

Attendance 18 people!

In Person: Mark Paschke, Jayne Jonas, Brett Wolk, Chris Herron, Andrea Borkenhagen, Sasha Victor, Steve Yochum, Jonas Feinstein, Randy Walsch, Tim D'amato.

Phoneland: Casey Cisneros, Kristina Hufford, Susan Sherrod, Brock Bowles, Amber Shanklin, Megan Bowes, Aida Farag.

President's Report

It was a quite period for the president as members start to take on more of a role in the chapter through action committee's and the board starts to help coordinate efforts. Mark and Brett participated in a chapter leader call with SER chapters from around the world and discussed again SER's mission to have a bottom up structure, with regional chapters taking the lead in organizing events and recruiting new members. The central office in Washington D.C. is giving us tools to be successful and happy to see us grow!

Treasurer Report

We held steady with an account balance just above \$15,000, taking in \$228 in member dues. Our past treasurer Tom Grant has re-joined the chapter and is moving back to Colorado to become director of the Mountain Studies Institute. Tom has a stash of ancient Central Rockies SER t-shirts he is anxious to sell to a museum. Tim has continued to nag Randy for the t-shirt sales he made many moons ago, still to no avail.

Secretary/Membership Report

We again gained members in the past few months and as of May 1st have 57 current fee paying members. Brett Wolk displayed the Central Rockies info and recruitment poster at the National Native Seed conference in Santa Fe, NM, in April, and successfully recruited several new members. Word is starting to spread, keep up the momentum!

Webmaster Report

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

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

Photo contest and free classic t-shirt!

We still need photos!! We also have an abundance of classic Central Rockies SER t-shirts. Please send Jayne some photos and we'll be happy to send a few classic Central Rockies SER t-shirts for you to proudly display out on the town, on the seed drill, or in the river. Specifically we need a few photo's to put in the top header banner on the webpage. Photos of Central Rockies habitats and especially people working and doing restoration in the region make us look good, backhoes and dozers assisting in the recovery of ecosystems are welcome.

Action Committee's

Student Scholarship Committee

The scholarship committee presented their work on refining scholarship criteria to support students attending the 2013 SER World Conference in Wisconsin. The chapter confirmed they are willing to award up to four \$500 scholarships to support students attending the conference. We decided on an early June application deadline so that students will be notified of awards by late June in order to register for the conference by July 15th at the early bird registration rate. Awards will be prioritized for students that attend a university in Colorado or Wyoming, are doing research in the Central Rockies region, and are presenting (poster or talk) or otherwise contributing to the conference. Additional factors including having students write a short 1-2 paragraph essay about what they expect to get out of the conference and how it will help their career will be considered when awarding scholarships. The scholarship committee will finalize the criteria and advertise the announcement by mid May. The committee is comprised of Tim Hoelzle, Brett Wolk, Denise Arthur, Kristina Hufford, and Brock Bowles.

Events Committee

Amber Shanklin assumed the events committee chair and presented 3 main ideas for events the chapter could sponsor to engage the public and bring our chapter members together. The first was having Randy Mendel give a willow ID workshop. Randy offered to give a workshop sometime early next year. So we will continue to pursue him for a workshop date while hoping to hold an event well before next winter.

Another event idea was to host a fire recovery/restoration talk combining info from the Waldo canyon fire near Colorado Springs and the High Park fire near Fort Collins last summer. The chapter was enthusiastic about the idea of having speakers knowledgeable about both fires speak in northern Colorado as well as the Colorado Springs area to compare and contrast the two fires and restoration efforts that are occurring in each area. The events committee will move forward with getting things scheduled and speakers lined up for a fire restoration series talk.

The third idea presented was to have Tim Seastedt, a professor at CU Boulder, give a seminar on some of his restoration research. Susan Sherrod solicited several speakers and Tim was very interested in being a part of one of our events. Tim is well respected and an entertaining speaker and Susan is going to work on getting him scheduled for a pub talk.

Megan Bowes also solicited speakers from our chapter for the Colorado Native Plant Society annual meeting in Boulder this summer. She is looking for a keynote speaker who is knowledgeable about restoration and entertaining too. Chris mentioned group your ride, a community of mountain bikers and trail users, are also very interested in hearing more about fire ecology and learning from experts about the lands they recreate in. Lots of opportunities coming up for Central Rockies SER members to give back to the community.

The events committee is so far comprised of Susan Sherrod, Randy Walsh, Amber Shanklin, Casey Cisneros, and Steve Yochum. New members always welcome!

Fundraising Committee

Tim Hoelzle had an extensive talk with Steve Bozak, the executive director of SER, and received some fantastic advice on how to move forward with fundraising and soliciting corporate sponsorship for the chapter. In short, Steve and SER are supportive of our efforts and are excited to see if we can bring in the big bucks. Brett Wolk suggested that we solicit sponsorship for the student scholarships to the SER conference in Wisconsin as a test run for our fundraising. That idea was accepted and opportunities for sponsorship will be offered to Central Rockies SER members first before outside sources are sought.

Chris Herron presented some options for printing Central Rockies SER t-shirts and we decided to go for it. Chris is moving forward with ordering t-shirts, look for the fresh new logo soon!



Next Meeting

Our next chapter get together will be in early June. More doodling was requested, so be on the lookout for another poll near the end of May to schedule out next Central Rockies chapter meeting.