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“Rather than believe that Watson and Crick made the DNA structure, I would rather stress that the structure made Watson and Crick.”

-Francis Crick-

MEETINGS and EVENTS:

Links will provide additional information. Dates for recent additions are in **bold**.

<i>What</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Where</i>
Biotech & Medical Device	Oct. 18	All Day	Milwaukee
Science Enhancing Life	Oct. 18th	All Day	Madison Technical College
Bioneers	Oct. 19-21	All Day	San Mateo, CA
Making a Great Lake Superior Conference	Oct. 29, 30, 31	All Day	Duluth Convention Center
Inventors and Entrepreneur's Club	Nov. 1	5:30 pm	TBA
BCEDC Board Meeting	Nov. 12 th	10:00 am	Washburn Library
Wisconsin Early Stage Symposium	Nov. 14-15	All Day	Madison
BCEDC Board Meeting	Dec. 10 th	10:00 am	TBA

Eco. September 1992 – October 2007.

Patti and I sadly report the loss of our beloved companion of 15 years, Eco. For over a year she struggled with hips ravaged by arthritis and more recently by a senile dementia that left her sometimes standing and staring without response to us or anything else. When rabbits in our yard didn't hear Eco's commanding bark, we knew her spirit to live had moved on. On



ECO 1992 - 2007

Monday we painfully and with love decided to let her go peacefully to play with her friends Scout, Dagi and Wolfie.

Wolfie was a wolf – part wolf. Patti frequently took Eco to “puppy club” – a less than legally sanctioned use of Minneapolis parkland near Lake Harriet by dog owners who wanted an opportunity to socialize their dogs. Dog owners would chat while their pets ran freely, off their leash. Wolfie's owner, Chris, was one day mortified and distraught when Wolfie suddenly decided to leave puppy club to explore. A wolf loose in a city would understandably cause great anguish for any wolf owner. Patti told Eco, “find Wolfie,” and Eco led Patti and Chris through a meandering path throughout several neighborhood blocks of south Minneapolis before Eco found Wolfie at home comfortably resting on her front steps. Later Chris and Wolfie moved out of the area; Chris to operate a business in Northfield MN. We knew little about the business and nothing about its location except that it was on the Main Street of Northfield. Months later, fully a year or more, Patti and I found ourselves in Northfield with Eco. Patti said “find Wolfie.” We began walking Northfield's main street and to our everlasting amazement, Eco found the shop of Wolfie's owner. Years later, Patti would say “Wolfie” and Eco's bright eyes, erect ears and twitching nose told us she still remembered Wolfie.

Eco was a wonderful pooch who took seriously our admonitions to “guard the house.” While we camped at Bark Woods in 1994, Patti let Eco out of the tent early one morning. After listening for a few minutes to very intense barking, Patti looked out of our tent to see Eco in a stand-off with a Black Bear. All was well when the bear ambled off and spread the word around bear-land to stay away from our wooded 40 on Bark River Road. While we were away, a bear took a big bite from our picnic table and played soccer with a blue water jug, but we never saw another bear on the property.

The name “Eco” seemed us and to others to have its obvious roots in ecology. The root “eco” simply means home. Simple and fitting for our dog that greeted us at the door and always brightened our return to our home.

Whenever we left home and had to leave Eco, we would say to her “guard the house.” Occasionally on our return home we would find a pile of shredded paper. Initially we responded to what seemed miscreant behavior, assuming it to be the result of some boredom. However, we learned that this was Eco's signal when she resented being left. Once we left her at home, but returned within minutes to retrieve a forgotten item. There was already a shredded pile of paper. We suspect Eco taught this signal to our late German Shepherd, Dagi, and to our young Bernese Mountain Dog, Kitz.

I actually suggested the name, Eco, from a bacterial enzyme, EcoR1, I was using in the lab to cut DNA into fragments. Lecturing on molecular genetics, I frequently described how EcoR1 could cut DNA precisely wherever a sequence of GAATTC nucleotide bases occurred. EcoR1 had an easily remembered name. The enzyme, EcoR1, was the first discovery of hundreds of restriction endonucleases, now a suite of powerful tools in molecular genetics. This class of enzymes cut the string-like DNA molecule at highly precise locations and produced “sticky ends” enabling new combinations from different species and ushering in genetic engineering. EcoR1 was isolated in the 1970s from the common gut bacterium, *Escherichia coli*; aka, E.coli. This enzyme and its hundreds of counterparts discovered in other bacteria were named with a

system of using the first letter of the generic name of the host bacterium and the first two letters of the specific or species name; hence Eco.

I started calling her Eco Buikko when she was playing with a ball and kicking it, soccer style, around the floor. **Donald Igwebuike** was an outstanding soccer-style placekicker for the **Minnesota Vikings** in 1990 but fell from grace when he was mixed up with illegal drug activity. Eco Buikko became Eco von Buikko as I began to realize what a regal pooch we had been so fortunate to acquire.

We never knew her exact birth date but she was seven to eight weeks old when she, a little reluctantly, joined us on December 5th 1992. A litter of three puppies had been dropped off at the Minneapolis dog pound. Patti and I had visited the facility several times and walked away from taking on ownership responsibilities. Before this visit, Patti said, “if we don't find a dog this time, we're not going back.” Eco didn't start our relationship well. On the way home from the pound, I was driving our little blue Ford Escort and Patti was holding our little puppy while sitting on the passenger side. Eco was nervous and proceeded to barf and ruin the modestly expensive suede leather coat Patti wore that day. Pack rats that we are, we still have the coat. (Maybe we've subconsciously wanted to make something with special meaning from the remaining leather.) Eco eventually got over her nervousness and learned to love every opportunity to ride with us wherever we decided to go.

Eco's origins are shrouded in some mystery. We know her mother was a Collie and believe her father was a German shepherd. She was the product of a great game of genetic chance.

We won the lottery.

I often commented, only partially in jest, that if there was a case to be made for animal cloning, Eco would be my number one exhibit to win the argument. But no amount of genetic engineering will ever make another Eco.

This has been a week of losses. Every loss of a loved one is painful and, by my extolment of Eco, I don't mean to lessen the recent personal losses experienced by good friends of their mothers.

Our attachments in love and in life are emotional and separations evoke painful emotions. Fortunately the pain of loss is succeeded by memories of each life's unique spirit – memories that succeed life – memories that make meaning.

LIGHTER SIDE:

As with most jokes the original author is unknown. Whoever you are; “Thanks!” Names have been added to tease the innocent.

New dog varieties

Collie + Lhasa Apso

Collapso -- a dog that folds up for easy transport!

Pointer + Setter

Poinsetter -- a traditional Christmas pet.

Great Pyrenees + Dachshund

Pyradachs -- a puzzling breed.

Pekingnese + Lhasa Apso

Peekasso -- an abstract dog!

Labrador Retriever + Curly Coated Retriever

Lab Coat Retriever -- the choice of research scientists.

Take care and have a great weekend!

/BRUCE

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Bruce Lindgren is Principal of [B.Lindgren CONSULTING](#). The consulting practice serves small business, local government, school districts and non-profits providing support for research, grant development, technical writing, marketing support and project management. Bruce brings his background in biological sciences, education, small business and media technology to generate and implement ideas contributing solutions to mission critical challenges.

In addition Bruce maintains the following affiliations:

[Bayfield County Economic Development Corporation](#), (BCEDC) Director

[Inland Sea Society](#), (ISS) Director

[Lake Superior Binational Forum](#), (LSBF) US Delegation Co-Chair

[Raindrop Garden Gallery](#), (RGG) Co-owner

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[Coalition for Eco-Industrial Development](#), (CEID) Work Group Member

[Northwest Wisconsin Workforce Investment Board, \(WIB\) Member](#)

The encircled fractal triangle represents an integrated cluster of seven ideas – economics, ecology, equity, ethics, experience, education and energy – that may be considered a core for sustainability studies. Bruce is available to present illustrated lectures and facilitate discussions about role of education in Industrial Ecology, Sustainable Development and the Sustainability Revolution.