Georgia ForestWatch

Spring Issue
2000

FOREST NEWS

SPRING 2000

Atamasco Lilies in the Monticello Glades
Oconee National Forest
Photo by Kathryn Kolb

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Forest Politics and Forest Protection

by Brent Martin, GFW Executive Director

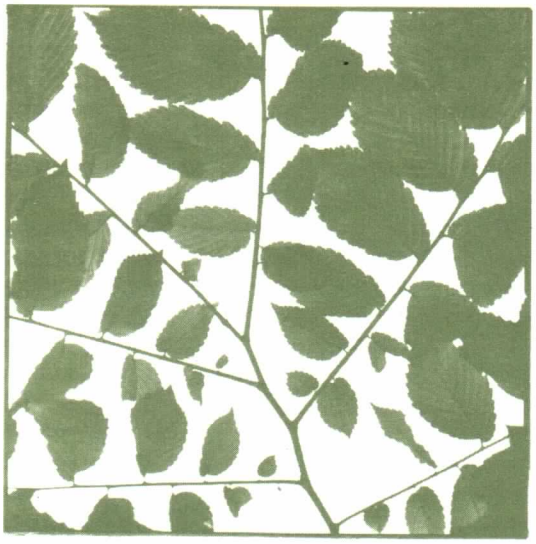
As this newsletter goes to press, the forest planning process is slowly grinding to a halt. Budget cuts have left the planning staff jobless until October, and planning team members are being detailed out to do whatever tasks have vacancies. Since the planning budget is a line item, money cannot be redirected from other programs where there is a surplus, such as timber, even though the silviculturalists are basically sitting around with nothing to do. Look for a new forest plan in late 2001, but don't place any bets. This is extremely good news for many in the Forest Service, as they are praying for the victory of George Bush, Jr. this fall, who has gone on record saying that once elected he will "put our national forests back to work." This would mean an all out assault on good policy initiatives, such as the roadless policy, and watershed restoration, and would most likely be the kiss of death for the forest plan as we know it today, which has an emphasis on these two, as well as other good possibilities.

This is discouraging, but since these initiatives are currently in motion, with a pretty good head of steam behind them, the public might be unwilling to see them thrown into reverse. Opinion polls across the nation reveal that the public is in solid support of protecting our remaining national forest roadless areas, and with the draft Environmental Impact Statement due out in May we could very well have our roadless areas protected before a new president is elected. Nonetheless, we will face hostile crowds here in north Georgia once the public meetings start on the draft EIS this May. Your presence is needed and your Congressional Representatives and Senators need to hear from you. The last several months here have witnessed an explosion of public opinion from those who want to stop the roadless policy initiative here in north Georgia, with faxed editorials from a wild variety of opposing voices arriving almost weekly to local mountain newspapers. It is my conclusion from last Fall's public meetings that a great deal of this opposition has less to do with roadless protection than it does with it being a "Clinton Initiative," as many folks called it. One gentleman at the public meeting in Clarkesville stated that his grandfather had fought the Nazis in WWII and that he would be ashamed to see this type of communism being initiated by a draft dodging president. Samuel Johnson's statement that "patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel," came to mind, so I refrained from reminding him that one of our greatest pro-roadless protection allies, Senator Max Cleland, had lost both legs in Vietnam. It was tempting, since many of this type had gotten up threatening to sue under the American Disabilities Act if the Forest Service protected our remaining roadless areas. Funny, but none of them were in wheelchairs. Wrap this in with the DNR's public campaign against wilderness and roadless protection, and Georgia Outdoor News' monthly diatribes against it, and it becomes no small wonder that we were outnumbered so greatly at the public meetings.

Misinformation continuously arrives from all directions, with my own state representative publishing an article in our local Ellijay paper recently stating that under the roadless policy "poor people would no longer be able to enjoy their weekends in the forest." This is almost as outlandish as the DNR's claim that a one acre food plot equals 1,000 acres of mature hardwood forest. It occurred to me that for the next round maybe we should send out press releases stating that the Forest Service was about to sell our national forests to developers. Maybe we too could enjoy enormous turnouts through misinformation campaigns. But I think we'll stick to honesty. As the next round of meetings approaches, look for invitations to simply participate in an opportunity to protect your National Forests. I hope you will make a commitment to attend. ❖

Tree Series Cards

You may remember Kathryn Kolb's beautiful photographs from our Georgia ForestWatch calendars for the past two years. Now Kathryn has a series of cards with artful and interesting black and white photographs of trees. And she's agreed to donate 50% of proceeds of the ones we sell to Georgia ForestWatch (cool). She has ten images from her Tree Series available as 5x7 greeting cards which have no pre-printed text so you can write what you want on the inside. One set of ten cards is $25.00 (envelopes included). So get 'em while they're hot off the press. Images are appropriate for any season. ❖



SAFHA

Armuchee Land Acquisition Project Underway

The Southern Appalachian Foothill Heritage Association (SAFHA) is working on behalf of one of its member groups, Georgia ForestWatch, to build a planning and support coalition for land acquisitions in the Armuchee Division of the Chattahootchee National Forest. This effort will address a long time need. The original purchase boundaries of the Armuchee Division were established to include 237,000 acres. During the 1930's and subsequent years, the Forest Service acquired 65,000 acres in the area. Some special areas were acquired, but many others remain susceptible to development. Unfortunately land acquisitions within the area have dwindled in recent years due to lack of funding. Georgia ForestWatch initiated efforts to address the situation. ForestWatch visited a foundation which is known for its contributions to land acquisition efforts in Georgia. The foundation is interested in providing funds for land acquisitions within the Armuchee. However, before the foundation will fund acquisitions they would like a land acquisition plan developed and supported by local stakeholders. SAFHA is now working with Georgia ForestWatch to coordinate stakeholder efforts to develop a plan everyone can support and acquire other sources of acquisition funding as well.

Georgia ForestWatch worked with the U.S. Forest Service to identify eleven tracts that could serve as the focus of our initial Armuchee conservation efforts. These tracts vary in size from 400 acres to less than 80 acres. These sites contain a variety of natural and historic resources including an old homesite, artesian well, resort remains, and remains of an iron furnace. All the tracts form critical inholdings within the National Forest. Development of these tracts would fragment the wildlife habitat and degrade scenic and recreational experiences on the limited public land within the area. We think acquisition of these tracts from willing sellers should be a high priority. We realize that other tracts associated with the Pinhoti Trail and other resources could be as great or a greater priority. We hope to identify such tracts through the planning process.

On April 6, SAFHA and Georgia ForestWatch held a meeting with some of the local Armuchee stakeholders at the Forest Service Lafayette Office. The participants included representatives from Senator Cleland's Office,

See SAFHA, pg. 8

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The Dawson Forest

by Randall F. White

The City of Atlanta (more specifically, the Atlanta Airport Authority) owns a 10,000 acre tract of land in Dawson county, north of town near the Georgia 400 corridor. The Etowah River and Amicalola Creek course through the rolling landscape, which supports a hardwood forest. The land was purchased in anticipation of the need for a second airport, but with that idea fading from likelihood, a proposal to sell this land to the state was recently introduced into the Atlanta City Council. The resolution authorizes the mayor to begin negotiation with the state to acquire the land and establish a "Wildlife Management Area and Natural Area." So far, a good idea.

In fact, the state Department of Natural Resources has been managing this land in partnership with the Georgia Forestry Commission under a lease with the city. While the land is part of the Dawson Forest Wildlife Management Area, an official at DNR said that the "main objective is probably to produce forest products for income." Furthermore, at a city council committee meeting, the airport manager admitted that this arrangement, in which the city pays for management of the forest, does not always net the city any proceeds.

On a recent visit, Brent Martin and I found that the hardwoods were under assault by typical pine conversion practices. We saw bare-earth clear cuts, stands of pine saplings, and evidence of burns under more mature pine stands. On that rainy day, the roads were a muddy mess, and silt-laden runoff spilled into ravines. Some hardwood stands remained, but as a habitat for wildlife, this land is marginal. A major concern is the status of rare aquatic species in the waterways. The endangered Amber darter is known from the Etowah in that region, along with the Etowah darter, a fish that exists nowhere in the world other than the Etowah River. These fish are bottom (benthic) feeders, and according to ichthyologists, "The primary form of degradation and destruction of benthic habitats is elevated sedimentation," a process that was occurring right before our eyes (Aquatic Fauna in Peril, 1997, p. 393, G. Benz and D. Collins, editors).

The Etowah is also known for its diversity of freshwater mussels, 65% of which may already be extinct. The scientists say flatly, "The present outlook of the mussel fauna of the Etowah River is bleak" (ibid. p. 397). We believe that the current timber practices on the Dawson Forest must stop, and then perhaps the outlook will brighten, for the mussels, the darters and the people of Georgia who want intact native forests and clear-flowing water. If you are interested in knowing more about this issue, call our office or check our web site for updates. ❖

News from the Edge

Tom Thrasher, Toccoa District Leader

It was a good day to get out, early Spring just becoming evident in the surrounding forest, the few drifting clouds just right for shifting, contrasting light. The problem was that my favorite short hike, over "the boundary," across Weaver Creek, up Howl Mountain and through Moonshine Holler to George Mountain Gap, had again been recently marred by the deep tracks, tossed trash and downed-tree cuts of illegal ORV riders. Possibly one of the same guys that pulled a gun on me last year-for dragging logs across their ill-conceived trails in hopes of frustrating them out of the area. Some days I hit these woods defiantly, ready to kick dirt into their tracks, drag more logs, gather their trash. Other days I ignore or avoid these signs of sin, trying to walk with love and hope through the forest, companioning with it as I would a close friend who'd taken many hits, been molested, but always gets up, comes back, head high (I usually don't like anthropomorphizing, but there it is). Both these ways in the woods are an emotional effort, though, and I felt myself balking at it this day. So I went the other way.

Bye sweetie, probably be back for lunch. Stay in the yard, Hannah Kate, and look out for snakes. Yeah, c'mon dogs, look out now!

Out the back door, down through the clearing to the woods, across the

Continued on next page

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Action Readiness Alert!

All you wonderful members have supported our efforts to protect the National Forests in Georgia by putting your money where your mouth is and we thank you! Now it's time to get some legs under that mouth and get ready to bring it to some public hearings on the Roadless Initiative this June. That's right folks: the last round of hearings saw wilderness supporters outnumbered 3 to 1 by a misinformed but VOCAL alliance of ORV riders, truck hunters, wildlife bureaucrats, and others who want to keep maximum forest acreage open to motorized vehicles and human-centered "management" practices. Our message of supporting and restoring natural forest processes and healthy watersheds for current and future generations was too often lost in the din. So now the time is nigh for you to be seen and heard in support of your Forest. Members of our staff and board will contact you by phone during the coming weeks with hearing dates and issue briefings, in the hope that you will help us at this critical time. OR DON'T WAIT: call us, get the scoop, and sign up for a hearing. Not only will you be working to make a difference, but you will also get to participate in pre- or post-hearing tailgating sessions with other dedicated GFW members!

May 25 - Open House Info Session 9 to 6, Gainesville FS
May 31 - Open House Info Session 6:30 to 9:30 PM, Gwinnett Civic Center
June 21 - Input Meeting 6 to 9 PM, Gainesville College
June 28 - Input Meeting 6:30 to 9:30 PM, Gwinnett Civic Center

boundary. Easing up through the hollow, old trail, brush through laurel thickets. Early yellow violets pushing up, oak and hickory waking up, budding, a peaceful rise-and-fall sigh of breeze in the boughs above. My heart plays back in light song, silent prayer: the city behind me now seven years, may only those follow who know *this*, feel *this*. That I have followed those before.

Easing up the narrowing hollow, ducking under a big old downed red oak, felled by Opal now spanning this signless way. To the gap between Marryin' and Wallyce Mountains. Pick up the dirt road along the west face of Wallyce, my three coon hound mutts lickety-split after a squirrel off down to the left, baying and yelping through the descending stand of hardwoods and open leaf carpet floor.

I stride on straight and glad, now through Bob King's back acreage, to a trail that cuts back up right and steep to his back boundary and the south shoulder of the long ridge of Wallyce. Rocky way, up through more thicket. Almost to the top of the shoulder, anticipating picking my way up along the ridge line, through rocky outcrops, over and past the numerous Opal blowdowns. A ridge I've raced, run, hopped and poked on how many times. Unspoiled for years, recovering pretty well from the heavy logging of the 20th C. They're good-sized tulip trees, white and red and scarlet oak, hickory trees. Small sweet grassy spots up high amidst gnarled columns, wind-shifted shade and deer sign. My thoughts, skip-dancing like my excited dogs, my hopes, ahead of me, jerked back and slammed down to the ground before my feet as I reach the Forest boundary at the rise of the shoulder the damn four-wheeler tracks right up the low quartzy clay bank where the trail ends at the Forest Edge, already the parallel running depressions framing metal-skinned run-over saplings between them and on along the mountain. I can't believe it, I follow startled, numb. What could now pass for a jeep trail-what was untracked forest up the ridge line through past clambered now chainsawed blow-downs in spreading, sharpened anger to sweet grassy spots where shadows can't hide the tossed Budweiser cans, gathering, crushing, stuffing them in my pockets, in disgust, trying to imagine them sitting astride their fully-rigged camoed 4-wheelers, letting saws cool, sucking and chucking and Boy ain't this great and What is it they think and see that they do this? Who are they that drive and cut their way past the edge, over these mountains, through these hollows, to roost shamelessly in shady sweet grassy spots on high and throw the damn beer cans right there on the ground, now a dump. Ever wanting to understand, I try to create, find the outlook that revels in this experience. I can't. So saddened, so angry, I continue on, tracing the newborn track north, coldly dragging impediments to slow the next caravan of heart-darkened travelers. End up at the Grapevine Spur off Forest Road 42 kicking through fire-blackened rocks and camp trash. Turning away from bitterness I head south down the Weaver Creek Trail, to home. It's not supposed to be like this, dammit.

So, there's some news from the edge. Take it to heart, and come help. Come with singing heart and steely eyes. The news: not all is well in the forest that can make us well. ❖

Georgia ForestWatch
vs DNR as Smokey sleeps.

A RIVER PLACE

by Angela Faye Martin

The Conasauga River has been highlighted in past Georgia ForestWatch publications for its aquatic species diversity. In this piece, I would like to introduce you to its natural history though the eyes of historian, Eulalie M. Lewis, born November 22, 1882. In her work, *The Valley of the Conasauga and Tilton: Life in a Small Georgia Town*, she captures a time and place that the heart aches to visit and to somehow, turn back the hands of time.

Eulalie's mother, recalled for her daughter, mythical and often ghostly images of the river running along her hometown, Tilton. The Conasauga, then often referred to as "Slave River," teemed with rafts and floatboats, manned by slaves loaded with the trader's peltry (animal skins) ranging from Forest wolves to otters for sale at the Gulf of Mexico. Her mother remembers, "the sound of their voices in songs, shouts, or murmurings, rang out far beyond the river's banks." She was told by her uncle, "whose childhood was spent on Swamp Creek in Whitfield County near John(s) Mountain, that these forests were different from those of the present day in that the trees were very large, and the beauty of the forests was not marred by underbrush, and that it was not unusual to see game at long distances beneath the trees or in grassy glades or clearings. The lands were themselves of little importance to traders but the rivers they traveled were a golden chain linking the mountains and valley regions with the Gulf (of Mexico)." Mobile, at the time was on par with trade centers such as Charleston, Augusta and Savannah and in those days, as in other parts of the country, Indians provided animal skins from the mountains to traders in exchange for various goods.

The river's humble beginnings originate in the Gilmer County portion of the Cohutta Mountains, near to the town of Ellijay, Georgia. Rushing northwest, she enters Tennessee long enough to pick up the Jacks River, shows off for a bit, then decides to re-enter Georgia.

Mrs. Lewis reminds us that the "few miles wide" breech of land separating the Conasauga from the Ocoee River (part of the Mississippi river basin) in Tennessee, was often traversed by Indians and thus by traders. She offers that DeSoto most likely met with Cherokees at the Indian village of Conasauga (DeSoto spelled it, Canasauga) during 1540. Advice on travel from Indians would have sent him on a direct route from the mountains, via the Conasauga, to the Oostanaula River, to the confluence of the Etowah at Rome, Georgia then down the mighty Coosa in Alabama. She tells of James Adair, possibly the first white settler on the Conasauga, a writer and a trader who knew the river route from his home to the Gulf as well as the Indians did. Another key player in the river's settlement history includes former spy in the War of 1812, Captain David McNair. McNair, a plantation owner, lived on the Federal road near the present town of Tennga then known as McNair's Public Stop or McNair's Ford . The term "Captain" due most likely to his river boat activities. Related, by marriage, to the Vann family of Spring Place (Cherokee Chief Vann) McNair's Ford served as a point of lodging for Harriet Gold Boudinot, bride of Elias Boudinot, closely associated with the history of Cherokee Removal and for Moravian missionaries. He eventually lived at Oothcaloga (now Calhoun, Georgia). His life ended in 1836, two years before the Cherokee Removal. Anne Gambold, a Moravian missionary and botanist, while living at Spring Place (a few miles east of the river), compiled specimens and recorded occurrences of botanicals, herbs and seeds which she sent to England as many did during that time.

As well as a formidable cast of characters she lists distinguishing features and events occurring along the Conasauga River Valley. From the mouth of the river at the site of the Cherokee capitol, New Echota, up to Fincher Bluff (across from the present-day Dalton Airport), a tiny, unnamed island at Tilton, ferries such as Pitts, Fite and New Town. She also recollects all of the river's tributaries and even canal projects, which were devised and nearly built. One such plan included waterways linking either the Ocoee to the Conasauga or a link between the head waters of the Hiwassee and the Conasauga. Around 1830, these were believed to be favorable courses for the canal projects. She says, "The canal only four yards north of the (GA/TN) state line if built, would have joined the Conasauga and Ocoee tributaries, and made these streams a part of one long unbroken route of transportation to the Gulf, adaptable to small steam boats." The steam locomotive burst on to the scene and dashed any reasoning behind it. Thus came to naught the building of a canal through the Cherokee Nation.

The Valley of the Conasauga did not, however, so escape the Civil War. "A skirmish of the (Civil) war took place near Tilton on May 13, 1864, between Wheeler's cavalry and a detachment of Federal troops, in which the former scored a victory. (And) In the battle of Resaca, May 15, 1864, the line of combat was said to have reached the banks of the Conasauga River a mile away." The Federal Army even tore down a Methodist Church at Tilton and used the timbers to build a pontoon bridge for crossing the Oostanaula River, near Calhoun. "Many years later, the U.S. Government reimbursed the little Tilton Methodist Church for its loss." Dr. H.H. Green's "Dropsy Remedy" was invented along the Conasauga, in Tilton. Orders for the product became more than the tiny post office could handle so Green then took to Atlanta.

A handful of sawmill outfits were inevitably established along the river and the one at Tilton, built and owned by one Wiley J. Ault, was the town's most profitable business. "The country for miles along the river was heavily wooded with many kinds of broad-leaved timber, and large quantities of pine grew on the neighboring hills. Many of these trees were of immense size and great age, and the lumber obtained from them when sawed at the mill, was of considerable worth and demand. The trees were cut and floated on the surface of the river singly, or in rafts, that sometimes filled the stream from one bank to the other, far along the river's bed. As they approached the confluence of these streams the logs were steered into the channel of the creek where they were retained safely near the mill until they were sawed into boards. "This lucrative, yet dangerous work was proved violent in its repercussion, both for the environment and for the extractors." Mr. Ault, in an effort to prevent (logs) them from floating away, not only lost them but was himself, washed over the gristmill dam farther downstream and drowned. His body

was recovered below the bridge a few days later after the turbulent waters had subsided. "In about 1887, the sawmill boiler exploded to bits killing several men." Eulalie Lewis remembers the sound ripping through Tilton and the story of a widowed mother who, "dug with her hands to rescue her fifteen-year-old son who worked there and was buried alive in the saw dust." Demand for lumber was great, however and eventually, the mill was resumed under new management. She recalls., "great stacks of lumber set to dry, "mountains" of sawdust, (and) the spur railroad track running down to the old sawmill. Then I imagine the slam, slam, slamming sounds of lumber being unloaded from wagons that later came in from Murray County over roads deep with dust in summer and deeper with mud in winter. Besides lumber, these wagons carried cross ties, spindle wood, posts, pulp wood, tan bark, and barrel staves."

However, timber was not the sole industry on the Conasauga, local commerce also included fishing where J. La Fayette Fincher's hotel and livery stable kept parties from Atlanta entertained with fishing for men in the Conasauga and Holly Creek, "while women and children enjoyed the cool and spacious verandas on hot days." Small row boats were employed when waters were high in the Consauga and were in great demand during the record overflow of 1886. (Once) after forty-eight hours of consecutive downpour, flooding halted the Western and Atlantic railroad, "spreading up to and as much as four feet deep over the railroad tracks." "Water was all around the house where I lived." Many homes were flooded and a few were entirely submersed near Swamp Creek. On the same day, a locally famous incident also occurred. An adventurous steamboat pilot is described by Mrs. Lewis in her memoir, who, during "the high waters of 1886's.... chugged it up the main business street of Rome (Georgia)." She offers that, "much of the river's flow was undoubtedly caused by cutting away of the forest trees and thus destroying the natural filter that controls water seepage."

Mrs. Lewis laments in her article published in 1958 that, "the effects of dwindled resources was soon felt, and when the town was by-passed by the Dixie Highway, in the early part of the century, it began to decline. At last it became only a railroad flag station." ❖

Latest GFW trip to Washington, D.C.

Bob Kibler & Dan Bowden

On February 1st two of our board members, Dan Bowden and Bob Kibler, met with a group of environmental organizations, which included "Wilderness CPR" & "The Wilderness Society" (TWS), in the office of TWS in Washington, D.C. to discuss a petition which had been submitted to the Forest Service (FS) concerning off road vehicular (ORV) use on our national forests. This petition had been composed by Wilderness CPR, TWS & a number of other national organizations. The petition requested that the FS develop a more detailed and restrictive management plan for ORV use, particularly limiting their operation to designated trails only. Current management plans apparently allow for considerable latitude in this regard. For example, on the Chattahoochee NF use is limited to designated trails but on some other forests there is no such restriction. In effect the petition called for a uniform policy.

The meeting in the TWS office was a strategy planning meeting prior to a meeting with Chief Dombeck and his staff later that morning. Unfortunately Chief Dombeck was tied up in Congress, but the deputy head of the Dept. of Agriculture, Jim Lyons, met with us together with one of Dombeck's staff. The meeting was cordial, but as the group had anticipated the FS was unwilling to accept the petition. We were aware that they were heavily involved in other issues, particularly the upcoming roadless policy. Also, as we expected they attempted to divert the discussion to the issue of enforcement. Everyone agreed that the enforcement was woefully inadequate and that the budget for this activity needed to be increased. Realizing that a rejection of the petition would be viewed as a victory by the ORV community we urged the FS to continue in dialogue with us and a follow-up meeting was scheduled.

Later that day Bob Kibler, Lark Hayes, head of the legislative division of the Southern Environmental Law Center in Chapel Hill, and Ken Wills, director of the Southern Appalachian Foothills Heritage Association met with Congressman Deal's chief of staff, Chris Riley, to thank him for his support of current legislation concerned with the Land & Water Conservation Fund. This bill, co-sponsored by, of all people, Senator Young of Alaska, provides money to the federal and state governments for land acquisitions and other environmentally sound programs. For example, it could

D.C. Trip continued on page 8

ECOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENTAL FESTIVAL

Friday, June 16, 12:00 noon through Sunday, June 18, 2:00 p.m. 3 days and 2 nights of food, fun, exhibits, speakers, music, contra dancing and fellowship with great people. $45 per person includes field tent camping (For cabins, RV, creek-side tenting, or bunkhouse accommodations, please call for reservations: 706-896-9966 or 1-800-990-8867). Visit our website at www.enota.com **A portion of the proceeds will benefit Georgia ForestWatch and South Face** ENOTA is dedicated to creating sustainable solutions in supporting the environment.
(Annual meeting to be held during the weekend.)

D.C. Trip

Continued from page 7

enable the FS to purchase several parcels of private land along the Chattooga Wild & Scenic River corridor and along the Chattahoochee River above Helen. It would also enable our State DNR to enhance their management of non-game species. Certain provisions, such as those for upgrading of port facilities, are viewed by the environmental community as incentives for more off-shore drilling. Overall, however, we favor the bill. Congressman Young and other sponsors are now actively seeking a note on the measure on the House & Senate floors. We also briefly discussed the plan revision with Mr. Riley (at a later meeting in March in Gainesville Mr. Riley indicated to Brent and Bob that Congressman Deal's office had received a great many calls in opposition to wilderness designation for Kelly Ridge).

The next day Bob, Jennifer McCabe (TWS) and Lark Hayes met with Senator Max Cleland to thank him for his invaluable support on other issues in the past. Jennifer presented him with an official document of appreciation on behalf of all of Georgia's environmental groups. He expressed a willingness to help out where he could with the plan revision. Always his warm and engaging self, the Senator entertained us with stories of his father's activities as a CCC "boy" in the North Georgia Mountains in the 1930's. ❖

SAFHA

Continued from page 3

North Georgia Regional Development Center, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Chattowah Open Land Trust Land and the Forest Service. We discussed priorities for acquisitions and strategies for pursuing the project planning and funding. All who attended support the project concept, but outreach to other stakeholders and more planning will be needed before we can pursue funding for the acquisitions. If you would like to participate in the Armuchee Land Acquisition Project contact Ken Wills of the Southern Appalachian Foothills Heritage Association at (205) 322-3184. ❖

Are you interested in keeping up with developments in the Forest Service's roads and roadless policies? Visit these webites: www.fs.fed.us/news/roads and www.roadless.fs.fed.us

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Regular	☐ $15	☐ $25
Student	☐ $8	☐ $12
Generous	☐ $40	☐ $65
Extra Generous	☐ $100	☐ $150
Gilded	☐ $200	☐ $300
Life	☐ $350	☐ $500

GFW membership: _____

___# of calendars @$10.: _____

___# of calendars @ $5.
(members' price): _____

___# of T-shirts @$15. _____
S__ M__ L__ XL__

Total: _____

Please make your check payable to Georgia ForestWatch and mail to (or come by): Georgia ForestWatch, 4 River Street, Suite C, Ellijay, GA 30540. You can pick up a calendar at REI Atlanta 1800 NE Expressway (404) 636-6508 or Patagonia Atlanta 34 East Andrews Dr. NW (404) 266-8182.

Calendar of Events

May 20 (Sat.) 10 a.m.: Photography Workshop - Assisted by GFW's favorite photographer, Kathryn Kolb, at one of Georgia's last wild places, Ramp Cove. Learn ways to let light help you capture the details of perhaps over -looked photo opportunities. A manual camera or camera with manual setting is ideal. Your own tripod and sure feet are a plus on this trip! Moderate hiking. Limit 8 persons – so sign up soon.

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July 22 (Sat.) 7 p.m.: Night Creatures Night-Out - Congregate at dusk to get the insider's view of the winged creature's world with moth (and butterfly) expert, Bill Kelly. You may remember Bill and his vast collection form last year's annual retreat. This outing will entail moderate hiking. Location to be determined.

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July 29 (Sat.) 1 p.m.: GFW's 3rd Annual Aquatic Life Extravaganza! - The fragile Conasauga River ecosystem has become the focus of the region's specialists and you can see why if you attend this year's snorkeling outing. If you want to strengthen your resolve that forest managers adopt watershead ecosystem integrity as top priority, then this is the trip for you! With 92 species of fish, the Conasauga is one of the only places left to see a clean flowing main-stem river in the region. Bring your fish field guide!

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Aug. 5 (Sat.) 1 p.m.: Conasauga for Kidz (and their folks) – If you are a kid with the makings of an aquatic biologist or you down right love all kinds of animals, then join your friends at ForestWatch to check out critters that aren't "in jail" at the Tennessee Aquarium. For years people have overlooked the unique animal populations found in Southern Appalachian waters. Kids like you can change this as you inherit these very wonderful places.

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Sept. 29 - Oct. 1: GFW Annual Activist's Retreat at ENOTA, Brasstown Bald.

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Each outing is limited, so call the GFW office at 706-635-8733 for details and reservations.