



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

October 2011

Letter from the Chapter President

This will be the last newsletter that I send out as president of Blue Ridge Chapter of Trout Unlimited. It's with mixed feelings I write, as my two-year term as president comes to an end.

During these two years I have always felt a sense of teamwork in our chapter. A strong board of directors and an active membership has made my stint as president a joy. The ever present help and mentoring of past presidents like Peter Lloyd, Sam Sticher, Rusty Berrier, Sam Ogburn, and others, has made a lasting impression on me as I can see how much these leaders care about BRTU and continue to watch over it.

During the time I've served we've seen the continued rise of Trout In the Classroom as a primary focus of our chapter. We've seen our 40th anniversary come and go, and our chapter membership grows in size and generosity, even in these toughest of economic times.

And these have been tough times. As many of you know, I have had personal hardship in my family during the past year, as God's hand touched my daughter with leukemia a year ago. During these tough months I have felt the prayers of many of you as she has gone through tough treatments and come through as my hero. I must admit that my focus has wavered from my responsibility of president of our Chapter in the last months, and recognize that I haven't been the best president of our chapter during this past year. I reiterate proudly that our Blue Ridge Chapter is one of teamwork and a legacy of 40 years of strong Chapter leadership.

I will continue to serve on the board of directors of the Blue Ridge Chapter, as this is an organization that I believe in and am proud to be associated with.

Tight Lines

David Richards

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct 18 – Chapter Meeting

Oct 21-23 – Balsam Lodge Weekend

Oct 29 - Old Field Restoration Project see page 2

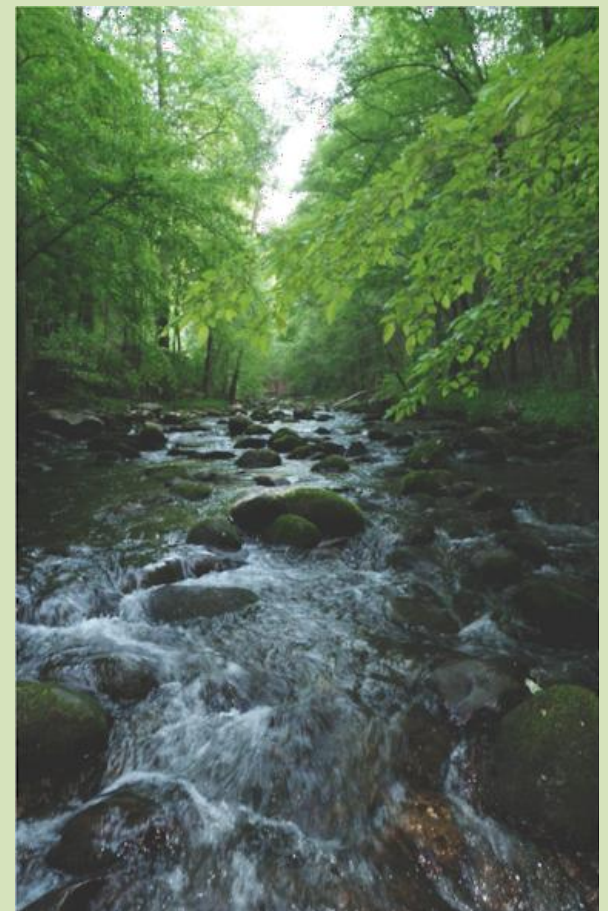
2010-2011 Chapter Leadership

Officers:

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

Board Members:

Brandon Frakes
Scott Larsen
Robin Ermine
Jayne Sommer
Tim O'Connell
Don Davidson
Barry Johnson



October 18 Chapter Meeting

The speaker for our October 18 Chapter Meeting will be Nat Greene Flyfishers chapter member Jim Brady. You'll no doubt remember Jim's entertaining and well appreciated presentation to us last year on small stream tactics (you probably greatly benefitted from his advice of "stay camouflaged and stay low"!). On Oct 18, Jim will talk about fly fishing for shad on the Roanoke and other eastern NC rivers. The Nat Greene folks have told us that it is an excellent program, and you won't want to miss it!



Our chapter meets at Lone Star Steakhouse (formerly the Texas Land and Cattle), 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>

Come to our October Chapter Meeting

Freebie Alert!

At our October Chapter Meeting we will be giving away a free **Fly Rod and Reel Combo** to a lucky attendee! All you need to be eligible to win is attend the meeting!

These door prize items are donations made by LL Bean to our chapter. Thanks LL Bean!

Oct 29 Old Fields Stream Restoration

Our chapter is planning to join the Stone Mountain TU chapter on a stream restoration of Old Fields Creek on Saturday, October 29. Old Fields is located in Fleetwood, NC (near Todd), and is a **National TU Embrace-A-Stream project**. The work will involve some live staking to stabilize the stream banks and minimize sedimentation of this wild trout tributary of the New River. The plan is to drive up Saturday morning for a 9-12AM work session, eat a streamside lunch and then either return home or do some fishing after lunch (the Helton is nearby) for those who want to stay.

It will be an interesting and beneficial activity, and more detail will be forthcoming at the Oct 18 chapter meeting and in communications later in the month.

The location is in Fleetwood, NC. There is no street address. To get to the site turn off of 221 onto Railroad Grade Road and go about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile. You will cross Old Field Creek and there is a construction road to the left into the field along the creek. 4WD can make it in, but... other vehicles may want to park on the right off of RR Grade Road after they cross the bridge.

Best to wear boots, bring gloves and hammers (for the livestakes) and spades to plant trees and shrubs. We will have some gear there, but if they can bring those items it will help.

Bring water and snacks. There is a local restaurant you can go to after the planting before heading home

Before heading out on Oct 29, check www.BlueRidgeTU.org for any updates.





Bob Lassiter, BRTU Secretary and Conservation Committee Chair

Trout In the Classroom

The Trout in the Classroom locations now have their trout eggs, and they have begun hatching. See the Facebook posts shown below for updates from excited teachers at Sugar Loaf and Davie Middle School

	
<p>Liz Cronan on Facebook: Here is a photo of the newest Sugar Loaf students. Our rainbow trout eggs. We began to see a few hatch today. Updates to follow! Thanks to everyone who have made this possible for my students! Sept 27</p>	<p>Liz Cronan on Facebook: The hatching has begun! We have observed them moving around and watched their little hearts beat! Sept 28</p>

	
<p>Liz Cronan on Facebook: The trout are growing as we speak. We can now see the caudal fin development and small absorption of the yolk sac. Oct 5</p>	<p>Marty Creech on Facebook: North Davie Middle School's eggs hatched yesterday. My students were so excited! Thanks so much for sharing this incredible experience with my students. (Video posted on Facebook Sept 30)</p>

Conservation Easement Update

Several months ago, Rodney Wright, Watershed Coordinator for the Stokes County Soil and Water Conservation District, met with our board of directors to explain the concept of Conservation Easements. At that time, our chapter made a financial donation to support the work Mr. Wright was doing in this area.

Wright explained that he had been working with landowners along the Dan river, getting them to agree to Conservation Easements. Under this arrangement, they agree to certain conservation stipulations in regards to land they own along the Dan River. In exchange for these easements, they get certain tax breaks and the knowledge that they've protected the land for generations to come. The Blue Ridge Chapter of Trout Unlimited made a donation to pay for the legal fees associated with the easements.

Wright got to work and soon thereafter closed on the first easement. We recently got an email from Wright, with this great news:

I wanted to let you know that we are very close to closing on the 2nd Easement on the Dan River at the Davis Chapel Historic Site. We should be able to close in November if nothing else comes up.

Rodney Wright
 Watershed Coordinator
 Stokes Soil & Water
 Conservation District PO Box
 98 Danbury, NC 27016

**Blue Ridge Chapter
Trout Unlimited
6025 Charring Dr
Kernersville, NC 27284**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Proposed Chapter Leadership

The proposed 2011-2012 fiscal year Board of Directors and Officers is presented here and will be voted on during our October chapter meeting.

Officers:

Mike Davis, President
Jayne Sommer, VP
Peter Lloyd, Treasurer
Bob Lassiter, Secretary
David Richards, Past Pres.

Board Members:

Brandon Frakes
Scott Larsen
Robin Ermine
Tim O'Connell
Don Davidson
Barry Johnson
Jonathan Raymer
Ron Zambor
Roy Davidson
Martin Boggess

If you have any comments about this slate, please write current chapter president David Richards (david.richards@hanesbrands.com)

BALSAM LODGE FALL TRIP PLANNED

The next Balsam Lake Lodge dates for are **October 21-22-23**. This is a chance for camaraderie and fishing the rivers and streams of the Western North Carolina Fly Fishing Trail. No experience necessary... a great way to learn from our fishing mentors.

You can make your reservations with Allie by e-mail Allie.Hutchison@hutchisonallgood.com

