

**CHALLENGE CHAPTER TU
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 11, 2003**

ATTENDANCE: John Marsh, Bill Thorsted, Jon Bird, Nancy Spence, Jeff Schodowski, Tom Takai, Ryan Ross, Bob Padilla, Lane Lindstrom, Martin VanFossan, Dave Shantz, Julio Mazzoli, Jeff Raphelson, Bill Womack, Dan Cronin, Don Silsbe, Rush Blough, Bob Wittbold, Dan Keifer, Jim Zyla, Carson Sutton, Keith McCormack, Doug Shore, Jon Griffin, Bill Griffin, and Wayne Glessner.

President's Report: Don Silsbe welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked the new members and guests to introduce themselves. Keith McCormack and Bob Padilla were the new members attending tonight's meeting. Don reported the payment for our ad in the Michigan Trout magazine for 2004. The deadline for the ad's discount payment was before the general meeting, so we had to make the payment before getting a vote for funds. He asked for a motion to accept this expenditure. Jeff Raphelson made a motion to accept payment for the ad, Wayne Glessner seconds the motion and it was approved. Don introduced our guest speaker, Dave Scott, manager of the Rochester Hills Orvis Store.

Treasurer's Report: Don reported for Russ Holmes that we have \$17,030.47 in checking, we paid \$296 in quarterly taxes and we paid \$1,944 for the ad in Michigan Trout.

Conservation Report: Wayne Glessner presented the outing dates and locations to the members.

- May Outing-May 7, 8 & 9 at Barothy's Lodge. Mapping the PM River.
- June Outing-June 18, 19 & 20 at Pine Lodge. Stream project TBD
- July Outing-July 9, 10, & 11 at Rayburn Lodge. Stream project TBD.

Wayne made a proposal to use the Barothy's Lodge for the May outing since it will accommodate 12 to 14 or more people in Baldwin, MI. The cost for lodging is \$1,400 for 12 to 14 people. John Marsh made a motion to accept the Barothy's Lodge proposal, and second by Dave Shantz. Motion carries. The cost for each outing will be \$85.00 per person this year. Nancy Spence volunteered to chair the food committee for the outing.

Fundraising Report:

- Don reported to the members that Wally Kesler had to resign from the Fundraising Committee because he has moved to Ohio. Don asked that anyone interested in becoming the chairman for this position, please contact him.
- Martin VanFossan will handle the raffles until we have a replacement for Wally. He will have raffle tickets at the next meeting for the Orvis T3 8 wt. Travel rod.
- Don also showed the Winston 5-piece, 5-wt. travel rod that the chapter won at a recent auction. He passed around a silent auction sheet for this rod. At our annual May meeting, the auction will close and the rod presented to the highest bidder.
- Prosek Original C.B.T. Print-Don said that the original is worth at least \$3,000. We would like some ideas on how to market the print to get the best price.
- Fly Tying Expo-is Saturday the 6th of December at the County Fairgrounds in Mason, MI. We will have a booth there to sell our new river guides, CBT prints and promote new membership in our Chapter. There is a sign-up sheet at the desk for anyone interested in helping in the booth. If you haven't gone, it is really worthwhile. There will be over 60 different fly-tiers showing the favorite flies and how to tie them. Also, lots of good deals on books, materials and auction items etc.

Education Report: Jeff Raphelson requested help with the following:

1. Putting together the kits for the beginners fly tying class. They met every Sunday at John Marsh's home. If you would like to help, please see Jeff.
2. Bill Womack has asked for help in the intermediate class with tying flies. If you would like to show how to tie your favorite fly at one of the classes, please let Bill or Jeff know.

3. Anyone interested in assisting in either the beginners or intermediate class, let Jeff or Jim know.

The program for the BSA Fly Fishing Merit Badge should be ready for this spring. We will be working with the Paul Young chapter on this project. Jeff is still looking for volunteers for help doing the training. Paul Young Chapter is having their Christmas banquet December 4th.

Newsletter: Dan Keifer will have the newsletter completed by the end of December.

Clinton River Project: Martin VanFossan reported that all the stream projects are completed. The teams put in over 2,000 hours of work this spring, summer and fall. They had a picnic for all the volunteers at the River Bend Park.

Guide Books: Jim Zyla, George Fetherston and Don Silsbe are working on the final draft for the Manistee book. It looks really good and will be ready for the Fly Fishing Expo next year. Don thanked Nancy Spence for all her work on editing the new book. George has already started on the next project-the Pere Marquette River for next year.

New Business:

Yahoo group mailing database: Dan Keifer has set up a Yahoo group's mailing list for our Chapter. This is not a chat room, but it will be used to notify all our members on upcoming meetings, guest speakers, special events and important functions. This will also save on postage fees. Only our board members will have access to this site, so our information is safe.

Next meeting will be on December 9, 2003 at Country Day Middle School at 7:30 PM. Guest Speaker will be Dave McCool-Golden Bones Fishing in Lake Michigan.

Adjournment: Don introduced our guest speaker, Dave Scott, manager of the Orvis Shop in Rochester Hills. Dave gave a very interesting and informative presentation on hand tying your own leaders. He discussed the reasons why hand tied leaders are superior to purchased ones, because you can customized hand tied leaders for very specific types of fishing. He did a demonstration on tying leaders using a special tool that makes it quick and easy to tie professional leaders. Dave gave us a handout that showed the specific data on the major brands of leader and tippet materials, how to tie specific leaders for nymph, dry and streamer fishing and how to fish them. Great presentation!

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill Thorsted
Secretary