

Winchester Trout Unlimited

(March 7, 2024)

The meeting was called to order by Gene Lewis, President, at 7:00pm in Rachel's Kitchen meeting room of the Shenandoah Lodge at Lake Frederick. A total of 24 were in attendance including 2 first time guests.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Jess Foltz, Boyce Elementary's Librarian, presented an outstanding summary of her efforts in teaching K-5th grade students about her Trout in the Classroom (TIC) program. Because she is the Librarian and not an "official teacher" she is not held to meeting the state's SOL (Standards of Learning) requirements. She is therefore able to teach ecology, math, science, and environmental subjects etc. that meet the learning abilities of each grade level. She indicated that she would be willing to inform other teachers involved in our TIC program, about her teaching techniques.

TREASURS REPORT:

Dave Juth reports that the Chapter has a balance of \$10,717.25 as of 2/29/2024.

PROJECTS:

Red Bud Run—Bud reports that the monthly work session will be held on Saturday March 9th at 10 am pending any rain events. As usual, he will inform the work crew of last-minute changes Friday evening March 8.

Priority Waters—Burr reports that the chapter members currently involved in the effort are Mike Smith, Mike Makufka, Stan Ikonan, and himself. The project remains in the planning stages and as new information develops, he will report on them.

EDUCATION / OUTREACH:

Project Healing Waters—The next volunteer/participant meeting will be on 3/13/2024 in Rachel's Kitchen.

Bar Fly__ The next Bar Fly meeting will be on Wednesday March 20th at 7pm at the Escutcheon Brewery. As a reminder, this regular gathering has been moved to the 3rd Wednesday of each month. There was some discussion about the possibility of moving the location, at some frequency, to the Front Royal area to be more welcoming for our new Front Royal and Shenandoah County members. All are welcome, especially those new to fly-tying.

TIC—The release date is typically the second weekend of May. This year it falls on May 10 and 11. Gene will be in contact with the teachers to determine if any classes wish to participate. In years past, it has become more difficult to arrange transportation for the students due to funding concerns.

Earth Day—will be held in downtown Front Royal on April 21st. Our chapter will have a table at the event if anyone would like to help to support our chapter.

ONGOING BUSINESS:

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

The Fly-Fishing Film Tour, sponsored by Mossy Creek Fly Shop in Harrisonburg will be held at the Court Square Theater on March 19th from 7-9pm. Typically, Mossy Creek shop will be open prior to the showing and offering specials on fishing equipment.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no additional new business.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:40 pm.

Submitted by:

Fred Boyer, Secretary