

# *Snags & Snarls* August 2009



*Celebrating 40 Years*

## **President's Letter**

***WE HAVE MADE THE MOVE!** We are officially in our new meeting location, **Pardee Health Education Center** at Blue Ridge Mall, US64/Four Seasons Blvd., just off I-26. Go through what looks like a retail store to the meeting room behind.*

Our first meeting in the new space will be held on Thursday, August 13, at 7PM. The August speaker will be Toby Jenkins, North Carolina Wildlife Resources officer for our counties. We never fail to be well informed and thoroughly entertained when Toby visits.



Thanks go out to all of you who worked on the Davidson River "drill" day in July. Don't forget about the Move-a-Mountain workday on August 24. This is an annual event where chapter volunteers work with incoming freshmen from Brevard College in an on-stream project. This always proves to be a rewarding interaction with these young men and women. Lunch will be provided.

Pisgah Chapter has a new Treasurer, Dick Millonzi. Dick has been a member for almost a year, and comes from a background of engineering project management with Xerox. Take the opportunity to thank Dick for stepping into this important role. If you have receipts that need reimbursement, contact Dick at [kmillonzi@mchsi.com](mailto:kmillonzi@mchsi.com).



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## President's Letter continued

The Board held a half-day retreat on July 25 to review where we have been and want to go in the future. One thing we discussed is having a table at the Fly Fishing Expo to be held in November at the Ag Center. Thanks to Steven Hughes for the heads-up on that one. Also, we're planning to put on a Pisgah Chapter 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in October. No date for that yet, but stay tuned. We want to give the membership a meaningful, enjoyable event, so a special task team will be working on it. If you have ideas, bring them on!

While we're on the subject, what would like to see going on at Pisgah Chapter TU? What do you want to know about? Who would you like to see do a program? What kinds of events, outings, etc., would interest you? Have you seen or experienced things in other places, organizations, clubs, other TU chapters that you think would be worth-while doing here? Is there a dream trip you'd like to see put together? I'm serious, we welcome your ideas. Email me at [pctupres@gmail.com](mailto:pctupres@gmail.com).

Board elections will be held in September. Following are the candidates to date:

President - Kiki Matthews  
Vice-President - ?  
Secretary - Chris Ellis  
Treasurer - Dick Millonzi  
At-Large - David Pierce  
At-Large - Frank Forrester

We still need a vice-presidential candidate and additional at-large candidates are welcome. Please encourage anyone you think would make a good board member to step forward.

The board meets once a month, on the first Wednesday evening (for dinner), and makes decisions that ensure that the chapter stays on its mission. Board members serve for two years, and are responsible for getting a speaker and submitting an article for S&S for one month of the year. Board service is a valuable contribution to the overall health and longevity of Pisgah Chapter. It doesn't take Trout Unlimited experience or knowledge to serve on our board, just your own particular background and the willingness to be of help.

Tight lines,  
Linda

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## Road Cleanup 6/18/09

We held our quarterly Davidson River Road trash pick up back on 6/18. I was a little concerned about the weather because it had rained fairly heavy for most of the week but lucky us we chose the first clear day for our pick up. Also you'll notice the absence of a photograph. I think all that worry about the weather made me a little forgetful about having a group photo taken. Sorry!! There's no picture but below are the names of the faithful that attended.

Besides that little error we all had a good time and we picked up a lot of trash. I always brag about the good coffee and the great muffins but I think the best of all is the conversation. So for all you people that haven't joined us yet you're really missing out on a lot. Hope to see you the next time.  
**John Carney, John Spooner, Frank Forrester, Skip Sheldon, Jack Elmore, Clive Morris, Jack Soyak, John Barsotti, and Dave Maxwell**

Ross Fox

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No, it's not a goldfish!



And it's not an albino trout, or a palomino nor is it a golden trout.

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**WELCOME NEW MEMBER**

**Emma Dauster**

**7/24/09 a phone interview with John Murry, superintendent of the Pisgah Fish Hatchery**

*Background: Fish stocking in 2008 - 2009 Delayed Harvest waters was described as fewer fish and small fish. Reasons given were "fish won't eat the food", and other hatcheries "getting fish." The contract to provide fish food for hatcheries expired early this summer.*

**Editor:** So John how's the new fish food working out?

**John Murry:** Same old fish food. The purchasing department in Raleigh decided they could save \$15,000 per year by going with the old supplier. It's a 3 year contract renewable every year - the renewal is pretty much a rubber stamp.

**Editor:** So what does it look like for Delayed Harvest Stocking this year?

**John:** 9"-10" fish. We're stocking 6 1/2" - 7" fish now.

### **OUR VISION**

Pursue a future where healthy populations of native and wild coldwater fish thrive in the Western North Carolina region for following generations to enjoy.

### **OUR MISSION**

Conserve, protect and restore coldwater fisheries and their watersheds in the Western North Carolina region.

# Annual Banquet & Auction

John Kies, Banquet Chairman

Pisgah TU's annual Banquet & Auction was held at Camp Green Cove on Lake Summit on Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup>. While both attendance and donations were down from previous years, we still generated approximately \$4400 for the Chapter. These funds are critical to the ongoing support of our activities, so the reduced revenues will likely force curtailment of some chapter- provided services to our community. We had about 100 supporters attending this year and almost half of those were not current Pisgah TU members but spouses, guests and newcomers.

Chris Ellis and the Sassafras Blue Grass Band performed inside this year due what looked like might turn into an afternoon shower, but the music was wonderful as ever. This band is a great group of performers and their music is always appreciated, setting the mood for the evening. The Blue Grass provides a warm background for the social hour as members and newcomers meet and greet before dinner. Speaking of dinner, our friends at Mountain View BBQ again provided their wonderful pulled pork, chicken and all the side dishes.



Two other key players in this event deserve recognition. The first one you know if you were there, Robert Goode, our Auctioneer for the third year running worked the crowd to draw out ever-better bids. Robert is key in helping us get the most bang for the buck from our donated items and he enjoys his work. We may be having an effect on Robert; he has never tied flies but was intrigued by the tying kit and asked for a copy of our fly tying DVD which we have sent to him. The other key player is Andrew Bell, with Camp Green Cove. Andrew is a wonderful host and works with us most of the year planning the event. He and his staff also put all the tables back and clean up after our Banquet. For those who were there, you know what a beautiful setting this is for our Banquet.

Of course the real stars of the show are all those Chapter members who worked diligently for over six months putting this all together. We had the core committee and several others who assisted in getting key donations and working so hard the day of the event setting up the displays and arranging the tables. So here they are no particular order and when you see them at a meeting or on the stream, thank them and let them know you appreciate their efforts: Mike Dennis, Scott Shafer, Steve Herring, Dick Millonzi, Chris Ellis, Ryan Harman, John Carney, Dale Klug, Skip Sheldon, Linda Campbell, and Darren Moore.

Chris Ellis gets special mention here. Chris was our Ticket Master, Band Leader, and he won this year's Grand Prize, a week at that beautiful mountain cabin in north Georgia plus a rod and flies. Congratulations Chris!

As you spend your time in and around our community, I would remind you to patronize and thank the many merchants and businesses that donate goods and services for us to raffle and auction. This economy is tough for them too, but they continue to come through for us. When their contributions are recognized and appreciated, they are more likely to contribute again! So again in no particular order, these are just some of the business contributors supporting our Chapter's work in the community:

King & Prince Resort, St Simons, GA  
Moxie Spa & Salon  
Mean Mr. Mustard Café  
HL Wilson Outfitters  
Land Rover Driving Experience  
Hannah Flannigan's Irish Pub  
Dr. Larry Kennedy, Chapel Hill  
Diamond Brand Outfitters  
Arbonne Cosmetics  
Unicoi Outfitters, Helen, GA

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Curtis Wright Outfitters  
Davidson River Outfitters  
Mast General Store  
Papás & Beer Restaurants  
LL Bean  
Arkansas Trophy Trout  
Shafer Tree Care  
Headwaters Outfitters  
The Asheville Tourists  
Cummings Cove Golf Club  
Trout Fisher Guide Service  
The Iron Mountain Inn

And my personal thank you to our contributors, the great people who worked on the Banquet, and especially to all those members who attended and brought guests with them. We look forward to having them all back again!

folks from Brevard College to build the fences. Anyone who has worked on one of the previous workdays with these young folks, knows how great they are and how much fun we have working with them. Meeting place on the 24<sup>th</sup> is the parking lot at the Fish Hatchery at 9:00. Bring leather work gloves to prevent slivers when handling the rails. Lunch and drinks will be provided. If you can help, sign up at the August TU meeting or contact Bob Daubert (693-6262, mjrlaub@bellsouth.net) or Skip Sheldon (891-3264, shelhalla@bellsouth.net).

Skip Sheldon

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## Davidson River Project

After two great Drill Team Parties, all the rails for the August 24<sup>th</sup> Move-A-Mountain workday have a hole in each end and are ready to become part of the new fences along the Davidson River at the Fish Hatchery. Special thanks to the following TU members who helped get this pre-workday job completed. **David Pierce Frank Forrester, Bob Daubert, Skip Sheldon, John Spooner, John Rich, Clive Morris, Ricky Farlow Ed Destremps, Ross Fox, Dale Klug, David Pierce, Dave Maxwell, Wai Syn, and Alan Frank.**

There is still time to be a part of this great project because we need plenty of help on **Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup>** for Move-A-Mountain Day when we will work with the young





## PRODUCT of the MONTH

Korkers Predator Wading Boot incorporates Boa Technology's patented replaceable stainless steel lace and reel system for a customized glove-like fit. Forget about tying laces, retying laces, and laces that break. Simply set the Boa Dial to the appropriate tension and you're off!

[www.korkers.com](http://www.korkers.com)



Laces that come untied - I think I have more problems today than I did as a youngster jh

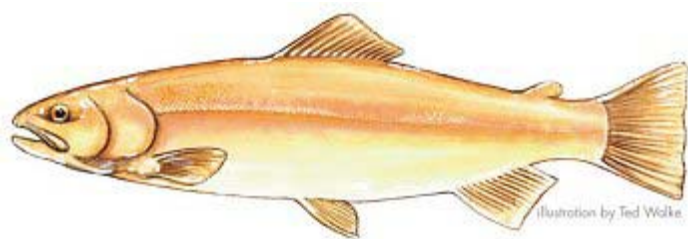


photos by John Spooner

**Q**uestion: This year for the first time I caught what I've always called a palomino trout. When I took it to the bait shop, nobody could agree on what kind of trout it really was. Some guys agreed with me that it as a palomino. Others said it was a golden trout. And somebody else said that we don't have golden trout in PA and that my fish was a sterile albino rainbow trout. But I thought albinos were white not orange. I figured since the Commission stocked this fish you'd know what kind of fish it really is. Can you help?

**A**nswer: The orangish trout stocked by the Commission are accurately called "**golden rainbow trout.**"

The **golden rainbow trout** originated from a single rainbow trout that was spawned in the fall of 1954 in West Virginia. This trout's body color was a chimera of golden and normally pigmented tissue. When this fish was crossed with a normally pigmented rainbow trout,



the offspring (what we have come to refer to as palomino rainbow trout) were lighter in color.

Golden rainbow trout and palomino rainbow trout are not sterile hybrids, they are simply color variations of rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and should not be confused with the golden trout (*Oncorhynchus aguabonita*) native to a few drainages in California. It took selective breeding for several generations to result in the development of true breeding golden rainbow trout. Typically, these fish are

more of a brilliant golden color than the palomino rainbow trout, which has a color phase intermediate between the golden and normally pigmented rainbow trout.

In Pennsylvania, the rise of the palomino rainbow trout stemmed from obtaining fertilized golden rainbow trout eggs from West Virginia. Subsequently, when these golden rainbow trout reached maturity, they were crossed with normally pigmented rainbow trout and the offspring resulted in the development of the palomino rainbow trout. The initial stockings of palomino rainbow trout in Pennsylvania waters occurred during the 1967 season. At present, however, due to their more brilliant coloration, we use golden rainbow trout exclusively for production purposes rather than the lighter palomino rainbow trout.

Editors comment: Don't take your fish to the bait shop. Take a photo of your fish to the fly shop.

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## Casting for Recovery

RE: our upcoming CFR retreat: We usually get lots of flies donated so we have a small set to give to each of our 14 participants in their gift bags. However, this year for some reason we have no flies at all. Any chance you guys could help us round up 14 small boxes (could even be the plastic containers) with a few flies in each?? ..

The retreat is August 14 - 16 at Lake Logan. I'm going tie some more in addition to the foams I did previously. If you would be interested in helping I know it would be greatly appreciated.

Starr Nolan

# Donaldson Trout

*Robert Blankenship head of the Cherokee Tribal Waters Program spoke at the PCTU February meeting about the hatchery and the New Trophy Trout Fly Fishing Only Section. At that time he mentioned that he was planning to stock the Donaldson trout.*

*For those of you who like me had never heard of the Donaldson you might find the following articles interesting.*



*Among the University of Washington's most widely-known developments of all time are the Donaldson Trout and the Donaldson Salmon. These are fish of enhanced size, strength,*

*and rates of growth and reproduction in comparison to their conventional counterparts.*

In 1932, as a UW graduate student, Lauren Donaldson began a selective breeding and nutrition program to develop a strain of trout that could attain a large body size in a short period of time and that could produce more eggs than usual. Over the years, his efforts resulted in the successful development of "Super Trout," which have enhanced commercial and sport fisheries the world over.

## *Donaldson and "Super Fish"*

Trout normally reach sexual maturity in about 4 years and weigh on the order of 1.5 pounds. But the Super Trout, in contrast, matured in 2 years, weighed a whopping 10 pounds, and produced many more eggs than unselected trout.

## Donaldson Trout Explained

Donaldson trout (sometimes called, "Super Trout") is a special [hybrid trout](#) which is part steelhead, cutthroat, and rainbow trout. These trout get their name from the man who originally created this hybrid, [Lauren Donaldson](#).

If you're interested, they're officially classified as *Oncorhynchus Mykiss* (same as steelhead and rainbow trout).

Donaldson became very interested in fish genetics while working in a Montana fish hatchery in the 1930's. The usual practice for raising trout in hatcheries back then was to procure some roe (or fish eggs) from a stream and take them back to the hatchery for raising. Once the fish reached a catchable size, they were released back into the wild.

While this practice still continues today, some folks have taken to playing God by creating their own hybrid strains of trout. Donaldson created his "Super Trout" in 1944 at the [University of Washington](#).

Naturally there are advantages and disadvantages to raising hybrid trout. One of the biggest advantages is that it gives anglers the opportunity to catch "trophy size" trout. This was one of Donaldson's goals when creating his trout hybrid.

Donaldson's trout are unique in that they are not only large and put up a good fight, but can also adapt to salt water (like steelhead). Their ability to adapt and survive in salt water has made them highly sought after for commercial fisheries (especially in Norway, Finland and Japan).

Several fisheries in the U.S. stock Donaldson trout for anglers including [Lake Amador](#) (California), Red Hills Lake (Oregon), and the Great Lakes, to name just a few.

Lake Amador is a popular fishing spot for Donaldson trout. The lake has its own hatchery where they raise Donaldson trout. Several tons of trout are released each year in Lake Amador.

By the way, in case you're wondering how Donaldson trout taste, it's been reported that they taste more like salmon than trout. Many say the meat is more moist and the flavor less intense than salmon.



Photos of Apple Valley  
"Kids in the Creek"  
Spring 2009



## “Kids in the Creek” continued



### Here is a Chance to “Pass It On”

#### [Give a child a Trout Unlimited Youth Membership today.](#)

Now that summer has started and school is out, you can introduce that special child in your life to the wonders of trout streams. TU has introduced a new youth membership called Stream Explorers and it's the perfect way to teach kids about trout, the wild places they live and the things we can do to protect them.

#### [For just \\$12, your child, grandchild or other special young person will receive:](#)

Four issues of *Stream Explorers* magazine (kids over 13 will receive *Trout* magazine)

Official TU membership card

Stream Explorers sticker

Access to activities and games at [www.streamexplorers.org](http://www.streamexplorers.org)

Membership in the local TU chapter with the opportunity to get involved in classes, activities, projects or even a summer camp

#### [For a gift of \\$25, the recipient will also receive \*A Kid's Guide to Flyfishing\*:](#)

With a retail value of \$16, *A Kid's Guide to Flyfishing* is written by Tyler Befus, a fly angler who authored the book at age 8

Giving a child a TU Stream Explorer membership is a quick and easy first step in encouraging a life-long love of trout and coldwater conservation.

***Thanks for your support, Dave Rogers – TU Director of Volunteer Operations, [DRogers@tu.org](mailto:DRogers@tu.org)***

## River Course 2009

Mike Dennis

Rivercourse 2009 was a wonderful success as have been all previous 6 years. As always it was held at Lake Logan Episcopal Center in southern Haywood County. There were 14 participants ( 13 - 15 years old ), 4 girls and 10 boys. 12 of the 14 had some form of funding for their tuition. PCTU sponsored 2 campers; Stoney Phillips from Rosman and Alica Mills from Hendersonville. Stoney was the most experienced at fly tying and fly fishing and Alica was the least experienced but they both had a great time and learned new things. All of the staff were volunteers. PCTU was represented by full time staffers: Bob Daubert, Steve Herring, and Mike Dennis.

The camp is fly fishing and cold water conservation. Classes in knot tying, casting, entomology, how to read the water, etiquette, fly tying, and equipment were taught and then on stream or in the woods applications were used. A field trip to the Davidson River Hatchery ( sponsored by PCTU ) was a mid week item with trout dissection, hatchery tour and planting of trees in the riparian environment were all accomplished. At the end of the week awards and prizes were handed out around the campfire.

The average day consisted of campers leaving their cabins at 6:15 AM and returning about 9:30 PM. Meals always were excellent. Many volunteer gillies would come in the evening to assist in on stream fishing instructions.

As usual this was a great group of kids who learned a lot, gained a new appreciation for their environment and met many new friends. This is an excellent for our youth and our future and is an excellent use of PCTU's support funds.



# Pisgah Chapter Directory

## Officers and Board

President .....	Linda Campbell	828-817-2681
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Publishing	Jim Hoskinson	828-891-8440
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## EVENT CALENDAR

August		No board meeting
	13	General meeting @ 7PM at the new location
	18-22	Trout Unlimited 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
	24	Move-a-Mountain Day with Brevard College
September	2	Board meeting @ 6:30 PM (Kelsey's)
	10	General meeting @ 7PM
October		PCTU 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
	1	Board meeting @ 6:30 PM (Kelsey's)
	1	Delayed-harvest stocking begins
	7	Cradle of Forestry Forest Festival Day
	8	General meeting @ 7PM
November	4	Board meeting @ 6:30 PM (Kelsey's)
	7-8	Fly Fishing Expo @ the Ag Center
	12	General meeting @ 7PM
December		No board or general meeting

## FALL 2009 DELAYED-HARVEST SCHEDULE

	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>
E.Fork French Broad	2	5
Little River	2	4
West Fork Pigeon	5	4
North Mills	5	6
Tuckaseegee	6	3
Nantahala	7	4
Big/Shelton Laurel	1	2
Green River	1	5

## Mentors List

Chapter Members listed below are available to accompany one or two members who would like to learn more about fly fishing in our streams. If you are just beginning to fly fish, here's an opportunity to get help from some knowledgeable anglers.

Bob Daubert	693-6262
Steve Fromholtz	674-2450*
Dave Maxwell	894-0308
Steve Herring	749-9352
Dale Klug	243-6783

Legend: \* weekends only



*Snags and Snarls* is published eleven times a year by the Pisgah Chapter of Trout Unlimited, a non-profit organization for its members and supporters. Address comments to: *Snags and Snarls* PO. Box 841 Hendersonville NC 28793-0841.