



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE 2019

The Friends of Chattahoochee Forest NFH have been supporting the hatchery for the past 15 years. The Friends Group is a 501©3 non-profit group that raises funds through membership fees and donations to provide food, fishing supplies, prizes, and educational materials for annual fishing events held at the hatchery. We were incorporated in 2003. Looking back at this past year, the Friends Group has been very active in many areas.

- Assisted the hatchery with the following fishing rodeos: Veterans Appreciation, Special Kids, Seniors and Kids.
- Provided for sale to our volunteers, caps, visors, and window decal to promote the Friends Group and to serve as a money maker.
- Posted reward money when the hatchery was vandalized.
- Working with the hatchery to secure a retractable banner for the Friends Group.
- Monitoring Congressional Budget Appropriations for FY 2019 as it pertains to Chattahoochee Forest NFH.
- Letters to the President and Congressman Collins to attend a future Veterans event at the hatchery.
- Continued to work with our great partners – Blairsville, Blue Ridge and other Trout Unlimited Chapters.
- Continued to work together with the Project Leader Kelly Taylor and Program Assistant Crystal Thomas for the benefit of the hatchery.



Some of goals for 2019 include:

- Continue to get the word out to the public of the critical role that the hatchery plays in the north Georgia economy and recreational fishing activities. We hope to be part of the Blue Ridge Trout Festival this spring.
- Continue to promote the four annual fishing rodeos – Veterans Appreciation, Special Kids, Senior, and Kids.
- Invite Congressman Collins and/or his staff to visit the hatchery to gain a better understanding of its importance to north Georgia.

Over the many years in which the Friends Group has been working with the hatchery, we have really made a difference. We have been able to develop a real partnership with the hatchery. Working with the hatchery and with Congressional support we have been able to get steady funding for the hatchery. Please remember to visit the Friends Group website for continued updates and information at:



**FRIENDS**

[www.friendsofchattahoocheenfth.org](http://www.friendsofchattahoocheenfth.org)

To our many members and volunteers, I thank you -

*Roger Schulz*

President - Friends of Chattahoochee National Fish Hatchery