



Timberlines

W. J. Breckenridge Chapter Izaak Walton League January February 2010 www.breckenridgeikes.org



Coming Events

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

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

Update on the 2009-10 Scholars By Jim Arnold

Here's an update on the five young people who are currently recipients of Breckenridge Chapter scholarships. I think you'll enjoy reading about some of the recent experiences of these five talented students.

Katie Murphy, A 2009 graduate of Andover High School, started her college career at the University of Wisconsin Superior this fall. She says that, "The most interesting class I took was a basic level Biology class. It was a good start and gave me a general feel for biology. Next semester I will be taking the next level of Biology, along with a pre-calculus class, and a few others. I am still interested in majoring in Biology and am looking into forestry/biology degrees. Next year I will be able to take more specialized classes regarding biology. I am also a member of the schools Students of Science club, and the club, myself included, will be taking a trip to Chicago later this month to visit several museums. As a final note, I am starting to look into internships with the Minnesota DNR for the summers to come."

Hannah Goodrich is a 2007 graduate of Benilde-St. Margaret's High School and a junior at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. She claims that, "This past semester was my most exciting yet. I left for Townsville Australia in mid July, where I spent the next 5 months taking classes at James Cook University, a school known for its marine biology and environmental studies. The four

(Continued on page 3)

**Breckenridge Chapter Izaak Walton League
of America
1-12-10 Meeting Notes**

Attending: Steve Shaust, Bruce Hansen, Bill Barton, Jim Arnold, Barbara Franklin, Roger Williams, Lorraine Spears, Melissa Sonnenberg, Wes Hendrickson

There is one Open Board Seat please contact Steve Schaust if interested.

My Life in Natural History Hardcover books pressed and available.

CALENDAR:

Jan. 17th Holiday Party,

- Silent auction proceeds go to scholarship fund.
- Will show precious waters video since comment period will end Feb 3rd.

- 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 Shaust will be out of town until Sunday 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 something comes up we will do a film festival

Feb. 9 BOD meeting

- Steve planning chapter & grounds and financial meetings in Feb.

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

March 9th BOD meeting

March 23rd Meeting Bill to contact Randy Stark, WI Chief Conservation Officer

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

April 10-12 Minnesota Division Annual Meeting @ Owatonna

May 2 Pancake Breakfast

Possible speaker - Jennie Leete, DNR Ecological Services talk on fens

ISSUES:

Draft forest management plan for Rochester Plateau comments by Jan. 31st. Short time! Should contact Close Owatonna, Red Wing, Wabasha, Reeds Landing.

Thursday Dedicated Funding Working Group meeting – Private landowner Ag., Connecting Conserv. Efforts Clean Water Fund, Lessard Outdoor Heritage, University Water Resources Center, Satveer Chaudrey, Gene Wagenius, Mary Murphy, __ McNamara.

Polymet Draft EIS public comments due by Feb. 3rd to

DNR & Stuart Arkley US ACOE

Nick Coleman Sulfide Mining Polymet article in the Star Tribune.

Precious waters video available on Friends of Boundary Waters website.

Uof M is 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:

Summer Projects

- Waste container enclosure.
- Front entrance garden.
- Add reflecting backstop and possibly another panel for better winter operation.
- Plow took out mailbox, repaired but needs a new post
- Yard light is working now.
- Stain the exterior
- Bathroom upgrades
- Gutter system and rain barrels for the roof runoff?
- Sign posts
- Update Kitchen to attract more rentals?

SCHOLARSHIPS: Will be sending information out to the schools. There will be an article in the Timberlines about current recipients. Information on website and in January Timberlines.

TREASURERS REPORT: CD transferred to business savings which now gets 0.05% vs. 0.04% CD. Better to have in CD for longer term at higher rates even if withdrawn as penalties are same (6 mo interest on withdrawn amount only) 72 month CD is 1.9% rate. Need to plan for expenditures. ~\$7,000 in checking. Bruce will handle 501(C)3 form.

NEWSLETTER: Sending out 108 newsletters. Write stuff up & take photos. **Thanks to Marlys Steiskal!**

PRESIDENT: Working on local posters with art from national and a brochure.

WEBSITE: Put the Walter J. Breckenridge “My Life In Natural History” book on the site.

RENTALS: Champlin Girl Scouts contacted Wes and want to rent Chapter House for low rate. Will be putting 2010 rental dates on the web calendar. December 2010 best month for the coming year so far.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Barton 01-12-2010

OPINION

A TOOL TO PRESERVE AND ENHANCE OUR NATURAL HERITAGE

As we struggle to invent ways to preserve and protect our Natural Heritage from division, overcrowding and development, all phases of our population need to become involved. An overlooked resource is landowners of low or modest income, many of which are retired and own relatively large parcels of land. With rising property tax assessments there is a great tendency to divide and/or sell parcels not only for cash but in many cases to escape the escalating real estate taxes. Many of these owners would prefer to keep their land in a natural state or to pass it to their heirs in a natural state. But increasingly neither they nor their heirs can afford to do so.

Undeveloped woodlands, wetlands and prairies that are not used for commercial purposes can serve as a strong nucleus for wildlife preservation both flora and fauna.

Birds and animals that are raised on these properties will disperse either themselves or by their offspring to nearby areas. So will seeds of native and endemic plants. Inadvertently, much needed wildlife corridors may be established.

We know that wetlands, forests and prairies that stay intact are good for groundwater, surface water and the air we breathe as well as wildlife and the general public. Such parcels would be a great benefit far beyond their borders.

Therefore we need to devise a system whereby the low and modest income landowner will be inspired to neither develop, divide nor destroy the natural amenities of their property.

It seems the Real Estate Tax based on a person's income and ability to pay would be in order. Of course the property owner would be required to engage in a perpetual conservation easement with rules governing the use of the property forever. We need diverse and equitable methods to do the job of environmental-conservation and preservation because our ever increasing population will render whatever areas we have so far set aside-- inadequate.

Dick Brown

(Continued from page 1)

classes I took were Biodiversity of Tropical Australia, Marine and Terrestrial Invertebrate Biology, Ecology and Australian Indigenous Cultures, and Environmental History. I absolutely loved my classes. For Biodiversity, we had four field trips to do field work, which included the local aquarium, the intertidal zone, a nearby bay called Rowes Bay, and into the rainforest and sclerophorous forest. My Ecology and Indigenous Cultures class also had a field trip, led by a local Aboriginal leader, where we saw ancient cave paintings and learned about how Indigenous cultures work with the land and live in conjunction with it. This was by far my favorite class because I learned about how a different culture views of nature in a completely different way. America's European immigrants passed on the belief that nature needed to be preserved and set aside to remain pristine, without human interference. In contrast, Aboriginal cultures believe they are one with the land, and take what is needed while also caring for the land. I was also fortunate to have done a lot of traveling. I went up to Cairns a few times where I snorkeled and SCUBA dove at the Great Barrier Reef, observing the immense diversity and unique habitat. I also zip lined through the Daintree Rainforest, which is the oldest Rainforest in the world."

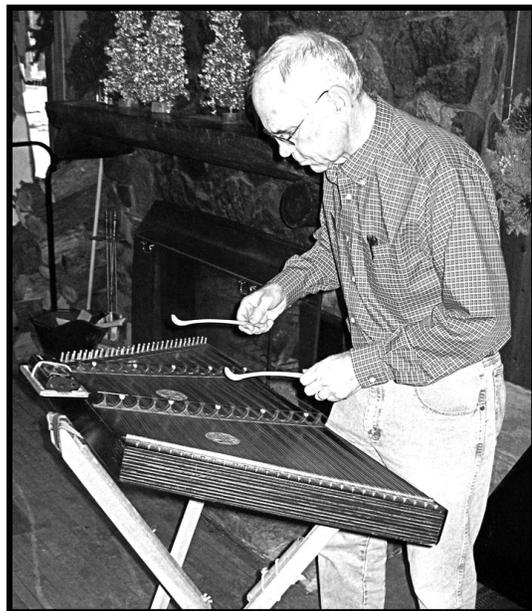
Back at Madison, Hannah will continue classes towards her major/minor of Biological Aspects of Conservation and Environmental Studies, volunteer with Habitat for Humanity and enjoy outdoor experiences as a member of the Hooper Outing Club. She is also currently looking into internships for the summer, hopefully working through the Student Conservation Association.

Ruth Burke, a graduate of Osseo High School, reported that, "Fall semester was hectic but lots of fun! I took several interesting classes including a couple of agronomy courses and a soil science course (which was amazing). The agronomy courses were great introductory courses, and I'm taking the advanced courses this semester and over the summer. I work in the wheat labs at the U of M, so these courses helped me understand a lot more about the place I work! The soil science class

(Continued on page 8)



Holiday Party 2010



Tom Ward and his dulcimer.



Melissa Sonnenberg



Marlys Tafn and her homemade quilt she made for the silent auction.



\$950.00 was taken in on the silent auction. It will go towards the scholarship fund. Thanks to all who donated, and who bought the items.

***** THE HOLIDAY PARTY *****

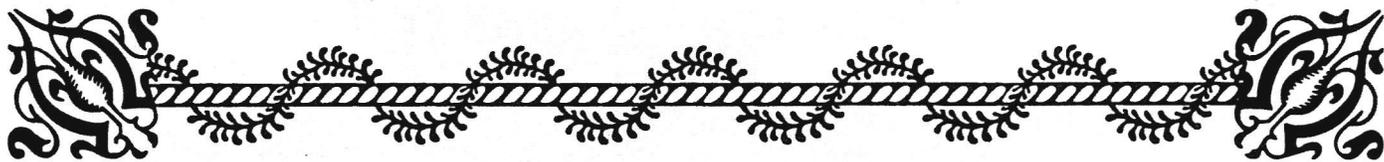
Thank you to the following local merchants who made donations to our silent auction

Arc's Value Village.....	6330 Brooklyn Blvd, Brooklyn Center
50's Grill	5524 Brooklyn Blvd, Brooklyn Center
Biaggi's Restorante Italiano	12051 Elm Creek Blvd, Maple Grove
Brooklyn Park Liquor	8520 Edinburgh Center Dr, Brooklyn Park
Buffalo Wild Wings	5590 West Broadway, Crystal
CD Warehouse	6072 Shingle Creek Pkwy, Brooklyn Center
Chipolte	5608 West Broadway, Crystal
Claddaugh's Irish Pub	7890 Main Street, Maple Grove
Girvan Grille (Edinburgh Golf Course) ...	8700 Edinbrook Crossing, Brooklyn Park
McDonalds	5525 Xerxes, Brooklyn Center
Panera	6064 Shingle Creek Pkwy, Brooklyn Center
Papa John's Pizza	4610 85 th Ave N, Brooklyn Park
Sammy Perrella's Pizza & Restaurant	9750 Schreiber Terrace, Brooklyn Park
Three Squares Restaurant	12690 Arbor Lakes Pkwy, Maple Grove
Trader Joes	12105 Elm Creek Blvd, Maple Grove
The UPS Store	6066 Shingle Creek Pkwy, Brooklyn Center
Van Strand Hair Salon.....	6076 Shingle Creek Pkwy, Brooklyn Center
Walgreen's	6390 Brooklyn Blvd, Brooklyn Center

And, to the following members and friends of the Chapter who donated items

Mike Anderson	Gary & Cherry Schwartz
Jim & Judy Arnold	Evelyn Sonnenberg
Dick & Vera Brown	Melissa Sonnenberg
Dell & Linda Erickson	Charlie & Marlys Taflin
John & Jean Fraley	Roger Williams

Special thanks to: Melissa Sonnenberg who organized and cooked much of the meal, Marlys Steiskal who baked the turkey and dressing, Diane and Daryl Sannes along with Jim and Judy Arnold for organizing the silent auction, and Tom Ward who provided the wonderful background music on his dulcimer.



Valentine's Dinner



Hosted by the Izaak Walton League

Saturday, February 13

6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

8816 West River Road



Dinner includes beef tenderloin, salad, mixed vegetables,
baked potatoes and dessert.

Live music will be entertaining us throughout the evening.
This dinner helps support Tater Daze and local community
events.

Pre-sale tickets are \$15.

For more information, call 763-493-8013.



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.

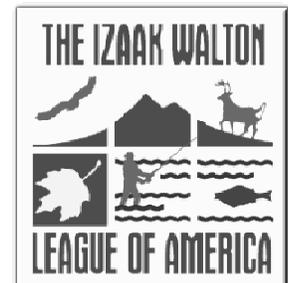


Applications should be mailed to:

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

(763) 561-5364

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.”

(Continued from page 3)

was the most interesting. For our final project, we had to take a section of land and develop it based on the soil types, including wetland preservation and sustainable agriculture practices. I used my family farm in Iowa, and it ended up being an excellent chance for me to get to know my farm a little better (actually, a LOT better!)” Some of the classes Ruth will take this coming semester are plant pathology, agricultural biochemistry, and African agriculture. She is currently applying for summer internships on an organic farm or a sustainable agriculture operation.

Shaina Sabel, a 2008 graduate of Anoka High School, is a sophomore at South Dakota State University. She enjoyed her fall semester and did well academically. Of her most recent courses she writes, “The most interesting I think had to have been my Forest Ecology and Management course taught by Dr. John Ball. We were able to take field trips to reinforce the materials we learned on forest dynamics. I especially enjoyed learning about the different management practices foresters use, including clear cuts, to improve the health of forests. I also had the privilege of taking a geology course that was a weekend long field trip. We traveled across parts

of the Black Hills and the Badlands. South Dakota is a beautifully diverse state geologically and I had no idea of that before. Upcoming, I look forward to courses in Environmental Soil Conservation and Management, Agroecology, and Farm and Ranch Management.”

Brigid Murphy is completing her senior year as a fisheries and wildlife major at the University of Minnesota. She recently returned from Thailand where she took part in a three week course titled “Large Mammal Survey’s in Tropical Forests.” This course involved tracking tigers and fishing cats (a bobcat sized animal that is endangered). Back at school, Brigid continues to work as a tour guide at the Bell Museum and also keeps busy as president of the Fisheries and Wildlife Club. Many of you will remember Brigid’s presentation on Orangutans at our Chapter’s March, 2009 meeting. She will again be presenting at our February 23rd meeting – this time on the piping plover study she took part in on Michigan’s Upper Peninsula last summer. Brigid will graduate this spring and has already begun applying for positions where she can use her fish and wildlife expertise.