



# THE NUGGETS

## Trout Unlimited – Gold Rush Chapter #733

February 2010

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### Gold Rush TU Chapter's Meeting Place

Camp Glisson, Ivie Lodge, Dahlonega, GA visit *their website* at [www.campglisson.org](http://www.campglisson.org)

**1st Tuesday of the Month 6:30 PM – Social & Dinner (\$8) 7:00 PM – Program & Meeting**

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, 2 February 2010 All Members and Visitors welcome.**

TROUT UNLIMITED GOLD RUSH CHAPTER regularly meets the first Tuesday of each month in the Ivie Lodge at Camp Glisson (two miles north of Dahlonega on Highway 60). Dinner (\$8) is served at 6:30 PM for those who wish to eat. Program begins at 7 PM. Our feature speaker for Feb 2 will be Monte Seehorn, a recognized expert in fishery management and was the first Forest Service Southeastern Regional Fishery Biologist. He has received many awards for his work and support of Trout Unlimited. He has also written many technical papers on Fish management. Visitors welcome. Contact: Fred Ruppel [streamwalker2@aol.com](mailto:streamwalker2@aol.com) Cell – 678-520-4378 for more information.

**Directions:** Camp Glisson is just two miles north of Dahlonega on Highway 60. Turn left onto Camp Glisson Road and continue about one mile through the camp to the bridge on your right. Cross the bridge and Ivie Lodge is 100 yards on the left. **See you there!**

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### Gold Rush Chapter #733 Membership

Welcome New Members: **Drew Addison, Trip Addison, Noah Fountain, Bill Fox, Cheryl Fox, Tom Lipscomb, Charles Lovell, Lawrence Meade, Jared Collins, Adam Danella, Jim Johnson**

*You can join/renew by logging on to [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org) or calling 1-800-834-2419*

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### Note from the President

What a Chapter!! Can you believe it is only January and we have many projects already under way. We are preparing to spend the weekend at Bass Pro to show folks who we are, we have fly tying class every month, we are off selling our Dream Trip tickets and we already have a candidate for Trout Camp. In addition we have our programs scheduled for the year; workdays are identified and will be posted on our site. And what else – oh - did I mention that we already have over 800 volunteer hours !! I am very proud to be associated with a group that is so dedicated to our mission and is willing to help as needed. Please stay involved and help as you can. Gold Rush is no doubt one of the leading Chapters in Georgia. As always - Please go fish and take a friend.... Fred Ruppel

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**Congratulations and welcome to our new board member Bill Hess**

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## Fishing Report from Dukes Creek

If you were at our January Chapter Meeting you would know that Jimmy Harris from Unicoi Outfitters <http://www.unicoioutfitters.com/index.shtml> in Helen gave a presentation on fishing Dukes Creek. A few of us took that knowledge and headed to Dukes last Wednesday. The weather was great, the water clear, fast and just a little high. Most of us caught 5-6 fish and one of our first time Dukes fisherman caught 2, that's really good for your first time, many a great fisherman have left Dukes skunked. The first hole I tried produced a small rainbow, I could see other larger activity, but could not get the right presentation for any takers. Continuing to fish upstream, was not very productive, even in a large honey hole that always produces fish, presentation again and probably not enough weight, or maybe they had some sore lips from an earlier angler. Anyway, moving upstream, the sun is now out and on the water, finding several sweet remote runs nestled beneath some "rodgy" having to crawl in stealth, staying low, those first casts into those runs produced some really fiesty fish. Doesn't it feel good when everything comes together? By the time I got done playing with all those fish, I sat on the bank, watched and listened to the river talk and knew it had been a special day for fishing Dukes. Fish ON!! Deborah <http://www.gastateparks.org/Smithgall>

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**"A trout is a moment of beauty known only to those who seek it." by Arnold Gingrich**

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## FLY TYING

The Gold Rush Chapter of Trout Unlimited will be conducting fly tying classes every second Thursday of the month at the American Legion in Dahlonega, Ga. The class runs from 6 to 9pm. All tools and materials provided for beginners. Donations welcome! For more details and information contact: Mike Thorton at [drtrout@bellsouth.net](mailto:drtrout@bellsouth.net)

Mike is doing a fantastic job with teaching our fly tying class. We have had quite an interest with 10 participants at our last class. Gold Rush will supply all tools and materials to beginner fly tiers. Established tiers are encouraged to bring their own tools and materials. Each month two flies will be demonstrated, pictures and recipes will be provided in the newsletter or on the website. Tools and materials can be purchased locally at Bass Pro and Unicoi Outfitters or off websites like Cabela's, feather-craft.com, hookhack.com, and jannsnecraft.com to name a few.

Thursday, February 11, will be our next class, Mike will be demonstrating

### Elk Hair Caddis



Hook Nos. 12 – 18  
Thread: Brown, black, Tan  
Rib: Gold Wire  
Body: fur or synthetic dubbing  
Hackle: Furnace, Brown, Ginger Palmered  
Wing: Elk Hair

Note: Many variations of color to imitate the colors of most caddis species

### Dark Olive Compara-dun



Hook: Nos. 12 – 22  
Thread: Olive 6/0  
Rib: none  
Tail: Blue dun hackle barbs split  
Body: Dark Olive dubbing  
Hackle: none  
Wing: Natural Deer Hair

## MENTORING

Contact Sherman at [beartooth@windstream.net](mailto:beartooth@windstream.net) or 706-864-6461



Sherman took Jim and I on our Striper fishing trip that we had purchased through the silent auction at the Gold Rush Family Cookout and Fun Day. We had a really productive day. Sherman is very knowledgeable and equipped for any type of fishing on Lake Lanier. He is also our mentoring contact for trout fishing. Thanks Sherman you are making a trail to follow!



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### Appalachian Slam Certificate



Our Chapter is sponsoring an award for the exceptional Trout Unlimited angler. We will award a member in good standing with Trout Unlimited a certificate if he/she catches and releases all three species of wild trout (brown, brook, and rainbow) using a fly rod and barbless hook in a single days fishing.

Congratulations, Sherman Head, for accomplishing the Appalachian Slam and being awarded Certificate #1.

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### News on Stover Creek



All habitat enhancement work has been completed on Stover Creek. Our grant did specify that we would provide some signage. The Gold Rush Chapter is working with Forest Services to design and place signage on Stover Creek, with the Gold Rush Chapter providing funds and volunteer hours. The sign will identify all contributing parties and the work that was performed on this brook trout stream. We hope to complete this task by the end of this fiscal year. Work days will be announced in the future.

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### Upcoming Events

Go to our website [www.goldrushtu.org](http://www.goldrushtu.org) and click on events

February 20-21, 2010 - Georgia TU Chapters at Bass Pro Shop

Bass Pro Shops has invited and provided space for the Georgia TU Council and its Chapters to promote the Mission of Trout Unlimited. In addition, each chapter will have the opportunity to recruit new members.

It is never too late to volunteer. Please read below and let me know if you plan to attend and help at this event. I need to know the day and time you will be able to sit at the table or help with other activities. Thanks Deborah littlebee7@yahoo.com 770-503-9373

Some of you have already contacted me regarding your plans to attend and represent your chapter during the upcoming Bass Pro/TU week-end on February 20-21, 2010. We have finalized the plans

for the event and I need a final count and listing of the TU chapters and members that will be working at Bass Pro.

The following is an overview of the schedule, times, activities and programs that will take place during the two days of the event:

Our Goal is to meet customers and make them aware of Trout Unlimited and our Mission and gain some new members at the same time.

Saturday (Feb. 20, 2010) Store opens 9 AM (set up time between 9 and 10AM)

TU activities between 10 AM and 4 PM

Each chapter will have a table that will seat two people and may have a second table if needed.

Separate fly tying table that will instruct boys, girls and parents on fly tying techniques.

Fish toss game for kids that wins trout flies (while they last) for participants.

Fly casting (indoor) pond for fly casting instruction.

Presentations on Trout Camp -1PM (Charlie Breithaupt) and Where to Fly Fish in Georgia -2

PM (Jimmy Harris)

Sunday (Feb. 21, 2010) Store opens 10 AM (set up time between 10 and 11 AM)

TU activities between 11 AM and 4 PM

All activities will be the same

The following is a list of what is needed from TU members:

Each chapter should plan on providing two people from 10 AM to 4 PM on Saturday and 11 AM to 4 PM on Sunday.

We will need 6 fly tiers through out both days to tie flies (please advise who and how long members from your chapter can assist with fly tying)

We will need two people to man the fish toss game through out both days.

We will need two people to instruct fly casting through out both days.

Please bring all of the literature that you wish to distribute during the event.

A photographer and writer to prepare an article for TU National and Bass Pro Corporate

Please let me know how many members will attend and what activities they can assist with during each day. I also need the names of everyone that will attend. If you need fly tying materials, that expense will be covered either by Bass Pro or with Council funds. If fly tying vises are needed by anyone planning to tie, please let me know. I will bring 6 vises and tools for the kids so they can tie in tandem with each instructor.

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**Gone Fishin! Be back at dark-thirty.**

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### **SUNSHINE**

Marge Ruppel is our "Sunshine Girl", she will send sympathy, get well, and other appropriate cards to members. Please notify Marge of any event that our chapter could show our compassion or encouragement to our fellow TU members. Good news is great medicine, so feel free to share any life accomplishments. Marge will be glad to hear from you! Email Marge at [mar2391@aol.com](mailto:mar2391@aol.com)

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## 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Gold Rush Cup Fly Fishing Challenge

GOLD RUSH CUP FLY FISHING CHALLENGE PROVIDES GREAT MOMENTUM FOR 2010.....SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2009.

With the mists rising rapidly at sunrise on the Chestatee River at Frog Hollow Farm in Lumpkin County, anxious fly fishermen gathered to test their skills in the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Gold Rush Cup Fly Fishing Challenge. Sponsored by the Gold Rush chapter of Trout Unlimited, chapter members as well as volunteers carefully prepared the venue for the contestants, which consisted of two-person teams from Unicoi Outfitters, Alpharetta Outfitters, Etowah Anglers, Cannon Falls, and Frog Hollow.



Attendance at this event was free and open to the public. As a testament to the popularity of fly fishing, more than 100 people attended to see which two-man team would take home the \$1,000 grand prize, along with two beautiful custom-made fly rods. All proceeds from this event went to Trout Unlimited, whose mission is to protect, conserve, and restore the coldwater fisheries and their related watersheds in North Georgia.

Anticipation mounted throughout the day as the five two-person teams rotated between five designated sections of the river, fishing for one hour on each section for two recordable trout per team member. With outstanding weather accompanying the event, observers scampered from one beat to another to take note of the quantity and quality of each team's catch. Most of the fish offered to each section's judge for recording ranged in length from 18 to 23 inches, to the delight of all on-lookers!

As the final horn was sounded ending the competition, it was clear that Unicoi Outfitters had taken the day, with the Frog Hollow team taking second place, and the Cannon Falls Lodge team in third. Much applause was in evidence as all teams made their way to the awards site for the final tallies and the presentations by the Gold Rush TU officers!

Many thanks and hurrahs are due to all the officers and members of the Gold Rush chapter of Trout Unlimited, but especially to the members of the Challenge committee, who guided this event to a wonderful conclusion. And with great anticipation, everyone is now looking forward to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gold Rush Cup Fly Fishing Challenge in 2010! Stay in touch!

Submitted by PJ Jones , Member, Gold Rush Chapter, Trout Unlimited.



The Gold Rush Cup was presented to Jimmy Harris of Unicoi Outfitters where it will reside until the next challenge. Preparations are already being made for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gold Rush Cup Fly Fishing Challenge. More pictures can be viewed on the website. Teams get sponsored and ready for the next big challenge!

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Preparations are already being made for our **Sixth Annual Family Cookout and Fun Day**. The date has been set for Saturday, September 18, 2010 and will be held again this year at the NGCSU's Pine Valley site. This is one of our big fundraisers. We already have some items set aside for the grand raffle. Please be working on acquiring silent auction and bucket raffle items to make this year a big success. Last year we had many hand crafted items and bidding was quite exciting. Mark your calendar and get ready for this entertaining event.

## **Georgia Women Flyfishers Annual Mardi Gras Party and Fundraiser**

February 20.2010 – 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Sweetwater Brewing Company

195 Ottley Dr NE Atlanta, GA 30324

Tickets: \$20.00 in advance or \$25.00 at door

Visit [http://www.georgiaflyfishing.com/z\\_holidayparty.htm](http://www.georgiaflyfishing.com/z_holidayparty.htm) for more information

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### **GA Trout Camp 2010**

The Gold Rush Chapter will sponsor two campers. Please complete your application and send it to Fred Ruppel [streamwalker2@aol.com](mailto:streamwalker2@aol.com) Also, if you were a previous camper you may mentor at future camps. See [www.georgiatu.org](http://www.georgiatu.org) under education and trout camp mentors. All mentors for trout camp must complete the background check form.

Calling all Trout Campers!

Where: Rabun Gap Nacoochee School, Clayton Georgia

When: June 6 - 11, 2010

Boys and Girls, 12-15 Years Old

Learn and Practice the Sport of Fly Fishing

Study Sound Conservation Practices

Enjoy a Fun and Rewarding Experience

A brochure describing camp activities is available [here](#)

To apply, fill out the [application](#)

What will campers be doing? Here is a sample [schedule](#) from 2008

[What to bring](#) to Trout Camp?

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### **Future Opportunity**

The Dawson Art Council has asked us if we would be interested in doing a Trout Unlimited Art Show at their establishment in Dawsonville, Ga in February 2011. Let me know if any of you have an interest to display your art work. This will need to be discussed at the next board meeting. If interested, please contact, Deborah [littlebee7@yahoo.com](mailto:littlebee7@yahoo.com) or 770-503-9373

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### **A Story Worth Telling Again**

Russell and the Gita

Russell Stevens was a retired Canton High School teacher who I first met at the organizational meeting of the Cohutta Chapter of T.U. in Marietta Ga. Can't remember the year but it's been a while.

Being a neophyte fly fisher who was looking for help in learning the ways of the fly, Russell appeared to be someone who might fit the bill. Since I was working most weekends and usually had my choice of days off during the week, we were a perfect fit. Russell, like most retirees did not like to fish on weekends Thus began a long and rewarding friendship

Russell was the best small stream fisherman I ever saw by far.

He was a little guy, maybe 5' 6" and about 135#, soaking wet. He had a deep voice befitting someone twice his size. Russell knew every stream in North Georgia that could hold a fish and several different ways to get there. He never took anyone the same way twice.

When fishing, Russell always wore dark clothing and approached a fishing spot in a crouch, wading slowly and carefully. He was a master of the roll cast. He cast with an economy of motion that put his fly right where he wanted it despite tight places and overhanging brush. I fished with him for a long time before I knew that he could make an overhead cast and a good one too. Russell usually fished with one of his creations called a "Gita" (pronounced "Geeta"). He had two versions, a wet and a dry. The Wet was tied wetfly style, with a white downwing, a golden pheasant tippet tail, and a cream dubbed body with a gold rib, size 6 or 8. It was heavily weighted with lead wire.

The dry was tied with the same materials. I once asked Russell if he ever fished with any thing else. " Oh, I fish a wooly worm on a dropper sometimes".

Russell taught me a lot, the most important two: If the fish see or hear you, you won't catch them. More important than what is on the end of your leader is how you fish it.

Russell passed on several years ago. It was only at his funeral that I learned that he was a fighter pilot during WW2, flying Lockheed P38's in the Pacific.

Russell's magic fly was the Gita. Most of us have a fly that we reach for when the fishing gets tough, a fly that we are confident that the fish will take if we fish it properly. We succeed with it because we concentrate on presenting it. We know it will catch fish!

#### Gita ( my dry version)



Mustad	94840, 12-14
Thread	Cream
Wing	Turkey flat (white)
Tail	Golden pheasant tippets
Body	Cream fur
Rib	Gold tinsel

What's your magic fly? Pat Pattillo