



WALTONIAN

Ikes enjoyed the 2011 Annual Meeting/Convention at the Audubon Center of the North Woods.

Audubon Center Impressions

Ikes checked into the Crosby Hall dormitory with accommodations in rooms fitted with eight bunks. The rooms housing only two occupants for this weekend and offered a two sink bathroom, toilet and shower and large windows which brought in natural light. Did anyone chose the upper bunks?

The light, airy meeting room was conveniently located at the end of Crosby Hall hallway overlooking Grindstone Lake, still ice covered but with weather that promised spring.

The vast dining hall's focus was a three story stone fireplace and has seating for 200. Ikes never went hungry.



The Ikes enjoyed a presentaion on raptors at the Audubon Center of the Northwoods. Photo by Julie Henriksson.

Food was abundant featuring a Friday walleye dinner, with many veggies and salad at all meals.

A large field next to the dormitory held three huge photo-voltaic panels soaking up solar energy, a wind generator and beneath the ground geothermal heating elements. All were multiple aspects of renewable energy projects.

A Saturday morning hike around the former farm property of 535 acres took the group to lakeshore lodging, historical buildings and mystery remains. A mist of maple vapor hung in the air in the maple sugar building where gallons of sap from 300 tapped maples were being turned into syrup.

In stacks of cages an array of raptors were housed which were used for educational purposes. These birds couldn't survive in the wild, including a beautiful bald eagle.

Resolutions from the 2011 Annual Meeting

These resolutions were adopted on April 10, 2011

Best Farming Practices asks the Governor to establish a public citizens' commission to advise the Governor on the best farming practices of sustainable agriculture for the state of Minnesota

Roadside Management urges the appointment of an ad hoc committee to work with the Division Issues Committee toward adoption of a statewide cooperative roadside management program using the MNDNR Roadside for Wildlife and the Iowa Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management as models. *Resolutions continued on page 2*

Renewal of our Conservation Pledge

This issue of the *Waltonian* is dedicated to renewal for all who cherish the environment. During both state and national law making sessions, environmental protection has been under attack. Minnesota Division leaders give some advice as to how we as citizens and Ikes can renew our conservation 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 of it, I pledge myself as a member of the Izaak Walton League of America.

For ideas on rededications follow the eagle logo on pages 2,3,4 and 5.





Protect Our Planet for the Future

From newly elected Minnesota Division President Larry Dolphin, Austin Chapter who is Director of the Hormel Nature Center come these thoughts: Clean water, clean air, hunting and fishing for all, for the next seven generations, the wild ones, and us. We need clean water, food, air, a place for the wild ones, but we cannot eat money. This came from a Cree Indian Proverb: "Only when the last tree has died and the last river has been poisoned and the last fish has been caught will we realize we cannot eat and drink money."

The Izaak Walton League and its members are caring people wanting to make the world a better place for all. We do that by understanding that we are connected to everything else. Our natural world is not separate from us, but we are part of it. We need to put our boots to the ground and fight hard for the long term health for the people and the wild ones that live on this planet.

The Ikes have a common sense approach and a long term vision to establish and maintain a sustainable healthy planet for all. "Mitskuye Oyasin", Lakota for we are all related. For the wild ones, the next seven generations, and us.

Introducing Your New Minnesota Division Officers

They take office June 1, 2011

Officers

President: Larry Dolphin, Austin #10 Chapter
Vice President: John Crampton – Bush Lake Chapter
Secretary: Gregg Thompson – Bush Lake Chapter
Treasurer: Jill Crafton – Bush Lake Chapter

National Directors

Gary Schwartz – Owatonna Chapter
Curt Leitz – W. J. McCabe Chapter

Directors at Large

William Barton – Breckenridge Chapter
Char Brooker – Wapashaw and Jaques Chapters
Michelle Schroeder – Minnehaha Chapter
Donna Dustin – Prairie Woods Chapter
Cherry Schwartz – Owatonna Chapter

(Contact numbers for officers are on page 8.)



Adelaide Grace working on her smile.

MN Division Secretary Gregg Thompson

Announces the Birth of His Daughter

Rachel and my daughter's name is Adelaide Grace. She was born on March 24 and weighed in at 8 pounds.

In the last few weeks she has mastered the smile and is working on the giggle, which continually melts her parents' hearts. I don't think I've ever been so tired (mom and dad are zombies) but it has been a great experience. I look forward to getting her outdoors and encouraging curiosity and appreciation for the outside world. I also look forward to periods of sleep – hopefully someday!

It looks like Adelaide will be a future Ike.

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Resolutions continued from page 1

Use of Lead in Hunting & Fishing. Phase out manufacture in five years, sale in ten years and use in fifteen years of lead hunting and fishing equipment.

Regulatory Principles. Periodic Reform that emphasizes reduction of unnecessary redundancy, undertakes effective strategies and priorities based on severity of risk and to efficiently work with permit/project applicants without compromising resource protection.

Streamlining Public Access to Private Lands asks the DNR to explore programs in which landowners, receiving monetary compensation, voluntarily participate, allowing public to their land, posted Walk-in Only signs. To be financed through increased hunting license fees.

No Net Gain - Public Lands opposes blanket legislation intended to effect no net gain of public lands in Minnesota.

A Position Statement from **Breckenridge Chapter** that opposes commercial logging in Minnesota State Parks was adopted.

Outstanding Environmental Accomplishments Recognized

Sigurd F. Olson Awards -Two Sigurd F. Olson Awards for outstanding contributions to the preservation of Minnesota's natural resources were given this year. Both citizens were recognized for work on the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC). Honored was **Dr. Mike Kilgore**, Professor of Natural Resource Economics and Policy in the U of M's Department of Forest Resources. Kilgore chaired the Council in its effort to follow the intent of the Constitutional Amendment for dedicated funding.

Bill Becker is the Executive Director of the Council. His knowledge of natural resources coupled with his understanding of public monies and organizational administration was outstanding in the work of the Council.

Dr. Walter J. Breckenridge Environmental Education Award - **Mike Link** and **Kate Crowley** were honored for many years of environmental education excellence. About 40 years ago Mike Link founded the Audubon Center of the North Woods and Kate has been a staffer. The Center has grown to an outstanding environmental center with a myriad of projects. Link and Crowley's latest venture was a hike around Lake Superior to engage communities in the value of the Big Lake.

Breckenridge Chapter member **Darby Nelson** was awarded a special **Distinguished Service Award** for his many contributions to environmental education and most recently as a member of the LSOHC.

The **Breckenridge Chapter** won the **Numeric Increase Membership Award** and the **Wapashaw Chapter** won the **Dr. Shouse Award** for percent membership increase.

Local Ikes Honored with Stewardship Awards

Michelle Schroeder of Minnehaha Chapter is a super worker bee, one of the most active volunteers the Minnesota Division has ever had. She is at every Division meeting and contributes to dozens of issues. She represents the best of the Ike mission and continues to educate herself and inspire others to action. You can find her camping out in her tent at many meetings.

Championing local Ike work, Austin Chapter member **Jim Stiles** has 100% involvement in his projects: Mill Pond Rain Garden Project, Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment supporter, State Capitol bus trips, Energy Conservation.

Austin Chapter member **Mark Owens** has been an integral part of these successful chapter projects: Mill Pond Rain Garden Project, Cedar River and Dobbins Creek Water Monitoring, Purple Martin Project and Energy Conservation.

Many thanks go to **Char Brooker** for chairing the Awards Committee.



Prairie Woods Chapter Vice President Sally Hauskens checks out the Audubon Center's array of photovoltaic cells. Picture by Julie Henriksson.

Energize and Galvanize for the Environment

Michelle Schroder Advises.

It is not news that I saw Sen. Ellen Anderson at a recent environmental fundraiser. However, it was the same week she was removed from the LCCMR and I expected that bruise to be on her sleeve. To my surprise, she was her usual energetic, cheerful, hopeful self.

Just when I needed hope, her attitude was a great source of relief and inspiration. She gracefully revealed exactly how to continue fighting for the environment: don't dare to become defeatist. Despite environmental losses from the 2010 vote, she will never surrender her own great love for the environment or her ability to tap into thinking more long-term. She's unbelievably skilled for handling today's political climate.

Now is absolutely not the time to give up. More than ever, do your part to inform yourself and others about the value of our environment and the threats to it. Many people are upset by these injustices. They know a lot is wrong right now, but simply don't know where to even begin. **Galvanize and mentor those people, pull them in, and grow our numbers and influence by creating greater public awareness.**

Gather strength from our Springtime. Cherish all of the life that has returned and the scent of a new season. We have a beautiful place to call home. Remember to be grateful for your passion, as painful as it can sometimes be. After all, we're Ikes.

President's Letter



Curt Leitz

Minnesota Division President

At our spring convention in Sandstone, we ran out of time for one activity that otherwise would have occupied us late Saturday afternoon, when we were perusing silent auction items and informally talking conservation. Had we needed something to jumpstart conversation at that time, I'd have shown a DVD that David Zentner put in my hands, a copy of the keynote address that Bob Marshall delivered at the Sportsmen's Summit for Clean Water held in Memphis this past February. Marshall is the outdoors editor at the *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, and his colorful storytelling and sharp message are quite similar to those of another outdoors writer who was at our convention, the *StarTribune's* Dennis Anderson.

Marshall's keynote talk expressed his dismay that our current political climate has become so divisive and so politically polarized that it seems difficult to be both conservative and a conservationist. His lament struck a nerve in me, and since then I've seen evidence that he's right. In late February the *National Journal* released their annual analysis of voting in both houses of the U.S. Congress; they found the major parties more polarized than ever before, with essentially no overlap whatsoever between moderate Republicans and moderate Democrats. More and more, our elected representatives follow party platforms across the board on issues.

What this means for us is that if you support further restrictions on abortions and you also support the original intent of the Clean Water Act, you probably won't find a candidate who represents your views on both issues; you'll have to choose which is more important to you. This should be troubling to everybody, whether you identify as part of the left, right, or center. If we as voters don't demand that politicians of both parties be good conservationists, our battle to preserve and restore the environment will ultimately be lost, and our outdoor heritage will disappear with it.

While it's easy to point the finger at political parties or at politicians generally, their current polarization is simply a reflection of our broader society. I believe we're in this mess in large part because our news media has become so fragmented and factionalized,



Curt Leitz and newly elected Minnesota Division President Larry Dolphin. Photo by George Barthel.

with seemingly every outlet shooting for a different market. Everybody can choose a news source that supports their own political views, and most of us do; then, over and over, we only hear one side of the story. We only talk politics with folks who agree with our own views. Wittingly or unwittingly, we demonize the other side. Before we know it, we've reached a point where one's views on social issues predict one's views on environmental issues.

Hogwash. The Republican Party was at the forefront of the conservation movement, and conservatives should be proud of that. We all know from personal experience that hunters and anglers frequently have powerful concern for the environment, regardless of their political ideologies. If we allow ourselves to be trapped by the illusion that conservation of the environment is only important to people on the left, then anyone who identifies otherwise—for whatever reason—will be lost to our cause. And if that happens, our cause is lost.

This column will be the last of retiring Division President Curt Leitz's thoughtful comments on Division issues and progress. Ikes wish to thank Curt for his two years of strong leadership of the Minnesota Division. His focus, people skills, drive and clear headedness have done much to keep the Division moving forward.

Be an Active League Member



You've seen it all before! And, now you are seeing it again! "IT" is an assault on common sense stewardship of Minnesota natural resources. To watch current legislative actions one would have to assume that some legislators do not think clean air and water, bountiful wildlife populations, and outdoor recreation are core values to the citizens they serve.

How can this be in a state that saw 1,600,000 voters choose to tax themselves to reinvigorate conservation of all types?

There is not enough space in this *Waltonian* to cover it all. But this much is clear; without active lkes who are willing to voice their concerns, there will be more to come! We've been at our best when we've been engaged. We represent the values of the majority of the people living in Minnesota; much of the proposed legislation does not represent those values.



We exist to defend those values. Those victories require eternal vigilance. Politicians often have little memory of what preceded their individual election to office. We need to help educate them.

We can understand the desire that drives government to improve its performance. We can understand and support review of environmental protections. But we cannot stand by and allow change that is not supported by good science, and then applied evenly to all.

When the State and National League need your voice on an issue, lend it, help out! This is a democracy. We can make a difference. We always have. Pull out a map of Minnesota today; look at the footprints of the League. Do you see national wild life refuges, do you see wilderness areas, do you see state and national parks and do you see places you want to take your children and grand- children? We have these treasures and more because we are a League.

Now that we have new challenges, we need to respond together, not just a few elected leaders, and dedicated staff, all of us, everyone! Please spend a little time every week of our lives protecting what past members accomplished. Let us serve our core values. What a shame it is every time we lose something precious to us all with the knowledge that we did not try to prevent that loss, losing without even trying is really a darned shame. Let us pledge that we will not let that happen.

By Dave Zentner, McCabe Chapter member and former National President

IN MEMORIAM

Betty Stein: the Ultimate Secretary

Breckenridge Chapter member Betty Stein succumbed to complications of brain cancer on April 6, 2011. Betty and her husband Bill attended many Minnesota Division meetings where Betty used her secretarial skills taking minutes for three years. She also served as Breckenridge Chapter secretary. Betty earned her Bachelors of Business Administration in 1948 at a time when very few women attended that program. Then she began a 35 year career as a professional secretary for many companies and organizations. She became a Certified Professional Secretary in 1980, being one of only 8% nationwide who passed the exam the first time.

She was a warm, open, kindhearted person with a strong love of nature. She and Bill have three children, Sharon McNamara, Bill Stein and Susan Weidner and nine grandchildren.

Silent Auction Earns \$1,000 for Scholarships

At the State Convention once again diverse and unusual items made for interesting browsing and bidding during the pre-banquet social hour on Saturday evening. Display tables and bidding materials were arranged by Auction Chairs Cherry and Gary Schwartz who hauled many of the items up from Owatonna. We thank them for making this fundraiser a success for many years. They are dedicated!

A total of \$1000 was collected to be split between the Minnesota Division Scholarship Fund and the Ruth M. Saari Scholarship. The \$204 earned by sale of photos, note cards and calligraphy will be split equally between the National IWLA Endowment and the National IWLA Trust.

BWCAW Ruling

On April 12, 2011 Superior National Forest Supervisor Jim Sanders handed down a decision that protects the wilderness character of the BWCAW in Minnesota from proposed increased motorboat traffic in the so-called Chain of Lakes. His decision brings to a close a series of efforts by the League and other wilderness protectors working since 1993 to conserve wildlife habitat and wilderness values in the area. Read more background in a blog by Wilderness and Public Lands Program Director Kevin Proescholdt. Go to www.iwla.org and click on News & Publications.



Make your Environmental Voice Reach Many

Letters to the Editor can spread the word about conservation as evidenced by a Saturday, May 7 Spotlight Letter which appeared in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* and was written by MN Division Board Member **Char Brooker**. She explained the intent of the Legacy Amendment in this Letter to the Editor.



The **People Spoke** was in answer to a May 4 editorial in the *St. Paul* paper.

Brooker wrote: "The editorial 'Learning from the Legacy Amendment' (May 4) did not show an understanding of why a solid majority of Minnesotans voted for the Legacy Amendment.

They had waited for too many years for legislators or governors to spend a reasonable amount on the things that matter to Minnesotans – habitat, water, the arts, parks, and trails. So they said 'yes' and they also said we will pay more in taxes to accomplish this goal.

The end of the editorial stated that it was too bad we could not use the money for mental health programs instead of the arts and cultural programs. You didn't get it. That is precisely why we needed the spending to be dedicated and it had to be new money so as not to take away from programs like mental health."

"Minnesotans and their elected officials worked out a process that will continue to make this a great state for the people. The people spoke loud and clear."

Charlotte Brooker, Maplewood

Letters championing the environment locally, state-wide and nationally can make a difference. Let your voice be heard.

Breckenridge Chapter's Nature and Wildlife Art Show is Growing

The Second Annual Art Show will be held at the Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter House, 8816 West River Road, Brooklyn Park. Here is the schedule:

Friday, June 24, 6 pm to 10 pm- Opening Reception with Refreshments, Music, Art/craft booths.

Saturday, June 25, 11 am to 8 pm and Sunday June 26, 11 am to 5 pm - Kids Activities, Nature crafts, Music, Art/craft booths

Tuesday, June 28, 6 pm to 10 pm – Awards at 7 pm
Presenter: **Don Luce** of the Bell Museum of Natural History.

Izaak Walton Camp at Deep Portage Is Set for July 24-29

Last summer's Izaak Walton Camp was a roaring success according to campers who attended! It is on the schedule again this year at Deep Portage Learning Center located near Hackensack, MN in a 6,000 acre conservation preserve.

The camp is designed for kids age 9 through 16 and their parents or grandparents with a curriculum packed full of tempting topics. Some include invasive species watch, environmental advocacy, sustainable living, shoreline management, canoe, fishing and archery skills, fish identification and printing, climbing wall, outdoor survival, campout, cookout, firearms safety and much more including intriguing Izaak Walton background. The fee is \$400 for child and \$700 for child and adult.

If someone in your family would enjoy the week at camp or if your Chapter would like to sponsor a youngster for this opportunity to explore the woods, water and wildlife of Minnesota **call toll free 888-280-9908 or 218-682-2325 or check the Deep Portage website:**

www.deep-portage.org for further information.

2011 Watershed Summit

A comprehensive look at Minnesota's watersheds was the focus at the March 12 Watershed Summit held at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Ikes along with the Freshwater Society presented background from many water involved agencies and organizations calling for partnerships to accomplish the goals of protecting our water resources.

Summit Chair **Jill Crafton** of Bush Lake Chapter notes some of the attendees' comments about understanding water issues from a watershed basis.

Here are the comments: Think systematically but accomplish/educate locally to make the most impact. Projects can be carried out at varying degrees and at varying levels within a watershed. We need to foster feelings of unity and cooperation to achieve our goals; no one can do it all or do it alone. One attendee gained information by talking to other attendees.

The Arboretum was an ideal setting for the event with its huge lobby decorated with lovely orchid plantings, a comfortable theater equipped with desk type seating and plenty of delicious food.

We congratulate organizer Crafton for her dedicated work on this Summit and many previous water protection events. The Minnesota Division is pleased to hear that those attending appreciated information and contacts provided by the Summit.

Izaak Walton League Summer Board of Directors' Meeting

Deep Portage Learning Center — July 22-24, 2011

2197 Nature Center Drive NW, Hackensack, MN 56452

All are Welcome!

Friday – July 22

Afternoon arrival: anytime after 3:00 pm

7:00 pm Reception hosted by the
Cass County Chapter

Saturday – July 23

8:00 am Breakfast

9:00 am Program:
Fundraising, Membership Initiatives,
Issues Updates and Discussion

12:00 pm Lunch

1:30 pm Deep Portage Fun:
Hiking, Canoeing, Geo-caching

5:00 pm Social Gathering

5:30 pm Dinner



Ike campers enjoying a canoe trip. Photo courtesy of Deep Portage Learning Center.

Sunday – July 24

8:00 am Breakfast

8:45 am - noon Board of Directors' Meeting

Sunday Afternoon: Introduction to Izaak Walton Summer Camp

Overnight Camping (\$10 per night), Lodging at Deep Portage (\$20 per night), Saturday Program Fee (\$15 per person, includes breakfast, lunch, & program), Dinner on Saturday (\$8 per person), Breakfast on Sunday (\$6 per person) Food and other accommodations for the remainder of Sunday may also be arranged.

Please contact Deep Portage at (218) 682-2325 or portage@uslink.net to make your arrangements.

Reservations are appreciated by July 6th.

✓ Chapters Check In

The **Cass County Chapter** hosted a presentation on the spread of wild turkeys into northern Minnesota. They and others were also treated to Chapter member **Heidi Hoppe's** famous homemade spaghetti sauce for the chapter's Annual Spaghetti Feed. Proceeds support scholarships for youth campers at Deep Portage.

A very successful showing of "Troubled Water: A Mississippi River Story" in April was co-hosted by the **Grand Rapids Chapter**. On May 25th the Itasca County Blackberry Natural Area was dedicated to the late Milt Stenlund, a long time member of the chapter.

The **Jaques Chapter** had a busy spring, participating in the Mahtomedi Annual Rite of Spring environmental fair and sponsoring a Water Resource Specialist from Washington County Conservation District, Angie Hong's very informative presentation "Keep Your Water Clean and Improve Your Landscaping".

Brad Walker, the IWLA's Upper Mississippi River Initiative Coordinator presented "Challenges in Sustainably Managing Rivers and Ecosystems" at an event sponsored by the **Minnehaha Chapter**. The chapter made an all out effort to publicize the event, drawing out of town visitors.

The **New Ulm Chapter** is busy this spring with highway cleanup projects, tree planting and the Ikes Clanton Cowboy Action Shoot. They are also raising funds for scholarships to the Ike Camp at Deep Portage.



The Izaak Walton League of America

MINNESOTA WALTONIAN

161 St. Anthony Ave., Ste. 910, St. Paul, MN 55103

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2011 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

July 11-15, 2011- IWLA National Convention, Des Moines, Iowa

July 22-24, 2011 - Summer Board of Directors' Meeting at Deep Portage, Hackensack, MN

July 24-29 - Izaak Walton League Camp at Deep Portage, Hackensack, MN

October 21-23, 2011 - Fall Workshop and Board of Directors' Meeting

at Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center, Lanesboro, MN

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MINNESOTA WALTONIAN

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2011 DIVISION DUES

(Including national dues -Chapter dues are in addition)
Individual \$48.50, Family \$69.00, Student \$28.00,
Youth \$15.00

MIDWEST OFFICE

Acting Director: Nancy Lange, 651-649-1446, nlange@iwla.org

Division Offers Forest Memorials

A thoughtful way to memorialize or honor friends and loved ones who appreciate nature is with a Minnesota Division Forest Memorial. A memorial certificate done in calligraphy is sent to loved ones of the person to be honored for a donation of \$15 or more. The certificate reads, "Certificate of support for the health and vitality of the Fay Harrington Izaak Walton League Memorial Stand, Deep Portage, and Cass County, Minnesota in honor of.....".

The stand has a trail through a grove of tall pines located at the Deep Portage Conservation Reserve and named for Ike Fay Harrington who founded the 6000 acre reserve. Half of the donation goes to Deep Portage to maintain the trail and the other half helps carry out programs of the Minnesota Division. You may order a Forest Memorial from the Minnesota Division Office or use the envelope supplied by your Chapter.