

Winchester Trout Unlimited

(February 1, 2024)

The meeting was called to order by Mike Hart, Vice President, at 6:55 in Rachel's Kitchen meeting room of the Shenandoah Lodge at Lake Frederick. There were a total of 21 in attendance including 5 first time guests.

TREASURS REPORT:

Dave Juth reports that the Chapter has a balance of \$10,503.21.

PROJECTS:

Red Bud Run—Bud reports that the monthly work session will be held on Saturday February 3rd at 10 am.

Priority Waters—Burr reports that the chapter members currently involved in the effort are Mike Smith, Mike Makufka, Stan Ikonan, and himself. As more information is available and developed for the Northern Blue Ridge streams, he will report on them.

EDUCATION / OUTREACH:

Project Healing Waters—see the attached report by Wayne and Phil

Bar Fly-- The next Bar Fly meeting will be on Wednesday February 21st at 7pm at the Escutcheon Brewery. All are welcome, especially those new to fly-tying.

ONGOING BUSINESS:

Rapidan Fly Fishing Show—February 10th, 9am-3pm at the Highland High School in Warrenton

Kayak Fishing Expo—Saturday February 24th, 11am-3pm at Jakes Bait and Tackle in Winchester

TU Southeast Rendezvous—March 15th-17th in Nashville, TN

Virginia Council of TU will be meeting at JMU on February 24th.

NEW BUSINESS:

Several new committees have been formed to better manage the ongoing club activities and hopefully expand our outreach to a broader audience. Mary Weiss will chair Membership, Burr Tupper will chair Conservation, and Lisa LaCivita is considering chairing Education. We expect there will be more volunteer opportunities in the future.

Fish With a Member (FWAM)—Fred Boyer has been the primary organizer of this program in the past. We are encouraging more members to take an organizing role. The intent is to canvas the membership for those who would like to participate in leading and /or going on an outing to develop an email list of those members. This list would then be shared with all the interested members. Anyone would then pick a month to organize an outing to a location of their choice and coordinate the logistics.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:40 pm.

Submitted by:

Fred Boyer, Secretary



Winchester Program Update 1 February 2024

Status: The program now has **25 active participants** and **34 active volunteers**.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, 14 February 2024 in Rachel's Kitchen, Shenandoah Lodge, Lake Frederick, 6:30-8:30 p.m. **This will be a fly-tying clinic.**

Recent Activities:

12-14 January – Virginia Fly Fishing and Wine Festival, Meadow Park Event Center, Doswell, Va. Wayne White attended and supported the Virginia Region Project Healing Waters Information Booth.

- 1 ➤ **Fly-Tying Clinic** -- Winchester Program Participant Charles "Doc" Smith attended the informative and technical fly-tying clinic held in conjunction with the festival.
- 2 ➤ **Women's Fly-Fishing Symposium** – Winchester Participants Christine Erin, Heather Wright, and Karen Trueblood attended the **"Beyond the Cast Fly Fishing Program"** which was the first event created specifically for women and taught by experts nationwide.

Canceled Due to Weather-- 20 January – Fly-tying class at Jake's Bait and Tackle, Winchester, VA

Planned Activities

10 February – Rapidan TU Fly Fishing Show, Highland School, Warrenton, Virginia. Winchester program will partner with the Fredericksburg Program, operate an information booth, and provide fly-tying demonstrations.

17 February – Fly-tying class at Jake's Bait and Tackle, Winchester, VA, 1100 – 2 pm. This is the first of additional classes for continued basic and intermediate instruction.

16 or 23 March (T) -- Fly-tying class at Jake's Bait and Tackle

30 March (T)– Project Healing Waters Fly-Tying Marathon, at the US Marine Corps Museum, Quantico, VA. (Date TBD) Winchester program will participate in this event, which provides flies tied at that weekend event to all programs across the country.

5-7 and 16-18 April – Virginia Region Wild Trout Trips Shenandoah National Park. Winchester will send one participant and volunteer to one of these trips.

2-4 May – Virginia Region 2024 Spring Back Creek Outing. Christina Nelson will participate, and Phil Stevens will guide this trip.

May (TBD) – Virginia Region 2024 Spring River Bound Outing. Winchester will send one participant volunteer guide for this trip.

Thanks to Bill Prokopchak for his continued support of our program activities with the publication of Lateral Lines

Thanks to all our volunteers who support our mission of helping heal those who served.

Wayne M. White
Program Lead
703-919-2952

wayne.white@projecthealingwaters.org

Phil Stevens
Assistant Program Lead
703-308-4088

Philip.h.stevens@projecthealingwaters.org