



# Trout Tales

## Rocky River Chapter Trout Unlimited



May 2014

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

May is a busy month for our chapter so let's get right down to what is happening.

**Trout in the Classroom**, led by **Bill Thomas**, **Dana Hershey**, **Fritz Mercer** and **Joe Harris** has completed its annual cycle with plenty of success for kids and trout alike. The program, which is one of our most successful, continues to grow so we have plenty of volunteer opportunities! Please reach out if you would like to help.

**Streamside events** are continuing to add another opportunity for, not only fishing, but to share time on the water with others and even foster early times for new fisherfolk. There will be water, fish, food and companionship - what else could you need? Coming up next, on **May 31**, there will be a streamside on the Delayed Harvest section of the **New River** near Todd NC. **Tim Ramsey** and **David Hollifield** continue to make this program successful. Check the website for details. Also, there is a very exciting proposition underway coming up soon, so stay tuned for more details.

Several years ago Trout Unlimited started a program designed to attract more women members by offering free memberships for new women members. This year TU is, once again, continuing this program. This limited time offer ends on May 31 so do not miss out on the opportunity to sign up new women members at no cost! And renewing women members can renew for half the regular cost during this same time period. The TU national web site has more info:

<http://www.tu.org/blog-posts/free-tu-memberships-for-women>

Coming up in June, we have two more events. The first semi annual **Adopt A Stream at Wilson Creek** which will include not only clean up, but some invasive species work, and is planned for the first part of the month. **Joe Beckert** is leading that project. The **South Mountain Project** continues with a back country stream restoration. **Tim Ramsey** is working with the rangers there to aid the stream with our members help. Watch the website for details as they

emerge and sign up for a chance to make an active difference in your local waters. This is what *we* do.

The Board Challenge is growing and according to **Steve McClure** is still looking for some new folks. Check out the sign up page on the web and help us send a deserving teen to **Rivercourse** to experience what we are so lucky to know ourselves.

The Orvis 101 and 201 program continues this month. If you are new to fishing, you may participate in this program. Or if would like to assist with this program, you may volunteer to help. Sign up at our local Orvis store today – phone 704-571-6100.

Last, let us know if you have any questions or concerns, you are Rocky River Trout Unlimited. Help us continue to make RRTU the best chapter possible.

- **Tom Adams** ( [f64rrtu@gmail.com](mailto:f64rrtu@gmail.com) )

### RRTU Calendar

May 15: RRTU meeting

May 31: Streamside, South Fork New River – Todd Island Park DH, Todd, NC

Jun 15-20: Rivercourse, Lake Logan near Canton, NC

Jun 19: RRTU meeting. On location at Latta Plantation

Jun 20-22: SMSP-TER weekend, South Mountains State Park

July: No regular meeting

August: No regular meeting

Aug 01-03: Streamside, New River Smallmouth Trip

Sep 18: RRTU meeting. Annual elections.

### May 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting

**Kelly McCoy**, founder RiverGirl Fishing Company in Todd, NC

**Covenant Presbyterian Church**  
1000 East Morehead Street

Phone: 207.511.1111

Charlotte, NC 28204

Social time: 6:30 PM

Meeting: 7:00 PM

Note: Some RRTU members meet for dinner before the meeting at the Dilworth Neighborhood Grille, 911 East Morehead Street, (704) 377-3808. Ask the hostess for the RRTU group; folks usually gather for dinner around 5:30 PM.

### **Friends of Rocky River (FORR)**

The 2014 Friends of Rocky River program campaign officially kicked off in February.

We hope that participation will grow as we move from year to year with the Friends of Rocky River program. The February 27 FORR Celebration provided an excellent launch for the 2014 campaign! Those funds support our best habits – NC Wildlife Federation, Rivercourse, Trout in the Classroom, streamsidings, and fly tying just to name a few!

In order to donate, please make checks payable to **Rocky River Trout Unlimited** and mail your tax-deductible donation to:

**Joe Harris**  
**10226 Hanover Woods Pl**  
**Charlotte, NC 28210**

Some employers match employee donations to 501(c)(3) organizations. If your employer matches employee contributions, please include those forms with your donation.

These matching donations from area companies make a significant addition to our total FORR funds each year. Donations from employees of companies like Ally Bank, Bank of America, Duke Energy and other companies that match employee giving are VERY helpful for our FORR program!

**Note that the 2014 FORR Campaign letter and Pledge Card appear as the last page of the newsletter.**

Thank you!

- Steve Craig/Terry Hill, FORR Committee

### **Past and Upcoming RRTU Meeting Topics/Presenters**

**April 17**

**Matt Green**

Aquatic Ecotoxicology and Physiology Lab, ASU

**May 15**

**Kelly McCoy**

RiverGirl Fishing Company, Todd, NC

<http://www.rivergirlfishing.com/index.php>

**June 19**

**Jack Cummings**

FFF Certified Casting Instructor. This meeting will be held on location at Latta Plantation.

**October 16**

**Franklin Tate**

TU Director of Youth Education

<http://www.tu.org/5Rivers>

### **Other Activities and Events**

-- 2014 Rivercourse --

Rivercourse begins in June ... Linda Byington supplied this information regarding Rivercourse.

For those who may not be familiar with Rivercourse: Coldwater Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp, it is a five-day summer camp held each June at Lake Logan Conference Center on the West Fork of the Pigeon River near Canton, NC. Rivercourse is a NC Trout Unlimited youth camp that is supported financially by chapter contributions and staffed by volunteers who are NCTU chapter members. Among the long-time staff is **Joyce Shepherd**, Rocky River Chapter member.

The camp accepts up to 18 boys and girls between the ages of 13 and 15 for a very full 5 days of fly fishing

and fly tying instruction, casting, knots, and stream etiquette, as well as learning sessions on entomology, geology, wetlands ecology, and stream restoration techniques. One day is devoted to a field trip by bus to the Davidson River to tour the hatchery and plant riparian buffer for stream bank stabilization. 2013 Rivercourse saw a full house, with 12 boys and 6 girls, including one camper from South Carolina, one from Georgia, and one from Florida.

One of the first experiences at camp was helping to stock this private section of the West Fork with rainbows, brooks and browns from the John Setzer Hatchery. Each morning campers were awake at 6am, with half the group in the water and half tying flies until 8am breakfast. After breakfast the groups switched, with the early fishermen tying, and the early tiers fishing. After dinner all campers fished again, with a ghillie, until dark. By 10pm bedtime, no one complained about not being tired.

Throughout the week campers saw and learned things many had never encountered. In some cases that new thing might be sitting down at a white tablecloth with a full array of eating utensils, or maybe removing one's used dishes from the table to stack them for transport to the kitchen. Some campers had never fished before, some had some experience and were pretty good at it. But by the end of the week when a tournament for pairs of campers took place, all were very acceptable anglers. For the tournament each camper tied one fly for the competition, and awards were given for fish caught, with each member of the each team catching at least one fish.

At the end of camp, parents were invited to have lunch with campers and staff and to enjoy a slide show of the week's activities. The success of what we do at Rivercourse is evidenced by the number of campers' siblings and friends attending camp in following years. But it is really hard to decide who enjoys camp the most, the campers or the staff volunteers.

2014 Rivercourse will be held June 15-20. More information about Rivercourse, including financial and volunteer support as well as camper application, can be found at [www.rivercourse.org](http://www.rivercourse.org).

**-Editor**

### **Alarka – spring trip. April 3-6.**

**You may put the spring Alarka trip in the books. We had several bluebird days (Thursday, Saturday and Sunday) and one day for ducks (portions of Friday) ... but the fish didn't seem to mind the rain as they were already wet! Bill Thomas treated the early Thursday arrivals to his chicken stew/soup ... mmmm good! The Friday evening meal was no slouch either – a full spaghetti dinner! And Saturday evening chefs Joe Harris and Fritz Mercer cooked steaks to order to go along with baked potatoes. Several attendees caught a lot of fish and some caught BIG fish ... and there were a few TALL tales told around the campfire as well. All in all a good trip and Bill Thomas wanted everyone to know that his propane restriction has been officially lifted!**

**Here are a few pictures from the spring 2014 Alarka trip that are fairly representative of what happens ... food, fellowship, fishing and some relaxation:**





**The fall Alarka trip will be in October. When you are ready to sign up, please include “Fall Alarka trip” as a description/note on any payments (check or PayPal).**

If you are paying by check, make your check payable to **Rocky River Trout Unlimited** and mail to:

**Joe Harris  
10226 Hanover Woods Pl  
Charlotte, NC 28210**

For more information regarding the Alarka trip:  
<http://www.rockyrivertrout.org/2014-fall-alarka-trip.html>

**- Editor  
- Jim Mabrey**

## **South Mountains State Park Trout Enhancement and Restoration**

This update from **Tim Ramsey**:

**Alen Baker** and I meet with Amanda Lasley (South Mountains Park Ranger) on March 2nd for a tour of the demolition site. Once plans are finalized, the park service will bring in the heavy equipment between early May and June to start the break-up.

Our part in this project begins on Friday June 20th. We'll need to provide enough volunteers to transfer all of the debris to UTV's with dump beds. The UTV's will haul the debris to a nearby dump truck; the dump truck will carry the concrete and re-bar the remainder of the way. We'll plan on having dinner and spending the night at the upper camp once our work is finished. The park service has offered to deliver our gear and supplies to the camp site. Please bring your fishing equipment. Once the work is finished, you should have Saturday afternoon and Sunday to explore the streams in the upper reaches of the park.

This is a very unique opportunity and I hope you'll be able to participate. Please contact me if you would like to participate or need more information.

**Tim Ramsey**  
[tramsey@wardtank.com](mailto:tramsey@wardtank.com)  
980-621-4562

The Trout Enhancement and Restoration (TER) initiative at South Mountains State Park has officially started. On April 14, 2013 **Jim Mackey** and **Tom Raispis** joined me as we started the documentation of natural barriers and potential stream projects within the park. One potential project – the removal of the reinforced concrete bridge abutments near the upper falls campsite. During high water events these abutments divert water around these structures and this erodes the edges of the stream bank; this, in turn, leads to silt and debris being carried downstream in Jacob Fork.



### **TER Initiative Objectives:**

1. Identify, prioritize and complete coldwater conservation projects within South Mountains State Park that are defined while executing the Trout Enhancement and Restoration initiative.
2. Develop a comprehensive profile of wild and native trout populations within South Mountains State Park.
3. Provide a general education to anglers and the general public in regards to wild and native trout populations within the South Mountains.
4. Restore one or more selected headwater tributaries within South Mountains State Park to native trout if deemed appropriate by state-of-the-art scientific methods.

We've put together two blue backpacks that are available to check-out at the ranger's station of the park. Each contains a handheld GPS unit, handheld pH meter, stream thermometer, creel cards for documentation and a notebook with instructions for each. You're welcome and encouraged to check-out the equipment any time you're available.

If you're interested in coming out or lending a hand, please give me a call or shoot me an email at [tramsey@wardtank.com](mailto:tramsey@wardtank.com) , Cell # 980-621-4562.

**- Tim Ramsey**

### **Streamside Program 2014**

Our second streamside event of 2014 will occur May 31 on the South Fork of the New River at Todd Island Park. This section of water, from the top of the island to the Castle Ford Road bridge on the lower end of the island, has been designated as Delayed Harvest water.

**When : Saturday, May 31**

**Where: Todd, NC, Todd Island Park DH**

**Stream side lunch (\$5)**

We will meet in the parking lot near the Castle Ford Road bridge on the morning of May 31. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon for \$5.00. Note that a walking trail runs the entire length of the island.

Please RSVP so we can plan for lunch.

<http://www.visitnc.com/listing/todd-island-park>

**Tim Ramsey**

[tramsey@wardtank.com](mailto:tramsey@wardtank.com)

980-621-4562

Previous streamside event(s):

March 22 – Ararat River DH, Mt. Airy, NC

Our streamside team has already made some tentative selections for additional outings this year. These include:

An August trip on the South Fork of the New River. This would involve camping and smallmouth bass fishing; hopefully the weather will cooperate this year with the right amount of rain in July.

Early June – Wilson Creek cleanup 1

Early November – Wilson Creek cleanup 2

November 28 – Wilson Creek DH

For those of you that are interested or want more information on the RRTU streamside program, please send email to [NCTroutScout@gmail.com](mailto:NCTroutScout@gmail.com) .

**- David Hollifield**

## **Carolina Raptor Center – fish needed!**

RRTU received a request from the Carolina Raptor Center late last year regarding an immediate need for several of their raptors ... two injured Bald Eagles and four injured Osprey. Here's a portion of the electronic mail we received:

...  
We currently are trying to rehabilitate two injured Bald Eagles and four injured Osprey. Unfortunately, we are in a tough spot right now, as we are very low on a supply of fish to feed our patients. The eagle's diets are about 80% fish, and the osprey diet is 100% fish.

I'm trying to contact the various local sport fishing organizations, in hopes that they might be able to help us out... as there is an immediate need. We have run dangerously low. Any type of fish will do. I was hoping you might be able to put out a quick call to your members and advise them of our situation. As you probably know, we treat over 1000 injured birds of prey a year, and have a 68% successful release rate... among the best in the country. I believe some TU members already make some fish contributions to the CRC, but I thought I'd see if any of your associates could help us out again. Our need is constant throughout the year, but our supply is not that constant.

Anything you might be able to do would be appreciated.

If you have any questions, please contact the following individual:

*Carly Smith*  
Rehabilitation Coordinator  
Carolina Raptor Center  
(704) 875-6521 ext. 213  
[www.carolinaraptorcenter.org](http://www.carolinaraptorcenter.org)

For those that just like to fish around our Charlotte area here is a mission for you. Go catch any fish locally, maybe with your kids, at one of the access places on Lake Norman or a local pond. Whatever you can keep legally, take home, freeze and let one of our RRTU leaders know you are actively working to help the Carolina Raptor Center. You can either take your catch directly to them in Latta Park or coordinate to have someone in the chapter take your fish to their facility. Need a pond to fish, Contact Jim Mabrey [rrtujim@gmail.com](mailto:rrtujim@gmail.com).

**-Alen Baker**

## **Trout in the Classroom (TIC)**

Many of our TIC schools have already completed their trout releases at South Mountains State Park. Please check our new calendar to make sure of the dates if you

plan to attend one of the release events. You will find our calendar here:

<http://www.rockyrivertu.org/calendar-of-activities.html>

These are the dates currently listed:

### **May 27 – Charlotte Prep**

Please continue to check our web site for more TIC news as you will find pictures and video of some April and May TIC releases.

<http://www.rockyrivertu.org/trout-in-the-classroom.html>

### **Current TIC Schools:**

- Cannon School of Concord
- Charlotte Country Day School
- Charlotte Preparatory (new for 2013-14 school year)
- Community School of Davidson
- Davidson Day School
- Lincoln Charter School
- Providence Day School. Web site: <http://pdsblogs.org/chargertrout/>
- Quail Hollow Middle School

**- Bill Thomas, Dana Hershey**

## **TU – National, North Carolina and RRTU**

TU Women's Membership Drive  
March 1 – May 31. Check here for more info:  
<http://www.tu.org/blog-posts/tu-womens-membership-drive-0>

Looking for information on legislation? How about recent press releases? Searching for the TU president's message in the TU newsletter? Interested in member benefits? You will find all of these ... and much more at [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org)

Got a TU question? That question may already be answered in the Ask Trout Unlimited section located here: <http://www.tu.org/about-tu/faqs>

**- Trout magazine -**

Lost your recent issue? Trying to find an old article?  
You will find current and archive issues of *Trout* on the  
TU web site here:

<http://www.tu.org/media/trout-magazine>

**- NC Trout Unlimited -**

<http://www.nctu.org>

**- Rocky River Trout Unlimited -**

<http://www.rockyrivertu.org>

**- Editor**

**Where to go Trout fishing – May and June**

**Alen Baker** has compiled a list of streams to consider  
at various times of the year.

**- Editor**

**Where to Go Trout Fishing In May**

Many consider May to be the ultimate month to dry fly  
fish as insect activity comes to a peak.

In District 7, the closest delayed harvest streams  
include: Horse Creek (new for 2012), Elk Creek (an  
additional upper section is new for 2012), Helton  
Creek, Little River (new for 2012) and Mitchell River.  
Within Stone Mountain State Park East Prong Roaring  
River and Stone Mountain Creek are readily accessible.

In District 8, also reasonably close delayed harvest  
streams include: Curtis Creek, East Fork French Broad  
River, Green River, North Fork Mills River, both  
sections of the Watauga River and Wilson Creek.  
Within South Mountain State Park and very close to  
Charlotte is Jacob Fork.

May is the absolute best month to fish Wild streams and  
Catch-and-Release streams including the fee-based fly  
fishing on Bullhead Creek and Rich Mountain Creek  
within Stone Mountain State Park.

**Where to Go Trout Fishing In June**

Many consider June to also be the ultimate month to  
dry fly fish as insect activity continues. However, only  
two delayed harvest trout waters are stocked in June,  
Trout Lake in District 7 and Coffee Lake in District 8.

In District 7, the hatchery supported streams to consider  
include: Dan River, Fisher River, Little River, North  
Fork New River, Three Top Creek, Middle Fork New  
River and South Prong Lewis River.

In District 8, the hatchery supported streams to consider  
include: Rocky Broad River, North Toe River (Avery  
County), Wilson Creek and South Toe River.

In District 9, the hatchery supported streams to consider  
include: Davidson River, French Broad River, Scott  
Creek and Big Snowbird Creek.

June is a very good month to fish Wild streams and  
Catch-and-Release streams including the fee-based fly  
fishing on Bullhead Creek and Rich Mountain Creek  
within Stone Mountain State Park. Keep in mind that  
there will be many visitors to the park in June. Another  
consideration is to pursue smallmouth on the New  
River.

**- Alen Baker**

**Tales from the Stream**

Editor's note: We are always excited to hear from  
RRTU membership about their fishing adventures.  
Sadly I have not received any new member stories for  
this newsletter edition. Please send your story and we  
will publish in a future newsletter.

**-Editor**

**Tip of the Month**

Many years ago a number of RRTU chapter members  
supplied tips for the newsletter. We are bringing some  
of those tips out of retirement and hope you find these  
useful.

Here are ten gadgets that you will find most useful and may not want to spare no expense:

- (1) Nippers (must have to clip the tag each time you tie a knot)
- (2) Forceps (serves as hook remover, pliers and a fly holder for small flies)
- (3) Floatant (keeps dry flies floating well)
- (4) Tapered leader (unless you simply like to build them with lots of knots)
- (5) Tippet (use the largest you believe the fish will not notice)
- (6) Hook sharpener (dull hooks lose fish)
- (7) Ketchum (why handle and possibly harm a small fish when you can lift and remove the hook without touching the fish)
- (8) Thin, light, clear fly boxes (pack more choices of flies in your vest with less weight)
- (9) Waterproof camera (otherwise keep your camera in a Zip-lock)
- (10) Ruler or marks on the fly rod (keeps the length you report accurate and honest)

- **Alen Baker**

### **Fly of the Month**

This “fly of the month” represents the latest in the **Alen Baker/Tom Adams** series.

### **Fly of the Month**

We are blessed in North Carolina with a creative fly tyer who happens to own and operate a very successful fly shop in Pisgah Forest, North Carolina. Kevin Howell is the son of the legendary Don Howell who is well known for creating highly productive Southern Appalachian fly patterns.

This is a fly that has been proven on many streams on many occasions with many clients where Kevin’s future reputation as a guide has been on the line. We consider the fly a modern Southern Appalachian fly pattern as professionals like Kevin continue to carry on the traditions of his father and uncle Doug Howell-both legends of a past generation.

### **Howell’s Memory Maker**

“Soft hackled flies have been in existence for over two hundred years. As a guide it has always been a go to fly for me!” says Kevin. “Over the years you start to experiment with different colors and variations. For the last 9 years I have been tying and fishing the Memory Maker. I originally designed the fly with a copper colored brass bead, but over the years I have found that a copper colored tungsten bead is far more productive. The fly is designed to imitate emerging caddis larvae. For years this was a fly that I kept in reserve for those hard days you encounter as a fishing guide and needed something to get a client hooked up on a fish. The Memory Maker can be fished both on the dead drift and on the swing. Over the years this fly has made countless memories for my clients as well as helped me win a few fly fishing tournaments.”

Wet flies were once a primary means of fly fishing for trout. Soft hackled flies are wet flies that typically imitate or suggest emerging caddis, possibly the pupa stage of the metamorphosis. When the soft hackled fly is put to motion by the currents or by the angler, the hackles pulsate and trout are attracted to the lifelike movements.

The copper color gives the appears of an air bubble possibly and the tungsten bead itself gives more focused weight to quickly sink the fly down in front of feeding trout in the water column or near bottom. This fly pattern may be fished much like a nymph, as a dropper to dry fly or even as a trailer to another wet fly or streamer fly pattern.

- **Alen Baker**

### **Howell’s Memory Maker Fly of the Month 05.2014**

**HOOK:** Tiemco 2457 or equivalent Size : 12,**14,16**,18

**Thread:** 8/0 Uni or equivalent black

**Body:** Peacock Herl

**Ribbing:** Opal tinsel

**Bead:** Copper tungsten to size

**Hackle:** Brown Hungarian Partridge

## Directions:

1. Bead goes on hook in regular fashion, but do not bind against the eye when making wraps to the hook bend (see step 5/6). Mount hook in vise
2. Begin touching thread wraps to the hook bend and back to the two thirds mark. Tie in opal tinsel and wrap smoothly to the hook bend. Set the opal tinsel out of the way and advance the thread to the two thirds mark. Let the bobbin hang.
3. Select four or five peacock herls and tie in where the bobbin is hanging. Tie the herl in by the bottom or fat part of the stem. Wrap the herl with thread to the hook bend keeping the bundle of herl on top of the hook. Take the thread back to the two thirds mark and let the bobbin hang.
4. Gather the bundle of herl and twist as you wrap it forward to the two thirds mark. Wrap it back again to the hook bend and once more to the two thirds mark. The herl will be getting thinner and more fragile, but at the same time the color and iridescence will become more pronounced. This thinner part of the herl should be the top layer of wraps, from the bend to the two thirds mark. Tie the herl in still leaving room to bring the bead back to the two thirds mark.
5. Wrap the opal tinsel forward in open wraps to the two thirds mark and secure with thread wraps. Note : The bead is *not* at the head or eye. Whip finish and cut the thread.
6. Position the bead against the herl at the two thirds mark and tie in front making even wraps to the eye. Bring the thread back to the bead and let the bobbin hang.
7. Select a brownish partridge feather and using tweezers, hold the center stem at the tip and pull back the longer desirable feathers with your fingers. Tie the partridge in by the small triangular section with the natural curve of the feather cupping over the bead head. Neaten the tie in and cut any excess. Using hackle pliers, wrap one to two turns, gently stroking the feather barbs toward the bend as you wrap. Secure with two to three thread wraps, avoid

trapping any barbs. Whip finish and cut the thread.

8. Trim away the excess partridge and apply head cement if desired.

## Howell's Memory Maker



- Tom Adams, Alen Baker

## **Fly Fishing Museum of the Southern Appalachians**

When Ron Gmerek and I were returning from Atlantic salmon fly fishing in Nova Scotia, Ron proposed that we establish a fly fishing museum - a place where an old bamboo rod could be shared. A place where one could learn more about the fly fishing legends of the Smokies and the Blue Ridge Mountains. A place where the local flies could be admired and recipes copied. A place where our heritage of fly fishing and trout fishing could be better appreciated and, most of all, where the public could learn more about our great Southern Appalachian experiences and stories worth telling.

We are working with Forrest Parker, board member of the Cherokee Chamber of Commerce, Cherokee, NC to establish such a place. If all works out, our future will include such a museum. A world-class group

including Jim Casada, Don Kirk, Roger Lowe, Kevin Howell, Jim Dean, Richard Mode, Frank Smith, Ron Beane, Bill Everhardt, Ron Gmerek, Bo Cash, Squeak Smith and many others are helping to make this a reality. If you have ideas, items, know a fly fishing legends, you have something for the museum. Stay tuned for more updates.

March 2014 update:

Great News...although there is much work to be done to get legal work in place, exterior renovations are underway on the 5000 sq ft building in downtown Cherokee. The building is located across from the Cherokee Natural History Museum and the drama ticket sales office - beside the Cherokee Visitor Center. Better location, more parking, and still on the Oconaluftee River. The exterior renovations will bring the building's appearance in line with the heritage theme of other buildings within the cultural district.

The other work underway is rewiring to bring the building up to electrical code.

In the meantime, there are other efforts beginning to get underway including:

- developing the museum board by-laws, appointing an initial board and filing for a 501c3 status to be completed by the Cherokee Chamber of Commerce BOD
- completing a long-term lease agreement on the building with EBCI
- developing architectural plans for interior renovations
- contracting a firm to build the live trout exhibit
- developing a museum logo, marketing materials and some fundraising

Tentatively, there will be a booth at the SEFFF festival at WNC in May.

- **Alen Baker**

### **RRTU on Facebook**

How's your social network doing? How about your fishing network? RRTU certainly wants to help with the second question. RRTU now has a Facebook page. Search for us on Facebook under Rocky River Trout Unlimited and sign up to join us. Also, please "like" the page as this will help us to be located more easily. You will be able to post and respond on this Facebook page. You can post pictures, invitations for fishing buddies or trip results, flies that work for you, etc. This page is for

your use; we hope you use it often! RRTU on Facebook is a "closed" group meaning your name is public but your information is not.

- **Jim Mabrey**

### **Back the Brookie License Plate**

You have probably noticed that some of our local RRTU members have the NC Trout Unlimited License Plate. The NCTU web site gives some history of this license plate and how to obtain one:

[http://nctu.org/tu\\_plate.html](http://nctu.org/tu_plate.html)



### **Stream Water Flow Data**

Ever wonder about the water flow in your favorite stream? How about after a big rain? The USGS has monitoring on some NC streams. Check stream flow data at this web site:

<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nc/nwis/rt>

### **Hatch Charts**

Familiar with any web sites which list hatch charts we could reference here in the newsletter? If so, please share. The flyfishingnc.com site has this chart:

<http://www.flyfishingnc.com/fly-bugs/patterns/fly-hatch-chart-north-carolina-smoky-mountains>

- **Editor**

## **The all electronic RRTU newsletter**

The RRTU board made a decision to move to an electronic-only newsletter format starting in 2011. Our annual savings for the paper newsletter printing and postage costs is over \$3500; plus the newsletter has grown as there is no additional cost for more electronic pages. RRTU uses an electronic mail list server for sending the monthly newsletter. The instructions for requesting the monthly electronic newsletter follow.

Using the email account with which you wish to register, send an electronic mail message addressed to:

[sympa@list.nctu.org](mailto:sympa@list.nctu.org)

The subject line of this email should read:

**Subscribe rrtu-news firstname lastname**

Example: **Subscribe rrtu-news John Citizen**

## **RRTU Officers and Board Members**

President: Tom Adams – 704.877.3367  
1<sup>st</sup> VP: Dana Hershey – 704.577.7700  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Tim Ramsey – 980-621-4562  
Secretary: Joyce Shepherd – 704.392.8499  
Treasurer: Joe Harris – 704.619.3536

Open TBA replacing Tim Ramsey (2014)  
Joe Beckert (2015) – 704.362.3322  
Mark Gasior (2016) – 704.806.9185  
Steve McClure (2016) – 704.654.1367  
Fritz Mercer (2016) – 704.577.2193  
Linda Walden (2016) – 704.618.3320  
Bill Thomas (past president) – 704.231.7492

May 2014

To: Members of Rocky River Trout Unlimited (#348)

Re: Friends of Rocky River (FORR)  
2014 Fund Raising Campaign

We are pleased to advise that our 2013 campaign raised over \$8,000 or about two thirds of the funds required for our operations budget and chapter activities. Our goal for 2014 will again be \$8,000 which will constitute the majority of the funds needed to support our chapter activities.

Our purpose in establishing the FORR Program is to transition our primary fund raising initiative away from a banquet program format over to cash contributions through our annual FORR member drive. While we will continue to have two (2) strategic raffles, monthly sweepstakes, auctions, contests and companion trip opportunities throughout the year, we want our primary funding to emanate from cash donations from our members, friends, business sponsors. Prize and trip donations to auction, raffle or utilize in a fund raising sweepstakes or contest are likewise welcomed.

The funds raised in 2013 enabled us to support the following projects, activities, and programs:

- Sponsored a youth scholarship for the RiverCourse Youth Fly Fishing Camp.
- Increased the number of Trout in the Classroom schools.
- Donated to a North Carolina Wildlife Federation Scholarship program for a college student seeking a degree in the fisheries or wildlife fields of study.
- Donated to the TU Southeast Land Protection project toward the acquisition of unique, coldwater watershed tracks of land.
- Winter fly tying program for all skill levels.
- Several streamside events plus the spring Appletree/fall Alarka trips.

Below you will find a 2014 campaign pledge card. We appreciate your loyal support and look forward to hearing from you. Please phone Steve Craig (704-609-7098) or Terry Hill (704-847-4438) if you have any questions regarding the FORR program.

Steve Craig  
Co-Chair Friends of Rocky River  
RRTU President 1983-1984

Terry Hill  
Co-Chair Friends of Rocky River  
RRTU President 1990

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**Friends of Rocky River 2014 Pledge Card**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount:  \$100  \$250  \$500  \$1,000  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **Rocky River Trout Unlimited**. Mail your donation to:  
**Joe Harris, 10226 Hanover Woods Pl, Charlotte, NC 28210**  
If your employer has a matching gifts program, please include those forms too!