



# Timberlines

## W. J. Breckenridge Chapter Izaak Walton League

### August 2016

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



### *Coming Events*

#### *August 2016*

- 9 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00  
23 Social/Educational Meeting 7:30  
Green Burials—MN State  
Representative Carolyn Laine  
Joint meeting with Minneapolis  
Chapter of Audubon

#### *September*

- 13 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00  
27 Social/Educational Meeting 7:30

#### *October*

- 11 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00  
25 Social/Educational Meeting 7:30



### **Green Burials** Social/Educational Meeting August 23

There is a growing interest in green burials as an environmentally-sound, economically-sensitive, and gentle approach to final disposition. This may be accompanied by more family involvement in the after-death care of a loved one. Carolyn Laine is a MN State Representative who authored the 2010 Family Rights After Death legislation that removed the requirement for embalming, allowing for more natural care of our deceased.

Carolyn is a member of Minnesota Threshold Network, a group that educates and supports conscious dying, home after-death care, and natural final disposition. She has a Masters in psychology as well as advanced graduate education and has served in the MN House of Representatives for 10 years; she is currently running for MN Senate. She is a founding member of the Minnesota Threshold which helped pass death care legislation in MN (2010) and supports the home death care movement in the state.

Websites: Minnesota Threshold Network tells of network meetings and current info: [mnthresholdnetwork.wordpress.com/](http://mnthresholdnetwork.wordpress.com/). Beholding the Threshold Network tells stories of conscious dying and home vigils and other services: [beholdingthethreshold.org/](http://beholdingthethreshold.org/)

Audubon members as well as the public are invited to join us for this social/educational meeting of the Izaak Walton League on Tuesday, August 23 at 7:30 p.m. at the Breckenridge Chapter House, 8816 West River Road, Brooklyn Park. For more information call 763-421-6781.

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

July 12, 2016

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**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.

**Attendees:** Steve Schaust, Larry Kennebeck, Patrice Lindgren, Jim Arnold, Dick Brown, Wes Hendrickson, Barbara Franklin, Tim Johnson, Joe Klohs, Dennis Leslie, Bruce Miller

July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Board of Directors Meeting
July 26 <sup>th</sup>	Social/Education Meeting
August 9 <sup>th</sup>	Board of Directors Meeting
August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Social/Education Meeting

**Events/Issues** ..... Dick/Larry/Jim  
Social/Education Meeting Speakers  
July – Lee Lewis: The Enbridge Pipeline Challenge  
August – Green Burials

The summer Board of Directors meeting will be held on July 30<sup>th</sup>. Registration and a continental breakfast will be from 9 to 10 and then a tour of our Chapter grounds. The Directors meeting will be from 1 until 4.

IWLA National Convention 2016 will be held in Stevens Point WI, July 19–22, 2016. The national convention is a great time to network with other Ikes from around the country.

The agreement with the Steiskals' to make minor modifications to the Chapter House property was signed on 7/12/2016.

The Friends of Minnesota SNA's are taking a walking tour at the Uncas Dunes on Thursday July 14<sup>th</sup>, from 9 until ? They will be acquainting themselves with the abutting sections of the Sand Dunes State Forest whose management controversy is also affecting the SNA's management.

Dick made a motion to make a \$200 donation to Save the Boundary Waters organization and it was seconded. The motion did not pass. With all of the different organizations looking for donations for the same causes, it's difficult to determine which group would make the best use of our donation without more information. A recommendation was made that the Board create a more formal process and guidelines around requests for donations, Joe Klohs volunteered to head up subcommittee to help formalize a process.

Consider attending the US Forest Service hearing in Duluth, July 13<sup>th</sup> from 4-7 pm at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center. Join the Ikes in speaking out against renewal of the mineral leases in the Boundary Waters area.

The 2016 Copper Roundtable will be held on the 9th of August at the Friendly Buffalo in Big Lake from 9:30 to 4.

There will be several presenters that will provide updates on the use of non-toxic/copper ammunition.

Board elections will be held during our July 26<sup>th</sup>, Social/Education meeting.

**Chapter House & Ground** ..... Joe/Jim/Steve  
House & Grounds Taskforce

The cost of rekeying the locks verses getting duplicate keys is being researched, Joe will send out an e-mail with the final costs quotes within the next couple of days.

It was brought to our attention that the foliage/bushes along the boulevard needed to be cut back to improve the visibility of oncoming traffic. This will be an ongoing maintenance issue

The Board again, talked about resurrecting the plan to put native plant beds on each side of our signs.

Chapter House street sign light—on hold.

**Newsletter** ..... Marlys  
August articles should be sent to Barb Franklin.

**Treasurer's Report**..... John  
No update was available at the time of the meeting.

**Scholarships** ..... Jim  
Jim distributed the quarterly investment statement to the Board for their review.

**Webmaster** ..... Barb  
Barb provided an update on the Chapters website.

**Rentals**..... Tim  
Tim reported that there are three rentals scheduled for the month of July.

**Membership** ..... Lorraine  
We are still looking for a new membership chair, anyone interested in taking on that responsibility should contact Steve Schaust.

Our current membership as of 6/14/2016 stands at 96. We are happy to welcome our newest member to the Chapter, Arlene Swanson.

## ***Opinion***

### **Agriculture, Water and Survival**

The *National Geographic*, August issue writes a shocking example of growing demise of the agricultural future of much of our basic food supply areas. This article should be read by anyone who considers themselves at least a partial conservationist. The article points out the shrinking availability of water in a most vulnerable area of one of our most productive agricultural areas. It also alludes to other prime farming areas including other parts of the world.

The whole problem of course, is the need to feed millions and billions of a surplus human population. There needs to be a reversal of human population growth to the point where there is a definite shrinkage of population in future generations. This obvious fact is ignored by many politicians and even many conservationists. This problem is not just a "World Problem" as some like to say, but right here in the U.S.A!

*Dick Brown*

#### ***AN ENVIRONMENTALIST'S PROVERB NO. 1***

*Each person doth consume,  
Each person doth pollute.  
Three hundred million here,  
Over seven billion there.  
These are facts beyond dispute,  
It seemeth then we must assume,  
The situation forecasts doom,  
As problems thence become acute,  
With population overshoot.*

*R.P.*





*Several members of the Breckenridge Chapter recently joined others from the Friends of Minnesota Scientific and Natural Areas to explore the Uncas Dunes SNA and view the abutting Sand Dunes State Forest (SDSF).*

## Uncas Dunes Visit

You may be aware that the GOP led Minnesota House of Representatives slipped in a bill this past session that, temporarily at least, halts implementation of DNR management plans for the Sand Dunes State Forest and Uncas Dunes SNA which is within the forest. These plans had included controlled burns and removal of mature pines to improve and restore the pre-settlement oak savannah ecosystem of the dunes which formed from the sand left behind by the most recent glaciation.

The Ikes played a part in planting these pine forests in the area in the 1940's. Our long time member Dick Brown remembers how the ladies in one of our Metro Area chapters organized the pine planting which was designed to hold the soil after farmers had plowed up the oak savannah, only to watch it blow away when the crops failed during the great dust bowl era of the 1930's. Minnesota declared these plantations a State Forest and managed them for timber. Now these stands are mature enough for harvest.

Conservationists realize now that changing this land from oak savannah to pine forests might not have been the best thing to do. Habitat for rare species evolved to thrive in these dunes was sacrificed, and without fire, pine began to spread even further, crowding out native growth in the remaining remnants of oak savannah.



*Former DNR SNA program manager Bob Djupstrom explains management plans*



*Members hiking through pine plantation in the SDSF*



*Goldenrod crab spider on white prairie clover*



*Purple Prairie Clover, (Dalea purpurea)*

Hundreds of private properties remain scattered throughout the SDSF making management problematic. Local residents have grown accustomed to the tall pines even if they do grow in long straight rows. Cutting the tall trees in their backyards makes some unhappy even if the restoration of the oak savannah and the protection of its rare species is the goal. For now, the recently passed bill puts a halt to the management plan (including harvesting of mature pine stands and controlled burns.)

The stakeholders the DNR is conducting listening sessions with include local residents, the forestry industry and environmental organizations. These monthly meetings which are scheduled for the remainder of this calendar year are being held in Big Lake. The DNR plans to use the information gathered to adjust the management plan as necessary.

Members of our Ikes Breckenridge Chapter have been attending the meetings and have offered our perspectives. We agree for the most part with the current DNR's management plans and are open to modifications which do not interfere with the goal of conserving habitat of oak savannah and thereby the rare species including the Uncas Skipper that thrive in that ecosystem.

After the input is received, the DNR Commissioner will revise the management plan if new information suggests changes are necessary.

*Reported by Tim Johnson  
Photos credit Dell Erickson*

## Springbrook Nature Center Grand Opening

Saturday, July 30 was a glorious day for the grand opening of Springbrook's impressive new building, improved trails and new floating bridge. The Breckenridge Chapter of Ikes is represented with a paver in front of the building. Be sure to visit and explore!



## Chapter House grounds receive a cleanup

On Tuesday morning, July 19<sup>th</sup> seven Ikes showed up to help rid the grounds of invasive plants like garlic mustard, Canadian thistle, and burdock. The rain garden plants and native shrubs are benefiting. Wood chips were also spread over some of the paths where they were needed. Thanks to Barb Franklin, Tim Johnson, John Fraley, Gretchen Sabel, Tom Reid and Jim and Judy Arnold.

## We still need a Membership Chair!

Many thanks to Lorraine Spears, our indomitable Membership Chair, who has served us very well over the past several years. But she'd like a break!

It's time for someone else to step up. It's not a huge job for anyone who's somewhat organized and has moderate computer skills. If you think you might be up to it, talk to Lorraine or Vera Brown, who's also served her time. We need you!

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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](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 Board of directors.”

If you would like to  
receive this  
newsletter  
electronically,  
please  
contact Barb  
Franklin at  
763-657-1907

Thanks to Mpls Audubon for  
providing treats this summer!  
We need people for the fall,  
though!

September - Mona Geeting  
October - Tim Johnson  
November -

Please contact  
Barbara Franklin  
763-657-1907  
Or [bbfrankli@gmail.com](mailto:bbfrankli@gmail.com)

