

At the end of each year, each SER chapter is expected to provide a summary of their composition, financials, activities & accomplishments, logistical information, and challenges to the SER head office. This report facilitates the relationship between SER and SER chapters by allowing the head office to know what challenges chapters face, what area's chapters require assistance in, and what new developments have occurred in each region.

In addition to general logistical information, the SER head office requires that all chapters provide their most up to date legal documentation such as chapter bylaws, articles of incorporation and any other documents deemed important.

Chapter Documents Required for 2013:

Membership Roster – Please submit a current list of all chapter members and email addresses.

Financial Report – Please submit a year-end financial report for your chapter. *An example will be provided to each chapter.*

Legal Documents/ Bylaws – Please submit a current copy of the chapter’s bylaws, articles of incorporation, and any other legal documents that SER does not already have, or any documents which have changed over the past year. *If your chapter documentation has not changed, and no new documentation has been added, you do not need to submit.*

Chapter Photos -- Please provide SER with any photos from your activities throughout the year. Please title photos descriptively (*location, description of what is happening, date, and names*). Photographs were sent directly to Leah Bregman by Board Member Rocky (Peter) Smiley.

Board Composition

Please provide a list of the most up-to-date information on chapter leaders and members:

Executive Board:

Name	Title	Board Term	Email
Roger Anderson	President	April 2012 - April 2014	rcander@ilstu.edu
Young Choi	Vice-President	April 2013 - April 2015	Ydchoi@purduecal.edu
Jennifer Lyndall	Treasurer	April 2013 - April 2015	jlyndall@environcorp.com
Troy Anderson	Secretary	April 2012 - May 2014	tca.ecology@gmail.com

Other Board Members:

Name	Title	Board Term	Email
Cody Fleece	Ohio Representative	April 2012- April 2014	Cody.Fleece@stantec.com
John Shuey	Indiana Representative	April 2013- April 2015	ishuey@tnc.org
Donald Tilton	Michigan Representative	April 2013- April 2015	DTilton@ectinc.com

Xiaoyong Chen	Illinois Representative	April 2012 - May 2014	xchen@govst.edu
Nancy Aten	Wisconsin Representative	April 2012- April 2014	nancyaten@earthlink.net
Chris Lenhart	Minnesota Representative	April 2013- April 2015	lenh0010@umn.edu
Todd Aschenbach	At-Large Representative	April 2012- April 2014	aschenbt@gvsu.edu
David Benson	At-Large Representative	April 2012- April 2015	dbenson@marian.edu
Pamela Rice	At-Large Representative	April 2012- April 2015	<a href="mailto:Pamela.Rice<price@metroca.net>">Pamela Rice <price@metroca.net>
Rocky Smiley	At-Large Representative	April 2013 -April 2014	rocky.smiley@gmail.com
Autumn Sabo	Student Representative	April 2012-April 2015	aesabo@hotmail.com
Lauren Umek	Student Representative	April 2013 -April 2015	lumek@u.northwestern.edu

Committees & Committee Members

Name	Committee	Term (If applicable)	Emails
<i>Roger Anderson-Chair</i>	Executive	April 2012 April 2014	rcander@ilstu.edu
<i>Young Choi</i>		April 2013 -April 2015	Ydchoi@purduecal.edu
<i>Jennifer Lyndall</i>		April 2013 -April 2015	jlyndall@environcorp.com
<i>Troy Anderson</i>		April 2012 - May 2014	tca.ecology@gmail.com
<i>Rocky Smiley-Chair</i>	Annual Meeting-	April 2013 -April 2014	rocky.smiley@gmail.com
<i>Chris Lenhart</i>		April 2013-April 2015	lenh0010@umn.edu
<i>Young Choi</i>		April 2013-April 2015	Ydchoi@purduecal.edu
<i>Jennifer Lyndall</i>		April 2013-April 2015	jlyndall@environcorp.com
<i>Pamela Rice</i>		April 2013- April 2015	<a href="mailto:Pamela.Rice<price@metroca.net>">Pamela Rice <price@metroca.net>
<i>David Benson</i>		April 2013-April 2015	dbenson@marian.edu
<i>Roger Anderson</i>		April 2012-April 2014	rcander@ilstu.edu
<i>Don Tilton</i>		April 2013- April 2015	DTilton@ectinc.dom
<i>Rocky Smiley-Chair</i>	Communications	April 2013-April 2014	rocky.smiley@gmail.com
<i>Rocky Smiley -Chair</i>	Newsletter Subcommittee	April 2013-April 2014	rocky.smiley@gmail.com
<i>Troy Anderson</i>		April 2012-April 2014	tca.ecology@gmail.com
<i>Liam Heneghan</i>		April 2012-April 2014	lhenegha@depaul.edu
<i>Nancy Aten-Chair</i>	Website Subcommittee	April 2012-April 2014	nancyaten@earthlink.net
<i>Joe DiMisa-Chair</i>	Membership Committee	April 2013-April 2014	Joe.DiMisa@Wollpert.com
<i>Lauren Umek</i>		April 2013-April 2015	lumel@u.northwestern.edu
<i>Jennifer Lyndall</i>		April 2013-April 2015	jlyndall@environcorp.com
<i>Xiaoyong Chen</i>		April 2012-April2014	xchen@govst.edu

<i>Roger Anderson</i>		April 2012-April 2014	rcander@ilstu.edu
<i>Cody Fleece-Chair</i>	<i>Subregional Local Restoration</i>	April 2012-April 2014	Cody.Fleece@stantec.com
<i>Chris Lenhart</i>		April 2013-April 2015	lenh0010@umn.edu
<i>John Shuey</i>		April 2013-April 2015	jshuey@tnc.org
<i>Nancy Aten</i>		April 2012-April 2014	nancyaten@earthlink.net
<i>Lauren Umek-Chair</i>	<i>Awards Committee</i>	April 2013-April 2015	lumel@u.northwestern.edu
<i>John Shuey</i>		April 2013-April 2015	jshuey@tnc.org
<i>David Benson</i>		April 2013-April 2015	dbenson@marian.edu
<i>Todd Aschenbach-Chair</i>	<i>Board Development</i>	April 2013-April 2014	aschenbt@gvsu.edu
<i>Young Choi</i>		April 2013-April 2015	Ydchoi@purduecal.edu
<i>Sean Clauson</i>		April 2013-April 2015	Sean.Clauson@cardo.com
<i>Chris Lenhart Co-Chair</i>	<i>Chapter Book</i>	April 2013-April 2015	lenh0010@umn.edu
<i>Rocky Smiley Co-Chair</i>		April 2012-April 2014	rocky.smiley@gmail.com
<i>Stephen Glass-Chair</i>	<i>Local Organizing Committee SER 2013 World Meeting</i>	<i>Disbands after SER 2013 World Meeting</i>	Sbglass1@mac.com
<i>Nancy Aten-Vice-Chair</i>			nancyaten@earthlink.net
<i>Autumn Sabo</i>			aesabo@hotmail.com
<i>Todd Aschenbach</i>			aschenbt@gvsu.edu
<i>Troy Anderson</i>			tca.ecology@gmail.com
<i>Rocky Smiley</i>			rocky.smiley@gmail.com
<i>Roger Anderson-Co-chair</i>	<i>5-year Strategic Plan</i>	<i>Completed 2013</i>	rcander@ilstu.edu
<i>Young Choi-Co-Chair</i>			Ydchoi@purduecal.edu
<i>Troy Anderson</i>			tca.ecology@gmail.com
<i>Chris Lenhart</i>			lenh0010@umn.edu
<i>Rocky Smiley</i>			rocky.smiley@gmail.com
<i>Nancy Aten</i>			nancyaten@earthlink.net

Strategic Plan

Please indicate your strategic plan for the coming year. If you do not have an official strategic plan, please provide a written summary of your chapter's plans for growth and continued success. If you have a strategic plan, please attach the plan to your email.

We developed a 5-year (2013 – 2018) strategic plan and a “Timeline” for the strategic plan that describes the goals and strategies we plan to be working on in each of the five years. Both of these documents are attached to the email.

Events

Please provide the name of any major events your chapter held this year (e.g. annual meetings/conferences, field trips, workshops) along with a brief description of each. *Please include any images from these events in your email. Title images descriptively with the name of the event, date, and a description of what is occurring in the photo.*

1. Event: The Midwest-Great Lakes SER Chapter 5th Annual Meeting

Date: April 12-14, 2013

Description: The Midwest Great Lakes SER Chapter held its Fifth Annual Meeting at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC) in Wooster, Ohio from Friday April 12 to Sunday April 14, 2013. Meeting attendees consisted of 134 students and professionals from 11 states (California, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, West Virginia, Wisconsin) and the District of Columbia who were affiliated with academia, federal agencies, state agencies, non-profit groups, or consulting firms. The meeting theme was “Ecological Restoration and Sustainability – Partners for the Future.” As a result our goal for the meeting was to explore how the field of ecological restoration can assist other disciplines with achieving their sustainability goals and how other disciplines can contribute to ecological restoration. The meeting consisted of a keynote presentation, two plenary sessions, three symposia, a poster session, sponsorship exhibits, oral presentations, and three offsite field trips.

Highlights of our Fifth Annual Meetings are available at:

<http://chapter.ser.org/midwestgreatlakes/files/2012/08/RestorationNewsMidwest2013vol6iss1.pdf> (Pages 2-8)

2. Event: SER 2013 World Conference

Date: October 6-11, 2013

Description: We assisted SER in organizing their 2013 World Conference with five Chapter Board members serving on the conference Local Organizing Committee (LOC): co-chairs Steve Glass (Chapter Member) and Nancy Aten (Board Member); other Board Members were Troy Anderson, Autumn Sabo, Todd Aschenbach, and Rocky (Peter) Smiley.

Communications

Please indicate any communications tools launched and/or publications produced by your chapter in 2013:

RESTORATION NEWS MIDWEST

Newsletter of the Midwest-Great Lakes Chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration – September 2013, Volume 6, Issue 1

<http://chapter.ser.org/midwestgreatlakes/files/2012/08/RestorationNewsMidwest2013vol6iss1.pdf>

Webpage Update: Results of membership Survey:

<http://chapter.ser.org/midwestgreatlakes/files/2013/06/SummaryMWGLMembershipSurvey-24June2013.pdf>

Webpage Update: Information on competitive student research award:

<http://chapter.ser.org/midwestgreatlakes/student-grants/>

Webpage Update: Developed webpage for 2014 Annual Meeting:

<http://chapter.ser.org/midwestgreatlakes/current-meeting/>

Holiday Greeting from the president (Roger Anderson) were posted and sent to the membership via email.

<http://chapter.ser.org/midwestgreatlakes/2013/12/19/holiday-greetings-from-the-midwest-great-lakes-ser-chapter-2013/>

Maintained Chapter Facebook Page to promote communication among members and other interested organization about restoration related topics

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=116944704989364>

Abstract Book for 2012 Annual Chapter Meeting:

Smiley, P. C., Jr., Y. D. Choi, D. P. Benson, H. Chen, C. Fleece, R. Grese, J. Lyndall, P. Rice, and D. Tilton, (editors). 2013. Connecting People and Nature with Restoration. Abstract Book of the Fourth Midwest-Great Lakes SER Chapter Meeting, May 4 to 6, 2012, Ann Arbor, Michigan. Midwest-Great Lakes Chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration, Indianapolis, Indiana.

<http://chapter.ser.org/midwestgreatlakes/files/2012/12/2012AbstractBookFINAL.pdf>

Abstract Book for 2011 Annual Chapter Meeting:

Smiley, P. C., Jr., Y. D. Choi, D. P. Benson, H. Chen, M. J. Lemke, J. Lyndall, and K. L. Martin, (editors). 2013. Linkages between Ecological Restoration and Ecosystem Sustainability. Abstract Book of the Third Midwest-Great Lakes SER Chapter Meeting, April 1 to 3, 2011, Springfield, Illinois. Midwest-Great Lakes Chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration, Indianapolis, Indiana.

http://chapter.ser.org/midwestgreatlakes/files/2012/12/2011AbstractBook_Final.pdf

Chapter Poster presented at SER 2013 World Meeting

Anderson, Roger C., Peter C. Smiley Jr., Jen Lyndall, and Young Choi

<http://chapter.ser.org/midwestgreatlakes/files/2013/10/MWGL-Poster-SER2013.pdf>

Event Sponsor – Wisconsin Chapter of the North American Stormwater and Erosion Control Association’s Fall Field Seminar. September 26, 2013. Provided attendees with information on SER and the MWGL SER Chapter.

<http://www.nasecawi.org/events/past-naseca-wi-events/september-2013-rice-lake>

Other Major Accomplishments

Provide a brief description the accomplishment

Student Research Award

The Midwest- Great Lakes SER Chapter has established a competitive student research award. The grant is available in 2014 to student Chapter members at any institution of higher education occurring within the region of MWGL SER Chapter. The award of up to \$1,0000 will be presented at the Chapter’s Annual Meeting at the University of Minnesota, St. Paul Minnesota (March 28 to 30, 2014).

501(c)3 Designation Received

The MWGL Chapter has officially been designated a 501(c)3 organization by the IRS. Jen Lyndall (Treasurer) Roger Anderson (President), and Board Member Rocky (Peter) Smiley, David Benson and others helped with the application and process.

Board Member Troy Anderson Elected to the SER Board

Troy Anderson, Secretary of the MWGL SER Chapter Board, was elected to the SER Board as the Midwestern North America Representative. Troy was an active member of the local organizing committee for SER2013 that was held in Madison, WI in October 2013.

Chapter Poster Presented at SER 2013 World Conference

Chapter board members Roger Anderson, Rocky Smiley, Jennifer Lyndall, and Young Choi developed a poster that was presented at the SER 2013 World Conference on Ecological Restoration in Madison, Wisconsin from October 5-11, 2013. The poster conveyed portions of our recent strategic planning efforts and member survey.

Chapter Membership had a substantial increase in 2013

Joe DiMisa chaired the Membership Committee and initiated various activities to encourage membership in the MWGL SER Chapter. These activities included: (1) posted names of all

renewing and new members on our Face book page, (2) initiated “5 in 4,” suggesting that each Board Member encourage 5 non-members to join the chapter in a period of 4 months, (3) encouraged Board member to add a “tag” to their email message – e.g. *Join Me! I am the President of the Midwest-Great Lakes Chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration. Ask me how to join-or click here: www.ser.org*, (4) initiated the idea sending of the “Holiday Greeting” to all Members, and (5) with Leah Bregman’s assistance we contacted all SER members within the Chapter’s region who were not chapter members and asked them to join the Chapter. The Chapter’s membership grew from 147 at the end of the 1st Quarter of 2013 to 234 Chapter members in the last Quarter of 2013. Some of this growth might be due to the interest in the Chapter that occurred because of the SER 2013 5th World Meeting in Madison, Wisconsin.

Assisted with Organization of A Focus Group on Conservation Buffers

We assisted Mary Emery (South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD) and Gary Bentrup (U.S. Forest Service, Lincoln, NE) with a Forest Service project to determine successful approaches to multi-functional planning and identifying additional tools and approaches that could be useful to those engaged in multifunctional planning. At our Annual Meeting in 2013, we assembled a focus group which considered current novel approaches and tools involving the use of conservation buffers and who was using Conservation Buffers. Specifically, we assisted by providing meeting space and identifying participants for the focus group.

Year-End Chapter Summary

Each chapter will need to provide a short summary of their activities in 2013 for SER’s Annual Report. In each Annual Report the SER head office includes a section on the activities and accomplishments of each chapter from the year.

Please Note: Summaries should be no more than 250 words. Summaries should be written as they will appear in the Annual Report (please use third person). SER staff will only check chapter summaries for spelling and grammar so please provide a well written, thoughtful, summary of your chapter’s activities.

The most important activity for the MWGL SER Chapter is our Annual Meeting. Our Fifth Annual Meeting was held at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC) in Wooster, Ohio from April 12-14, 2013. Meeting attendees consisted of 134 students and professionals from 11 states. We also provided student awards at our 2013 Annual Meeting for the Best Student Poster, Best Student Oral Presentation, and the student presenter who traveled the furthest to attend the meeting. We completed a 5-year Strategic plan and a “TimeLine” that outlines goals and strategies to be accomplished in each of the five years. The goals of the Strategic Plan reflect the results of a membership questionnaire that was completed by forty-six members (25% of our membership). The survey indicated that three most important benefits the MWGL SER Chapter should provide its members are the opportunity to interact with others interested in ecological restoration, networking opportunities, and training/continuing education opportunities. The Membership Committee initiated several efforts which increased our membership roster since last quarter. The Awards Committee developed a student grant that will support student research and restoration projects as part of our efforts to increase support for student Chapter members. The grant is available to student Chapter members at any institution of higher education occurring within the MWGL SER Chapter region. The Chapter was officially designated a 501(c)3 organization by the IRS. We assisted SER in organizing their 2013 5th World Conference; five Chapter Board members served on the conference Local Organizing Committee.

Chapter Challenges

Please describe any challenges your chapter is currently facing and ways you are trying to overcome them. *Please include any comments on how you believe the SER head office could assist in supporting your chapter with these challenges.*

- (1) We anticipate expanding our fund-raising efforts to provide financial resources needed to accomplish some strategies associated with our 5-year strategic plan.
- (2) The Board of Directors will need greater chapter membership involvement to meet the goals of the proposed Strategic Plan. In anticipation of this need, we have posted information on our Chapter Facebook page and our website to alert members about ways they could be involved in Chapter activities.
- (3) We are planning to have two Chapter membership events each year: the Annual Meeting and a second event that will have a subregional focus. Planning for the second event will increase time commitments for Board members. However, the second event should consist of smaller, more local events within subregions – perhaps the arrangement of field trips to restoration sites, mini-symposia, and even social events within a state.

- (4) Develop at least one online webinar annually on regional restoration issues, methods, practices, and/or research. It would be helpful if we could use SER's subscription to GoToMeeting Webinar software to hold these webinars. Allowing access to SER's subscription would permit us to hold the webinar without having to subscribe to the software
- (5) We will need additional help in the area of communication, especially in the development of webinars, managing our website and Facebook page, and preparing Newsletters.

Volunteer Hours

Please provide the number of volunteers and an estimate of the total number of volunteer hours contributed by your chapter (*estimate if you're unsure*):

All of our Board Members are volunteers (16), the Chair of our membership Committee is a non-Board Member (1), we have several volunteers that help organize and run our annual meeting these include persons associated with the host institution and these can be 20-25 persons who secure facilities for the meeting, arrange for catering, preside over paper or poster sessions, and help set up rooms for banquet etc., prepare meeting announcement and post them on our web site, in addition, 4-5 of our Board members help to solicit sponsor for our Annual Meeting. Our keynote and plenary speakers and field trip leaders at the Annual Meeting are also volunteers. Our web site is maintained by a Board Member volunteer and all of the written material, (e.g. Newsletter research articles etc.) posted on the website is prepared by volunteers. We assisted SER in organizing their 2013 World Conference with five Chapter Board members serving on the conference Local Organizing Committee (LOC). Estimated number of volunteer hours per year is 2200. We have 45-50 volunteers.

Membership

Please provide a brief membership report for 2013 (*number, composition, geographic distribution, etc.*).

Total number of members:

234

Composition: Membership Type and Affiliation Type are the categories used by SER in the Quarterly Membership Reports sent to the Chapters

Membership Type	Number	Percent
Individual	138	58.98
Student	49	20.94
Chapter Only	38	16.24
Organizational	10	4.27
Total	234	100.00

Membership Type: Individual memberships account for more than one-half of our members (58%). Students are the second largest membership group (21%). Chapter Only members include individuals who attend our Annual Meetings and join to receive the reduced membership rate for registration.

Gender	Number	Percent
Men	144	61.50%
Women	87	37.20%
Not Given	3	1.30%
Total	234	100%

Gender: The percentage of members who are women increased from 2012 (31.2 %) to 37.2 % in 2013.

Affiliation Type	Number	Percent
Academic/Research Institute	94	46.3%
Private Sector	43	21.2%
Governmental Agency	27	13.3%
Non-profit/Non-governmental Organization	22	10.8%
Other	17	8.4%
Total	203	100%

Academic/Research Institute affiliated members constitute the largest membership group. However, there is substantial diversity among our members.

Geographic distribution:

Geographic Distribution		
State	Number	Percent
Ohio	58	24.89%
Illinois	48	20.60%
Wisconsin	43	18.45%
Michigan	23	9.87%
Indiana	18	7.73%
Minnesota	15	6.44%
Iowa	7	3.00%
Missouri	4	1.72%
Ontario	3	1.29%
Maryland	2	0.86%
Florida	2	0.86%
District of Columbia	2	0.86%
California	2	0.86%
Wyoming	1	0.43%
Nevada	1	0.43%
Kentucky	1	0.43%
Kansas	1	0.43%
Georgia	1	0.43%
Alabama	1	0.43%
Total Membership	233	100%

88% of the MWGL SER Chapter Membership lives within the Chapter's Region. Nearly two-thirds (64%) of the Chapters members reside in three states: Ohio, Illinois and Wisconsin.

Additional comments? Please provide any additional comments that you have for the SER head office, staff, or just general comments you wish to include.

The Chapter would like to retain the “Chapter Only” membership category because it increases our membership base and attendance at our Annual Meetings. Some of the Chapter Only members join only because they want to receive the reduced registration fees at our Annual Meetings. We do not think that this membership category has a negative effect on the number of SER members within Midwest-Great Lakes region. It is likely that some Chapter Only members have their first exposure to SER at our Annual Meeting and this encourages them to join SER.

During our most recent Board of Director’s Meeting (February 27, 2014), we discussed the Society for Ecological Restoration Practitioners Institute (SERPI). There was general support for certification of practitioners. However, the Board wanted to know more about the specific of the program.