



Timberlines

W. J. Breckenridge Chapter Izaak Walton League

July 2013
www.breckenridgeikes.org



The Minneapolis Audubon Society and the ABC Chapter of League of Women Voters will join us for our June, July and August meetings at our Chapter House and will be responsible for some of those programs.

Everyone is always welcome!

July

- 9 **Board of Directors Meeting**
7:30 pm
- 23 **Soc/Ed meeting**
7:30 pm
Cedar Creek Science Reserve —
Mary Spivey, Education Coordinator for the Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve. Sponsored by Audubon

August

- 13 **Board of Directors Meeting**
7:30 pm
- 27 **Soc/Ed meeting**
7:30 pm

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically, please contact Barb Franklin at bbfrankli@gmail.com

The July and August issues of *Timberlines* will be edited by Barbara Franklin.

Please send contributions to bbfrankli@gmail.com

Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve

Mary Spivey, Education Coordinator for the Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve, will discuss the Education and Research programs at the Reserve, including their research on the endangered Red-Headed Woodpecker at our July meeting.



The public is also welcome to this joint social/educational meeting with the Minneapolis Audubon Society at Tuesday, July 23, 7:30 p.m.

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

Barbara Franklin
763-657-1907

Or bbfrankli@gmail.com

July 23 — Jean Fraley
August 27 — YOU?

Thank you



MINUTES OF BOARD MEEETING
JUNE 11, 2013

PRESENT: Steve Schaupt, Marlys Carls-Steiskal, Jim Arnold, John Fraley, Dick Brown, Vera Brown, Mark Gustafson, Barbara Franklin, Larry Kennebeck

- President Steve Schaupt called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM. The IWLA Pledge was recited, whereupon there was discussion on removing the word “man” and substituting “people” or “humans”, etc. Barb Franklin will look into the matter. This may be a subject for a future resolution.

- We discussed the joint meeting on June 10 with League of Women Voters on mining silicone sand for frac-drilling. Speaker was Jeff Smyser from MN Pollution Control Agency. There were about 20 people present including 3 Ikes. The meeting was very informative.

- Dick attended a meeting with Sierra Club where Bob Tommen (a Duluth Ike) spoke on sulfide mining. Two Ikes present.

- Several Ikes attended Louis Dinzi’s funeral. Louie was a hard worker for the Breckenridge Ikes before his stroke. We miss him.

- Larry Kennebeck passed a bulletin from the Bush Lake Chapter on the possibility of engaging a group called the “Wild Ones” to plan, select or plant wild flowers for our street frontage.

- Dick passed a bulletin from NPG for members interested to review. (Population issue)

- Our joint meetings with Audubon (June, July & August) and perhaps LWV were discussed. June 25 (Ikes) Matt Norton of MEP on fracking; July 22 (Audubon) speaker on Cedar Creek Science Preserve; August 27th (Audubon) speaker will be Siah St.Clair on his 30 year involvement as Executive Director at Spring brook Nature Center in Fridley.

- Dick passed a *Strib* article on “Strategies to help farmers protect water”. Of special interest was that of four watersheds to be initially protected, Elm Creek which runs through Champlin is one.

- Mark Gustafson passed and we discussed a *Strib* article on re-using nuclear waste which at present is 95%. The method suggested would bring the leftover waste down to approximately 1% and reducing its potency from 100,000 years

to about 300 years. A film at the Lagoon Cinema in Mpls. will feature a one week showing of the subject starting June 14.

- A desperate need for a secretary was discussed. If any member of the Breckenridge Chapter can help us, we would appreciate it!

- We need to find a copy of our By Laws and Articles of Incorporation was discussed to fill out a #990 form for the National Ikes office.

- Repair of chimney and installation of metal figures indicating date of chapter house was discussed. Chiseling out of old stucco and putting new stucco on the base, tuck pointing here and there. Fastening the letters would be done at a later time.

- What to do with the fallen oak at the head of the East stairway was determined. Jim to resolve.

- There was a serious discussion on the pending Chapter elections in July or August. Candidates must be determined.

- Marlys Carls-Steiskal reported on the newsletter and called for more articles from our membership.

- Vera Brown gave the treasurers report. Jim Arnold gave Scholarship Committee report. Rental and Membership chairs were absent.

- Report on “John Boat” behind chapter house was full of water was discussed. Water will be removed and boat turned over. The boat belongs to the DNR.

- Mark Gustafson will re-enforce and re-mount the 4’x4’ flanking entrance signs.

- Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Dick Brown (Acting Secretary)

2013-14 Scholarship Recipients

By Jim Arnold

Ellen Squires, a graduate of Andover High School, recently completed her junior year at St. Olaf College. She is working towards a double major in biology and environmental studies with a concentration in statistics. Her long range plans include attending graduate school to obtain a degree in environmental law, environmental health, or an ecology-related career. This spring she participated in a semester-long program studying environmental policy, terrestrial ecology and marine biology in Australia. Ellen writes, "We spent our time traveling from the southern coast in Melbourne all the way up to the Great Barrier Reef. My studies really gave me a global perspective of the climate crisis, and cemented my passion for environmental issues. This summer I've been traveling around doing research with a professor and two fellow students as part of our summer undergraduate research program (see Karin Sather below). We first visited Denali National Park in Alaska to complete a project on nutrient cycling in sub-arctic ecosystems. Next, we headed to the Gansu Province in northwest China to study agroecology in the Loess Plateau, a big agricultural region prone to intensive soil erosion. Conducting science in a cross-cultural context was really exciting, and we also gained a lot of insight into China's environmental issues, including the rampant air pollution while we were in Shanghai. We recently returned from China and are preparing for the biggest event of the summer – a month of arctic research in Siberia with The Polaris Project." The six months of traveling has Ellen ready to settle down for her senior year of school come August. She is excited about heading the Student Naturalist program, tutoring biology, living in the Local and Sustainable Food honor house, and returning to her regular routine of running and bird watching in the school's Natural Lands.

Karin Sather, a Champlin Park High School graduate, recently finished her sophomore year at St. Olaf College where she is working towards

a degree in biology and statistics. After her undergraduate studies her plan is to attend a PhD program in ecology. At this time Karin is most interested by biogeochemistry and nutrient cycles and how humans interact with them. Ultimately she would like to be an ecology professor to combine her love of teaching and research. Last fall Karin began a survey of methane production in streams across the state of Minnesota. This study will continue during her years at St Olaf. So far extremely high levels of dissolved methane across the state have been discovered. Karin is now exploring the interactions between nitrate and methanogenesis in hopes of gaining a better understanding of how humans influence methane production. An extracurricular activity in which Karin is involved is a group called "Discussions in Ecology" (DIE). The group discusses current ecological issues through reading student selected literature each week with a faculty advisor. She also continues rock climbing and works at the St. Olaf rock climbing wall. Karin is experiencing arctic ecology first hand this summer traveling with the St. Olaf group this summer to Alaska, Siberia and China.

Kristen Peterson, a graduate of Maple Grove High School, recently completed her sophomore year at the University of Minnesota. Her plans are to earn her degree in Environmental Science, Policy and Management before deciding how she might best, "help humans coexist with the natural world in order to improve the state of the environment." Kristen has become involved with policy-related positions which relate to her classroom studies and research. She remains heavily involved in MPIRG (Minnesota Public Interest Research Group) as co-leader of the environmental task force. She helps guide other students working on sustainability and environmental issues on campus and raises support for important environmental action at the legislature. She works as an undergraduate laboratory assistant with research study on how

nitrogen and carbon are cycled through the environment. In the next few years Kirsten would like to do two research projects of her own: 1) a natural science project, and 2) a study of economics or policy using social science. She continues to enjoy a variety of outdoor activities such as climbing, camping and hiking.

Kaelyn Williams, a graduate of Cooper High School recently completed her freshman year at University of Minnesota-Duluth. She plans to pursue a double major: Environment and Sustainability, and Hispanic Studies with a minor in Recreation-Outdoor Education. Working as a naturalist, park ranger or similar position where she can share her love of the outdoors may be a logical career path. Kaelyn has an even loftier goal, however, "I have a dream to become an explorer some day, traveling the world and learning about the environment and how it has been impacted by climate change and other human activity, and then teaching what I learn from exploring to others so they can help make the world a better place." She has also been considering teaching in Latin America and is interested in a study abroad program in Belize where she would study mapping in relation to conservation and cultural preservation. Kaelyn loves Duluth and the variety of outdoor opportunities it presents. In an effort to spread awareness of healthy sustainable food access in addition to reducing water runoff, she is working with a project to add edible perennial and native plantings on campus. She is also involved with the outdoor club, Wuda Wooch, the Endurance Club, Nordic Ski Club and the track and cross country teams. Over the winter Kaelyn took part in Courage Duluth's Adaptive Ski and Snowboard Program as a Hi-Ski volunteer instructor.

Sawyer Phillips is a recent graduate of Andover High School and will be attending St. Thomas University this fall. He is especially interested in issues involved in finding a clean and renewable energy source. Sawyer plans on enrolling in environmental classes dealing with chemistry and the environment. Eventually he would like to work as an environmental/clean energy researcher. His excellent high school record reflects his interest in science and the outdoors.

In addition to his academic success, Sawyer participated in a number of varsity athletic teams and was a member of the student council and Chamber Choir. He also participated in Link Crew, where he spent many hours serving as a role model and tutor for the incoming freshman class.

The Breckenridge Chapter has now awarded 63 five hundred dollar scholarships in the fifteen 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 and Tom and Marilyn 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.

June 25 meeting: Matt Norton, MEP, on Fracking

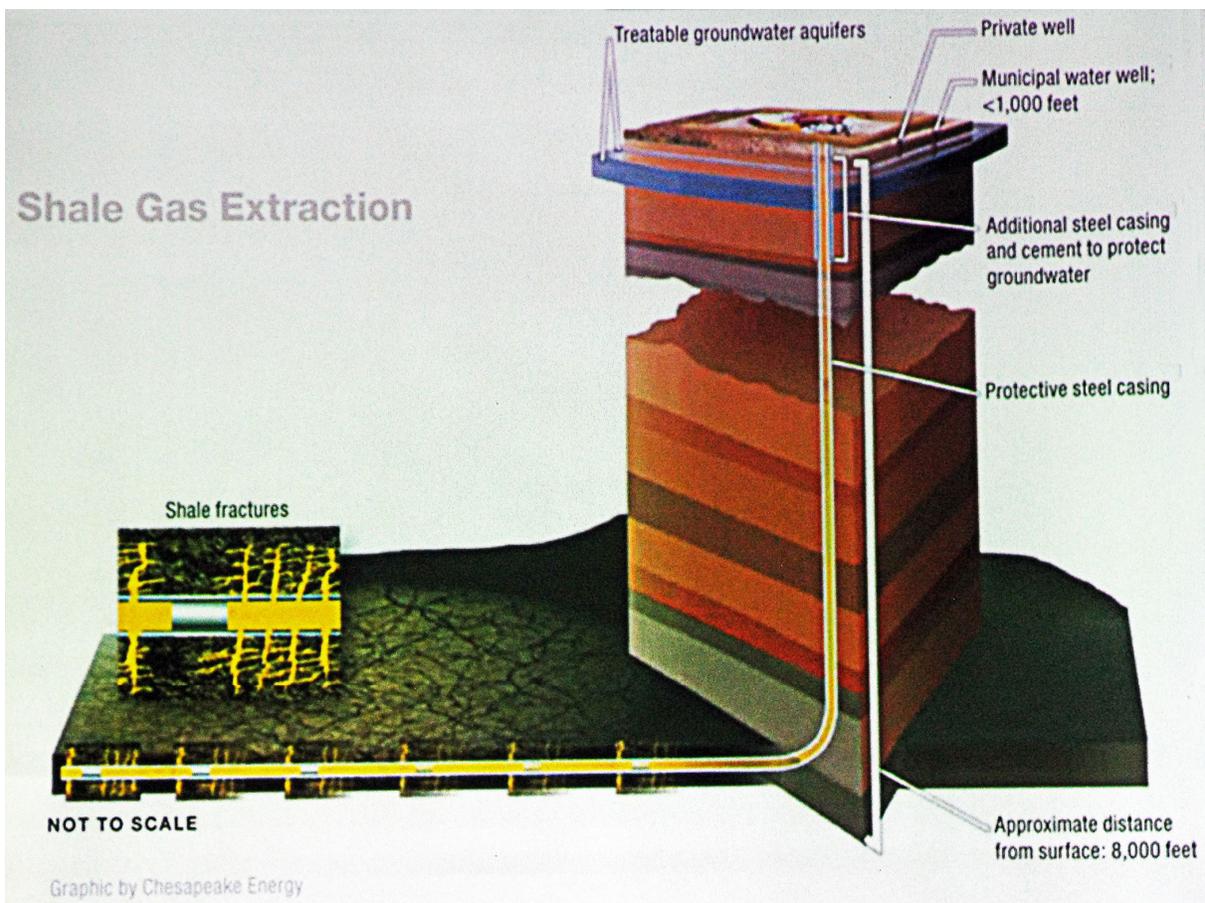
As a follow-up to the LWV meeting on fracking in Andover, at our June 25 meeting Matt Norton, Campaign Director for the Minnesota Environmental Partnership presented an eye-opening description and answered questions on the processes and material used in fracking and some of its lesser known consequences. Diagrams showed the actual process of pumping sand down into the ground to fracture layers of shale and release the gases, and pointed out the points at which risks of leakage might take place.

About 25 people attended, including folks from Minneapolis Audubon as well as our own members.



Fracking

Nearly all natural gas extraction today involves a technique called hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, in which dangerous chemicals are mixed with large quantities of water and sand and injected into wells at extremely high pressure. Fracking is a suspect in polluted drinking water in Arkansas, Colorado, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia and Wyoming, where residents have reported changes in water quality or quantity following fracturing operations.



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
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.”

In Memory of Jerry Wagner

After trying to recover from a fall and broken hip, longtime Ikes member Jerry Wagner died peacefully in the arms of his family on June 15, 2013. With his passion for nature, he served on the boards of the Minnesota Zoo, the Izaak Walton League-Breckenridge Chapter and the Citizen Advisory Council of the Capitol Region Watershed District. He loved young people, folk dancing, fly fishing, canoeing and any time he could be outdoors with students, friends and family.

A frequent visitor at CRWD Board meetings, he would regularly remind the Board to consider groundwater and all things ecological. Jerry was very connected to nature and phenology, pointing out the annual ritual of chorus frogs and spring peepers. Jerry never claimed to be from or representing Roseville or Lake McCarrons but rather he always said he was representing the water because it did not have its own voice.

Says Bill Barton: “Jerry was a mentor for me in the Ikes and on the CRWD CAC as well as a Board member of Save Our Creeks. I will miss

his studied insights. He knew which frogs were gone first. We have lost a champion.”

A memorial Service will be held at St. John the Evangelist

Episcopal Church, 60 Kent St., St. Paul. MN. 55102 at 2 PM Saturday, July 13, 2013.

Visitation will be at Mueller-Bies Funeral Home, 2130 N. Dale St., Roseville, MN. 55113, Friday, July 12, 2013, 6-9 PM. Interment will be private. The family asks that In lieu of flowers, memorials be made to the environmental group of your choice.

Our condolences to his family, especially his wife, Barbara Lindeke, who has also been a longtime member of the Breckenridge Chapter. Jerry will be greatly missed.

