

This month, I was honored to spend some time with Bob Foster, a UCCTU member who is among the most active, longtime chapter members. Bob recently completed a compendium detailing our chapter's history; certainly a big task, but one for which Bob is especially capable considering his involvement and leadership. Bob joined Trout Unlimited in the 70's, and since then has lead and shaped the organization on the local, state, and national level.

How did you become interested in fly fishing, and what inspired you ultimately to become involved in TU?

Bob: "First, I was born into a hunting and fishing family and as a very young child I followed my father along the banks of the Yellowstone River. I have since been fly fishing for most of my life and tying flies for about 55 years. I became involved with Trout Unlimited many years ago belonging to chapters in Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan and Georgia. What attracted me to TU was the conservation efforts of the organization."

What positions have you held in UCCTU, and TU at large, Bob?

Bob: "I served as VP ('83-'84), President ('85-'86) ('98-'99), Georgia Council Chairman ('90-'91), National Leadership Council ('03-'08), and Chairman of Matching Funds Progam ('13-'15). For many years I also handled the raffles and auctions for UCCTU, as well.

How have you seen UCCTU, and TU as a whole, change throughout your involvement?

Bob: "Over the years I have seen significant growth in chapter membership and activities. I don't see member participation in conservation like we once had."

What are your favorite rivers to fish? Any favorite fish stories to share?

Bob: "I have fished so many good trout waters I would say the Madison, Upper Green River and the South Holston. Over all the years I've been trout fishing, I have accumulated a lot of great stories. Perhaps at this time it is fighting the huge Bull Trout on the Blackfoot River."

When you see Bob at meetings or events, please say hello. He is a true gentleman angler and ambassador of our chapter.