



PISCATOR

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE NATIONAL CONVENTION

FRIDAY • JULY 24, 2009

THE VOTES ARE IN

National Officers

President: Mike Williams

Vice President: Jim Madsen

Secretary: Bob Chapman

Treasurer: Walter Lynn, Jr.

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I: Peter Hillebrecht

II: Charlotta M. Burton

III: Sidney Wagner, Jr.

IV: Dean Knight

V: Carl R. Keeler

VI: Richard G. Sommer



National Officers (L to R): Mike Williams, Walt Lynn, Bob Chapman, Jim Madsen

GRASSLAND CONSERVATION

Jim Margadant, Regional Conservation Organizer, Sierra Club

As a sportsman and outdoorsman – and long-time member of the IWLA Rapid City Chapter – Jim Margadant has seen first-hand the environmental impact of South Dakota's grasslands being lost to commercial purposes.

Jim will discuss a proposal to ask Congress to protect nearly 50,000 acres of public land in the Buffalo Gap National Grassland by designating it as wilderness. The prairie grassland is dwindling fast across the country. If Congress acts, this would be the first wilderness grassland in the country.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

7:00 – 8:30 am
Midwest Office
Breakfast

Meeting Rooms
8 – 10

9:00 am – 12 pm
Sales

Convention Center

9:00 am
Youth Convention
Presentation to General Session

Ballroom B

9:15 am
Endowment Board Meeting

10:30 am
Grassland Conservation Speaker
Resource Committee Reports

12:00 – 1:00 pm
Lunch on Your Own

1:15 – 5:00 pm
Convention Reconvenes
Votes on Resolutions
Other Business

Ballroom B

5:00 pm
Convention Adjourns

6:00 pm
Social Hour/Banquet

Ballroom A

CHAPTER ACHIEVEMENTS

At yesterday's Membership Awards breakfast, 34 chapters took home the League's Defenders Chapter Achievement Award. Each chapter demonstrated a commitment to membership, support of the League's mission, local scholarships, on-the-ground conservation, effective communication and youth.

We'd like to offer special recognition to the Fredericksburg-Rappahannock Chapter (Virginia), Hamilton Chapter (Ohio), Harford County Chapter (Maryland), Sportsman's Chapter (Maryland), and Walter Sherry Memorial Chapter (Illinois) – all first-time award winners.

The Elgin Chapter (Illinois), Loudoun County Chapter (Virginia), Owatonna Chapter (Minnesota), Warren County Chapter (Iowa), and York Chapter #67 (Pennsylvania) took home the chapter achievement award for the *tenth* year in a row!

You'll find the full list of chapter winners and the rest of our membership award recipients on the League's Web site and in the next issue of *Outdoor America*.

THANK YOU SIOUX FALLS CHAPTER

Many thanks to members of the Izaak Walton League's Sioux Falls Chapter, who were wonderful convention hosts and provided an exceptional experience for our youth program attendees. We are deeply appreciative of their many hours of volunteer service that made this year's conference such a success.



Last night, many convention attendees became Sioux Falls Chapter members for a day as we enjoyed a beautiful outdoor picnic

at the chapter house, followed by a spectacular laser light show downtown at the Sioux Falls.

SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND AG

Fred Kirschenmann, Distinguished Fellow at the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture at Iowa State University, outlined the challenges and opportunities facing our food and agriculture systems – and our society as a whole – driven by global environmental, economics, and social changes. Fred described how our industrial

economy depends on cheap energy, abundant water and a healthy workforce yet each of these is increasingly more expensive or is being depleted at a very rapid rate.



And our culture of consumption is only exacerbating these problems. Fred concluded with thoughts about the keys to a more sustainable future, including using models from our own communities where individual farmers and citizens are pioneering new techniques to grow food and protect the resources we all care about.

JOIN US IN HERSHEY

Making the most of your chapter's conservation and recreation opportunities. Guiding the League into the next decade. Greeting old friends – and



making new ones! You'll find all this and more at next year's IWLA national convention in Grantville, Pennsylvania. Nearby attractions include Hershey Park, with Zoo America, and the Strasburg Railroad. Dutch Wonderland offers plenty of thrills for kids of all ages.

Mark your calendar now!

2010 National Convention
July 13-16, 2010
Holiday Inn - Grantville, Pa.



2010 Midwinter Meeting
February 10-13, 2010
Alexis Park Resort - Las Vegas

Your Piscator Staff

Earl Hower, Editor-in-Chief
Scott Kovarovics, Senior Correspondent
Jenny Myers, Photographer
Dawn Merritt, Writer

