

**Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited Board Meeting**  
**March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**6- 8pm Comfort Inn Suites**

**Present:** Jamie SanFilippo, Tim Bruggeman, Chris Lipfert, Mario Carrello, Sima Bruggeman, Betty Bloom, Sam Hume (via phone), Michael March, Richard Novak, Mark Pencak, Heather Sees, Ford Stryker, Bob Vierck

**Absent:** Ray Faczan

**Guest(s):** Hazel Stryker

The meeting was called to order by Jamie SanFilippo at 6:04 pm.

Bob Vierck noted that the Chapter was established February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1973, making it 50 years old this year. It was agreed to rebrand the 2023 Banquet as the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet.

**Meeting Minutes: February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

- Sima Bruggeman had distributed a copy of the corrected meeting minutes from the February meeting for review prior to today's meeting.
- A motion was made to approve the minutes as written by Bob Vierck, seconded by Ford Stryker.
- Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

- Mario Carrello reviewed February's finances. The 4% 13-month CD was taken out as discussed at the last meeting. The CD will mature in March 2024. Two other CD's will mature in June and October of this year.
- The Banquet has raised around \$4,200 dollars so far (via tickets, sponsorships etc.), but this is less than anticipated. The board reviewed recent transaction for the month that are mostly banquet related.
- The end of this month is the end of the fiscal year. Mario Carrello will work with Mike March to compile the Annual Accounting Report, which is sent to the TU national chapter, and a 2024 Budget.
- Board members will receive an email with a spreadsheet requesting their volunteer hours to be recorded for the Annual Accounting Report.
- A motion was made to approve The Treasurer's Report by Bob Vierck, seconded by Heather Sees.
- Motion carried.

**Action Items**

**PA TU Women's Leadership Retreat**

- PA TU Women, Diversity, Inclusion Leadership Retreat "Watershed, Wellness & Wading into Leadership" will be held May 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> at GodSpeed Events in Port Matilda. WA steering

committee agreed to support the event with \$500 donation. This donation was accounted for in the Jean Brenchley Endowment. Mario Carrello will mail a check.

### **WA Skills Consolidation Retreat**

- The WA steering committee are planning 2 upcoming retreats, one is quickly approaching at GodSpeed Events. This event is an extension of the mentorship retreat last fall and will cost between \$2,200-\$3,000. Part of the cost will be covered by attendee fees, but WA request approximately \$1,500 from the Endowment Fund to cover the remainder of the cost.
- A motion was made to approve withdrawal from the Endowment Fund by Bob Vierck, seconded by Betty Bloom.
- Motion carried.

### **Tomorrow Fund Request**

- A \$500 dollar donation has been budgeted to the Guadalupe River Chapter of Trout Unlimited. This is the only TU chapter in the whole state of Texas and donations are doubled.

### **Instagram**

- Chis Lipfert and Sima Bruggeman met to discuss an Instagram account for the chapter. It will be a powerful tool for communication and a new venue to showcase chapter events and accomplishments.
- The plan is to set up the account before March 10<sup>th</sup> under the name "springcreektroutunlimited" and promote the banquet. It was agreed to set up cross posting to Facebook.

### **P.O. Box**

- Tim Bruggeman discussed the free services provided by Google Non-Profit (e.g., Google drive storage, email addresses, video meetings, ad grant works) and their benefits (e.g., centralized storage of all documents, website transition to Squarespace). A physical address is required to sign up for this service. The board discussed several options including a P.O. Box, UPS mailbox (provides a physical address), PA TU address or a board member address.
- Mike March suggested that the chapter could use his personal P.O. Box. However, if a physical address is required for Google Non-Profit, Jamie SanFilippo will contact PA TU.

### **SCWC Conservation & Stewardship Committee**

- SCWC has asked for a representative from our board to sit on their committee. SCWC meet once a month. Ford Stryker and Bob Vierck attended these events and volunteered to represent the chapter.

## New Business

### **Banquet, Sweepstakes, & Trip Swap**

- Ford Stryker, Mario Carrello, Sam Hume and Mark Pencak will meet on March 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm to deliver things to Mt. View Conference Room. Chris Lipfert will pick up water bottles and a sign from the storage shed and deliver to Mt. View Conference Room.
- Betty Bloom brought in an example of the centerpiece she has put together for the banquet. They will be difficult to store after the event, so it was decided to give them away to one person/table by placing a tag under one of the chairs. Betty Bloom will deliver the centerpieces to Mt. View Conference Room on March 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Ford Stryker reviewed the venue layout for the Banquet and the Order of Events on the day. Board members should plan to arrive at 10am on March 18<sup>th</sup> to set up the venue.
- Sima Bruggeman is working on the seating chart and will print name tags. She will compile the attendee list in alphabetical order for Heather Sees and Hazel Stryker to use at check-in.
- Sam Hume & Richard Novak should plan to bring their personal iPads/computers to help anyone at the banquet bid on silent auction items. They will be responsible for organizing silent auction winners at the end of the night (distributing items to attendees). Sima Bruggeman will provide a list of attendee names and their table assignments.
- Jamie SanFilippo, Bob Vierck, and Ford Stryker are working on PowerPoint presentations for the banquet.
- Sima Bruggeman is working on a PowerPoint presentation for the award winners, but still needs a bio for Amidea Daniels. Betty Bloom will work on the bio description. Jamie SanFilippo will coordinate with Al Phillips regarding the presentation of the Phillips-Brenchley Award.
- Richard Novak reviewed the fly-tying material in the shed, but he does not think it would be worthwhile making it a bucket raffle item.
- Water bottles, earrings and fly boxes will be the giveaway items during the Banquet. Richard Novak is going to prepare the fly boxes with a nymph, streamer, and a dry fly in each.
- No one from the PSU Fly Fishing Club has volunteered. The board discussed that Mark Pencak can step in as needed and there will be other help from family members.
- Ford Stryker asked that attendees are reminded to record their bid number on the back of their raffle tickets etc. to make identifying winners easier.
- Chris Lipfert will oversee the ring toss. It was decided to pull winner(s) at the end of the night from those who entered to play to give away any of the left-over wine bottles.
- Ford Stryker plans to make the silent auction live tomorrow.

### **Intern - James Lose**

- A senior from Lock Haven University contacted the chapter regarding an internship. He needs to complete 160 hours of volunteer work by early May (approximately 15 hours/week). The board discussed options for where James could get involved (e.g., Banquet, creek clean up, Trout in the Classroom). It was agreed to compensate his dinner/ticket for the banquet.

### **3T- Wed, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7pm, State Theatre**

- The Fly Fishing Film Tour would like to partner with the chapter to host the film festival in State College. The event will be held at the State Theatre at 7pm on May 3<sup>rd</sup> with \$10 from each ticket sold going back to the chapter.

### **Women Anglers Award**

- WA steering committee has decided to cover the cost of admission to the banquet for the award winner's spouse/guest. The fee for the awardee is compensated by the chapter.

### **Voodoo Brewery Event**

- Mike March contacted Voodoo Brewery regarding using their space for fly tying events. Monday afternoon/evenings are available for events. The bar would be open and we could bring in pizza/food. The board discussed that these could be re-occurring monthly fly-tying events with potential to fish the stream and/or/also an Iron Fly event.
- The board will revisit and make plans after the Banquet.

### **Iron Works Event Request, Curtin Village 4/30**

- Organizers from this family and kid friendly event reached out to Jamie SanFilippo. They would like the chapter to potentially do casting demos and have an outreach table. If anyone is interested/available on this date, please contact Jamie SanFilippo. Mike March expressed interest.

### **Mayfly Project**

- Mayfly Project is a national non-profit on a mission to mentor children in foster care via the sport of fly fishing. They provide opportunities for children in foster care to have fun, build self-esteem and develop a meaningful connection with the outdoors.
- The project provides 1:1 mentorship over 5 different sessions and the kids get to take all the gear with them at the end of the project.
- The Hollidaysburg branch is transitioning to State College and they need mentor volunteers. Mike March and Chris Lipfert expressed interest.

### **Old Business**

#### **February & March General Meetings**

- Chris Lipfert provided an update to the board on the last two general meetings, both of which were well attended. The speaker in February was very late due to traffic, but the event went well otherwise. The March talk was an interesting historical perspective on Penns Creek.

## Committee Reports

### **Conservation**

- Bob Vierck discussed several projects in the works, including an invasive species project at Oak Hall which will be starting soon. There is a Growing Greener Grant project starting next year. Other projects including Millbrook marsh, Slab Cabin Run and Shiloh Road.

### **Women Anglers**

- The Film Festival with Joe Humphreys event was well attended. WA are considering making it an all-inclusive (not women only) event in the future.
- WA are working on putting together a list of their future and upcoming events.
- Volunteers are needed to act as escorts to fly fish with PA Outdoor Writers' Association conference attendees who select Fly Fishing as their Outdoor Activity on the morning of Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. 3-8 volunteers are needed.

### **Communication**

- Sam Hume has been in communication with GoDaddy regarding a refund to reduce the 5 year contract to a 1 year contract for the website. They will refund \$583.66 back to the card. The current website will be maintained for the rest of the year. The new website will be established under the same domain name, and everything will be fully migrated to it before the end of the year. Tim Bruggeman and Sam Hume should have the new website in use prior to then.

### **VSP**

- Beginner and intermediate fly-tying classes finished up and were a success. The beginner fly fishing class was well attended this weekend, with 20 participants. More are expected to join over the following weeks. Ray Faczan has field days planned for April.

### **Youth Education**

- Stream Keepers Program at Camp Anderson need volunteers from 6-8pm on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Judi Sittler or Jamie SanFilippo if interested/available.

### **General Meetings**

- Chris Lipfert has Dennis Charney from Flyfishers lined up for the April General Meeting. No general meetings are scheduled for July or August.
- Mark Pencak has the Winery reserved for the annual event on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **Membership, and PR**

- Board members were asked to take and share photos of any events they attend so that the images can be used on social media/website.
- High quality photos of Spring Creek are also needed for the new website and social media.

**Board Member Comments/Announcements/Concern/Adjourn**

Tim Bruggeman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:13pm, seconded by Heather Sees. Motion carried.