

Challenge Chapter T.U Board Meeting

January 13, 2009

Members present: Jim Zyla, Doug Shore, John and Maureen Shoup, Greg Baughman, Jon Griffin, and Nancy Spence

President's report: Jon Griffin sent a copy of our new river guide to Charles Gauvin, executive director of T.U. National, who is coming to Michigan to announce the 50th anniversary celebration coming up in August in Traverse City. Jon's hoping that when Mr. Gauvin announces the Cheboygan watershed as a "home river" (that includes the Maple, Sturgeon, Pigeon, and Black Rivers), he will have our book in his hand.

Jon ordered 40 shirts with the chapter logo on them. All but a few were pre-ordered. They are \$29. If you have an interest in one, please e-mail Jon at jongriffin2@aol.com.

Guide books: We don't have a consistent discount policy for our dealers. There was much discussion about this and John Shoup volunteered to do a cost analysis on them. We feel we're not making enough profit on some of them.

Conservation: Greg Baughman reported that Huron Pines has asked for \$1000 to buy equipment for their stream projects. The Au Sable North Branch Foundation has asked for money to pay for watershed plans. No vote was taken on either request.

Education: We're just teaching one class this year with all levels. There was a good turnout of students.

Expo: Doug Shore has volunteered to chair our booth this year. He will work out a system to accurately keep track of what is sold. We discussed selling packets of flies specific to certain rivers, selling lanyards again, and other ideas. He will also see to the repairs of our display and get volunteers lined up to man the booth.

Raffle: Jim Zyla, raffle chairman, reported we have our license from the state now. He got 2 bids for printing the tickets. The lowest one is from the company which prints our guide books and we will take that one. Tickets

will cost \$40 each and the tickets will come in books of ten for us to sell. He may have the tickets at next month's meeting. The drawing will be at the TU 50th Anniversary banquet in Traverse City, August 22, 2009. The prizes will be:

Grand Prize: A week's fishing trip for two to the Patagonia region of Argentina.

1st Prize: Weekend for two at a luxury resort in northern Michigan, plus admission for one to the Orvis Fly Fishing School at the Homestead.

2nd Prize: A fly fishing package including waders, rod, reel, fly line, etc.

We discussed advertising. Jon Griffin has gotten rates from Midwest Fly Fishing, which reaches 35,000 people and comes out six times a year. Their rates are very competitive with Michigan Trout. They would also write an announcement and editorial about our raffle. Jim will write an article to, hopefully, be published in Michigan Trout. If you have any ideas or wish to be on the raffle committee, please contact Jim Zyla at:

the.zylas@comcast.net

Upcoming meetings:

February 10: Chuck Hawkins, a west Michigan guide, will present on "Stalking and Catching Trophy Trout"

March 10: Bob Jaklin, owner of West Yellowstone Anglers in West Yellowstone, Montana, will be our speaker.

April 14: Eric Sharp, a Detroit Free Press columnist, will be our speaker.

The above meetings will be at the E.L. Johnson Nature Center, 3325 Franklin Rd., Bloomfield Hills at 7:30 P.M.

May 12: Our annual picnic at Meadowlake Park (with fishing, too)