



# **Blue Ridge Chapter, Trout Unlimited**

## **Winston-Salem, North Carolina**

**April 2011**

### **NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund and its Importance to Trout Unlimited**

By Bob Lassiter

You probably got an email recently from TU's Southeast Land Protection Coordinator Damon Hearne concerning the Clean Water Management Trust Fund.

In their efforts to balance the state budget, NC legislators are threatening to 'zero out' this important fund. There are many examples of trout fisheries and warm water areas of the state that have been protected because of the Clean Water Management Trust Fund. Wilson Creek is perhaps the best example of CWMTF dollars protecting valuable trout streams. East Fork Headwaters, Pond Mountain Game Lands, Tuckaseegee River and many other areas have benefited from this fund. You can go to [www.cwmtf.net](http://www.cwmtf.net) to see the many other CWMTF projects around the state.

So we at Blue Ridge TU want to encourage you to ask your legislators to maintain funding for one of the most important programs for protecting pristine trout streams in North Carolina.



### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**April 16** – Raven's Knob (Volunteer Opportunity)

**April 19** – Chapter Meeting

**April 27** – Fly Tying Clinic

**May 14** – Boy Scouts Merit Badge (Volunteer Opportunity)

**May 17** - Chapter Meeting

Keep up to date with events at our website:

**[www.blueridgeTU.org](http://www.blueridgeTU.org)**

### **2010-2011 Chapter Leadership**

#### **Officers:**

David Richards, President

Bob Lassiter, Sec.

Peter Lloyd, Treas.

Peter Lloyd, Past Pres.

Mike Davis, VP

#### **Board Members:**

Brandon Frakes

Scott Larsen

Robin Searight

Jayne Sommer

Tim O'Connell

Don Davidson

Barry Johnson

### **April 19th Chapter Meeting to feature Trout in the Classroom**

Our April 19th Chapter meeting will be about Trout in the Classroom. Teachers from schools participating in the program will give presentations about their experiences.

Our chapter meets at Lone Star Steakhouse, at 1110 Creekshire Way, Winston-Salem, just off of Hanes Mall Blvd across the road from Target. For online directions, go to <http://tinyurl.com/blueridgetu>

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

# Fly Tying Clinic April 27<sup>th</sup>

Barry Johnson

The chapter will be holding a fly tying clinic at the South Fork Recreation Center (beside The Crickets Nest) in Winston Salem on **Wednesday April 27<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 till 9:30 p.m.** The clinic is open to everyone. If you have not had the joy of tying a fly before this will be a great opportunity to try.

We will be featuring two flies: a gold ribbed hare's ear nymph and an elk wing caddis dry. All tools and materials necessary to tie these two patterns will be provided free of charge! You get to keep the flies you tie, or donate them to our educational programs at *Rivercourse* and *Casting for Recovery*. All proficient tiers are encouraged to attend to share techniques and patterns.

**When: Wednesday April 27<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 till 9:30 p.m.**

**Location: South Fork Recreation Center, the Our House (old farm house) bldg, 4403 Country Club Rd, Winston-Salem. For information, contact Barry Johnson: [barryj@triad.rr.com](mailto:barryj@triad.rr.com)**

**Learn to Make These Flies at our April Clinic! *No experience or tools required!***



**Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear**



**Elk Wing Caddis**

## Featured Fishing Report

# A Really Great Trip with Champion Outfitters

By Len Noyes and Bill Britt

Champion Outfitters with the South Holston River Fly Shop donated a full day wade trip to our TU Banquet. We were fortunate to win the bidding on that offer and took a trip with Matt Champion on April 4<sup>th</sup>. As you can tell in the pictures below, it was a warm, sunny day. What you cannot see, is that the TVA was releasing water at 1700 cfs all day and the wind was gusting at 20 to 40mph. Matt changed our wade trip into an all day float. But with high water and blue skies, it was doubtful that there would be a BWO hatch and from our previous experience, it looked like the fishing was going to be tough. As it turned out, the only thing that was "tough" was casting a 3 nymph rig all day. Matt answering all of our questions about the techniques and flies we were using and each of us catching 30+ fish made it a really great trip – that's the value of a guide that truly knows his home water. And by the way, there are "wild rainbows" in the S. Holston!



## March Meeting Report

Scott Larsen

March's Meeting featured Kim Hodges and Jacob Rash from NC Wildlife updating us on some new developments on trout fishing in NC. A slide show of their entire program can be viewed at [www.BlueRidgeTU.org](http://www.BlueRidgeTU.org) or by [clicking this link](#) while a summary of key points is included below.

It was mentioned that the Delayed Harvest section of the Ararat River will be opened this October and consist of 2 miles of river in Mt Airy that will have access from a trail that will run along the river but will only have vehicle access at three points: Riverside, Roe, and Tharrington School parks so some walking will be required. A map is included in the presentation. It was also mentioned that there are 4 additional DH fisheries that will be added this fall.

It was also mentioned that trout fishing in NC is worth roughly \$174 million per year in economic development and that 93,000 trout anglers spent \$146 million on trips and equipment which is worth mentioning when we communicate with our elected representatives about supporting conservation related legislation.



Work being done to restore the Ararat River in Mount Airy. This section will be available for Delayed Harvest (DH) fishing starting in October 2011



Ararat River in Mount Airy: Walkway for strolling or biking along the river.

## Balsam Lodge Weekend Pictures

Our Balsam Lodge three-day weekend was April 8, 9, 10. We had wonderful weather in the 70's and 80's, and not a drop of rain. As we typically do for this twice a year event, we ate great food together, told corny jokes, and fished the beautiful rivers of the "Western North Carolina Fly Fishing Trail"

The next Balsam Lake Lodge dates for are **October 21-22-23**. You can make your reservations with Allie by e-mail [Allie.Hutchison@hutchisonallgood.com](mailto:Allie.Hutchison@hutchisonallgood.com)

