



Journal of the Kekekabic Trail Club

New Kek Officers jump start the new millenium

Reduction in committees to just four: communications, fundraising, membership and trails.

The Board of Directors welcomed three new directors in November: Kelly Breit of Plymouth, Bill Burt of Rochester, and Mark Stange of Shoreview. The members at the annual meeting in October 1999 elected them and each will serve a three term expiring in 2002. The Board of Directors also appointed Martin Kubik of Saint Paul, the clubs founder, to fill a vacancy for a

term expiring in 2001 resulting from resignation by a former director.

The Board of Directors elected the following officers for 1999-2000: President – Neal Chapman, Vice President – Kelly Breit, Secretary – Dick Waeschle, M.D., and Jim Luadtke – Treasurer. Neal Chapman served as Vice President during the 1998-99 term. Kelly Breit is new to the Board of Directors and has been actively supporting the club since joining in 1998. Dick Waeschle and Jim Luadtke continue in the same positions they held during the 1998-99 term.

Additionally the Board of Directors chose to reorganize itself into four broad committees, eliminating many overlapping responsibilities. Each committee will have two coordinators in lieu of the committee chairs of the past. The four committees are communications, fundraising, membership and trails.

The communications committee coordinators are Justin Bodie and Kelly Breit and they have responsibility for publishing the Hungry Beaver newsletter; main-

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Storm Recovery: The challenge ahead

We anticipate a unusually heavy workload on each of the trails, but as always we will accomplish our mission, safely, and with even greater respect for this resource, and for our volunteers and partners who make it all possible.

By President Neal Chapman

The July 4th storm almost brought the end to the Kekekabic Trail.

Certainly right now most of the trail is impassible, buried under thousands, perhaps tens of thousands, of blown down trees, twisted, tangled, many with their root balls high in the air.

We waited patiently last summer as the Forest Service worked down it's list of

priorities, one by one until it was time to make the decision we where most concerned about, the future of the wilderness trails.

Kek members were working on the trails when the storm hit and were back days later and often throughout the summer. We offered whatever assistance we could to the Forest Service, and they requested and received frequent scouting reports. We maintained high visibility during this time, and assured all that we were prepared to do whatever necessary to reopen all the trails damaged by the storm.

Finally the decision was made to reopen all trails, despite some very serious concerns about safety of not only those who clear the trails, but also those who will use them.

The Forest Service has already cleared many miles of wilderness trails, including both ends of the Kekekabic. Now, the real challenge is ahead. Winter storms

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The Hungry Beaver welcomes your submissions. Photos, artwork, stories, trip logs, and suggestions are always welcome. Contact Kelly Breit if you wish to contribute.

Challenge Ahead from Page #1

will bring down yet more damaged trees, and others left unprotected by those that have already fallen.

The Forest Service has asked us to be responsible for locating the trail tread and flagging the trail ahead of USFS crews scheduled to work in May. This we will do as well as our normal clearing effort on all of "our" other trails.

We anticipate an unusually heavy workload on each of the trails, but as always we will accomplish our mission, safely, and with even greater respect for this resource, and for our volunteers and partners who make it all possible.

We also need to complete our comprehensive trail plan so that it can be presented to the Forest Service and the public as part of our 10th anniversary trails conference and annual meeting to be held in October 2000 at Gunflint Lodge.

There are, however, even potentially greater challenges facing the Kekekabic Trail Club. The Board of Directors began a dialogue late last winter about future directions for the club, how big is big enough? Should we adopt even more trails (other than Lima Mt and Kelso Mt) How do we recruit, train, motivate, and retain volunteers and members?

Recently, the Board of Directors reorganized itself with only four committees- trails, communications, fundraising, and membership, each with two Board of Directors members as coordinators.

Each of these committees needs additional dedicated, hardworking volunteers with a variety of skills if the club is to accomplish our mission this coming year. I urge each of you to step forward and volunteer. Volunteer to participate on one or more clearing trips in May, but also volunteer to work behind the scenes and help build the club into the best it can be.

The wilderness trails, and all those who use them, depend on it.

Forest Service Roundup

Awards, Applications, and Damage

USFS Presents Awards

County Sheriffs Dave Wirt, Steve Peterson, and Rick Wahlberg of Cook, Lake, and St. Louis counties, have been awarded the Forest Service Eastern Region Honor Award for their outstanding leadership during the search and rescue efforts following the July 4, 1999 wind and rain storm in northeastern Minnesota.

They, or their representatives, will receive their awards from the Regional Forester on December 9 at a ceremony in Milwaukee.

"I am pleased that the county sheriffs are being recognized for their quick response, coordination and cooperation with other agencies during this emergency situation," said Forest Supervisor, Jim Sanders.

They were part of a major multi-agency search and rescue effort in and around the Superior National Forest. The efforts included a several-week, systematic search of all 2200 campsites, and over 400 miles of portage and trails, in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Twenty medical evacuations were conducted without further injury, incident, or loss of life. In what has been described as "a miracle", no lives were lost as a result of this national disaster. The honors awards program began 14 years ago for the purpose of recognizing outstanding contributions across the Forest Service's Eastern Region (which includes 20 states bordered by

Minnesota, Missouri, West Virginia and Maine).

Award categories include emergency response, environmental protection, equal opportunity, heroism, personal/professional excellence, public service, safety and health, and reinventing government.

BWCAW reservations by fax, phone and internet

As of November 1, 1999 reservation applications are being accepted by fax, mail, or internet for the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness for the 2000 season.

Applications received by January 15, 2000 will be processed randomly in a lottery on January

15. Applications received after January 15 will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Telephone reservations and interactive Web Site reservations may be made beginning February 1, 2000.

A \$12 non-refundable reservation fee is required for each permit reserved. For overnight permits, you will also pay a standard \$20 deposit toward the overnight use fee when the reservation is made. (There is no use fee for day permits.) The total amount collected when you make your reservation will be \$32 (\$12 reservation fee + \$20 use fee deposit.)

Payment is accepted by check or money order made payable to BWCAW Reservation Center, or by credit card (Master Card, Visa, American Express, Discover.)

The overnight use fee will remain the same as last year, \$10 per adult per trip and \$5 per child per trip. If you owe more than \$20, you will pay the additional money, based on your group size, when you pick up your permit. If your fee is less than \$20, a refund will be applied by the Reservation Center when you pick up your permit.

To mail reservations is: BWCAW Reservation Center, P.O. Box 462, Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Fax: 1-518-884-9951. The toll-free phone number, from February 1- September 30, is 1-877-550-6777. TDD: toll-free 1-877-TDD-NRRS. The Internet address is: www.bwcaw.org.

Windstorm damage changes much of the BWCA Wilderness

While the portages and most campsites are open, potential fire risks may impact your trip next summer. To inquire about the storm damage, or for further information about making BWCAW reservations, please contact the Superior National Forest in Duluth, MN at (218) 626-4300 or check the Superior National Forest website at: www.fs.fed.us/r9/superior.

New Kek Officers from Page #1

taining the club's Internet web site (www.kek.org); maintaining the Hungry Beaver Lodge, the club's Intranet web site; the KTC annual report, and various other publications produced for members.

The fundraising committee coordinators are Bill Burt and Neal Chapman and they have responsibility for identi-

fying funding requirements in support of the clubs goals and soliciting sources for contributions and grants to meet the needs of the club.

The membership committee coordinators are Martin Kubik and Mark Stange and they have responsibility for building and maintaining club membership levels through meetings,

events, and publications.

The trail committee coordinators are Derrick Passe and Peter Sparks and they have responsibility for identifying trail maintenance requirements, scheduling scouting and clearing trips and coordinating participant training to ensure the safety of everyone involved.

Members on the Trail

An Echo of a Winter

By member *Justin Bodie*

Northern Minnesota winters, and the roads up north, are icy. Many of us look at snowy, ice-covered vehicular travel as one of the necessarily troublesome things about living in Minnesota. But I look at snowy bituminous as an opportunity to bond with the Wild North.

Perhaps you've driven the Echo Trail in summer, choking on the dust from the heavily loaded van and canoe trailer in front of you -- all the while looking for that inevitable car coming from around the corner a little too fast. The pace seems hurried, like an I-35 cut between two sections of the BWCA. When you make it to the trailhead or canoe landing, your car looks like you've been visiting construction sites all summer.

But have you driven the Echo Trail in winter? I have.

In the Wild North's winter, there's no dust, no crowds, and no canoe trailers. Imagine that. I enjoy the "crunch" of the snow under my Goodyears as I turn from the Crane

Lake Road onto the Echo trail. In Vail, you might not get "first tracks", but on the Echo Trail? You betcha.

Heading east, I stop at the Little Indian Sioux entry point. Just enough of the canoe landing road has been plowed to

park a car, so I put 'er in "Park" and throw on the Sorels. My tracks are the only ones visible in the white stuff and, approaching the self-issued permit kiosk, I cheerfully fill out my permit. January, One person, Foot Travel. I imagined I was the only person who dared to hike into a canoe portage that winter, and wondered if the Forest Service issued awards for such insanity. I find that (a) Yes, canoe portages look a little different in the winter; (b) It felt good not having a heavy Duluth style pack on my shoulders; and (c) Untracked winter wilderness is sublime.

Heading farther east along the Echo, the Anglemore Trail beckoned. In contrast to the Sioux River portage,

this trail's snow had been mullied a lot by snowshoes, boots, paws and the occasional backcountry ski. I hiked in

and snapped a few pictures of the setting sun in a spot I remembered from a canoe trip, when I had to filter water out of a mucky stream in searing heat. Of course,

one of winter's benefits is the abundant supply of muck-free H2O. By the time I reached my vehicle, darkness had set in and Ely beckoned.

In Ely, I stopped at the Public Sauna, or the "Ely Steam" as it's known locally. For just a few dollars, you get a clean towel, an abundant supply of soap, and access to a little knob that spits water on an enormous radiator, filling the steam bath with soothing fog. The Ely Steam cleansed my body that day, but more importantly my soul.

But why would anyone want to drive the Echo Trail in winter? Because it's there, and it's plowed by trained professionals. And that unique chance for first tracks, too.

In the Wild North's winter, there's no dust, no crowds, and no canoe trailers. Imagine that.

www.kek.org Enhancements Will Better Serve Members

Justin Bodie
Web site Coordinator

The Kekekabic Trail Club website www.kek.org is now enhanced with even more information and services to help you plan trips and volunteer. You'll find:

- Fire ban information and printable map of restricted area
- Volunteer manual (pdf format)

- Annual meeting notice and registration form (pdf format)
- Updated Hungry Beaver newsletter with annual meeting info

Visit www.kek.org for comprehensive, interactive information on your trail club.

Members on the Trail

In Search of the Fire tower

By member William W. Walker

Derrick and I arrived at the trailhead around 9:30pm on Thursday night. After taking a little walk around the area, we decided to car camp the first night. The weather was sleety with a hard wind. Several times through the night Derrick's Explorer was rocked quite heavily.

When we woke up the next morning, we were greeted by the still heavy wind and slight snow flurries. Derrick and I cleared a tree off the trail not far from the trailhead. As we headed back to the car the other party arrived — Eric and Amy. They informed us that they also slept in their car along side the road near Isabella due to a tree being down on the road.

Light snow flurries with a strong wind were with us most of the way. We all marveled at the LONG beaver dam near the trails beginning. Several grouse greeted us close along the trail. We hiked into Pose Lake campsite about 3:30pm.

The site was clear of downed trees but there were several that will soon be down. In fact as we set up camp Derrick noticed the ground moving around one tree every time the wind blew, so I moved my tent over to be out of of possible harm's way. There were also a couple trees being supported by other trees around the campsite.

After a brief rest, we hiked further down the trail and tried to repair some boardwalk areas. This seemed to be the main area of improvement we noticed that the trail could use. The trail was cleared nicely, but many area seemed to need new, extra or repaired boardwalks.

Once we returned to camp, Derrick

and Amy made pizzas. We would have loved a fire, but the wind was still very strong and for safety concerns we decided against it.

Saturday we decided to break camp and hike half way back and camp along side the trail. On our way we stopped and dropped our packs and walked a mile or so on one of the old loops. A hunter passed us by and, after



Kek Club members on a previous Pow Wow Trip.

making sure we weren't lost, chatted for a bit. His hunt was slightly successful. A cow moose and her calf almost ran him over the day before. The trail he was on was in good shape. There was evidence that some people have been maintaining it.

Once back to the main trail, we shouldered our packs and continued on to our camping area. By mid-morning the sun had come out and the wind died down and a beautiful day greeted us.

We set up camp about 3:30 again and took a brief break. Once rested we went looking for the old fire tower that was shown on a map. For about an hour we looked. Just off the trail we found some old antifreeze cans and other metal treasures. As darkness fell we headed back to camp. It was a clear night and thus the coldest night we had.

Sunday morning I learned that I should have put my boots under a coat, for mine were froze solid. I felt like an old hen sitting on them in a sleeping bag trying to thaw them out.

Frost covered most everything that morning, but the sky was clear again promising for another nice day. After breakfast Derrick and I armed with maps, compass, and GPS headed out to find the fire tower.

We started our search from our campsite and soon came upon an old tire Derrick had found in the woods earlier that morning. With compass bearing and GPS we continued ahead. After crossing several marshy areas and heading for the high ground we knew we were close. After looking in an area we thought it should be, Derrick asked, "Is there any place higher around?" No sooner had he asked did he find the first cement pad of the tower's base. It then took no time to find the other three.

Derrick found the site of their out-house. We could not find the cabin site but did find a road with several depressions along it. After taking pictures of the cement pads, we decided to follow the road.

It was easy to follow. In several places it was easy to loose the road for several yards. As we followed it back, not getting our feet wet once, it came out right to the same tire we passed in the beginning of our search. Here we lost the road for the tire was in a grassy area where the road had no sign. Once we found the road again, we crossed a small "bridge" and came out right on the trail, just up from where we camped the night before.

Having found the fire tower, and spending three great days on the trail it was time to head back. Thus ending another superb trip into the BWCA.

Kekekabic Trail Club for the Millenium Calendar of Trips, Events, and

January

4 at 7:00 p.m.

Monthly Membership Meeting
Midwest Mountaineering

15 at 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Winter Trails Day
Fort Snelling State Park

February

1 at 7:00 p.m.

Presentation on tool use & safety
Midwest Mountaineering

4 at 9:30 a.m.

Forest Service Annual Meeting
USFS Office, Duluth

19 & 20 all day

Eagle Mountain/Brule Lake Trail
Camping Trip

March

7 at 7:00 p.m.

Presentation on wilderness first
aid by Dick Waeschle, M.D.
Midwest Mountaineering

May

2 at 7:00 p.m.

Presentation on navigation, map
& compass by Minnesota
Orienteering
Midwest Mountaineering

July

No meeting on July 4

11 at 7:00 p.m.

Presentation
Monthly Membership Meeting
Midwest Mountaineering

September

5 at 7:00 p.m.

Presentation
Monthly Membership Meeting
Midwest Mountaineering

June

3 all day

National Trails Day
Kekekabic Trail Western
Trailhead

August

1 at 7:00 p.m.

Presentation
Monthly Membership Meeting
Midwest Mountaineering

October

3 at 7:00 p.m.

Presentation
Monthly Membership Meeting
Midwest Mountaineering

13 & 14 all day

Annual Meeting
Gunflint Lodge, Grand Marais

Meetings scheduled for the Year 2000

April

4 at 7:00 p.m.

Presentation on canoe safety by
Minnesota Canoe Association
Midwest Mountaineering

8 & 9 all day

Wilderness Skills and
Leadership Retreat at Wilder
Forest, Marine on St. Croix

November

7 at 7:00 p.m.

Presentation
Monthly Membership Meeting
Midwest Mountaineering

December

5 at 7:00 p.m.

Presentation
Monthly Membership Meeting
Midwest Mountaineering

April (continued)

20 at 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Trip Participant Training
Midwest Mountaineering

22 at 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Trip Participant Training
REI Bloomington

An Important Note

This calendar represents
Kekekabic Trail Club events and
meetings scheduled as of
January 1, 2000. This calendar is
subject to change.

For more information on volun-
teer trail clearing trips, contact
Derrick Passe at (715) 386-8348
or Peter Sparks at (651) 748-
0125.

For more information on month-
ly membership meetings and
presentations at Midwest
Mountaineering, contact Neal
Chapman at (612) 831-2292.

May

Trail Clearing Trips

5-7 Brule Lake Trail

5-7 Eagle Mountain

6-7 Lima Mountain

6-10 Snowbank Lake Trail

*12-14 Kek (Western Trailhead to
Benezie Loop)*

*12-14 Kek (Disappointment
Loop)*

*12-14 Kek (Eastern Trailhead to
Bingshick Lake)*

*12-16 Kek (Seahorse to
Bingshick)*

13-14 South Lake Trail

18-21 Kek (Howard Lake Area)

*20-24 Pow Wow Trail (Mirror to
Fallen Arch Lake)*

25-29 Kek

*27-30 Kek (Disappointment to
Medas)*

*27-30 Pow Wow Trail (Pose
Creek to Mirror Lake)*

Has Your Membership Expired?

Did you participate in a trip this year?

Are you receiving a free membership?

If so, your free membership expires at the end of August. If you'd like to continue as a KTC member (we'd enjoy sending you this newsletter each month) please renew your membership now.

Make sure BWCA trails are preserved and maintained for years to come; they are a vital part of the Boundary Waters' history. Our members make the difference!

Please mail your check and your name, address, phone number and email to:

KTC, 309 Cedar Ave S,
Minneapolis, MN 55454

lease include any areas in which you'd like to volunteer, like trail committee, programs, special events, the annual meeting, or any special skills you can contribute, like planning, fundraising, training or leading volunteer crews. The Kek Club is always looking for members to share in Minnesota's great North Woods.

Membership levels for the KTC are:

\$20 Individual membership

\$35 Family membership

\$50 Sustaining membership:

includes 3 map set of Kek Trail or T-shirt

\$100 Trail Guardian membership: includes both a 3 map set and T-shirt

Let it Snow: Winter Trails Day 2000

A little snow never stopped a Minnesotan from getting outside.

On January 15, join other hiking enthusiasts around the nation by giving snowshoeing a try, taking a snowy, guided walk, and enjoying Minnesota's trails in the longest season of the year here.

This year's Winter Trails Day in Minnesota will be from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Baker Near Wilderness Settlement in Medina, MN.

Get out of the house and join the Kek Club, the American Hiking Society, and other hiking enthusiasts in Minnesota and 14 national sites.

Who: Hennepin Parks and the American Hiking Society

What: Winter Trails Day 2000

Where: Baker Near Wilderness Settlement, Medina, MN

When: January 15, 2000; 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Why: To celebrate snow, trails, and the Minnesota's winter outdoors.

Y2Kek: A Year for replacing rotten logs?

By member William W. Walker

Looking at the schedule of trips this year, I can't help but notice that the three perennial trips to the middle of the Kek Trail are not included (Strup, Thomas and the Bridge). The reason is obvious, a week long trip would not even begin to dent the stacks of trees that are there.

I see this as an opportunity to spend extra time on other parts of the trails that the KTC maintains.

Recently I had the pleasure to hike

on the Pow Wow Trail. I was pleased to see that the USFS had indeed cleared the trail. The few remaining trees that I had to step over were not a problem. Some of them were left by the USFS to discourage use of the trail (illegally) by motorized vehicles.

The condition on the trail that was more of a hindrance is the work that the KTC has not addressed on a regular basis: The restoration and repair of boardwalks and placement of rocks at swamp crossings. I would prefer to step over a tree rather than trying to balance my way across rotten logs at

these wet areas.

Restoration of the bridges would serve to confine the trail to one path and reduce impact to the area adjacent to the trail.

This is not a condition that is unique to the Pow Wow. There are a places on the Kek near Mine Lake that need tread repair also.

So, trip leaders and volunteers, let's take the time in 2000 to mend the swampy areas this year, even if it means leaving a few trees laying across the trail.

The Kek around the world

From: Minnesota; To: Florida

*Editor's note:
Boundary Waters
enthusiast, photogra-
pher, and current
Floridian Tim
Roettiger recently
turned a change in
plans into an auctioned
photo of Northern
Minnesota.*

I first went to the BWCA about nine years ago to work for the summer as a lodge naturalist on the Gunflint Trail. The BWCA quickly became my favorite place. I go back for vacations whenever I can. This

September I was finally going to hike the Kek, something I have wanted to do for a long time. After talking to locals and forest service officials, I changed my plans to Anglemorm Lake.

My sideline is photography (my "Black Spruce Gallery" is a registered Florida business). So naturally I took lots of pictures. When I returned to Florida I heard that the Lake Trafford Task Force was planning an auction to help raise money for the lake's restoration.

Lake Trafford, near Immokalee, has long been a Florida attraction.



One of Tim's Anglemorm Lake photos auctioned to preserve a Florida lake.

Over the years, due to agricultural runoff etc., 8 feet of silt has accumulated. The lake is now prone to frequent algal blooms and subsequent fish kills. The plan is to completely dredge the lake to its sand bottom. Federal, state, and private funds are being combined to pay for it.

So, I offered to donate two 12X18 mounted and matted prints to the auction. I chose two from Anglemorm, probably because I had just returned and it was a great trip.

Well, the prints sold well showing that even Floridians appreciate the

BWCA.

I will be back up in February. I miss winter very much down here.

Tim Roettiger
Fishery Biologist
Everglades Investigation Projects
Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission
West Palm Beach, Florida

To contact Tim about his Minnesota photos, email Stephanie Wilbur Ash: swilbur@twincities.infi.net.

American Hiking Society updates its web site

The American Hiking Society, a national recreation-based conservation association that protects and maintains footpaths and trail lands, recently launched a new "Hiker's Information Center" area on their web site. The address is www.americanhiking.org.

The web site area is an extensive database of volunteer opportunities, trail descriptions, local trail clubs, and National Trails Day events around the country.

Information is gathered on an ongoing basis from local and national trail and hiking clubs, American Hiking's

volunteer and events programs, and Falcon Guide's trail guide publications. Visitors can use the site to plan a trip in another part of the country or to find a local hike for the upcoming weekend. Users can even sign up to volunteer with the Kek club trail clearings this spring.

Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes of Board of Directors meeting of the Kekekabic Trail Club
November 18, 1999

The Board of Directors of the Kekekabic Trail Club met Wednesday, November 10, 1999 at Midwest Mountaineering from 6:10 pm to 8:30 pm. Nine members of the Kek Club were in attendance, eight of whom are current directors. Two of the directors present, Kelly Breit and Mark Stange are new to the BOD subsequent to their election at the annual meeting.

Also new to this BOD is Martin Kubick who had been appointed at a special board meeting that preceded the regular November membership meeting, to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of a former director. The last meeting's minutes of August 25, 1999 were not read. Agenda items as they were presented and reviewed are as follows:

1. Officers of the BOD elected to serve in 2000 are as follows:

- A. President – Neal Chapman
- B. Vice President – Kelly Breit
- C. Secretary – Dick Waeschle
- D. Treasurer – Jim Luadtke

2. Committee structure and functions were reviewed. Consensus was reached to decrease the number of named committees from eight to four, combining functions where they overlap. This also allowed for two directors to be named as co-coordinators for each of the committees.

A. Trail Committee structure and function remains as is. It is the single most important activity of the Kekekabic Trail Club and has been ably led by Peter Sparks and Derrick

Passe who will continue in their role of co-coordinators in 2000.

B. Membership Committee co-coordinators are Martin Kubick and Mark Stange. This committee will incorporate the activities of the former Public Relations and Program Committees, as they ultimately all dealt with marketing our organization in order to maintain and increase membership.

C. Fund-raising Committee will remain and hopefully be led by Bill Burt, also recently elected to the BOD. This is per his approval as he could

The KTC annual meeting with the USFS will take place early February in Duluth. At this meeting the KTC reports its preceding years accomplishments and outlines its goals for the next year per our MOU with the USFS. In this next year all attention will be given to "Safety" issues as it applies to trail clearing subsequent to the July 4, 1999 storm.

not attend this meeting. This committee will function as a committee of the whole as it often involves special projects by other members of the BOD. A co-coordinator is yet to be designated.

D. Publications Committee, newly formed, will oversee the publication of the newsletter, and coordinate and communicate the flow of information. The co-coordinators of this committee are to be Kelly Breit and Justin Bodie. Justin currently manages our web site and will continue to do so. Kelly provided for review a mock "Event Registration and Information Request" form to be utilized by the Publications Committee in the future. This will

facilitate maintaining our data base as it pertains to all of the club's functions.

3. Neal Chapman announced that the KTC annual meeting with the USFS will take place early January 2000 in Duluth. At this meeting the KTC reports its preceding years accomplishments and outlines its goals for the next year per our MOU with the USFS. In this next year all attention will be given to "Safety" issues as it applies to trail clearing subsequent to the July 4, 1999 storm. An annual report will have been prepared by then to present to the general membership as well as to the USFS. Four people from the KTC will be attending this meeting.

4. Kelly Breit informed the directors of the current status of the HUNGRY BEAVER newsletter changes to be implemented with the January 2000 issue. Costs are running higher than anticipated. Discussion followed as to how this problem might be resolved. More than likely some of the changes planned will be withheld and in the spring of 2000 the membership/readership will be surveyed to provide guidance as to future directions. Kelly will also, in the next sixty days, survey for corporate sponsorships and potential donations to help defray the costs of publication.

5. Upon completing the deliberations noted above, Pat Duerr, the current and outgoing president, thanked the BOD for their support as he, Sandy Brezinski and Carole Baumgartner complete their terms of office. He also advised that those elected officers and designated co-coordinator directors assume their positions upon adjournment of this evening's meeting. *Respectfully submitted.*
Dick Waeschle, Secretary

November Minutes

Monthly Membership Meeting

November 2, 1999
Midwest Mountaineering

Neal Chapman, Vice President
Presiding for Pat Duerr
Dick Waeschle, Recording
Attendance: 19

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. The minutes of the September 7, 1999 meeting as recorded by Derrick Passe were approved without reading, as were the minutes of the Annual Meeting of October 16, 1999 which was convened at Silver Rapids Lodge, Ely, MN. These minutes are recorded in the Nov/Dec 1999 Hungry Beaver newsletter.

The membership meeting agenda was preceded by a special brief BOD meeting to place in nomination the name of Martin Kubick to the BOD to complete the remaining two years of a three year term of office which had been vacated by a resignation. Martin accepted the nomination.

Treasurer's report by Jim Luadtke noted that the checking account balance stands at \$678.00 with approximately \$1000 in outstanding bills yet to be paid.

Trail Committee report by Peter Sparks noted that year 2000 trail clearing planning is in process. A tentative schedule of trips and dates has been prepared. This includes flagging as well as clearing trips. It is still uncertain as to how the middle portion of the Kekekabic Trail will be managed. Variables that impact on this planning include weather conditions, as in when is ice out, safety issue, as in fire potential, and coordination with the activities of the USFS at that time of the year, specifically May 2000. Peter noted that soon a new KEK logo patch, "Y2KEK", will be available for purchase. The Wilderness Skills Retreat that precedes our trail clearing trips will be held at Sommers Canoe Base out if Ely, MN the weekend of April 8-9, 2000. The major theme at

this retreat will be on "Safety and Tools".

Fund-raising Committee report by Neal Chapman noted that a grant proposal has been submitted to the American Hiking Society.. He also mentioned that his contacts in Washington D.C. have been solicited for additional funding from the National Forest Service. Derrick Passe added that he had submitted an article to the magazine "American Hiker", reviewing the July 4, 1999 storm and requesting financial support to aid in our volunteer trail clearing efforts in the year 2000.

Membership Committee report was presented by many, recounting the activities of the past year. Martin Kubick serving again on the BOD will take on the coordinator role of this committee, in partnership with someone else yet to be identified. He requested volunteers to become active in facilitating this important committee's functions.

Program Committee report by Neal and Peter noted that at our membership meetings in early 2000 the following presentations are scheduled as follows: 1. "Food" in January. 2. "Saws and Tools" in February. 3. "1st Aid" in March. 4. "Canoeing" in April. 5. "Orienteering" in May. A pizza party will be the focus of our December 1999 membership meeting. Special Projects report by Martin and Peter noted that a marketing program themed around the "Restore the Kek" presentation is being developed.

Newsletter Committee report given by Kelly Breit noted that a Newsletter/Publications Committee has been formed and will take an active role in January 2000. This group with Kelly acting as coordinator includes Arah Bahn and Stephanie Ash.

Unfinished Business: Derrick Passe advised that "Winter Fest 1999" is to be held at Midwest Mountaineering on November 12-14,

1999. Three hour shifts of volunteer booth staffing is needed. A sign up sheet was circulated. Jim Luadtke will "set up" as a service in lieu of paying a fee to Midwest Mountaineering. Mark Stange will give a presentation on the July 4, 1999 storm the evening of November 12.

New Business: Neal Chapman displayed a mounted map of the Brule Lake Trail that had been presented to the KTC by the USFS at the annual meeting, compliments of Jo Barnier. He mentioned we will be involved in "Winter Trails", January 15, 2000, sponsored by Hennipen County Parks and Recreation. He noted we will be working with the USFS in a public relations program addressing the "safety awareness" requirements by users of the hiking trails and canoe routes in the BWCAW, in light of the July 4, 1999 storm. He then introduced Steve Schug of the USFS who heads up the "trail recovery" effort in the Superior National Forest that was effected by the storm. Steve provided an up date as to what has occurred through October 1999. His comments and statistics may be found elsewhere in the January HUNGRY BEAVER newsletter. Work crews will be coming back into the damaged areas in May 2000 to finish trail clearing. The two criteria for this effort is "minimum tooling" and "safety". His 20 minute presentation was roundly applauded.

Announcements: Dick Waeschle reported on the successful annual meeting. Jon Harrison advised the group of a "Winter Fest" planning meeting for next week, Tuesday, November 7, 1999. Neal noted that the BOD meeting, to elect officers and appoint committee coordinators for the next year, is scheduled for 6:00 PM, November 10, 1999 at Midwest Mountaineering.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Trips

May – Trail Clearing

5–7 Brule Lake Trail
5–7 Eagle Mountain
6–7 Lima Mountain
6–10 Snowbank Lake Trail
12–14 Kek (Western Trailhead to Benezie Loop)
12–14 Kek (Disappointment Loop)
12–14 Kek (Eastern Trailhead to Bingshick Lake)
12–16 Kek (Seahorse to Bingshick)
13–14 South Lake Trail
18–21 Kek (Howard Lake Area)
20–24 Pow Wow Trail (Mirror to Fallen Arch Lake)
25–29 Kek
27–30 Kek (Disappointment to Medas)
27–30 Pow Wow Trail (Pose Creek to Mirror Lake)

Meetings

February

1 at 7:00 p.m.
Monthly Membership Meeting
Midwest Mountaineering
Contact Neal Chapman
(612) 831-2292

March

7 at 7:00 p.m.
Monthly Membership Meeting
Midwest Mountaineering
Contact Neal Chapman
(612) 831-2292

April

4 at 7:00 p.m.
Monthly Membership Meeting
Midwest Mountaineering
Contact Neal Chapman
(612) 831-2292

Events

February

19 & 20 all day
Eagle Mountain/Brule Lake Trail Camping Trip
Contact Martin Kubik
(651) 426-0925

March

7 at 7:00 p.m.
Presentation on wilderness first aid by Dick Waeschle, M.D.
Midwest Mountaineering
Contact Neal Chapman
(612) 831-2292

April

4 at 7:00 p.m.
Presentation on canoe safety by Minnesota Canoe Association
Midwest Mountaineering
Contact Neal Chapman
(612) 831-2292

8 & 9 all day
Wilderness Skills and Leadership Retreat at Wilder Forest, Marine on St. Croix
Contact Neal Chapman
(612) 831-2292



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