



TIMBERLINES

W. J. Breckenridge Chapter
Izaak Walton League
July 2019

www.breckenridgeikes.org



COMING EVENTS

JULY 2019

- 9 Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
- 23 Social/Educational Meeting 7:30 pm
Jody Yungers, Brooklyn Park Director of Recreation and Parks

AUGUST 2019

- 6 National Night Out
- 13 Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
- 27 Social/Educational Meeting 7:30 pm
Amanda Babcock,
Land Stewardship Project

SEPTEMBER 2019

- 10 Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
- 27 Social/Educational Meeting 7:30 pm

Social/Educational meeting

Tuesday, July 23, 2019 7:30 p.m.

Jody Yungers, Brooklyn Park

Director of Recreation and Parks

Jody Yungers, Director of Recreation and Parks for Brooklyn Park will be our speaker at the July 23 Social/Education meeting. She will be keeping us updated on the 26 million dollar Park Bond Referendum projects and how they aim to protect and preserve our natural resources. Jody wants us to stay connected with what is happening in these exciting times for our park system.



Change in publication date

In an effort to make the minutes of the Board of Directors meetings available in a timelier fashion, we are changing the publication date of *Timberlines* to the week after the board meeting. Therefore the deadline for submissions to the Editor will be the 10th of the month instead of the last day of the month. Therefore we are publishing 2 months of minutes in this issue.

Minutes - Breckenridge Chapter IWLA BOD meeting minutes June 11, 2019

A quorum of board members was not present:
Steve, Barb, Tim, Jim, and Dick attended.

Meeting was called to order with recitation of the Ike's member pledge: *To strive for the purity of water, the clarity of air, and 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.*

Barb suggested changing the Timberlines content submission deadline to the tenth of the month for publication later that week. She plans to go to publishing mid-month going forward. Those present thought it would be OK to do.

Paul Fusco has agreed to present an osprey talk at our June Social/Ed meeting. We will invite Jody Yungers to present a talk on Brooklyn Park natural resources at our July meeting.

Comments on our pancake breakfast were reviewed. Recyclable wood utensils were problematic (some broke during use). We will need to look for a new product next year.

Plans for replacing our furnace were discussed. Need to get some bids. Discussion tabled until next month.

The local National Night Out gathering will again be held at our Chapter House. Jim is in contact with the organizers.

Members expressed satisfaction with how Mayor Lunde's talk went last month.

Steve gave an update on State Division changes. Our State lobbyist, Don Arnosti, has resigned. An election will be held in July to fill positions. Our Division publication Waltonian has changed its name to The Walton Warbler.

Tim has volunteered to take over monitoring the Oxbow bluebird trail temporarily. Jim suggested we

train some high school kids to get involved. Dick will orient Tim to the trail later this week.

Melissa Sonnenberg has two wood duck houses she is offering to anyone who has a place for them. Tim asked who is monitoring our wood duck houses on Banfill Island. Jim said Dan, the one who erected them in the first place may still be interested in monitoring. Discussion of optimal predator guards for the duck houses was had.

Dick updated us on the progress of converting the Oxbow Park's north arm to pollinator friendly plantings. There are some native forbs growing there already. Work may be delayed until next year.

Dick suggested we take on monitoring the intermittent streams in our neighborhoods. Jim mentioned we have members with stream bank access to Mattson Brook. Oxbow Creek access is easy in the public park. Jim mentioned that the stream that drains through the Three Rivers Park below the Coon Rapids Dam is another opportunity.

Elections for Chapter officers are due in July

The Izaak Walton League Ladies usually go out to celebrate birthdays and did so this week. They are open to others if they want to join them. A different group called the Lady Ikes was in existence the first time Jim Arnold stopped in at the Chapter House many years ago.

John submitted the monthly treasurer's update in writing although he couldn't attend due to illness. He has submitted his upcoming resignation from the office of Treasurer and is asking for another member to consider taking on the responsibility.

Jim updated board members on scholarships. Tim updated board members on rentals for the upcoming months.

Tim led a discussion on management of the forest on our property. There are several large dead trees that must be taken down by year's end. Some smaller trees are crowding mature oaks. Also, a Siberian elm near the boulevard needs to be taken out. We will get a bid from Tom Reid on this work to be done in the fall or winter.

Our May speaker, Stephen Thomforde (restoration specialist), agreed to accompany Chapter members sometime in August on a survey of Banfill Island and to suggest best practices for managing the natural resources there.

Minutes - Breckenridge Chapter IWLA BOD meeting minutes July 9, 2019

A quorum of board members was present: Steve, Barb, Karen, Tim, Jim, Wes, Joe and Dick attended.

Meeting was called to order with recitation of the Ike's member pledge: *To strive for the purity of water, the clarity of air, and 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.*

Publicity needed for July meeting with Jody Yungers. Joe and Barb will work on a pamphlet to pass out in the neighborhood.

Dick announced that Amanda Babcock of the Land Stewardship Project has agreed to speak at our August Ed/Social meeting.

Dick updated us on the progress of converting the Oxbow Park's north arm to pollinator friendly plantings. Work will be delayed until next year. The city plans to mow once this year.

Steve reminded us that Chapter board and officer elections are due. Dick asked if anyone is willing to take over his position as one of our two Chapter Directors at Division meetings. No one volunteered so he and Steve will remain in these positions. National Night Out plans for meeting at our Chapter House August 6th were discussed further. Jim is coordinating.

Steve updated members on upcoming July State Division officer elections. He also asked Barb to announce our monthly Education speakers to the State Division for publication there.

Barb is looking for options for our website. Godaddy prices are getting expensive. She will contact

Carolyn at Division for ideas. Barb reminded us that *Timberlines* publication will be mid-month from now on. She will begin announcing new members in it going forward.

Building and Grounds report:

- Joe updated the board on plans for freshening up our restrooms. The work is planned to be done this summer.
- Our siding will need power sanding after the power washing to get all the old paint off.
- Bids for new furnace still need to be obtained. Jim will get bids.
- Dennis will lead on parking lot light post which needs to be straightened and new fixture mounted. Steve will provide equipment for the job.
- Felling of several dead trees planned for late fall or early winter.
- Steve will work on roadside signage including the Ikes' logo.
- Barb suggested we make new geo-cache container. Steve agreed to do this.
- Joe dropped a load of class 5 gravel for us to fill developing potholes in the driveway

Tim updated board members on rentals (seven dates rented in June). July and August still have many openings.

John submitted the monthly treasurer's update by email. He again couldn't attend due to illness. No big changes since last month. He has submitted his upcoming resignation from the office of Treasurer.

Jim updated board members on scholarships. Charlie Taflin will be leaving the scholarship committee so we need to find replacement is needed soon.

Opinion: The Beautiful Rum River and the DNR

In 1937 my parents bought a 3 ½ acre piece on the Rum River just about 100 ft. SW of the old Gillespie Bridge, (now Anoka Co. Rd. 22). The bridge served a dirt road and was an overhead supported style with wood plank decking. Underneath was a melodic set of rapids that made a chorus with a few Norway Pines when the breeze blew and spoke to us all night long.

The area was of light soil and the predominant trees were Red and Burr Oak, Birch and Hazelnut shrubs. There were also wild grape, Choke Cherries, etc. and a few Butternut trees near the flood plain nearby. The 160 acre farm surrounding us was approximately ½ Oak Savanna pasture. We were on good terms with the farmer and could explore at will. After 13 years Dad sold the property and we have regretted it ever since. It was a beautiful place for a young boy to learn and understand nature. There were no neighbors on the river.

We had a 16 ft. square stern canoe and a 2.7-horse Johnson Seahorse motor. Sometimes Mom, Dad and I would paddle down to Anoka, beaching above the dam and have lunch at Nelson's Trail Inn Café at the Main St. and Ferry St. intersection. Then we would motor back upstream to our cabin which took the better part of the day all together. One thing I remember on trips down the Rum was that there were no houses or cabins until we were about a mile from Anoka. In those days all farm houses were on the road (7th Ave.)

In the 1960's, as Scoutmaster for Champlin Troop 276, we took our Scout troop down the Rum from Isanti to Champlin several times. It was still a quiet wild river with little development.

About 5 miles upstream of Highway 22 lay the City of St. Francis. It was a quaint little river town in the 30's and 40's. Today St. Francis has growing pains and has addressed the DNR for an exemption to the Wild and Scenic River Rules adapted in 1978. Thankfully the DNR turned down the exemption.

I haven't been down the Rum River since about 1970. There no doubt has been some development, mostly due to our expanding population and some peoples need to escape the ever crowding cities. If expansion of cities is necessary, it should be done away from our natural and scenic areas.

*Well done DNR!
Dick Brown*

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)

Help Wanted

Two loyal, long tenured and valuable Breckenridge Chapter members will soon be leaving their positions. Both have served as board members and taken on a number of extra tasks that have benefited our Chapter.

John Fraley will soon leave his position as treasurer. If you would be interested in serving the Chapter as treasurer please call John to learn about what is involved (763-421-0826).

Charlie Taflin is leaving his position on the scholarship committee. Please call Jim Arnold (763 560 8972) if you would be interested in serving on this committee.

This is a wonderful opportunity to become active and make a difference to the Breckenridge Chapter.

Special - Important/Informative Meeting on Mississippi River - River Park - Brooklyn Park Natural Resources

YOU ARE INVITED

Brooklyn Park \$26,000,000 Bond Referendum Project.

The featured presenter will be Jody Yungers, Director of Brooklyn Park Parks and Recreation. She will discuss:

- The City's Natural Resource Plan
- A Request for the City to work with private land owners on the Mississippi River - City submit Grant Requests to obtain funding for river bank improvements - public and private property
- 10 Year Implementation Plan

Jody Yungers, Director of Recreation and Parks for Brooklyn Park will update us on the 26 million dollar Park Bond Referendum projects and how they aim to protect and preserve our natural resources. She wants to get your input and stay connected with what is happening in these exciting times for our park system.

Tuesday, July 23 at 7:30 p.m.

Breckenridge Chapter House of the Izaak Walton League of America
8816 West River Road, Brooklyn Park.



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 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.

Join Us for National Night Out - Tuesday, August 6th

We'll need volunteers!

Joe Klohs will do root beer floats again, but if you can help with any of the festivities please contact Jim Arnold (763-560-8972 or jjarnold@q.com)



If you can provide light refreshments for our Tuesday meetings, please contact
Barbara Franklin
763-657-1907
Or bbfrankli@gmail.com

July 23 - John Wexler
August 27 -