

BRMTU Annual Chapter Meeting Minutes of the Meeting March 8, 2025

Welcome New Members and Visitors

- Bill Whitaker - 3 years a local - Retired Navy Officer
- Michael Pack - Ellijay - Former Tailwaters Chapter

Membership

- 328 members
- 10 Members transferred in ?
- Sketchy data

Conservation

- Board postponed to September
- Curtis Switch Project:
 - Joe Vivenco - Engr. Proposal
 - Paul Carlson - Project Mgt.
 - Now OK to violate 50 'Rule with Rip Rap on the river bank
 - Bob to apply for a grant for \$10K

Education

- North GA College - Haley - Will be the 5 Rivers CHapter President
 - 300 students at the campus
 - We have a staff sponsor
 - Applying for a charter
- Trout in the classroom
 - Elementary eggs delivered from Rock Creek Hatchery, Last day of school
 - Middle School release May 15 Tory Arp

Calendar Review and Announcements

- Trout Fest April 26
- Dream Trip at 80% funding - worth about \$10K
- **See BRMTU website for more Calendar events**
- April 2 or 3 Cooper Creek Workday - we are
- April 8th BRMTU Meeting at Blue Jeans
- May 14 Special Needs Kids Day at the Hatchery
 - Need all hands on deck

Fishing Reports

- Black Caddis hatch has been epic!
- Ben Bruce guided
 - Paul Carlson and Bill Williams
- South Holston - get with Harmon Smith

Treasurer's Report President's Report

- Paul Mailman
- \$93K with Trout Fest
- **\$86K for Chapter**
- We need volunteer hours by April 1st
 - We have hatchery hours
 - TroutFest
 - Borgwat has meeting hours
 - Soliciting donations and sponsors
 - Trout Camp
 - Travel time included
- Reviewed where I money is going, see Treasurer's Spreadsheet
- Motion passed to send the money we get from Trout Camp Ticket sales (\$3 per ticket sold) back to the Trout Camp

Nominations and Election of Officers

President - Sam Miller

Vice President - Paul Carlson

Treasurer - Pail Mailman

Secretary - Jim Reich

Committee Chairs

Membership - John Jenkins

Education - Max White

Conservation and Advocacy - Carl Riggs w/a

Board Member add:

- Bill Williams

State of the Hatchery

- Kelly loss 4 employees, maybe one more
- Discretionary spending evaporated
- State TU Council will buy a stocking tube
 - BRMTU will send the money to the TU GA State Council

State of Trout Unlimited

- Chris Woods Town Hall meeting
 - Biden's money is now drying up
 - \$230M projected on 250 projects
 - Now all cut off - short \$160M
 - Money may come back after evaluation
- GA Forestry Service
 - Has not funded a state biologist

BR Trout & Outdoor Adventure Festival - Report - Bob Borgwat

- Sponsors

- \$67625 from sponsors - now closed
- Vendors
 - 10 spaces left
 - 101 signed so far
 - for non profits - waiting list has a few
- Total Funding
 - \$135K incoming
 - \$77,600 Spending
 - \$47K net Projected
- Food Trucks
 - \$300 fee - see Borgwat
 - Need 1 BBQ! Jim's Smoking Q? Sweet Cheeks - Ellijay?
 - Plus one more.
- Trout Derby
 - March 28 stocking for the derby
 - March 29th start date
 - Lets coordinate getting donations for the Trout Derby with

Borgwat

- Need minimum \$20 value - plus 5 Grand prizes worth \$200 or more (3 grand prices donated (Borgwat, Bruce, NC Guide TBD))

- T Shirt Art Contest local youth - Grades 5-12
 - Winner \$100
 - April 1st we'll choose a winner
 - Art Association is running this
- Film Festival - Catch it on Film
 - Brook Trout, Blue Line Fishing, Conservation - all local
 - Friday night at the Arts Association Center downtown BR
 - Grumpy supplying beer at wholesale
 - \$20 online sales of tickets - 2 drink tix plus access to TF2025
 - only 130 Tickets
 - Three grand prizes auctions
 - Fly Rod + TU Hardy Reel
 - High end spinning reel
 - Volunteers

list

- Slots Opening March 12 Posted and emailed to last years
- Also sign up through the Trout Fest online site

Curtis Switch Project

- Press release approved for public release
- Paul Carlson
 - Project Mgt. Charted
 - What we want to accomplish and on which phase
 - Contacts- job descriptions - who does/ what/ when
- Joe Vivenco taking the engineering lead
- Michael Pack wants to be added to the meeting

Raffles

4 WT Rod

Nice wooden Rod Holder Rack

Orvis Trout Bag - worth \$299

Next Meeting April 8th at Blue Jeans Pizza