

11-04-2008 – MINUTES – T.U. MEMBERSHIP MEETING – Gold Rush Chapter,
Dahlonge, Georgia

Chapter president Deborah Scott, presided over the November chapter meeting held at Camp Glisson, Dahlonge. Minutes from the previous chapter meeting were approved by motion and second after being distributed to the members at large for review.

The chapter treasurer, Raymond DeBlois, was absent; no report was made. It was pointed out by Ms. Scott that a budget was needed by FY 2009 & that the preparation of the Annual Financial Report (A.F.R.) is necessary.

Accolades were offered to Vice President Fred Ruppel for continuing to closely monitor and account for chapter volunteer hours; this is especially important when compiling the chapter's annual performance report. The performance report is an evaluation instrument, designed to provide feedback to the chapter, as well as national T.U., and may be useful in identifying strengths and weaknesses, in addition to strategic planning. Chapter member, Sam Johnson has been tasked with reviewing & revising the current Strategic Plan.

The next chapter meeting will be held December 2nd; the topic is: "identifying insects in the stream"

Newly elected board members were announced as follows:

Three year term: Ken Mckinnon
Henry Bazella

Two year term: Sherman Head
Henry Johnson

One year term: Sam Johnson
Marge Ruppel

Chapter Officers are: President – Deborah Scott; Vice President – Fred Ruppel;
Treasurer – Raymond DeBlois; Secretary – Richard Trotter

Special guest, Becky Ramsey was recognized. Ms. Ramsey is the Environmental Science teacher for the Lumpkin County High School; attending with her were several of her students, who monitored various aspects of the chapter meeting. The Environmental Science class conducts regular stream monitoring on Cane Creek throughout the school year; they will provide reports to the chapter at intervals on stream quality. The Gold Rush Chapter provides some funding support & equipment to the class. It was proposed to Ms. Ramsey that the chapter could provide the "Trout in the Classroom" equipment & curriculum for her class.

Chapter member, Sherman Head is coordinating the sale of the “Dream Vacation” fundraiser tickets for the chapter. They were distributed to the members in attendance in packets of five (5) tickets each.

T.F.O. Rods, The Sierra Club, The Federation of Fly Fishers (F.F.F.) have joined forces to promote introducing young people to the activity of fly fishing. To qualifying chapters, they are donating fly rod outfits to be used for teaching and training young people to fly fish. An appeal was made to the membership at large for volunteers to become mentors to other chapter members or attendees, in various fly fishing skills such as: casting, fly tying, knots, etc. Also an appeal was made for volunteers to work with various youth via programs such as Boy Scouts, municipal park & recreation departments, etc.

Upcoming workday & events were: Yahoola trails, 2nd Saturday of each month; November 7, 8, & 9 Hemlockfest; November 8th – N.G.T.O. Fall fling; Chapter program committee meeting – T.B.A.; Fly Fishing For Vets – November 22nd.

Member Henry Bazella, presented to the chapter, a narrated photo program about his 2008, summer seasonal work and fishing at Yellowstone Park.

The meeting was adjourned by president Deborah Scott.