



# TIMBERLINES

W. J. Breckenridge Chapter  
Izaak Walton League  
June 2018

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



## COMING EVENTS

### JUNE

- 12 Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
- 26 Social/Educational Meeting 7:30 pm  
Climate Change with climate scientist,  
Sam Potter

### JULY

- 10 Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
- 24 Social/Educational Meeting 7:30 pm  
Omashkooz: Returning a Native – Mike  
Schrage on elk restoration

### AUGUST

- 14 Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
- 28 Social/Educational Meeting 7:30 pm

### OCTOBER

"Living Soil: A Universe Underfoot" is the topic for this year's Nobel Conference at Gustavus Adolphus College in St Peter on October 2 & 3. For more information and to register go to [gustavus.edu/events/nobelconference/2018/](http://gustavus.edu/events/nobelconference/2018/)

**Social/Educational Meeting:  
Climate Change with climate  
scientist, Sam Potter  
June 26, 2018**

The public is welcome to our social/educational meeting on June 26, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. 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.

Climate change is a global problem with impacts unique to every spot on Earth. Dr. Sam Potter will discuss the "big picture" of global climate change, projected impacts for Minnesota and what meaningful climate action looks like.

Sam, a climate scientist currently living in the Minneapolis with his wife, Caitlin, grew up in West Central Minnesota and attended the U of M, Morris. He learned about climate change science from researchers at NOAA's Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory in Princeton, where he received a doctorate in Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, and did postdoctoral research at the University of Washington.

If you can provide light refreshments for our Tuesday meetings, please contact

Barbara Franklin  
763-657-1907

Or [bbfrankli@gmail.com](mailto:bbfrankli@gmail.com)

June 26 - ?

July 24 - ?

Aug 28 - ?



## Board of Directors meeting minutes May 8, 2018

A quorum of board members were present: Steve, Tim, John, Wes, Barb, Dennis, Larry and Dick.

Meeting called to order with recitation of the Ike's member pledge: *To strive for the purity of water, the clarity of air, and 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.*

Steve reminded us that Dave Zentner will be speaking at our May Social/Ed meeting. Discussion was had on getting the word out.

Dick led issues discussion:

- We discussed who to invite to speak at our June meeting. Mike Schrage has already agreed to speak on Elk Reintroduction for the July meeting
- Resolutions passed at Minnesota State Convention were reviewed
- Idea of converting the north arm section of Champlin's Oxbow Park to prairie was discussed. Should we help with funding if it goes forward?
- League of Women Voters will have a speaker on the Upper Mississippi River on May 14 at 6:30 pm at Andover City Hall.

Steve recapped Pancake Breakfast results. Plant sale suffered due to late spring. Raffle ticket purchases were down somewhat from last year. Volunteer numbers were down. Two new memberships were received.

Tim provided information on Energy grant – Minnesota Division energy grant proposal was submitted and positive initial response received, awaiting final approval. Vermiculite in the attic was tested for asbestos to determine if abatement is needed. Results were less than 1% asbestos so abatement not needed. It was agreed to press forward ASAP with shingle replacement, soffit repair and increasing attic insulation/ventilation. Committee (Joe, Jim and Tim) will present plans at next board meeting.

Rental report: We have nine rentals scheduled in June.

Boulevard garden: Arrival of native forbs from Prairie Moon Nursery expected next week to plant along River Road amongst the "no mow grass". Will require deer repellent treatments periodically for the first season. Funds (up to \$500) to support this project have been donated by members.

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*clarity of air, and 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.*

Marlys announced that after 20 years as an award winning editor, she is ready to pass on the torch to someone new. Barb volunteered to publish our next newsletter while we search for a new editor. The Board Members expressed appreciation to Marlys for her service.

Steve reviewed items coming up on our calendar including the Minnesota State Division Convention at the Audubon Center of the North.

Dick led issues discussion:

- Dave Zentner will be our speaker in May on the Upper Mississippi River Project.
- Dick announced we have five members who have indicated they will be attending the convention. He reviewed some of the proposed by-law changes to be voted upon and the Moose resolution our Chapter submitted.
- Should we sell or give away our plant sale leftovers to the Champlin Garden Club. Dick discussed options with the Champlin Garden Club and they have decided they will assess the income they receive and decide if they can make a donation to our Chapter.
- Migratory Bird Treaty weakening is being discussed in DC. We should call our Congressional representatives to object.

Steve shared request from Brooklyn Park for financial support of their Opinion Survey for which they have already received \$10,000 from the Trust for Public Land and for which they are seeking an additional \$4200. This is part of the City's Ten-Year Parks and Recreation Reinvestment Plan.

Steve led a discussion on membership recruitment. Ideas presented:

- Subsidizing new members from Chapter funds
- Outdoor nature trips might attract new members. Larry suggested an August 4<sup>th</sup> trip to Blaine Preserve.

Pancake Breakfast: Jim has prepared volunteer sign-up sheets for set-up on Saturday May 5 and duties the day of the Pancake Breakfast, Sunday May 6.

Wes has donated a big new mailbox with large address numbers to help people find the Chapter House.

Energy grant – Tim will submit energy grant application to State Division based on estimates from contractors. We are seeking maximum \$2,000 to improve insulation in the Chapter House.

## Community engagement for clean water



Dave Zentner, long time Duluth Ike and former Ikes' National President, was still spreading the conservation message at age 82 as our speaker at the Chapter's May meeting. His topic was the Upper Mississippi River Initiative and how we can leverage "Community Engagement for Clean Water." This Initiative involves Izaak Walton League divisions of the states of MN, WI, IA and IL, states that all contribute significantly to the large "dead zone" in the Gulf of Mexico.

Clean water, agriculture and habitat are the vision of the UMRI. Dave's message was that we need to change the game from relying on Congress or the Legislature to instead relying on establishing relationships with people both in cities and on farms. We can do this, he said, by focusing on learning from those who are being successful both at farming and at protecting our waters, and then sharing the success stories. Regenerative farming, where the soil is improved, not just sustained, should be a goal. Dave shared a video (<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Snkrkqg4Uek>)



about Seth Watkin's successful farm in Iowa that practices regenerative methods. He added that we need to seek common ground, trying to understand farmers' realities as they try to make a living and seek cost effective strategies.

Also part of the project is the development of effective conservation-based land rental contracts since a large percentage of land is farmed not by the owners, but by renters.

Current work includes drainage system evaluations, water monitoring and developing partnerships with communities, specifically in our Minnesota rivers. Dave said the UMRI is assessing upstream drainage and hydrologic changes which have been leading to flooding, erosion, and sedimentation.



Below is a list of UMRI projects:

- Minnesota River Hydrology Report April 2018
- Minnesota River Drainage system issues and engagement
- Buffalo County land use and road infrastructure damage assessment - 2018
- Chapter Outreach - 2018
- Absentee land owner contract workshops – 2018
- Partnership development – ongoing
- Protecting public trust resources white paper - 2018
- Social networking and Website – May 2018
- Outreach and discussions – Ongoing
- Austin WQ monitoring - 2017 and 2018
- Winona Area WQ Monitoring - 2018
- Rochester Area WQ monitoring - 2018
- Success story database – ongoing
- Tool Kit: A how to guide

*Tim Johnson*



Hanna Docter, David Hainlen, Katie Brueckman, and Kayla Barry

## 2018-19 Scholarship Recipients Selected

By Jim Arnold

Four of the six talented students selected by the Breckenridge Chapter scholarship committee were introduced at the May 22 meeting. These are excellent students, but also display exceptional commitment to environmental causes. The scholarship committee was able to select six students this year because of two recent \$500 donations

**Kayla Berry**, a graduate of Maple Grove High School, attends the University of Minnesota at the College of Science and Engineering and plans to graduate with a degree in Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering with an emphasis on Bioproducts Engineering. She wants to work with renewable fuels or biopolymers to design products that would replace the nonrenewable fuels and plastics we commonly use today. Kayla says that since she was 16 she has been dedicated to renewability and trying to better the environment and our energy consumption.

This past year Kayla has worked in the Soil Testing and Research Analytical Lab as a student lab tech at the University. The lab tests soil and plant nutrients for researchers so that they can determine how changes in the environment are affecting crops and soil quality. She says working for the lab has

helped her learn more about soil, plant and soil sciences. This summer she will be an intern with the Metropolitan Council working on a solids dewatering project for wastewater treatment to conserve water and generate renewable energy.

The current political climate that has been actively working to reverse renewable energy initiatives, from pushing for more coal mining in the US to pulling out of the Paris agreement, has greatly concerned Kayla. She says, "This political climate reminded me that the fight for environmental justice is not over, and the political/economic side is just as important as the scientific one. I have become more interested in commercializing biotechnologies and determining how they can be more cost effective than the petroleum or fossil fuel based alternatives and to reinforce the motive for more companies to move towards renewable alternatives to save money with the benefit of reducing carbon emissions."

**Kathryn Breuckman** of Andover High School recently finished her sophomore year at St. Thomas. She plans to finish her undergraduate studies with a major in Chemistry and a minor in Biology. After her undergraduate studies Katie will decide between graduate school or medical school

for her future studies. She says, "Ideally, I will graduate as an MD-PhD being able to practice medicine and research disease causing chemicals in the environment to work comprehensively to improve the fate of the environment and human health."

This past year Katie has been immersed in aquatic environmental issues through chemistry research. She wrote, "Becoming more aware of human impact of chemicals entering surface water has been eye opening. From pharmaceuticals and pesticides to fragrances from soaps, the sheer amount of chemicals entering surface and drinking water is astounding. Atrazine, PCB's, and hormone steroids are just a few of the chemicals found in the environment that can cause reproductive issues in aquatic wildlife, and at high enough concentrations, potentially impact human fertility."

This summer she will conduct research with the chemistry department which she hopes will help her make some decisions about her future studies. The research team will focus on the environmental chemistry of organic contaminants. Kathryn's specific project will be on the photolysis of the steroid trendione to investigate the degradation and spontaneous recovery of this steroid due to UV light.

In her spare time Katie enjoys a variety of outdoor activities which have helped shape her environmental interests: cross country running, Nordic skiing and rock climbing.

**Sophie Vrba**, a graduate of Maple Grove High School, has just finished her junior year at the University of Minnesota. It is likely that after graduation she will apply at MD/MPH programs that will focus on clinical research and public policy. She writes, "I want to use my love for science and passion for research to help people. Health is impacted by a variety of environmental factors, which is why I continue to be interested in both fields."

Sophie has continued her strong interest in combating climate change by becoming involved on campus in a number of administrative boards. This year she served as the president of the College of Biological Administrative Boards on campus and worked to make sure sustainability has been embedded in their initiatives. Next year she will serve as the CBS Senator in the Student Senate

where she will write policy for protecting the environment.

This year Sophie was co-president of iGEM team at the U of M. The iGEM team creates a project that is worked on throughout the year and then goes to Boston to present at an International Science Fair. Last fall's iGEM project found a bacterium strain that produces a compound that is toxic to the invasive Zebra Mussel. Her group tried to engineer a strain that could be used to target Zebra Mussels in local lakes.

This summer Sophie will be studying in Spain. She hopes to be able to join us at our August meeting.

**David Hainlen**, a graduate of Osseo High School, recently completed his freshman year at North Dakota State. His future educational plans are to continue pursuing a degree in biological sciences, with a minor in Botany. After that, he plans on applying to graduate school for a master's degree. David plans on becoming a wildlife biologist, hopefully working in the Boundary Waters! He'd also like to take part in university sponsored field work as well, such as field surveys of flowering prairie plants or work with reptiles.

David writes, "The experiences that most impacted my views on environmental issues in the past year were the passages of H.R. 3905 and H.R. 3115 anti-boundary waters bills, and the appointment of Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke. These events impacted my view because I have been fighting for the boundary waters for many years, and to see all that progress beginning to reverse has made me very mad. I am most interested in protections for the Boundary Waters, because that is where I have made so many great memories, and where I hope to work in the near future! I plan on keeping the pressure on my representatives by sending letters, emailing, and calling."

At NDSU David helps manage the reptile collection and hopes to start research on them as well. He presented at NDSU'S Darwin Days, which is an exhibition biodiversity dedicated to Darwin's legacy. David says, "I presented my wealth of knowledge on carnivorous plants. I have also joined The Wildlife Society Club and the Horticulture and Forestry Club.

**Hanna Dockter**, a recent graduate of Andover High School will be attending the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire next fall to major in Environmental

Sciences. Hanna lists an Outdoor Adventure class at Andover as further sparking her interests in the outdoors and pursuing a career in environmental science. The Outdoor Adventure class inspired her to take biology and environmental science courses at Anoka Ramsey Community College. In her scholarship application Hanna wrote, "I hope that one day I will be fortunate enough to pass my knowledge and passion about the environment to younger generations so that the future may be a healthier place on earth than the current state."

Hanna is a National Honor Society member. She enjoys a variety of outdoor pursuits and has been involved in a number of environmental volunteer activities at school and at Springbrook Nature Center.

**Lillian Gale**, a recent graduate of Blaine High School plans to attend Iowa State University beginning next fall to major in Biological Systems Engineering. She wrote, "I chose this career because these engineers combine elements of engineering, biology and chemistry to create solutions that combat environmental problems. My dream job would be to work in developing countries to improve clean water access."

Lillian has participated in many environmental clubs and groups. She says that those groups have showed her that people have to take action to change what is currently happening environmentally. She also enjoys a variety of outdoor activities and is a strong supporter of wilderness ethics. One outdoor activity she enjoys is taking children from a day care center on walks to pick up trash. The group then returns to sort out the materials and learn which are recyclable.

*The Breckenridge Chapter has now awarded 86 five hundred dollar scholarships in the twenty years of the program. The main source of funding for these scholarships is an endowment fund established through the generosity of members. The endowment began with an initial donation from the estate of Irene Swanson in the summer of 1999, followed shortly thereafter by sizeable donations from Cynthia Haugland and Walter and Dorothy Breckenridge. The endowment continues to grow, thanks primarily to generous donations each year from Larry Swanson, Tom and Marilyn Breckenridge and John Breckenridge. When earnings from the endowment are not sufficient to cover the scholarships costs, fund raisers (like the annual silent auction) and special donations from*

*other members have been used. Thanks to all those members who have made it possible to support local young people as they study for their environmental careers. If you have questions about the Breckenridge Chapter scholarship program please contact one of the committee members: Jim Arnold, Judy Arnold, Melissa Sonnenberg or Charlie Taflin.*



**IWLA Resolution:**

**Preserving Moose: Monarch of Minnesota's North Woods**

Whereas: the moose is an icon of Wilderness in Minnesota; and

Whereas: the moose population in Minnesota is in danger of extinction due to many actions of humans; and

Whereas: it has been discovered that White Tail Deer spread a brain worm lethal to moose: and

Whereas: Deer spreading brain worm to moose is not the only lethal problem moose have, but most readily able to be controlled by management; and

Whereas: the brain worm is considered to be the main deciding factor of moose mortality according to MN. D.N.R., Grand Portage Band of Chippewa, Fond du Lac Band of Chippewa, Fish and Wildlife Div. of Alberta Canada and U. of M. School of Veterinary Medicine; and

Whereas: most persons in Minnesota strongly prefer to see the moose population increase over what it has become; and

Whereas: environmental conservationists and fair minded hunters strongly agree the moose population needs aid from humans in order to viably survive in future;

Therefore be it resolved: The Walter J Breckenridge Chapter MN DIV, Izaak Walton League of America on November 13, 2017 advises the MN DNR and/or the Minnesota Legislators to move to decrease the deer population in the MN Boreal Conifer Forest area for benefit of expanding Moose populations by extending the bag limit on Deer and/or extending the season of Deer hunting in order to vastly decrease the Deer population in and about the Moose Management Area

Further be it resolved: the perimeter of this Moose Management Area should extend considerably beyond the Moose Preservation areas in order to prevent occasional migration of Deer into the Moose Preservation area.

Passed unanimously by the Breckenridge Chapter, Izaak Walton League

Submitted by Dick Brown



**W. J. Breckenridge Chapter  
Izaak Walton League of America  
8816 West River Road  
Brooklyn Park MN 55444**



**If you would like to submit an article for the Timberlines, please send it to  
Barbara Franklin at: [bbfrankli@gmail.com](mailto:bbfrankli@gmail.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.”**

### **Chapter House Rental Rates**

Non-Members:

(damage deposit: \$300.00; \$200 for previous renters)

Monday through Thursday ..... \$275.00

Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Holidays ..... \$350.00

Members:(damage deposit \$100.00)

Monday through Thursday .....\$125.00

Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Holidays ..... \$175.00

Boy Scouts:(damage deposit \$50.00)

Overnights.....\$50.00\*

Rates and terms subject to change without notice; please  
contact the Chapter for special circumstances.

Rental Chairperson: Tim Johnson  
(Leave messages at 763-561-5364)