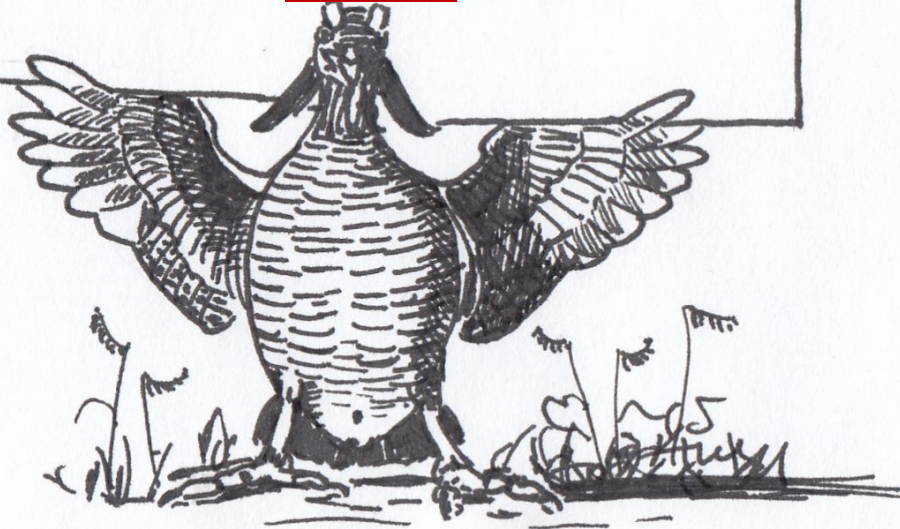




MINNESOTA PRAIRIE CHICKEN SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

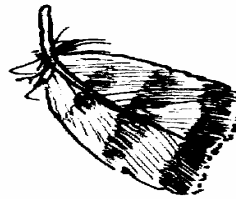
Volume 51 No. 1 Winter 2025

**Announcing the 52nd Annual
MPCS Meeting! To be held in
Detroit Lakes on 4-26-
2025!!**



Editor's Note:

MPCS hopes this Winter Newsletter finds you well and excited to see Spring roll onto the Prairies! At the time of scripting, many breeding birds have already returned ... always such a rewarding time in our lives. RHH



FEATHER FEATURES

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Upcoming 52nd Annual Meeting



Tympie Nuchus and friends hope to see the flock at our next annual meeting! It will be held at the *Minnesota State Community and Technical College (M State)*. It is located at *900 Minnesota State Hwy 34*. We'll be meeting on Saturday, the 26th of April. **PLEASE** see the following information below.

MPCS 52nd Annual Meeting



Friday Pint Night

Friday, April 25, 2025 @ 7pm

Location: Buck's Mill Brewing

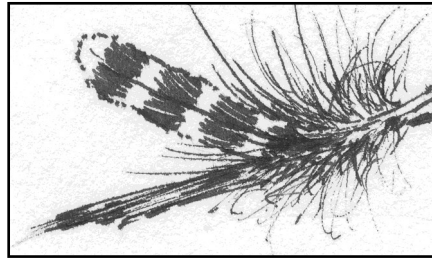
824 Washington Ave.

Detroit Lakes, MN

**A time to socialize and raise some money
for the Chickens!**

Each beer purchase raises \$\$ for MPCS!

Limited merchandise will be available.



52nd Annual MPCS Meeting

Saturday, April 26, 2025

MN State Community and Technical College (MState)

900 State Hwy 34, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

Roosting

Fairfield Inn & Suites – Detroit Lakes (218) 844-0001
Country Inn & Suites – Detroit Lakes (218) 846-8763
AmericInn – Detroit Lakes (218) 325-1024

Quality Inn & Suites – Detroit Lake (218) 847-4483
Budget Host Inn – Detroit Lakes (218) 847-4454
Holiday Inn – Detroit Lakes (218) 847-2121

Saturday April 26 – Meeting Agenda

- **Optional: Hamden Slough National Wildlife Refuge, Prairie Chicken viewing blind**
Blind can reasonably hold 5 people. Please compile your group of 4-5 people and have a group representative reach out to USFWS (Becky E.) @ **218-847-4431**. Please state that you are with the MPCS group when making the reservation. *Availability based upon reservation.
- **Optional: Birding/Wildlife Walk**
6:30 a.m. Meet at MState east parking lot to carpool for field trip to Troll locations at DL Mountain
***If interested, please RSVP by email to Matt Mecklenburg, mecknani@gmail.com**

Back at the Lek

- 9:00 Registration and snacks
- 9:30 Announcements and Call to Order
Welcome – Brian Winter
Field Trip Report – Matt & John
- 9:45 *Land Acquisition Update* – Jake Granfors, MN Public Lands Mgr./ PF & Rob Baden, Area Mgr./ MN DNR
- 10:05 *MPCS/PF Partnership: USFWS WPA Acquisition Update (recording)* – Shawn May, Wildlife Biologist/ USFWS & Tyler Zimmerman, Wetland Restoration Specialist/ Pheasants Forever
- 10:30 **Break**
- 10:45 Lydell Scholarship Award presentation
- 10:55 *Two Prairie Insects in need of Conservation & how we can help* – Jessica Petersen, Terrestrial Insect Ecologist/ MN DNR
- 11:25 Friend of the Prairie Chicken Award Presentation
- 11:40 **Socialize and Silent Auction updates**



***Please register ASAP!!!**

**MN Prairie Chicken Society
52 Annual Meeting**

April 26, 2025

**MState Community and Technical College
900 Hwy 34
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501**

- Pre-registration encouraged by mail or online
- Register by April 21, 2025 for Early Bird prize drawing!
- Registration costs include lunch, snacks, MPCS Annual Membership

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Register ASAP!
Send registration to: Phil Doll
40492 490th St.
Perham, MN 56573

Checks payable to MPCS

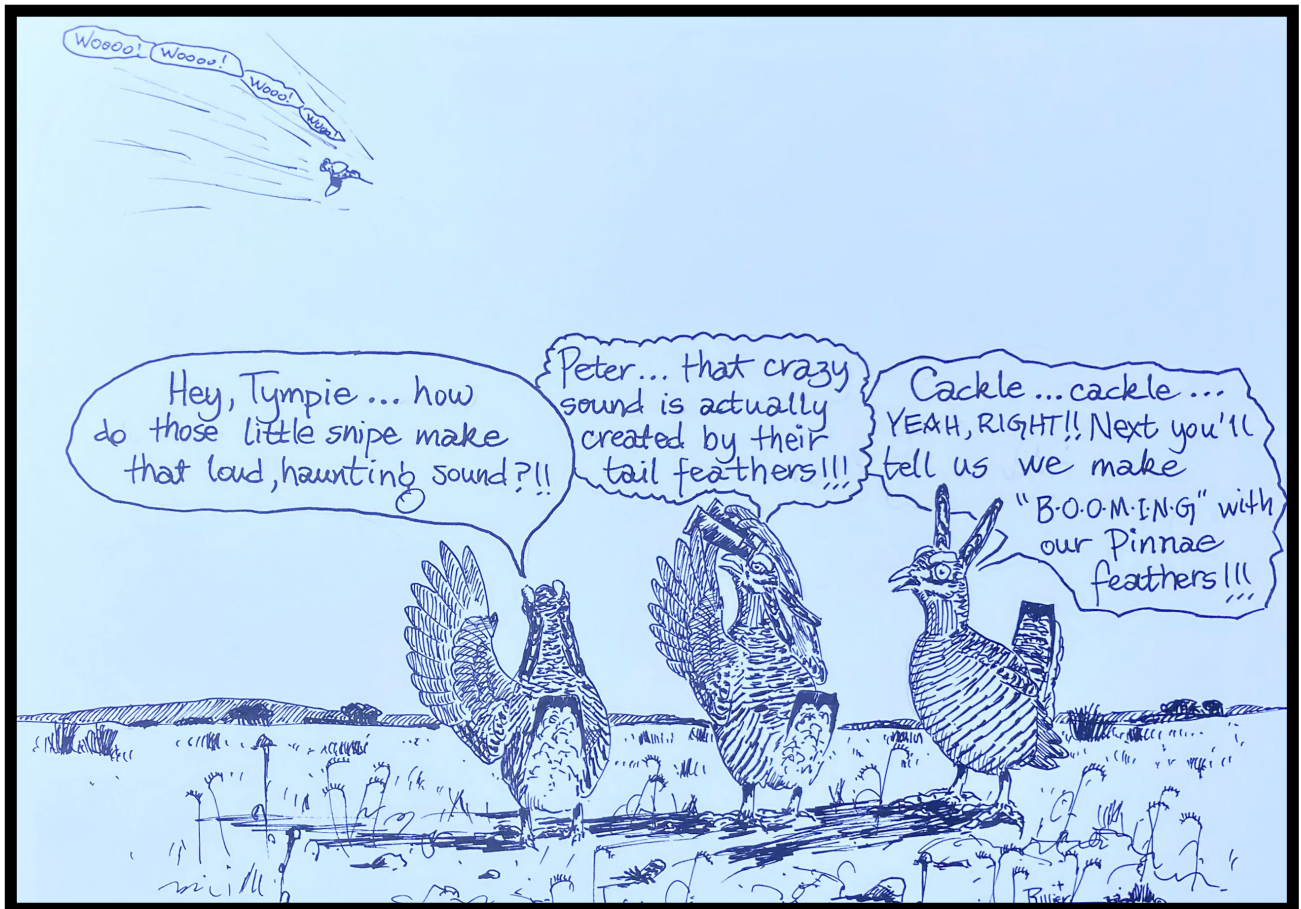
Pre-registration =	\$ 45.00
	OR
@ Door	\$ 50.00
Additional Donation =	\$ _____
Total Enclosed =	\$ _____

OR

Register online with PayPal at
www.prairiechickens.org

The Adventures of Tympie Nuchus

By
Ross H. Hier



Spirit Lake Dakota Pictographs and Ties to Prairie Chickens

By
Jim Uhrinak



Prairie chicken researcher Dr. John Toepfer lived among the Spirit Lake Dakota in Benson County, North Dakota during part of his illustrious career. He had interest in what tribal people knew about prairie chickens and what might be learned from traditional ecological knowledge (TEK). The Dakota were part of the seven-fire *Oceti Sakowin* that encompassed the Oglala division of the Teton fire.

Images No. 71 and No. 72 shown above are from Wall-Dog and Hand's Oglala-personal-name pictorial roster of family heads under Chief Big Road obtained by Rev. S. D. Hinman at Standing Rock Agency, Dakota in 1883 from the United States Indian agent, Major McLaughlin. Only four of the eighty-four images are of "women who are depicted as the surviving heads of families."

The image No. 71, personal-male-name pictograph is translated *Prairie-chicken* and image No. 72 is translated *Red-Flute-Woman*. An object connected by a line to the head or mouth indicated the name of the person. However, gestures and other marks could convey additional information.

These images were excerpted from my 1886 military-review copy of the 1884 “Fourth Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution 1882-1883 by J. W. Powell, Director,” pages 174-175.

Although Dr. Toepfer could not distinguish prairie chicken or sharp-tail from this pictograph, it definitely shows that someone had one or the other on their mind.

Pieces of the Prairie

Jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*) typically flowers from April to June in our part of the state. It often flowers a year after a fire runs through a prairie thicket of brush or aspen. It is pollinated by species of Fungus gnats which are attracted to the odor the plant creates. It is a strange plant because of its ability to be a male plant, a plant of both sexes and/or a female plant (Jill-in-the-pulpit). This is typically determined by the plant’s size (smaller plants almost always being male). Plants contain oxalic acid and are poisonous if the plant is consumed in a raw state. Indigenous people did use the plants in various ways after boiling the corms. It served as a treatment for sore eyes, bronchitis and snake bites. It was reported that it was also used as a poison against enemy tribes (corms in raw state were chopped -up and mixed with meat and left purposely for enemies to find and consume.)





MPCS Board Members

(Updated 7 April 2025)

Officers:

Board Members:

	<u>Terms Expiring in 2025</u>	<u>Terms Expiring in 2026</u>	<u>Terms Expiring in 2027</u>
President:	Rob Baden	William E. “Bill” Faber	Jerry Forgit
Brian M. Winter Mpcs.web@gmail.com	John Voz	Matt Mecklenburg	Phil Doll
V-P/Secr/ Archivist:	Doug Wells	Sara Vacek	Stacy Salvevold
Ross H. Hier	Brian Winter	Doug Hedtke	Nicholas Snavelly
Treasurer:	Travis Issendorf	Ross H. Hier	Neal Feeken
Phil Doll Mpcs.web@gmail.com			
Director-At-Large:	Terry Wolfe and Dan Svedarsky		
Newsletter Editor:	Ross H. Hier		
Website Coordinator:	Sonia Winter; Mpcs.web@gmail.com		
Twitter Coordinator:	Phil Doll; @M_P_C_S		

Minnesota Prairie Chicken Society Membership

Your gift membership will help! Any tax deductible contribution or donation will bring you the MPCS Newsletter and supports the Society's efforts to save Minnesota's prairie chickens and their habitats. Renew your membership today!

The Minnesota Prairie Chicken Society is a non-profit wildlife conservation organization exempt from Federal Income tax as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions made to the Society are deductible by donors as provided in Section 170 of the Code. The Society's Federal Identification number is #41-1327954.

- ☐ I would like to make a membership contribution.
- ☐ I would like to contribute to Prairie Chicken Habitat Improvement.
- ☐ I would like to renew my membership.

Or RENEW ONLINE with PayPal at: <https://www.prairiechickens.org/donate>

Name: _____

Address/City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____

MPCS Newsletters Now Electronic

After a slow transition period from direct mailing to electronic newsletters, the board has decided to post all newsletters on the newly updated website. Newsletters will now be posted as a .pdf file and be in full color. We recognize that some members may still want to receive direct mailings so please contact Travis for direct mailing. The newsletters posted on the website will allow members to read past newsletters and share them with family, colleagues, educational institutions, or other conservation partners.

Take a look.

www.prairiechickens.org

