



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

November 2009

President's Letter

David Richards, President

Hello, Blue Ridge Members,

Trout in the Classroom is a project that BRTU has been involved for the last couple of years, and I believe that this project will have a significant impact as the children and educators learn everything about trout.

Trout in The Classroom (TIC) consists of the installation and maintenance of fish tanks in schools, the growing of fish from egg for about six months, and then releasing the fish into a river. All the while, it is an educational opportunity for the kids, as they learn about the life cycle of trout, and also gain valuable lessons about responsibility.



BRTU has grown to four schools with TIC this year: Sugarloaf Elementary, Ledford High School, Sandy Ridge Elementary, and Ellis Middle School. Today all four schools have tanks set up, the tiny trout have hatched and are growing, and the kids are loving it. They even name the fish! May 3rd and May 7th, 2010, will be the days that kids will release the trout at Stone Mountain State Park.

I hope to see our TIC program continue to grow in the future, with even more locations. I am encouraged by the pictures I see at www.ticnc.org of a diverse group of kids with such enthusiasm for their trout! Thanks to everyone that is involved.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER 17, 2009, 6:00 PM BRTU CHAPTER MEETING
DECEMBER, 2009 NO CHAPTER MEETING
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

HOLD THE DATE!

Our **2010 Conservation Banquet** will be February 20, 2010, at The Village Inn, 6205 Ramada Drive, in Clemmons. Details to follow.



Report on the Mitchell River Clean-up

Despite a weather report of severe thunderstorms, several BRTU members showed up to help on the October 24th for the second *Fall Mitchell River Clean-up*. We had perfect weather. We picked up several bags of trash, and broke for fishing at about 11am. Dan Benfield brought sandwiches, chips, and huge cookies, and Peter Lloyd brought the drinks. Some stayed to fish for the afternoon, and with lots of leaves floating around, the fishing was challenging. The fall colors were spectacular and made even more significant because we had cleaned up the litter making it a beautiful view.

Thanks to Dan Benfield for his help in organizing this Conservation project.

Chapter Meeting Announcement

The program for the November 17 chapter meeting will be given by Squeak Smith. Mr. Smith is a member of TU's Board of Trustees, and has been a full time volunteer at virtually every level of TU since 1986. He also publishes a newsletter, *Squeaks Squiggles*, which you can read on NCTU's website, <http://www.nctu.org>. His presentation will provide an update on Muddy Creek, Tellico, as well as other activities. He will also provide an update on what's going on 'nationally' with TU and entertain questions on other projects, not to mention some exciting fishing shots to keep our interest.

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 meeting.

October Chapter Meeting Report

Our October Chapter Meeting speaker was BRTU member Mosby Vogler. Mosby spoke about fly fishing for bonefish on Grand Bahama Island. His presentation included lots of pictures of big fish, bright sun, and what looks like a great experience. Mosby's web site, with more information and pictures, is <http://grandbahamabonefishing.com/>

Other News

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.



Rivercourse 2010 Applications

Applications are now being accepted for Rivercourse 2010. The dates for Rivercourse 2010 are June 20-25, 2010. Applications from Chapter sponsored campers will be given preference until **December 15th** after which campers will be accepted on a first come-first accepted basis. Rivercourse is open to boys and girls age 13-15. The cost for the summer camp is \$595.00 More information and an application can be found at : <http://www.nctu.org/rivercourse.html>.