

CeRSER Meeting Summary

Tuesday January 15, 2013, 12:00 ~ 1:00pm

Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

Attendance:

In Person: Mark Paschke, Tim D'Amato, Casey Cisneros, Jayne Jonas, Brett Wolk, Kristina Hufford.

Phone: Susan Sherrod, Randy Mandel, Tim Hoelzle, Toney Ott.

President's Report

Our fearless leader Mark recently spoke at length with Steve Bozak, the new president of SER. Steve is hoping to breath new life into SER and his vision for accomplishing this is to decentralize the organization. This means putting more emphasis on regional chapters. Steve envisions SER functioning as a collection of regional chapters who receive support from a central office, but operate with more independence than they have in the past. This is good news for us as a chapter and likely means more support and membership!



The Central Rockies chapter submitted a proposal to organize a symposium session at the 2013 SER World Conference in Wisconsin. Five to six potential speakers were chosen to showcase restoration of montane ecosystems and alpine ecosystems, which is what set's CeRSER apart from other regions. SER has received over 100 proposed sessions and plans to accept only 15, so we'll have to get lucky in order to be accepted.

Treasurer Election

Tim Hoelzle was elected Central Rockies Chapter Treasurer, receiving 100% of the votes. Voter turnout was large for an uncontested non-presidential election, with 23% of eligible CeRSER members voting. Congrats Tim! Treasurer and Secretary are now officially split into two positions. Brett will remain secretary. Learn more about Tim on the chapter website: <http://chapter.ser.org/centralrockies/about/board/>



Secretary/Treasurer Report

- *Membership update:* We have 48 current members in CeRSER, several more who have said they are registering soon or just expired. This is a large increase in the last year! We typically get registration info from SER

quarterly, but it will be more frequent in the future in order to keep new members in the loop as soon as they register with the chapter.

- Treasurer report: We received \$468.00 in old membership dues from past president Chris Rutledge. We spent \$500 to the High Altitude Revegetation as sponsorship for their 2012 Summer Tour workshop. Ending balance: \$15036.03

Webmaster Report

Website Address: <http://chapter.ser.org/centralrockies/>

Webmaster: Jayne Jonas Jayne.Jonas-Bratten@colostate.edu



Jayne Jonas has taken over duties of maintaining the website for the time being. She's added a widget to the homepage linking to our events calendar. Please send Jayne info for conferences/workshops/happenings to post, several are already added to the events calendar.

- Membership info is updated on the website with new rates for students and organizations. *Don't forget about the discount promo:* \$10 off registration for anyone new to SER who joins the Central Rockies chapter! <http://chapter.ser.org/centralrockies/membership/rates/>
- Meeting summary's will be posted by the secretary on our website in lieu of minutes or a newsletter.
- We are in need of more photo's to make the website more appealing. High resolution photos of habitats and especially people working and doing restoration in the region. Send the photo's to Jayne to post.

Casey suggested adding a resources page with links to other pages such as NRCS guides, the Fire Information Network, etc. Randy and others supported the idea and we like the fire info website as a model and everyone is supportive of updating with links to outside resources. We'll work on building that in the future, slowly but surely the website will be a great tool for everyone in the region.

2013 Activities

SER World Meeting student scholarships

CeRSER would like to support students from within the region attending the SER World Conference. Since not many students were chosen as speakers for our proposed organized symposium at the conference, we are opening up the student grants to any student residing in the CeRSER region who is presenting at the conference. Ranking of applicants to receive the awards are to be determined, but would be something like 1) presenting in CeRSER symposium, 2) presenting in another session at conference, 3) participating in other activities at conference,

etc. It was decided to wait to advertise student scholarships until we hear if the proposed CeRSER symposium is accepted.

Events committee?

Looking for action! At past meetings we've discussed hosting workshops, evening and pub talks, and other events. Mark suggested putting together a committee of 3-5 people to organize some events and get in the game. Randy is giving a willow workshop for the Colorado Native Plant Society and another talk for the wetland society, both of which could be low hanging fruit and easy to co-sponsor with other organizations. These events could also be a money making endeavor, as registration fees could serve as a fundraiser. In order to respond to request for services and better organize ourselves for workshops and networking, Randy suggested we create a skills inventory of chapter members. This could also serve as an incentive for people to join the chapter and increase membership.

Fundraising and membership committee's?

There is currently a special incentive of \$10 off SER membership if you are a new member and you are joining SER for the first time (i.e. renewing members are not eligible). We are going to try and use this incentive to continue recruiting new members and advertise the special on the website. Fundraising within the chapter was very good in the past, and membership committee's are important to get a critical mass of participants to make things happen.

In order to move forward on the committee's, Brett will solicit nominations for the various committee's and try to get some people dedicated before our next meeting.

Next Meeting:

Due to low turnout at the January meeting, we will do a Doodle poll to find the best time for the next meeting, which will be during the last week of February or first week of March.

New Member Spotlight

We had two new members participate in the meeting:

Susan Sherrod participated in the meeting and is excited to be a part of the group. She is an environmental consultant in the Denver area.

Tim D'Amato is the Larimer County Weed District Manager. He's interested in the Central Rockies chapter to gain access to membership and getting lots of parties together for field days for increasing communication and starting dialogues to improve collaboration across agencies and disciplines.