



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

December 2009

President's Letter

David Richards, President

Hello, Blue Ridge Members,

Have you ever fished **Mountain Heritage Trout Waters**? A couple of weeks ago went fishing on the North Toe in Spruce Pines, NC, and learned about the Mountain Heritage Trout Water program.

According to the website: "The Mountain Heritage Trout Waters program is a cooperative effort between the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission and local governments to encourage trout fishing as a heritage tourism activity in western North Carolina cities that are designated as a "Mountain Heritage Trout Water City." The cities are Newland, Spruce Pine, Waynesville, Bakersville, and Maggie Valley. See a map to the right.

Really nice maps and information are available at the website (Just Google *Mountain Heritage Trout Waters* to find it) and they even have arranged to let people borrow fishing gear at these locations.

The North Toe in Spruce Pines, as all five of the Mountain Heritage Trout Waters, runs right through the downtown area. I also went to Bakersville, and it's the same story... you can fish right in town! The waters are **stocked extra well**, in order to attract tourist anglers that could provide an **economic impact** to these small towns.

Does trout fishing really provide that much of an *economic benefit*? It seems so. According to the NC Wildlife Resources Commission study, "The Economic Impacts of Mountain Trout Fishing on North Carolina," the total impact of mountain trout fishing is estimated at \$174,000 per year. "Total economic impact of hatchery supported waters measured \$72.7 million; \$55.2 million for wild trout waters and \$46.5 million for delayed harvest. "

It's good to see that the mountain trout that Blue Ridge TU are actively protecting are providing a significant economic benefit.

I hope that all the members of Blue Ridge Trout Unlimited, and their families, have a **Merry Christmas!**

David

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER, 2009 NO CHAPTER MEETING
DECEMBER 9, 2009 FLY TYING EVENT
JANUARY 19, 2010, 6:00 PM BRTU CHAPTER MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 2010 - ANNUAL BANQUET

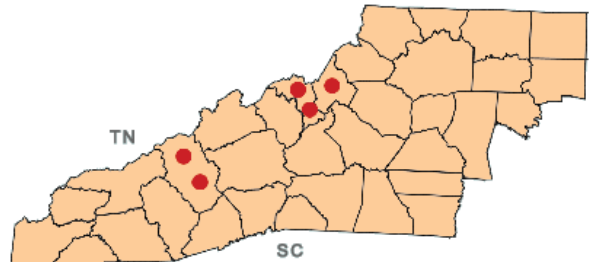
2009-2010 Chapter Leadership

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



Mountain Heritage Trout Waters

HOLD THE DATE! BANQUET ALERT

Our **2010 Conservation Banquet** will be February 20, 2010. Details to follow.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the banquet, please David Richards at david.richards@hanesbrands.com



Blue Ridge Chapter
Trout Unlimited
6025 Charring Rd
Kernersville, NC 27284

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Chapter Meeting Announcement

There will be no chapter meeting for December.

Our speaker for January 19th will be author Jim Casada.

November Chapter Meeting Report

Our November Chapter Meeting speaker was Squeak Smith. Squeak's presentation was about projects that he has been involved with, including Tellico and Muddy Creek. This includes photographs of the bridge that is being built at Muddy Creek. Squeak also showed slides of his fishing adventures over the past year, for steelhead and trout. Squeak is an inspiration in his volunteerism and dedication to the mission of Trout Unlimited.



Welcome New Members!

Michael Agee, Ethan Carros, Katharine Cornatzer, Riley Frakes, Jared Keiper, Mike Quinn. and Corbin Ratcliffe.

Other News

Fly Tying Event, December 9

You are invited to attend a Fly Tying Event, on December 9th. You can come to learn about fly tying while watching some of our members tie their favorite patterns. Holiday theme cookies, eggnog, and such will help us celebrate.

If you are a fly tier of any level, feel free to come prepared to learn, demonstrate, and contribute.

All flies tied at this event will be *donated* to Casting for Recovery, and Rivercourse.

Date and Time: Wed, Dec 9, 6:00 – 9:30 PM

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

Newsletter On-Line – Are You Being *Green*?

Faster, Cheaper, Greener! Thanks to the BRTU members that have signed up to get this newsletter via email and our website. This saves the planet, and also saves on postage costs. It is easy to sign up for the e-newsletter... just send me your email address to david.richards@hanesbrands.com and you will be notified when newsletters are posted.

