

# The Cardinal

DECEMBER 2018 JANUARY 2019 WWW.SAINTPAULAUDUBON.ORG • SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY

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## DECEMBER MEMBER MEETING

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### “Sigurd F. Olson and the National Wilderness Movement”

with **Kevin Proescholdt**

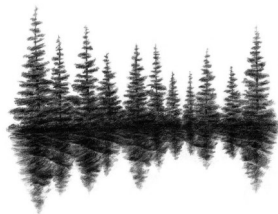
Thursday, December 13, 2018



Kevin Proescholdt of Minneapolis is the conservation director for Wilderness Watch, a national wilderness conservation organization based in Missoula. He guided canoe trips for 10 years in Minnesota’s Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, and helped pass the 1978 BWCAW Act

through Congress 40 years ago. He has published two books dealing with the BWCAW: *Troubled Waters: The Fight for the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness* and, more recently, *Glimpses of Wilderness*, a collection of wilderness essays set in the BWCAW.

If people know about Sigurd F. Olson today, it is usually because of the evocative books that Sig wrote describing the canoe country, books such as *The Singing Wilderness* or *Listening Point*. But Sig also played an absolutely critical role as a conservationist in the national wilderness movement, helping protect not only the BWCAW but hundreds of other wildernesses across the country. This presentation, with lots of photos, will describe Sig’s life and his role in wilderness conservation.



Arrive at 6:45 for social time or 7:00 for the program;  
held at Fairview Community Center, 1910 Cty Rd B, Roseville.

Free and open to the public.

No meeting in January; see you February 14!

## Is Climate Change Real?

A recent movie, “The Age of Consequences,” is a 2016 film describing the impact of climate change on U.S. National Security. Concerns include the increase in worldwide food prices due to drought and rainfall patterns.

Norfolk, Virginia, home of the biggest U.S. naval bases, is threatened by rising seas. The main road leading to the base becomes impassable several times a year. A Union of Concerned Scientists analysis estimates that the bases’ low-lying areas would flood about 280 times each year (at high tide). Miami and Miami Beach experience serious flooding from high tides. Miami has raised some roads several feet and has installed 30 pumps. But flood control dikes, as used in the Netherlands, won’t work in the Miami area where water percolates up through the porous limestone.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), according to the summer 2018 edition of Audubon, notes an increase from 25 disasters each year in the 1980s to 90 per year since 2010. The 2019 Defense Bill, supported by dozens of Republicans, declares climate change is a direct threat to national security and assigns the Department of Defense to improve climate resilience to their ten most vulnerable installations. The bill also authorizes building six icebreakers to investigate China’s activities in the Arctic. The U.S. House Climate Solutions Caucus supported the bill; this caucus consists of equal numbers of Republicans and Democratic (43 each) – additional Democrats can join only if a Republican joins. Minnesota members include Erik Paulsen (R) and Rick Nolan (D).

Although many people now believe that the climate is changing, many do not believe it is from increases in carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuels.

--continued on pg. 2

**BOARD MEETINGS**

The Chapter’s Board Meetings are held the first Monday of most months 6:30-8:00 PM at the Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed Office, 2665 Noel Drive, Little Canada.

Upcoming: **Monday, December 3**

*Reminder: The Saint Paul Audubon Society is one of the Smile organizations that Amazon will donate to. If you purchase gifts on Amazon this holiday season, consider donating toward SPAS!*

**Is Climate Change Real?  
—continued from pg. 1**

However, physics show that increases in carbon dioxide in the atmosphere correlate with the average worldwide temperature, and glacial ice cores show a strong correlation between ice ages and carbon levels. The present level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere (over 400 ppm) exceeds by over 100 ppm anything observed in the past 800,000 years.

While this is clearly not unprecedented, and the carbon level was higher during the age of the dinosaurs, the rate of change is probably too fast for plants and animals to adapt to the changing climate. But, even worse, the higher temperatures will result in the melting of glaciers in Greenland and Antarctica which will increase ocean levels at least 15 feet in the next few hundred years, inundating numerous major cities bordering the oceans. Refugee crises will reach an unimaginable scale when flooding

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**ABOUT OUR CHAPTER**

Founded in 1945 as the ‘St. Paul Bird Club’ with twelve members, the Saint Paul Audubon Society now serves the entire East Metro region of the Twin Cities, and has around 2,800 members. Our Member Meetings are held from Sept.-Dec. & Feb.-May on the second Thursday of the month. For more info please contact leaders at left, or visit [www.saintpaulaudubon.org](http://www.saintpaulaudubon.org)

**ABOUT THE CARDINAL** 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 [cardinalstpaul@gmail.com](mailto:cardinalstpaul@gmail.com).

Members may also receive the newsletter by downloading PDF’s from our website.

**ADDRESS CHANGES** Call 1-800-274-4201 or NAS website at [www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org) to notify the National Audubon Society of a change of address, to continue to receive *Audubon Magazine* and *The Cardinal*.

devastates entire regions. The worst crisis may occur in Bangladesh, where 25% of the country is less than 15 feet above sea level. India is building a high wall to prevent 30 million Bangladeshis from crossing the border, which could cause a major war. Climate change is also causing serious long-term droughts; the attempted revolution in Syria started when millions of farmers, unable to eke out a living on their drought-stricken farmland, moved to the major cities. In the U.S., we have seen the droughts out west causing wildfires from California up to Canada, with the smoke blowing across Minnesota on many days. We also see numerous 10-inch or more rainfall events – 100-year storms

which seem to occur every few years. The oceans are warming, and the Great Barrier Reef, according to Forbes, has lost 50% of its coral in the past two years due to catastrophic heatwaves.

Climate change is the number one threat to U.S. birds, according to national Audubon scientists. To combat that threat, we need to end our reliance on fossil fuels that produce carbon pollution and search for alternative sources of energy at home and at work.

*-Finance Chair Richard Newmark*

## SPAS Annual Fund Drive

Hello! Time for the annual fund drive! This is the one and only time of year that we seek your support for the great work done by the Saint Paul Audubon Society. You will not receive either a phone call or a separate request in the mail. And you will NOT receive another request for a donation with your Thank You note. All you need to do is submit a check for your contribution in the remittance envelope provided with this issue of The Cardinal. If the envelope is missing for any reason, you may use the box on this page. If you prefer, you may also donate online at [www.saintpaulaudubon.org](http://www.saintpaulaudubon.org).

SPAS is an all-volunteer organization. None of the board members, field trip leaders, or committee members are paid, but there are still expenses that must be covered and 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 maintain a website to help answer your questions. There are also expenses related to an array of educational programs for people of all ages.

SPAS has also provided grants to organizations which support our mission, such as purchasing binoculars for field trips at nature centers, wood for birdhouses, and education programs for youth. Our Conservation Committee is active in restoration activities at Como Park, kestrel nest box monitoring, the Urban Bird Festival, and joint ventures with the St. Croix River Association. All of these activities fit perfectly with their new mission statement: "To generate community interest and concern for the conservation, restoration, and protection of birds and their habitat." St. Paul Audubon also sponsors numerous birding trips in the metro area.

Our goal is to keep common birds common, and to protect species that are in decline. That goal 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 annually in an 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*

### Wanted: Warbler Weekend Registrar Assistant

Do you like to work with numbers and are you interested in a short term annual project? Warbler Weekend (May 10-12 this year) needs someone to act as a registrar backup for Richard Newmark. You will learn the Excel Spreadsheet process used to register people for Warbler Weekend. Also you will assist Richard with meal check-in at the Hok-si-la dining room during Warbler Weekend, and not to worry, you'll have plenty of time to attend the Warbler Weekend bird walks. Please contact Richard Newmark at [ranewmark@gmail.com](mailto:ranewmark@gmail.com) if you'd like more info.

### *Saint Paul Audubon Society*

#### Annual Fund Drive Donation

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution to 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*

Donor Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SEND YOUR CHECK TO: Dean Doering, 1901 North Victoria Street, Roseville, MN 55113, or, you may go to the SPAS Website at [www.saintpaulaudubon.org](http://www.saintpaulaudubon.org) > "Support Us"

### Christmas Bird Count December 15

You are invited to participate in the annual Christmas Bird Count (CBC), December 15: a long-standing program of the National Audubon Society, with over 100 years of citizen science involvement.

Please contact Gregg Severson to participate in this year's CBC. (612-568-5272 or [gregg.severson@gmail.com](mailto:gregg.severson@gmail.com)). All are welcome to join a team and count the east metro birds. Young or old, new to the program, experienced here or elsewhere, you can add facts to show trends and realities of our wintering feathered friends.

SPAS' 15 mile diameter circle was determined long ago by the National Audubon Society. SPAS divided it into 15 areas and teams are formed to census one area each. Many of the counters enjoy the potluck supper that follows their efforts and to tell and hear stories of the day and, most importantly, to tally all the birds counted. If your home is within the boundaries of the SPAS CBC circle, then you could stay at home and report the birds that visit your feeder on December 16 as long as you have made prior arrangements with Gregg. For more detailed information about the CBC go to [www.audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count](http://www.audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count).

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**SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY**

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PO Box 7275, St Paul, MN 55107-7275

WWW.SAINTPAULAUDUBON.ORG

**February March 2019**

**Next Deadline 1/5/2019**

Welcome...

To the Saint Paul Audubon Society.

We're a chapter of the  
National Audubon Society.

Our mission is to conserve and restore  
natural eco systems, focusing on birds,  
other wildlife, and their habitats  
for the benefit of humanity and  
Earth's biological diversity.

*Please check our website  
for calendar updates!*

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**CALENDAR**

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**December**

Board Meeting ..... 3  
Member Meeting: Kevin Proescholdt ....13  
Christmas Bird Count ..... 15

**January**

Board Meeting ..... 7

**February**

Board Meeting ..... 4  
Member Meeting ..... 14

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