



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

January 2009

## President's Letter

Peter Lloyd, President

Hello, Blue Ridge Members,

Happy New Year everyone and I hope it's going to be a good one! Although the financial outlook is not good and any recovery is months, if not years, away, there is hope and plenty to keep us busy this year. As we're looking ahead in the new year there will plenty of opportunities for all of us to participate, have fun, and contribute TU's mission *To conserve, protect, and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.*

First up is our Annual Conservation Banquet on Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. In addition to being our one major fundraising event of the year, this is a great opportunity to meet members and other guests while having a great time. We'll also have displays on *Trout in the Classroom*, and other activities your Chapter has been doing. I realize that many of us have fewer dollars this year, but I believe this small investment is well worth the cost. So make your plans to attend and please bring your family and friends. There will be plenty of prizes, so everyone can be a winner while supporting our Chapter.

On Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, the schools participating in our *Trout in the Classroom* projects will release their trout at Stone Mountain Park. Ledford High School will release their trout around 9:00 AM followed by Sugarloaf Elementary at around 9:45. We have reserved the biggest shelter at the park for education, fun and a cook-out. Kevin Hining and some of the park rangers will give presentations and have an electro fishing demonstration. We need volunteers to work with the kids so mark your calendars and Join us for this landmark event for our Chapter.

In the Spring we will. On that Saturday, May 2, we will be working with the Boy Scouts at Ravens Knob teaching the many aspects of fly fishing and conservation for earning the Fly Fishing Merit Badge. This class is popular with the scouts and we always have a large turnout so the more people we have to work with the scouts the better. You don't need to be an expert at knots, fly tying, or casting; just a willingness to work with kids and have fun.

We also plan to have to have a couple of stream cleans. The first will be at Helton Creek on April 25<sup>th</sup>. This will be the same format as the Mitchell River stream clean we had this past October: morning clean up followed by lunch and an afternoon of fishing. The second will be at the Mitchell River towards the end of June. This is the time of year

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JAN. 20, 2009, 6:00 PM BRTU CHAPTER MEETING  
FEB. 21, 2009, ANNUAL FUND RAISING BANQUET  
MARCH 17, 2009, 6:00 PM BRTU CHAPTER MEETING  
APRIL 3, 2009, TIC RELEASE OUTING  
APRIL 3-5, 2009, BALSAM LODGE RETREAT  
APRIL 21, 2009, 6:00 PM BRTU CHAPTER MEETING  
APRIL 25, 2009, HELTON CREEK STREAM CLEAN  
MAY 2, 2009, FLY FISHING MERIT BADGE

## 2008-2009 Chapter Leadership

### Officers:

Peter Lloyd, President  
Eugene Pope, VP  
David Richards, Sec.  
Bill Remaley, Treas.

### Board Members:

Dan Benfield  
Michael Davis  
Chad Fulp  
Steve Hennings  
Bob Lassiter

when litter is at its peak after the heavy fishing at the beginning of the harvest season. This may be our most important stream clean since it will do so much to preserve the aesthetic quality of the area and show our respect for the property the land owner has generously opened for our enjoyment.

Later in the Summer, first Saturday in August, we will be participating in The National Turkey Federation's *Jakes Day*. This event teaches kids many outdoor activities including fishing and hunting and helps them develop a conservation ethic consistent with TU's mission. Again, you don't have to be an expert, just the willingness to work with kids and have fun.

For those of us looking for that cold water escape, we have set the dates for the Balsam Lodge outings. The Spring outing will be April 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 5<sup>th</sup> and the Fall outing will be October 2<sup>nd</sup> through the 4<sup>th</sup>. If you're interested, you can get a sign up form from our website: <http://www.blueridgetu.org/>.

Finally, don't forget our Regular Chapter meetings. Our meetings are on the third Tuesday for the Months of January, and March through June. We have the meeting room at Texas Land and Cattle Steak House reserved for these dates and are working to bring interesting and timely programs for you.

So as we go into this New Year, one resolution I hope we can all make is to take advantage of our Chapter's activities a little more. I hope to see you at our meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup>.

Peter  
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## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### Chapter Meeting Announcement

**Dave Maeda**, the current for North Carolina Trout Unlimited State Council will be our speaker for the January 20<sup>th</sup> chapter meeting. Dave will talk about the activities, priorities and goals of our State Council and how we can contribute. This will be great opportunity to ask questions and learn about issues such as ORV conflicts along the Tellico and others.

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 organization we welcome men, women and children.

### Have You Surfed our New Website?

We changed our website last Fall to update the appearance and add functionality. Go to <http://www.blueridgetu.org> and check it out. If your internet browser still takes you to the old Piedmont Communities site, type or click the link above. The primary goal of this site is to keep you informed so let us know what you think and if you have any suggestions.

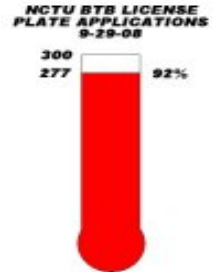
### Newsletter On-Line

Many of us get this newsletter from the BRTU website. This saves the postage costs so we can use this money for conservation and education projects (~\$3.50 for each member annually). If you have an email address, just send it to me at [lloydpb@forsyth.cc](mailto:lloydpb@forsyth.cc) and you will be notified by email when the newsletter is posted. Thanks to those of you who have already signed up for the email.

### Welcome New Members

Phillip Dotson, Jim Fealy, Bill and Cindy Linscott, Marc Leonard, Bill McKenzie, Michael Blau, Rodger Holley, Mark Howell, George Sealey, and Brian P. Lasley

### Get Your Official NCTU License Plate Now!



### DON'T DELAY! MAIL YOUR APPLICATION TODAY!

We're even closer but still need those last few applications to have the *Back the Brookie* license plates printed. You can download and complete an application form from our website at <http://www.blueridgetu.org> or call me.

### BRTU 2009 Conservation Banquet

The Blue Ridge Chapter of Trout Unlimited will hold its 2009 Conservation Banquet on Saturday, February 21st. The banquet will be at The Village Inn, 6205 Ramada Drive, in Clemmons, NC from 6:00 PM until 9:30 PM. Dinner will be served at 7:00 PM.

Come and talk with BRTU members and guests, and learn what the chapter has been doing. There will be several activities including Live and Silent Auctions, Bucket Raffles and more for folks to enjoy while supporting the Blue Ridge Chapter.

You should receive your invitations in the mail soon or you can make your reservations now by going to our website and downloading a registration form. Early registrants will receive a \$5.00 discount so don't delay.

This event isn't just for TU members. In fact it's one of our greatest opportunities to engage our community and gain their support. So bring your family, friends and neighbors, to show them a great time while learning about our great organization.