



Washington Council of Trout Unlimited

P.O. Box 2652 Issaquah, WA 98027



EXECUTIVE BOARD

Officers (2009-2010)

Bill Abrahamse
President / CEO

Sam Mace
Conservation V.P.

Tom Van Gelder
Operations V.P.

George Lang
Membership V.P.

Dennis Thireault
Secretary

Shirley Vander Veen
Treasurer

Mark Taylor
Past President

Mark Taylor
NLC Representative

TO: WCTU OFFICERS, STAFF, COMMITTEE CHAIRS, COORDINATORS, AND CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Comment [GWR1]:

Minutes of the Washington Council of Trout Unlimited Executive Board Meeting, held Saturday, November 21, 2009. The Edmonds Laebugton Salmon Chapter hosted the meeting at the Edmonds Deer Creek Hatchery.

Chapter and Membership Attendance:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Chapter. Lists attendees and their respective chapters.

Bill Abrahamse, President, distributed the day's agenda and called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

Welcome and Announcements:

Minutes- Seconded and approved.

Bill Abrahamse presented financial reports.

Announcements:

Saturday November 21st, 2009

Executive Board Meeting

Host: Edmonds

Deer Creek Hatchery-All Members Welcome

WCTU Meeting Schedule FY 2010-2011

Friday January 8th, 2010

State Council Meeting-All Members Welcome

7:00PM-9:30 Reception and presidents meeting

Saturday January 9th, 2009 9:00-4:30

WCTU Awards Luncheon 12-2PM

Host: Olympia Chapter

Saturday March 20th

Executive Board Meeting

Host: Klickitat TU

If still willing!

Friday May 14th

State Council Meeting-All Members Welcome

7:00PM-9:30 Dinner and presidents meeting

Saturday May 15th, 2009 9:00-4:30

Host: Spokane

Saturday July 17th

Executive Board Meeting

Host: Whoever is willing! DG? Sky Valley? Northshore?

TU National meeting- Sept. 16-19th New Hampshire! Somewhere in here!

Drink the Kool-Aid!

Friday September 24th, 2009

State Council Meeting-All Members Welcome

7:00PM-9:30 Dinner and presidents meeting

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Saturday September 25th, 2009 9:00-4:30 Elections for 2011!

Host: Icicle

President's Report:

In the two months that I have been president, I have come to appreciate all that Mark did. It is a daunting task. We have a good organization with many dedicated and passionate people and many issues to address. It is obvious to me that I need to be very organized and purposeful in my actions to have any chance of being effective. To that end, I have identified a few focus areas that I will use to prioritize my time and energy. Here are some observations and my goals to work on:

COMMUNICATION:

- **Observation:** With chapters scattered across the state it is a challenge to keep everyone informed and involved in the council activities.
- **Observation:** The council is not aware of activities happening in chapters.
- **Goal 1: Improve communication between council and chapters**
 - Engage the Communication Committee to improve council/chapter communication
 - Develop a council electronic news letter
 - Leverage WCTU website and other e-technology
 - Improve participation in conference calls and meetings
- **Observation:** There is distrust of TU National by the members and chapters. This can be traced to several historical events.
- **Goal 2: Improve trust by improving communications between National and Council**
 - Establish a monthly meeting or conference call between council president and national staff in Washington. Discuss activities in Washington and coordinate efforts.
 - Present a summary of activities at each council meeting.
- **Observation:** The public is not often aware of our positions or our efforts. There is confusion as to whether we are a conservation organization or a fishing organization.
- **Goal 3: Improve visibility of TU with the public**
 - Engage the Communication committee to develop a communication strategy

FINANCIAL:

- **Observation:** The council financial condition has declined to the point where we can no longer support our project and legislative agenda.
- **Goal 4: Improve the short term financial position.**
 - Cut chapter project support and external grant requests.
 - Reduce the number of face to face council meetings and use electronic meetings instead to save on travel expenses.
 - Look to chapters for contributions to the council as required by the by-laws and policies.
 - Require pre-approval by president for all expenditures.
- **Goal 5: Improve the long term financial position.**

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- Engage the Ways & Means Committee to develop funding alternatives

COUNCIL ORGANIZATION:

- **Observation:** Chapter involvement and participation in Council activities is less than stellar. Conference calls and meetings are not well attended
- **Observation:** The council has become an executive board rather than a council. The council should be made up of the presidents of each chapter. It requires that a representative of each chapter attend the council meetings (3 per year) and conference calls (1 per month).
- **Goal 6: Reestablish the council as an assembly of chapter presidents.**
- **Observation:** Committee structure as defined in the By-laws and Policies is not being used as defined. Much of the council work has been pushed to the officers.
- **Goal 7: Reestablish the committees by assigning an officer to each committee to get them moving.**
 - Progress reporting through regular officer calls.
 - Set goals and expectations.

YOUTH & EDUCATION:

- **Observation:** The NY Youth Conservation & FF Academy is a great asset.
- **Goal 8: Continue to support the Academy with financial and administrative support.**
 - Use proceeds from the Members Only Raffle to support the Academy.
 - Contact chapter presidents and encourage them to support the Academy through contributions but more importantly by promoting the event to the chapter members and public in their chapter areas.
- **Observation:** Age of chapter and council leadership is getting older.
- **Goal 9: Improve visibility of TU with the younger population of the state.**
 - Establish a Youth and Education Committee to build a plan.
 - Elementary, Middle and High schools
 - Trout in the classroom
 - Boy & Girl Scout programs
 - College
 - Work with AFS chapters to introduce TU
 - Sponsor an award for graduate student

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION:

- **Observation:** We cannot do our mission alone. We need to partner with other organizations.
- **Goal 10: Build upon old relationships and establish new ones.**

Bill Abrahamse, President, WCTU

Officer's Report:

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- **Sam Mace, VP Conservation**
 - **Insert Conservation Report Here**
- **Tom VanGelder, VP Operations**
 - Presented PowerPoint on TU Compliance Issues for Tax Exemption
 - Will be attached to the meeting minutes
- **George Lang, VP Membership**
 - Updated status of Yakima Chapter
 - Updated formation status of Okanogan Chapter
 - Brief Update on low-activity chapters
- **Shirley Vander Veen, Treasurer**
 - **Insert Treasurer Report Here**
- **Mark Taylor, NLC Representative:**
 - The first NLC Conference call of my term was on Monday Nov.9th. Items of interest to the council included the 1st draft of the new TU By Laws should be out sometime in December for a preview by council members. I will forward this on to you when I get it. I was asked to lead the Pacific Salmon Committee which is basically defunct. I agreed to meet with Rob Masonis and the NLC reps for Oregon, California and Idaho on a conference call before the end of the month. I hope to pass the leadership on to one of the new guys! I also volunteered to be on the Native Trout Committee (kokanee and redbands) and the New Initiatives (Aqua Culture) committees. I will report on any meetings that I participate in. Our next call for the NLC is at the end of January. Feel free to contact me with any questions. Mark Taylor

Committee Reports:

2009-2010 WCTU Committees and Membership
By Law Committees

Committee Name	Committee Membership
Ways and Means	Terry, Ric, Jim, and Sam
Awards	Sam, George, Mark, and Tom
Nominating	Dennis, Sam, George, and Tom
By Laws	Mark T., Terry, Rick, and Mark G.

Policy Committees

Committee Name	Committee Membership
Raffle	Bart, TBD
Communication	Bill G., Bob V., Dennis M., Dennis T., Sam, and Ric
Chapter Project Funding	Bart, Joe D., Larry O'Neil, John Jacobson
Conservation	Sam, Bob V.

Ad Hoc Committees

Committee Name	Committee Membership
Membership	George, Tom, Chapter Membership Chairs
Youth and Education	Paul, Bob Stroup, Tom & Dick Nye (Boy Scouts), Jim & Mike
Strategic Committee	TBD
Kokanee????	Mark Taylor

Quarterly/Monthly Chapter Reports:

- **076 SPOKANE FALLS**
 -
- **094 YAKIMA**
 - We are actively engaged in trying interest former members of the “Old” Yakima TU chapter to become active with our group. A Fall Picnic was held and working on updating records to be able to contact all former members. A written invitation sent in August and we still need good e-mail addresses for about 30 folks on our Roster. Progress to date has been disappointing but we continue to work on the project. The old chapter was inactive for a long time, so it will take some extra effort.
 - We are also looking for local projects to work on. We are exploring an effort with Project Healing Waters; work with the Mid Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group and our local Dept. of Fish and Wildlife. If the Council has project ideas for us, please let me know. Thanks. Tim Gavin
- **101 EDMONDS LAEBUGTON SALMON**
 -
- **109 BELLEVUE ISSAQAQUAH**
 -
- **115 DUWAMISH-GREEN**
 - In August, back by popular demand, the Duwamish-Green Chapter had another outdoor BBQ meeting at the Normandy Park Cove. Anil Sriastava from the Puget Sound Fly Co. gave a waterside presentation on saltwater flyfishing. He emphasized fishing for pinks and had some flies for purchase.
 - September meeting was a presentation on the D-G Salmon in the Classroom project. October meeting focused on chapter development and communication and we discussed elections and leadership.
 - Local creek salmon monitoring and counting continued. Andy Batcho continued work on Miller/Walker and Salmon Creeks. Various meetings and Boards attended by Bill Robinson, Andy, Dave Bouta, and Al Barrie.

- **146 TACOMA**
 -
- **178 WHATCOM CO**
 -
- **189 OLYMPIA**
 - Riparian zone planting within the Nisqually River Basin (Tanwax Creek and Ohop Creek), WCTU Raffle ticket sales during WW Fair in Puyallup, WCTU Chehalis Basin Flood Control and Hydro committee, Murray Creek / American Lake kokanee restoration, Fishermen's Garage sale (Olympia TU, Elma Game Club, Puget Sound Anglers), Fun and Safety Fair
- **220 NORTSHORE**
 -
- **379 KITTITAS VALLEY**
 -
- **383 NORTH KITSAP SALMON**
 -
- **391 ICICLE VALLEY**
 - We sponsored and participated in the Wenatchee River Salmon Festival in September by selling barbequed salmon dinners and smoked salmon. We held our annual Conservation Banquet in September, which was a great success. We had 180 participants this year about 60 more than last year. We assisted the Chelan County Natural Resources Department in riparian work at the Leavenworth Golf Course. We are working with the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery and Entiat School District in providing fish tanks for Salmon in the Classroom. We are also working with the City of Leavenworth to put picnic tables at the acclimation/kids fishing pond.
- **484 KLUCKITAT**
 -
- **541 RAINSHADOW**
 -
- **560 CLARK COUNTY**
 -
- **654 SKY VALLEY**
 - We had monthly meetings (Sept, Oct, Nov, and none in Dec) and got 4 to 5 people per meeting. Discussions on financial issues related to kids derby and fishing reports. Unofficially I was re-elected president. Only club outing was our yearly Coho derby. We have a decent turnout of both members and guest (future members). Would be more specific but I missed weight in due to beaching the sled I was in. Gary Bee and I met Morgan Schneider from the Puget Sound Partnership about TU participation in a Stillaguamish watershed project. No other conservation activities to report, Max Jones, President, Sky Valley Chapter, Trout Unlimited

- **A/L WASHINGTON AT-LARGE**

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Adjournment: A motion is made to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 pm. The motion was seconded and approved, meeting was adjourned.

REMINDER: For meeting reports to be included in the minutes of Council and Executive Board Meetings, all reports must be e-mailed to **Dennis_Thireault@hotmail.com** or **dthireault@gmail.com** in WORD as an attachment within one week of the meeting. To ensure the accuracy of a meeting's minutes and reduce the time involved in preparing the minutes for distribution to the Council, the Secretary will no longer summarize "oral" reports that are presented at meetings.

REMEMBER:

The next two meetings and locations are:

Friday January 8th, 2010

State Council Meeting-All Members Welcome

7:00PM-9:30 Reception and presidents meeting

Saturday January 9th, 2009 9:00-4:30

WCTU Awards Luncheon 12-2PM

Host: Olympia Chapter

Saturday March 20th

Executive Board Meeting

Host: Klickitat TU

Location: TBA

Olympia Chapter and Klickitat will be providing directions for the Olympia and Klickitat meetings respectively. Please RSVP as soon as you can.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Thireault
Secretary
Washington Council of Trout Unlimited