

Challenge Chapter Board Meeting  
January 3, 2006

Present: Martin Van Fossan, Bill Thorsted, Greg Baughman, Dave Parker, Doug Shore, Jeff Schodowski and Jeff Raphelson.

Secretary's Report: No Report.

Treasurer's Report: Dave Parker reported that the Chapter checking account balance is \$6,251.04. There were no major expenses in the past month. We paid several smaller bills this past month. We have one new book order and we received a \$145 check from Franks. Dave also provided information he has received concerning the fly tying class and the Chapter's application for a booth at the March fly fishing expo. He spoke with People's State Bank about the use of a credit card machine to process payments for sales at the expo. It would cost approximately \$400 up front to rent a manual machine plus \$40 for a processing terminal and 2.5% - 3.5% per transaction. There is no way to avoid transaction fees. Jeff Schodowski will ask Dave Scott at the Orvis store to see if we can run transactions on their machine. The Board is convinced we lost sales by requiring customers to pay in cash and will explore other possibilities.

Education Report: Jeff Raphelson reported that both fly tying classes start next week. We have not heard enrollment figures from Birmingham Community Education, but the committee's publicity efforts resulted in mentions in the Oakland Press and perhaps other periodicals. We will explore arranging for guest instructors to assist with the intermediate class.

Conservation Report: Greg Baughman reported that he has not heard back from Susan Thiel on possible DNR projects. The Board considered a mapping project to support the update of the Boardman River guidebook for one of the three summer outings. Greg will coordinate this with Jim Zyla and the guidebook committee. Greg has made contact with Oakbrook to make arrangements for the May outing. Twin Pines reservation is firm. Dave Parker will confirm with Rayburn.

Fund-Raising Report: Jeff Schodowski presented options for the Michigan Trout advertisement, which must be finalized by February 1 to appear in advance of the Midwest Fly Fishing Expo.

Michigan Council Report: Bill Thorsted reported that he will attend the January 14 meeting at Michigan State University. It will have video conferencing facilities for the Upper Peninsula attendees. Little else happened in the past month Bill must fill out forms reporting on Chapter activities for the council's effectiveness survey.

New Business:

Planning for the Midwest Fly Fishing must begin soon. It will be held March 18 and 19, 2006 at the Macomb Community College Expo Center in Warren. The Board would like a booth in roughly the same location as last year's booth (sections A19 and A20 on the map). Jeff Schodowski will follow up with the organizers. The Board considered new product emphasis as the Chapter has no new product offerings this year. The Board also considered an easel display for the Prosek print and a

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small table for the guidebooks so as not to detract from the open booth layout. We also need to consider staffing to serve visitors to the booth and protect from theft.

Jim Zyla has agreed to contact George Fetherston and Don Silsbe to head the guidebook committee for the revision of the Boardman River guidebook, which will include the Jordan River.

The Board considered whether to adopt a mechanism to increase the Chapter's focus on membership issues, such as membership level, member attendance and Board responsiveness. The Board felt the function should rest with a committee as opposed to a single representative. It also discussed conducting a survey. The Board will propose it to the membership at the Chapter meeting for a one year trial.

Old Business:

Guest Speakers for the rest of the year:

January - Jim Bohlman on building bamboo flyrods, held at Hanks in Lake Orion

February - Jim Francis on Southeast Michigan trout fishing

March - Russ Holmes on Winter fishing on the Gallatin River/Yellowstone

April - Jerry Gott on the Lower Au Sable

Members staffed a booth at the 6th Annual Fly-Tying Exposition at the Ingham County Fairgrounds in Mason, MI on December 3. The Chapter had approximately \$315 in sales.

Meeting adjourned.