



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

October 2008

President's Letter

Peter Lloyd, President

Hello, Blue Ridge Members,

I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying the cooler temperatures. I'm glad that we are having some rain this fall compared to this time last year when the Wildlife Resources Commission had to reduce its stockings because of the lack of water in our streams. I had to remind myself of this during a few brief showers last Friday while I played hooky to fish on the Mitchell River. A few cooperative fish helped distract me from the wet weather.

The first order of business is the election of officers for our chapter for fiscal year 2009. The Nominations Committee presented a proposed slate of officers at our September 16th chapter meeting. At that time we were short one director to complete the board as specified in our bylaws. Since then we have completed the proposed slate which is as follows:

Immediate Past President	Vacant (*)
President	Peter Lloyd
Vice President	Eugene Pope
Treasurer	Bill Remaley
Secretary	David Richards
Director	Dan Benfield
Director	Bob Lassiter

(*) Our immediate past president, Sam Stitcher, is currently serving as treasurer for our State Council.

The board consists of the officers and no fewer than 6 directors. Directors that will continue serving their 3 year terms on the board are Mike Davis, Chad Fulp, Steve Hennings, and Sam Wauford. Paul Scheponik is stepping down from the board and I want to thank him for donating his time and serving on the board. The proposed slate will be presented for approval by the membership at our

Website Woes

I'd like to apologize to everyone for the extended outage of our website. Despite the guaranteed 100% uptime, we were offline for about two weeks due to a massive server outage at our hosting company. That is unacceptable and we taking steps to be able to move the site quickly should we have any further problems with our current vendor. I received several messages about this from members and want to encourage everyone to let me know if and when you experience problems with our site (or anything re. TU for that matter). *Peter Lloyd*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- OCT. 18, 2008, MITCHELL R. STREAM CLEAN & FISH
- OCT. 21, 2008, 6:00 PM BRTU CHAPTER MEETING
- NOV 8, 2008, MUDDY CREEK FIELD TRIP (TENTATIVE)
- NOV. 18, 2008, 6:00 PM BRTU CHAPTER MEETING
- JAN. 20, 2008, 6:00 PM BRTU CHAPTER MEETING

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

October 21st chapter meeting and members may make nominations from the floor.

In NCTU news, an Action Alert has been issued concerning DOT's proposal to build a four-lane highway between Stecoah and Robbinsville in the far western corner of the state. The proposed route, Corridor K, would impact water quality in many cold water streams and expose acid bearing rock in addition to impacts to mature forests and wildlife habitats, pristine mountain vistas, the Appalachian Trail, and Nantahala National Forest among others. This proposed route has the potential to adversely impact many cold water streams while alternative solutions to transportation that would result in lower environmental impacts and cost tax payers less are available. To learn more go to <http://www.stopi3.org>.

To end on a positive note I will simply report that our two Trout in the Classroom projects, Ledford HS and Sugarloaf Elementary, are off to great starts! I strongly encourage you to take a look at the progress at <http://www.ticnc.org>. You won't be disappointed with this investment your chapter has made in the future.

I hope you will join us at our Chapter meeting on the 21st.

Peter
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Chapter Meeting Announcement

Dan Benfield, Program Chair

Dick Everhart, Natural Resource Conservationist, with the Natural Resource Conservation Service in Surry County will be our speaker for the October 21 Meeting. Dick has been working on stream protection and restoration along the Mitchell River and its tributaries for 20 years. Dick will cover the history of restoration and protection on the Mitchell and will present to our chapter various planned restoration activities that we may consider for our involvement. The Feb 08 issue of *Wildlife in North Carolina* had an excellent article on restoration activities on the Mitchell.

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.

**Get Your Official NCTU License Plate Now!
We Still Need YOUR Application**



DON'T DELAY! MAIL YOUR APPLICATION TODAY!

We're close (275) but still need a few more 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> (click "Conservation & Education") or call me.

As if having one of these beautiful license plates to show the world you support TU isn't enough, one of the first 300 people to apply for their plate will win a **Winston LT5, 6'9" mid flex 3 weight, 5 piece rod and Lamson Velocity I Hard Alox reel**. That's better than a 1 in 300 chance to win a \$924 combo!

Mitchell River Clean-up – Saturday, October 18

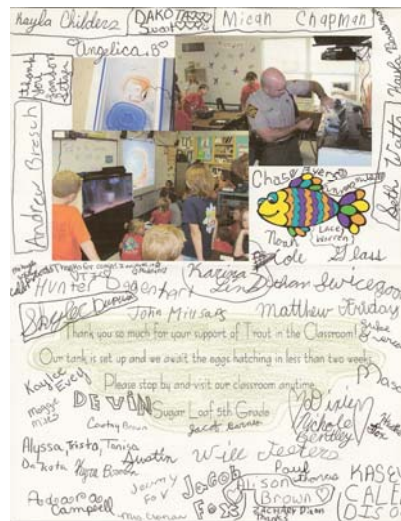
Dan Benfield

October 18 will be our first Annual Mitchell River Clean-up. This is a collaborative effort with the Stone Mt. Chapter, the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, and the NC Department of Transportation to clean-up the Mitchell and access sites, with special emphasis on the Delayed Harvest area. Keeping the Mitchell and its access sites and roads free of litter and debris is important to the resource and to the continued public access for angling. This is your chance to help – so make plans to be with the Chapter at this important TU conservation effort. In addition to the clean-up, we will also have a lunch provided by the chapter and spend some time after lunch breaking into groups and enjoying some angling. This will be an opportunity for new members and any beginner fly anglers to receive some hands-on assistance.

We will meet at the Mitchell River Delayed Harvest Area at the Parking area on the right, just past the Juddsville School Rd bridge between 9-9:30am. Or, if you would like to carpool we will depart from the McDonalds on Jonestown Rd/421 at 7:45am. Litter bags and gloves will be provided by NCDOT.

Please Contact Dan Benfield at 723-7165 or dancon7@earthlink.net for questions and to sign-up.
We need an estimate on folks attending lunch.

SO - GRAB YOUR WADERS AND GEAR - BE THERE!



BRTU's Trout in the Classroom programs are off to a great start.

The children at Sugarloaf are excited about TIC and showed their appreciation as only they can.

Many thanks to the NC Wildlife Commission, the schools, and our members for making TIC possible.