



TIMBERLINES

W. J. Breckenridge Chapter
Izaak Walton League
September 2017
www.breckenridgeikes.org



COMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- 12 Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
- 26 Social/Educational Meeting 7:30 pm
Clayton Daughenbaugh – Bears Ears
National Monument

OCTOBER

- 10 Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
- 24 Social/Educational Meeting 7:30 pm



Here's the stump and tree Tom Reid felled to protect from catastrophic collapse of our river bluff. It seems obvious that more of the bluff will collapse eventually due to the continual river scouring of the bank when it is high. Today it was noted that one of the steps near the river deck is missing and poses a severe safety hazard.

Social/Educational Meeting:
Tuesday, September 26

Bears Ears National Monument

Clayton Daughenbaugh of the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance will speak on preserving the Utah red rocks wilderness, especially the Bears Ears National Monument. Significant headway was made with the designation of the Bears Ears National Monument by President Obama. But it's under threat from other politicians. On June 12, 2017 Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke "proposed significantly scaling back the borders" of Bears Ears in a "legally unprecedented move". Local farmers and ranchers want a "rollback of the protected areas"; others want to drill for oil. Work still needs to be done on protections for the remainder of the lands while fending off exploitation efforts.



We're still looking for additional Board Members and especially a Secretary. If you can help us out please contact Vice President Larry Kennebeck (763 533 5856) or another board member.

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

August 8, 2017

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.

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by Steve. He announced no one has volunteered to fill the Secretary position on our Board of Directors. Tim volunteered to act a secretary and record minutes for the meeting. Our member pledge was recited by all present.

Steve reminded us that officer elections are due at this month's Social/Ed meeting. President, VP, Membership Director and Treasurer have agreed to remain in current positions. Secretary position is open. Two board member terms expiring, Wes and Tim, have agreed to stay on. One other board position is open.

Chapter House & Grounds - Joe

1. Joe led members to view our driveway entrance and discuss where to have the borders of the garden. Afterwards a motion was made by Steve and seconded by Barb.

"Stakes should be placed to form triangle (one corner 30 ft back from the street on our driveway, the next point is along the street on the north side of the driveway intersecting a line from the first point and the corner of 88th Ave., the third point is on the street on the south of the driveway which will form an equal angle as that on the north). All growth within the triangle, except for the mature trees, should be removed in preparation for planting according to Paul Erdman's suggested plan."

2. Steve updated board on the cutting of the basswood tree on our bluff free of charge by Tom Reid to prevent further collapse of the bluff.
3. Jim updated the board on the hail damage assessment and cost to replace the shingles.
4. A motion to fund the following from our current account passed unanimously:
 - a. Electrify front driveway sign (~\$900)
 - b. Staining building and shed (~\$850)
 - c. Basement blocks (~\$850)

d. Tree Trimming (~\$500)

e. Replace shingles on the roof (~\$1000)

Conservation and Program: Dick

1. A representative (Judy Sventek, Manager, Water Resources Assessment) from the 25BY25 initiative spoke to us regarding planning for citizen input to the initiative. Discussion was had about the chapter's involvement in the process. Our Chapter has already committed to be involved in cosponsoring a open meeting in with the League of Women's Voters August 29th at Anoka Ramsey Community College in Coon Rapids from 7-9:00 PM.
2. Dick is organizing a group of Ikes to view Champlin's proposed prairie
3. Larry reported on the field trip to five different Minnesota farms with the Ikes Environmental Issues Group. Issues included field tiling, organic farming. A final stop was made to Ted Suss's farm for a political fund raiser.
4. Minnesota State Izaak Walton League's quaterly meeting will be held at the Minnesota Valley Chapter House. Board members were encouraged to attend both the meeting and the tour of the native restoration at the Bush Lake Chapter.

Scholarships

Jim updated board on scholarships.

Treasurer's Report

John presented a financial report was presented to the Board for review.

Rentals - Tim

1. Joe led discussion on looking at further definition of reduced rates for rentals to certain types of renters. Joe, Wes, Jim and Tim will meet to develop a proposal to bring to the board.
2. Only two rentals in August and the same for September.

Newsletter – Barb

Barb distributed latest Timberlines. Not clear if Marlys will be back to put together next month's issue. Barb will be back up for Marlys.

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

Meeting with Keith Ellison

by Karen Ostenso

Congressman Keith Ellison chaired a meeting on August 15 at Redeemer Lutheran Church on Glenwood Avenue. The primary issue was avoiding the steep cuts in funding for the EPA. He mentioned several past big accomplishments of the EPA, such as improvement in the water quality of the Mississippi River, creation of standards to limit motor vehicle emissions, and development of the Super Fund.

There were several brief presentations on removing leaded paint from older buildings, industrial chemical toxins, Red Lake First Nation healthful food availability, and the devastating effects if funding is diminished. It was very gratifying to see the church packed with attendees, including a good number of young people. The gathering took on the feeling of a rally due to all the applauding.

Mr. Ellison directly stated that activism is the primary impetus for change. All of the speakers emphasized that voicing opinions to legislators and government officials is something we can all do. Any form of communication, whether it be face-to-face, letter, postcard, phone call, or email, is beneficial. Please let your voice be heard!

Water Management

by Tim Johnson

Most citizens, me included, have little understanding of what goes on behind the scenes to manage our water. We expect lots of clean water in our faucets, lakes and streams but we don't want runoff making our landscape too wet either.

So we need people like Doug Snyder, Mississippi Watershed Management Organization Executive Director, who spoke about metropolitan water planning, funding, projects and initiatives at our August 22 Social/Educational meeting to explain things. He is a landscape architect by training and currently executive director of the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization. His presentation gave us a glimpse of all that goes on behind the scenes to manage water.

He showed us how they use computer programs to track how fast storm water moves along our ditches and culverts and where the bottlenecks are. Using this technology, they are able to plan the volume and placement of settling ponds to slow the water down. After hurricane Harvey's dump of rain on the Houston, TX area I wondered if they had a similar program in place to help plan for storm drainage. I've since learned that Texans' aversion to government interference through regulation and zoning restrictions contributed a manmade aspect to their natural disaster.

Not so riveting, but essential for understanding, was the explanation of how the watershed districts of our state came into existence. Based on the complexity of the system he described, it is no wonder there is so much variability in management of our waters.

If you missed the talk, and even if you were there, you might want to go to the [MWMO website](#) where you can see videos of their Stormwater Park and Learning Center next to the Lowry Bridge in NE Minneapolis.

Reprinted by permission from League of Women Voters' blog
“Water has to be a non-partisan life issue.”



The League of Women Voters Upper Mississippi River Region, in cooperation with 13 other organizations, sponsored a Community Water Conversation at Anoka Ramsey Community College on Tuesday, August 29. About 75 people attended, including members of the public, water professionals and elected officials. This meeting was part of the Governor's series of meetings with Minnesotans on how to reduce water pollution by 25% by the year 2025.

After opening remarks by Bruce Bomier from the Environmental Resources Council, small groups were asked to identify their top priorities for water quality improvement and how those priorities could be achieved. Reducing pollution and improving storm water practices were top priorities, along with improving environmental literacy and water education. Thoughtful discussions lead to recommendations for action such as increased installation of storm water ponds and rain gardens, and development of water education curriculum for school

children.

One small group suggested that Minnesota must “Set firm goals:

- Improve quality of water gardens by at least 25%
- Reduce number of trouble wells by 25%
- Capture 25% more rain water to recharge aquifers
- Increase number of leak detection technology for water mine pipes
- Reduce phosphorus levels by 25%
- Increase funding for storm water ponds by 25% to clean water”

A recurring theme through the evening was the need for helping people to understand the value of water and the impacts that their decisions have on water quality; coupled with societal change in how water protection is viewed by the public. For example, a small group recommended “To develop an environmentally literate citizenry:

- Start young – target youngest with hands-on, inquiry learning. Incorporate environmental themes in science and other learning outcomes. Develop continuity, not “everyone creates their own curriculum”.
- Empower groups like lake associations, community groups, river groups, etc – Give them a voice and process; help them work together.

Professional development opportunities for groups with large water impact (farmers, parks, water treatment, industry) focused on how it can benefit them or work for them (\$, time, etc.) vs “another regulation.”

Another recommendation in this vein:

“Analyze where, when and who, then increase training and education for water systems and human impact.

Example:

- Bump up school water education required standards (K-12)
- Train local and government agencies plus business owners on water strategies

- Support collaborative efforts for training on innovative green technologies affecting homeowners, businesses, cities
- Teach economic benefits of water education”

Participants also listed barriers to achieving the pollution reduction goals through the actions they had specified.

One group listed barriers to taking individual actions to improve water quality:

- Lack of education
- Fear of non-conformity
- Loss of profits
- Refusal to adapt to new practices
- Social and cultural values
- Specialized groups and their influence over mass audiences
- Selective media consumption

Insufficient funding and problems with government regulation were also listed as barriers.

All group suggestions and comments were recorded and sent to the Governor’s office for inclusion in the water meetings database. Anna Henderson, Water Advisor to Governor Mark Dayton was at the meeting. According to Henderson, “Governor Dayton wants to hear from every Minnesotan on what water quality goals they want the state to focus on in their region and what they think needs to happen to achieve those goals. The Governor and key members of his Cabinet are traveling all over the state to host town halls, but not everyone can make a town hall or wants to be in such a large setting. That is why it is so important that groups like the League of Women Voters organize their own community water meetings. The room was full and the conversation was energized – it was exciting to be there and clear that people are engaged and full of great ideas. Thank you to the League of Women Voters for hosting this important conversation. It is up to all of us to work to improve Minnesota’s water quality for future generations to come.”

The League of Women Voters Upper Mississippi River Region is a non-partisan organization aimed at protecting and improving water quality in the Mississippi River basin, from the Headwaters at Lake Itasca to southern Illinois. This group is made up of 50 local member Leagues from throughout the basin, plus the state Leagues of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and Illinois. Other sponsoring organizations for this meeting included the Anoka Conservation District, the Anoka County Water Task Force, Anoka Ramsey Community College, Izaak Walton League Breckenridge Chapter, Blaine Natural Resources Conservation Board, Conservation Minnesota, Coon Rapids Rotary, Coon Rapids Sustainability Roundtable, Environmental Resources Council, Fridley Environmental Quality and Energy Commission, League of Women Voters ABC, Lower Rum River Water Management Organization and Rice Creek Watershed.

Small group formulating recommendations



Moving the Bell Museum

Excerpts from a MinnPost article by Briana Bierschbach

Photos by the author

Imagine you're moving. And that a lot of the furniture came in boxes and was assembled inside your old house. And now that it's time to move, that stuff doesn't fit through the front door. "And you're wondering, why can't I fit this out of the doorway now?" said Andria Waclawski. "The problem is, you never did."

That's what it's been like to move the Bell Museum of Natural History — that is, if your "furniture" were massive, beloved historical dioramas and taxidermied moose.

Moving the collections was going to be difficult, but by the early 2000s, university officials also knew they couldn't keep them in their original home. The Minneapolis campus was already crowded, so plans were drafted for a new building on the university's St. Paul campus, which is home to the school's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. It would be a perfect fit, they thought.



A taxidermied moose is hoisted off a truck at the new museum location.



Specimens were cleaned and cataloged before they made the move.

At first, crews thought they could remove the canvas paintings from the walls of the old museum and attach them to walls in the new space. But the paintings were so well-adhered — good job, lead glue — that they wouldn't come off. That meant they would have to cut out the entire wall in chunks. But that was problematic, too. The dioramas were painted and constructed right into the old space, so cutting into them would be noticeable when it was all put back together. "These paintings were obviously never intended to move," said Wolf Magritte's Luke Boehnke.

Ultimately, crews cut the diorama walls in areas where the cuts wouldn't be as noticeable when put back together. Then they built a giant steel frame to lift large pieces of wall out at once.

Ultimately, the lead glue that made it impossible to peel the paintings away from the wall was so strong that it actually kept the walls intact as they were lifted out of place. "Without it, I don't think we would have been able to do it," Boehnke said.

But there was another small problem: getting these giant pieces out of the building. The front door wasn't going to be big enough, and the dioramas couldn't be cut apart any more. So crews decided to cut a giant hole in the side of the old Bell Museum, facing right out onto University Avenue. After the hole was cut, crews rolled all 10 of the dioramas on steel dollies.

From there, covered in shrink wrap, the dioramas traveled on a truck to get from the Minneapolis campus to the corner of Cleveland and Larpenteur Avenues. Once there, the dioramas were lowered into another giant opening in the new building and rolled into their new home.

"That was part of the nervousness," said Adrienne Wiseman, business & marketing director at the Bell Museum. "You can pull apart things and put the plants and animals back into place, but the paintings were really irreplaceable. They are masterworks."



Crews cleaned the old diorama paintings before they put in the foreground.

On a recent Tuesday, a massive painting of a still Minnesota lake was floating in the air. Construction crews were carefully lowering the diorama until it landed in its final resting place in the new building. A taxidermied moose is supposed to stand in front of the painting, but it's still shrouded in plastic somewhere else in the new Bell Museum.



The museum's elk was cleaned before it went to the new space.

On another diorama, which will eventually feature a large, bellowing elk, crews were peeling away tissue paper, washing over the wall with a light solution and filling in the lines where the painting was cut. New lighting — brighter than in the old, dark museum — showed them exactly what the public will see when they enter the building for the first time next year.

Crews were hurriedly working across the space, trying to meet a handful of construction deadlines this month. Work on the building is supposed to finish soon, with the exhibits set up and ready for the public next summer. The new museum will also include a planetarium in the center of the building, which is now just a dark room filled with steel beams that reach to the ceiling.

The new facility will also offer new interpretations of the old exhibits, and the dioramas will be organized by region of Minnesota, starting in the north. There will also be one new diorama: a walk-through exhibit taking visitors back 12,000 years, when woolly mammoths roamed the region and glaciers cut through to create Minnesota's modern environment.

For the museum's staff, the whole process has been revelatory. In removing the paintings, they were unsealed and cleaned for the first time since the building opened. Staff members had no idea how dusty and dark the paintings had become. Specimens were cleaned off to reveal their true colors, which were sometimes dramatically different from the way they'd looked in the museum for the last several decades. Jaques also painted little creatures, like owls, on the edges of walls that were eventually covered by pieces of diorama.

For the full article go to <https://www.minnpost.com/education/2017/08/bell-wheels-how-minnesotas-only-natural-history-museum-got-minneapolis-st-paul>



Front entrance of the Bell currently under construction.



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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

September 26 - Barb Franklin
October 24 - Tim & Lori Johnson
November 21 -



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