



Central Rockies SER Meeting Summary
Thursday, November 6th, 2014, 12:00am - 1:00pm
Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

Attendance: 11

Fort Collins: Brett Wolk, Randy Mandel, Casey Cisneros, Andrea Borkenhagen, Anita Kennedy, Jayne Jonas-Bratten, Greg Eckert.

Calling in: Billy Bunch, Becky Kao, Jim Bromberg, Steve Yochum.

President Report:

- Quarterly Chapter Conference Call
 - The international organization is preparing for the 2015 Manchester World Conference.
 - <http://www.ser2015.org/>
 - Regional Chapters are willing to give us advice on running a conference as many are currently holding joint conferences as well.
 - The search for an executive director is on-going.
 - Elections for Board of Directors will be held January 16 to February 1, 2015.
 - <http://www.ser.org/resources/resources-detail-view/call-for-nominations-for-the-ser-board-of-directors>

Treasurer Report

- Our current balance is \$10,651.52
- Since our last meeting we spent \$791.18 as a sponsor and to support the attendance of a CeRSER Rep (Sara Copp) to the Sustaining Colorado Watershed Conference
- Non-profit 501c3 status has been approved with the IRS.

Secretary Report

- We received the CeRSER third quarter report on October 15th. We will be receiving \$239.50 as quarterly dues shortly.
- Our current member list (10-13-14) includes 78 members. Expired members equal 130.
- New email format
 - Our listserv reaches 160 emails. By using the new email distribution system, we are able to track the number of people who open our emails. Of the 160 who receive the email, about 50 open it.
 - How can we improve this?

The Central Rockies chapter meeting summary from September was approved!



The High Altitude
Revegetation Workshop
and Central Rockies Chapter
of the Society for Ecological
Restoration
2015 Conference



High Altitude Restoration Science & Practice

March 10-12, 2015

Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, Colorado

Conference Update

- <http://chapter.ser.org/centralrockies/events/har-cerser-2015/>
- Program/Logistics
 - Abstracts due November 28th
 - Current schedule of keynote speakers and evening events
 - March 10th
 - Pre-conference technical workshop
 - Jim Harris
 - Poster session and Social night with appetizers
 - March 11th
 - Peter Fulé
 - Susan Meyer
 - Pub Talk with Kevin Fedarko
 - March 12th
 - David Cooper
- Pre-Conference Technical Workshop – March 10th, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
 - Workshop participants will learn how to design and implement a monitoring and assessment process for evaluating if your restoration goals are being met, and how monitoring data can be used to inform adaptive management. Breakout sessions will focus on a diversity of field scenarios and systems. The schedule and presenters for the half-day workshop are confirmed and available on the website.
- Sponsorship opportunities
 - The committee is actively soliciting sponsorships from interested partners. More information on levels and benefits available on the website.
- Student participation
 - Planning a social night with Jim Harris on Monday before the conference. Discussed the potential for a job fair during the poster session.

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Outreach Committee Report

- Laramie Pub Talk – Nov 12th from 6 – 9 p.m. at the Altitude Chophouse
 - Peter Stahl, professor from University of Wyoming, will be speaking on the restoration of sage grouse habitat.
 - Food arrangements made by Sara Copp
 - Grand Total - \$449.82 (Under Budget)
 - Speaker advertisement – Sara C.
 - Andrea has been e-mailing advertisement to members
 - Faculty at UW has also been notified
 - Collect door fee for non-members, sell T-shirts, register new members
 - Volunteers?
 - Casey, Andrea, Randy, Jon to help set-up and Randy will emcee
 - Do we want to pursue a door fee for non-members?
 - SWS, charges 5\$ for non-members to attend their pub talks.
 - There are only three CeRSER members in Laramie, so maybe we should not charge at the door as our main goal is to recruit. In addition, we did not advertise that there would be a charge at this event. In the future, we should consider charging \$5 at the door as our budget does not allow us to offer these events for free every time.
 - We should have t-shirts and membership forms, or have the iPad there to sign up new members right away.
 - Fiscal co-sponsorship for appetizers at the event
 - Casey contacted the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory who passed on the opportunity
 - Jeremy is looking into other possible partnerships
- Denver Pub Talk – Jan. 28th from 6 – 9 p.m. at the Irish Snug.
 - Speaker arranged by Rebecca Kao with Denver Botanical Gardens
 - Dave Buckner will be speaking about current restoration efforts that Denver Botanical Garden is undertaking
 - Food arrangements made by Sara Copp
 - Total: \$297.6 (Well Under Budget)
 - Speaker advertisement – Rebecca Kao
 - Plan on waiting until after the new year to send out over listserv
 - Send save the date soon
 - Need Volunteers to:
 - Set-up AV
 - Rebecca can provide laptop and projector
 - May still need adequate amplification for the speaker
 - Update website once we know the presentation title - Jayne
 - Emcee
 - Collect door fee for non-members, sell T-shirts, register new members

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- Fiscal co-sponsorship at the event – Denver Botanical Gardens will be contributing \$150 to apps. Due to the sponsorship, the event will be free of charge.
- Hosting an even at the Botanical Gardens has more constraints with costs and caterers. When caterers are used for the food and drink, it becomes expensive. We could look at a different sort of event though, maybe a weekend event or non-alcoholic family-friendly event.
- Ideas to fund future pub talks and events
 - Sponsorship
 - Track food and drink totals at the next two Pub talks to make a better estimate of what the chapter needs to contribute monetarily to each pub talk to meet the minimum for room reservations.
 - Set an annual outreach budget?
 - We should think about how much we want to spend each year on events.
 - We have been averaging about \$800 a year. Our main source of income is from member dues. The conference will also bring in some income that we can allocate towards future events.

Colorado Society for Range Management (SRM)

- December 3-5th, 2014 at the Marriott Hotel, Ft. Collins, CO
- Responding to Disturbance: Effective Restoration & Monitoring Workshop & Annual Meeting
- Restoration Implementation, Monitoring & Adaptive Management: A Practitioner Skills Workshop
 - Friday, December 5th (8 am to 1 pm)
 - Co-sponsored by CeRSER

Student Guild

- The student chapter is organizing a pub event to be at the end of the SRM conference, on December 4th. They are looking at different venues (Coopersmiths, Odell's, etc.). Their plan is to have presentations by a professional and a graduate student.
- The guild is working with Wildlands Restoration Volunteers and Boulder County to grow some species for them to use in the late spring for their annual plant sale. Last spring they went to the farmers market and asked for a table but they had already been booked for the season. They will likely look into this option again so broaden the client base beyond the campus.
- On campus presentations
 - Fall 2014 - Brian Bledsoe, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Colorado State University.
- The guild will be coordinating with the HAR-CeRSER committee about how they can participate in the conference. The guild has agreed to co-sponsor a mixer or social event with the Restoration group from the University of Wyoming.

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Capitalizing on post HAR-CeRSER conference momentum

- What would people like to see after the conference?
 - More pub talks, organizing field tours, restoration examples with different agencies, field workshops etc.
 - Randy volunteered to give a workshop on willows in the spring (March – early April) and invite the Native Plant Society. Another idea is a seed collection workshop in Mid-late August or September – seed collection workshop.

Additional business

- Call out for pictures for the website. Contact Jayne Jonas-Bratten for more information.

Next Meeting

- January 28th from 4:00 pm – 5:00pm at Great Ecology in Denver
 - Address: 3461 Ringsby Court, Denver, CO 80216.
 - Conference Room: Mezzanine level in the Drive 2 main lobby. As you enter the lobby, you will see a sign pointing you up the stairs.
 - Parking: West of the building (between the building and the train tracks).
- If you cannot attend in person, please call in at 720-387-8937.



Image: Summit Lake Park, CO, trail restoration with the Wildlands Restoration Volunteers. Aug 2014

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