Rivers Program, Trout in the Classroom, Chapter Youth Camps, Smithgall Woods Education, and chapter support such as matching funds and methods of reaching our youth and potential members.

Bugs 'n' Bucks, Door Prizes:

Bruce Marchette was the big winner of Bugs 'n' Bucks, with a cash prize of \$66.00 which he donated back to the chapter. Numerous attendees went home with door prizes and Bruce gave away a stack of Trout Unlimited posters he picked up while at the quarterly meeting.

Fly Tying:

It was announced that there would be a fly tying session on Saturday the 15th at Mountain Valley Country Store across the street from the ABC in Hayesville.

The Meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:30 pm

Next meeting

December 11, 2025 – Time: 4 PM – Place: North Georgia Technical College, 121 Meeks Avenue, Room # 414, Blairsville, GA 30512