



# Timberlines

## W. J. Breckenridge Chapter Izaak Walton League July 2014

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

### July

- 8 Board of Directors Meeting — 7 pm
- 22 Social/Educational Meeting — 7:30 pm  
Bob Anderson — Raptor Resource Project

### August

- 12 Board of Directors Meeting — 7 pm
- 26 Social/Educational Meeting — 7:30 pm  
Joanna Eckles—Project BirdSafe

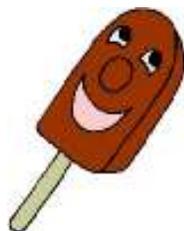
### September

- 9 Board of Directors Meeting— 7 pm
- 23 Social/Educational Meeting—7:30 pm

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)

July 22 — Trudy Poquette  
August 26 — YOU?  
September 23 — YOU?

Thank you!

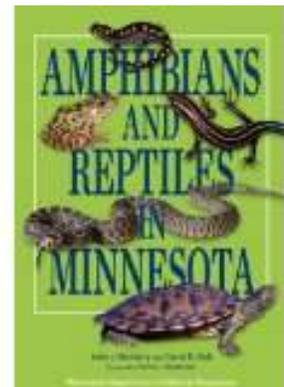


### Amphibians and Reptiles in Minnesota: changes in the last 20 years

John Moriarty, a Breckenridge Ikes member and editor of the recently published 2nd edition of *Amphibians and Reptiles in Minnesota* presented a program on the amphibians and reptiles of Minnesota highlighting the changes to Minnesota's herps since the publication of the last edition (Oldfield and Moriarty 1994). This included new species, conservation initiatives and new natural history information. Copies of the book were available for sale and signing.

John is the senior manager of wildlife for Three Rivers Park District where he oversees wildlife and habitat projects including Bullsnake monitoring, Blanding's Turtle

and Spiny Softshell nesting programs and frog surveys. He previously worked as natural resources manager for Ramsey County Parks. John also authored *Turtles and Turtle Watching in North Central States* as well as co-editing Breck's autobiography, *A Life in Natural History*, with Barbara Franklin. John has been involved in amphibian and reptile research, surveys, and legislation in Minnesota for over 30 years.



## Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter of the Izaak Walton League

June 10, 2014  
Board of Directors Meeting Notes

**IWLA Member Pledge:** We strive for the purity of water, the clarity of air, the wise stewardship of the land and its resources, to know the beauty and understanding of nature, and the value of wildlife, woodlands, and open space, to the preservation of this heritage, and to our sharing in it.

June 10 ..... Board of Directors Meeting  
June 24 ..... Social/Education Meeting  
July 8..... Board of Directors Meeting  
July 22..... Social/Education Meeting

**Attendees:** Bill Barton, Patrice Lindgren, Vera Brown, Jim Arnold, Dick Brown, John Fraley, Barbara Franklin, Larry Kennebeck **Guests:** Tim Johnson, Marlys Carls-Steiskal

### **Issues** Dick/Bill

Social/Education Meeting Speakers

June – John Moriarty on Amphibians and Reptiles in Minnesota

July –

August – Dick will provide the July and August speaker information as soon as it's available.

The Breckenridge Chapter will be hosting the MN IWLA summer meeting that will be held August 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

We will provide a continental breakfast and lunch, final planning will be discussed at the next BOD meeting.

Barb Franklin made a motion and it was seconded to add Tim Johnson as board member. Motion carried.

Dick Brown made a motion and it was seconded to accept John Fraley as temporary Treasurer until the annual election. Motion carried.

There will be two open seats on board for this year's annual election. We will be looking fill the Vice President and Treasurer Positions and are also looking for someone to take over as the Rental Chair.

Neighborhood name – The Chapter received a ballot for voting on the neighborhood name.

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) is creating a brochure on alternative shot and asked if we would be interested in adding our IWLA logo to the brochure to show our support. Dick will follow up on this request.

Dick Brown presented and discussion was held on the Bipartisan Sportsman's Act of 2014; S-1996. The National IWLA office has asked that we call our US Senators and ask that they pass this Bill, however, several of the Board Members do not agree with the proposal.

It was proposed that letters be drafted and sent to the National and State Division IWLA offices, to our two State Senators, and other Minnesota Chapters outlining our Chapters views. We would also ask that the National office rescind supporting this Bill. Bill Barton seconded the motion and called the question. A vote was taken and the motion passed, Dick will construct the letters.

Dick Brown presented and a discussion was held on the MNRRA in Minnesota and The Future for All Waterways.

It was suggested that our Chapter should take a position. It was requested that the new rules released June 1<sup>st</sup>, should be reviewed at the next BOD meeting. The comment period is through August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Dick Brown brought up the 2014-6 Recreational Uses of Scientific and Natural Areas (SNA'S) resolution as a discussion item. The MN Division is to send the resolutions that passed at the State Meeting to the State. It was proposed that we send the original resolution as it was written to the State Legislators and the DNR. We will follow up with MN Division to see if the resolution has been sent out and will send out our own letters from the Chapter.

### **Chapter House & Grounds** Jim/Steve

A wooden platform built by Steve Schaut to secure the memorial bench for Lou Dinzi was placed next to the sidewalk offering visitors a welcoming place to sit. Thanks again to the Dinzi family for the bench and to Steve for creating the platform.

Boulevard entrance garden beds, next steps. A special thank you goes out to Mary Jo and Eric Duncan for taking the time to pull the garlic

mustard and burdock weeds from the boulevard.

Best Buy employees will be providing the man power to help build a river walkway on July 15th and 16th.

Tom Reid removed the basswood tree that was hanging over the neighboring driveway.

Barb Franklin had been approached by a member of the Audubon that he had Blue Bird houses. We currently have 12 houses and are looking to add 6 more. Barb to follow with the Audubon member.

#### **Newsletter** Marlys

Dick has a recommend that a paper copy of the Timberlines be mailed out to our members and would like to resurrect the Calling Committee to help promote the Social/Education meetings.

The cost to mail the newsletter is \$.49 cents, to date we are currently mailing out 57 paper copies of the newsletters.

It was suggested that we start with sending out an e-mail notification of the upcoming meetings and see if that helps draw more members to the meetings.

In Marlys Carls-Steiskal absence, Barb Franklin will be responsible for the July and August Timberlines.

Tim Johnson has offered to be a co-administrator for our Facebook page. Please remember that we are always looking for articles for the newsletter.

#### **Treasurer's Report** Vera

Update was given.

#### **Scholarship Committee** Jim

Scholarship – The Finance Committee proposed changes to the current wording of the Endowment Investment Guidelines policy. The word “usually”, has been added. The guideline will now read:

“Because of the long term nature of an endowment it is reasonable and prudent to consider investing a portion of the endowment assets in equities. However, that portion will usually not exceed thirty percent (30%) of endowment assets, and may often be significantly less. The finance committee will consider rebalancing the fund once a year,

especially if the equity portion of the endowment assets exceed thirty percent”. Dick made the motion and it was seconded that we accept the wording change for the Investment Guideline and that the Finance Committee will report to the BOD quarterly. Motion carried.

The scholarships for the 2014-2015 school year have been awarded to Karin Sather, Kristen Peterson, Jack Madsen, & Kaelyn Williams. The quarterly financial statement was provided to the BOD.

#### **Website/Facebook** Barb

Update was given.

#### **Rentals** Wes

Jim is filling in for Wes in his absence.

#### **Membership** Lorraine

After an audit of our membership records, our current membership is 97.

## Board response to IWLA National alert

On June 17, 2014 Dick Brown sent a letter to Scott Kovarovics, Executive Director IWLA an alert sent by the National Office:

The Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter, MN Board of Directors on June 10, 2014 discussed the Alert sent by the National Office to support S1996, the Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act of 2014. After discussing the points of the Act in the Alert we decided we cannot support the Act. Roughly some of the points made were the following:

1. Prohibit the EPA from regulating lead ammunition and fishing tackle, leaving regulation to States; PROBLEM: leaves many States without regulation. Izaak Walton League of America, Breckenridge Chapter and IWLA Minnesota Division support regulation. The Bill would amend Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) to exclude lead problems from lead ammunition and fishing equipment.
2. Ensures most Federal Lands open to target shooting, hunting & fishing unless closed for a good cause including Wilderness areas, but not National Parks and Refuges; PROBLEM: There are many areas where there could be dispute over reasons to prohibit or not. Sets a precedent for other infringements, such as OHV use and trails, etc.
3. Federal funding for shooting ranges; PROBLEM: There are more important things for the federal government to fund, for instance: preserving endangered species and rehabilitation of wetlands.
4. Allocate 1.5% of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) to improve access to public lands; PROBLEM: LWCF is presently intended to acquire lands for conservation and should remain so. Other funding could be appropriated for other purposes.
5. Reauthorize the North American Conservation Act which provides grants for wetland conservation, and the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation which awards grants for conservation; PROBLEM: Breckenridge Chapter, IWLA supports this position.
6. Allows import of Polar Bears to US legally shot in Canada; PROBLEM: Tends to enable American hunters to shoot a species that is

globally threatened or endangered and stressed in most areas.

7. Let the Dept. of Agriculture (not the Fish & Wildlife Service) determine "normal agricultural practices" in order to prevent wildlife baiting; PROBLEM: Would not the F & WS be more likely to defend sound "fair chase" practices? Would the Ag. Dept. be better? Probably not.
8. Make it easier for small film crews to work on Federal Lands; PROBLEM: Who determines the size and scope of crews? Would there be alterations to the natural surroundings? Sets a precedent for allowing less regulated commercial enterprises.

As an environmental conservation chapter of the IWLA also interested in the preservation of our Natural Heritage, we find S.1996 to not be compatible with our conservation ethics.

Dick Brown, Breckenridge Chapter, MN Div.,  
Conservation Issues Chair

PS: We also feel the following acts are not in our interests:

1. The Sportsmen's Heritage & Recreational Enhancement Act (HR3590) would threaten millions of acres of wilderness by opening them up to motorized vehicles, road construction and other development.
2. The Lands and Jobs Security Act of 2013 (HR1965) would lead to more oil and gas drilling on environmentally sensitive public lands.
3. Protecting State Rights of Promote American Energy Security Act (HR2728) ensures that hydraulic fracturing on public lands can never be regulated.
4. The Natural Gas Pipeline Permitting Reform Act (HR1900) removes protections from the Clean Water Act and National Environmental Policy Act, and allows pipelines to cut through neighborhoods, wetlands, forests, etc. without environmental concern.

We feel the Ikes need to take strong positions against these anti-environmental issues and any similar Congressional or White House proposals.

## Raptor Cam Program July 23

Like checking eagle cams? Founder and Director Bob Anderson will present an overview of this informative and entertaining project.



Bob Anderson is the Director of the Raptor Resource Project. An avid falconer, Anderson trapped his first raptor, or bird of prey – a Red-tailed hawk - in 1960. He started his work in raptor conservation in 1971, while working for the Science Museum of Minnesota. At that time, raptors were in trouble. Many species were in decline and several, including the Peregrine falcon and Bald eagle, were threatened with extinction. Anderson began by breeding Peregrine falcons for release and recovery efforts, producing many of the first Peregrine falcons to be released in the Midwest. In 1987, after an absence of four decades, one of Anderson's falcons became the first to survive and breed in the Central United States. The Peregrine was on its way back.

Anderson went on to pioneer a program to attract falcons to utility stacks, launch a controversial breeding and release program to return falcons to Mississippi river cliffs, and lead a team of volunteer observers and climbers to monitor and band birds of prey on stacks, cliffs, water towers, and other high places. All of these programs proved enormously successful. By 2011, over 1,000 young peregrines had been produced on Midwest power plants, falcons had bred on a total of 21 Mississippi cliffs since their return to the river in 2000, and Anderson and his team

were monitoring over 40 peregrine, owl, osprey, kestrel, and eagle nests. In recognition of these extraordinary accomplishments, the Explorer's Club named Anderson a Champion of Wildlife.

Anderson has also been involved with natural history films and internet bird cams. He assisted Emmy-award winning filmmaker Neil Rettig with *Raptor Force*, *The American Eagle*, *Harpy Eagle: Spirit of the Ceiba Tree*, National Geographic's *Great Migrations*, and Discovery's *Spring Watch USA*. In 1998 *Mae's Internest*, Anderson's first internet birdcam, made webhost Xcel Energy the busiest website in the world. He followed it up with osprey cams, kestrel cams, owl cams and, most famously, eagle cams. In 2011, over 200 million viewers from 184 countries worldwide watched young eagles in Decorah, Iowa, grow from newly hatched babies to fledglings on the wing. Almost overnight, Bob Anderson and the Raptor Resource Project were providing one of the world's largest wildlife education programs. As of 2014, more than 300 million people had logged in to watch the Decorah Eagle family.

Anderson's future plans include a kestrel recovery program, the addition of more cliff-mounted nestboxes along the Mississippi river, and more birdcams. Although Anderson has expanded far beyond his original intent of breeding and releasing Peregrine falcons, he remains dedicated to telling its story. "The peregrine's near extinction and recovery sends a message that we can make a difference. I can't imagine a more important message to give people, especially young people, today."

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If you would like to submit an article for the Timberlines, please send it to  
Marlys Carls-Steiskal at: **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 Board of directors.”

*Timberlines* is available on our website at [www.breckenridgeikes.org](http://www.breckenridgeikes.org)  
If you would like to receive notification of its posting, please  
contact Barb Franklin at 763-657-1907.

Also Like our Walter J Breckenridge Chapter IWLA  
**Facebook page!**