



DECEMBER MEMBER MEETING

'Rachel Carson and the Age of Environmentalism'

with **William Souder**, Author

December 12, 2013

Rachel Carson was one of America's most respected and successful authors when she published "Silent Spring" in 1962. The book was a fierce polemic against the indiscriminate use of pesticides such as DDT, and was an instant sensation. It met with fierce opposition from the agricultural and chemical industries and their allies in government. It also transformed the gentler, more optimistic age of conservationism into the more urgent and divisive age of environmentalism. William Souder will discuss Carson's life and legacy, which he wrote about in his latest book "On a Farther Shore: The Life and Legacy of Rachel Carson" published last year on the 50TH Anniversary of "Silent Spring."

About the author: Bill Souder has a degree in Journalism from the University of Minnesota. His work has appeared in many newspapers and magazines. He is also the author of "A Plague of Frogs," "Under a Wild Sky: John James Audubon and the Making of the Birds of America" (a Pulitzer Prize Finalist).

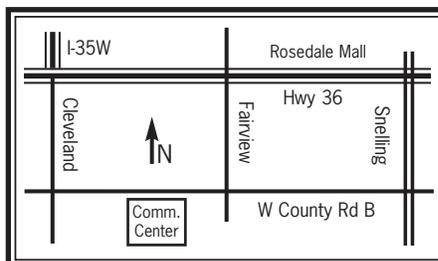


To learn more about this topic and the author, please visit:

<http://www.facebook.com/williamsouderauthor>

All Saint Paul Audubon Society events are FREE and open to the public. Ample parking is available. Social time with refreshments begins at 6:45.

Our meetings begin at 6:45 with social time, 7:00 PM for the program, at the Fairview Community Center, 1910 W. County Road B, in Roseville. Free and open to the public. Free parking available. *Bring a friend!*



JANUARY MEMBER MEETING

'Perils to Frogs and Wetlands'

with **Dr. Judy Helgen**, Retired research scientist, Minnesota Pollution Control, Biological Monitoring Agency

January 9, 2014

During Springs since the early 1990s, deformed frogs have emerged from hundreds of wetlands all over Minnesota, and in other states and countries as well. Several scientists documented the types and the extent of malformation, while others conducted basic research to try to understand potential causes.



Dr. Judy Helgen of the MN Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) led the investigation in Minnesota. She coordinated work with many academic researchers and federal government agencies. The deformities continue to be an unsolved mystery. Recent surveys show high percentages of deformed frogs still appearing.

What do we know now about the sudden epidemic of deformed frogs that continues today? What are some of the knowledge gaps and barriers that make solving it as difficult as finding the causes of human birth defects?

Also during the 1990s, biologists at the MPCA began to develop methods for evaluating the condition of wetlands in Minnesota, using plant and invertebrate indicators, with support from the U.S. EPA. The work has expanded over the years. A recent report shows high percentages of deformed wetlands in large areas of the state that have ratings of 'poor' condition, based on the biological assessments.

Dr. Helgen, author of "Peril in the Ponds: Deformed Frogs, Politics, and a Biologist's Quest," will present an overview of the story and some of the perils that continue, for both frogs and wetlands. She will discuss

BOARD MEETINGS

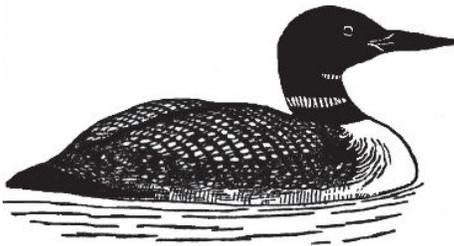
Saint Paul Audubon's Board Meetings are held at the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed Office at 2665 Noel Drive, Little Canada. Exit 35-E at Little Canada Rd, go east to Noel. Meetings are held from 6:30 to 8:30 PM.

Upcoming dates: **December 2, January 6, February 3.** Regrets only to Barbara Lindeke.

Early Birders!

Look for the **LOON** on your 2013 tax forms and donate to the "Chickadee Check-off!!"

(Remember that all donations to non-profit organizations are tax-deductible.)



Chapter President's Message

As I get the yard ready for the coming winter, I think about what I can do to help the birds and other wildlife get through the challenges of the months ahead. I'm sure a lot of you enjoy seeing birds at your feeders, as I do. It's important to be consistent, and to offer a variety of seeds and suet for as many types of birds as possible. The cost of seed is the best entertainment investment I make. I was amazed at how much my heated birdbath was used when I first put it up a few years ago. For drinking and even bathing (*brrrrrr!*) it seems to be important to a lot of my winter visitors. It has been very popular with wintering robins, which are always fun to see.

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	<i>(Outgoing message only — make note of numbers to call for chapter information, or go to chapter's website)</i>
Audubon MN	651-291-2596
	www.mn.audubon.org

ABOUT OUR CHAPTER

Founded in 1945 as the 'St. Paul Bird Club' with 12 members, the Saint Paul Audubon Society now serves the entire East Metro region of the Twin Cities area, and has around 2,600 members. We hold 9 Member Meetings a year. Feel free to contact those listed at left for more info, or write to SPAS at PO Box 7275, Saint Paul, Minnesota, 55107 or visit our website at www.saintpaulaudubon.org

ABOUT OUR NEWSLETTER

The Cardinal is published 6 times a year. Articles are due on the 5TH of January, March, May, July, Sept, and Nov. Submissions may be edited. Send to hpbirdscouter@msn.com

THE CARDINAL Electronic Version Members may now receive the newsletter by download from the website. To sign up, contact Webmaster **Ben Wilson** online at webmaster@saintpaulaudubon.org.

LOCAL SUPPORT

Audubon members who don't live in the East Metro Area who want to receive *The Cardinal* may send \$15 for a 1 year's subscription to **John O'Connell**, 2184 Larry Ho Drive, Saint Paul, MN 55119

ADDRESS CHANGES

Please call **1-800-274-4201** to change your address for National Audubon Society mailings, including *Audubon Magazine* and *The Cardinal*, or to sign up for Audubon's paper-free renewal program.

Nat'l Audubon Soc. www.audubon.org

The current 'Audubon' magazine has a nice article reminding us of what we can do in our yards to help the birds. Despite what your neatnik neighbors may think, having a brush pile or two, leaving flower stalks and seed heads to stand during the winter, using leaf mulch and leaf litter under your trees or bushes to encourage the bug and spider life that birds so much appreciate, and generally letting nature rule, will all help our feathered friends make it through another Minnesota winter.

I'm writing this on election day – which reminds me that another way to help the wildlife that gives us so much pleasure as we share

the world with them is to keep ourselves educated about current environmental issues, and to communicate with our elected representatives to ensure that someone speaks for the natural world, as they work on important government policies.

I hope to see many of you at Audubon Minnesota's Annual Gathering, or on the Christmas Bird Count, or at a Member Meeting in Roseville, or lobbying at the Legislature. Don't forget the birds this winter!!

Barbara Lindeke

CHAPTER NEWS

It's Time for our Chapter's Annual Fund Drive

Greetings Auduboners!

This is the only time of year that we seek our members' support for all the great work done by the Saint Paul Audubon Society. You will not receive a phone call or a postal mail solicitation. All we ask is that you send a check for your contribution in the remittance envelope provided with this issue of *The Cardinal*. (If there is no envelope, you may use the box on this page.) If you prefer, you may also donate on-line at www.saintpaulaudubon.org.

SPAS is a volunteer-driven organization. None of the Board members, field trip leaders, or committee members are paid, but there are still expenses that must be covered. This Annual Fund Drive is our largest source of income. Our expenses include producing and mailing *The Cardinal* newsletter, speaker honoraria and meeting space rental fees. We also maintain a Website and a dedicated chapter phone to help answer your questions. There are expenses related to an array of educational programs for people of all ages, from presentations at schools to a birding class for adults offered through the Maplewood Nature Center. SPAS has also provided small grants to organizations which support our mission, such as purchasing binoculars for field trips at nature centers, wood for birdhouses, education programs for youth, and restoration of natural areas, including invasive species removal. Our

Conservation Committee is active in restoration activities at Como Park, with educational presentations and environmental initiatives, and the installation of American Kestrel nesting boxes. St. Paul Audubon sponsors Warbler Weekend in Frontenac in the spring and numerous birding trips around the metro area.

Last year we introduced a new option for you to designate where you would like your donation to be spent: *Habitat Protection*. These funds will be used for such purposes as breeding bird surveys, donations for land acquisition in the name of SPAS, and other appropriate worthy causes as determined by the Board.

Our mission is to keep common birds common, and to protect species that are in decline. That mission is especially important in an era when development regularly destroys bird habitat and climate change threatens unknowable consequences. When you consider what Saint Paul Audubon has done this year to promote our mission I am confident that you will pledge your support for our continuing effort in the year to come.

Donors (unless they wish to remain anonymous) are recognized in the April issue of *The Cardinal* at the Egret (under \$50), Bluebird (\$50 - \$99), or Cardinal (\$100 and above) levels.

On behalf of the Board of Directors I sincerely thank you for your support. Thank You once again!

ANNUAL FUND DRIVE CHAIR DEAN DOERING

Very Special Audubon Applause goes to...

Please, please join your Editor in giving a Huge round of applause to Jane Schuler for many years of coordinating the mailings of this humble newsletter. Jane streamlined the process, found volunteers to help and to coordinate when she had to be out of town, and, she even found her own replacement! We also give welcoming applause to Susan Fuller, our new mailing coordinator. Thank you to both!

Frogs, continued from p. 1

the recent status of frogs in the United States and the latest ideas concerning potential causes of the still-unexplained malformations.

Find out more by visiting the following websites:

<http://www.judyhelgen.com/>

<http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2012/07/17/environment/ney-pond-deformed-frogs>

Saint Paul Audubon Society Annual Fund Drive Donation

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution for the Saint Paul Audubon Society, to be used for:

\$_____ Annual Operating Fund

\$_____ Endowment Fund

\$_____ Habitat Protection

\$_____ Wherever Needed

This gift is given:

___ in memory of _____

___ in honor of _____

Thank You Very Much for Your Support!

Your Name _____

Address _____

Phone/Email _____

If your contribution is given in memory of or in honor of someone, we will gladly send an acknowledgement card to:

Name _____

Address _____

*Please send your check to: Dean Doering, 1901 North
Victoria Street, Roseville, MN 55113, or, go to
< <http://saintpaulaudubon.org> > and click on "Support Us"*

PO Box 7275, St Paul, MN 55107-7275
WWW.SAINTPAULAUDUBON.ORG

December 2013 - January 2014

February March Deadline 1/5/2014

Welcome... To the Saint Paul Audubon Society. We're a chapter of the National Audubon Society. Our Mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and Earth's biological diversity.

CALENDAR

December

Board Meeting:2
Member Meeting: Rachel Carson12
Christmas Bird Count21

January

Board Meeting:6
Member Meeting: Frogs: Peril in Ponds9

SPAS Members:
Please Check our Website
for Calendar Updates!

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Time Dated Material
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Call for Nominees for 2014-2015 Officer and Board Openings

There are eight members that make up the SPAS Board, and four Officers. Responsibilities include attending monthly board meetings, and possibly taking part in one of our committees. In the absence of the President, the Vice President runs the Member Meetings and Board Meetings.

Board and Officers typically receive 8-10 emails a week – most are informational, some require responses. They impart information on policy issues and general info from Audubon Minnesota and National Audubon.

The board meetings are held on the first Monday of the month, from 6:30-8:30 at the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District Building in Little Canada.

Presently, the Nominating Committee would like to find a Vice President, 1 Board Member candidate (to fill out a current term) and 1 Board Member to begin in June.

If you know of anyone who would like to serve or who would be a great asset to our well-run chapter, please contact our Nominating Committee: **Laurel Stiebler**, at goat_wrangler@hotmail.com, 651-653-5635; or, **Jim Lindner**, at lindner1858@yahoo.com, 651-429-7597.

Christmas Bird Count December 21st

Our Chapter's Christmas Bird Count is called St. Paul North. It has been active since our Chapter was formed in 1945. The 15-mile diameter circle is divided into 15 Sections. Each section needs a Leader to coordinate a team. Each

Team needs 4-6 members to count birds. Some teams spend the whole day together, others split the section into smaller sections (those with more open water, for example, need more observers...) This day is such fun that we have regulars, people who have been counting birds on one day in December for 20-30 years. Yeah, it's cold and maybe snowy, but we all get excited when it's time to tally up what we've seen and counted, at the CBC Tally Potluck gathering in the evening!

So, sign up today! Contact CBC Coordinator **Bill Stjern**, at norskestar@comcast.net or 651-470-3112.

