

THE HUNGRY BEAVER

The Journal of the Kekekabic Trail Club

SPECIAL COMBINED ISSUE

November/December 1998

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Brule Lake Trail hike, Oct. 3

by Ulrike Anderson

On Friday, October 2, after a five-hour drive north from the Twin Cities, we (my mom, Angela; sister, Birgitta; and friend Lisa Schleisser) found ourselves at Devils Track Lake campsite, and it was already getting dark.

We chose a campsite right on the lake and hung up the Kek Club banner.

Birgitta, Lisa, and I went exploring along the lake shore. Soon the rest of the

people on the trip arrived, including Johan Dirks, Pat Duerr, LeAnn Hensche, Jim Jorstad, Martin Kubik, Eric Salerno, Adam Sokolski, Gary Vice and Ken Yarana, and together we set up the tents in the dark.

Pat laid out his sleeping bag under the stars with his tent set up beside him in case it rained. Martin planned on sleeping in the car, like a true Kek Club member. While we were standing there talking, bright streaks appeared in the sky. Afterwards LeAnn reflected: "I saw a glow, lights, very bright." "Yes," agreed Pat, "bright lights and for a couple of seconds I thought they might be the shimmer of lights from Grand Marais. Then I noticed

the light focused into tight red and green bands. Northern Lights!"

Birgitta was really excited; she'd never seen anything like this before. She wanted to know all about them; how they came about and what they were made of. Ken explained it but I seem to have already forgotten. Lisa thought it was "cool but a little bit scary because it was unexpected and new, but it was really beautiful and overwhelming."

It was my first time seeing Northern Lights, too. Some of us went down the dirt road a little ways to be able to see them better. They were amazing and somehow magical. They lasted for about 10 minutes and then slowly faded away.

Soon after, some of us turned in. Martin and a few others stayed up, laughing and talking. It was a cold night. I froze in my "three-season" sleeping bag. In the morning, everyone else seemed to have gotten up at dawn while Lisa, Birgitta, and I were the last ones out of our sleeping bags. Our family had hot oatmeal along with thick, too-sweet cocoa.

(Brule continued on page 9)

Join the fun at KTC pizza party

Join the fun at the 4th annual KTC Pizza Party! What's on the program this year? Come to the KTC office at Midwest Mountaineering on Tuesday, December 1 at 6 p.m. and see a slide show of Jim Luadtke's winter snowshoe trip on the Kek, learn about the Kekekabic Trail Club, meet the new board members and volunteers who make this club so successful, and hear about plans for next year's exciting BWCA trips.

Add to the fun by bringing your own slides or pictures from a favorite hiking trip or any adventure you wish to share. Don't miss it! There will be great pizza and all the trimmings. The cost is \$8/person.

Please RSVP to Sandy Brezinski at (612) 560-3045 by Sunday, November 29. If you need directions, call Midwest Mountaineering at (612) 339-3433. *

Kek, Winterfest and you!

by Joe Hendershot

Each year, Midwest Mountaineering hold its true Minnesota event, Winterfest, and once again, KTC will be hosting a booth. Here's an opportunity for you! Why not volunteer to help us out a bit, thus ensuring for yourself a spot at this great event?

You'll be able to enjoy seminars, clinics, deals on gear, and learn about the best outdoors suppliers in the business. Plus, you'll help your Kek Club! Sign on for a couple hours at the booth and take time before or after to browse, meet people, learn new things! What better way to become more involved?

We'll brief you on what to do at our booth; it's simple! And we do need your help, since we need two to three people at all times, and the event runs from Friday, Nov. 13 evening through Sunday, Nov. 15, so there are lots of time slots to fill.

Please call or e-mail Joe Hendershot to say "Yes, I'll help." Joe will get back to you immediately with available times for you to help out. Whether you can spare one, two, three, or four hours, any time is appreciated. Call Joe at home at (651) 681-0157, or at work at (651) 228-2264, or e-mail joehB2B@aol.com. Thanks! *

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kekekabic TRAIL CLUB

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KTC Internet Home Page:
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ANNUAL CLUB MEMBERSHIP:

Individual — \$20
Family — \$35
Sustaining — \$50
Trail Guardian — \$100

(Please see membership application
elsewhere in this issue)

Monthly Membership Meeting, October 6, 1998 Midwest Mountaineering, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Derrick Passe, Presiding
Sandy Brezinski, Recording
Attendance: 10

Minutes of the September monthly meeting were approved without reading.

Treasurer's Report by Derrick Passe
Sharon Koolmo, our current Treasurer, has submitted a letter to be replaced by January 1, 1999.

President's Report by Derrick Passe

Derrick handed out the agenda for the annual meeting. He also had brochures on the Willard Munger Inn and nearby trails. There is a meeting of the North Country Trail Association at the FS office in Ely on Tues., Oct. 20 at 9 a.m. They will be studying the trail from the Kek down to the Chippewa National Forest. Derrick passed out copies of a response from FS about our interest in the Brule Lake Trail. The FS is now at a point where it will need to take some type of action on this issue. Jim Jorstad talked about the BLT hike he attended the previous weekend. There were about 13-14 people split into two groups and it went very well. Winterfest is Nov. 13-15. Sign up to help volunteer for it. We would like three people for each time slot. Joe Hendershot will coordinate it. His company may be able to create some new displays.

Trail Committee by Pat Duerr

They are going into planning process and want to have the trip dates set in time for Winterfest. They are developing plan for the Snowbank Trail. Pat will raise some issues re: tools at next week's BOD meeting and if approved, will proceed from there. The Friends of the BWCA supports opening the Brule Lake Trail so this should help the cause. More help on the Trail Committee is always needed. Contact Pat if you are interested. Derrick mentioned we have applied for a grant from the National Forest Foundation so that every trail clearing participant on next year's trips will pay only \$20 for the trip.

Membership Committee by Joe Hendershot

A special letter campaign sent to about 50 prospective members who attended various events this year such as Canoe Event, a presentation at EMS Burnsville, etc. has netted five new members. There are now four people on the committee. These volunteers have been thanking people for joining the club, something that hasn't been done before. Jim Jorstad suggested having a new member orientation meeting. Everyone present thought this was a good idea. Joe will coordinate it. Joe is reprinting the Hike the Kek brochure. Derrick and John Koffski will check on printers for it and get bids.

Newsletter Committee by Sandy Brezinski

Sandy raised the idea of doing a combined November/December issue for the next newsletter. Since the Annual Meeting is late this year and there is no monthly meeting in November, it makes more sense to have the next issue come out in the beginning of November in time for Winterfest. Everyone present agreed this would be a good idea so the deadline for this issue will be right after the Annual Meeting.

Nominating Committee by Pat Duerr

As of Sept. 30, 39 cards have been returned. We needed 36 for a quorum. People who haven't sent them in should do so by Oct. 9. If anyone still has someone they wish to nominate to the BOD, we can still add another nominee to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. The process of finding nominees should be started earlier (by the beginning of

(Minutes continued on page 6)



Board of Directors Meeting August 19, 1998 Midwest Mountaineering Minneapolis, Minnesota

*Derrick Passe, Presiding
Dick Waeschle, Recording
Attendance: 10*

Five people attending the meeting were current directors constituting a legal quorum of the board. There were no minutes of the last BOD meeting to review and/or approve as none were recorded.

The treasurer's report was given by Derrick Passe restating the information contained in the August monthly membership meeting. \$3,602.04 is the current checking account balance and four 1998 spring trail clearing trip expense vouchers are still outstanding.

The president reported that he met with the North Country Trail Association last week and what he announced at the August membership meeting was in error. The North Country Trail - MN Arrowhead route has not been officially rerouted. This is still in the planning stage and has yet to be recognized and officially certified by the National Park Service. An up-to-date report on this endeavor appears in the publication "North Star," June-July 1998, Vol. XXII, No. 3, pg. 11-17, The Magazine of the North Country Trail. Tentative approval has been given to the southern and northern extensions of the Superior Hiking Trail. An additional extension of the Kek Trail through Ely and connecting south to the Chippewa National Forest is being studied.

Derrick also reported that he completed and forwarded a grant application to the National Forest Foundation requesting \$6,020. This amount was calculated from actual monies expended and in-kind manpower hours costs devoted to 1998 Kek Club activities.

Committee reports were available only from the newsletter committee with Sandy Brezinski reporting on the progress-to-date of enlisting assistance and procedure changes in getting the *Hungry Beaver* newsletter published and circulated. Justin Bodie reported in passing that the Web page is currently down but will be on line

President's Corner *by Derrick Passe*

A Call for Help

Winter is fast approaching with the days getting shorter all the time. Now is the time to spend some time indoors working for the Kekekabic Trail Club. Some of the options are:

- Working with the Trail Committee to plan next spring's clearing trips
- Writing an article for the Hungry Beaver about your summer's experiences on the trails
- Pitching in to fix up our office at Midwest Mountaineering
- Helping to set up for the Winter Trails Day in February
- Giving a presentation at a meeting or store to share your knowledge

There are thousands of things to do for the trails in the winter without having to drive up to Ely or Grand Marais. The Kekekabic Trail Club needs your help to preserve the trails.

Without your help, the number of trails in the BWCA may continue to shrink like the days of winter. Contact me, anyone on the Board of Directors, or any committee chairperson and tell us what you want to do for the trails. Not sure what you want to do? Contact us anyway, we can come up with something fun and exciting for you.

To contact Derrick Passe: (612) 780-4100 (days), (715) 386-8348 (evenings)
or email: dpasse@spacestar.net. ❄️

again within two weeks. The new Web page will not only publish the newsletter in its entirety but have trail information, a calendar of forthcoming events, and a cap-sulated summary of club meeting minutes for more timely reporting.

The special nominating committee chairperson, Pat Duerr, reported on the progress of the process-to-date and all is on schedule to get ballots out at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting.

Unfinished business reviewed the issue of "conflict of interest" again. Jim Luadtke moved that an ad hoc committee be formed to review the bylaws and articles of incorporation as they may already apply to this issue and report at the annual meeting any recommendations, including amending the bylaws if necessary. Discussion followed, suggesting that this committee could review other issues as well. See new business. The motion was adopted. Derrick Passe appointed Jim Luadtke to chair this committee and provide a report for possible action at the annual meeting.

The issue of changing the name of the

"Kekekabic Trail Club" was discussed as directed by the "consensus" of the August membership meeting. It was moved the name not be changed and be kept as is! The motion carried.

Dick Waeschle moved as new business that an ad hoc committee be appointed to work on the communication and logistic problems affecting membership list accuracy, collection of dues and fees, and meeting attendance and that solutions be initiated as long as they do not conflict with current bylaws. Those that do will be reviewed with recommendations to the membership for their approval at the annual meeting. Discussion followed. Motion carried. Dick Waeschle volunteered to chair and coordinate this activity with

Derrick Passe and the BOD approving. A core group of Kek Club members were named to help in this endeavor. They will be contacted by D. Waeschle.

A motion suggested at the August membership meeting to form an ad hoc committee to review the goals and mission of the Kekekabic Trail Club per Article 3 of

(August BOD *continued on page 9*)

Report from the KTC annual meeting

October 25, 1998
Spirit Mountain Chalet
Duluth, Minnesota

Derrick Passe, Presiding
Dick Waeschle, Recording
Attendance: 20 KTC members, 3 guests

The meeting was called to order at 5:25 p.m. After the welcoming comments by the president, the reading of the 1997 Annual Meeting minutes and the regular order of business were waived so that two special presentations could be delivered.

Judy Ness, recreation planner for the USFS, presented a five-year action plan draft and strategy that is getting started relative to the management and use of the Superior National Forest. This included a "Forest Trails Plan" high on their list of priorities. Emphasized in this process is a partnering with the public and especially viable interested organizations as the KTC. This report will appear in its entirety or be summarized in a subsequent *HBs*.

Neal Chapman then summarized the comprehensive planning process on behalf of the KTC and where we are today. The meeting then turned into a temporary committee of the whole to deliberate on the following three questions: 1) What kind of trails should we maintain? 2) How can we improve cooperation with the USFS? 3) How can we improve cooperation with others? The results of this exercise may be found elsewhere in this or future *HBs*.

Added to the agenda per the request of Scott Swendsen was his report on the special project that he is spearheading, "Winter Trails '99." This event is to encourage hikers outdoors in the winter exploring hiking trails on snowshoes. The KTC will be co-hosting this event with the American Hiking Society and "Snow Sports Industries America."

The regular order of business then proceeded as follows:

1. Treasurer's Report by Sharon Koolmo. The current KTC checkbook balance stands at \$4,886.00. After reconciling revenues against expenses, there

was a net profit of \$779.59 over balances at year-end 1997. However, expenses for three spring trail clearing trips have yet to be requested. The amounts are presumed to be small. Discussion followed regarding the need to close out the books by year end, so it was moved and approved that those trip leaders with outstanding bills be notified by the president if they want to be reimbursed. Otherwise, those monies will be forfeited effective Dec. 31, 1998. It was also moved and approved that the BOD establish a written policy that in the future sets a designated time limit in which trip expenses are to be submitted for reimbursement or be forfeited.

2. Membership Committee Report by Joe Hendershot. In spite of dropped or lapsed memberships, 54 new members joined the club in 1998, 24 from the MM Canoe Event alone. At last count, Oct. 12, 1998, the KTC has 189 members as compared to 169 at the beginning of the year. The revised "Hike the Kek" brochure is about ready for printing and will be available in time for Winterfest, Nov. 13-15, to be held at MM. Joe also reported on a separate brochure in preparation "Why Join the Kek Trail Club?" A sample was distributed to the attendees for their comments and input. Hopefully, this will have a wide distribution, either as a mailer or a flyer available at retail outlets in order to stimulate interest in the KTC. Joe recommended an idea from Jim Jorstad to hold new member orientations three or four times a year in 1999 that could be a part of a business meeting but geared more to an informational/educational activity. Finally, he thanked all those who contributed time, ideas, and especially matching donations to offset first-time membership dues.

3. Newsletter Committee Report by Sandy Brezinski. A combined Nov/Dec Hungry Beaver newsletter will finish the 1998 publication cycle, and articles, reports, and calendar events for this issue should be submitted by Oct. 27, 1998.

4. Nominating Committee Report by Pat Duerr. The recently completed BOD elections resulted in 53 mailed ballots being received and Neal Chapman and Jim Jorstad were elected to the BOD for three-year terms each.

5. Trails Committee Report by Pat Duerr. A Trails Committee Workshop convened Saturday morning Oct. 24, which was very productive. Goals and objectives were agreed upon. Changes in coordinator responsibilities were proposed to facilitate a more equitable division of labor. Trail clearing dates for 1999 were set in order to prepare the trip brochure. Look for details to follow. As a sidenote, the workshop noted that the KTC Volunteer Manual, which is now a loose-leaf, stapled compendium, should be updated (to include some graphics) and then published as a special project in a properly bound volume for sale/distribution. A member volunteered to contribute a sizable donation to defray the cost of this publication.

6. Special Ad Hoc Committee Report by Dick Waeschle. This report regarding communications and logistical problems affecting membership was not formally given, but rather provided to the membership as a packet of information. This packet outlining the scope of the problem includes job descriptions of involved officers, committee chairpersons, and selected managers along with two proposals offering remedies and solutions to the administrative needs. A workshop was held Sunday morning, Oct. 25 that involved 10 members acting as a committee of the whole. This was very productive and a tentative consensus directive was agreed upon, which will be formalized and presented at the next BOD meeting scheduled for Nov. 17 6 p.m. at MM.

The business meeting temporarily adjourned for dinner at 7:10 p.m. followed by a slide presentation by Dr. Stephen Mulholland, a UMD professor of Archaeometry. His talk on the Anthropology of Northeast Minnesota was well-received.

President Derrick Passe then closed the meeting acknowledging and thanking various members of the KTC. Awards of appreciation were presented to Neal Chapman, Sharon Koolmo, Wayne Pulford, and Scott Swendsen for their individual efforts and contributions to the KTC.

Meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m. *

“Super Hero” identified



GPS-Man, alias Wayne Hensche: GPS-Man seems to appear only in late fall or early spring. You'll find him wandering the trails with his little yellow-stemmed umbrella and electronic gear recording his location and making the world safer for hikers. The rest of the year he is disguised as a mild-mannered Forest Service worker. This rare photo shows him in action on the Snowbank Trail this fall. Thanks, GPS-Man, for all your help. I hope your exposure as a super hero won't hamper your activities in the future.

GPS trip, October 10-12

by Peter Sparks

Disappointment Crew: Derrick Passe, Bill Burt, Bruce Anderson, Peter Sparks, Phil Alban. **Snowbank Crew:** Scott Swendsen, Wayne Hensche, Connie Van Valkenburg, Dennis Hensche, Neeraj Khadakkar, John Koffski, Justin Bodie, Chuck Knutson. **MIA:** Jim Luadtke

Over a three-day period two crews hiked the trails on and around Snowbank Lake in the western BWCA near Ely. Friday evening the group gathered at Sommers Canoe Base for a crash course in operating the two GPS (Global Positioning System) units provided by the Forest Service. The intent was to GPS the Disappointment Mountain Trail, the Old Pines Loop off the Kek, the new Kek trailhead through the clearcut, and the Snowbank Trail and provide that data to the Forest Service and the mapmakers at McKenzie and W. A. Fisher.

Since there were two units and therefore two crews, it had been decided that one crew would backpack the Disappointment Mountain and Old Pines loop while the other crew shuttled its gear around Snowbank via two canoes, with three people

GPSing the trail. Trail clearing was a secondary objective, but the canoe folks handled a fair amount on the Snowbank Trail, including some clearing work in the campsites.

After breakfast at the canoe base Saturday morning, the crews split up and headed for their entry points. Yours truly and the rest of the Disappointment Crew took off for the Boot Lake portage from Smitty's on Snowbank. Smitty's provided the boat rides across the lake. The weather was warm and sunny. No sooner had we hit trail when we had to pause for the dreaded 9:30 gap we had been warned about. At that time of the day there were not enough satellites in range for adequate data collection. After about 20 minutes, the situation cleared up and we made good progress, doing some trail clearing but mostly trying to record points for the campsites, portages, cairns, beaver dams, and other information on the trail. Saturday night we camped at Moiyaka Lake, weathering a brief shower overnight.

Sunday was spent on the remainder of the Disappointment, and then on the Old Pines Loop. If you ever get a chance to hike this

portion of the trail, don't turn it down. In Derrick's words, we all had the classic "Old Pines Pose" — heads craned back and mouths agape, staring up at a magnificent stretch of truly remarkable trees. Luckily the trail through here was very clear, or else at least one of us would have stumbled, distracted by the scenery. Sunday found us at a campsite near the Boot Lake Portage on Snowbank.

More rain and high winds overnight led to a cold, blustery, rainy Monday morning waiting to see if the launch service from Smitty's could make it across the big swells on the lake. After a rough start back, things settled a bit and we made it back to Smitty's, where hot coffee awaited us. After setting up a pick-up time for the wind-stranded Snowbank canoe group, we set off for the Kek trailhead. We hiked in to the first beaver dam during the 9:30 gap, and GPSed on our way back. By afternoon we were back at Sommers for showers, saunas, and general debriefing.

Both crews accomplished their goals, and had a fine time doing it. The maps next year will have much more accurate information and with any luck, Manlove meadow will find its place in history (ask Derrick). As for me, it proved once again that fine trail companions make the miles fly by and the fireside conversations memorable. *

Talk up the Kek!

by Joe Hendershot

Hey, the Kek Trail Club has a lot to offer, so talk it up! Please tell your friends, co-workers, relatives, and neighbors about the KTC, and encourage them to join.

Besides the benefits of learning about trail clearing and hiking, the KTC offers the opportunity for all of us to help out — to contribute a small amount of membership dollars to help us reach the goals of maintaining historic trails in Minnesota—even if you can't clear or hike trails often! **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT**, so we can ensure these trails are here for our kids, grandchildren and even their kids and grandkids!

This newsletter has a membership application form. Pass it on, and talk it up! Otherwise, these trails truly will disappear. *

Winter Trails '99: Feb. 13, 1999 at Fort Snelling State Park

by Scott Swendesen

Winter Trails '99 is an event to get hikers outdoors in the winter, exploring the snow-covered trail. The American Hiking Society, SnowSports Industries America and the Kekekabic Trail Club will be hosting this event at Fort Snelling State Park.

This event is being held at nine sites throughout the US with the Fort Snelling event being the only site in the state of Minnesota. Depending upon weather and snow conditions, we could see anywhere from three or four hundred up to thousands of participants.

In addition to opportunities to present the Kekekabic Trail Club in a very positive light as co-hosts of the event, the possibilities for membership recruiting are outstanding. One of the unique things about our event will be that *Outdoor Life* will be on-site filming and interviewing which will then be used in both their national magazine and also in their national cable program.

The KTC will be responsible for all pre-event planning and event support and will be working closely with Fort Snelling State Park in working out staff and logistical support for the event. We have received a very comprehensive organizing manual listing the various tasks and responsibilities that the KTC will need to complete in order for the event to be a success.

A committee is being formed to work on this event. If you have interest in working on the committee or volunteering for working on the day of the event, please contact Scott Swendsen at (888) 676-3144 or sswend@selco.lib.mn.us. *

Warm up for Winter Trails '99

by Derrick Passe

Join the Kekekabic Trail Club in preparing for the Winter Trails Snowshoe Event. On Jan. 22 and 23, we will be learning how to enjoy Minnesota's winter environment. Activities will include winter camping, building a fire in the snow, snowshoeing, and cross country skiing. All these fun activities will take place at Afton State Park.

We will be camping at the hike-in campsite at Afton Friday night, and on Saturday, those of you who don't want to spend the night can join us for a day of winter activities. Saturday night is also available for the hard core people who want to complete a full day in the snow.

Jim Luadtke will give a presentation at the December Pizza Party (Dec. 1) to show you slides of his winter trip across the Kek Trail and to offer help on what gear you need to spend the evening in the snow.

Cost for this event is anticipated to be \$10 for those staying overnight and free to people joining us for the day.

Contact Jim Luadtke at (651) 489-4418; Derrick Passe at (612) 780-4100 (days), (715) 386-8348 (evenings), or dpasse@spacestar.net; Leann Hensche at (651) 453-1995; or Connie Van Valkenburg at connievanv@juno.com if you want to participate in the fun or the planning (which is also part of the fun). *

New Members Night is being planned

by Joe Hendershot

We are planning a "New Members Night," probably late this year or early next year, where we'll have an orientation to the Kek Club, plus lots of information on the basics of hiking, planning, food, gear, clothing, survival, and more.

To help us plan topics, we'd like your input. Feel free to call or e-mail Joe Hendershot with any input whatsoever, whether you are new or old to the KTC. This night, by the way, will be for anyone, not just new members. Friends of members are also welcome!

Call Joe at (651) 681-0157, (651) 228-2264, or e-mail joeHB2B@aol.com. We'll announce soon the date, place, time. *

(Minutes continued from page 2)

July) next year since this is the most difficult part.

Ed Hastreiter will no longer be paying for the voicemail on the 800- line so we will need to look for a new service.

The mailbox is being handled smoothly. Dick Waeschle is checking it every Thursday assisting Phil Alban.

John K. expressed concerns about finding a new treasurer. Connie Van Valkenburg may be interested but won't be able to start until January. She will talk to Sharon.

Jim Jorstad asked about position descriptions. Dick Waeschle is gathering them and we will discuss at next BOD meeting.

Justin Bodie and Kelly Breit are working on the web page. Anyone who also wants to help should contact them.

Jim Jorstad asked if we are still promoting additional chapters of the KTC. Scott Swendsen (and possibly Ken Brown) is looking into having a chapter in Rochester and Wayne Pulford has made some progress toward setting one up in Duluth. *

Board of Directors Meeting, October 13, 1998

Board of Directors Meeting October 13, 1998 Midwest Mountaineering Minneapolis, Minnesota

Derrick Passe, Presiding
Dick Waeschle, Recording
Attendance: 6

Three people attending were current directors constituting a legal quorum of the board. The minutes of the last meeting were approved after corrections were noted. See corrected copy of August 19, 1998 minutes.

The treasurer's report was given by Derrick Passe informing the BOD that a volunteer has stepped forward to take over the position of treasurer from Sharon Koolmo. This person's qualifications will be reviewed and if accepted Sharon will train the new treasurer and act as oversight person. Discussion followed regarding the need to have more than one officer authorized to write checks and those expenditures in excess of a certain dollar amount require authorization of the BOD or the president before monies are paid. Also recommended was an accounting of the books to be brought to the BOD periodically for review. Specific details and recommendations will be presented at either the annual meeting or next BOD meeting.

The president reported on the successful Snowbank/western trailhead of the Kek/Disappointment/Old Pines Loop GPS mapping that occurred weekend of Oct. 10-12. Fourteen people were involved. Some trail clearing took place and the USFS participated by providing equipment and an orientation to the team. Also Smitty's on Snowbank provided seven motorized shuttles across Snowbank Lake which generated an additional cost to the trip which the BOD felt could be borne by the KTC. Reimbursement will be requested by Derrick.

Derrick reported receiving a letter from the USFS responding to his "asking points" letter of inquiry re: Brule Lake Trail. Pat Duerr recommended that the KTC reply, outlining our views on the matter. D. Passe and N. Chapman will compose and write the letter.

Committee report from P. Duerr reviewed the Trail Committee's recommendation of a proposal to the USFS re: Equipment Loan. The BOD approved this proposal which will be forwarded to the USFS. Negotiations may follow before plan is implemented and then will require a KTC member to take charge in carrying out this proposal, i.e. equipment manager/coordinator.

Pat Duerr also reported on the delibera-

tions of the Trail Committee's views on adopting the Snowbank Trail, Disappointment, and Old Pines Loop as requested by the USFS. Recommendation was to adopt these trails per USFS standards which are lower than those of the KTC, i.e. partial clearing over two year period rather than complete clearing annually and in the off-peak season, i.e. fall. Maintenance of latrines and campsites will remain the responsibility of the USFS. This recommendation was moved and approved.

Jim Luadtke, Fundraising Chair, reported no response as yet from National Forest Foundation on KTC grant request. He also recommended that a special funding project could be to solicit \$500 from a sponsor for the storage of USFS equipment if the USFS won't provide per KTC proposal to USFS, re: Equipment Loan. See Trail Committee report.

Derrick reported for Joe Hendershot and Membership Committee recommendation that \$10 discounts be offered to the first 10 people who sign up as new KTC members at MM Winterfest, Nov. 13-15. The monies will come from the \$100 of matching donations left over from the last recruiting effort. Moved and approved. Derrick then proposed that KTC also issue \$10 MM gift certificates to new members signing up at Winterfest as a promotional
(October BOD continued on page 8)

KTC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name _____ Home Phone () _____
Address _____ Work Phone () _____
City, State, Zip _____ E-mail: _____

- YES, sign me up at the following Annual Membership Level (all levels include a 1-year subscription to the *Hungry Beaver*):
- _____ \$20 **Individual**
 - _____ \$35 **Family**
 - _____ \$50 **Sustaining** (Includes your choice of a 3-map set of the Kekekabic Trail OR a KTC T-shirt—indicate below)
 - _____ \$100 or more **Trail Guardian** (Includes **both** a 3-map set of the Kek Trail AND a KTC T-shirt—indicate below)
 - _____ Yes, send me a 3-map set of the Kekekabic Trail!
 - _____ Yes, send me a KTC T-shirt! Circle shirt size: SM MED LG XL
 - _____ Special gift

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED

A KTC membership makes a good holiday gift!

Return this form with your check made payable to: *Kekekabic Trail Club, 309 Cedar Avenue S., Minneapolis MN 55454*
The KTC is a nonprofit, charitable organization under 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions are tax deductible.

Volunteer Spotlight

by Derrick Passe

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Dick Waeschle. Dick has taken the initiative to take on the position of KTC Secretary. This is a position which has been vacant within the club for nearly two years.



In his capacity of Secretary, Dick is responsible for preparing meeting minutes and agendas for the membership and Board of Directors' meetings. Dick has not stopped there, however, as he has undertaken the oft started (but never completed) project of organizing the club into a coordinated organization with defined positions and objectives. Dick also is assisting Phil Alban in distributing information from the club mailbox at Midwest Mountaineering to the responsible person, has

handled registrations for the Annual Meeting, and has updated the names and addresses of KTC Members. Thank you, Dick!

Fish Lake Dig

At the Annual Meeting, Dr. Stephen Mulholland invited anyone who is interested to join him on a dig of Fish Lake. Cost is free except for your time. The date is not yet set. Contact him at (218) 726-7957 or archlab@d.umn.edu for more information.

HB deadline

Send your contributions for the next *Hungry Beaver* by Dec. 3 via e-mail to sandyb@ibm.net or mail to: Sandra Brezinski, c/o KTC, Midwest Mountaineering, 309 Cedar Ave. S., Minneapolis MN 55454.

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agreement, i.e. sponsor for MM — Winterfest. We will receive in turn discounted booth space while MM gets the “business.” Moved and approved with J. Luadtke amending that this offer be separate from the \$10 discount sign-up offer. The same individual cannot receive both offers.

Derrick reported for J. Bodie (special projects) that web page is on-line and two KTC members will be updating content.

Special Committee Reports as follows:

1. J. Luadtke - ad hoc committee re: review of bylaws as pertains to “conflict of interest” reported that it was his opinion that no change or addition is necessary as there is a stated method of removing a member from KTC for activities that fall outside the bylaws of the club. Discussion followed. Input from others was requested. Review and possible action will be part of the annual meeting agenda Oct. 24. The task of reviewing Article III of the Articles of Incorporation also delegated to this ad hoc committee was not discussed.
2. D. Waeschle reported for the ad hoc committee re: communication and logistic problems affecting membership, that he had personally communicated with all of the key players: membership chair, newsletter editor, lay-out person, web page person, treasurer and mailbox manager, learning of their responsibilities and tasks. Job descriptions were requested and some have been submitted. These will be incorporated in a handout for the annual meeting. Also, D. Waeschle conferenced with J. Koffski, the result of which are the recommended proposals in new business. See below.

New business brought up by D. Waeschle included the following two proposals:

1. Proposal: KTC Table of Organization for BOD referable to job description and function.
2. Proposal: Informational letter to KTC membership and “others” in order to stimulate membership participation and new member recruiting.

Brief discussion followed as time was short. Input from BOD was requested in order to discuss and act upon at annual meeting. ❄️

(August BOD continued from page 3)

the Articles of Incorporation, which expresses the “purpose” of the club, was withdrawn after discussion. It was restated to be a part of Jim Luadtke’s ad hoc committee’s task reviewing bylaws and articles of incorporation regarding the issue of “conflict of interest.” See unfinished business. Consensus was that one committee could address both concerns and present findings and recommendations at the annual meeting. Jim Luadtke accepted the additional responsibility. No vote taken.

A letter from the Cook County Historical Society was submitted by Justin Bodie that requested of the Kek Club help in identifying “historic trails” for their upcoming meeting in November. The letter writer is also an active dog mushier and it appears he wants the Kek Club to help him in his dealings with the USFS. Derrick Passe moved that the Kek Board of Directors support the request of the Cook County Historical Society but not to endorse their trail use agenda. Discussion followed. Motion carried. Neal Chapman will participate by providing information, re: “historic trails.”

Neal Chapman proposed that the Kek Club and/or individual Kek members respond to the “Dear Neighbor” letter of July 24 from the USFS. Neal submitted a draft letter which enumerated “asking points” that could be incorporated in a written response. Discussion followed. Derrick Passe then recommended that individual Kek members should take the initiative on their own to write the USFS and a request to that effect with a copy of the “Dear Neighbor” letter be inserted in the newsletter. Consensual agreement by the BOD to this recommendation followed. Derrick then moved that the KTC BOD adopt Neal Chapman’s Eagle Mt. Trail Report and Stewardship Plan to the USFS as the official Kek Club position. This report recommends a trail continuation via the reopening of the Brule Lake Trail. Discussion followed. Motion carried. Pat Duerr then moved that the Kek Club send the USFS a letter of inquiry above the signature of the president, patterned after Neal Chapman’s draft letter and ask the USFS to respond in a timely manner. Motion carried.

Neal Chapman reported on the USFS belated notification to concerned parties of plans to relocate some campsites in the BWCA. This would be applicable to specific sites on the Kek and Pow Wow trails. BOD consensus was to have individual Kek members respond if they wished by forwarding comments, suggestions, etc. to Pat Duerr and the Trail Committee. A notice to this effect will appear in the *Hungry Beaver*.

Pat Duerr distributed a letter from the American Hiking Society requesting partnering with the Kek Club as well as others to be a host organization that would plan and execute the “Winter Trails ‘99” event to be held on Feb. 13, 1999. This would occur simultaneously at nine sites throughout the U.S. The American Hiking Society will pay \$1000 to each Winter Trails host organization. Need to respond by September. Discussion followed. No action taken, pending finding someone from Kek Club to lead this initiative.

Derrick Passe noted that North Country Trail Association had requested Kek Club participation in some joint activities. Consensus of the BOD was to officially respond in the affirmative. This would mean that the “Kekekabic Trail Club” name would also appear on North Country Trail Association letterhead along with other affiliate hiking associations.

Derrick Passe announced that the annual meeting is to be held at the Willard Muger Inn in Duluth, Oct. 23-25. Approximate cost per attendee: \$90 for lodging, banquet, and a few additional meals. The committee making arrangements consists of Wayne Pulford, Folke Arbin, and Denise Perry. A guest speaker presentation is being arranged. BOD directed that representatives from the USFS be invited to participate as well. Further information and reservation forms will appear as an insertion in the newsletter. •

(Brule continued from page 1)

Around 8 a.m., much later than Martin had planned, we left for the Brule Lake Trail. There we split into two groups, Martin leading one and Pat leading the other. Martin left from the trailhead with Jim, Adam, Gary, and Eric while Pat drove the rest of us to the other end of the trail.

We had taken the harder part of the trail first, figuring that we would be too tired at the end of the hike to climb over miles of treefalls. We did a bit of light trail clearing while we climbed, collecting a few black and blue marks as we went. I slowed us down a bit because I’d stop every five minutes or so to take pictures. (I managed to shoot two rolls of film that day.)

The tree falls went on for about six miles. We lost the trail a few times but only for a very short time since Pat was such a good guide. On one part of the trail we came

(Brule continued on back page)

1999 trip dates are now set!

Mark your Calendars!

It is never too early to start planning. We have established the dates for the 1999 spring clearing trips. Look for more information shortly. If you have any questions about the trip particulars please contact Pat Duerr at (651) 484-0538.

Once again, it requires a significant effort to organize 12 clearing trips. We have specific tasks that anyone can help with. No experience necessary! Let us know if you want to contribute.

Eagle Mountain Trail, May 7-9
Eagle Mountain Trail, May 22-23

South Lake Trail, May 15-16

Kekekabic Trail, Trailhead to Parent Lake, May 1-2

Kekekabic Trail, Strup Lake, May 12-16

Kekekabic Trail, Bingshick, May 15-17

Kekekabic Trail, Thomas Lake, May 15-19

Kekekabic Trail, The Bridge, May 27-31

Kekekabic Trail, Disappointment Lake to Medas Lake, Old Pines Loop, May 29-June 1

Pow Wow Trail, Pose to North Wilder, May 1-5

Pow Wow Trail, Mirror Lake to Fallen Arch Lake, May 22-26

Pow Wow Trail, North Wilder to Mirror Lake, May 29-June 1 ✱

1998-99 CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

- November 13-15* ■ **Midwest Mountaineering's Winterfest '98.** For information on this event, contact Midwest Mountaineering at (612) 339-3433. To volunteer for this event, contact Joe Hendershot at (651) 681-0157 (evenings), (651) 228-2264 (days), or e-mail at joehB2B@aol.com.
- November 17, 6 p.m.* ■ **Midwest Mountaineering, Minneapolis, KTC Board of Directors meeting.** Anyone is welcome to attend.
- November 27, 5:30 p.m.* ■ **Midwest Mountaineering, Minneapolis, organizational meeting for the Warm-up for Winter Trails event.** Contact Derrick Passe at (612) 780-4100 (days), (715) 386-8348 (evenings) or e-mail at dpasse@spacestar.net.
- December 1, 6 p.m.* ■ **Midwest Mountaineering, Minneapolis, KTC Pizza Party and slide show of winter snowshoe trip on the Kek by Jim Luadtke.** RSVP by Nov. 29 to Sandy Brezinski at (612) 560-3045 or e-mail at sandyb@ibm.net.
- January 5, 1999, 7 p.m.* ■ **Midwest Mountaineering, Minneapolis, Presentation on Wilderness First Aid by Dick Waeschle followed by the KTC monthly meeting.**
- January 22-23, 1999* ■ **Afton State Park, Warm-up for Winter Trails event.** Contact Derrick Passe at (612) 780-4100 (days), (715) 386-8348 (evenings) or e-mail at dpasse@spacestar.net.
- February 2, 1999, 7 p.m.* ■ **Midwest Mountaineering, Minneapolis, KTC monthly meeting.**
- February 13, 1999
9 a.m. — 3 p.m.* ■ **Fort Snelling State Park, Winter Trails '99.** Contact Scott Swendsen at (888) 676-3144 or e-mail at sswend@selco.lib.mn.us.

* Boldface indicates changes or additions to the calendar.

(Brule continued from page 9)

across parts of a moose carcass, and Pat told us it was a fresh kill when he was on the trail last winter. Birgitta, loving dead animals as well as live ones, decided to take along the jaw bones (which my mother wound up carrying for the rest of the hike). Birgitta was now considered "armed and dangerous."

We stopped for lunch at the site of a former logging camp by a small lake, just about halfway. We got there just as the other group was leaving and traded car keys, so everyone could get back to the campsite. From then on the trail was easier to walk.

For the last two miles, the Brule Lake Trail joins the Eagle Mountain Trail,

where we saw quite a few people coming down from Eagle Mountain. It was late afternoon. We got back quite a bit later than the other group, who were starting to worry. We had kept up a good pace though, at least that's what I thought. We made our dinner and rested. Ken made a tasty stew for himself, like a true chef.

The evening was chilly and we all stood around the fire, trying to stay warm. Martin and others joked about climbing Eagle Mountain that night (macho!). Slowly, one after another, we retreated into our tents. Soon it was just Pat, Eric, and me gathered around the fire. While Pat and Eric had a conversation I stared into the fire, dozing. I thought it wiser to go to bed than to fall asleep by the fire. I, for one,

slept well that night, too tired to care about the cold.

The next morning, Lisa, Birgitta, and I were again the last ones out of the tent. We all had breakfast, after which we broke up camp and packed the car for the long trip home. A few from the group stayed a while longer, planning to get one more hike in before returning to everyday routines.

All in all it was a great weekend, full of beauty and new experiences. I look forward to going up there again. I wish this trail would become more accessible so more people could appreciate its pristine wilderness. ❄️



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