



Newsline

Upper Chattahoochee Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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Chapter 436

April 2004



Sam Rizzio, doing what he loved – teaching others the joys of fly fishing and life.

Next Meeting – April 27

David Bishop
Atlantic Salmon Fishing

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Lines from the Leader

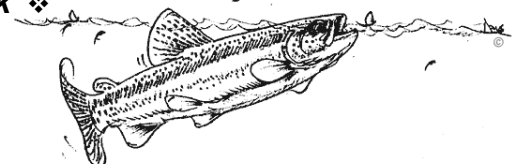
By Mack Martin (mack@mackmartin.com)

We lost a devoted chapter member, an expert fisherman and my good friend on March 25, 2004, when Sam Rizzio passed away (see photo on left). Several of Sam's friends are preparing a celebration of Sam's life and we hope to have it completed and published by next month. We will miss Sam and we all extend our sympathy to Gayle and the rest of Sam's family.

On April 24-25, 2004, our chapter along with the Atlanta Fly Fishing School will host the first ever combined fly fishing school and casting clinic at Bass Pro Shop. This event is designed to answer any questions that beginning fly fishermen have and to offer an outdoor casting pool that will provide the opportunity for customers to cast all of the fly rods carried by Bass Pro and to get a quick lesson in fly casting. This is by far the best way to get started in the sport and to purchase a fly rod that best suits your style of casting. Please come out and join us if you or your friends have any questions or want to try out a selection of fly rods. Some of the rods that will be available are Browning, G. Loomis, Gold Cup, Orvis, St. Croix, Temple Fork and White River.

I understand the fishing on the Chattahoochee River has been excellent as this is one of the best times of the year to fish the Hooch. You dry fly fisherman should have very productive fishing over the next month as the Caddis start to hatch,....Good luck!

Mack ❖



Spring Chapter Trip April 30 – Toccoa River

By Don Kengla (stoofguy@mindspring.com)

The next chapter fishing trip is the weekend of April 30 through May 2 to the Toccoa River, below Blue Ridge Dam. The Toccoa fished well last year and should be good again this year. An email with additional information about the trip was provided to members in early April. If you are interested in going and have not emailed me, please do so ASAP. Details about the trip can be found on the chapter web site at www.ucctu.org. On the home page, click on "Hot Topics" and then "Upcoming Events" and you will find the link to more information. ❖



www.unicoioutfitters.com

Jones Bridge Park

Jones Bridge is one of the most popular areas of the Chattahoochee for trout fishers and others. The Gwinnett side features a large park that attracts thousands of visitors each year. Last year Gwinnett County closed access to the river from the park in order to make a number of improvements. The work is now complete and river access has been restored. The shoreline has been significantly stabilized by planting native vegetation and the placement of rocks to reduce erosion. Next time you are in the area, go by and look at this improvement. With the improvements and stabilization to the shoreline all of the downstream area will be better protected. ❖

Check It Out!



<http://www.dmv.ga.gov/motor/plates/plate.asp?ptitle=TU>



Time to Join TU!!!

Do you know of someone that might be interested in joining TU? If so, now is a great time to tell them about a special offer for new members. New members can join for only \$17.50! To take advantage of this offer is go to https://secure.tu.org/join/chapter_join.asp. At this page, there is a space for the Chapter number. The Upper Chattahoochee Chapter is number 436. By entering "436" for the chapter code, the person will be on our membership roster and will receive our newsletter and other chapter communications. Also, as a special incentive to encourage local chapters to recruit new members, TU National will send us \$15 for each new member that selects our chapter!

This is a great opportunity to recruit new members and a good opportunity for the chapter to have some additional resources for local projects. ❖



Local Dues Update

Special thanks to the following who have paid voluntary local dues of \$10 since the last meeting: Howard Boone, G. Robert Chambless, Grady Grinstead, Sid Elliott, Duane Hoback, Rodney Mays and Bob Wathen. These have joined a distinguished list of other members on the 2004 UCC Honor Role. The UCC continues to enjoy a great tradition of many members paying voluntary dues and we really appreciate the response we have received in 2004. Bob Foster, Secretary/Treasurer is collecting the dues and you can give your check or cash at a chapter function or you can mail a check to Bob at 5074 Odins Way, Marietta, Georgia 30068. ❖

Flies of the Month: Bead Head Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear & Bead Head Red Fox Squirrel Nymph

By Salvelinus Fontinalis

Here are two easy to tie recipes for the famous Gold Ribbed Hares Ear nymph and Dave Whitlock's Red fox Squirrel nymph. Each pattern may be tied by simply changing the materials used.

Bead Head Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear

Hook: Tiemco 3761 or Tiemco 5262 sizes 12 –18

Bead: Gold or brass sized to proper hook size

Thread: Black 6/0 or 8/0

Tail: Hare's mask guard hairs

Abdomen: Light hare's mask fur or packaged Light hare's ear Antron/Hare Blend

Thorax: Dark hare's mask fur or packaged Dark hare's ear Antron/Hare Blend

Rib: Small gold tinsel or fine wire

Bead Head Red Fox Squirrel Nymph

(Using the recipe above make the following substitutions to make this great Dave Whitlock pattern.)

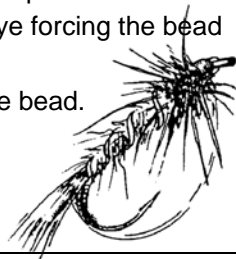
Tail: Guard hairs from the back of a Red Fox Squirrel hide

Abdomen: Mix ½ Red Fox Squirrel belly fur with ½ Antron or packaged Squirrel Belly Blend

Thorax: Dark hair from the back of a Red Fox Squirrel hide with guard hairs or packaged Red Fox Squirrel Thorax

Tying Instructions

1. Debarb hook and place bead behind the eye.
2. Clip a small bunch of guard hares from a Hare's Mask. Remove some of the under fur. Measure two thirds the length of the hook shank beyond the bend. Layer the thread two thirds up the hook shank. Clip excess.
3. Tie ribbing material at tie-in point.
4. Clip a patch of light brown hair from mask and dub thread.
5. Wind dubbing two thirds hook shank length.
6. Counter wrap ribbing in open spirals.
7. Loop dub thorax to behind eye forcing the bead forward against the hook eye.
8. Double whip finish behind the bead.



Go fishing! ❖

Tiers Table

The next session for Tiers Table will be Saturday, April 24 at 10 a.m. at the Orvis Norcross store located at 5161 Peachtree Parkway, which is located in a shopping center at the intersection of Peachtree Parkway and Peachtree Corners Circle. If you need to call for specific directions, their number is 770-798-9983. Please bring your tying tools and the materials for one or both of the patterns on this page. Tools and materials can be purchased at the Orvis store if you like.

To help plan the even, please contact Bob Foster at 770-992-8789 or bpfooster2@earthlink.net to let him know you plan to participate. You do not need to have any experience or equipment. ❖



www.orvis.com

Bead/Hook Sizing

Ever wonder about what size bead works best with different size hooks? Following is a good guide:

"Micro" – 5/64" fits hook sizes 18 – 26

"Mini" – 3/32" fits hook sizes 16 – 18

"Small" – 1/8" fits hook sizes 12 – 14

"Medium" - 5/32" fits hook sizes 10 – 12

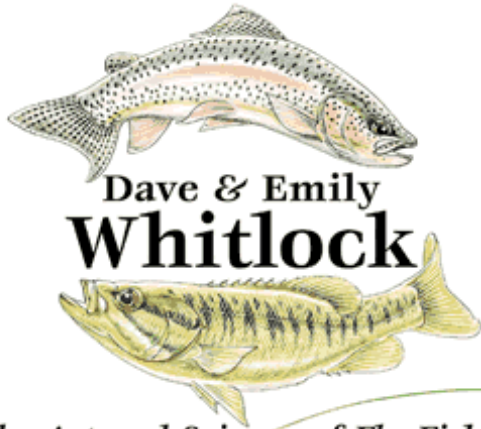
"Large" – 3/16" fits hook sizes 6 - 8 ❖

RIVER THROUGH ATLANTA



CHATAHOOCHEE RIVER GUIDE SERVICE

www.riverthroughatlanta.com



The Art and Science of Fly Fishing

No Longer A Youth?

OK, so you not longer are consider a “youth.” This means you can’t be a student in the Sam Rizzio Memorial Youth Fly Fishing Clinic in May. But you may have attended the chapter casting clinic on April 17. Yes, but you say (**actually whine**), “We didn’t have all those great prizes that **they** did. You know, like the trip to fish with Dave Whitlock!” True enough, but did you know you can fish with Dave Whitlock? Dave and Emily Whitlock have generously supported our chapter and presented programs the last two years. And they have provided great support for our Youth Clinics by donating fishing trips to the lucky winners.

If you would like to do something that would be both fun and educational, consider a trip to Arkansas to participate in one of Dave and Emily’s programs. Their web site is at www.davewhitlock.com and it provides good information about their programs. The White River is a unique fishery and Dave Whitlock is probably its most famous angler and advocate. Spending time with these great people on this great river is something you can do – **even if you are no longer a youth!!!**

By the way, in case you are not aware of Dave’s many talents, he also is an outstanding artist and generous in allowing groups like TU to use his work in our newsletter. Look at the clip art on his site and you may recognize some images that have been and are regularly used in our newsletter. ❖



New Chapter Chairs

To help raise money to fund some DNR activities that are important but have been negatively impacted by budget cuts, the chapter is selling some really neat folding chairs. There are two styles. The “regular” chair is \$30 and there is a “super heavy duty” model that is \$50. Aside from helping our friends at the DNR, these are stylish and practical chairs. If you are interested, see Bob Foster at a chapter meeting or call him at 770-992-8789 or bpfooster2@earthlink.net. ❖



a member of Earth Share
OF GEORGIA

www.earthsharega.org



www.thefishhawk.com

Fish Hawk Web Site

In case you have not seen it lately, check out the web site for The Fish Hawk, www.thefishhawk.com. The Fish Hawk is Atlanta’s oldest fly shop and have been strong supporters of TU for many years. On their web site you can sign up for their email newsletter and they have a special section with updated fishing reports. The fishing reports included suggested patterns that currently are the most effective.

Under the “links” section, you will find several useful links for dam release schedules, buying licenses online and to other organizations, including our chapter! ❖

Sam Rizzio Youth Clinic

On May 15 the Sam Rizzio Memorial Youth Fly Fishing Clinic will be held at the Buford Trout Hatchery. The Georgia Women Fly Fishers and the Tailwater and Flint River Chapters of TU are co-sponsoring this event with us. The clinic is an outstanding event that includes very high quality instruction, good food and great prizes for the participants. **One lucky person will win a trip to Arkansas to fish with Dave Whitlock on the White River.** Registration forms are at www.ucctu.org and in the Orvis Buckhead and Orvis Norcross stores.

If you have questions about registration, please call Carol Berger at 770-998-1075 or you can email her at caberger@bellsouth.net. Chapter members are needed to help with this clinic and should contact Mack Martin at mack@mackmartin.com for information. ❖

Environmental Update

By Dutch Earle (hearle@esisearch.com)

SB 460, "The Stream Buffer Destruction Act," made it out of House rules around 5 p.m. on the 40th day, but with the stipulation from Rep. Calvin Smyre, Rules Chair, and Rep. Terry Coleman, Speaker of the House, that there be a compromise between the backers of the bill and the environmental community before it would come to the House floor for a vote. Neither Smyre nor Coleman wanted a lengthy debate so late on the last day.

The Georgia Water Coalition negotiated with the backers of the bill and ultimately gutted the bill. SB 460 then came to a vote in the House at 11:45 p.m., was transmitted to the Senate, and was taken up and passed at 11:58 p.m., just 2 minutes shy of Sine Die.

The SB 460 Floor Substitute language calls only for EPD to develop rules by December 31, 2004, which "contain specific criteria for the grant or denial by the director of requests for variances." All language about a general variance to piping small streams was removed. While not an outright defeat, the compromise eliminated the most onerous provisions of the original bill. This is another victory for the Coalition, and for the environmental community as a whole. Never before have we had such leverage in our negotiating position!

Thanks to all UCC members who contacted their representatives to help defeat this bad bill. ❖



www.flyboxoutfitters.com

Forward Cast

Following is a list of Chapter events. Please check www.ucctu.org for updated information.

Note: Chapter Meetings are at Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen at 10795 Davis Drive, Alpharetta, which is off Mansell Road just west of Ga 400 (770-992-5566). Social hour and dinner begin at 6:30 p.m. and the program begins at 7:30 p.m.

April –

24- Tiers Table- Orvis Norcross

Bass Pro Shop Casting Clinic- Lawrenceville

27- Chapter Meeting- David Bishop, Atlantic Salmon Fishing

30- Chapter Fishing Trip- Toccoa River

May –

1- Orvis Days- Orvis Buckhead and Orvis Norcross

6- Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper 8th Annual River Revival- Piedmont Park

14- Sam Rizzio Memorial Youth Fly Fishing Clinic- Buford Trout Hatchery

25- Chapter Meeting- Elicia Fritsch, Earthshare of Georgia

June –

12- Back to the Chattahoochee Race- Garrard's Landing at Holcomb Bridge

19- Upper Chattahoochee River DNR Project Tiers Table, Orvis Norcross

22- Chapter Meeting- Rick Pope, President Temple Fork Rods

26- Coopers Creek DNR Project ❖





Chattahoochee Coldwater Fishery Foundation

Backcast: March Meeting

By Don Kengla (stoofguy@mindspring.com)

The March meeting featured Chris Scalley and Kyle Burrell who presented an overview of the history and ongoing activities of the Chattahoochee Coldwater Fishery Foundation (see above). Founded to fill a gap in data on invertebrate life in the river, the foundation has developed several years' worth of information detailing this aspect of the river's bio mass.

Interestingly, Kyle noted that insect species on the river naturally experience wide swings in population. A variety of forces, drought among them, drive some species numbers down while others rise sharply.

Foundation members regularly sample several representative locations on the river to chart invertebrate life patterns. This information is vital to effective management of the fishery.

Chris Scalley added a short slide presentation profiling Tennessee's Cumberland River, an emerging first class trout fishery. He described it as resembling the White River in Arkansas but with fewer people.

John Gamble gave a glowing report on his recent New Zealand junket. Dutch Earle reported on bills under consideration by the legislature that will affect Georgia streams and fishing.

An introductory briefing on the upcoming spring chapter trip to the Toccoa River at Blue Ridge pointed to an upcoming special edition of the Newsliner that will detail trip plans.

Tickets for the latest Winston rod raffle sold like tickets to My Fair Lady. The drawing was won by Earl Morrow (see article page 2).

As usual the evening ended with the traditional door prize raffle conducted by Bob Foster, who once again proved that he could sell steak sauce in New Delhi.

The next Chapter meeting will be April 27th. ❖

Fishing Reports

Over the next few weeks the only bad mistake you can make is by **NOT** going fishing. You may be pressed for time and even overwhelmed by options, but do yourself a favor and go fishing at least a couple of times.

The entire Chattahoochee tailwater will fish well. The DH section should fish well until late May or early June depending on temperatures. Because the DH fish have adjusted to feeding on insects in the stream, you may have to match the hatches of caddis flies, may flies and midges that are occurring. Appropriate nymph, emerger and dry fly patterns that match the insects are effective.

Above Morgan Falls, the traditional spring caddis hatch is about to begin. Afternoons can be "amazing" so go when you can. The DNR recently has recently stocked the upper tailwater so you will find a combination of freshly stocked trout (mostly rainbows) and a good many carryover trout (mostly browns).

Because of changing conditions, check water release schedules and call one of the area fly shops for current conditions and suggestions. Orvis Atlanta is 404-841-0933, Orvis Norcross is 770-798-9983, The Fish Hawk is 404-239-3473 and Fly Box Outfitters is 770-971-2208. You also can call Chris Scalley at 770-650-8630. Chris guides on the river most days and can provide you with excellent advice. A float trip with Chris over the next few weeks would be a real treat!

In addition to the Chattahoochee tailwater, the North Georgia mountains will be excellent. For the most current advice, call Unicoi Outfitters in Helen at 706-878-3083 or their shop in Blue Ridge at 706-632-1880.

And if you don't already have enough choices, the other DH streams in Georgia (Amicalola, Smiths Creek and Chattooga) and in North Carolina (Nantahala and Tuckasegee) could be at their peak in May.

Go fishing!!!! ❖

2nd Annual Back to the Chattahoochee Race

By Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper

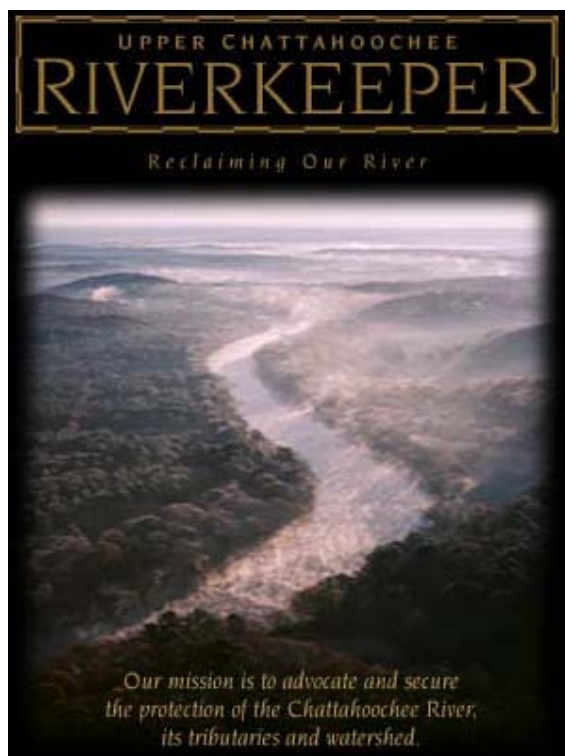
On Saturday, June 12 at 9 a.m. you can participate in a great event, the 2nd Annual Back to the Chattahoochee Race and Festival. This event is being presented by the Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper, the National Park Service and the City of Roswell. Coca-Cola, Chevron, Fox5 WAGA- Atlanta are sponsoring this event.

The event will begin at Roswell's new Garrard's Landing Park that is opening where Holcomb Bridge Road crosses the river. You will paddle at your own pace from Holcomb Bridge downstream to Riverside Park, below GA 400.

This is a scenic section of the river that includes Class I and II rapids. Race fans can cheer on their favorite craft from several locations: Island Ford, Don White Park and Riverside Park. Individuals and teams can enter the race and there are several categories. It should be fun for participants and fans.

Bill Sapp is the Race Director. For more information about this event, either go the Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper's web site at www.chattahoochee.org or call 404-352-9828, extension 14.

As TU members who benefit greatly and directly from the Riverkeeper's strong advocacy, please help support this event. And it will be fun! ❖



\$pending Wisely

In the last few years, the UCC chapter has been very successful in raising funds. This has happened through the considerable efforts of many individuals and companies.

First, a number of companies have been very generous in donating items that we have used in our clinics and that we have raffled or auctioned. We are trying to recognize these in our newsletters and hope you will support all of them.

In addition, our members have been a great help. Without mentioned individuals, several have donated gifts and many have consistently donated their time and skills. The time and skills have been in several forms. Some have built fly rods, some have tied flies, some have organized chapter clinics and events, and some have contacted companies to request donations.

Our general membership also has responded generously in buying raffle tickets and participating in auctions. To all our members and companies who have helped us we say a big **"THANK YOU."** As a result, the finances of our chapter are very solid and we are able to support many efforts consistent with TU's mission.

As examples of how our funds are being wisely used, please see the photo above from the March meeting when Mack Martin (right) presented Chris Scalley (left) and Kyle Burrell (center) with a check for \$3000 to fund the important work of the Chattahoochee Coldwater Fishery Foundation. We also are donating \$2500 this year to the Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper (see article on left) and we donated \$300 to help support the major clean up at the Settles Bridge area that was featured in the March newsletter. ❖

Leader Lore – Part 1

By Mack Martin (mack@mackmartin.com)

There are days when fishermen wonder why the trout and other species as well are not taking their fly. They often assume that the problem centers on the selection of the fly. Quite often the problem is related to the leader combined with the presentation of the fly. Moreover, new fly fishermen are usually confused by the relationship of the fly line and leader design when they see all of the line numbers and letters, various tapers and line types. In addition to the fly line selection, the design of leaders with many different lengths, “X” numbers, material differences and tippet materials add a bit more confusion to the understanding of the selection of a proper line and leader.

Over the next few months, I will describe the relationship and importance of fly line and leader design, including some very interesting information about knot strength versus leader materials. This data was developed independently in a local forensic test laboratory utilizing very accurate tensile testing equipment on hundreds of knots with various leader materials.

An introduction to leader design would not be complete without a discussion of the fly line that must work properly in conjunction with the leader. The combination of a properly matched fly line to leader and fly is one that must work correctly or the ability of the caster to present the fly will be adversely affected. Of course this assumes that the caster is capable of making a correct and accurate cast!

Understanding fly lines and leaders involves the science of energy related to motion or “kinetic energy.” Accelerating a fly rod and then suddenly stopping it releases kinetic energy into the fly line. The formula for kinetic energy is $K = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$ where “m” is mass and “v” is velocity. The majority of the kinetic energy is stored in the belly (fat section) of the fly line. As the line unrolls, reaching the front taper of the line, the line mass decreases. Since energy can neither be created or destroyed, as the mass decreases, the velocity increases. The rate of change of velocity in the line is controlled by the design of the front taper of the line. For instance, with the short front taper of a bass bug fly line, acceleration of the line is delayed resulting in more

power being delivered to the typically larger and more wind resistant bass flies. Conversely, a standard weight forward fly line has a longer front taper with less mass which results in earlier acceleration of the line with less power being delivered to the smaller and less wind resistant trout flies. Regardless of the design, as the line accelerates, the wind resistance becomes much greater and energy is quickly given up to friction and heat with the balance delivered to the butt of the leader.

Of course at this point the energy is now following the same concept of energy conservation down the tapered leader and ultimately to the fly. In light of this design concept, one can easily see that the leader must be designed with the correct taper and length to present the fly in a proper fashion.

(Next month: “Leader Design”) ❖



Winston Rod Winner!

The special Winston rod raffle was held at the March meeting and Earl Morrow was the lucky winner of this outstanding rod. The rod he won is a custom made Winston Boron IIX 9 foot, 4 piece, 5 weight rod (serial number 10423). This rod is almost identical to the former LTX series except that the butt of the rod is a composite graphite/boron material. This rod casts beautifully and will make a great travel rod. The rod sells for \$595 plus tax.

A special thanks to the Winston Rod Company (www.winstonrods.com) for donating the blank and to Mack Martin for building the rod. Also thanks to those that sold the tickets including Bob and Mary Kathryn Wathen who sold many at the meeting. The chapter generated almost \$800 in ticket sales! ❖

Common Casting Errors

By Scott Swartz (seswartz@worldnet.att.net)

From conversations with other FFF certified casting instructors around the country, our instructor's web linked message board, and my personal experience teaching hundreds of students each year, I would have to say the MOST common error is stopping the rod too far back on the back cast. It is often caused by "breaking" the wrist.

A list of the [15 Most Common Casting Errors](#) is reprinted below by permission of the copyright holder Gary A. Borger.

1. The cast is started with too much slack line on the water.
2. A two stage back cast
3. The cast is started with the rod at about 45 degrees above horizontal.
4. The rod goes too far back on the back cast (until the rod is horizontal to the water).
5. The wrist is turned out on the back cast; on the forward cast the wrist is then turned inward.
6. On the forward stroke the casting arm is thrown straight forward.
7. The rod hand drifts forward during the pause between the back cast and the forward cast (this is also called creeping).
8. The forward cast starts fast and ends slow.
9. The line is released too early during the stroke, shooting line before a complete stop.
10. Wrist casting
11. Forearm casting
12. No / insufficient pause between the back cast and the forward cast
13. A roll cast in which the forward stroke is started too soon
14. A roll cast in which the rod is stopped too low on the forward stroke
15. A roll cast in which the rod is stopped too high on the forward stroke

Did you find your casting style on this hit list? I often find myself guilty of a variety of these casting errors. If you really want to be a better caster it requires knowing what you want to change about your cast and working on one aspect at a time. For most of us it's enough to keep us busy for a long while...but happily busy on our favorite water. ❖

Chattahoochee Hatch Chart

Have you ever looked for a good chart to explain what hatches to expect on the Chattahoochee tailwater? A hatch chart can be very useful in fishing a river. How would you like to have a really good Chattahoochee hatch chart for free? Thanks to the work of our own Chris Scalley, owner of River Through Atlanta Guide Service and founder of the Chattahoochee Coldwater Fishery Foundation, we have an excellent hatch chart which you can find at

www.chattahoocheefoodwebs.org/hatchchart.htm. The chart provides timing for the various hatches and suggested dry and subsurface patterns. At the bottom on the chart is some interesting information about the most prevalent insects by section of the tailwater. ❖



Atlanta Fly Fishing School

www.atlantaflyfishingschool.com

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