

2017 Annual Report



Ensuring Healthy Trout Populations through the Protection, Reconnection and Restoration of West Michigan's Cold Water Resources

2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- Kent County Brook Trout Study. Over the past four years, your team has been making significant in-stream habitat improvements within several tributaries of Rogue River including Rum, Cedar, Stegman and Shaw Creeks, as well as removing several small dams which were blocking fish passage in Blakeslee Creek. Total 2017 investment: \$51,700. This four-year \$284,000 project is nearly completed.
- Rogue River Home Rivers Initiative. We fully support this TU National program that is focused on the protection and restoration of this unique urban trout stream. During 2017 we donated \$6,500 bringing our six-year total to \$36,500.
- Buck Creek Monitoring. We completed our MIDEQ funded monitoring study of Buck Creek. The study confirmed that cool/cold water does exist in in about half of the creek's 20.3 mile course indicating that we have more work to do to improve the stream habitat. Total 2017 investment: \$7,600.
- Fundraising. We netted nearly \$23,100 from the 2017 banquet ranking it among the most successful in the Chapter's history. A big thank you to our members for your ongoing support.
- Scholarship. Our membership also helped us raise nearly \$6,300 which will be invested in the Schrems Scholarship Endowment Fund at Michigan State University.
- Women on the Water. We successfully executed our first thee-day WOW event at Gates Lodge during August. We thank the Frey Foundation and Mary Yurko Dermatology for underwriting this inaugural event. Based on this year's success, we will be holding two WOW events during the summer of 2018.
- **Project Healing Waters**. Your team partnered with the Kalamazoo Valley Chapter once again to take veterans from the Battle Creek VA hospital on fishing on the Muskegon River.







- **Reel Recovery.** 2017 marked the fifth consecutive year your team participated in this caregiving organization's annual fly-fishing retreat serving men living/recovering from all forms of cancer.
- Salmon in the Classroom. We funded two new programs bringing the total to 19

Dear Schrems Member,

I am pleased to report that Fiscal 2017 was again, a year of solid accomplishment for Schrems West Michigan Trout Unlimited. Thanks to our membership, the Board of Directors and a host of volunteers, we were able to engage in and complete the following tasks;

Completing the four-year \$284K Kent County Brook Trout project which included significant habitat improvements and dam removals within the Rogue and Coldwater River watersheds. This project was funded by grants from the Grand Rapids Community Foundation, National Fish and Wildlife Federation, Plainfield Township and the City of Rockford and we thank each on for their support.

Finalizing the \$25K Michigan DEQ funded two-year temperate monitoring study of Buck Creek, a 20-mile urban stream which runs through suburban Grand Rapids and presenting the results to the Grandville City Council.

Awarding our 30th Schrems Scholarship to a qualified Michigan State University Fisheries and Wildlife graduate student pursuing a degree consistent with SWMTU's mission and values. We are currently raising funds to specifically increase the scholarship endowment and take advantage of a \$10,000 matching gift from the Charlevoix Foundation. By raising the endowment to \$100,000, we will be able to increase the annual scholarship award thus helping the recipient defray some of the cost of higher education.

Initiating our first three-day "Women on the Water" event at Gates Lodge where attendees engaged in activities ranging from bug identification and casting lessons to a full-day guided float trip.

Establishing two new Salmon in the Classroom installations bring our total to 19 active programs.

Participating in several youth oriented events including Muskegon Sportsmen for Youth which was, attended by over 1,000 kids, and the CA Frost Elementary School's Day on the Rogue River program where we introduced fly fishing to 70 fifth graders.

Collaborating with the Ruffed Grouse Society executing our sixth annual Cast n Blast with proceeds going to fund youth programs.

Presenting our first "State of the Trout" event with Dr. Bryan Burroughs. This well received event is something we will plan to present Two times per year.

Partnering with the Kalamazoo Valley Chapter for a sixth consecutive year in two Project Healing Waters events in which we take veterans from the Battle Creek VA on a full-day fishing trip on the Muskegon River.

Looking to next year, we anticipate expanding our conservation/habitat improvement efforts to additional in-stream improvements within Kent County while initiating a water temperature/quality monitoring study within the tail water section of the Muskegon River below Croton dam. We are also planning two Women on the Water three-day programs during 2018, along the Au Sable and the Pere Marquette Rivers, respectively. These are only a couple of the initiatives your team will be pursuing.

In closing, the Schrems team is totally dedicated to the protection of West Michigan's cold water resources. We are also committed to the education those who will become future leaders in the world of cold water conservation with our MSU/Schrems Scholarship program, the Salmon in the Classroom programs and by participating in youth oriented conservation events. And finally, we are actively working to improve the diversity within the trout fishing community with the success of our Women on the Water initiative.

Tight Lines,

Lance Climie, President, Schrems West Michigan Trout Unlimited, Inc.

Financial Overview

Revenue — During fiscal 2017, we generated revenue of \$120,600 from the following sources;

- Habitat Project Grants (49%). We received \$51,700 from the National Fish and Wildlife Federation and \$6,500 from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to execute the final phases of the Kent Brook Trout Study and the Buck Creek Monitoring program, respectively.
- **Banquet (34%).** We generated nearly \$42,000 from our annual banquet, making this event one of the most successful in Chapter history.



- Membership Events (11%). Membership event registrations including the Cast N' Blast which we cosponsor with the Ruffed Grouse Society, the annual Wa Wa Sum weekend, the inaugural Women on the Water Event and the December Christmas Party generated \$13,500 or 11 percent of 2017 revenue.
- Education and Scholarship (5%). We received scholarship fund donations totaling \$6,300 which will be invested in our endowment at Michigan State University.
- General Donation (1%). This category totaled nearly \$1,000 for 2017.

We thank our membership, the agencies and the foundations for their generous support of your Chapter's work.

Expenditures. During 2017, we invested \$128,700 which is summarized by category on the graph to the right. Please note that your only two percent of our annual costs supported general and administrative activities indicating our Chapters efficiency.

The balance of our 2017 expenses (98 percent) were used to fund conservation/habitat projects (64%), support fundraising activities (14%), execute membership events(10%) and pursue education initiatives (9%). Let's review what we accomplished during 2017 beginning with our habitat/conservation initiatives.



A full set of unaudited financials statements along with an analysis of revenue and earning trends, can be found starting on page 10. It is worth mentioning that our financial results are audited on a bi-annual basis by the accounting firm of Walker, Fluke & Sheldon. The results of the 2016 audit can be reviewed on our website www.swmtu.org. Our next audit will be performed on Fiscal 2018 results.

Habitat/Conservation Programs

 Kent County Brook Trout Study. During 2017 we nearly completed the four-year Kent County Brook Trout Study. This \$284K study was funded by grants from the Grand Rapids Community Foundation, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Plainfield Township and the City of Rockford included significant in-stream habitat improvements within several Rogue River tributaries including Rum, Cedar, Stegman and Shaw Creeks, as well as removing several small dams which were



blocking fish passage in Blakeslee Creek. We also made improvements within Tyler Creek and the Pratt Lake Drain which feed the Coldwater River.

- Buck Creek Monitoring. We completed this two-year, \$24,450 MIDEQ funded temperature monitoring study of Buck Creek, an urban trout stream which runs through the suburbs of Grand Rapids. The study confirmed that cool/cold water still exists in about half of the creek's 20.3 mile course. We also shocked several sections of the stream confirming a moderate population of trout. We are currently developing a stream habitat improvement plan for this Grand River tributary.
- Rogue River Home Rivers Initiative. During fiscal 2017, we increased our annual donation to the Rogue River Home Rivers initiative \$6,500. We fully support and work closely with Program Manager Nichol DeMol and her HRI team and have donated \$36,500 to this important initiative since it's inception in 2010. Highlights of the HRI team's efforts the past seven years include:



 Assessing Fish Passage. Nearly 200 fish barriers to fish passage have been as-

sessed within the watershed with 9 identified as priorities for removal. TU has removed 4 of these dams opening up 9 miles of cold water trout stream.

- Installing Rain Gardens. Over 415 rain barrels have been distributed and 24green infrastructure practices installed totaling 60,000 square feet of stream buffers, rain gardens, and bio-swales. 36 acres of wetland restored and enrolled in a conservation easement in perpetuity.
- Engaging the Community. Over 2,000 individuals have participated in community events and over
 25 volunteers have been trained as citizen monitors. 3,000 students have been directly engaged in

analyzing the health of their local waterways, implementing restoration projects, and participating in community education initiatives. 30 high school students have been employed through a summer work program to install and maintain green infrastructure practices.

Total Investment to date - \$3.2 million has been invested/leveraged to support the Rogue River Home Rivers conservation initiative.

 Coldwater and Tyler Creek. As we reported last year several miles of the river bank within this watershed was damage severely due to excessive brush/tree removal upstream of Freeport, Michigan, as a result of an action authorized by the Tri-County Drain Commission. While litigation has stalled our ability to execute a major restoration project, we have supported the Coldwater River Watershed Council's efforts to repair the damage in select areas with a monetary donations totaling \$6,500 last year which was used to



plant trees in several devastated areas. Michigan Trout Unlimited as well as several State and Federal agencies are collectively monitoring this situation to ensure a proper resolution of this matter (i.e. river bank restoration, etc.).

• Other Activities. During 2017, we donated \$4,400 to the Allegan Conservation district to fix a point erosion problem on a cold water tributary of the Rabbit River which runs through Southwestern Kent and Ottawa counties. We will be receiving a review of this plan in early 2018 which we will post on our website.

Education

 Women-on-the-Water - During a strategic planning session, we set a goal to do better job welcoming women into the world of fly fishing, and cold water conversation. We surveyed our membership and confirmed that there was indeed interest and establish "Women on the Water".

This initiative began in 2015 with a two-part program lead by Jen Ripple, Editor-in-Chief of Dun Magazine and Executive Editor of a Tight Loop Magazine. Part



one, held in May focused on the history of women in fly fishing, and part two followed in August, with casting lessons from Glen Blackwood and the Schrems team followed by an in-stream wade fishing experience with instruction.

We followed up this year with a three-day event at Gates Lodge, where 18 women attended classes including trout vision, bug life, reading water and understanding your environment. From there the group moved to the river's edge to learn casting tricks and mending techniques. The event culminated with a full day, guided float trip where the ladies could test their skills. We are planning two more events in 2018.

• Schrems Scholarship. Established in 1987 the Schrems Scholarship program has been providing financial support annually to a qualified Michigan State University Department of Fisheries and Wildlife graduate student pursuing a degree consistent with SWMTU's mission and values. Since its inception, thirty MSU graduate students, including Michigan Trout Unlimited's Executive Director, Dr. Bryan Burroughs, have been awarded this scholarship.

For the past couple of years, we have awarded \$3.4K annually, an amount essentially equal to the investment returns generated by the fund which is currently valued at \$70K. Recognizing the rising costs of higher education, Schrems set out grow the value of the endowment to \$100K thus allowing us to award a larger annual scholarship. We are pleased to report that with the support of a 50% match grant from an anonymous benefactor along with member and chapter donations, we reached our funding goal at the end of the calendar year. A big thank you to everyone for their support.

 Salmon in the Classroom. SWMTU also sponsors several youth education programs including Michigan DNR's Salmon in the Classroom program where middle/high school students hatch eggs, care for and raise salmon in their classroom. Schrems pays for the initial classroom setup including fish tanks, chillers, etc. at a cost of about \$1,200 per installation. We added two schools , but lost one school in 2017and closed the year with 19 active programs.



dedicated to inspiring the next generation of river stewards. To that end, we sponsored 2 campers at this year's Kalamazoo Chapter's Youth Trout Camp. Both campers, Alex and Ethan shared their experi-

ences which ranged from fly casting and tying to the different rivers they fished with the Schrems Board during the October meeting.

Other Youth Events. The Schrems team is also

We also participated in our 2nd "Muskegon Sportsmen for Youth" event, where nearly 1,000 kids experienced fly tying, casting, bug identification and stream morphology. Drawings were held awarding 6 TFO youth fly rods and 6 Schrems logo fly boxes to kids throughout the day. In addition, we introduced fly fishing to 70 fifth graders during Grand



Rapids Public's CA Frost Elementary School's Day on the Rogue River program last May, marking our second consecutive year of participation in this educational outing. Art Neumann Memorial. Your Chapter donated \$2,500 to support the creation of the Art Neumann Memorial. This memorial, which is located n front of the Lovells, Michigan Museum was dedicated on Trout Season opening day this past April.

Outreach

- Project Healing Waters. During salmon and steelhead seasons, Schrems partners with the Kalamazoo Valley TU Chapter to take veterans from the Battle Creek VA hospital fishing on the Muskegon River. Fiscal 2017 marked our sixth year of participation in this energizing event.
- Reel Recovery. Members of the Schrems team also participates annually in a Reel Recovery Retreat, a national program which employs the healing powers



of fly-fishing, to help men during their cancer recovery process. Fiscal 2017 was our fifth consecutive year of participation in this very moving event.

• Other Initiatives. We are engaging the next generation of river stewards by continuing to sponsor the Northview High School Fly Squad as well as student participation in the East Grand Rapids Fly Fishing school. We also participated in the CA Frost Environmental School's on the river day where the Schrems team introduced 70 fifth graders to the art of fly fishing.

Membership Events

Spring Banquet. We held our annual banquet at Watermark Country Club on April 18, 2017. On all counts this year's Banquet was one of the most successful events in our Chapter's history generating nearly \$23,000 These solid results are a true testament to the enthusiasm and support of our members. We thank everyone who participated and ensure all that these funds will be invested in our Chapter's education, outreach and conservation programs.



Cast 'N Blast. During July, Schrems West Michigan TU and the Grand Rapids Chapter of Ruffed Grouse Society teamed up for a sixth annual joint sporting clays shoot and casting competition. This year's event, which was held at the Kent County Conservation League, netted approximately \$1,200 for each organization which will be invested in youth programs such as Salmon in the Classroom.

Annual Christmas Party. Each December we hold a Christmas party for our members and their families. For the past several years, this party has been held at Pietro's restaurant where pizza, libration and Santa Claus combine to make this event a success time and again.

About Schrems

Schrems West Michigan Trout Unlimited was founded in 1962 to address the health of our local streams and the wild trout that live in them. Chapter activities include river clean-ups, in-stream habitat improvements/ monitoring, fish inventories, invertebrate studies and fly fishing clinics. We execute these programs by mar-shalling volunteers from the community and from our dedicated Trout Unlimited members. Our overall goal is to protect and restore West Michigan's cold water resources so that future generations can enjoy them as much as we do today.

Donate/Contact/Join

The work we do would not be possible without the support of our members. Your donations are used solely to fund activities such as the Schrems Scholarship, Salmon in the Classroom, Trout Camp, Membership seminars and various habitat/conservation programs. If you would like to donate to the Chapter, you can do so via the PayPal link (Donate SWMTU Button) on our website, www. swmtu.org, or by mailing your donation to Schrems West Michigan Trout Unlimited, P.O. Box 230094, Grand Rapids, MI 49523. We also accept donations of stock. If interested, please contact our treasurer Tom Mundt for information.

When making a donation, please provide an address so that we may send you a thankyou note and a receipt for your donation. Also, if you would like to designate your contribution to a specific program such as education, scholarship, conservation, etc. please let us know and we will honor your request.

Make a difference and become a Trout Unlimited member by visiting our website http://www.swmtu.org/ general/join-trout-unlimited.

Board (Bold) & Other Key Team Members

With the exception of June, monthly Chapter Board meetings are held at 6:15pm the first Tuesday of each month at either the WMEAC office, 1007 Lake Dr. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506, or at Indian Trails Golf Course located at 2776 Kalamazoo Ave SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49507

Lance Climie, President & Banquet Chair, 616-307-3971, lanceclimie@hotmail.com	Steve Frendt, Assistant Conservation Chair, 616-540-0742, sfrendt@dartbank.com
Marci Cisneros, Vice President, mcisneros@visitgrandhaven.com	Steven Brinks, smbrinks@sbcglobal.net
Larry Risbridger, Secretary, 616-690-0692, elrisbridger@charter.net	Dave Helder, Salmon in the Classroom Coordinator, 616-914- 5312, davehelder78@gmail.com
Tom Mundt, Treasurer, 616-485-1426, tommundt@gmail.com	Bill Rowell, 616-717-0473, browell@gmail.com
Jeff Edwards, President, 616-514-7121, jedwards27@msn.com	Dave Whitfield, 616-206-7036, dwhitfield@wnj.com
Nick Garlock, 616-540-5406, garlocknick@gmail.com	Al Woody, Membership Chair, 231-798-3536
Matt Hylant, 330-958-1277, matt.hylant@hylant.com	awoody@comcast.net
Pete Miller, Conservation Chair, 417-420 -4003,	George Zuiderveen,616-240-4176, ggzuider@sbcglobal.net
peterbmiller9@gmail.com	Nichol DeMol, Project Manager, Rogue River Home Rivers
	Initiative, 231-557-6362,ndemol@tu.org

Summary Financial Information

The following **financial statements are unaudited** and are provided for information purposes only. Our financial statements are audited a semi-annually with the next audit scheduled following the end of Fiscal 2018.

Statement of Cash Flows

Year Ending 09/30/2017

Operating Activities		
Net Income	\$	(8,117)
Adjustments to Reconcile Net Income to Net Cash provided by operations	5:	
Accounts Receivable		3,668
Grants Pending Funding		58,210
Prepaid Expenses		(902)
Accounts Payable		(11,358)
Defferred Revenue		(58,509)
Funded Grants		
Total Adjustements to reconcile Net Income to Cash Provided by Operatio		(8,891)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	<u>\$</u> \$	(17,008)
Net Change In Cash for the Period	\$	(17,008)
Cash At the Beginning of the Period		60,899
Cash at the End of the Period	\$	43,891
Memo:		
Temporaily Restricted		
Remaining Schrems Donation to the Kent County Brook Trout Study	\$	5,280
Muskegon River - Orvis Donation		2,000
Chuck King - Pine Ridge School SIC Donation		701
Scholarship Donation		6,300
Temporarily Restricted Cash	\$	14,281
Algoma River's Edge Donation 2		1,000
Other Committed Cash	\$	1,000
Total Resticted		28,562
Unrestricted Cash		28,610
Total Cash	\$	43,891

Summary Profit & Loss											
		Year-Ended									
	September 30, 2017					2017A v			20	017A vs.	
Whole \$		cal 2017A	-	iscal 2016A		2016A	20	17 Budget		Budget	
Revenue										-	
Restricted											
Habitat Projects	\$	58,610	\$	96,918	\$	(38,308)	Ś	73,649	\$	(15,039)	
Women on the Water	*	3,000	Ŧ	,	Ŧ	3,000	Ŧ	3,000	Ŧ	(,, _	
Salmon in The Classroom		49		-		49		-		49	
Scholarship		6,300		1,050		5,250		30,000		(23,700)	
Total Restricted		67,959		97,968		(30,009)		106,649		(38,690)	
Unrestricted						(),		,		(),	
Spring Banquet		41,155		41,650		(495)		43,900		(2,745)	
General Donations		536		7,039		(6,504)		, _		536	
National Rebates		425		125		300		125		300	
Membership Events		10,533		4,131		6,402		11,090		(558)	
Total Unrestricted	\$	52,648	\$	52,945	\$	(297)		55,115		(2,467)	
Total Revenue	\$	120,607	\$	150,913	\$	(30,306)	\$	161,764		(41,157)	
Expenses											
Banking and PayPal Fees		944		880		64		956		(12)	
Banquet Expense		16,875		17,736		(862)		19,487		(2,612)	
Dues & Subscriptions		669		718		(48)		647		23	
Education Expenses		12,290		4,219		8,071		34,768		(22,478)	
Habitat Expenses		81,836		103,735		(21,900)		91,166		(9,330)	
Insurance - Liability		155		155		-		155		-	
Accounting & Audit Fees		161		3,071		(2,910)		171		(10)	
Other Officers Expense		780		383		397		702		78	
Communications		961		374		587		150		811	
Postage Other		635		699		(64)		180		455	
Rent or Lease		132		537		(405)		537		(405)	
Seminars & Event Expense		12,283		3,832		8,450		13,163		(881)	
Stationary and Printing		645		367		278		250		395	
Supplies		288		527		(239)		548		(260)	
Taxes & License		70		70		-		70		-	
	\$	128,724	\$	137,303	\$	(8,579)	\$	162,950	\$	(34,226)	
Net Income	\$	(8,117)	\$	13,610	\$	(21,727)	\$	(1,186)	\$	(6,931)	

Statement of Financial Position											
F	iscal	2017 As of	Sept	tember 30, 20							
Whole \$	Total		L	Inrestricted		Temporarily Restricted		ermanently Restricted			
Current Assets											
Cash & Equivalents	\$	43,891	\$	29,610	\$	14,281					
Accounts Receivable		42,797		42,797							
Grants Receivable		16,533		16,533							
Prepaid Expenses		3,503		3,503							
Total Current Assets	\$	106,724	\$	92,443	\$	14,281	\$	-			
Total Assets		106,724		92,443		14,281		-			
Current Liabilities											
Accounts Payable		49,255		42,955		6,300					
Deferred Revenue		19,234		16,533		2,701					
Total Current Liabilities	\$	68,490	\$	59,488	\$	9,001	\$	-			
Net Assets											
Unrestricted		32,955									
Temporary Restricted		5,280									
Permanently Restricted											
Total Net Assets	\$	38,235	\$	32,955	\$	5,280		-			

Statement of Activities											
Year Ended September 30, 2017											
	Temporary					manently					
	Un	restricted	Re	stricted	Re	stricted		Total			
Revenue, gains andother support											
Contibutions and Grants	\$	961	\$	64,959			\$	65,919			
Program Revenue		13,533						13,533			
Fundraising		41,155						41,155			
Net Assets Released from Restrictions:								-			
Satisfactions of purpose restrictions		62,379		(62,379)				-			
Total revenue, gains andother supp	\$	118,027	\$	2,580	\$	-	\$	120,607			
Expenses and Losses											
Program Services											
Conservation	\$	81,836					\$	81,836			
Education and Scholarship		4,410		7,875				12,285			
Commnications		961						961			
Membership Events & Seminars		12,423						12,423			
Supporting Services								-			
General & Admin		2,973						2,973			
Fundraising		18,246						18,246			
Total Expenses & Losses	\$	120,849	\$	7,875	\$	-	\$	128,724			
Changes in Net Assets	\$	(2,822)	\$	(5,295)	\$	-	\$	(8,117)			
Net Assets at the beginning of the year	\$	35,777		10,575				46,352			
Net Assets at the End of the year	\$	32,955	\$	5,280	\$	-	\$	38,235			

Statement of Functional Expense												
Year Ended September 30, 2017												
	P	rogram										
	S	ervices		G & A	Fur	ndraising		Total				
Bank Charges	\$	141	\$	4	\$	804	\$	949				
Banquet Expense						16,875		16,875				
Dues & Subscriptions				669				669				
Education Expenses		12,285						12,285				
Habitat Project Expense		81,836						81,836				
Legal & Professional Expense				161				161				
Insurance				155				155				
Officers Expenses				780				780				
Other Mailings				118		517		635				
Communications		961						961				
Rent or Lease				132				132				
Seminar Expenses		-						-				
Special Events		12,283						12,283				
Supplies				288				288				
Taxes and Licenses				20		50		70				
Stationary & Printing				645				645				
Total Exp & Losses	\$	107,505	\$	2,973	\$	18,246	\$	128,724				

Year Ended Se	eptem	ber 31	, 2017 Account Information	
Account Receivable			Account Payable	
MIDEQ- Jan-Mar	\$	1,567	Streamside Eco MIDEQ- Jan-Mar	\$ 1,567
NFWF		40,902	Digital Consultants	208
MIDEQ- Final Monitoring		278	Streamside Eco 15-64-08	278
Misc - WaWa Sum registration		50	South Peat	31,102
Total	\$	42,797	Kanause Outdoor Restoration	9,800
			MSU - Scholarship Donations	 6,300
			Total	\$ 49,255

Grants Receivable	
NFWF Grant	\$ 15,933
CMI-CWF Buck Creek Monitoring Grant	 600
Total	\$ 16,533

Deferred Revenue	
CMI-CWF Buck Creek Monitoring Grant	\$ 600
Orvis GR - Muskegon River Project Donation	2,000
Chuck King - Pinewood School SIC Donation	701
NFWF Grant	 15,933
Total	\$ 19,234

Prepaid Expenses	
Watermark - 2018 Banquet Deposit	\$ 2,500
Mitten - Oct 2018 event Deposit	500
U-Store- Oct 2018 Rent	42
L. Risbridger - 2018 Banquet Artwork	 41
Total	\$ 3,083

Schrems Scholarship Fund Performance

For the past 30 years the Schrems Board of Directors has awarded scholarships annually to a deserving Department of Fisheries and Wildlife student pursuing a graduate degree at Michigan State University. For the first 25 years, this award averaged \$2,000 annually and was funded primarily by a donation from Schrems annual operating budget.

This formula changed in 2012 with the establishment of an endowment fund at MSU. This endowment, which has a book value of just under \$75,000, was created from Schrems TU membership donations along with a grant from very generous private foundation. This model has enabled us to use the endowment's returns to increase the scholarship awards in each of the last three years, with \$3,400 awarded in 2016.

During fiscal 2017 launched a campaign to raise an additional \$30,000 to bring our book value of our endowment to \$100,000. We are pleased to report as of December 31, 2017 that through the help of our members, other TU Chapters and the support of a \$10,000, 50% match grant we received from a anonymous benefactor, we achieved our \$30,000 funding goal. Thank you to everyone for their support.





Prepared by Schrems West Michigan Trout Unlimited, Inc. January 2018