



Timberlines

W. J. Breckenridge Chapter Izaak Walton League February 2015

www.breckenridgeikes.org



February



- 10 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00
- 24 **Social/Educational Meeting 7:30**
Don Arnosti, Conservation Chair for
the Minnesota Division

March



- 10 Board of Directors Meeting
7:00
- 24 **Social/Educational Meeting 7:30**
Paul Danicic, Executive Director of
the Friends of the Boundary Waters
Wilderness

April



- 14 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00
- 28 **Social/Educational Meeting 7:30**
Bell Museum ? checking on a date

May



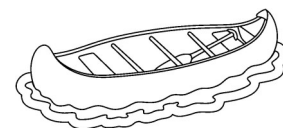
- 12 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00
- 26 **Social/Educational Meeting 7:30**

Social/Educational Meeting Speaker February 24, 2015 7:30 PM

Don Arnosti, Conservation Program Director for the Minnesota Division of the Izaak Walton League, will speak at our Chapter meeting, February 24th. Don will focus on the work Ikes are doing to focus on our statewide priorities: Wetland and Watershed protection, sulfide and silica sand mining, and addressing Global Warming through increased use of clean, renewable energy and energy conservation.

Come join in a lively conversation with your questions and your concerns.

Don has been one of Minnesota's leading environmental advocates for the past 25 years, working with such organizations as Audubon, Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy, the Minnesota Environmental Partnership, the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, and, most recently, the Izaak Walton League. He has lead efforts to protect our forests, wetlands and agriculture. He has a degree in Biology from Lawrence University, and enjoys camping, hiking, canoeing and fishing whenever possible.



Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter of the Izaak Walton League

January 13, 2015

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 13thBoard of Directors Meeting
February 10thBoard of Directors Meeting
February 24thSocial/Educational Meeting
March 10thBoard of Directors Meeting
March 24thSocial/Educational Meeting

Attendees: Steven Schaust, Patrice Lindgren, John Farley, Jim Arnold, Dick Brown, Tim Johnson, Barbara Franklin, Wes Hendrickson, Roger Williams, Joe Klohs **Guest:** Marlys Carls-Steiskal

Issues/Events.....Dick/Larry/Jim

Social/Education Meeting Speakers

February - Don Arnosti, Conservation Chair for the Minnesota Division

March – *Paul Danicic*, Executive Director of the Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness

April – Bell Museum ? checking on a date

The holiday party was attended by 58 chapter members.

The Silent Auction items and dinner donations raised \$951 for the Kitchen Remodel Fund.

Thank you to all of the volunteers that helped make the party a success. A suggestion was made that we consider having a late summer gathering, like a corn feed or ice cream social.

A motion was made by Wes Hendrickson to donate \$100 to the music department at Champlin High School. Motion passed.

Friends of the Minnesota Scientific Natural Areas is now incorporated with the state.

In Champlin, Dick Brown along with The League of Women Voters are forming the Champlin Bee Team.

A briefing was given to the Champlin Garden Club and they were also interested in participating. For more information, see the January 2015 Timberlines article on “RESTORING HABITAT FOR NATIVE POLLINATORS”.

This year’s Minnesota Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment 5th Anniversary Celebration and Forum will be held from Noon to 6 p.m. on Thursday, January 15 at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest.

Winter Board of Directors’ and Strategic Planning Session is being held on January 23rd and 24th, at the REI in

Bloomington. The Friday evening social gathering will be held at the Minnesota Valley Chapter.

Chapter House & GroundsJoe/Jim/Steve

Fireplace repair update - We continue to review our options, once the weather warms up a thorough inspection will be completed and a final plan and cost will be provided to the board. We are looking at the work to hopefully be completed in the May/June/July timeframe.

Kitchen remodel update – The first taskforce organization meeting will be held January 16th. The taskforce will be responsible for providing suggestions and directions to the Board of Directors. The goal is to have a very good, code compliant, working kitchen. This project will require that we get building, plumbing, and electric permits. A generous donation was given to the Chapter for the kitchen fund, but there is still a need to raise funds.

Kitchen Taskforce members: Joe Klohs, Taskforce Chair and Board Member

Board Members: Steve Schaust, Patrice Lindgren, Barb Franklin

Chapter Members: Diane Sannes, Judy Klohs, Jerry Steele, Jennifer Leslie, Kathy Larson

Newsletter Marlys

Update was given.

Treasurer’s ReportJohn

Update was given.

Scholarship CommitteeJim

The Chapter has received several generous scholarship donations. It’s very likely that we will have four scholarships recipients again this year. The 2015 scholarship information will be mailed out to the local

schools and has already been posted to our website.

Webmaster Barb

Barb will be meeting with Gretchen Sabel who has volunteered to help with updating the Chapter’s

website. It was decided that the Chapter’s resolutions and position statements should be included on our website.

RentalsTim

There are a total of 7 rentals for January.

Membership.....Lorraine

• There were no updates available at the time of the meeting.

Winter Party 2015



Update on Scholarship Recipients

By Jim Arnold

The Breckenridge Chapter has now awarded 66 five hundred dollar scholarships to local students. I think you'll enjoy catching up with the activities of the four quality students we are currently sponsoring.

Karin Sather, a Champlin Park High School graduate, is a senior at St. Olaf College. Last fall she began working in collaboration with researchers at Oak Ridge National Laboratories and a professor at St. Olaf to create a model of stream carbon and nutrient dynamics from their extensive set of data. Ultimately, the model will be utilized to investigate how Walker Branch (a stream in Tennessee) will respond to climate change. In describing her future plans Karin says, "I am in the process of applying to graduate school in biological statistics at schools with a strong history of environmental application. I am thrilled to finally combine my love of environmental research with my love of quantitative research as I am preparing to leave St. Olaf." Karin expressed her gratitude to the Breckenridge Chapter for supporting her four years at St. Olaf: "It has helped alleviate some of the financial stress of attending a four year university and encourage me to continue in my environmental research endeavors."

Kristen Peterson, a graduate of Maple Grove High School, is a senior at the University of Minnesota. She writes, "This past year seems like it has flown by! Over the last 8 months, I worked with the Metropolitan Council as an Environmental Specialist intern for the Southwest LRT project. This experience was a lot different than anything I had done previously, but I

learned more than I ever expected. I had the chance to experience a policy-based approach to environmental issues, especially with wetlands and contaminated properties. During the fall semester, I was also accepted into the Undergraduate Leadership Program at the U of M's Institute on the Environment. This is a group of really amazing people interested in all different aspects of sustainability, and over the course of this year we will have the chance to work on leadership skills and sustainability issues. Please thank everyone for helping make all of these amazing experiences possible for me!"

Kaelyn Williams, a graduate of Cooper High School, is a junior at University of Minnesota-Duluth. She writes: "I have decided to change my studies to a double major in Environment and Outdoor Education and Latin American Studies. Through my Outdoor Skills course, we spent a weekend up in the Boundary Waters- a great experience along with moose sightings! Becoming more involved in the Outdoor Program, a highlight was shadowing the Porcupine Mountains backpacking trip in late September. While staying involved in the Nordic Ski Club, we recently went to Michigan for the Sisu Ski Fest. Outside of school, I continue to volunteer with the Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute- Northland (primarily with their adaptive downhill ski and snowboard program), and have begun occasional volunteering at Hartley Nature Center (a highlight being their Howl-O-Ween event). In place of cross country, I have decided to take on more trail races, my favorite having been the Wild Duluth Race."

(Continued on page 5)

Update on Scholarship Recipients

Continued from page 4

Jack Madsen, a graduate of Andover High School, is a freshman at North Dakota State University

University with plans to major in Microbiological Sciences. He is interested in investigating the curative power of certain plants as well as modify strains of plants that can function and grow abundantly without fertilizers. His favorite class fall semester was a rigorous biology course. Jack writes that he is considering a new direction in a field related to biology. Away from the classroom he has continued his interest in hunting and other outdoor activities like mountain biking. He has also gotten involved with NDSU's student government and an organization called Foundations of Leadership.

Applications for the Breckenridge Chapter Scholarship can be found in local schools and on the Chapter's website. If you have questions regarding the scholarship program please contact a committee member: Jim Arnold, Judy Arnold, Melissa Sonnenberg or Charlie Taflin.

IWLA, MN DIV,

WINTER BOARD MEETING, 1/24/15

There was a larger than normal group of Ikes at REI Conference Room in Bloomington. After slight contention, our Position Statement, Restoring Habitat for Native Pollinators passed unanimously. The position calls for eliminating or strict control of certain pesticides and supporting efforts to plant pollinator friendly species, wherever practical. The Position Statement was published in the January Timberlines in Resolution form. The Resolution needs to be refined somewhat and sent to the Resolutions Committee before March 25th, to be considered at the Spring Convention. Many reports were given. After supper, a very informative program on the dangers of copper mining near the BWCA was given by Becky Rom. She has been a wilderness advocate since 1970 and is a very informative speaker. Don Arnosti led the group on means to be effective on important issues.

The Bush Lake Chapter did a great job instigating the entire meeting. Larry Kennebeck, Del Ericksson and Dick Brown represented the Breckenridge Chapter. Breckenridge Chapter member John Rust was also present representing the Minnehaha Chapter. It was a great meeting!

Dick Brown

WHY NATIVE Opinion

In our quest to have individuals and government agencies plant native species for the benefit of Bees, there are also other important reasons. Here is a condensed example (among many) from one of the conservation groups I belong to.

Consider our ordinary little Chickadee, woodland and backyard favorite neighbor that everyone knows. There are probably more Chickadees in suburban areas than anywhere. But Chickadees and 90% of other terrestrial birds raise their young on insects, not seeds and berries as many of us think. And guess what? Generally speaking our native flowers, shrubs and trees host many more of the species of insects that birds need to raise their young than exotics do. Bees, birds, Butterflies and bugs are best with native plants.

Dick Brown

Large Donations Benefit Our Chapter

By Jim Arnold

Most Chapter members are aware of two major impending repair/remodeling projects. Our 1936 building understandably needs work. The kitchen and fireplace are both showing evidence of their age. Fortunately, a large recent donation of stock* by Darryl and Diane Sannes has greatly improved the financial outlook for taking on these projects. The donation of stock, after it was sold, added \$9,684.34 to the Breckenridge Chapter bank account. Added to previous donations, and the recent silent auction fund raiser, we now have more than \$13,000 available to make the needed improvements. Hopefully not all these funds will be needed for these projects. With the age of our building more projects are likely to occur in the near future. A committee is currently considering what needs to be done to repair and modernize our current kitchen. We are also investigating the fireplace needs, but the kitchen project will be the first priority.

Darryl and Diane are long time Breckenridge Chapter members and life members of the IWLA. They are frequent volunteers at a variety of Chapter activities. Their generosity in providing this large donation is typical of the many ways they chose to benefit their community.

Scholarship Donations

We would also like to acknowledge three recent, large, generous gifts to the Chapter's scholarship endowment fund: 1) \$1,000 received from members Tom and Marilyn Breckenridge, 2) \$500 from John Breckenridge 3) \$1,500 from member Larry Swanson. The Swanson and Breckenridge families were instrumental in establishing the scholarship endowment fund for our chapter and it was John who organized the scholarship fund while he was treasurer in 1999 (John and his family now reside in Switzerland). Contributions like these have helped the endowment grow to over \$50,000. Contributions of any size are always welcome. If you are interested see the Chapter's website for more information.

**The Stannes donation is a reminder of the benefits of donating appreciated stock. If you have stock you would like to consider donating we suggest you talk to Tom Breckenridge, a financial advisor with Rossi Dubuque Breckenridge, LLC. (612 216 4378 [or tbreckenridge@rdbfinancial.com](mailto:tbreckenridge@rdbfinancial.com)). Tom is a member of our Chapter and often provides us with financial advice at no charge.*

PLACING SOLAR Opinion

Belonging to various environmental organizations gives one a broad prospective of what is going on in the natural world.

One of them, favoring solar power, relates to the fact that large solar field complexes need to be placed in areas not affecting wildlife, whether on private or public land. For instance, in the California desert the world's largest solar complex, the Ivanpah Solar Energy Generation Station devastated habitat for the threatened Desert Tortoise. They claim the Tortoise populations in our western deserts have dropped by 90% in the last 40 years. Between disease, development and motorized use, the Tortoise is now rare. The solar project destroyed 3,000 acres in the Ivanpah Valley and 150 dead Tortoise were found there. Furthermore, experts estimate up to 28,000 birds will be singed and their feathers melted from the heat of three towers as they fly into their heat zone each year. A draft of the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) was released for public comment in September. If adopted it will guide land use across 22.5 million acres of public and private land in the Mojave and Sonoran Deserts of Southern California. So far the plan intends to identify 200,000 to 350,000 acres of areas for solar energy away from most important wildlife habitat.

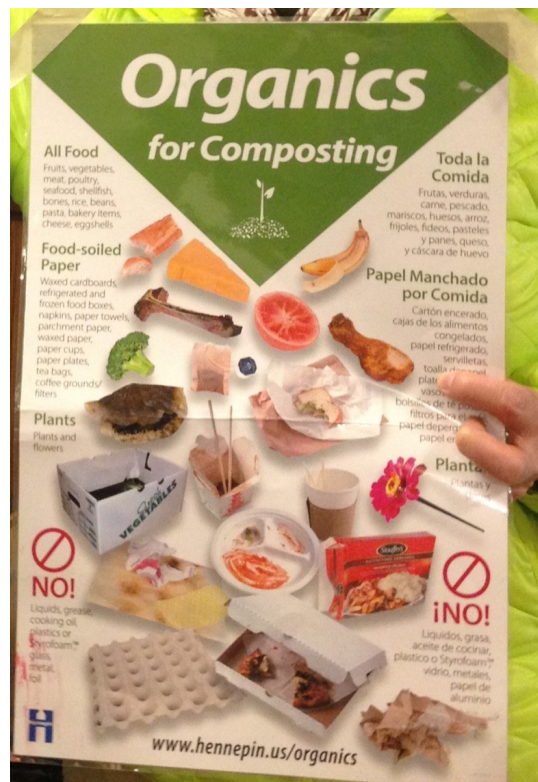
No matter where any alternative energy sources are installed, care must be taken to not destroy as much of our natural heritage as possible.

Dick Brown



Organics recycling was included as part of our Holiday party, as Diane Sannes served as our Trash Ambassador and helped us sort the food and paper waste that we could recycle organically. Over 50 # of Organic waste was brought to the Hennepin County Brooklyn Park Transfer Station after the Holiday party.

Did you know--Organics such as food scraps and food-soiled and non-recyclable papers makes 30% of the waste in Hennepin County





**W. J. Breckenridge Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America
8816 West River Road**



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

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

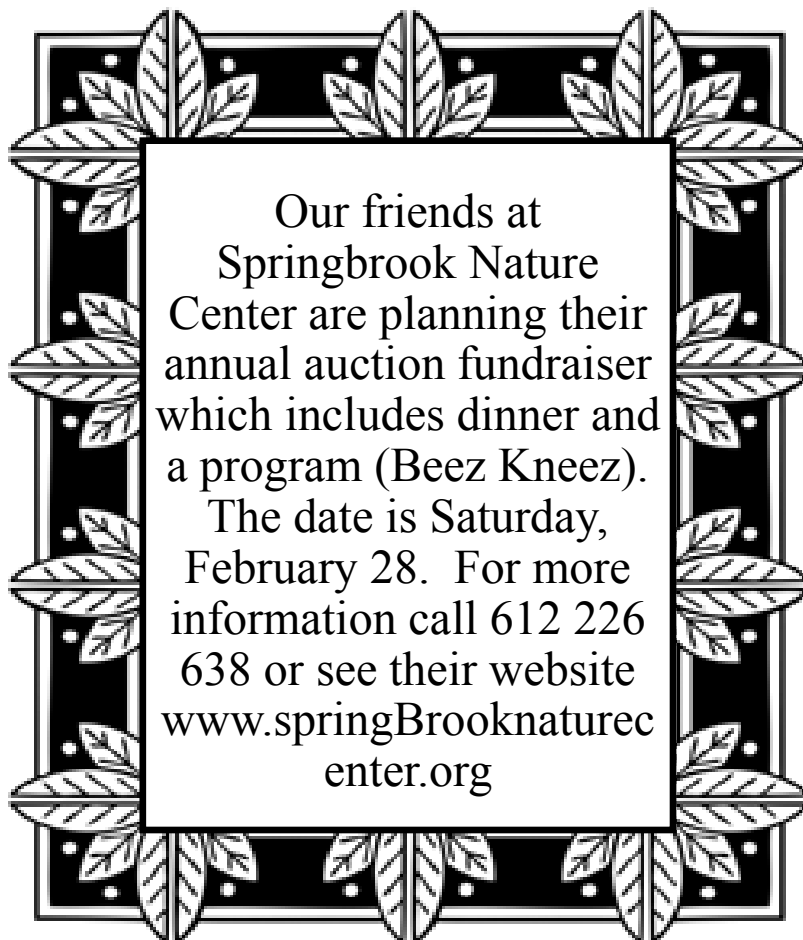
Barbara Franklin
763-657-1907

Or bbfrankli@gmail.com

Feb 24 _____
March 24 _____
April 28 _____



Thank you



Our friends at Springbrook Nature Center are planning their annual auction fundraiser which includes dinner and a program (Beez Kneez). The date is Saturday, February 28. For more information call 612 226 638 or see their website www.springBrooknaturecenter.org