



The Kom Dunker



April 2012

Newsletter of the Cohutta Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Lines from the Leader

Hello,

The end of March and April sure has been busy with Trout in the Classroom releases, Sweep the Hooch and the upcoming Fly Fish for Vets day.... Thanks to all who have lent a hand and to those who have helped to coordinate those events. Please be sure to sign in at the meeting and enter the hours you have worked in support of these events. If you are not able to make the meetings please send me an email with what event you helped with and your total hours including travel.

This month's presenter at our chapter meeting will be Steve Hudson and the topic will be salt water fly fishing. I am told by Joe Richard's to encourage folks to arrive early since Steve will be tying a few salt water flies which is probably something new to most of us.

I hope to see a lot of you at the Fly Fish for Vets day on April 21st, the chapter meeting on Thursday April 26th and the Stream of the Month trip to the Davidson the weekend of the 27th - 29th.

Take care,

Tony
Tony Rackie
tu242prz@gmail.com
<http://tucohutta.org>

Steve Hudson will be this month's presenter at the Meeting

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Calendar of Events

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|-------------------------------|--|
| Cohutta Chapter Meeting | April 26 th |
| Cohutta SOTM Davidson | April 27 th -29 th |
| Cohutta Chapter Meeting | May 24 th |
| Cohutta SOTM Toccoa Tailwater | June 2 nd |

**Meetings are held at the Delkwood Grill
1 mile east of I75 on Delk Road in Marietta,
the fourth Thursday of the month.**



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Don't forget to visit our Web Site at
www.tucohutta.org

Membership:

If you run into anyone interested in seeing what TU and our chapter is all about get them a copy of our newsletter, point them to our web page, or have them contact me.

If you are not sure if you are correctly assigned to our chapter or if your membership is current please review your profile at <http://www.tu.org/user> or contact me for assistance.

Tony

Chapter Membership and information:
tu242info@gmail.com

Sign up for TU or Renew Your TU Membership.
<http://www.tumembership.org/member/intro>
Please enter chapter **242** to be sure you are assigned to our chapter

Current Membership Info:

(as of 04/15/12)

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Active Members = 543 | Prior Month = 509 |
| New Members = 0 | |
| Renewed/Contributed = 0 | |
| Soon to Expire (This Month) = 7 | |
| Expired (Last Month) = 17 | |
| Transferred In (30 days prior) = 1 | |
| Transferred Out (30 days prior) = 2 | |
| Address Changes (30 days prior) = 0 | |
| Stream Explorers (children) = 11 | |
| Source: http://leadersonly.tumembership.org/reports/chapter_membership | |

Some items to check:

- Has your membership expired or will it soon?
- Are you correctly assigned to our chapter? (**Cohutta 242**)



<http://www.streamexplorers.org/>

You can also check out the info available from TU related to youth, and you may want to consider giving a subscription to the TU Stream Explorers as a gift to a friend or family member.
<http://www.tu.org/about-us/youth-education-and-outreach>

A **“Welcome”** to the new folks to our chapter since the last newsletter. We hope to meet you at one of our upcoming chapter functions. Please



a member of **Earth Share**
OF GEORGIA

feel free to contact one of the leaders of the chapter if you have any questions.

Name and City

Ronald Allen - Lithia Springs
Erik Boyle - Dallas
Peter Bray - Atlanta
John Brooks - Marietta
Dr. Sean Brumfield - Marietta
Coreg Bryant - Marietta
Matthew Camp - Woodstock
Pierre Charette - Acworth
Reynolds Couch - Atlanta
Rick Covington - Columbus
Inez Darnell - Canton
Michael Edge - Woodstock
Rich Golick - Smyrna
Jerry Guynn - Marietta
Kevin Kornegay - Carrollton
Jose Marsano - Kennesaw
Craig Ormond - Acworth
Nancy Quintrell - Atlanta
Gary Roberts - Woodstock
Roland Seim - Smyrna
David Snaders - Cartersville
Zimm Staats - Atlanta
Alveretta Stiefel - Douglasville
Ron Sudduth - Douglasville

Source: Chapter 242 Roster with join date > Mar 15, 2012

From [My TU](#)

Source: <http://www.tu.org/member-services/welcome-to-my-tu>

What's New in VolOps

Online Trainings

Join us for our upcoming conservation and volunteer training sessions and tap into the expertise of our staff and volunteers. All web conference trainings are held at 8 p.m. EST unless otherwise noted. Contact Rob Keith to register.

- May 8 - Training: Aquatic Invasive Species
- June 5 - Training: How to Help Disabled Anglers
- June 25 - Training: "Give TU A Voice" - Effective Grassroots Advocacy
- July 10 - Training: "The Fine Print" - Learn TU's Policies and Practices

Regional Meetings

Whether you are new to TU or have been with us for years, TU's regional meetings are unique opportunities for volunteer leaders to experience the wide range of everything TU does. With four regional

meetings in the works for 2012, each including fishing opportunities, educational seminars, business meetings, and fun-filled evenings - there will be something for everyone! We invite all members of TU to join us in the southeast in April, in the west in June, and in the northeast in July. For more information on each event, please visit tu.org/events or contact your volunteer operations staff.

Other events to add to your calendar are:

June 16th - Pretty Branch Workday
July 14th - Martin's Branch Workday
Sept 22nd - Outdoor Adventure Day @ Unicoi
Oct 13th - Parking Spt for Coosa Valley TU Chill
Cookoff
September 2012 - Annual Meeting in NC

Reminder - for all Cohutta Chapter Members that help out with these events or captain a SOTM you will be given one raffle ticket for each event you help with for the drawing of the bamboo rod and reel during our November Smoker event.

5th Annual HJMS Trout Release Was a Great Success!

Rodney Tumlin

The 5th annual Herschel Jones Middle School Trout Release on March 27th was a great success thanks to the efforts of volunteers from the Cohutta Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the 6th grade students of HJMS.

Students arrived at Johnson Ferry North around 10:25AM. Wally Gardner and Dawn Crew had the cameras rolling as the two Paulding County busses discharged students in front of the launching ramp. One of the trout died on bus ride to the river so the decision was made to release the rainbows into the Chattahoochee immediately. Students, teachers, parents, and volunteers quickly made their way down to the shore of Georgia's longest river. A Cohutta Member provided a stream thermometer and the temperature difference between the river and the live well was calculated. Water from the Chattahoochee was added to the aerated fish bucket until the temperature was an even 63 degrees. About a dozen fingerlings were then

released into the vast watershed along with the two painted turtles the students had cared for this year.

Following the release, the students were divided into three groups and began the process of rotating through the various stations that Cohutta Volunteers had prepared. Students were instructed and participated in fly casting, fly tying, entomology, and fly fishing equipment. In the words of one student, "the presentations were informative, interesting, and fun!" Our volunteers seemed to enjoy the rotations as much as the students and parents did.

While the rotations were in progress, Thom Underwood arrived with lunch. He quickly arranged everything so that the students could be fed in a fast, efficient manner. Everyone present was treated to hotdogs, chips, dessert, and tea or lemonade.

The last of our original trout died about a week before our scheduled release. I contacted Mark Anderson in Cobb County. Mark went to work and contacted Jason Smith from Campbell High School. Jason runs the TIC program there. Jason not only agreed to give us some of their trout, but he hand delivered them to us after a long day at work.

For the fifth year in a row, the partnership of Herschel Jones Middle School and the Cohutta Chapter of Trout Unlimited has worked successfully to provide TU's "Trout in the Classroom" program to the students of Paulding County. I would like to thank all of the volunteers that helped make this day a success! They are: Sonny Marshall, Wally Gardner, Ken Dye, Michael Lankford, Thom Underwood, John Dyke, Jeff Spatz, Jim McKean, Fred Wammock, Steve Westmoreland, Galan Haines, Brad Wright, Steve Rhoads, and Dawn Crew. Thanks again!

Blue Ridge Mountain Trout Unlimited

Eight Annual Low Country Boil

Saturday, May 12th

5:30 - 9:30 PM

Blue Ridge Swim and Tennis Club

RSVP email 7turns@tds.net by May 5th

\$25/per person Donation

Trout in the Classroom – April 17, 2012 Release

WOW released about 256 trout in the dingy hooch on Tuesday. Two schools; Campbell and Harrison, about thirty students from each! Three Park Service Rangers participated, including each manning a station. Turned out to be a nice weather day, students were nice and orderly.

The following Chapter members were there and manned stations.

Sonny
John Dyke, casting
Steve Rhoads, casting
Garland Stewart, equipment
Steve Westmorland, knot tying
Sonny Marshall, fly tying
Mark Anderson, work director
Thom Underwood, kitchen

Sweep the Hooch



Collectively, we picked up trash and recyclables upstream, downstream and around the island at Island Ford. The haul included a headboard, lawn chairs, buckets and all kinds of cans, bottles and tennis balls. I'm going to also send a photo, of just the TU guys, to TU magazine to see if they will run it.

The Cohutta Members that volunteered were-

Nam Bui
Kenn Walker
Brad Wright
Mark Anderson
Jim McKean
John Gurskey
Jeff Spatz

The non-Cohutta volunteers were-
Sekai Chideya
Kazi Ishraki
David Reid

Alaska Fishing Information

Mike Wilson

In 2012 I am guiding on the Kenai River for Cast Away Lodge in Sterling, Alaska. Their web site is www.goingnorth.com. Chuck and Lavon own and operate the Lodge and a RV Park beside the Kenai. She also manages the rental of 3 cottages on a hill above the Lodge owned by Mike Richardson. The cottages are appropriate for up to 5 people each and I've stayed there now for over 13 weeks and find them very comfortable.



My recommendation for good to excellent fishing for rainbow trout, dolly varden and silver salmon is mid-August through late September.

The rates I am providing are **exclusive of July** where few discounts are found since almost every place is full that month. **Here is a potential agenda for 2 people:**

This would be a 5-night stay. The accommodations are in our lodge. Our rooms have two beds, private shower/bathrooms, in room coffee service, and cozy robes

I have you Halibut fishing one day out of Homer. You are on a 6-pack vessel. The 6-pack carries a maximum of 6 fishermen. These are 28 to 30 feet in length.

This is a full daytrip. The daily limit is two halibut per person. It is a rare day that you do not get your limit. I took this trip last September and Highly Recommend it!!

I have you fishing the river for three days with Mike Wilson in his 21 foot Willie Boat.

- 1) Accommodations = \$500.00 plus \$15.00 tax, for a total of \$515.00
- 2) Salt water fishing for two people = \$440.00 plus \$33.00 tax, for a total of \$473.00
- 3) Kenai River Fishing, 3-days, 2 persons = \$1,140.00 plus \$34.20 tax, for a total of \$1,174.20*

* Includes water, soft drinks, snacks and sandwiches.

Total Package price with tax is \$2,162.20 for 2 people or **\$1,081.10 per person**.

This does not include food but modest cooking can be done in a microwave in the lodge room.

The daily rate per person will be the same in a cottage as in the Lodge, \$50.00/night, but you will have more room to enjoy and you will have a fully appointed kitchen.

The Guides Angle

Transition to Summer Fly Fishing Tactics;

The prolific aquatic insect hatches of Spring are winding down as we approach the Summer fishing season on the Chattahoochee River Tailwater. Land based insects or "terrestrials" will become more and more numerous as the Ga weather heats up with warm evenings chorused by the chirp of cicadas and crickets. The 48 mile stretch of river from Buford Dam to Standing Peachtree Creek has 96 miles of shoreline which is inundated with fluctuating water flows released by Buford Dam at least once sometimes twice daily! If you can imagine the numbers of

terrestrial bugs that live along this 96 miles of riverbanks that actually get swept into the river every day? It is time to break out your terrestrial fly selection both surface and sub-surface patterns. The black ant is a great example of one of many species of these hapless land based insects that go for their last swim in the river. A great subsurface ant pattern is the "hard-bodied" ant tied in a variety colors but most commonly black. This pattern is simply tied with black thread built up on a hook with an ant-like profile finished with gloss lacquer which is designed to sink but then a stiff hackle to imitate legs and to act as a weed guard. Another great pattern that imitates a variety of drowned terrestrials in the river is the Pfitzer Special tied on the Trout Unlimited sponsored instructional DVD "Chattahoochee Flies". Don Pfitzer is one of the original river anglers who developed this wet fly pattern to comb the many log jams along the banks of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area for trophy trout during the dog days of summer.

Helpful Hint for You Dry Fly Fishers- persons

Dry fly fishing requires flies to stay afloat throughout the timeframe of a hatch or for numerous casts to potential targets on a stream or lake.

Various floatants are available to help keep flies afloat including silicone based paste (Gink, Aquel), permanent liquid coatings (Water Shed), desiccant crystals (Shimazaki Dry Shake & others), hydrophobic powder (Frog Fanny, Docs DryDust). Moreover, claims are made that coating the fly with a concoction of gasoline and paraffin wax will keep a fly floating for very long periods of time. However, gasoline and other chemical treatments are candidates for leaving an odor on the fly that trout would likely turn down due to their keen ability to smell.

My experience with keeping moisture out of underground splices demonstrates that hydrophobic powder is the most effective way to eliminate moisture around anything, short of a lead covering. Fly fisherman typically fish a dry fly until it gets wet and refuses to float. At that point the fly must be dried and then treated again with a floatant to provide buoyancy. The quickest way to dry the fly is to shake it in a desiccant that soaks up the moisture. Following that the application of a hydrophobic powder brushed on the fly will provide a very effective barrier to moisture.

The problem that is often encountered with the hydrophobic powder is that the slightest wind will blow

the powder all over the place and result in more powder liberated to surroundings than on to the fly. A very effective solution for this is to prepare a mixture of 30% hydrophobic powder and 70% desiccant crystals in the shaker bottle and apply both to the fly simultaneously. Some compounds similar to this are on the market but they are rather costly.

If you are interested in making up bottles of this mixture and saving money at the same time, you can purchase the materials on line at <http://compare.ebay.com/like/170776461160?var=lv&itp=AllFixedPrice>. Otherwise, the FishHawk can sell you the ingredients and you will be in business with long floating flies.

Mack Martin



www.atlantaflyfishingschool.com

Floatant Vs. Desiccant

by Philip Monahan

Question: *What's the difference between paste-like floatants (Gink, etc.) and the crystals, where you have to shake the fly in the stuff?*



Desiccant usually comes in a plastic canister that features a notch in the edge through which

you put your tippet. Close the lid, and shake away. Photo courtesy of Orvis.

Answer: Fly floatants come in many forms—paste, liquid, gel, etc. —and are designed to keep the materials in your fly from absorbing water. These products work best when they are applied to a fly that is totally dry, usually right when you take it out of your fly box and tie it on. If you catch a couple of fish or if you're fishing in rough water that frequently sinks the fly, these kinds of floatants eventually stop working. A waterlogged fly doesn't float, so you need to either change the fly or get the water out of it somehow. The other downside of pastes and gels is that it's possible to use too much, which causes the hairs or feathers of the fly to stick together. This can make the fly less buoyant, and it may make an imitation seem less natural. Once you've over-gelled a fly, all you can do is let it fully dry before you can pull the fibers or hairs apart again.



Gink has been around for almost 30 years, and the name has become a generic term for paste floatants. Most of the crystalline products are *desiccants*, meaning that they actually *removemoisture* from the fly. You take your soggy fly, put it in a small canister with the crystals, and give the whole thing a hearty shake. When you pull the fly out, it is magically dry—but covered in white crystals, so you need to blow on it or shake the white stuff off. Desiccants work best for larger, fluffier patterns, such as stoneflies and Wulffs and the like. Eventually, a fly may become waterlogged enough that desiccant can't revive it, in which case it's time to change flies. I like to use both floatant and desiccant for fishing rough-and-tumble waters. The floatant gets your fly floating right off the bat, and the desiccant restores the fly quickly when it becomes waterlogged, allowing you to get right back to fishing.

There are also several dry-fly dressings, such as Water Shed and Hydrostop, meant to be applied long before you are on the water. These products are often called “permanent floatants,” and they literally waterproof flies by adding a coating to the patterns.



Cohutta TU Chapter Supporters

Thank these folks for supporting the Cohutta TU Chapter throughout the year.

Gary Merriman *the Fish Hawk* 404-237-3473

www.thefishhawk.com

Willie Perry *Fly Box Outfitters*
678-594-7330

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Jimmy Harris *Unicoi Outfitters*
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