



# Timberlines

W. J. Breckenridge Chapter  
Izaak Walton League  
December 2013  
[www.breckenridgeikes.org](http://www.breckenridgeikes.org)



## December

10 Board of Directors Meeting 7:30

## January

14 Board of Directors Meeting 7:30

19 Holiday Party Social hour will be from 4 to 5, dinner at 5 and program at 6.

## February

11 Board of Directors Meeting 7:30

25 Social/Educational Meeting 7:308ii

### Past Breckenridge Chapter Scholarship winner is off to Antarctica William Risse

"I will be travelling to McMurdo Station, Antarctica from December 10th- January 20th. I am working at the station as a graduate research assistant with the Polar Geospatial Center at the University of Minnesota (<http://www.pgc.umn.edu/>). I will be supporting other researchers including geologists, climatologists, biologists, and environmental scientists in meeting their cartographic, geographic information system, and mapping needs.

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.

**Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter  
of the Izaak Walton League  
November 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.

November 12th.....Board of Directors Meeting

November 19th.....Soc/Ed Meeting -  
Melissa Hortman and/or John Hoffman

December 10th ...Board of Directors Meeting

January 14th .....Board of Directors Meeting

January 19th.....Holiday Party

**Issues ..... Dick/Bill**

\* Social Meeting Speakers - Reviewed suggested questions and discussed the format for the Nov 19th Soc/Ed meeting.

\* The suggestion for the February social meeting speaker is, Heather Holm, she could speak on native bees; the cost would be \$100 and up to \$25 for handouts. A motion was made to accept the proposed costs, and the Board approved.

\* Boy Scout Troop 322 Closing – Troop 322 is disbanding due to low membership. It's possible that we could be approached to fill the empty spot. We are open to sponsoring another troop or similar group, it's been a good relationship and the help with projects has been very beneficial.

\* Mississippi River Natural Plantings – Jason Newbie from the City of Brooklyn Park has invited the IWLA to participate in a meeting on December 10th to talk about the city's ordinance on landscaping. We will have representatives from our chapter attend.

\* Holiday Party – Party planning on hold until next month's meeting. Social hour will be from 4 to 5, dinner at 5 and program at 6.

**Chapter House & Grounds .....Jim/Steve**

\* Buckthorn Removal Project – On November 7, 200 kids from Champlin Park High School helped to fill four trailer loads with buckthorn. With the help of volunteers we have been able to greatly reduce the amount of buckthorn on the property.

\* City Forester - The tree that had been identified as needing to be taken down has been removed.

\* Deer Hunt – The last update as of Sunday was that 4 deer had been taken.

\* Snow Removal – Bob has been contacted about this year's snow removal. The charge will be a little over \$100 per plow for snowfalls over 2 inches.

- Holiday decorating of the chapter house will be on Wed Dec 4th at 7.

- **Newsletter** ..... Marlys

\* One of our scholarship people is going to the Antarctic. It was suggested that maybe he could submit an article for the newsletter.

**Treasurer's Report .....Vera**

\* Update was given

**Scholarship Committee .....Jim**

\* No updates at this time

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

**Rentals ...Wes**

\* 5 new rentals added since Sept. Total rentals 4 in October, 5 in November, 13 in December, 6 in January, and 2 in February.

**Membership ..... Lorraine**

\* 107 total members. Membership renewal letters have been sent out.

## Thank-you Lew Chownen

What's new? A visit to the chapter house will reveal a generous and thoughtful gift from Lew Chownen of Clearwater, Minnesota. He is an accomplished artisan. During his long career he worked on many projects in the Twin Cities. Lew made the new letters on the chimney based on a design by Wes Hendrickson. The letters are made from 1/2" square bronze barstock. Bronze, an alloy of copper and tin was the preferred material of sculptors during the Bronze Age. Much of their art still exists.



The letters and new stucco backing were installed by Steve Schaust assisted by Mark Gustafson, Jim Arnold, Dick Brawn and John Fraley.

On June 1, 2010 the Chownen family gathered at the chapter house for a memorial to their sister Mary. While there, Lew noticed that the letters on the chimney were rusty and broken. He volunteered as tribute to Mary to make new letters. He just needed a new pattern sized to the stucco backing.

Please stop in and see the completed project. Thank-you Lew and Chownen family. In addition to Mary's memorial, the Chownen family has also had a family reunion and Thanksgiving at the chapter house. The Breckenridge chapter is honored and very appreciative for the gifts. Future volunteer opportunities are available. Maybe in the Spring tuck-pointing the chimney?

## Walking on Thin Ice Deer Rescue

Thanksgiving morning I went to our back window to admire the view I am so thankful for, the Mississippi River. I saw an adult eagle walking on the ice around a deer. It is then I realized that the doe was in trouble and needed help. She flayed and tried to get up, but fell back to the ice. After watching this awful sight, I called 911 not sure if they would do anything or not. The police service officer arrived and looked over the situation, called it in for help. The fire department did not want to endanger their people in thin ice. The Sheriff's department then arrived. After scoping out the situation, they called in their air boat rescue squad. They put in at Riverview Park and came north to Banfill Island. They arrived and tried to blow the deer onto the island to no avail. They then edged up to the deer and prodded her on. She still did not stand up. Two of the rescuers got out of their boat and lifted her on to shore. I could hear her cry. They gently laid her on the shore and hoped she would get her strength back and be on her way.

I want to acknowledge the work, patience and concern the men of the Hennepin County Sheriff's department showed for this deer. Pictured are Deputy Beach, Marlys Carls-Steiskal, and Supervisor Deputy Copeland. Deputy Hernke, Deputy Nestrud and Sgt. Steffens worked the air boat. Thank you to all of them for caring.

I am thankful for all that were concerned about Mother Nature's creatures, big or small.

PS This was a 20 second mention on the channel 11 news that evening. She didn't make it.



## Champlin Park Students Help With Buckthorn Removal

By Jim Arnold

On Thursday, November 7th two hundred students from the Biology and Outdoor Adventure classes of Ed Jones and Kim Kovich visited the Chapter House grounds to pull buckthorn. The energetic students were shuttled via bus for 45 minutes (30 to 60 students at a time) at the IWL property before returning to school. Most enjoyed a cup of hot chocolate before returning. Four large trailers of the invasive plants were filled. Most work was done



their weed wrenches and providing us with a convenient spot to haul the plants. All of those involved felt it was a valuable hands on experience for the students to see the devastation that invasive plants can have on native woods.

And, of course, it was of great benefit to the Breckenridge Chapter woodlot.



in areas of the property that was hard to reach and had not been dealt with during previous buckthorn eradication efforts.



We continue to make dramatic progress in our efforts to remove buckthorn. The increased light and space is providing native plants (including the native shrubs planted last spring) growing space.

In addition to their teachers, students were helped by IWL members John Fraley, Barb Franklin, Mark

Gustafson, Tom Ward and Judy Arnold. Thanks also to Dick Brown and Brad Larson for using their trailers to haul the buckthorn and



to the city of Brooklyn Park for again lending us



# **BRECKENRIDGE CHAPTER ANNUAL WINTER PARTY**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2014**

**\$5.00**

Proceeds go to the Breckenridge Chapter's Scholarship Fund

4 p.m. - Social Hour

Silent Auction (please bring auction items by 4 p.m.)

Hors d'oeuvres

5 p.m. - Dinner

Baked Ham

Roasted Turkey

Fresh Fruit & Vegetables

Bread

Desserts or side dishes (contributions accepted!)

6 p.m. - Program

Well-known naturalist, wildlife photographer and writer Stan

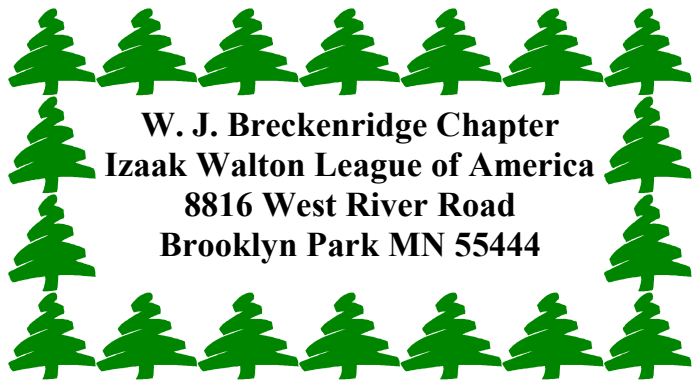
Tekiela will present a program new for 2014:

Bear, Black, Brown and Polar

Please RSVP to Barb Franklin by Wednesday, January 15

763-657-1907 or [bbfrankli@gmail.com](mailto:bbfrankli@gmail.com)

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**



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](mailto: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](mailto:bbfrankli@gmail.com)

February 25 - Linda  
Eriksson  
March 25 -



### Chapter House Cleaning

In preparation for the holidays, Vera Brown, Lorraine Spears and Barb Franklin cleaned the Chapter House from top to bottom, including the cobwebs and the ovens. Yuck!

