Timberlines

W. J. Breckenridge Chapter
Izaak Walton League
November 2013

www.breckenridgeikes.org

November

12 Board of Directors Meeting 7:30

19 Soc/Ed Meeting 7:30 Melissa Hortman and John Hoffman

December

10 Board of Directors Meeting 7:30

January

14 Board of Directors Meeting 7:30

19 Holiday Party

If you have any suggestions or would like to volunteer to help with the Holiday Party, **PLEASE** feel free to contact someone on the board and share your ideas. Plans are being made now. New ideas needed.

Note Date Change

Our Soc/Ed meeting for November will be one week earlier, November 19th due to the holidays of Thanksgiving and Hanukkah. Our guests will be Sen. John Hoffman and Rep. Melissa Hortman of the MN Legislature representing Dist. 36 and 36B. They will apprise us of issues expected to come up in the coming Legislative session

The new letters and numbers are all back on the chimney. Thanks Steve and everyone that worked to make this project happen.

Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter of the Izaak Walton League
October 8, 2013
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

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.

October 8th…….Board of Directors Meeting
October 22nd ……Soc/Ed Meeting - Collette Adkins Giese will do a presentation on Amphibians
November 12th……Board of Directors Meeting
November 19th……Soc/Ed Meeting - Melissa Hortman and/or John Hoffman
December 10th…… Board of Directors Meeting

Issues Dick/Bill

Due to the Christmas Holiday there will be no December social meeting.

The November social meeting will be held a week earlier on November 19th.

The Holiday Party has been scheduled for January 19th.

Mary Spivey, from Cedar Creek stated that they are booked for the rest of the fall season. If we were still interested in taking a field trip we could tour on our own.

The format of the November social meeting was discussed. It was suggested that Senator John Hoffman and Representative Melissa Hortman could speak about what they feel is important that's coming up in the next session and what had been accomplished last session around conservation issues, and then the floor could be opened up to questions. It was recommended that the discussion should be kept around natural resources and things like the Farm Bill, energy issues, gun issues, mining issues, etc. It was also suggested that we put together a list of questions and/or topics on conservation issues that are important to the IWLA. Dick asked that board members send to him a list of questions/topics to get the discussion going.

DNR rulemaking for the Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area – some of the concerns that were discussed are the preservation zones, mitigation or payments of easements in order to get variances, screening requirements including on existing properties, vegetation issues, is trimming allowed, minor landscaping seems to be prohibited, and access to the river is limited. On October 11th, Brooklyn Park is meeting with the DNR to review their concerns. Additional information can be found www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/rules/mrcca/index.html.

Champlin School was on site for their gun safety class. The school would be interested in helping with the buckthorn clean up. However, there is an issue around the cost of transportation between the school and the Chapter House.

Chapter House & Grounds …… Jim/Steve

Entrance Garden Project – No update.

Shrub Watering and Protective Cages – The protective cage work has been completed; there are 48 out of 60 plants that have survived. The final cost of the project was $210.01, $240.00 was budgeted.

The City Forester has done an inspection of our trees and we currently have 5 dead trees along the boulevard and one of them has been marked to be taken down. It has been requested that the tree be taken down within the next 2 weeks.

Deer Hunt – A hunt was held Monday – Wednesday of last week.

The bronze lettering has been installed on the chimney.

Jim Arnold is looking for volunteers to help with the buckthorn clean up on October 26th. The Scouts will also be here to work on the leaf clean up.

Newsletter ……Marlys

Treasurer's Report .....Vera Treasurer's report was given

Scholarship Committee …… Jim

No updates, things will pick up again in December.

www.breckenridgeikes.org ……Barb

No updates.

Rentals … WesNo updates.

Membership …Lorraine

2 New Members – Total current membership 100

Board Members

Name Board Position Phone E-Mail Address Attend

Steven Schaust President 763-493-7921 schaust@aol.com Y

Bill Barton Vice President 651-699-5478 bartonwf@yahoo.com Y

Patrice Lindgren Secretary 612-298-6152 pl201341@yahoo.com Y

Vera Brown Treasurer 763-421-6781 browns@visi.com Y

Jim Arnold (2014) Scholarship 763-560-8972 jjarnold@q.com Y

Dick Brown (2014) Issues/Programs 763-421-6781 browns@visi.com Y

Marlys Carls-Steiskal Newsletter 763-566-1370 EditorBreckIWL@msn.com Y

John Fraley (2012) 763-421-0826 jfraley@usfamily.net Y

Barbara Franklin (2012) Web Master 763-657-1907 bbfrankli@gmail.com Y

Mark Gustafson (2013) 763-427-7588 Y

Wes Hendrickson (2014) Rentals 763-566-7687 Hwesjudy@aol.com Y

Larry Kennebeck 763-525-1143 groovdr7@comcast.net

Lorraine Spears Membership 763-424-0552 Ispears7@hotmail.com

Roger Williams (2012) 651-633-2168 Rwil3450@comcast.net

OPINION

The Plight of Amphibians and Reptiles

The October Social/Ed meeting featuring Collette Adkins-Giese of the Center for Biological Diversity gave a deep insight as to the plight of amphibians and reptiles, nationwide. These creatures are seldom seen by most humans and their importance to the ecosystem is overlooked, not to mention their own right to exist.

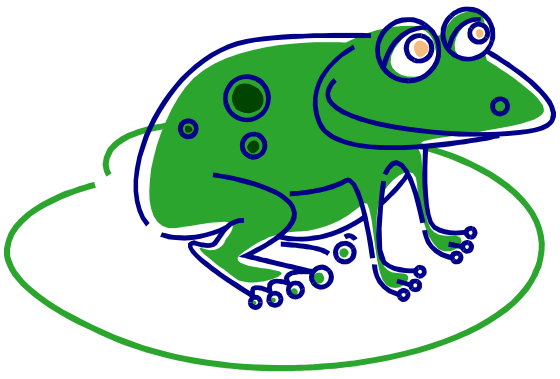
Collette and her allies do their best to list many of these species under the Endangered Species Act but often find resistance from uninterested government backed by chemical agri-business interests.

Once a species does manage to get listed, there is often reluctance to establish a recovery plan. Some of our best recovery plans include establishing refuges in specific areas where the dwindling species still exist or may be expected to recolonize.

Ms. Adkins-Giese gave a very informative presentation.

As a member of the Center for Biological Diversity, I do believe the IWLA could work with the Center on this particular interest.

Dick Brown



OPINION

IWLA MN. STATE DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING – OCT 18-19

The Friday nite informal "early bird" meeting at the home of Secretary John and Becky Siekmeier was very cordial, comfortable and informative on various conversation subjects. The Pot Luck supper was especially extensive and delicious. John gave some of us a twilight tour of his 15 acre woodland paradise which thus far has escaped the fate of subdivision by our ever encroaching population expansion.

On Saturday, the meeting was held at the White Bear Unitarian Universalist Church in Mahtomedi. This is the church where our old friend and fellow conservationist, Phil Hinderacker was on the church board during their remodeling program. Great addition, Phil!

All the reports of committees, officers, directors, etc. were given. Briefly a few things that stood out to me:

Our support to make trapping less dangerous for dogs.

Our decision to make three issues most prominent:

ENERGY: includes wind generation, solar and more efficiencies in buildings and transportation. Includes the issue of global warming.

MINING: Frac sand in SE MN; frac drilling for oil especially in N.D; copper nickel in NE MN; and Keystone Pipeline from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico. It is hoped Chapters will get involved in this issue.

PRESERVATION OF WETLANDS: especially the way mitigation should be done. There is much debate as to whether mitigation should be carried out in the same watershed as present law provides, or whether to allow mitigation to be done in western MN areas where wetland loss is already abundant. I believe chapters should weigh in on this.

The fact that the MN Division is short of money this year. We hope members will respond to the appeal letter that was sent out in October. The State Division is necessary to tie together the actions of our18 MN DIV chapters.

MEF, MN Environmental Fund (work place giving) may be dissolved this year. Our coalition to raise funds for conservation may move to Earth Link.

There probably will be another Wetland Summit this year at Normandale College. Tentative date if Feb. 22.

The 4 hour Board of Directors meeting was more intricate and informative than I report here, but these are some of the highlights that impressed me most. Due to previous commitments I was not able to attend the Wetland Conference in the afternoon.

Dick Brown

We're winning the Buckthorn War

By **Jim Arnold**

Fifteen of us showed up on Saturday October 26th to pull and cut buckthorn. This is the third year of our attempt to rid this invasive and destructive plant from the Chapter House grounds. The following folks helped continue the eradication progress:

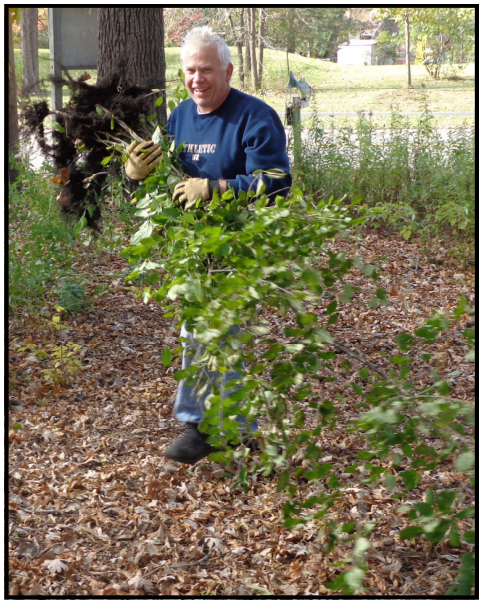
Dick Brown, Dell & Linda Erickson, John Fraley, Barb Franklin, Mark Gustafson, Dean Halonen, Wes Hendrickson, Larry Kennebeck, Brad Larson, Dan & Dave Sherva, Tom Ward and Roger Williams.

Dan and David Sherva pulling buckthorn down on the bank.

Mark's dog watches Dell & Mark load the trailer

Special thanks to Dick Brown who used his large trailer to haul away the buckthorn, to Linda Erickson who provided a wonderful squash soup to nourish us, and to the city of Brooklyn Park for loaning us weed wrenches and providing a nearby spot to dump the plants.

The change in the Breckenridge Chapter woodlot is dramatic. Many small buckthorn plants remain, but the increased light and space will provide native shrubs and flowers growing space We'll need to continue working a day or two each fall to remove the smaller buckthorn plants, but the largest and thickest stands have been eradicated. Watch for an article in next month's Timberlines for a report on Champlin Park students who will be removing more buckthorn on November 7th. Many thanks to all that have been involved with this three year project.



Dean Halonen always works so hard, and with a smile

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."

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

Nov.26 Linda Erickson

Do you have any ideas for entertainment at our Holiday Party on January 19? We need ideas for every part of the party. We need people to volunteer do help make this year better than ever.

Ideas????

Help???

Volunteer now, beat the rush!