



Blue Ridge Chapter, Trout Unlimited Winston-Salem, North Carolina

February 2010

President's Letter

David Richards, President

Hello, Blue Ridge Members,

A landmark agreement has been reached in regard to "The Road to Nowhere."

The North Carolina Trout Unlimited State Council (NCTU) along with NC chapters, have been working for almost 40 years to reach an accord that would block the construction of an un-needed road through the wilderness. **On February 6, 2010, an agreement was signed** between the US Department of the Interior, TVA, State of North Carolina and Swain County Commissioners providing for the just compensation of Swain County and putting an end to the long-standing battle to try and construct a road on the **north shore of Fontana Lake in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.**

Provision has been made with this agreement to provide a fund of \$52 million to be held and invested by the Treasurer of North Carolina for the benefit of Swain County. State law will prohibit the principal amount from being spent unless agreed to by at least 75% of the voters of Swain County. This fund should provide from between \$2.5 to \$4 million revenue annually to Swain County.

This issue was one which precipitated the formation of Trout Unlimited in North Carolina back in the early 1970's. Our thanks go to the many members of TU and others who worked so hard to make certain Swain County received its compensation and that this road would never be built.

Chris Wood named CEO of Trout Unlimited (TU),

Trout Unlimited has announced that Chris Wood, formerly the Chief Operating Officer of TU, has been appointed Chief Executive Officer (CEO) starting Feb 1, 2010, succeeding Charles Gauvin, who has been TU's CEO since 1991.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2010

Feb 20 - Banquet

Mar 16 - Chapter Meeting

Mar 31 - Fly Tying Event

April 9-11 - Balsam Lodge Trip

Apr 20 - Chapter Meeting

2009-2010 Chapter Leadership

Officers:

David Richards, President
Mike Davis, VP
Bob Lassiter, Sec.
Peter Lloyd, Treas.
Peter Lloyd, Past Pres.

Board Members:

Chad Fulp
Brandon Frakes
Scott Larsen
Robin Searight
Jayne Sommer
Steve Hennings



40th ANNIVERSARY 2010 CONSERVATION BANQUET

FEBRUARY 20TH, 2010

THE VILLAGE INN, 6205 RAMADA DRIVE
CLEMMONS, NC

6:00 UNTIL 9:30, DINNER AT 7:00

Auction Items will include:

Guided Fly Fishing Trips
Premium Quality Fly Fishing Rods and other gear
Items for the whole family

Find the registration form, and more information
on our web site <http://www.blueridgetu.org>

or call Robin Searight, Banquet Chair, at 336-978-4759

TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM UPDATE

One of the projects that Blue Ridge TU sponsors is *Trout In The Classroom*. At four schools, BRTU has partnered with school and state officials to put tanks with trout in their classrooms.

Jeff Wilkens, a well respected guide and friend of BRTU, is shown in these pictures visiting our TIC schools, spreading the word about conservation and responsible fly fishing.

In May the students will be releasing their trout into the wild.

More at: www.ticnc.org



Chapter Meeting Announcement

The speaker at our March 16th Chapter Meeting will be George Santucci, Executive Director of National Committee for the New River. Along with land protection, restoration and advocacy pertaining to New River, NCNR is currently supporting proposed outstanding resource water reclassification for the North Fork New River watershed (including trout waters) in Ashe & Watauga counties.

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 meeting.



Events

Fly Tying Event

Date and Time: March 31, 2010 6:00 – 9:30 PM

Location: South Fork Recreation Center, the Our House (old farm house) bldg, 4403 Country Club Rd, Winston-Salem.

Nat Greene Flyfisher's Spring Banquet

March 6, 2010 – Nat Greene Flyfisher's Spring Banquet and Seminar, with very Special Guest Speakers Brian Horsley and Sarah Gardner. This year's event will be held at the Heritage Hill Banquet Facility located at 5435 N. Church St. in Greensboro NC. Details at <http://www.natgreeneflyfishers.org/>

Welcome New Members:

Jim Bland, Dave Dixon, Tim O'Connell, Tyler Parham, and William Shugart