



TIMBERLINES



**W. J. Breckenridge Chapter
Izaak Walton League**

February 2017

www.breckenridgeikes.org

COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2017

- 7 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00
28 Social/Educational Meeting 7:30
Minnesota Wildlife and Habitat Needs
Nick Snavelly, DNR, Asst. Area Wildlife
Manager

MARCH

- 14 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00
28 Social/Educational Meeting 7:30
Champlin Mill Pond Update
Todd Tuominen, Asst. Champlin City
Engineer

APRIL

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

**Social/Educational Meeting:
Nick Snavelly: Wildlife Habitat
Components of Central Minnesota
Tuesday, February 28, 2017
7 p.m.**

For the past 10 years, Nick Snavelly has served as the Assistant Area Wildlife Manager for Minnesota Department of Natural Resources based out of Sauk Rapids with a work area that covers Sherburne, Wright and Stearns counties. As the Breckenridge Chapter's first scholarship recipient, Nick graduated from Champlin Park High School in 1998 and went on to the College of Natural Resources at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point for a Bachelor of Science degree that included two majors in Wildlife Ecology &

Management and Biology, as well as four minors. He has worked for the United States Fish & Wildlife Service in Bismarck, North Dakota conducting shorebird and waterfowl surveys, and for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and has taken graduate classes at the University of Florida in Orlando and at St. Cloud State

Nick also co-authored the Sand Dunes State Forest Operational Plan with which several Breckenridge Ikes may be familiar.

As the youngest three, Nicholas grew up to become an outdoor enthusiast with yearly camping adventures with his brothers to Itasca State Park, which he has continued to this day with his own family. Nick and his wife, Sharalyn, enjoy spending time outdoors with their four children, Autumn, Elmer, Hazel and Oliver, as well as with their teenage foreign exchange students they have hosted from Chile, Mexico, Germany, Italy and currently Norway. They enjoy cross country skiing, biking, camping, canoeing, disc golfing, hunting, fishing and wild ricing. Nicholas enjoys the occasional trip into Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, when he is not wild ricing in early September. Since 2011, Nicholas Snavelly has volunteered as the Central Minnesota Youth Ski Club Coordinator and more recently a Nordic Ski Club of Central Minnesota Board Member where he has helped coordinate the annual Sons of Norway Baneløpet at Riverside Park near where he lives today in Saint Cloud, Minnesota.

He is looking forward to catching up with many Chapter members back in his hometown stomping grounds!

The public is welcome to this social/educational meeting at the Breckenridge Chapter House of the Izaak Walton League of America, 8816 West River Road, Brooklyn Park. For more information call 763-421-6781.

Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter of the Izaak Walton League

January 10, 2017

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.

January 10th Board of Directors Meeting

January 22nd Winter Party

February 14th Board of Directors Meeting

February 28th Social/Educational Meeting

Attendees: Steve Schaust, Larry Kennebeck, Patrice Lindgren, John Fraley, Jim Arnold, Dick Brown, Joe Klohs, Tim Johnson, Wes Hendrickson, Karen Ostenso, Barb Franklin, Bruce Miller

Newsletter: Marlys Carls-Steiskal

Events/Issues

- Social/Education Meeting Speakers
 - January - Winter Party speaker Frank Taylor
 - February – Nick Snavelly, DNR, Asst. Area Wildlife Manager
 - March – TBD
- Our Chapter's position is that the Minnesota Threatened and Endangered Species Act should be amended to include habitat like the federal law does. A motion was made by Jim Arnold to approve the resolution as written by Dick Brown and Larry Kennebeck, the motion was seconded. Motion passed.
- Dick provided an updated on the Champlin Mill Pond restoration project. The pond is currently on the Minnesota DNR's impaired waters list. The City of Champlin is committed to the long term maintenance of the Mill Pond and habitat. The project would be completed in two phases, first working on a portion of the water body west of Hwy. 169, and phase two would address the east side.

- The city of Champlin and MnDOT will be hosting a community meeting to present plans for the reconstruction of Hwy 169 between Hayden Lake Road and the Anoka Champlin Bridge. The meeting will be held on January 17th at the Champlin Ice Forum. Construction is expected to start in the fall.
- Winter Gathering & Board of Directors January 27th – 28th. Social gathering 1/27 MN Valley Chapter, Board Of Directors Meeting 1/27 at REI in Bloomington.
- Winter Party update – As of this meeting we have received a total of 70 RSVP's, the cut off is scheduled January 13th. Set up will begin at 10 am on January 22nd.

Chapter House & Ground

- 2017 – Projects
 - Boulevard Low voltage lighting
 - River walkway erosion
 - Create a Resource Center for cleaning supplies
 - Explore lighting options for front room

Newsletter

- If you have any articles for the Timberlines please send them to EditorBreckIWL@msn.com

Treasurer's Report

- The monthly financial summary was distributed to the Board for view.

Scholarships

- The 2017-2018 scholarship application will soon be posted to the web and the materials sent to surrounding schools. Applications must be received by April 15, 2017.

Webmaster

- No update at this time.

Rentals

- January weekends are booked.

Membership

- Membership renewals continue to trickle in for 2017. Members who haven't received their renewal notices for 2017 should contact, Mary Ellen Vetter.

*** THE HOLIDAY PARTY ***

Thank you to the following local merchants who made donations to our silent auction:

- Biaggi's Ristorante Italiano..... 12051 Elm Creek Blvd., Maple Grove 55369
- Creative Blooms..... 9550 Noble Parkway, Brooklyn Park 55443
- Grady's ACE Hardware..... 12325 Champlin Dr., Champlin 55316
- Half Price Books..... 8601 Springbrook Dr. N.W., Coon Rapids 55433
- Hy-Vee..... 9409 Zane Ave N, Brooklyn Park, 55445
- Hudy's Café..... 11350 Aquila DR. N, Champlin, 55316
- Jet's Pizza..... 9730 Schreiber Terrace, Brooklyn Park, 55445
- Kwik Trip..... 5801 96th Ave N., Brooklyn Park 55443
- Liquor Barrel..... 8520 Edinburgh Center Dr., Brooklyn Park 55444
- Noble Parkway Mobil..... 9500 Noble Parkway, Brooklyn Park 55443
- Pita Pit..... 9656 Colorado Lane, Brooklyn Park 55445
- Roasted Pear Restaurant..... 9690 Colorado Lane N., Brooklyn Park 55369
- Sammy's Perrella's Restaurant..... 9750 Schreiber Terrace, Brooklyn Park 55369
- Three Squares Restaurant..... 12690 Arbor Lakes Pkwy, Maple Grove 55369
- Trader Joes..... 12105 Elm Creek Blvd, Maple Grove 55369
- Up North Liquor..... 9570 Noble Parkway, Brooklyn Park 55443
- 5 – 8 Grill & Bar..... 6251 Douglas Court North, Champlin 55316

And, to the following members and friends of the Chapter who donated auction items:

Judy Arnold
Patrice Lindgren
Janet Tripp
Fred Nordeen
Dave Steiskal
Dan Sherva

Vera Brown
Hans Nielsen
Gretchen Kish
Barb Franklin
Linda Erickson
Marlyns Taflin

Tim & Lori Johnson
Darby & Geri Nelson
Steven & Maureen Brown
Diane & Darrell Sannes
Mary Ellen Vetter



Photo by Tim Johnson

Special thanks to:

Patrice Lindgren and Steve Schaust for organizing the event, Susan deLaitre careering manager of Hy-Vee for providing a delicious meal, the many folks who provided desserts, Tom Ward who provided the wonderful background music on his dulcimer during the social hour and all those who took part in the silent auction. For the second straight year we had more than 75 folks attending. The many high quality items available in the auction, along with a generous gift of \$500 from Darby and Geri Nelson, provided \$2,445 for the scholarship fund.

Photos by Charlie Taflin





The Program

The evening concluded with an enthusiastic raptor program by Frank Taylor. Frank showed wonderful video and pictures of banding and capturing techniques. He also provided us with great information on his activities as a falconer. Perhaps most impressive was his dedication to providing protection for birds of prey. At the end of his presentation Frank brought out his Red Tailed Hawk. The impressive bird drew a large crowd of folks wanting to get a close up view.



Opinion: More (Human) Energy Needed

In the next few years more energy and cohesiveness will be needed by the environmental conservation community to hold the gains made in the last half century, let alone needed improvements on what has been accomplished. Some setbacks may include: increased mechanized use in wilderness, National Parks and other public lands; target shooting in forested areas where such is now not permissible. Weakening or possible elimination of such agencies as the Pollution Control Agency and Environmental Protection Agency. Such legislation as the Clean Water Act; the Environmental Policy Act; the Clean Air Act; and the Endangered Species Act may soon be targets for weakening or elimination.

Especially in the West there are moves to hand over public lands to states and private concerns for various kinds of development such as mining, state or private real estate transactions, etc. Will the Excel pipeline be completed, sending the worst environmental types of oil across our continent?

And then in Wilderness Areas where the land is supposed to be “untrammelled by Man, where Man himself is a visitor who does not remain” there is always contention. There are already infringements going on in some Wilderness Areas such as cattle grazing, gas and oil drilling and mining. Also there is a big push to allow mountain biking and other mechanized recreation.

Closer to home are Gov. Dayton’s buffer strips in legislative jeopardy? Personally I believe buffers should also be on private ditches as there are probably as many private ditches as public and they feed the main public ditches all their polluting contaminants including siltation. And what type of vegetation will be grown on these buffers? Will the possible reduction of harmful insecticides and pesticides be reduced as hoped, or will the reverse be true? How will pollinators fare in coming legislation? Will we be able to stop the use of lead in all

ammunition? Or will we be “shooting against a brick wall” on that issue.

The recent elections may (will?) create a dilemma for environmental conservationists. We will need more energy to combat what may be a major environmental decline. Our members may have opportunities in the coming sessions in trying to influence in some way the State Legislators and even our Congressional persons. Keep aware and be prepared to write, call or visit them on important issues.

Dick Brown

Opinion: Compare The Zips

On PBS. we often hear “Climate Change! We talk about it endlessly and have accomplished close to zip.” That repeated statement is quite correct, mostly because of politics, religion, business interest and indifference.

More importantly to our environmental problems in the long run, we have ignored the basics of overpopulation. Here we have failed to talk about it “endlessly” or hardly at all, and we have “accomplished less than zip!”

The first would be less of a problem eventually if we concentrated more on the latter.

Dick Brown

Update on 2016-17 Scholarship Recipients

Our four wonderful scholarship recipients were asked to share a few highlights from their fall semester. This is a bright and active group. Read carefully and you'll learn about dendrochronology, an iGEM conference, which school placed first in cross country in the MIAC and who volunteered at a recycled paper making event.

Emily Nagel, a sophomore at the University of Minnesota:

I had a great fall at the U of M. I spent most of my time and energy on a dendrochronology—tree ring—class this semester. I got to study Whitebark Pine cores from the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness in Idaho.

Conveniently, dendrochronology is part of the geography department at the university, meaning that I can specialize in it within my geography major. This spring, I'll continue with tree ring research, focusing on the phenology of Red Pines in the Boundary Waters. It is a small part of an existing project aiming to find more precise fire dates on Boundary Waters trees. I've also just been able to start skiing for the season and am looking forward to a second Birkie with the U of M Nordic Club in February. Thanks, as always, to your chapter for your continued support of my education!



Katie Breuckman, a freshman at St. Thomas University:

I have had a blast adjusting to life on my own this semester. My favorite class has been Chemistry for sure. It was rigorous and a lot of fun in lab! I also competed on the Cross Country team this fall placing 30th individually in Conference and winning the Conference as a team. I love being near the Mississippi River and I would run, hike, and study by it when the weather was warmer. We also ran at Pike Island and Hidden Falls on occasion, both beautiful parks. I have continued rock climbing at Vertical Endeavors with the climbing club at St. Thomas, but have yet to get outside and enjoy the natural rock! I



haven't been on my cross country skis yet, but all of this snow has me itching to get out and hit the trails. Next semester I will be taking another Biology and Chemistry class and I also hope to get into a summer research program involving the study of possible impacts that biologically active organic compounds, such as pharmaceuticals, may have in natural waters.

Sofia Vrba, a sophomore at the University of Minnesota:

My highlight was going to Boston in October for the iGEM Conference, which is a conference for undergraduates from all around the world to connect and compete against in a science competition! My team worked on designing a gene drive recovery drive system and we won bronze for it. Next year, we would like to continue with that and see if we can insert it in plants to protect them from global warming. Another highlight was that I got on Dean's List for getting a good GPA. For my outdoor plans, I'm hoping to go cross country skiing now with all of this great snow!



Kayla Berry, another sophomore at the University of Minnesota:

Fall semester at the University of Minnesota was hard, busy, and lots of fun. I finished my last calculus course ever, which was one of my favorite classes, and also took an organic chemistry class. My classes were challenging but helped me understand what I would be doing in engineering and have a better background for my field. I began working in a soil testing and plant analysis lab through the University, and met an upperclassman in my major who has helped me understand my future course work. I spent a lot of time running and hiking around the cities and volunteered at a recycled paper making event at the U for kids. This semester made me excited for the spring weather, as well as my spring courses, and really developed my love for renewable products and systems.



W. J. Breckenridge
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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.”

If you can provide light
refreshments for our
Tuesday meetings, please contact
Barbara Franklin
763-657-1907
Or bbfrankli@gmail.com

February 28 - Geri Nelson
March 28 - Linda Ericksson
April 25 -
May 23 -



If you would like to
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763-657-1907