

Trout Unlimited Bellevue/Issaquah Chapter

Meeting Minutes 13 February 2008

Opened with Call to Order and Announcements

Minutes from last meeting approved

Agenda for tonight's meeting distributed by Chapter President Mark Getzendaner

Mark Getzendaner announced that the Washington Council of Trout Unlimited presented several awards to the Bellevue/Issaquah chapter and gave the chapter plaques.

- Silver Trout Award, for outstanding chapter project of the year, the Kokanee Fry Trap Project
- Jerry Pavletich Award, outstanding chapter award
- Web site award, creator Kent Hwang, web master Bill Gerdts.

Issaquah brew pub will let TU hang plaques in the brew pub.

Fishing Tales: A few fishing tales were told and several dollars donated by people who did not fish.

Old Business:

Chapter secretary to send past meeting minutes to Web Master, Bill Gerdts, in PDF format.

Chapter Vice President, Dave Probart reported that Woodenville High School wants to take on the project to build TU's new fry trap, but further coordination is needed. Mark Taylor offered to assist with the coordination between TU and Woodenville HS.

The James Bartron scholarship has about \$400-\$450 dollars in it. Web master Bill Gerdts will try to set up the web site to take future donations to the scholarship fund.

New Business:

Mark Taylor requested volunteers to man a TU booth at the Issaquah non-profits fair on March 8, 2008

Membership drive continues - there will be a prize for the member that recruits the most new members.

There was a TU meeting on Saturday, Feb 9 in Kent. The South Lake Washington chapter of TU - with about 150 members - will merge with the Bellevue / Issaquah chapter. There will be no change to Bellevue /Issaquah chapter meetings.

The razor clam fishing outing to Ocean Shores included Mark Taylor and treasurer Shirley Vander Veen and her family. They quickly caught their limit of razor clams and ate them all.

Next chapter outing will be to Lake Lenore at the end of March - exact date TBD.

TU Bellevue/Issaquah chapter will man a booth at the Evergreen Sportsman Show in Monroe, Saturday, February 23. Rik Sligar and Mark Taylor will man the booth and Bruce McNicholas volunteered to help.

J.T. Farmer, organizing an eagle scout project with TU, has coordinated with the city of Issaquah to do restoration work on Laughing Jacobs Creek. This will be the third Eagle Scout project in the past year.

Guest Speaker: Will Patric of Conservation Northwest.

Mr. Patric made a presentation about preserving the grizzly bear population in the North Cascades. The state of Washington has budgeted \$500,000 for the effort to augment the small population of North Cascade grizzlies, but it needs to be managed by the federal fish and wildlife department. Congressman Norm Dicks supports the plan, but requires the support of Congressman Rick Larsen, whose district includes the north cascades. Conservation Northwest is mounting a letter writing campaign to congressman Rick Larsen to secure his support of the planned effort and get it started soon.

The chapter members were enthusiastic in their discussion of the grizzly situation and discussed how to support the effort to save the small Washington state grizzly population.

Will Patric will email Mark Taylor suggested content for a letter to Congressman Larsen. Mark Getzendaner will write a letter to the congressman and distribute it to chapter members for their signatures before mailing it. Mark Taylor, president of the Washington State council of TU will also draft a letter. Bellevue/Issaquah chapter members may also write letters to their local congressman, Dave Reichert. The chapter secretary will post suggested letter content on the chapter google groups site.

For more info check our chapter website: <http://www.tu-bi.org/>

Google Groups site is up and running. Minutes and messages are posted there and any member can post new information. Members can contact other members through this site. <http://groups.google.com/group/bellevueissaquah-trout-unlimited>