



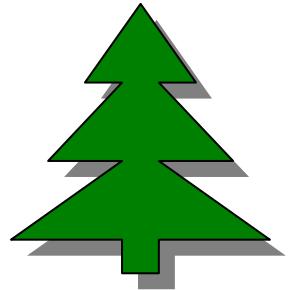
# Timberlines

## W. J. Breckenridge Chapter

### Izaak Walton League

#### December 2009 January 2010

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



## Coming Events

### January

- 12 Board Meeting  
17 Breckenridge Chapter Holiday Party  
20 No Social/Educational meeting  
23-24 Winter IWLA State Board of Directors Strategic Guide Workshop hosted by Breckenridge chapter

### February

- 09 Board Meeting 7:30 pm  
23 Social/Educational Meeting  
Great Lakes Piping Plover - Presenter  
Bridgid Murphy

### March

- 09 Board Meeting 7:30 pm  
23 Social/Educational Meeting  
27 MN division IWLA & Freshwater Society Wetlands/Agriculture/Water Summit at Normandale Comm. College

### April

- 10-12 Minnesota Division Annual Meeting @ Owatonna

- 13 Board Meeting 7:30 pm

### May

- 02 Pancake Breakfast

### Get Ready For the Silent Auction

The silent auction has become a great fundraiser for our Chapter's scholarship fund. In each of the last two years we have raised a thousand dollars or more. At this year's holiday party, January 17<sup>th</sup>, we will again have many unique items donated by our members as well as a number of services and gift certificates donated by local merchants. Be sure to arrive early to get a good look at all the items. Bidding will start at 4:00 pm and continue until 6:00 pm.

If you would like to donate an item, or if you know a nearby business that would be willing to make a donation, contact Jim or Judy Arnold (763 560 8972 or [jjarnold@q.com](mailto:jjarnold@q.com)) or bring the item to the Chapter House by 4:00 pm on January 17<sup>th</sup>.

*Volunteers for refreshments needed.  
Please call  
Melissa Sonnenberg  
if you can help.  
763-549-8873*

**Breckenridge Chapter Izaak Walton  
League of America**

**12-08-09 - Meeting Notes**

Attending: Steve Schaust, Bruce Hansen, Bill Barton, Jim Arnold, Barbara Franklin, Roger Williams, John Farley, Lorraine Spears, Melissa Sonnenberg  
There is one Open Board Seat please contact Steve Schaust if interested.

My Life in Natural History Hardcover books pressed and will be available soon – Jim will let us know when they are signed.

Steve Schaust is sending in the city non-profit form to City of Brooklyn Park for assessment.

Motion by Jim Arnold, Second by Roger Williams - Keep the same insurance company, change from \$500 to \$1000 deductible and increase valuation to \$217,000 from \$145,000.

Reviewed Calendar:

Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> BOD Meeting

Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> Holiday Party, Melissa will organize if Diane Sannes does not, will need hosts, Barb will do posters & Timberlines announcement,

Jim will organize the Silent Auction - Items for auction will be appreciated - **All please solicit donations for silent auction; note that proceeds go to scholarship fund.**

Jim will check for Champlin Park Choir. Tom Ward will play dulcimer background music.

Jan 20 NO Social Educational MEETING

Jan 23-24 Winter IWLA State Board of Directors Strategic Guide Workshop hosted by Breckenridge Chapter:

Steve Schaust will continue to firm up plans with Noreen at MN division office.

Melissa will organize food based on attendance numbers from Steve.

Tentative menu: Sat morning rolls, Lunch sandwiches, Evening Meal, Sunday breakfast  
Sat Evening Entertainment – unless we get Charlie McGuire of NPS we will do a film festival

Feb. 9 BOD meeting,

Feb. 23 Social Educational Meeting Bridgid Murphy – Great Lakes Piping Plover

**MARCH 27<sup>TH</sup> MN Division IWLA & Freshwater Society Wetlands / Agriculture / Water Summit @ Normandale Community College**

April 10-12 Minnesota Division Annual Meeting @ Owatonna

May 2 Pancake Breakfast

**Membership**

Lorraine Spears - we have 70 current members - 2 new – second notices to go out after holidays. Lorraine will put an article in Timberlines for renewals.

**ISSUES:**

PolyMet EIS public meetings Blaine meetings THIS THURSDAY

U of M in developing a 25 year framework for dedicated clean water funding and they have a website for a survey of individuals with room for your ideas. Please complete the survey and comment at <http://wrc.umn.edu/watersustainabilityframework/MinnesotansandTheirWater/index.htm>

The Water Resources Center phone number is 612-624-9282.

**CHAPTER HOUSE AND GROUNDS:**

Building Insurance - It was decided to keep the same company we are changing from \$500 to \$1000 deductible and increased to \$217,000 from 145,000. (Twin City Group, Sharon Rosendale)

John Fraley, Tom Ward and Larry LaFontaine worked on the firewood pile and helped clean up the Chapter House grounds. Neal Hayford used his tree climbing and trimming skills to clear some of the branches overhanging the solar collector on the new sign.

Yard light needs troubleshooting.

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** Endowment is growing (~\$35,000 last year, now ~\$40,000 with donations) but scholarships are taken from the earnings not to exceed 5% of the principal each year. The chapter has used general funds to supplement earnings for scholarships. We expect to support 6 scholarships this year. CDs are coming maturing and income is expected to be down next year. (The endowment is limited to 25% equities.) Our investment adviser is Tom Breckenridge.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Normal activity. Current rental income for the year is ~\$2,000 low at ~\$6,150. We may need to come up with some new fund raising ideas. Bruce would like to receive any deposit receipts.

**NEWSLETTER:** We need more articles and a flyer for Holiday Party!

**WEBSITE:** Changing general contact address.

**RENTALS:** see treasurer's report.

Respectfully submitted,

**Bill Barton 12-14-09**



# BRECKENRIDGE CHAPTER ANNUAL WINTER PARTY

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2010**

**\$5.00**

Proceeds go to the Breckenridge Chapter's Scholarship Fund

**4:00 p.m. - Social Hour**

**Silent Auction (you may bring an auction item)**

**Music!**

**Hors d'oeuvres**

**5:00 p.m. - Dinner**

**Baked Ham**

**Roasted Turkey**

**Fresh Fruit & Vegetables**

**Bread**

**Desserts (contributions accepted!)**

**6:00 p.m. - Program**

**To Be Announced**

**Please RSVP to Melissa by Tuesday, January 12**

**763-549-8873 or missmliss@comcast.net**

**(This is important so we know how much food to prepare.)**

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

# **PLEASE TAKE THE SURVEY AND COMMENT FOR MINNSOTA'S CLEAN WATER LEGACY FUNDS INVESTMENT**

## **Minnesotans and Their Water Survey**

From the water we drink and use to grow our food, to the lakes and rivers that provide recreation for us and habitat for wildlife, Minnesota's water supply is vital, precious and worth protecting.

The Minnesota State Legislature has charged the Water Resources Center with designing a framework on how and when to make investments that will ensure the purity and abundance of Minnesota's water for generations to come. And because the state's water resources belong to the people of Minnesota, the framework team has created a Citizen/Stakeholder Advisory Group tasked with gathering public opinion via surveys and listening sessions on a range of water issues—from boating to agricultural practices.

Here's your chance to be heard on issues of water quality, water usage and priorities---please share your opinions by answering the following questions. Survey responses will be tallied and used to guide the framework's final set of recommendations. If you have additional comments or questions about the project, please email us at [water@umn.edu](mailto:water@umn.edu). Learn more about the [Minnesota Water Sustainability Framework](#).

[http://wrc.umn.edu/  
watersustainabilityframework/  
MinnesotansandTheirWater/index.htm](http://wrc.umn.edu/watersustainabilityframework/MinnesotansandTheirWater/index.htm)

Water Resources Center | [173 McNeal Hall](#) |  
1985 Buford Avenue | St. Paul, MN 55108 |  
612-624-9282 [umwrc@umn.edu](mailto:umwrc@umn.edu)

The Water Resources Center is affiliated with the [College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences](#) and [University of Minnesota Extension](#).

## **Incongruous Regulation**

While the majority of Minnesota residents strive through legislation and advocacy to clean up our lakes and rivers, and to preserve our remaining wetlands, guess what? Incongruously there are those who allow and even promote the construction of sulfide mining in the great wild and scenic areas of Minnesota. Sulfide mining is known as one of the most destructive methods of mining to the ecology of streams, lakes, connected wetlands and wildlife. Such destructive enterprise should not be allowed. It would affect not only waters near the BWCAW but some waters within. No amount of jobs are worth such devastating destructions as this kind of development.

Dick Brown

\* If you are inclined to take action on this issue write or call your MN Legislators, Reps. Denise Dittrich, Melissa Hortman or Sen. Leo Foley or others. Write to MN DNR Lands and Minerals, Stuart Arkley, 500 Lafayette Rd., St Paul, MN 55155.

## **2009 – 2010 Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter Officers**

President – Steve Schaust

Vice-President – John Rust

Treasurer – Bruce Hansen

Secretary – Open

Board – Dick Brown (Issues/Programs)

Board – Wes Hendrickson (Rentals)

Board – Melissa Sonnenberg (Scholarship)

Board – Bill Barton (Issues)

Board – Jim Arnold (Scholarship)

Board – Barbara Franklin (Web Master)

Board – Amy Rust (Youth Outreach)

Board – Roger Williams

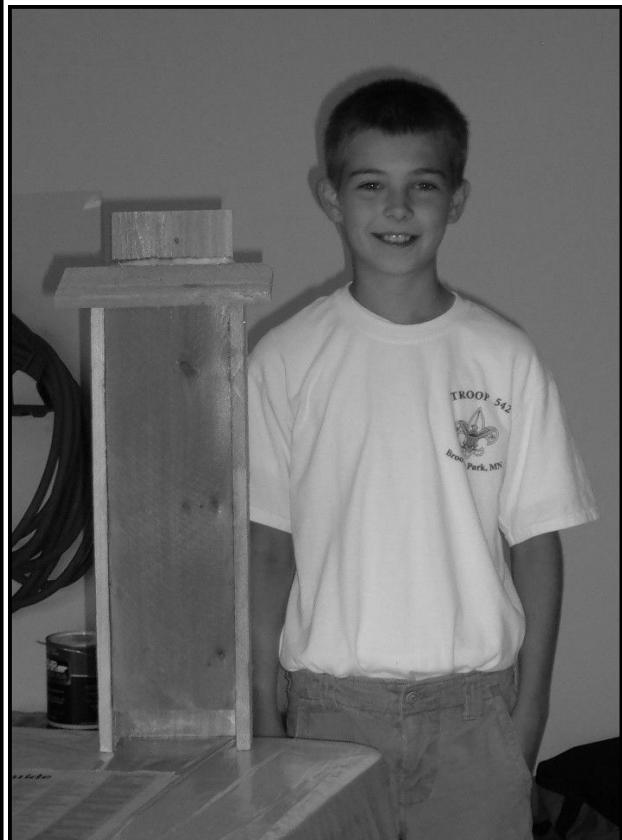
Board – John Fraley

Newsletter – Marlys Steiskal

Calling Committee – George Decker

Membership – Lorraine Spears

## ADDING BAT HABITAT TO OAK GROVE PARK



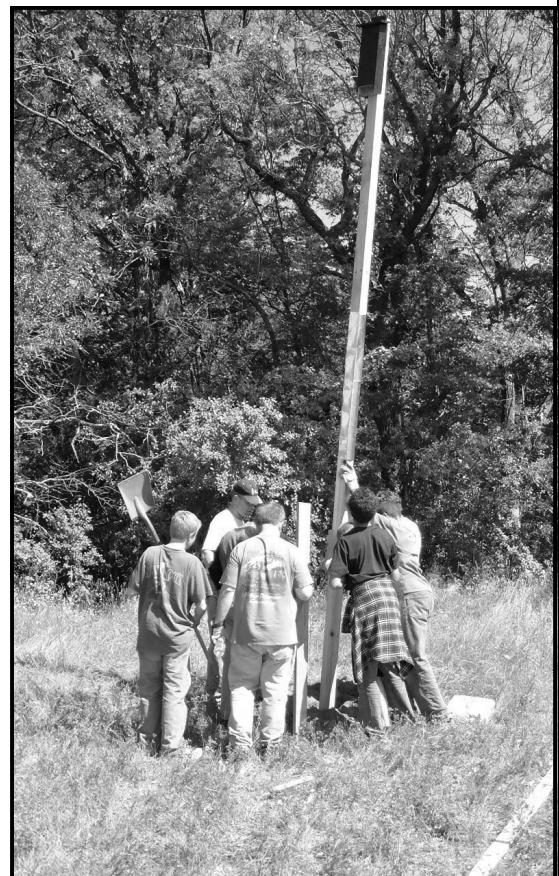
You may be aware that bats are virtually harmless if left alone by humans. Some advantages to having a healthy bat population are that bats eat their weight in mosquitoes and other small insects every night. Bats can reduce the chances of getting bitten by mosquitoes carrying the West Nile virus. Another advantage is that this will reduce the nuisance of mosquitoes and make a more enjoyable park experience for the Brooklyn Park residents and other adjacent communities. Correctly made bat houses require no maintenance at all. The design of the bat house is called a bat attic. This is a highly recommended bat house and was not very hard to construct. The bat houses were

constructed of cedar because cedar has rough sides that will make sure the bats will be able to grasp the wood and hang there. We placed 10 bat houses on top of 20' posts, which is enough to support a community of bats. About 150 – 200 bats will inhabit each bat house. We wrapped sheet metal around the posts every 3 feet or so to prevent raccoons and other small animals from harming the bats. We dug a 3' deep hole in the ground for the post and filled the hole with Quick-Crete. The posts were constructed of treated lumber.

My goal was to construct and place the bat houses during the month of August in Oak Grove Park.

Conservation of our wildlife is a core philosophy of both the Boy Scouts of America and the Izaak Walton League. As a result, both organizations have responsibilities and goals of conserving the wildlife and environmentally friendly pest control.

Christian Dube



*I want to express a big THANK YOU to all those of you who contributed to the cost of printing Daddy's autobiography. My brother Tom, my co-editor, John Moriarity, and I are quite proud of the final result and we hope you will enjoy your copy of the book.*

**Barbara Franklin**

The following article, written by MNPost.com journalist Sharon Schmickle, appeared on Thursday, December 10, 2009.

### **Book traces life of Walter J. Breckenridge**

by Sharon Schmickle

A giant among Minnesota's naturalists was Walter J. Breckenridge, former director of the University of Minnesota's Bell Museum of Natural History.

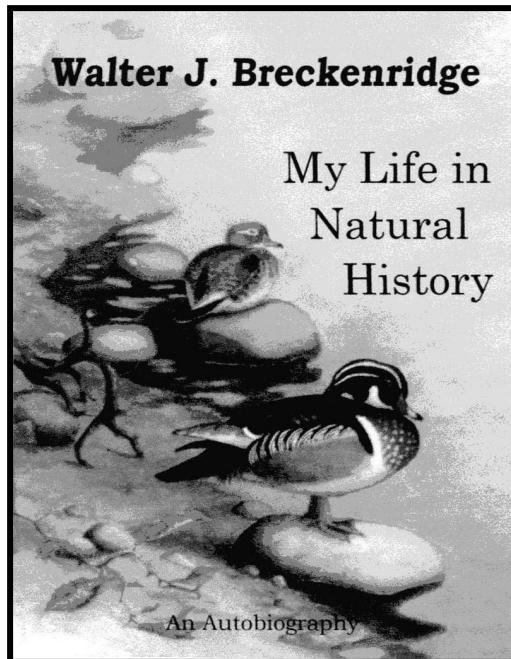
He died in 2003, at age 100.

Now his life and times are memorialized in a newly published autobiography, *My Life in Natural History* by Walter J. Breckenridge. The book is edited by his daughter Barbara Breckenridge Franklin and wildlife biologist John Moriarty.

The 178-page [softbound] book traces Breckenridge's life from his boyhood in Brooklyn, Iowa, through his travels to the Arctic and Galapagos Islands. It features 44 pages of color plates of his paintings, many of which became limited edition prints.

Breckenridge's scientific work and environmental advocacy led to the establishment of parks, wetlands and wildlife areas in Minnesota, including Nerstrand Woods State Park, the Springbrook Nature Center and the university's Cedar Creek Natural History Area. By many accounts, Breckenridge was a humble man to whom writing an autobiography didn't come easily, Bell Museum officials said in a release announcing publication of the book.

"Breck wasn't the richest of men, but he had at least two qualities that cannot be bought: absolute class and an absence of ego," Robert Zink, the Bell Museum Breckenridge Chair in Ornithology, wrote in the book's foreword. Proceeds from the book will benefit the Walter J. and Dorothy S. Breckenridge Education Endowment Fund in support of the museum's education programs, exhibit development, diorama restoration and production of educational films. Publication was made possible by the financial support of the Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America, the Minnesota Ornithologist's Union, the Minnesota Herpetological Society and the Nongame Wildlife Program of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.



The book is available from the Bell Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota  
10 Church Street SE  
Minneapolis, MN 55455  
[www.bellmuseum.org](http://www.bellmuseum.org)  
\$29.95 + tax (\$32.28, add \$5 for shipping)

# **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 \$500.00 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.***

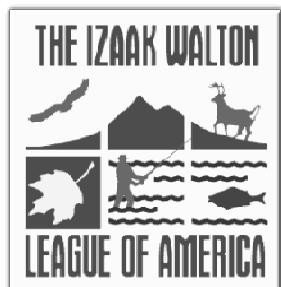
- 1) What are your future educational plans and career goals?
- 2) What do you perceive as the most significant environmental issues facing our planet?  
Which issue interests you the most and why?
- 3) Describe your current involvement in environmental issues and outdoor activities.
- 4) Provide any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



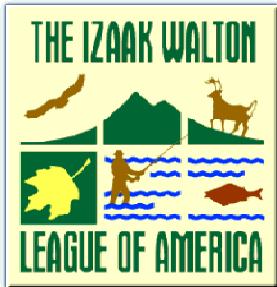
Applications should be mailed to:

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

(763) 561-5364  
[www.breckenridgeikes.org](http://www.breckenridgeikes.org)



**Applications must be received by April 16, 2010**



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."

## Kicking Off the 2010-11 Scholarship Program

By Jim Arnold

The Breckenridge Chapter will soon send scholarship application materials to local schools and post the 2010-11 application on our web site. This will be the twelfth year our chapter has made available \$500 scholarships to high school seniors and/or current college undergraduates. Thus far forty-three scholarships totaling \$21,500 have been awarded to local students with a strong interest in, and a commitment to, environmental causes.

Last months Timberlines contained information on donating to the Chapter's scholarship endowment fund which finances a majority of the scholarships. We would like to recognize another large recent gift of \$1,000 received from members Tom and Marilyn Breckenridge. Many thanks to Tom and Marilyn who have made a number of large contributions in the past to help the endowment fund grow.

The scholarship announcement and application process is included elsewhere in this newsletter. Please share this information with students who might be interested, or have them visit the Chapter website, [www.breckenridgeikes.org](http://www.breckenridgeikes.org). If you have questions regarding the scholarship program please contact one of the committee members: Jim Arnold, Judy Arnold, or Melissa Sonnenberg.