



TIMBERLINES

W. J. Breckenridge Chapter
Izaak Walton League
August 2019

www.breckenridgeikes.org



COMING EVENTS

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
- 24 Social/Educational Meeting 7:30 pm
Mary Karius, Wetland Health Evaluation
Project

OCTOBER 2019

- 8 Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
- 22 Social/Educational Meeting 7:30 pm
DNR – Endangered Species



Social/Educational meeting

Tuesday, August 27, 2019 7:30 p.m.

Amanda Babcock

Land Stewardship Project

Amanda Babcock is the State Policy Organizer for the Land Stewardship Project (LSP), a grassroots membership organization with the mission to foster an ethic of stewardship for the land, promote sustainable agriculture, and develop healthy communities. She has been on staff with LSP for two years, organizing with rural and farmer members in Minnesota to transform the farm and food system to be sustainable, equitable and just. Amanda has a B.S. in Environmental Science and will soon have a M.A. in Advocacy and Political Leadership.

During her time with LSP, Amanda has worked with the Izaak Walton League on securing state funding for the Forever Green Initiative at the University of Minnesota, which is developing and building markets for profitable cover crops and perennials that build soil health, sequester carbon, and clean our water. In her talk, she will discuss LSP's holistic approach to the biggest crises we face, from climate change to the farm crisis, and how each person can play a role in tackling them.

To see what issues the Land Stewardship Project worked on during the 2019 MN Legislative Session, visit:

<https://landstewardshipproject.org/posts/blog/1203>

Minutes - Breckenridge Chapter IWLA BOD meeting minutes August 13, 2019

A quorum was present: Steve, Barb, Karen, Tim, Larry 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.*

Dick announced that Mary Karius from Wetland Health Evaluation Project has agreed to speak at our September Ed/Social meeting. He is trying to get a speaker from the DNR for October to talk about endangered species.

Steve solicited input on additional signage to place by the street. Signs could be placed on the mailbox post and on either side of our main overhead sign.

Discussion was had about the Whitehouse's new attack on the Endangered Species Act.

It was reported that "National Night Out" at the Chapter House was attended by about 75 people, including lots of children.

Steve reminded members that we will have an election for Chapter officers at our next Social/Ed meeting. We need candidates for Treasurer and Secretary.

Steve and Larry updated us on the results of the July State Division officer elections. We will host the fall Division meeting again this year. The date has not been set yet but we will need to get volunteers to serve food and beverages.

Barb contacted State and National offices about support for our website. GoDaddy prices are getting

expensive and our current contract expires at the end of this year. She is thinking of switching to Wix. Barb reminded us that Timberlines publication will be mid-month from now on.

Building and Grounds :

- Sanding and staining of the siding is to be completed this month.
- Jerry Steele has agreed to work on plans to freshen up our restrooms.
- Steve and Tim will work on building a guy-wire for the yard-light pole.
- The new yard-light Dennis bought will be placed soon.

Tim announced that we will be doing an assessment of Banfill Island's resources with the NPS and John Moriarty on August 27. Steve reminded us that the NPS should have some data from previous years.

Tim gave an update of discussions with FMR on the wildlife corridor under the west side of the 610 bridge. He shared photos of the current situation. With current river levels there is a passable corridor; it is only problematic during spring flooding.

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)

Clean Brooklyn Park Water

by Tim Johnson

Monitoring the streams and wetlands in our community is something Ikes across our nation have been doing for a long time ([Clean Water Challenge](#)) and members of our Breckenridge Chapter have been talking about getting more involved in this ourselves. We have scheduled an important speaker, Mary Karius, to address our September Social/Education meeting on this subject. Mary is an Environmentalist working with Hennepin County Environment and Energy where she coordinates the county wetlands and stream monitoring programs.

She told us that her department has partnered for many years with the West Mississippi Watershed to monitor Mattson Brook (which enters the Mississippi just a block south of our Chapter House) in the River Watch program. Unfortunately they haven't been able to find a school group to monitor the creek for the last several years so she is definitely interested in helping us do that site. They would provide all equipment and can assist both with the protocol and with identification of invertebrates in monitoring the stream. For stream monitoring they only do "inverts" and identify to the Family Level. They then use the Hilsenhoff Biotic Index to assess the inverts and can

extrapolate that to the health of the creek. They have several years of data for Mattson which they can share. Besides Mattson Brook, she says it's always possible to do multiple sites if there's interest and she would love to partner with the Ikes. Members have suggested the stream that runs into the Mississippi in the Coon Rapids Dam Park. Stream sampling can be done either in the spring or fall or both depending upon interest.

Our Chapter was contacted by Kim Carpenter



recently seeking advice and help for her Master Water Steward Capstone Project. She is working with the City of Brooklyn Park to improve the storm water wetland engineered in River Park by the City. The ponds were dug in 2005 and the rest of the prairie restoration was completed in 2013.

(Water...cont on p 4)



(Water... cont. from p 3)

Part of Kim's project involved monitoring of the sedimentation ponds to assess their health. Staff from the Wetland Health Evaluation Project (WHEP) met there in August and provided training for volunteers in the monitoring process, collecting samples to be evaluated later in the lab. Besides sampling for invertebrates, a vegetation inventory of a 100 square meter shoreline section was done. Results should be available by the time of Mary's September presentation.

Kim is organizing a volunteer group to work with the City to remove invasive trees (Siberian Elm, Black Locust) around the ponds, tentatively scheduled for August 28, 29. If you would be interested in volunteering for this project you can email Kim at carp0084@gmail.com.

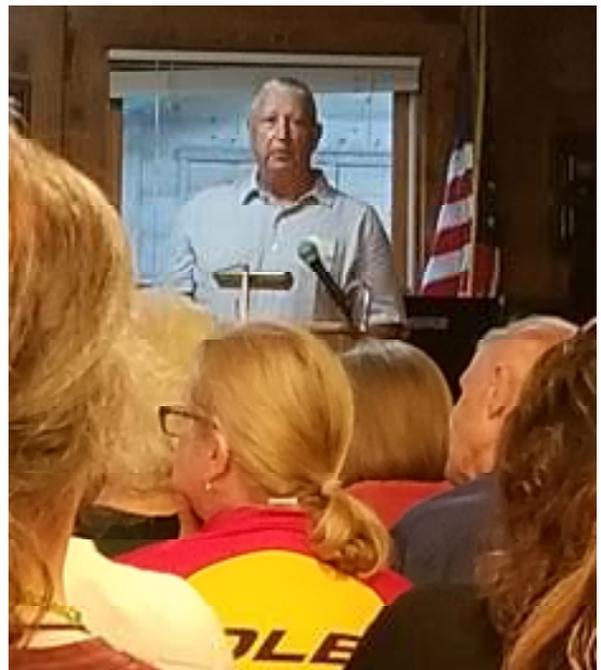
Reported by Tim Johnson

Brooklyn Park Bond Referendum discussed

Jody Yungers, Director of Recreation and Parks for Brooklyn Park met with 50+ members of the community at the very well-attended the July 23 Social/Education meeting. She provided an update on the 26 million dollar Park Bond Referendum project at River Park and discussed questions about 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.



Joe Klohs introduces speaker Jody Yunger at the July meeting.



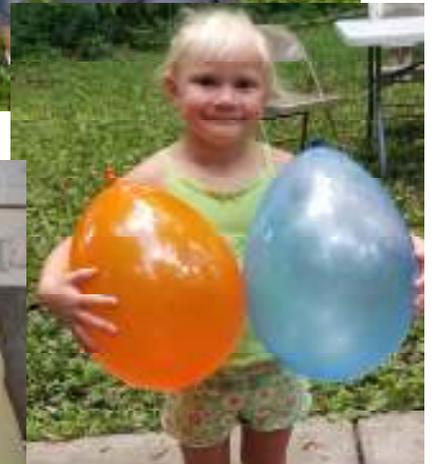
If you can provide light refreshments for our Tuesday meetings, please contact Barbara Franklin 763-657-1907 Or bbfrankli@gmail.com

**August 27 - John Wexler
September 24 -
October 22 -**



National Night Out - Tuesday, August 6th ...

...at the Chapter House was attended by about 75 people, including lots of children. Many thanks to all those who came, especially those who helped out, brought food, and entertained, including Laura Fuller, who was instrumental in organizing the event and keeping records of our attendance.



**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.

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.

We also need someone to fill the position of Secretary. This is a wonderful opportunity to have a role in directing the activities and goals of to the Breckenridge Chapter and would be most appreciated.