

# THE HUNGRY BEAVER

*The Journal of the Kekekabic Trail Club*



Volume 15, Issue 3

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Go to [www.kek.org/MWTA2004.html](http://www.kek.org/MWTA2004.html) for a copy of this years  
Clearing Schedule

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## KTC Hot Shots Program

Given that: Many people have time available for trips in the Summer that is not available in May.

The KTC often does Not have meetings in the Summer.

The trails often have needs that come up in the Summer.

The best way to get people on the trail is to set aside the time now and pick the locations as they arise.

Hot Shots go up on the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of the month (from Thursday night and to Sunday afternoon). They are experienced, have a focused goal, travel light, have trained leader.

The Club benefits by: Getting 5 trips to complete special projects.

Increasing involvement in time of Low Club Activity

Announcing the KTC Hot Shots Program!

This is a program available to those of you who can't get enough of trail clearing during May or just can't go on a trip in May due to school, graduations or fishing opener. The Hot Shots will go up to the BWCA on the third weekend of the month. They will work on a specific section of the Trail to provide maintenance that our Spring Trail Clearing Trips are unable to do due to time constraints or lack of necessary tools. These groups will travel Light, work hard and return home with a sense of accomplishment.

Where will we go? It may be North Wilder Lake via Lakes 1,2 &3 to Eliminate a reroute, It may be Diana to work on a Bridge, It may be Bingschick to clean up after a Fire, or it

may be a trip to play with Power tools outside the Wilderness by Snowbank Lake. The First Trip will be June 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>.

What can you do?

Send suggestions or ideas for projects to the KTC Board of Directors

Volunteer to lead one of the Hot Shot Trips

Volunteer to go on one of the Hot Shot Trips

Let your friends know about these opportunities to go to the BWCA this Summer and Fall

## President's Column

Winter snow has finally arrived in Minnesota. Little did most of us realize, Winter was in the BWCA before it actually came knocking on the Metro doorstep. Personally I was trying to see if a human being can actually crack by going from -20 to 85 degrees F in the same day. Frankly, I think someone who stays inside all Winter is likely to crack whether you are in frigid Minnesota OR warm Hawaii. So, I did get out and do some hiking in Oahu last week, but spent more time exploring the underwater world of the Pacific Ocean. Alas, all good things come to an end. Yesterday I was swimming at the beach and today I swim through the wonderful snow that greeted me when I arrived home.

Great progress has been made on the Spring trail clearing trips. We have leaders for over 1/2 of the trips, we are close to nailing down the saw training venue, and the trip brochure was mailed out to the KTC's mailing list. There is still a lot of work left to do for the Spring trips. We need to distribute the registration form to State Parks, Stores, or anywhere else we can

spark enthusiasm for our clearing trips.

But, we can't stop there. This year I would like to use National Trails Day to celebrate our trail Clearing Accomplishment. Hopefully someone from the Club can help organize (or just tag along with another group) National Trails day on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Also, new this year we are going to be trying out the Hot Shots Program. In past years we have had groups of volunteers go up to clean up loose ends after the clearing trips are complete.

Getting on these trips has always been kind of hit or miss since they were not scheduled very far in advance. This year we are setting aside the third weekend of Every Month beginning with June to spend a weekend working on a specific part of the trails that need extra care.

Staying in Touch. The BOD is striving to keep our members informed of what is happening with the Club. We have set a timeline for getting the newsletter to all members (anyone can submit articles by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month), Meeting minutes are being printed in the Newsletter, the Web site is being updated. Still not enough? I strongly encourage all members to go to the club website ([www.kek.org](http://www.kek.org)) or the Topica website ([www.topica.com](http://www.topica.com)) and enroll in the Kekekabic Trail Club's email web list. Post BWCA or trip news to other members and stay informed of happenings within the club.

## "BOUNDARY WATERS"

*By Constance M. Van Valkenburg*

The book was written in 1999, but lots of people have never read "Boundary Waters" by W. K. Krueger.

It has the scent of pine trees, of the summer sunshine on raspberries, the smell of snow and woodsmoke, the romance of a mystery.

A well known young singer drops out of her usual life. Some people want to kill her, as they murdered her mother. She has found sanctuary on a long, narrow, tree surrounded lake in the Boundary Waters, aided by an old Indian who weekly brought her food and mail.

But winter is coming, the cold and wolves stalk Minnesota, and the Indian has not come when he should.

Without her knowing, her father is searching for her with an unusual mix of people, including a young boy. Also hunting her are some brutal, pitiless killers.

The story of her leaving the cabin, and still new to the wilderness striking out into the wind and snow, while violent, greedy strangers stalk and find/lose/find her, is gripping, violent, like the smell of gray gun powder.

## HEY PEOPLE!

We are trying to get some grant money for the Kek programs and need your input. What do you think we particularly need money for? (Besides our Liisa, who is managing the signups for trail clearing, keeping track of members, making sure the Hungry Beaver gets mailed, keeping our calendar, and a host of other things.)

Someone suggested a map for each trail. Then, since we have 10 miles of trails outside the Boundary Waters to clear, John asked for a chain saw and two weed eaters.

What do YOU have to suggest? Publicity stuff? Trail expansion? Classes on GPS's? Come on, give me your thoughts!

Connie Van Valkenburg (651) 645-5463  
[connievanv2@aol.com](mailto:connievanv2@aol.com)

## ALERT !!

We are trying to publicize the club. If anyone in the club can write a short tale about working in the Boundary Waters, and has some good pictures, we would send it to the Boundary Waters Journal, who MIGHT publish it.

Also, is anyone in the club also an employee of REI? If so, e-mail [connievanv2 @aol.com](mailto:connievanv2@aol.com)  
We need some input.

## Needed: Volunteers to Adopt-A-Store

**The KTC has two basic needs:** members to help support the club activities year round and volunteers for the trail maintenance trips. In order to bring in new members we need to distribute our membership brochures as widely as possible. In order to recruit volunteers we need to get the word out via the trip brochures.

**This is where Adopt-A-Store plays a critical role for the club.** We need to distribute membership and trip brochures with the trail clearing schedule to outdoor recreation stores, outfitters, state and county parks, libraries, colleges and other target locations. Listed below are the stores and other sites where we would like to have literature placed. The list is not exhaustive. Other sites can be added. Let Liisa or I know the names.

**The distribution of brochures must start now in order to get the word out about the spring trail clearing trips.** We need volunteers to visit the stores and sites listed above to distribute the literature. Some of the sites are critical – the outfitters, outdoor recreation stores and USFS District offices in the Superior National Forest. The first step at each store or site is to ask for the manager on duty. Tell him/her about the club and the trail clearing activities and ask if there is a literature rack where the brochures can be placed. There is not a magic number of brochures – 20 or so is probably a good number. If possible revisit the store in a month or so to check on the supply of brochures.

**How to help** – stop by Midwest Mountaineering and pick up a supply of membership and trip brochures in the KTC supply room (located adjacent to the Expedition Room in the basement – ask for help if you don't know where it is located). There will be a box labeled for the brochures and a clip board with a sign up sheet. Pick out one or more stores or sites. Write your name by the site(s) that you will cover. If you are going to distribute the brochures to a site not on the list, write the name on a blank sheet attached to the clip board.

If you have questions or need brochures sent to you please contact **Liisa Beckman**, [beckm012@umn.edu](mailto:beckm012@umn.edu), phone (612) 729-7675.

Duluth Pack Store, Duluth	Augsburg College, Mpls
Finn Sisu, St Paul	Carlton College, Northfield
Galyan's, Bloomington	College of St. Scholastica
Galyan's, Woodbury	Hamline University, St Paul
Galyan's, Minnetonka	Macalester College, St Paul
Gander Mountain, Bloomington	St John's University, Collegeville
Gander Mountain, Burnsville	St Olaf College, Northfield
Gander Mountain, Fridley	St. Thomas University, St Paul
Gander Mountain, Maple Grove	U of M, Mpls
Gander Mountain, Maplewood	U.M.D., Duluth
Gander Mountain, Minnetonka	
Gander Mountain, Woodbury	Afton State Park
Gear West, Long Lake	Fort Snelling State Park
Hoigaard's, St Louis Park	St. Croix State Park
Joe's Sporting Goods, Roseville	Wild River State Park
Midwest Mountaineering, Mpls	William O'Brien State Park
P. J. Ash Otterfitters, Stillwater	State Parks on the North Shore
Piragis Outfitters, Ely	Tamarack Nature Center, White Bear Lake
REI, Bloomington	
REI, Roseville	Anoka County Libraries
Twin Ports Outfitters, Superior, WI	Hennepin County Libraries
U of M. Outdoor Store, St Paul Campus	Ramsey County Libraries
USFS Ranger District Offices and Work Stations: Aurora, Cook, Grand Marais, Isabella, Tofte and Ely .	Scott County Libraries Washington County Libraries

## February Blahs Averted at Monthly Club Meeting

The monthly meeting on February 3 featured a visit by Mel Baughman, Professor, Extension Forester and Assistant Dean at the U's College of Natural Resources. He has worked statewide in the planning and design of trails, including Voyageurs National Park. Professor Baughman showed slides, with lively and precise commentary, of a 14-day canoe trip down the Waterfound and Fond du Lac Rivers in Northern Saskatchewan.

The trip encompassed mile-long rapids, sandstone cliffs, campsites perched near waterfalls, perilous portages along limestone embankments, remote boreal forest, sandy beaches (something we don't see often in canoe country!), and fish to outdo any tall tale.

We marveled at his organization, which made masterpieces out of plain photos of camping gear and fishing flies. And his photographs of the scenery, shot with a 25-year-old Olympia, revealed the eye of an artist, the mind of a naturalist, and the instinct of an outdoorsman.

Professor Baughman will repeat his presentation at the Minnesota Canoe Association's Far North Symposium, which will be held at the Brooklyn Center Community Center on Saturday, March 27. Look for information to be sent on the KEK-LIST, or contact Mel Baughman at 651-645-9409 or [baughman@umn.edu](mailto:baughman@umn.edu).

## March Membership Meeting

**John Cron** from **Granite Gear** in Two Harbors will talk about the history of the company and the development of specialized back packing and canoe gear. He will also discuss the testing of gear and provide tips on appropriately fitting a backpack.

## Contact Information

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i thought that I would share the Hiking Trail use in the BWCA. These numbers were shared with the Club by the USFS.

TRAIL	Hiking Trail - Day Use			Hiking Trail - Overnight Use		
	Permits	Hikers	% of Permits	Permits	Hikers	% of Permits
Kek West / Snowbank	143	307	7%	68	174	23%
Kek East	150	332	7%	20	48	7%
<b>Kek Total</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>30%</b>
Pow Wow Trail	51	109	2%	49	111	16%
Eagle Mountain	1436	3911	66%	34	75	11%
Brule Lake Trail	42	91	2%	0	0	0%
Border Route West	13	29	1%	15	35	5%
Border Route Central	144	363	7%	24	68	8%
Border Route East	14	37	1%	13	44	4%
<b>BRT - Total</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>18%</b>
South Lake Trail	48	126	2%	6	13	2%
Sioux Hustler Trail	12	28	1%	18	35	6%
Angleworm Trail	128	279	6%	50	103	17%
<b>Total Permits</b>	<b>2181</b>	<b>5612</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>706</b>	<b>100%</b>

**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       Check this box if you do not want your name in the KTC phone book.

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.*

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## Calendar

**Apr 6, 7PM Monthly Membership Meeting,** Midwest Mountaineering 309 Cedar Ave S., Minneapolis, MN - **John Cron** from **Granite Gear** in Two Harbors will talk about the history of the company and the development of specialized back packing and canoe gear. He will also discuss the testing of gear and provide tips on appropriately fitting a backpack.

**Apr 17 and 18, 7PM Crosscut Saw Training and Recertification** - We are still working to find a location that can accommodate both classroom and field facilities. This is our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Crosscut saw training and 3rd year for the refresher, so we should have them figured out. This will be our 1<sup>st</sup> year to offer Chainsaw training, so that may encounter a few bumps in the road.



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