



MINNESOTA

WALTONIAN

President's Letter - by John Crampton

I'm honored to be taking the reins from Barry as President of the Minnesota Division. Barry has done a terrific job of keeping the Minnesota IKEs focused on important issues, amplifying our voice in the legislature and in the community. I've particularly enjoyed going to the quarterly board meetings and EC phone conferences. As secretary, (meaning I "have to" attend), I have been impressed with the diversity of views and the depth and breadth of our discussions, and then seeing how this gets translated into policy positions, contacts with legislators, Day on the Hill events, Green Steps Cities, topics for Watershed Summits and also in local chapter projects for clean water, pollinator protection, alternative transportation, and renewable energy.

As President I intend to keep the Minnesota IKEs and particularly the national IKEs focused on climate change as the biggest challenge that humankind faces. April was the seventh consecutive month that temperatures worldwide were the warmest ever and 2016 will, without a doubt, be the warmest year ever recorded. 15 of the warmest years ever recorded have occurred since 2000. If we don't stop burning fossil fuels in the next 20-25 years, then all our efforts to protect clean water, soil, wildlife and woodlands won't really amount to very much. We will condemn ourselves and future generations to a world of climate chaos. Don't blame it on El Nino or China or India, the problem is in our actions and our refusal to call the polluters and climate deniers to account.

To that end the Minnesota IKEs are creating a grassroots climate and energy campaign where individual chapters, members and friends can pledge to take actions that significantly cut their carbon emissions. Many of these actions involve no or very modest expenditures. Many involve simple behavioral changes that benefit one's health and pocketbook as well as significantly cut one's carbon emissions. I also urge you all to attend the National Izaak Walton League Convention in Stevens Point, WI (July 19-22) where the Minnesota Ikes' resolutions on Climate Change and Carbon Fee and Dividend will be debated and voted up or down. Volunteer to be a delegate and stand up for the future livability of earth, our common home.



Former President Barry Drazkowski hands the President's hiking stick over to newly elected President John Crampton. Photo by Cherry Schwartz.

Welcome John Crampton!

by former president Barry Drazkowski

It's hard to believe three years have passed and this is my last letter to you as President. I've thought a lot about today, and with some regret at leaving, I am excited to welcome John Crampton as our new Division president. I see John's excitement and passion over all the things that make Minnesota Izaak Walton League great, and I can't wait to see what his leadership brings to the table. We have a glimpse of this in his current efforts at forging a new energy initiative. He truly lives the talk.

I feel proud of what we have all accomplished over the past three years. We, and to be honest, YOU have proved over and over again just how committed and passionate Minnesota Ikes are. You have rallied around our new Environmental Issues Committee, picking up the phone, knocking on doors, and driving up to the capital to make your voices heard. We have grown in our ability to make a difference. We are heard, and we do influence both our policy makers and those charged with managing our resources. You have attended agency and other resource affecting meetings across the State and a wide variety of issues. We influence both the debate and the outcomes of important issues, like, pipelines, wetlands, 404 authorities, natural areas, lead for hunting and fishing, invasive species, water quality, watershed management, agriculture, school trust lands, BWCA, the Mississippi River, the Great Lakes, and the list goes on.

Continued on page 5.

2016 Minnesota Legislative Roundup - Good and Bad and Ugly

by Environmental Program Director Don Arnosti

- Voluntary guidelines for habitat in “pollinator friendly” solar gardens authorized.
- Better management of thousands of miles of public road right of ways for pollinators (less mowing and spraying) **fails to pass** in the face of rural opposition. (Unpermitted **use of road right of ways to run manure spreading hoses**, passed, however.)
- Over \$200 million in excellent research, clean water and habitat protection and restoration grants awarded.
- Keetac mining gets **law passed invalidating water quality standard** in their existing water discharge permit. This is illegal under the Clean Water Act. Signed into law by Governor Dayton, May 31st.
- Effort by the Chamber of Commerce and Federal Cartridge to block current DNR rulemaking process to ban use of lead shot on public Wildlife Management Areas in western Minnesota blocked. The DNR rulemaking will proceed.
- Conservation partnership with federal government to permanently protect up to 100,000 acres of stream buffers, wetlands and drinking water supplies an initial \$30 million investment to match at least \$60 million in federal funds: **fails with failure of legislature to pass a bonding bill**.
- Provided \$200,000 to the DNR to evaluate School Trust Land containing over 60,000 acres of native prairie, old growth forest, peatland scientific and natural areas and more than 200 boat launches – for future sale to DNR. (Relieving the land of the necessity of generating income.)
- Passed a \$35,000,000 **tax break for cigarettes**.
- Provided \$1 million in funding to the University of Minnesota to continue research into “cover crops” which will keep living plants on fields used to grow crops for most of the year, reducing sediment and nutrient pollution.
- **Prohibited the DNR from expanding elk herds** in Minnesota until farmer’s crop and fence damage from elk (which are compensated by the taxpayer) are reduced two years running.



Gwen Myers and Barbara Lindeke kept participants well fed during the “Day at the Capitol” event. Photo by Noreen Tyler



Austin High School students, Ikes and Friends met with Representative Jeanne Poppe during the 2016 Ikes & Friends Day at the Capitol on April 6. Look for the event next year. Photo by Mark Owens.

- The White Earth Nation will receive Legacy funds to preserve 2034 acres of forest lands that will also protect wild rice waters.
- The 2015 Buffer law's implementation will not be delayed 10 years, but the Governor allowed its scope to be trimmed: **eliminating buffers for private ditches**.
- We blocked efforts to reduce environmental review for oil pipelines.
- The legislature **eliminated funding for research to adapt climate change models** to apply at a local scale in Minnesota, and **dropped proposals to order utilities to incentivize use of electric cars**.
- We got SF 3636 introduced to begin a conversation: a bill to remove mineral promotion duties from DNR (giving them to another agency) to allow DNR to focus on regulation and natural resource protection.

All in all, as the Millennials say, “Meh!”

ANNUAL MEETING WEEKEND

by Cherry Schwartz

This year's State Convention was held April 22-24th in Owatonna. The Owatonna Ikes celebrated the 90th Anniversary of the local chapter as well as the state division. Most events were held at the Reding Environmental Education Center. The Saturday evening social, Silent Auction, and Banquet, as well as the annual meeting on Sunday were held at the AmericInn.

The Owatonna chapter hosted a Friday night social and had the first reading of the resolutions. On Saturday morning, there was a bevy of speakers. Aaron Wills, from Cannon River Watershed Partnership spoke on Wastewater management projects. Representatives from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Gina Giorgi (an intern) spoke on Waterfowl Production Areas in southern Minnesota and whooping crane banding. Eric Jensen and Don Arnosti discussed Energy Conservation Programs for Minnesota Division chapters .

In the afternoon, there was a bus tour of energy & environmental sites in southern Steele County narrated by Cherry and Gary Schwartz. The many sites included a Cannon River Watershed Project near Bixby, the Straight Creek Wildlife Production Area, Oak Glen Wayside Rest on the adopted section of MN Hwy 218 (maintained by the Owatonna Chapter) and Oak Glen Wind Farm. We also toured a 47-acre parcel added to a Wildlife Management Area by the Ikes, Pheasants Inc., and the Wild Turkey Federation with help with Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Fund. In addition we visited Sun Opta organic Food processing, Steele Waseca Coop Electric solar garden and Owatonna Public utilities new generators and Bushel Boy tomato greenhouses. The tour featured educational comments about energy issues at many of the stops.

Dave Zentner Minnesota
Defenders Award chapter
winners from left to right:
Dick Brown

(Walter J. Breckenridge),

Dave Zentner,

Barry Drazkowski

(Will Dilg), Pat Dietz

(New Ulm), Thomas Schrodt
(Owatonna), John Rust
(Minnesota Valley), Bill
Buckley (Austin).

Bottom row: Craig Sterle

(W. J. McCabe),

Bill Henke (Prairie Woods),
Jill Crafton (Bush Lake).

Photo by Cherry Schwartz.

The Silent Auction had many bidders and raised about \$1200 for the Scholarship Fund. Special thanks to all who donated items, bid on items and were successful bid winners.

On Saturday we recognized award winners and had a wonderful banquet meal. Sunday was the business meeting. We elected officers and passed resolutions. (see separate articles)

Thanks to all who attended the 2016 Minnesota Ikes State Convention in Owatonna.

Barry Drazkowski continued from page 1.

It amazes me that such a small group of people can have such a credible and influential voice on so many significant issues. This all speaks to your commitment and the resulting strength of the Minnesota Division. A Division made up of engaged, grassroots, chapter members.

You have created a new level of energy and engagement, transforming the Division into and more listened to, and respected advocate for our precious Minnesota resources. You have donated your precious time to this commitment. You also have donated your money to help grow the Division's efforts in ways we could only dream about years ago. I am so thankful for what you do. With this we are able to support a Conservation Director, Don Arnosti. His value and influence was made ever so clear during this past legislative session. The successes we witnessed through his efforts, his credible voice, his relationships, and then from your commitment to picking up the phone to prove to each legislator that Don represents their constituents. This is how advocacy works.

It's been a great honor to serve as your President. It's an even greater honor to be part of such an effective organization, and committed group of people. But most of all, it's a privilege to call you friends.



NOTES FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING & STATE CONVENTION

New Minnesota Division Officers

President - John Crampton (Bush Lake/Minnesota Valley Chapter)

Secretary - John Hickman (Minnesota Valley Chapter)

National Director (elected) - Barry Drazkowski (Will Dilg Chapter)

The following were elected to the Minnesota Division Board of Directors as **Directors at Large**:

Bill Barton (Walter J. Breckenridge/Minnesota Valley Chapters)

Char Brooker (Jaques/Wapashaw Chapters)

John Rust (Minnesota Valley/Walter J. Breckenridge Chapters)

Cherry Schwartz (Owatonna Chapter)

Rich Staffon (W. J. McCabe Chapter)

The following were not up for election and are remaining in office:

Treasurer/elected Nationald Director - **Jill Crafton**

Vice-president - **Mark Owens**

Larry Dolphin (immediate past Division President) and **Gary Schwartz** (elected National Director) terms have expired and no longer serve on the Executive Committee or National Board.

A BIG THANK YOU TO LARRY DOLPHIN AND GARY SCHWARTZ FOR YOUR YEARS OF SERVICE AND ABOVE ALL YOUR WISDOM and DEDICATION to conservation and the Minnesota Ikes. Hopefully neither of you will be strangers and we will be able to continue to call upon your wisdom and expertise as we move forward.

Sundary Morning Program

Dr. Peter Sorenson - Plan to Help Stop Invasive Carp

Mid morning the delegates enjoyed a presentation from

Dr. Peter Sorenson (University of Minnesota College of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences, Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center) regarding changes that could be made to Mississippi River the lock and dam numbers 2-8 to stop and/or greatly slow down the upriver progression of invasive Bighead & Silver Carp at minimal comparative cost and inconvenience. Dr. Sorenson has done extensive research on the swimming and mating behavior of these species. For more information about Dr. Sorenson and his research go to www.maisrc.umn.edu/team-sorenson.

2016 Resolutions

1. Support for a Minnesota Valley basin wide River Watch Program
2. Water Issues (reduce runoff)
3. Water Issues (store excess runoff)
4. Collection and Disposal of Unused Prescription Drugs
5. Support for a DNR Ban on Lead Shot on WMAs in Minnesota's Farmland Zone
6. Climate Change
7. Carbon Fee and Dividend
8. Threat to NEPA & MEPA by Special Interests
9. Support for a Minnesota Valley basin wide watershed governing body
10. Support for a Minnesota Valley basin wide River Watch Program

For the full text of the 2016 Resolutions go to www.minnesotakes.org.



Mark Root (center) received the Sigurd Olson Award. Barry Drazkowski (left) and Gary Schwartz (right). Photo by Cherry Schwartz.

Other Meeting Notes:

Owatonna Chapter (solar installation) and the Rochester Chapter (wetland rehabilitation) had requests approved for letters of support to the Endowment Board for their chapter projects.

The Scholarship Silent Auction raised \$1186.00!

The **Minnesota Valley Chapter** is selling or has sold 25 acres of land to the Minnesota Valley Land Trust.

Also discussed: IWLA Water Quality Survey, pros and cons of having a printed Division newsletter, Division bylaws, etc.

The delegates voted that the Minnesota Division opposes a national dues increase and would bring that position to the National Convention..

Many Honored with Awards

by Gary Schwartz & others

Dave Zentner Minnesota Defenders Award is granted annually to every chapter that completes six of eight eligibility criteria. The winners for 2015 were **Austin, Bush Lake, Minnesota Valley, New Ulm, Owatonna, Prairie Woods, W.J. McCabe, Walter Breckenridge, and Will Dilg**

Dr. Walter Breckenridge Award honors educators and others who teach the value of natural resources was awarded to two teachers at Owatonna High School, **Elizabeth Tinaglia**, Agricultural Sciences and FFA Advisor and **Seth Muir**, Biology Teacher and advisor to the Environmental Club. Both have cooperated with the Owatonna Ikes for many years. Their classes have assisted the Owatonna Chapter constructing wood duck houses, cutting buckthorn, sumac and other invasive species in Ahlbom Woods and along the banks of Izaak Walton Creek in Hamann Park.

Stewardship Award honors individuals or groups that have worked on conservation projects that help their community was awarded to the **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Minnesota River Valley** office. **Mike Malling**, USFWS Biologist and his partners have spent many hours working with the Ikes, Minnesota Pheasants, Inc. and other volunteer groups in southern Minnesota to establish and maintain several Waterfowl Production Areas.

Ray Haik Watershed District Award was awarded to the **Cannon River Watershed Partnership** for work along the Cannon and Straight River watersheds, removing dams, creating flood control structures, purchasing land to buffer lakes and streams and tirelessly promoting clean surface and ground water.

Sigurd F. Olson Conservation Award, a special award for someone who has made an outstanding contribution the preservation of Minnesota's natural resources, had three winners. **Mark Root**, Winona County Soil & Water Conservation District is a pro-active Area Certification Specialist. Mark assisted Winona county residents in developing storm water management and erosion control measures, implementing pollution prevention practices to enhance and preserve the soil and waters of Winona County. His efforts have led the way for the 11-county Southeast Region. He piloted a program in the Whitewater River Watershed that has been extended to Steele, Dodge and Freeborn Counties. Mark has also participated in our annual Watershed Summits. **John Crampton**, the newly elected Minnesota Division president, has been a leader of both the Bush Lake and Minnesota Valley Chapters, working tirelessly to make both chapters successful.

He worked hard to insure that the members of the now closed Minnehaha Chapter who chose to had an easy and welcoming transition to the Minnesota Valley Chapter. He has diligently served as the Minnesota Division Secretary and Vice President. His planning, hard work and enthusiasm made our 90th Anniversary Celebration in 2012 and Winter Board of Directors and Strategic Planning meetings successful events. John has shown that he has

A PROUD MEMBER OF



the passion, knowledge and the skill set to lead. He has a love for planet Earth and the willingness to help people learn how to live more lightly upon it. **Barry Drazkowski** a demonstrated leader in conservation of natural resources was an extremely active and passionate Minnesota Division president, understanding the importance of science-based education and action. Barry played a major role in establishing the Environmental Issues Committee, working to draft the contract for a paid leader for the committee. He has visited chapters in southeastern Minnesota, helping them craft programs to address frac sand mining. He has also helped all to understand the importance of clear and concise statements of policy. He has also begun the work of making the Upper Mississippi River Basin Initiative a national IWLA program. From awareness, to science, to knowledge, to action, Barry's work, talent and passion reflect the meaning of what the Sigurd Olson Conservation Award implies.

The **Minnesota Valley Chapter** won both membership awards (Dr. Shouse percent increase and numeric increase). Other chapters who saw membership increases in 2015 were **Bush Lake, Cass County, Jaques, Prairie Woods, Walter J. Breckenridge, Wapashaw and Wes Libbey Northern Lakes**.



Gary Schwartz with Dr. Walter J. Breckenridge Award winners Elizabeth Tinaglia and Seth Muir. Photo by Cheerry Schwartz.

In Memorium

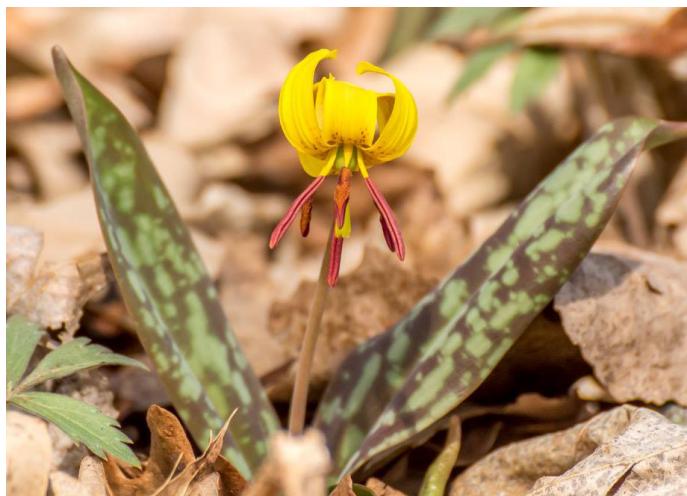
Phil Hinderaker by Julie Hendricksson

Phil Hinderaker was a man of many talents and interests, many of which centered on the environment. Phil died on April 18 at age 92 and is survived by three children, seven grandchildren and three brothers. He was born in Hendricks, MN and attended Astoria High School in South Dakota, graduated from South Dakota State University at the top of his engineering class and did graduate work at the University of Minnesota. Phil spent most of his working career with 3M as an electrical engineer and product developer.

His environmental work was vast and all consuming on local, state and national levels. He was a charter member of the Agassiz, now Jaques, chapter of the Izaak Walton League in Mahtomedi, where he lived and worked intensely on projects that enhanced the environment. Along with Paul Toren, he did a great deal to organize and facilitate the Minnesota Division Resolutions process.

While on the Mahtomedi City Council with another Ike charter member John Henricksson, the two managed to find enough city funding to purchase a former 70 acre Girl Scout Camp which became Katherine Abbott Camp, pride of the city's park system. The two environmentalists also scoured the city for tax forfeit land to add to the Mahtomedi parks.

Phil was active in the White Bear Unitarian, Universalist Church, helping to build their new sanctuary. His many letters to the editor were well thought out and written of a broad array of timely topics. Golf was his chosen sport. He enjoyed inventing many household gadgets that made work easier.



Trout Lilly. Photo by Larry Kennebeck

Al Layman

- by Dick Brown

Al Layman was one of the best MN Div. Presidents we ever had. As an aide to Rep. Leo Reding he had an office in the Senate Office Building of the State Legislature. Whenever our Chapter gathered to "lobby" at the Capitol we could never find a place to hang our coats and hats. Al always invited us to store them in his crowded office. You always knew how Al stood on an issue and it was always on the side of good environmental conservation principals. If he disagreed with your position it was with thoughtful consideration and never with animosity.

When the Breckenridge Chapter (then North Minneapolis Chapter) worked to preserve the 38 acres on the Cannon River into the DNR's Scientific and Natural Areas program, he was one of the Minnesota Division leaders to favor and help make our effort successful. I have always considered Al Layman a GREAT Ike and a friend of mine and the Breckenridge Chapter.

We will miss him. Our fond memory of him will continue.

Al's Memorial Service -by Dave Zentner

On Saturday April 9th, the Austin Izaak Walton League cabin had an over-flow gathering to honor Al. It was such a bittersweet affair. Al would have been pleased. It was simple, good food and beverages. It was sincere. Stories of Al were real and heart-felt. It was informal, no scripts, just words from the heart. Al's daughter Kris was brave enough to start us all on our way down the Al Layman memory lane.

Particularly evocative was a letter (see next page) Al wrote to himself expressing his experience at his first national Izaak Walton League meeting. It was vintage Al Layman. He noted how friendly and welcoming everyone was to him. He shared his thoughts that he could never learn all that he needed to learn. Al wrote that he wanted to serve. In fact, he mentioned in his letter, his need to pray in order to become a good conservationist. Former state President Larry Dolphin spoke of his affection for Al and, how grateful he was for Al's mentoring. Al's family was represented among others by brother's from the east and west coast.

Our time together could never fill the hole we feel in our lives. However, spending the time together memorializing Al helped us greatly as we expressed our joy and our sorrow.

Al Layman's letter (1962)

The Izaak Walton League of America. Bill Williams and I went to the Dixie Governor Motel outside of Chicago for the 1962 State Convention. I met Bill Berry, Ken Smith, Elton Falks (nominated president) and last but not least, Deacon.

I was introduced to so many fine people (I can't remember names which is one thing I will have to work on). It surprised me how welcome everyone made me feel.

I don't feel, at this time, that I am qualified or have enough knowledge on conservation to be beneficial as yet to the league in that way.

At this time my goal in life is to be a leader working towards the ideals the league stands for. I will make sacrifices in order to fulfill my ultimate goal.

I plan this year to achieve the following:

1. Do more than my part to increase membership in Chicago #1.
2. To do all possible to raise our chapter to back the leagues work on the insecticide, pesticide, and herbicide program.
3. To spend ALL available time reading (studying) various books and literature in order to acquire a substantial background in conservation. That word "conservation" is a mighty big word and it is going to take a lot of big changes of my habits in order to learn exactly what conservation is. I pray that I be given a little extra boost in order to accomplish my goal.
4. My hopes are that I become drawn into conservation and last if but far from least I pray that I can achieve proper study habits and make myself apply myself which I have never done before except maybe for bass fishing and my love for the out of doors which God gave us. *Al Layman*

Summer Gathering & Board of Directors' Meeting

Saturday, July 30, 2016, hosted by Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter, 8816 West River Road, Brooklyn Park, MN 55444

Morning

9:00 to 10:00 — Continental Breakfast

10:00 to 11:00 —

Tour the Breckenridge chapter grounds to see their projects building a rain garden, dealing with rain water runoff from their lodge going into the Mississippi River. Our hosts will explain the project that we hope to have funded by Hennepin County to install rain barrels, gutters on the lodge to better control and utilize rain water.

11:00 to 11:30 —

Recap the National Convention held in Stevens Pt. Wisconsin on July 19-23rd highlighting important resolutions, actions of the national convention.

11:30 to 12:00 —

Short demo of the climate/energy website for chapters and members to use in implementing renewable energy and choosing other actions to cut their carbon emissions.

Afternoon

12:00 to 1:00 —

Fire up the grill and cook burgers, brats; serve potato salad, lemonade, a real summer picnic.

1:00 to 4:00 —Board of Directors' meeting

Registration Form - Summer Meeting

Name(s) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

____ @ \$15.00 per registration = _____ total enclosed.

Please make checks out to Minnesota Division IWLA and mail to:

Minnesota Division IWLA, 2233 University Avenue West, Ste. 339, Saint Paul, MN 55114

Or register on-line <http://www.minnesotaikes.org/Izaak/meetings.html>

Call 651-221-0215 or email ikes@minnesotaikes.org with questions.



The Izaak Walton League of America

MINNESOTA

WALTONIAN

2233 University Ave. W, Ste. 339, St. Paul MN 55114

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Time Dated Material

UPCOMING MEETINGS

National Convention, July 19-22, 2016, Holiday Inn & Convention Center, Stevens Point, WI
Minnesota Division BOD, July 30, 2016, Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter - Brooklyn Park, MN

MINNESOTA WALTONIAN

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MINNESOTA DIVISION OFFICE

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2015 Division & National Dues

(Including national dues -Chapter dues are in addition)

Individual \$52.50, Family \$75.00, Student \$30.00, Youth \$15.80

MIDWEST OFFICE

651-649-1446, midwest@iwla.org

HELP US MEET THE CHALLENGE!

It is our privilege to work with you to plan, fund and develop our conservation programs.

★ We seek to have every Ikes clubhouse powered by 100% renewable energy by the end of 2016. A donor has provided a \$15,000 challenge grant to help us raise funds to retain Eric Jensen to help us with the technical aspects of this work.

★ Our statewide Environmental Issues Committee (EIC) has well over 100 participants and leads in the implementation of all of our conservation work. Three Ikes members have offered a \$10,000 challenge to help raise the funds to keep Don Arnosti working with this team.

★ Our General Operating Fund to keep the Division office up and running, administering our programs, communications, (including the Waltonian), chapter support and member outreach.

Help us meet our obligations and continue our work by responding to the Spring Appeal and making a donation today. To donate online go to www.minnesotakes.org or call 651-221-0215 for more information.