



Blue Ridge Chapter, Trout Unlimited

Winston-Salem, North Carolina

April 2009

President's Letter

Peter Lloyd, President

Just a couple quick notes. Check out the TIC website, www.ticnc.org: this is a great program for the students and our organizations. Ledford HS and Sugar Loaf have agreed to continue TIC next year and we hope to establish 2 more programs this Fall.

BRTU will be at Raven's Knob on May 2 to teach the Fly Fishing Merit Badge during the Boy Scouts' Merit Badge weekend. We'd like to have 8 -10 folks for this and could use a few more volunteers. We've done this the past 2 years and have a great time working with the kids. Please contact me if you'd like help out.

I hope to see you at our next Chapter meeting on Tuesday, April 21st.

Peter
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Helton Creek Stream Clean – April 25th

We are doing a clean-up at Helton Creek on Saturday, April 25th with assistance from the NC WRC and NCDOT. Keeping Helton Creek and its access sites and roads free of litter and debris is important to the resource and the continued public access for angling. This is your chance to help, so make plans join BRTU in this important conservation effort. There will be plenty of time after the clean-up for fishing so bring your gear. If you're a new member, beginner, or just looking for a few pointers, there will be seasoned anglers (and advanced beginners) to share tips and provide hands-on assistance. Lunch will not be provided so you'll need to bring your own.

For folks that want to carpool, we will meet at the McDonalds on Jonestown Rd at 7am and depart around 7:15. We will arrive at the campground between 9-9:30 and clean to around noon.

Directions to Helton Creek: Take 421, 221 to Jefferson – West Jefferson; then **Hwy 16 N**. Once you cross the North Fork New River bridge on Hwy 16 you will see a road on your **right** about ¼ mile past the bridge. Take the **right** (you can see the creek) – this road follows Helton Creek all the way to the Virginia border (this is the Delayed Harvest Area). We will meet at the campground, approximately half-way up the road.

For more information contact Dan Benfield at (336) 723-7165 or dancon7@earthlink.net

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL 21, 2009, 6:00 PM BRTU CHAPTER MEETING

APRIL 25, 2009, HELTON CREEK STREAM CLEAN

MAY 2, 2009, FLY FISHING MERIT BADGE

AUGUST 1, 2009. JAKES DAY

2008-2009 Chapter Leadership

Officers:

Peter Lloyd, President
Eugene Pope, VP
David Richards, Sec.
Bill Remaley, Treas.

Board Members:

Dan Benfield
Michael Davis
Chad Fulp
Steve Hennings
Bob Lassiter

Trout Out of the Classroom

On Friday, April 3rd our TIC Classrooms; Ledford High & Sugar Loaf Elementary released their classroom trout at Stone Mountain State Park. The Day started around 9:00 AM streamside.

Our release day was a huge success. Though there was some confusion here and there I think it really came together nicely. The weather cooperated and though it didn't rain there were a lot of students that were soaked from head to toe for some reason.

Thank you to Mike White and the other chapter members that made it out. And to Rusty Berrier from State Council. A big thank you for the hospitality and generosity of Stone Mountain State Park and to Ranger Matt Amadon. They have already extended an invitation to us for up coming projects and our release day in 2010. How quickly can I say yes!

Geoff Cantrell & Missy McGall with Wildlife in NC magazine, your professionalism is unmatched, and we are excited about the upcoming article. Thank you for taking interest in our project and spending the day with us.

Thank You to all the NCWRC biologists enforcement officers, David Deaton and the Marion Hatchery for making TIC a success, it couldn't have happened without you. Also. Thank you to Mike Johnson and his awesome stainless steel cooker, the food was great! And to WGHP Fox 8 and WXII News 12 for the coverage and the offer to support future projects.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Chapter Meeting Announcement

Katherine Mull, Executive Director of the Dan River Basin Association will be the speaker for the April 21st Meeting. Katherine will discuss their work on rivers and trails as well as nature and heritage tourism. She will give special emphasis on their work to protect fisheries, including riparian buffer restoration, educational programs, stream monitoring, and other activities. Katherine will also provide a look at DRBA's TIC program, the largest in the state of Virginia including how they have integrated TIC with stream monitoring to help kids make connections.

Our chapter meets at **Texas Land and Cattle Steak House** just off of Hanes Mall Blvd across the road from Target. Our meetings start at **6:00 PM** to allow folks to mingle, order dinner and get settled before the 7:00 program. We welcome new members and visitors. Bring your family with you. This is a family oriented organization we welcome men, women and children.

Welcome New Members

Jonathan Connor and Mike Johnson.

Brookie License Plates Stamped!

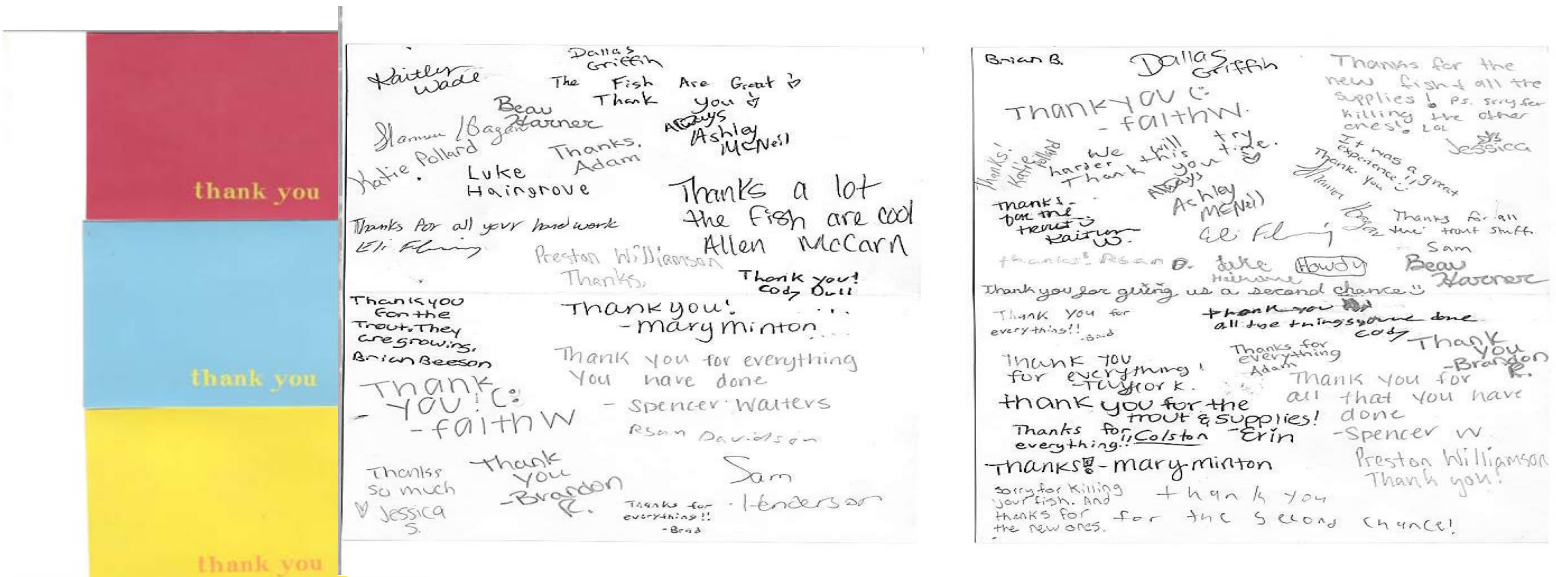


Back the Brookie License Plates are rolling in! Although I haven't received mine yet, I've heard that some folks have received theirs. And reports are the plates are stunning, even better than anticipated.

If you haven't ordered your plate, it's not too late. You can download and complete an application form from our website at <http://www.blueridgetu.org> or call me.

Newsletter On-Line

Many of us get this newsletter from the BRTU website. This saves the postage costs so we can use this money for conservation and education projects (~\$3.50 for each member annually). If you have an email address, just send it to me at loydpb@forsyth.cc and you will be notified by email when the newsletter is posted. Thanks to those of you who have already signed up for the email.



A Note from Ledford High School TIC