



# Timberlines

## W. J. Breckenridge Chapter

### Izaak Walton League

#### February/March 2013

[www.breckenridgeikes.org](http://www.breckenridgeikes.org)



## Coming Events

### March

- 12 *Board Meeting*  
26 *Social/Educational Meeting*  
*Steve Chatlin, Nature Conservancy:*  
*Conservation Grazing as a Tool for*  
*Prairie Management—7:30 p.m.*

### April

- 9 *Board Meeting*  
23 *Social/Educational Meeting*  
26-28 *MN Division State Convention at*  
*Spirit Mountain, Duluth*

### May

- 5 *Annual Pancake Breakfast*  
14 *Board Meeting*  
28 *Social/Educational Meeting*

If you can provide light refreshments for one of our Tuesday meetings, please contact Barbara Franklin 763-657-1907 Or [bbfrankli@gmail.com](mailto:bbfrankli@gmail.com)

Mar 26 –Jeanne Peterson  
Apr 23 -  
May 28 -

Thank you!



### March 26 Social/Educational Meeting:

#### Conservation Grazing as a Tool for Prairie Management

Native prairie is the most threatened major habitat both in the world and in Minnesota. The Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan addresses the threat to prairies and wetlands in western Minnesota. Prairies and other grasslands need regular disturbance to prevent their takeover by trees and weeds. Grazing can provide that disturbance but can also result in the degradation of prairies. Conservation grazing is a concept designed to offer management benefits at large geographical scales while minimizing the risks.

On Tuesday, March 26 Steve Chaplin will speak on “Conservation Grazing as a Tool for Prairie Management.” Steve is currently a Senior Conservation Scientist with the Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. The public is welcome to this social/educational meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Chapter House. For more information call 763-421-6781.

### Membership

Welcome to Suzy Williams, who joined the Breckenridge Chapter at the Holiday Party. Membership totals 92 as of February 27. 16 members from 2012 have not yet renewed for 2013.

**Breckenridge Chapter Izaak Walton League of America**

**February 12, 2013 Meeting Notes**

**Board Members Attending:** Jim Arnold, Bill Barton, John Fraley, Dick Brown, Vera Brown, Mark Gustafson, Wes Hendrickson, Larry Kennebeck

**Meeting agenda** was approved.

**Minutes of 1-15** meeting were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Vera currently has \$7890.94 checking, \$18,076.72 savings and still sorting out hand over from Bruce. Bruce sent in the Annual Year End Summary to be published in Timberlines. The Report was approved unanimously.

**Schedule**

**FEBRUARY 26 EDUCATIONAL MEETING – LARK WELLER, NPS & TREVOR RUSSEL, FMR – METRO MISSISSIPPI RIVER REPORT FUNDING FROM CAPITAL REGION WATERSHED DISTRICT. SEN. HOFFMAN, REP. HORTMAN & UGLEM, MAYOR NELSON INVITED. QCTV EXPECTED TO COVER.**

**MARCH 12 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

March 12 **North Star Council of BSA** Banquet (not at Breckenridge)

**MARCH 26 – EDUCATIONAL MEETING, STEVE CHATLIN, NATURE CONSERVANCY: CONSERVATION GRAZING AS A TOOL FOR PRAIRIE MANAGEMENT**

**APRIL 23 – EDUCATIONAL MEETING** May be population video GrowthBusters

**April 26-28 MN Division** State Convention at Spirit Mountain, Duluth

**MAY 5 BRECKENRIDGE PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

**MAY 7- Minnehaha Chapter – Scott Hed – Bristol Bay Hard Rock Mine**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Membership** – Second notices have gone out. Discussion of 6 month membership and rentals.

**Timberlines** – Thanks to Barb for current issue.

**Scholarship** – Notices out to schools for applications. Second payment out in January.

**Buildings & Grounds** – Fan in furnace failed and was replaced. Dick has native woodland shade shrubs being delivered for planting April 27. We discussed doing native flowers next year.

**Rentals** – December, January, & February rentals are on track, March light yet.

**Conservation Issues** – Dick & Larry attended the DNR invasive species public meeting. Dick noted that snapping turtles status was downgraded from endangered, Lynx are on the list.

State is discontinuing extended 60 year forest rotation due to economy.

Attended MEP in district meeting with Senator John Hoffman and Representative Hortman. Discussion on Solar Works, Transit, Clean Water Account.

Discussion of Frac Sand Mining

Discussion of DNR Mines & Minerals Permit to Mine (PTM) Wetland Replacement Process Improvements “stakeholders” process

**Youth Programs** – John & Jim are working on a developing Blue Bird project.

**Membership Efforts** – National has mocked up a new Breckenridge Chapter brochure for our comment and improvement.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Minnesota Department of Revenue, Sales and Use Tax Division, Policy Services and Taxpayer Programs Unit, Rose Scott has denied our Application for Minnesota Nonprofit Exempt Status – Sales Tax, Form ST-16, MN Rule 8130.6200, Statute 297A.70. We will refer this situation to MN division executive committee for discussion.

A major Mississippi River bank stabilization project is in progress just above the chapter house and was described and discussed briefly.

Meeting adjourned 9:35 p.m.

Bill Barton

## Treasurer's Year End Summary 2012

Income		Expenses	
Membership	\$4,855.00	National Dues	\$4,114.50
Rentals	\$5,225.00	Dues Returned	\$61.50
Chapter Donations	\$1,139.00	Membership Supplies	\$212.29
Pancake Breakfast	\$1,066.00	Pancake Breakfast	\$652.19
State Meeting	\$389.00	Holiday Party	\$163.36
Holiday Party	\$224.00	State Meeting	\$139.76
Projector Fund Donations	\$480.00	Timberlines	\$964.35
90th Year Banquet	\$682.21	Donations	\$575.00
Climate Change DVD	\$260.00	Speakers Fees	\$250.00
		Climate Change Forum	\$115.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$14,320.21</b>	Projector	\$439.17
		Rental Returns	\$1,750.00
		Rental Expense	\$58.19
<b>Year End Checking Balance</b>	<b>\$7,456.15</b>	Chapter House Insurance	\$1,631.00
<b>Year End Savings Balance</b>	<b>\$18,070.72</b>	Building & Grounds	\$395.72
		Snow Plowing	\$460.00
		Century Link	\$428.52
		Waste Management	\$519.68
<b>Scholarship Endowment Total</b>	<b>\$46,317.00</b>	CenterPoint Energy	\$510.18
Scholarship Donations	\$500.00	Xcel Energy	\$720.43
Endowment Donations	\$2,038.50	Go Daddy	\$43.45
Holiday Silent Auction	\$711.00	Walters Recycling	\$216.87
Endowment Transfer	\$2,470.00	City of Brooklyn Park	\$550.07
Scholarship Payments	\$2,500.00	Bank Fees	\$100.18
		Treasurer Expense	\$44.00
		Scout Troop 332	\$15.75
		<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$15,131.13</b>

### River bank reinforcement?

Several Board members, including Steve, Jim, Mark, Barb, Larry & Dick and Joe Klohs met for several hours on Monday, March 4 to survey the work being done on the riverbank at Eric & Mary Jo Duncan's and their neighbors', and to consider negotiating with the contractor to have similar work done at the Chapter House while the contractor has access to the river.

We decided not to spend \$10,000-\$12,000 (about 1/2 of our bank account) to shore up the bank, but did commit to spending up to \$2000 to have fill of granite blocks placed on about 35' of the riverbank to provide safer access to the river for recreational activities. As we go to press there is a possibility that this may not take place due to the contractor's schedule and to the weather (snow and warming) but stay tuned for more information on this project.

## State of the River Report: Water Quality and River Health in the Metro Mississippi River

On February 26 about 30 people attended an excellent presentation of the recently published "State of the River Report." Lark Weller, of the National Park Service and Trevor Russell, Watershed Program Director of the Friends of the Mississippi River presented a fact-filled review of the main findings and concerns about: River Flow, Swimming & Recreation, Fish & Fishing, Ecological Health, and Other Contaminants of Concern.

Special guests attending the meeting included: Doug Baines, Chair of Elm Creek Watershed Organization, Bill Flemming, Senator John Hoffman's associate, Bruce Miller, Champlin City Council, Ward 3, Rick Rohwer, Champlin Historical Society, Chair, and Todd Tuominen, City of Champlin, Asst. Engineer. Channel 16, the Quad Cities Community channel serving Andover, Anoka, Champlin, Ramsey recorded the program for airing.

Three of the major policy actions that decision-makers can take to help protect and preserve the River and ones which the Ikes can support:

- Establish river phosphorus and nitrate standards. These contaminants can compromise aquatic life and recreation and are especially problematic downstream in Lake Pepin and the Gulf of Mexico. The state cannot effectively control these pollutants without science-based water quality standards, which it currently does not have.
- Phase-out the use of triclosan in antibacterial soap. This common additive in anti-bacterial soap and other household products provides no health benefits over plain soap and water, and the AMA recommends that triclosan should not be used in the home. It is recommended that it be disposed of in the trash, not down the drain where it will enter the water system. (We checked our supplies at the Chapter House and threw out a couple that evening!)

- Adopt a statewide coal tar (asphalt) sealant ban. As of August 2012, 24 Minnesota communities, along with all state agencies, have passed restrictions on the use of coal tar sealants, but it is time for Minnesota to institute a comprehensive statewide ban on the sale or application of coal tar sealants. These chemicals, as well as unused and expired pharmaceuticals all have impacts on aquatic wildlife, including tumors, organ abnormalities and disruption of immune and reproductive systems and should have statewide plans for their control.

For more information and to view the Report go to: [www.stateoftheriver.com](http://www.stateoftheriver.com)

### Board Positions Still Open

Three positions are still unfilled, including the particularly important ones of Secretary and Treasurer, and have been for some time. Vera Brown has agreed to be Treasurer for a year, but if you are willing and able to serve (or can nominate someone you think would be admirably suited) please contact President Steve Schaust (763-493-7921 or [schaust@aol.com](mailto:schaust@aol.com)) or anyone on the Board and we will be ever grateful. It only involves one meeting a month – the second Tuesday. If you are interested but feel unqualified, we are willing to train you.

Board Members	Term Expires
President, Steve Schaust .....	2013
Vice President, Bill Barton .....	2013
<b>Secretary</b> .....	<b>OPEN</b>
Treasurer, Vera Brown .....	2013
<b>At large</b> .....	<b>OPEN</b>
Larry Kennebeck .....	2013
Dick Brown .....	2014
Wes Hendrickson .....	2014
Jim Arnold .....	2014
Mark Gustafson .....	2013
Barbara Franklin .....	2015
Roger Williams .....	2015
John Fraley.....	2015

**In my opinion...**

**By Bill Barton**

## **WHAT I FEARED – LEGACY LOST**

The Legacy Amendment was passed by an historic margin due to the coalition and work of many groups and individuals with the purpose of supplemental preservation, protection, and restoration of Minnesota's natural resources. Unfortunately when money is involved the purpose can get lost in the details, bureaucracy, and competition for the money.

I never heard anyone during the legacy amendment campaign say they wanted more studies on our resources.  
Studies do not preserve natural resources.  
Studies do not protect natural resources.  
Studies do not restore natural resources.

A study is not a result. Admittedly taken to extreme but a fact is this:

If all the legacy money for the 25 years of the legacy amendment were spent on studies there would be nothing preserved, nothing protected, nothing restored. All we would have to show for our \$25 billion dollars would be shelves of binders or stacks of CDs with studies on them. Everyone I knew who was involved in the legacy amendment campaign understood the purpose (money) was for results. Results that would be in addition to all the studies and results we would normally do.

Certainly actions should be based on facts. Study is often needed to define the facts. That is why we have agencies to study the facts and publish the rules. These are activities we have done and I hope will continue to do. Studying the facts and making the rules are necessary baseline activities we should do. Studying the facts and making the rules are not supplemental. Paying for these activities with legacy funds is not supplemental, it is supplanting.

Stopping invasive carp from further spread in

Minnesota is an issue dear to my heart. I still do not want our precious legacy funds spent on studies.

Knowing the effect of sulfate in our waters on wild rice is important. It is so important that it was studied by scientists 30 years ago (that doesn't seem so long ago now that I have been a scientist for over 30 years!). It was studied by our University scientists, published in peer review journals, and a water quality standard was adopted to be the law of the land.

Today we are studying the effect of sulfate on wild rice once again. Why? Because the existing mining industry was found to be exceeding the rule limits and new mining projects want the limits to be raised for them. They convinced the legislature to order a new study. The cry was that we need to update the "old science". (Ouch - that hurts!)

I just found out that this new sulfate/wild rice study, prompted by pressure on the legislature from the mining industry, is being funded by legacy money!

The carp barrier study, a repeat of studies done over and over in the last 30 years of their progress up the Mississippi River, was funded with legacy money!

We must be vigilant. Every dollar of legacy money spent on studies is legacy lost.

<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/water/water-permits-and-rules/water-rulemaking/minnesotas-sulfate-standard-to-protect-wild-rice.html>

Bill Barton

**In my opinion...**

**By Dick Brown**

## **A LETTER TO MY CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES**

March 3, 2013

As a citizen, I write to let you know some of my concerns.

1. I believe as a hunter who owns guns the following would be sound policy:
  - a. Ban assault type weapons and high capacity magazines
  - b. Require background checks for all individuals purchasing guns whether from retail dealers, individuals or at gun shows
  - c. License and register all guns at sale or change of ownership. Re-licensing to re-occur every four (4) years or so, similar to autos, boats, OHV's, motorcycles, etc. This would make law enforcement easier. Shooting sports should be a licensed privilege, not a right.
2. In all fairness, same sex marriage should be allowed, even though I am not enamored by the idea. Let religions decide whether they will perform the ceremony or not.
3. Prohibit mining for fracking sand. It is one of the basic ingredients for fracking in other areas, thereby polluting ground water and surface water in both areas and destroying natural scenery and farm land; causes air, noise and traffic pollution; and is extremely hard on the environment.
4. Wolf hunting: I prefer not to see a Wolf season at this time.

Reason: There are too many Deer for a balanced ecology. White Pine, Red Pine, Jack Pine and White Cedar are not self-reproducing on account of Deer depredation. So are other lesser Flora species. Deer are the main browsers of these species, especially the Conifers in winter.

Thank you for considering my concerns. Please send me your position on each of them.

Sincerely,  
Richard P. Brown

## **Earthfest**

Brooklyn Center EARTHfest will be held Saturday, April 20, 2013 at Brooklyn Center High School. Allison Warden, an Inupiaq artist and rapper from Alaska, will be performing her one woman show, "Calling All Polar Bears." at noon and exhibits and activities will run from 1-4 p.m.

Brooklyn Center EARTHfest was created in 2010 to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Earth Day.

The Breckenridge Chapter will have an exhibit there. If you are interested in participating let Jim Arnold know 763-560-8972, [jjarnold@q.com](mailto:jjarnold@q.com) (Jim will be on vacation until April 1, but leave a message) but do plan to attend the activities!



## PANCAKE BREAKFAST & PLANT SALE

### Sunday, May 5

Our Chapter's biggest and most important fund raiser of the year is scheduled for Sunday, May 5.

We will need someone to coordinate the activities – publicity, setup, cooking, plant sale, raffle – as well as workers for the following tasks:



- Saturday 9:00 am to noon – Set up & decorate
- Sunday first shift (8:00 to 10:30) – Pancakes, Kitchen, beverages/tables, cashier
- Sunday second shift (10:30 to 1:00) – Pancakes, Kitchen, beverages/tables, cashier
- Sunday clean up (1:00 to 3:00)
- Sunday plant sale (8:00 to 1:00)
- Set up raffle (make sure we have items)

You can also help by donating plants for the plant sale.

If you can help, please call or email Jim Arnold 763-560-8972, [jjarnold@q.com](mailto:jjarnold@q.com) or Barb Franklin 763-657-1907, [bbfrankli@gmail.com](mailto:bbfrankli@gmail.com). (Jim will be on vacation until April 1, but he is willing to recruit workers.)

### NEW COFFEE BREWER!

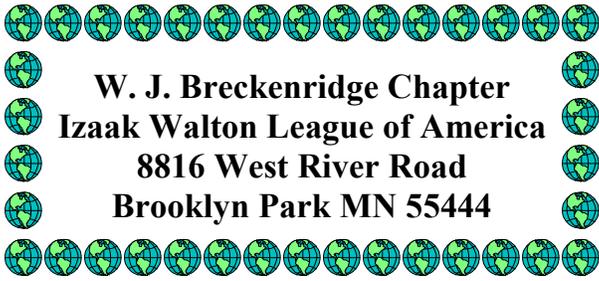
Coffee making at the Chapter House has long been a trial for many, not to mention it can be noisy and slow and trips the breakers. If you've been in the Chapter House kitchen lately, you'll notice that all of the old glass carafes and their various units have been disposed of and replaced by a large Bunn Airpot Coffee Brewer. (The big urns are still there for large crowds. The plumbed in one will be removed.)



### ***DO NOT PANIC.***

It works basically the same way those old ones did. You do need to plug it in for about 20 minutes at the beginning to allow the reservoir to heat up, but then you can brew the coffee into the airpot, which will keep it hot for hours! We currently have 2 airpots (since I clumsily broke one of the vacuum liners the first time I used it) but I've ordered 4 more with stainless liners to prevent this happening again. (And don't forget to put the suction pipe back in after it's brewed so people can get the coffee out!)

Barb Franklin



If you would like to submit an article for the Timberlines, please send it to Marlys Carls-Steiskal at: [EditorBreckIWL@msn.com](mailto:EditorBreckIWL@msn.com)  
Deadline is the last day of each month.  
"All articles in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the position of the Breckenridge Chapter Board of Directors."

## REMEMBERING... GEORGE A DECKER

*Gentleman—Scholar—Teacher—US Marine Veteran*

George and Mary Lou Decker came to the Breckenridge Chapter in 1995. George served on the Board of Directors for several years, and he and Mary Lou traveled to several State Division Board meetings representing our chapter as a State Director. When visiting a DNR State Forestry meeting at Cambridge he took a special interest in their selective planting of white pine seedlings for their resistance to white pine blister rust. He was a West High School graduate and graduated with top honors of U of M. WWII Marine Corp veteran who landed in Japan during the occupation.



Those of us who knew him were impressed by his engaging smile and infectious chuckle. Those of us who remember George realize a great loss.

Our condolences to Mary Lou and her family. Mary Lou was our telephone coordinator for several years.

Guest Editor, Barbara Franklin