



Blue Ridge Chapter, Trout Unlimited

Winston-Salem, North Carolina

June 2008

President's Letter

Peter Lloyd, President

Hello, Blue Ridge Members,

I hope everyone is doing well and taking a little time to cool off in a favorite stream. One more reason to *Protect, Reconnect, Restore, and Sustain* our cold water fisheries.

We had an excellent program at our May meeting although attendance was down a little due, in part, to it being postponed a week. Kevin Hining, a Fishery Biologist with the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, proved to be very knowledgeable and people had a lot of questions. Kevin also shared many little known "secret" fishing spots. I'm sorry I had to miss this one.

We are taking somewhat of a break for the Summer and will not have Chapter meetings in July and August. However we will be participating in Jakes on August 2. Jakes' Day introduces kids to many outdoor activities including fishing and hunting and helps them develop a conservation ethic consistent with TU's mission. Contact me or Steve Hennings at (336) 407-1206 or SHENNINGS@TRIAD.RR.COM for more information. BRTU will also be working this Summer to prepare for our *Trout in the Classroom* project with Ledford High School. BRTU is providing equipment and will help with maintenance for the project allowing science teachers to incorporate TIC into their curriculum. TIC requires a large commitment from the Chapter and school but it's more than worth the effort. You can learn more about TIC at: <http://www.troutintheclassroom.org>. Contact Steve Hennings at (336) 407-1206 or SHENNINGS@TRIAD.RR.COM if you would like to get involved with this project.

At the National level, the House and Senate voted to override President Bush's veto of the new Farm Bill in May. The new law provides increased funding for programs which TU has historically used for beneficial partnership projects with ranchers and farmers. These include the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

Also, the Annual Members Meeting will be held September 12 - 14, 2008 at the Snowbird Resort in Salt Lake City, Utah. Beginning August 1, members can obtain the 2008 proxy at www.tu.org or through the mail by calling (703) 522-0200.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE 17, 2008, 6:00 PM BRTU CHAPTER MEETING

AUGUST 3, 2008, JAKES DAY

SEPTEMBER 16, 2008, 6:00 PM BRTU CHAPTER MEETING

DECEMBER 5-7. BALSAM LODGE OUTING

2007-2008 Chapter Leadership

Officers:

Peter Lloyd, President
Dan Benfield, VP
David Richards, Sec.
Bill Remaley, Treas.

Board Members:

Michael Davis
Chad Fulp
Steve Hennings
Eugene Pope
Paul Scheponik
Sam Wauford

Before signing off for the Summer, I'd like share some information I found on the Seth Green Chapter web site (Rochester, NY, 073) concerning stream etiquette. Here's my condensed version:

- Respect and maintain good relations with landowners. Ask permission before crossing private land to reach a public fishing area.
- Keep areas clean and pick up the litter you see.
- The first person in a pool or run has the fishing rights to it. If the river is crowded, make sure you're are at least a long cast (80-90 ft) away from anyone else.
- When you encounter another angler, get out of the water and move well past them before entering again.
- Whoever is working upstream has the right-of-way.
- If another angler is at a spot but not fishing, ask if they are 'resting' the spot. If so, get out and go around them.
- And most importantly, "do unto others as you would want them to do unto you."

I hope to see you at our next chapter meeting.

Peter

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Trout Unlimited
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Chapter Meeting Announcement

Dan Benfield, Program Chair

The program for our June 17th chapter meeting will be given by Jeff Wilkins on fishing the Smith River tailrace. Jeff operates Jeffery Wilkins Fly Fishing in Summerfield, NC. <http://www.jeffreywilkinsflyfishing.com/> and has over 20 years of fly fishing experience. He guides and teaches casting, fly tying, and fly fishing.

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.

Summer Reading

TU's website is a great resource and Summer's a great time for reading when it's too hot to get out. Check out TU's website. A couple publications you might find interesting:

- Healing Troubled Waters: Preparing Trout and Salmon Habitat for a Changing Climate
<http://www.tu.org/site/c.kkLRJ7MSKtH/b.3631729/>
- Eastern Brook: Roadmap to Restoration
<http://www.tu.org/site/c.kkLRJ7MSKtH/b.3631729/>

If you don't 'surf,' I'll be happy to send you a hard copy.



DON'T DELAY! MAIL YOUR APPLICATION TODAY!

The North Carolina *Back the Brookie* license plate is now available. To reserve your new license plate, you can download and complete an application form from our website at <http://www.blueridgetu.org> or call me.

The plates are \$20 or \$50 for a personalized plate and NCTU receives \$10 from each plate (\$20 from personalized plates). We've collected around 230 applications so far but need 300 before the DMV will be able to begin printing the plates. As an added bonus, one of the first 300 applicants will win a Winston Fly Rod! We've also sweetened the pot for BTRU members with a drawing for RIO Grand 3 WFF fly line, backing and a leader. Thanks to everyone who made this possible.

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 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

Patrick Welsh and Jeff Selless