

W. J. Breckenridge Chapter **Izaak Walton League** February 2023





Coming Events February 2023

- Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm 14
- 28 Greg Hoch, author of With Wings Extended Wood Ducks 7:30 pm

March 2023

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

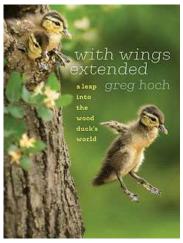
April 2023

- 11 Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
- Social Educational Meeting 7:30 pm TBA 23

Social Educational Meeting: Tuesday February 21, 7:30 PM **Greg Hoch** With Wings Extended: A Leap into a Wood Duck's World



Greg Hoch, author of the book With Wings Extended: A Leap into a Wood Duck's World. joins us to talk about the history of Wood Duck conservation, how people can help Wood Ducks even if they don't live by water. As some may know, the Breckenridge Chapter has a number of wood



duck houses on Banfill Island to compliment the cavities in trees which are their preferred nesting sites.

Wood ducks are one of our most colorful and most popular birds in the Midwest. Although relatively abundant now, at one time many biologists thought they were threatened with extinction. The wood duck is an "odd duck" in many ways. While most ducks nest in the grass, they nest in hollow trees. Because of this habit, building nest boxes is a great way for people to get involved in the natural world. In an indirect way, we could argue that wood ducks helped the Allies win World War I. Their feathers are very popular among those interested in flyfishing. Wood ducks played and still play a large role in the conservation story of Minnesota.

Greg is the Prairie Habitat Supervisor for the Minnesota DNR and has written a book on that subject called To Find a Pasqueflower: a story of the tallgrass prairie. He will bring some of his books for sale at cost for those who are interested.

Report on the State Division of IWLA Annual Meeting for 2023

By Tim Johnson

Chapter member **Jerry Steele** was elected to a twoyear term as 2nd Vice President of the Minnesota Division of the Izaak Walton League of America. His term begins March 1st. **Tim Johnson** was also elected as one of the five Directors at Large for 2023 to the Minnesota Division. This year's meeting was held in person and virtually at the Minnesota Valley Chapter with 49 members in attendance. Our chapter had four delegates in attendance.

Resolutions were passed to phase out small internal combustion engines by the year 2035, another to acknowledge the world's dire need for climate restoration (methods for removing excess CO₂ already polluting our atmosphere) and a third, to specifically call out the fraud of developing CO₂ pipelines across Minnesota from ethanol plants to inject into the Bakken oil fields to extract more fossil fuels.

Tim gave a report at the annual meeting on the exciting new progress in writing legislation to protect all our native fish. We have found a champion, Rep. Sydney Jordan (NE Minneapolis), to author a bill which IWLA helped write and which puts our State on a path to becoming the first in the nation to manage all native fish scientifically for sustainable populations. Our own Senator John Hoffman is the author of the companion bill in the Senate. IWLA collaboration directly with the DNR on rule-making to protect all our native fish will be moving forward after a facilitator was hired to lead meetings between stake-holders.

Other updates by delegates from across the State concerned the diverse conservations issues our members have led on:

- Upper Mississippi River Initiative (UMRI) work continues protecting watershed in Southern Minnesota/Limbo Creek lawsuit a success - Dave Zentner/Tedd Suss
- Green Crew MN Valley Chapter success!
 Potential rollout to other chapters in the state Joseph Barisonzi
- 3. Alaska Update: Arctic National Wildlife Refuge drilling permits and Tongass National Forest Roadless area Lois Norrgard
- 4. Twin Metals Mine near BWCAW and withdrawal of lands in watershed for 20 years and update on other proposed sulfide ore polluting mines in the State PolyMet, Teck Mine, Talon Mine Matt Norton
- 5. Climate/Energy/Youth/Outreach grants to chapters around the state John Crampton
- 6. Whitewater Wildlife Management Area logging for wildlife enhancement vs. industry profits excellent comments to MN DNR Craig Sterle
- Scenic Highways in Minnesota MNDOT not listening to local conservation advocates - Willis Mattison
- 8. Eighty acres of wetland added to Schunemann Marsh caretakers Jaques Chapter IWLA John Siekmeier

Sen. John Hoffman



Rep. Sydney Jordan



*** 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
•	Broadway Bar and Pizza	8525 Edinburgh Dr., Brooklyn Park 55443
•	Brooklyn Park Liquor	8520 Edinburgh Center Dr, Br. Park 55444
•	Clives Roadhouse Restaurant	11680 Theater Dr. N. Champlin 55316
•	Dairy Queen	Champlin and Anoka (Main Street)
•	Dos Hermandos Restauraunt	1408 85th Ave N., Brooklm Park 55444
•	Hudy's Café	11350 Aquila Dr. N., Champlin 55316
•	Love That Olive	3551 Grove Drive, Maple Grove 55311
•	Jersey Mikes	5901 94th Street, Brooklyn Park 55445
•	Noble Parkway Mobil	9500 Noble Parkway, Brooklyn Park 55443
•	Trader Joes	12105 Elm Creek Blvd, Maple Grove 55369
•	5-8 Grill & Bar	.6251 Douglas Court North, Champlin 55316

To the following members and friends of the Chapter who donated auction items:

Judy Arnold	Barb Franklin	Judy Hendrickson
Brad & Kathy Larson	John Moriarty	Geri Nelson
Raptor Center	Dianne & Darryl Sannes	Jerry & Wendy Steele

We need to mention that a few unique items were provided by friends and family of two outstanding Chapter members we lost last year: Darby Nelson and Hans Nielsen.

Special Thanks to:

Judy Arnold for organizing the decorations, Lori Johnson and Jim and Judy Arnold for the silent auction, Tom Ward who provided the wonderful background music on his dulcimer, a great meal created by caterer Carol Knutson and to the many folks who provided desserts and helped with set up and clean up. In addition to providing a wonderful social event for the nearly 70 folks who attended, we raised more than \$3,500 for the Chapter's scholarship fund.

See pictures on following page

















Don Luce, co-author of *A Natural Curiosity* spoke on the history of the Bell Museum.

Jim Arnold, Steve Schaust, Barb Franklin, Tim (photographer) and Lori Johnson and their grandchild , and Josh Wildt met the following Tuesday to undecorate.



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

Deadline is the First 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.

Chapter House Rental Rates

Non-Members:

(damage deposit: \$300.00; \$200 for previous renters) Monday through Thursday\$300.00 Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Holidays.....\$400.00

Members:(damage deposit \$100.00)
Monday through Thursday\$150.00
Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Holidays\$200.00

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)