



Blue Ridge Chapter, Trout Unlimited

Winston-Salem, North Carolina

October 2010

President's Letter

David Richards, President

Hello, Blue Ridge Members,

At our last Chapter Meeting, on September 21, we held our Chapter election. The chapter members attending the meeting approved the officers and board members that appear to the right of this column. I wish to welcome on board three new board members, Tim O'Connell, Don Davidson, and Barry Johnson. I am looking forward to a great year for Blue Ridge Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

This is our 40th year for our Chapter, and at this milestone it is a good time to **reflect on our mission and vision**. Our mission should answer the question "why do we exist" and our vision the question "how do we see ourselves in the future." One of the goals of Trout Unlimited is to move toward working as one organization, as opposed to chapters with different (sometimes competing) agendas. Another goal of Trout Unlimited is to work in three conservation areas of Protect, Reconnect, Restore, Sustain (P,R,R,S).

Trout Unlimited is a "grass roots" organization, which means to me that **it is the support of members**, and not only leadership, that are our strength. As we define our Chapter's agenda and priorities for 2010-2011 and beyond, we **need the support** of our chapter's members to volunteer and financially support our activities. We can also use the input of members to help us define our Chapter's programs .

What would you like to see more of?
What would you like to see less of?
Are we heading in the right direction?

If you have input regarding the strategic direction of our chapter, or if you are interested in getting more involved, please shoot me an email at david.richards@hanesbrands.com .

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct 9-11 Balsam Lodge Trip

Oct 19 – Chapter Meeting: Jim Brady – Nat Greene Fly Fishers

Oct 27 - Free Fly Tying Workshop

Nov 16 – Chapter Meeting: Damon Hearne – TU Southeast Land Protection

Keep up to date with events at our website:

www.blueridgeTU.org

2010-2011 Chapter Leadership

Officers:

David Richards, President
Bob Lassiter, Sec.
Peter Lloyd, Treas.
Peter Lloyd, Past Pres.
Mike Davis, VP

Board Members:

Brandon Frakes
Scott Larsen
Robin Searight
Jayne Sommer
Tim O'Connell
Don Davidson
Barry Johnson

TU Mission

To conserve, protect, and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

TU Vision

By the next generation, Trout Unlimited will ensure that robust populations of native and wild coldwater fish once again thrive within their North American range, so that our children can enjoy healthy fisheries in their home waters.

Elements of the TU Strategic Plan

- Conservation
- Engagement
- Communications
- Funding

Jim Brady to Present at October 19th Chapter Meeting

Our October 19 Chapter Meeting will feature fly fishing expert and guide Jim Brady. The topic will be "**Strategies for Mountain Trout Fishing.**"

Jim grew up in Connecticut and lived in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, where he received an MS and PhD in entomology at Penn State University. He learned to fly fish on the hard pressed streams of Connecticut, underwent a considerable education on Pennsylvania limestone streams and had his technique verified on western waters.

He has have fished throughout New England, in central and south central Pennsylvania, much of Yellowstone Park (including the backcountry), Montana and Alaska. An Jim says he has enjoyed his time "revealing North Carolina's secrets."

Our chapter meets at **Lone Star Steakhouse**, at 1110 Creekshire Way, Winston-Salem, just off of Hanes Mall Blvd across the road from Target. This is the *same address* that we've been meeting at for the past 3 years, but the *name has changed* from "Texas Land and Cattle" to "Lone Star." 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.

For online directions, go to <http://tinyurl.com/blueridgetu>

Trout in the Classroom TIC Update

Rainbow Trout eggs, and supplies, were delivered to the TIC classrooms on September 24th. The Trout in the Classroom project, with the support of Blue Ridge Chapter members Steve Hennings, Mike Davis, and Brandon Fraser, is an educational program in which fish tanks are installed in classrooms. Trout eggs are delivered and the kids can view the lifecycle of the fish for several months. In May, the kids will release the trout into the Roaring River in Stone Mountain State Park.

Free Fly Tying Workshop on October 27th

We will be holding a Fly Tying Workshop on Wednesday, October 27th. This is a great, informal, and fun way to learn about tying flies, even if you have no experience. All you need is your curiosity! All equipment and supplies will be provided, free of charge. Experienced fly tiers are also encouraged to come, to demonstrate and teach. You get to keep the flies you tie, or donate them to our educational programs at *Rivercourse* and *Casting for Recovery*. Refreshments provided.

Date and Time: October 27, 2010 6:00 – 9:30 PM

Location: South Fork Recreation Center, the Our House (old farm house) bldg, 4403 Country Club Rd, Winston-Salem. For information, contact Bob Lassiter Bob.Lassiter@TIMCO.aero

Delayed Harvest Begins October 1

RALEIGH, N.C. (Sept. 24, 2010) – The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission will implement [delayed-harvest regulations](#) on 22 trout waters in 15 western North Carolina counties on Oct. 1. Before Oct. 1, hatchery-supported regulations apply to these waters.

Under delayed-harvest regulations, no trout can be harvested or possessed from these waters between Oct. 1, 2010, and one half-hour after sunset on June 3, 2011. No natural bait is allowed, and anglers can fish only with single-hook, artificial lures. An artificial lure is defined as a fishing lure that neither contains nor has been treated with any substance that attracts fish by the sense of taste or smell.

For more information on delayed-harvest regulations, weekly stocking updates, or trout fishing maps, visit www.ncwildlife.org/fishing.

Making Connections through TU

By Scott Larson

For those who missed our October chapter meeting, it was great!!!!!!!!!!!! We had 36 folks who attended, great food, and a lot of good connections taking place.

David introduced the new member leaders for this year and well as new members, Alexis Grove spoke about her experience at the Rivercourse fly fishing camp, Rusty and Sam updated us on recent TU regional meetings, and Alex Bell described the Fly Fishing trail that has been established in western NC. Alex was very knowledgeable and helpful, and offered to take anyone who has had a recent tour of Afghanistan or Iraq on a free one day guided fishing trip. He indicated that he didn't mind helping folks who were coming to the area making connections..... for instance he helped Sam make a connection on a shuttle service for a float trip he was planning on the Tuck. So if you are headed out to Jackson county and need some information make the connection..... his number is 828-226-3833 and his email is alex@abfish.org.

What really impressed me was the tremendous amount to diverse knowledge that our members have and the connections that were being made and the information that was being exchanged during the meeting.

I was lucky and sat in the middle four folks who were new to the chapter and was able to get two of them connected to Allie Hutchison who updated them on the Balsam Lodge Trip while I got an update on fishing the South Holston (it is roughly a 2.5 hr drive, the fish can be very selective since they are feeding on hatches, it is tailwater fishing and there is good wading access when they are not generating, the fishing this summer has been fantastic, South Holston fly shop 423-878-2872 has links to release info, fishing blog, and hatch charts) as well as some new ideas on accessing the Yadkin River near Pilot Mountain State Park (There is access on both sides of the river. You can get fairly easy access on the west side but that side sometimes is a little more crowded with party goers etc. On the east side there is a trail that parallels the river that is not as crowded but access to the river can only be accomplished by navigating a fairly steep bank.)

My fellow member leaders are very interested in helping our membership make connections and be more successful fishermen and TU members. So if you are new to the area or just want to make some new connections to help you improve you're fishing experience I suggest that you come to our meetings and contact me or one of the other board members. We can help you make the connections with other members to improve your fishing skills. It might be that we would organize a mentor day if we have a number of new folks that folks that need help on basic skills or it might be that we could recommend fellow members if you are interested in expanding your fishing horizons to the Trophy waters in Cherokee, or the South Toe in Spruce Pine, etc. I am confident that we can help you make the connection to catch more fish!!!!!! Our list of board members with contact info is located on our web site at [Officers and Board of Directors](#)

So tight lines and good connections

Scott Larsen

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