



Blue Ridge Chapter, Trout Unlimited

Winston-Salem, North Carolina

June 2010

President's Letter

David Richards, President

The unfolding oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, caused by BP's deep water oil well, reminds me that often the public gets involved with clean water issues only after something goes wrong. It is still unclear what the final impact will be on the fish, birds, and people in the region, or even how far the oil will spread. While it is encouraging to see how people are helping to clean up the spill, it is another case of being reactive, not proactive, in protecting our planet's most precious resource: clean water.

This series of events convinces me even more that the work that TU and partner organizations are doing all over the country to proactively "conserve, protect, and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds" is important. Projects in our region include the Rocky Fork, Muddy Creek, Tellico, and Ararat River initiatives which include protection, communication, and regulations that help ensure real and permanent protection of these resources.

Water quality issues that affect our home waters in the Piedmont Triad include silt, erosion, outdated farming techniques, and sewage. Many of these have become issues because of a lack of information and education about water quality issues.

Trout Unlimited's 150,000 volunteers, and 400 chapters, are making a substantial impact today and for future generations, to make sure that our fisheries and watersheds are protected. Please volunteer and support TU's mission; you can really make a difference.

Welcome to a New Member!

Keith Keiper of High Point

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 12 – Mitchell River Stream Clean

June 15 – Chapter Meeting

July & Aug – no regular chapter meetings

July 20 and 27 - Fly Rod Building Class

Aug 14 – Yadkin River Outing

Keep up to date with events at our website:
www.blueridgeTU.org

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

Did you know...

The Blue Ridge Chapter of Trout Unlimited has 320 Members.

If you know someone who would like to join TU, refer them to the website www.TU.org where they can join.

Our chapter is number 072.

Sign up for the Rod Building Class, July 20 and 27.

Information on page 3 of this newsletter

CHAPTER MEETING JUNE 15

Our speaker at the June 15 chapter meeting will be Kevin Hining, Fisheries Biologist for the NC Wildlife Resources Commission. Kevin has been a great friend and supporter of Blue Ridge TU and our Trout In The Classroom program. His talk will be on an extensive study he has just completed on NC smallmouth fisheries and the opportunity for fantastic fly fishing for smallies here in our close-by "home water" streams. A number of our members have indicated an interest in learning more about smallmouth fishing, especially as we enter the hot summer months when the trout fishing slows down, so this should be a great presentation!

Our chapter meets at Texas Land and Cattle Steak House, at 1110 Creekshire Way, Winston-Salem, 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.

For online directions, go to <http://tinyurl.com/blueridgetu>

MITCHELL RIVER STREAM CLEAN JUNE 12

Blue Ridge Chapter of Trout Unlimited is organizing a stream clean at the Mitchell River on Saturday morning June 12th. We scheduled this cleanup one week after the June 5th "harvest" date. A lot of litter accumulates during the first week after the harvest season opens. Hopefully this will help keep the area clean through the Summer. This is a great chance to show our appreciation to the land owners for keeping this area open for fishing and for us to "give a little something back" to this close-by "home water" for good times had there over past seasons.

We will meet at the Mitchell River Delayed Harvest section at the parking area on the right, just past the Juddsville School Rd bridge. Plan to arrive at the river between 9:00 - 9:30 AM. We usually pick up trash & debris for a couple hours and then meet back at the parking area around 11:30 - noon. We'll have some drinks and sandwich makings there, and afterwards all are welcome to rig up and do some fishing! Please make plans to join Blue Ridge TU in this important conservation effort!

For more information (and for possible ride sharing candidates), please contact Bob Lassiter at (336) 723-4550 or rhlwired@triad.rr.com

For directions to the clean up site, go to this link: <http://www.tinyurl.com/mitchell-river-nc>

YADKIN RIVER OUTING

We've scheduled a fun outing at the Yadkin River near Eastbend on August 14th. This is a chance to relax, have fun, and perhaps catch a fish or two in the Yadkin river.

So mark the date on your calendars, and stay tuned for more details!



Learn the techniques to build your own fly rod. All materials will be provided in this hands-on class. No experience is required.

At the end of the two class sessions, you will have your own fly rod, ready for fishing!

When: July 20 and July 27, 2010, from 6:30pm to 9pm. (Snacks provided)

Where: South Fork Recreation Center, 4403 Country Club Rd, Winston-Salem, NC

Cost: \$125 (includes all materials)

Instructor: Rusty Berrier

Space is very limited, and is first-come, first-served!

To sign up and reserve your space, contact David Richards, at david.richards@hanesbrands.com or call 336-519-5421

More information's available at the website www.blueridgetu.org



Photos from the Trout in the Classroom (TIC) Release Day May 7th 2010.

This is the day students from Ledford High School and Ellis Middle School released the trout that they had raised in their classrooms into the river at Stone Mountain State Park. Trout in the Classroom is a program funded and managed by the Blue Ridge Chapter of Trout Unlimited.