

BRMTU Chapter Meeting Nov 8th Faith PC

Membership

We dropped 50 members inactive members. Now down to around 250+.

3 members transferred into the Chapter

Also working with 5 Rivers UNG Blue Ridge

Sandy Reinauer

- We are now in the newspaper
 - And local radio stations - we are planning a promotional radio spot
 - **Q & A on the radio - try to bring in the youth**
 - **Trout in the classroom has taken over this at the elementary and middle schools**

Randy Carpenter - BRMTU member works with Non-profits and "technology stacks" for non profits.

- Website, email, software, etc Maybe Goggle Workspace? - what's the right mix of software?
- Also looking at IT Security! Be alert.
 - TU National has some systems but they don't manage events or comms very well at all.

First Software Team will be:

Paul Carlson, Bob Borgwat, Randy Carpenter, Paul Mailman, Jim Reich,
(Maybe Bob Wetzsteen?)

Hulsey FF101

- We want to Thank David and Becky Hulsey by getting some gift certificates
- **1/2 day FF for 2 - \$350**
- **Trout trek - 2 - \$300**
- **Intro to FF Class is \$200 for two people**

Approved - Paul Mailman done

Looked into TroutFest moving McCaysville - it's a no go.

- Christie Gribble would change our funding receipts downward.
 - **Could we hold a Kids Fishing Rodeo there? Follow-up in January for some other events.**
 - **Maybe with maybe fishing focussed - vendors - Trout Train**

Review of TroutFest Budget for 2026

- We are enlarging the number of vendors to 130
 - We are getting the road in front of the new retailer spots
 - We might rethink the kids zone similar to Blues N Bar B Q.
 - Working on getting another \$10K Presenting Sponsor.
 - **We need key managers:**

- **Volunteers Mgr - maybe have a week after event for volunteers**
- **Alcohol Mgr day of the event**

Eventeny Software will save us in some places of the budget

- Less on newspaper and magazines
- social media is better
- Bill boards in Atlanta will continues
- Radio Spot - live radio spot - Mountain Country continues
- We have strong relationships with Troncalli and Grumpies' (Stefanie)

continues

- What does Ai do for us in creation of focussed messages?

- Film festival

- Oyster Rods more involved in the film festival this year.
- May do a raffle ticket with entry

- Insurance will be worked out - each vendor will be required to have it.

- Cooking Demo will be coming to do local trout cooking demos. - Not Ga Grown - not paying us as promised.

- Farmers Market for Vendor - City to supply driver or we pay much less. They supply the bus.

- We'll meet with the new mayor early in the year - Feb City Council Meeting

- We'll provide more covered eating areas - large tents that don't block the view of the stage.

- Budget overall about \$83K costs

- Board approves the proposed budget for TF2026

Digital Signs from the DOT will allow for a large message roadside - Mel may get that done this year

Paul Mailman - Treasurers report

- BRMTU Sign at Ag center - renewed for two years
- \$200 allowed for expenditures without Board vote
- we have \$105K in the bank

What to do with the monies not budgeted in our Budget

- Can we purchase some CDs ? Yes! Mailman is on it with Truist.

BRMTU Hats are available now - \$20

Curtis Switch Project

- Fannin County more maintenance on site - it looks great

- Water is there
 - We need to do water reports for future septic assess
 - There's a lot of activity - so it would require 3000 gal a day - which is too much.

Christmas Party

- Dec 5th, 6-6:30
 - Twisted Tomato
 - Silent Auction
 - Contact Paul Carlson
 - Signup Genius - for Christmas party to get involvement ***** Jim Reich ***** to do!
 - \$30 a head Pizza buffet and a couple of alternatives

TVA Meeting Nov 5

- Borgwat and Carlson attended a meeting.
- What's with the too high a water temp?
 - TVA made mistakes. Pulling water at 70 feet higher than normal due to maintenance.
 - Higher temp water - 72 degrees, but the oxygen level was high in October
 - Colder water holds more oxygen
 - Feeder streams water comes in at lower temps and that helps.
 - TVA shutdown the dissolved oxygen in October for a while as well
 - 500 CFS - too fast a release during the maintenance
 - Generation brings cold water downstream as it is drawn at lower elevation in the lake.
 - October is typically **turnover** and the temp of the water peaks every year - all the water in the lake is about the same temp in October.
 - High temperature and being fished at high temps help to kill the stocked temp stressed fish.
 - There are no fishing regs to limit fishing in high water temp events.
 - That was bad timing of the maintenance at the same time - the water temps peaked. Postponed in the Spring.
 - Outcomes:
 - TVA was receptive to change
 - DNR Biologist attended
 - We could get with "Adopt a stream" through the DNR
 - We need to get engaged and get certified and help with the studies
 - The Hatchery sometimes, they have to stock trout even its too high a temperature
 - Maintenance must be done as scheduled because the number of people that can maintain these old turbines is shrinking dramatically.
- **TVA to dos :**
 - Suggest TVA look at the stocking - Should they change the volumes of and size of fish?
 - Look at the Biology - Mailman and Borgwat have extensive history if you want further discussion.

- Reluctant to identify the reproductive nature of trout in the tail-water because then they have to address the reproducing trout - they must adopt new regs - and worry more about the trout.
- Trout is designated as insignificant due to the mortality of stocked fish is 95%
- They are a lot of catch and keep fishermen (locals) who catch way more than the 8 total and they are stocked in three access points.
- TVA talked about distributing the trout by using guides or their own boats.
- Private land restricts access to the river.
- DNR designates the Toccoa River as a "put n take fishery" - no self propagation.
- High Acidity is a limiting factor in reproduction - we should add limestone to rise the PH. Every year.

NC Tuck Fishing Event November 12th and 13th Wednesday and Thursday DH Bryson City

Carter Ott running the trip.

Best Western is where you stay.

Contact Paul Carlson for more details.

John Jenkins

Black Creek - Alabama DH BRMTU Trip

Jan-Feb dates

Next meeting Jan 10th