



TIMBERLINES



W. J. Breckenridge Chapter
Izaak Walton League
February 2020

www.breckenridgeikes.org

COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2020

- 11 Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
- 18 Social/Education meeting 7:30 pm
Don Arnosti –
Effective Conservation in Our Times

MARCH 2020

- 11 Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
- 25 Social/Education meeting 7:30 pm
Darby & Geri Nelson – *For Love of a River*

APRIL 2020

- 14 Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
- 18 State Division Spring Meeting - Duluth
- 28 Social/Education meeting 7:30 pm
Peter Sorenson - Invasive Species

MAY 2020

- 3 Pancake Breakfast
- 12 Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
- 26 Social/Education meeting 7:30 pm

(Please note date change)

Social/Education meeting:

Tuesday, February 18, 7:30 p.m.

Don Arnosti

Effective Conservation in Our Times

Don Arnosti is a longstanding conservation leader in Minnesota. During the past 30 years he's been Executive Director of Audubon Minnesota and the Izaak Walton League, Minnesota Division. He's also served as conservation and program directors with the Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy, the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, Audubon and the Minnesota Environmental Partnership. He's been at the forefront of Minnesota policy development to protect our forests, prairies and wetlands during this time.

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)

Minutes - Breckenridge Chapter IWLA BOD meeting minutes February 11, 2020

7:10 pm Guest speaker, James Buesing, gave a Powerpoint presentation about “Dark Sky” Lighting guideline initiatives along the Mississippi River Critical Corridor Area (MRCCA).

Objective: Reduce lighting on the river...to enhance the night sky reflective experience. He passed out an outline with strategies to educate and include ordinances or oversight to the increasing human lighting that is happening which would lower/eliminate excessive lighting. Looking for partnerships and support (not financial at this time). Presentation/Q&A went 30 minutes. The IWL group learned a lot and it was left that we are in agreement & encourage Jim’s ideas to address riverside lighting so all can enjoy, both day and night.

Board of directors meeting, called to order by Steve Schaust at 7:40 pm
Members present: Steve, Barb, Karen, Jim, Dick, Jerry and Wendy (Joe at 8:30)

Meeting agenda was distributed, IWLA Member pledge recited.

Calendar: Review of dates of upcoming BOD & Member meetings and speakers – Noted: May 2 & 3 are reserved for Pancake Breakfast.
Also noted: MEMBER Meeting for February changed to February 18 due to Caucus scheduled for February 25.

Issues: Dick Brown reviewed the handout that he emailed to the BOD regarding the Oxbow Park Prairie Improvement. The Champlin Garden Club (met 2/10/20) was in agreement with Dick’s plan/outline. This is a pretty big project, Dick is asking for a Co-Chair (hopefully Tim Johnson) and also for other members to help him out when he makes the 5½ mile trek from his yard to the property with his mower, a roller and also his tractor which would need to make the trek – he is asking for someone to accompany him on each trip. Dick has checked into all details to make this project happen, seeding, watering, spraying, etc.

Meetings will need to be set up with City (Mayor, Park commission, city council?), and also a couple of meetings with the Champlin Garden Club. Funding on chart is reasonable, possibly investigate alternate equipment that might be available from city. Dick is willing to use his equipment – if a trailer is strong enough to carry mower, this could be considered. Time will be of the essence with spraying, mowing, etc. Would like Dick to share Draft 1 and need to enlist help from Garden Club and City in any manner possible. Jerry Steele volunteered to attend meeting with City of Champlin to garner their cooperation to develop a plan. Dick will talk to Tim about Co-chairing this project with him – Dick also mentioned that he will be celebrating his 93rd birthday in April. Timeline noted for first spraying, approximately mid-April depending on height of vegetation, a 2nd application June(?). Fall seed planting is the easiest/best time. Steve suggested setting up meetings ASAP with Garden Club & a few IWL folks.

MN Division: Steve reported that VP & 2nd VP, Willis and Louise both resigned at state meeting at REI in Bloomington. Unsure of reasons for resignations. They were going to be part of team to revitalize and restructure IWL state with Steve. Not sure if they were still going to participate in this effort. New VP: Jen (last name?) will cover until next full election.

Website: Barb and Tim working together to transfer domain from GoDaddy to Wix.
*Deadline for *Timberlines*: February 10

Chapter House and Grounds: Discussion about bathroom remodel – possibility of working on one bathroom at a time and still give option to rent hall. A suggestion to begin construction earlier than March 2. Jerry can have bathroom remodel plans set up for membership meeting next week. Confirmed Wednesday shopping at Menards. Joe summarized flooring, ceramic tile on wainscot, new fixtures, sinks, toilets, etc. Steve asked to keep the existing toilets so he can use at his cabin. Sheetrock is sound, cement board not needed. However, Jerry suggested using water resistant sheetrock and add some insulation between rooms, but stripping off wallpaper might be just as labor intensive.

Membership: Brief discussion about corporate memberships. More discussion about details if we want this option offered in the future. Give this some thought and get ideas for strategic planning.

Spring projects: Tree trimming (ash tree); seed planting on grounds (to help mitigate buckthorn); John Moriarity planning to review property – Jim will call to set up visit in next couple of weeks; Keys will be needed for two board members

Still need to have someone to step up into Treasurer position. Jim will request a report from John every other month if possible. A new potential board member attended the earlier presentation, she introduced herself, and we are hopeful that she may want to step into this role. She left before the BOD meeting started as she had a prior commitment.

Scholarship – Jim: Approx. \$61,000 in foundation. A donation from parents of one of the recipients of the scholarship. There are currently four people on the scholarship committee. This seems to be an appropriate number on committee at this time. We are fortunate to be doing well with the scholarship funding.

Membership: Letter from Mary Ellen Vetter, two members were given complimentary memberships for all of their volunteer services contributed to the league. They have not renewed and we'll ask Mary Ellen to resend letters. Joe asked to see if Mary Ellen could CC: us on a list of people who have not renewed their memberships in case we are aware of personal

Jerry noted that his first exposure to the IWL was the Geocache Hollow Log on the property – Barb has been checking on it periodically. Someone posted in October that the log needs to be maintained – Barb stated that ants and mice have become occupants of the Geocache Logs in the past. Steve will check it out – or possibly Jerry will try to find it again.

Meeting adjourned 9:02 p.m.

In memory of Marlys R. (Melberg) Taflin



Taflin, Marlys R. (nee: Melberg) Age 81 of Champlin. Passed away peacefully on February 10, 2020. Marlys, "the consummate grandmother," loved children and was loved by them, as well as by everyone who knew her. An Anoka native and life-long Minnesotan, she loved travel and adventure, living for four years in Germany and trekking the Himalayas, among other things. When something interested her she threw herself into it wholeheartedly, whether producing award-winning quilts or sewing closets full of clothes for her grandchildren. Her twinkly smile and sense of humor never left her, even as words and memory failed her towards the end. Preceded in death by her parents, Emma and Louis Melberg, her sister Lucille Parker, and brother Robert. Survived by her loving husband of 61 years, Charles, her siblings Phyllis (Allen) Reilley, Muriel Compton, Jack (Louise), and Dan, her children Daniel (Gretchen), David (Cathy), Mary (Mohamed) Elafandi, and Lori (Pat) Laflin, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Funeral service will be 11 AM, Thursday, February 13th at Salem Covenant Church, 2655 5th St NW, New Brighton, with a gathering 1 hour prior to the service. Roseville Memorial Chapel 651-631-2727.

Though she has not come to meetings for some time, Marlys and her husband Charlie have been well-loved members of the Breckenridge Chapter for many years. She will be sorely missed.

Feeding the world—opinion

Most people agree that the World's degradation problems are caused by over consumption or over population. Everyone does not agree that it is both. Some don't agree it's either or that there is a problem. But there is.

There is another quotient to the problems which few seem to acknowledge: Our vast shipment overseas of agricultural products: corn, soybeans, meat, wheat, lumber and anything that draws nutrients and water from the soil that is shipped abroad removes these nutrients that must be replaced. Replaced by either decades of time(fallow) or artificially.

“Artificially” means fertilizers either mined from the ground (potash, potassium, lime) leaving vast areas of disturbed landscape and habitat; or manufactured from petroleum products, (nitrogen). Irrigation is also needed in vast quantities to produce many agricultural products, thus depleting and contaminating underground water sources, which in turn can diminish surface waters.

Environmentally minded conservationists would be upset by this scenario, but we haven't heard much about it from anyone.

If we are to bring back significant amounts of prairies, woodlands and wetlands we need to reverse this idea of “feeding the world,” mostly for profit. Also, to protect rivers, lakes, ephemeral wetlands and groundwater from contamination and the habitats wildlife need to survive; we must reverse this trend of feeding an overpopulated world. Any Nation that is unable to feed itself is overpopulated and needs to address that problem through time. (Floods, droughts, and aftermath of war may be exemptions.)

Such controls may seem overly drastic and will probably lessen our economy and standard of living. However, these things will happen eventually anyway in a catastrophic way for future generations if we don't tend to reasonable restraint on the exploitation of our natural amenities.

Overproduction, overpopulation and overconsumption; all of which contribute to climate

change-and human overpopulation is the key problem everywhere.

What will Nations do to protect their amenities for future generations of flora, fauna and humans? What will our Nation do? It depends on our own knowledgeable and adamant citizenry!

Dick Brown

Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter Defenders of Soil, Air, Woods, Waters and Wildlife Scholarship Announcement

The Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America (IWLA) is soliciting scholarship applications from high school seniors and current college students who have a strong interest in, and commitment to, the environment. The \$600.00 scholarships are awarded annually and are potentially renewable for up to four years. Scholarship winners will also receive the benefits of a student membership in the IWLA.

The Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter of the IWLA is located on the Mississippi River in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota. These scholarships were established by the Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter to encourage students from the area to pursue their interests in the environment and environmental issues as part of their post-secondary studies.

The IWLA is a grassroots environmental conservation organization that was founded in 1922 to combat water pollution in lakes and streams. The motto of the IWLA is *“Defenders of Soil, Air, Woods, Waters and Wildlife.”*

Application Process

Please provide your name, address, phone number, e-mail address, current school, a transcript which includes current and previous year’s grade point averages, and the names and contact information for two people willing to act as references on your behalf. (At least one should be a teacher or school administrator who knows you as a student.) In addition, please respond to the following four items. In the interest of economy and conservation complete applications should be limited to two typed pages.

- 1) What are your future educational plans and career goals?
- 2) What do you perceive as the most significant environmental issues facing our planet? Which issue interests you the most and why?
- 3) Describe your current involvement in environmental issues and outdoor activities.
- 4) Provide any other information you think might be relevant and helpful in evaluating your application.

Applications should be mailed to:



Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America
8816 West River Road North
Brooklyn Park, MN 55444

(763) 561-5364
www.breckenridgeikes.org



Applications must be received by April 11, 2020

*** 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
- Brooklyn Park Liquor (Liquor Barrel)..... 8520 Edinburgh Center Dr, Brooklyn Park 55444
- Creative Blooms 9550 Noble Parkway, Brooklyn Park 55443
- Dairy Queen Grill & Chili 11200 Aquilla Ave N, Champlin
- Down the Street Nutrition 1432 85th Ave N Brooklyn Park 55444
- El Rancho Restaurant 1408 85th Ave N Brooklyn Park, 55444
- Hudy's Café 11350 Aquila Dr. N., Champlin, 55316
- Love That Olive 13551 Grove Drive, Maple Grove 55311
- Mister Car Wash 8508 Xylon Ave N, Brooklyn Park
- Noble Parkway Mobil 9500 Noble Parkway, Brooklyn Park 55443
- Papa John's Pizza 4610 85th Ave N Brooklyn Park 55443
- Three Squares Restaurant 12690 Arbor Lakes Pkwy, Maple Grove 55369
- Top Golf 6420 Camden Ave, Brooklyn Center 55430
- 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 many members and friends of the Chapter who donated or purchased auction items or made extra donations to the scholarship fund. The silent auction raised more than \$1,300 which will help provide \$600 scholarships for local students who have a strong interest in, and a commitment to the environment.

Auction Donators:

Judy Arnold	Dick & Vera Brown	Barb Franklin	Bernie Jaspers
Tim & Lori Johnson	Darby & Geri Nelson	Karen Ostenso	Janet Tripp
Charlie & Marlys Taflin	Mary Ellen Vetter		

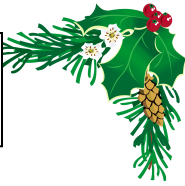
Special thanks also to:



Carol Knutson of Spectacular Catering for providing a delicious meal, the many folks who provided desserts and all those who set up and decorated the Chapter House.



Thanks to Charlie Tafin and Karen Ostenso, who provided the pictures from our very enjoyable Holiday Party!



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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
Deadline is the 10th day of each month.

All articles in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the position of the Breckenridge Board of Directors. The Editor reserves the right to edit material as necessary.



Our speaker, Siah St. Clair, entertained us with his photographic adventures

