

05-05-2009 T.U. MINUTES –MEMBERSHIP MEETING – Gold Rush Chapter,
Dahlonega, Georgia

This month's meeting was held at Camp Glisson's Ivey Lodge; Chapter President Deborah Scott presiding. Minutes from the previous month's meeting were distributed for review & were approved by the membership. The treasurer's report disclosed a balance of: \$9,745.34. \$3,580 represents non-obligated funds; \$6,165 are non-discretionary grant funds for the Stover Creek, Embrace-a-Stream project. The T.U. National register lists 97 active members for the Gold Rush Chapter.

The Chapter Meeting for June is a social & cookout event, for members and their families, and will be held at Frog Hollow. The T.U. Georgia Council, quarterly meeting will be in Blairsville, May 30th, 9:00 a.m. Interested members were invited to attend as representatives of the Gold Rush Chapter. Fred Ruppel reminded all members to provide him with all volunteer hours performed each month; additionally Fred has Gold Rush T.U. lapel pins for sale; \$5.00 each.

The Estate of local artist, Tom Landreth, donated to the Gold Rush Chapter, a framed, signed, and matted print. The print is on display at chapter member, Kinney Simmons' photo gallery, in Dahlonega. The Chapter will sell raffle tickets for \$5.00 each; members are encouraged to take at least 5 of the numbered raffle tickets for sale to the general public; no more than 250 tickets will be sold. The necessary legal documentation for this raffle has been prepared by the chapter and is filed with the Lumpkin County Sheriff's Office, as required.

The next Stover Creek workday is planned for May 16th; volunteers are asked to meet at three forks, at 9:00 a.m. The 50th Anniversary of the national T.U. organization will be June 13th. The chapter has planned a major cleanup effort which is being coordinated by member Bill Hess. All volunteers are invited to meet at the appointed site on the Amicalola River where work will be performed on a newly acquired tract of land in the Dawson Wildlife Management Area. Exact directions will be provided to volunteers. The membership voted to approve payment of \$200 to \$300 for the onsite dumpster fee. A listing of numerous additional volunteer opportunities for May and June was made available to the membership.

The membership was updated on a planned trout fishing program to be held at Frog Hollow the first weekend in November. The event will be termed as a "Gold Rush Trout Fishing Challenge." The chapter board had discussed and voted to approve raising funds for the chapter by conducting a trout, fly fishing contest. The event which is open to all T.U. members, is to have four, 2 person teams compete for the most "inches" of fish caught during a specified time period. Team members will pay a participation fee. Also, various levels of sponsorship for the teams and/or the event would be sold to vendors, businesses, etc. A committee of interested members is exploring and developing this idea further.

The October, fall cookout and fundraiser will be held at Pine Valley near Dahlonega. This venue was selected this year due to its close proximity to public roads and facilities. It is anticipated that the convenient location will encourage increased attendance by the local membership, other chapters and invited guests. The members voted to reserve the facility with the required \$75 fee. Sherman Head volunteered to contact the North Georgia College officials and reserve the Pine Valley facility.

The program for the evening was provided by Deborah Scott. She presented a brief summary and demonstration of the Water Sampling process which T.U. members are asked to conduct periodically on local streams and rivers. A schedule of the USFS/TU ANC field sampling protocols was provided to interested members.