



## MINNESOTA OUT OF DOORS

Volume 4, Number 4

Fall 2015

### MCF Elects New President and Executive Board



Pictured left to right: Don Nickolay, Joe Hoffmann, Rylee Main, John Brinkman and Steve Maurice

Joe Hoffmann, 26, of St. Cloud was elected president of the Minnesota Conservation Federation at its annual meeting on September 12 at the Quality Inn in St. Cloud. Hoffman is believed to be the youngest person ever elected president of the MCF.

Hoffmann, works at Davco Technologies, Inc. and plans on working into wildlife management in the future. He spent the last two summers in the Rocky Mountains conducting research on bighorn sheep. Hoffmann is also the Minnesota Senior Pro Staffer for Vanishing Paradise. Growing up Joe and his father owned and operated a pheasant farm in Clear Lake.

Don Nickolay, of Elko, was elected second vice president. He is a member of the New Market Sportsman's Club, as well as, the Scott County Pheasants Forever. He is retired from Kraus-Anderson where he worked for 31 years as a construction laborer and equipment operator.

Rylee Main of Minneapolis, was elected treasurer of the MCF. From the Chicago areas, Main serves at the Executive Director of the Lake Pepin Legacy Alliance where she is spearheading a habitat and water quality restoration project.

Steve Maurice of Fairmont was elected secretary. Originally from New Hampshire, Maurice is an active member of the Martin County Conservation Club. Maurice is a retired soil conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service where he worked for 33 years.

John Brinkman, of Lake City remains at the past-president of the MCF. Brinkman is president of the Lake City Sportsman's Club and a retired school teacher.

The 63rd Annual Assembly passed five policy resolutions relating to state and federal issues.

Chris Anderson of St. Cloud presented his research results to date on the high mortality rates of Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep. He is working on his master's degree at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa. He was the winner of MCF's \$500 scholarship last year.

MCF Executive director Gary Botzek reported on the 2015 legislative session and expectations for the 2016 session. Jason Dinsmore of the National Wildlife Federation updated the attendees on issues ranging from the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, wolf delisting, and Great Lakes water protection.

## Executive Director News

# Ex. Director Report and The Passing of Two

By Gary Botzek  
Executive Director

As we enter the fall season, we continue to work on natural resources issues.



The 2015 legislative session ended in May but their work was not yet completed! The Governor called them back into Special Session in early June to finish the work including the Environment and Natural Resources Finance bill. It was in that bill that funding for the DNR, MPCA, BWSR, and DOA was provided. Also, the new buffer language was included in that bill. Please visit our website at <http://mncf.org/blog/category/legislative> to see a complete a summary of what happened in 2015 to date and what is happening in terms of natural resource issues as we work toward the 2016 legislative session on the following:

Buffers for Water Quality & Habitat; Wetlands Conservation Act Changes; Shooting Range Enhancement Grant Program; DNR, MPCA & BWSR Budgets; Game & Fish Policy Changes; Mille Lacs Lake Management; Lessard-Sams Dollars; Lottery Money; Wolf Delisting/Management; & Bonding Dollars for Conservation.

The 2016 legislative session will feature another big bonding bill. It is hopeful that part of that bill will invest in WMA's, SNA's, and AMA's, and RIM-Reserve lands.

If you are interested in more information regarding items mentioned in this report, please call me at 651-293-9295 or email me at [gary@capitolconnections.com](mailto:gary@capitolconnections.com). Thanks for your continued interest, involvement and participation in the MCF, NWF, conservation, habitat and the environment! Enjoy the fall season and colors!

## The Passing of Two Giants in the Conservation Area

The Minnesota Conservation Federation family and friends were saddened by the loss of two champions of conservation, the environment, their community, and the families. On June 11 we lost Maynhardt Gustav Herman Bahrke, age 82, of Belle Plaine, MN. Maynhardt was laid to rest in the Oakwood Cemetery in Belle Plaine on June 14. Military Honors by the Belle Plaine Honor Guard were bestowed upon him. He is survived by his three adult children and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. His wife Betty passed away in 2012.

Maynhardt was born in Lester Prairie in 1933 and married Betty Jane Ruth Stuber in 1955 in Stewart, MN. He was a professional mason and cement finisher for local contractors and took great pride in teaching the trade. He also drove bus for Stier Bus Company and managed the Belle Plaine Vets Club. He was a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church, American Legion Post 144, VFW Post 6202, 40/8 Voiture, Belle Plaine Sportsman's Club, Turkey Federation, Pheasants Forever, and a member of the Cement Finisher's Union.

Maynhardt enjoyed playing cards, listening to old time music, having breakfast with friends, and watching and feeding the birds. Maynhardt was a "strong and loud" voice for the Belle Plaine Sportman's Club and the MCF. Whether it was attending a MCF quarterly business meeting or working at a Prior Lake banquet Maynhardt would "tell it like it is," but always suggested a constructive way to get things done and build something—probably from his

masonry days and masonry ways! Minnesota, MCF, and the conservation community lost a second strong good man on September 2. Harold E. Weick, Sr. was 93 years old when he passed away. Born in 1922 in Minneapolis Harold married Dorothy Priebe in 1955 and settled in Lake City, MN. Harold worked for 26 years at IBM in Rochester. Born and raised on a farm he learned to play the piano accordion and would play locally with his sister on piano. They played at 4H gatherings, Farm Bureau meetings, and other festivals.

Harold is survived by his wife Dorothy, three grown children, and five grandchildren. Harold was a life member of the MCF and served as its president for two years. He was very active in the Lake City Sportsman Club and served as president there for five years! He was also president of the Lake City Lions Club and very active in the Lion's Mint program and Peace Poster program. He was the Wabasha County Senior Citizen of the Year in 2014! Harold rarely missed an MCF quarterly meeting. Always engaged and engaging, Harold knew and understood the MCF by-laws backwards and forward.

Maynhardt Bahrke and Harold E. Weick, Sr. were true gentlemen that stood right there with Gordie Meyer, Dave Moran, and others to work long and hard for conservation, better hunting and fishing, a clean environment, and outdoor opportunities for kids. The both loved their families, their community, and the great Minnesota outdoors. They will be missed.

# More news....

## Walk on the Wildside

The Minnesota Conservation Federation (MCF) would once again like to offer Minnesota schools a FREE subscription to our youth educational magazine called Walk on the Wild Side(WOW). The publication is designed to enhance conservation education in the classroom, which it has been doing since 1998. Targeted for the 5th and 6th grade student, the magazine focuses on Minnesota's woods, wildlife, soil and water.

In Walk on the Wild Side, students will enjoy learning about wildlife and nature unique to Minnesota. In addition, the magazine can help science and social studies teachers meet academic standards related to ecosystems, environmental education, and human interactions with the environment. Stories include information about animals, water resources, hunting, environmentally friendly land practices, and threats to our state's natural resources, such as pollution. Through Walk on the Wild Side, students from all school districts can gain an equally great understanding and excitement for our state's wildlife and natural beauty, regardless of where they live.

We are now offering an online edition of the magazine only, which teachers can receive via email and share with students and parents as they wish. Walk on the Wild Side includes six issues each school year (monthly issues November thru April). To receive an electronic copy of the magazine, please send the teacher name, grade, school district, and email address to:

info@mncf.org.

We look forwarding to bringing the Minnesota outdoors to

your classrooms! If you know of a teacher who would like to use this tool please pass on this information.

## How Can You Support Walk on the Wildside?

The Minnesota Conservation wants to continue to make the Walk on the Wildside magazine free to teachers. We do have expenses with putting this magazine together. We hire an editor to work on each issue.

We have a few ways that you can help support Walk on the Wildside. You can make a donation directly to the MCF office,

### Donation:

please mail your donation to:  
Minnesota Conservation Federation  
542 Snelling Ave. #104  
St. Paul, MN 55116

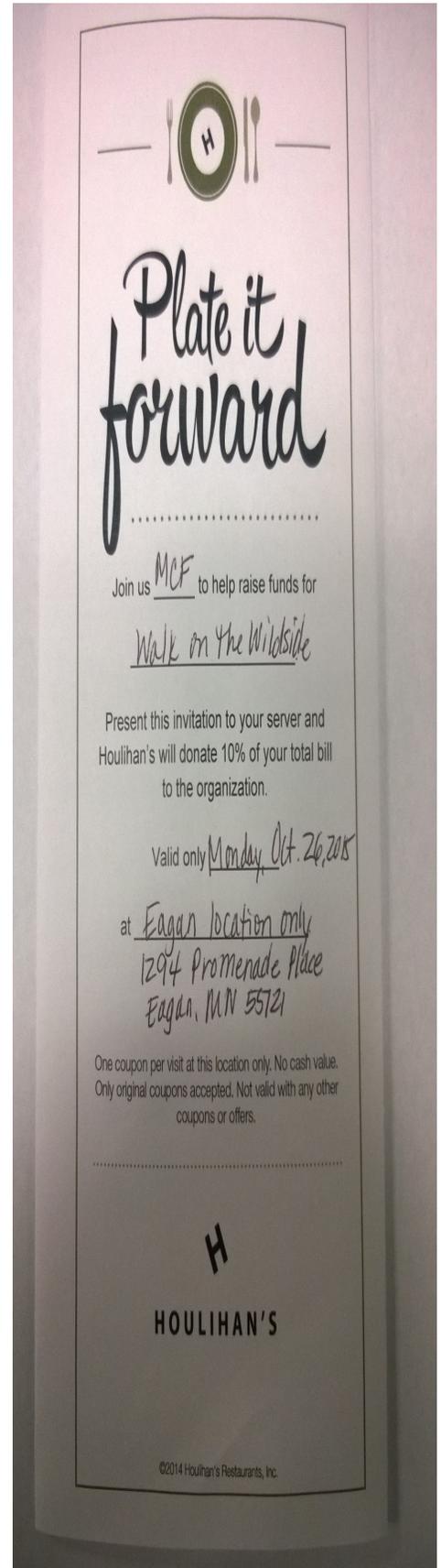
Please note that your donation is for WOW-Walk on the Wildside

### Plate it Forward:

Or you can join us for Plate It Forward at Hoolihan's in Eagan, MN on Monday, October 26th. Bring in this Plate It Forward slip, enjoy lunch or dinner with family and friends and 10% of your total bill will go to MCF-Walk on the Wildside. You have to turn to slip in at the time of your dining.

This offer is good at the Eagan location of Hoolihan's which is located at 1294 Promende Place, Eagan, MN 55121

We hope you will consider one or both of these opportunities to support MCF efforts in educating youth on conservation.



**MINNESOTA CONSERVATION  
FEDERATION**

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St. Paul, MN 55116

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Email: [info@mncf.org](mailto:info@mncf.org)

***Minnesota Conservation Federation  
2015-16 Officers***

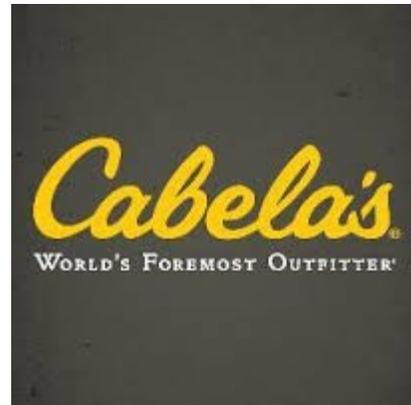
Joe Hoffmann, President  
vacant, 1st Vice President  
Don Nickolay, 2nd Vice President  
Rylee Main, Treasurer  
Steve Maurice, Secretary

**ANY ITEMS FOR PUBLICATION MAY BE E-MAILED  
OR SENT TO THE MINNESOTA CONSERVATION  
FEDERATION — [info@mncf.org](mailto:info@mncf.org)**

**Quarterly Meeting**

Cabella's  
Rogers, MN  
9:30 am  
Saturday, December 12, 2015

**We hope to see you there!**



**Submit your club's news to *Minnesota Out of Doors* Newsletter**

**T**he Minnesota Conservation Federation's *Minnesota Out of Doors* newsletter is a place for member clubs to present news about their accomplishments. Club news and/or photos can be submitted to: Tammy Abrahamson  
Minnesota Conservation Federation, 542 Snelling Avenue South #104, St. Paul, MN 55116, or by e-mail to [info@mncf.org](mailto:info@mncf.org). All submissions should be directed to Tammy. The deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is December 18, 2015.