

# The



# Cardinal

FEBRUARY MARCH 2010 • WWW.SAINTPAULAUDUBON.ORG • SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY

## FEBRUARY MEMBER MEETING

### Great Lakes Piping Plovers: Research and Recovery

with *Francie Cuthbert*,  
Head of U of M's Department of  
Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Biology

**February 11, 2010**

If you're looking for proof that getting listed under the Endangered Species Act and the work of many dedicated conservationists can make a difference, look no further than the Piping Plover. The Great Lakes population of this small shorebird was teetering on the brink of extinction in the mid-1980s, but with its population now increasing, there is room for cautious optimism.

Francie Cuthbert, who has studied plovers for more than 25 years, will touch on the distribution of one of North America's rarest shorebirds, with emphasis on our region. By the mid-1980s, plovers nested only in Michigan, but now they're reoccupying historical habitat in Canada, Wisconsin and Illinois.

"Many people believed that there was no hope for this population," Cuthbert notes. "It is recovering because of the efforts of many stakeholders—private citizens, federal and state agencies, non-profit organizations and university scientists."

**Relevant website:** [www.fws.gov/plover/facts.html](http://www.fws.gov/plover/facts.html)



## MARCH MEMBER MEETING

### The River We Have Wrought: 2 Centuries of Human Impact on Water Quality in the Upper Mississippi River

with *Daniel Engstrom*, director,  
Science Museum of Minnesota's  
St. Croix Watershed Research Station

**March 11, 2010**

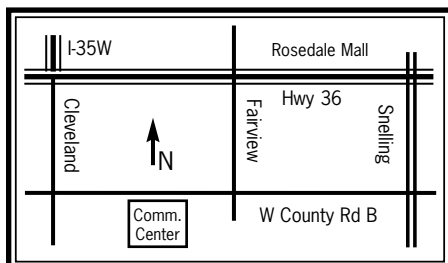
Human activity has dramatically altered the Upper Mississippi, where the combined effects of agriculture, urbanization and hydrological alteration have severely affected water quality. Until recently, however, we could only guess at the magnitude of the changes to the river.

Using state of the art geological methods, scientists at the St. Croix Watershed Research Station have reconstructed a detailed picture of the pre-settlement Mississippi from sediments accumulating in Lake Pepin. The results of these studies quantify the immense increases in sediments, nutrients and pollution that have accompanied the human transformation of the watershed.

One bright spot: identifying the sources of the problem help point the way toward solutions. Daniel Engstrom has worked in some of the world's remotest regions but is known here at home for his groundbreaking research on the environmental history of the Upper Mississippi.

**Relevant website:**

[www.smm.org/SCWRS](http://www.smm.org/SCWRS)



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!*

Upcoming Member Meetings  
April 8: **Invasive Carp**  
with *Peter Sorensen*, U of M  
May: **Salamanders**  
with *Ken Kozak*, U of M

# LEADER ROSTER; PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## BOARD MEETINGS

Saint Paul Audubon's Board Meetings are held at the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District Office at 2665 Noel Drive, Little Canada. Exit 35-E at Little Canada Rd., go east to Noel, across from City Hall. For more information or regrets, please contact Tim Nixon at 651-353-0756 or [timothy.nixon@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:timothy.nixon@thomsonreuters.com). Meetings are on the first Monday: **February 1, March 1, April 5, May 3.**

## What Holly's Reading

"Birds & Words" by Charley Harper, reprinted in 2008. Ammo Books.

I take this little book out of the library every so often just to look at the wonderful illustrations and read Charley's short treatise on his subject matter. Ex, p102, Red-eyed Vireo:

*"Like many a do-it-yourself homebuilder before them, these Red-eyed Vireo's had to move in before it was finished. Common delays: too much rain and hard-to-get materials, which they often airlift from long distances. Their semi-pensile nest, a cup of expertly woven plant fibers hung from a fork in a branch, in decorated with cocoons, bark, newspaper and hornet nest scraps – all find-it-yourself materials!"*

If your library is so lucky as to have a copy, take it out and look! And read. One of the nicest illustrations is of a flock of starlings! Charley Harper's style was totally unique, using what he called a "minimal realism." He said he counted the wings, not the feathers! Every color he drew, painted, or silk-screened was the exact color of the bird. Before he began a subject, he did exhaustive research. Then, he would create an image of the bird using only ruler, ruling pen and compass. The images in this small reproduction are from a series he created for a Ford Motor Co. publication in the 1950's.

Similar illustrations have been reprinted on everything from greeting cards, posters for International Migratory Bird Day, and cross-stitch patterns, to life zone posters for the National Park Service. Wonderful stuff!

## Winter Update

It's time to provide an update on a couple of important wintertime developments, our Fund Drive results and the arrival of Trumpeter Swans surprisingly close by.

First the fund drive. As usual, our fund drive successfully replenished the coffers of our Chapter, with a grand total of \$4,800 in donations. While down slightly from last year, this still represents a great result given the very difficult economic conditions. We had over 20 donations at the *Cardinal* level (\$100) or more, and one donor who contributed via our new website at the \$250 level. Thomson Reuters (my employer) will also be making a donation of \$500 to the Chapter later in the year. Many area employers

will match your gifts to non-profits. Finally, our membership continues to grow slightly, with a current total membership approaching 2400. Thank you to everyone who was able to give to Saint Paul Audubon during this difficult time.

Second, the Trumpeter Swans have returned to Willow River State Park and the Hudson River Front, less than a half hour drive from St. Paul. The park, located just NE of Hudson, is home to roughly 15 to 20 trumpeters who overwinter in open patches of water along the river. Morning and evening is the best time to see them flying with a dramatic dark deciduous backdrop highlighting their 8-foot wingspans. They are also viewable from the fabulous cross country ski trails in the park. If you would like a shorter

### SAINT PAUL AUDUBON

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*(Outgoing Message Only — take down numbers given to call for info)*

Audubon Minn. 651-739-9332  
[www.mn.audubon.org](http://www.mn.audubon.org)

### ABOUT OUR CHAPTER

*Founded in 1945 as the 'St. Paul Bird Club' with around 12 members, Saint Paul Audubon Society now serves the entire East Metro region of the Twin Cities area, and has around 2,400 members. We hold 9 Member Meetings a year. Feel free to contact anyone listed at left for more information, or write to Saint Paul Audubon Society at PO Box 7275, Saint Paul, Minnesota, 55107 or visit our website at [www.saintpaulaudubon.org](http://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 are subject to editing. Send copy to [hpbirdscouter@msn.com](mailto:hpbirdscouter@msn.com)

### LOCAL SUPPORT

If you are an Audubon member and don't live in the Saint Paul area, but would like to receive *The Cardinal*, please send \$15 for a 1 year subscription to John O'Connell, 2184 Larry Ho Drive, St. 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.

National Audubon Society  
[www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org)

## CHAPTER INFO

trip, visit Hudson's riverfront walkway, where over 300 swans can be seen with thousands of other waterfowl entering or leaving the open water at sunrise and sunset.

You may know that by the mid-1930s only 69 Trumpeter Swans were known to remain in the continental United States, and that it was only recently (the 1960s in MN and 1980s in WI) that a Trumpeter Swan recovery program was implemented by collecting eggs from Alaska and raising cygnets in captivity and in the wild. Today, over 3,000 free-flying Trumpeter Swans inhabit the region. It's important to remember that restoration of the swans was only possible through the vision and generosity of folks like our members. As Ruth Shea, a swan biologist with the Trumpeter Swan Society reminds us, "The message of the trumpeters will be repeated each time these wild calls echo across the United States and Canada. As they pass overhead, they will continue to remind us that wildlife's future lies in our hands. We have choices and solutions."

Thank you for continuing to provide solutions for our Chapter and the swans!

*Tim Nixon, President*



**Audubon Applause** goes to **Dean Doering**, for taking on the spreadsheets and thank-you's for this year's Annual Fund Drive. And, to **Julian Sellers**, for coordinating a flawless Christmas Bird Count! And to **Chase Davies** for setting up and managing snacks and coffee at the December Minnesota Ornithologists' Union's Annual Paper Session. Also to **Chase's** team: **Louise Cameron, Karen Eckmen, Susan Fuller, Barbara Lindeke, Jane Wicklund** and all others who kept watch. We are appreciated by MOU and attendees. The work of our busy, involved Chapter is never done.

*We appreciate every volunteer!*

## Birders Guiding Birders: A Workshop

**Saturday, April 17, 2:00-4:30 PM**

Helping folks become field trip leaders is an ongoing activity and a very real need for all birding groups.

Have you every thought:

"I can do this" when out birding with a group? Or,

"I have this great place I want to take birders." Or,

"How hard is this field trip leader stuff?" Even...

"This leader is sure having fun!" might have crossed your mind.

Are you aware that the field trip leader does not have to be the expert for the group being led around an area? Are you a birder who takes family or friends to a favorite place, but so far have not assisted with a group event? Do you enjoy people having fun, experiencing pleasure, smiling and laughing? Well, this just might be your chance to get some pointers, share some experiences, and evaluate your risk : reward : fun ratios. Then maybe, just maybe, you too can help develop birding and birders in your area.

This **Field Trip Leader Training Workshop** is one way for Twin Cities birding organizations to help leaders. Birding expertise is not a requirement! Trust me, it is not a requirement! Come and learn the why and how of that statement. The goal is to increase the number of birders willing to explore becoming a club's co-leader or leader.

**DATE: Saturday, April 17, from 2:00 to 4:30 PM.** If this date is impossible for you, please let Chase know so an additional workshop can be considered.

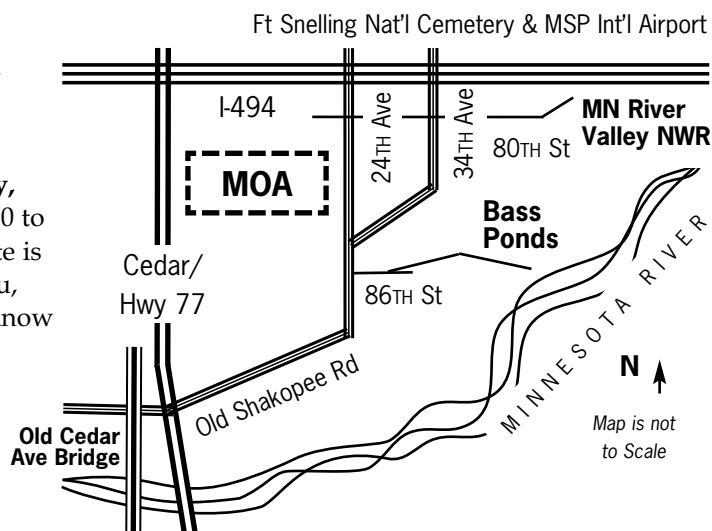
**PLACE:** The Bass Ponds, a delightful hideaway and great birding spot tucked on the Minnesota River below and behind the MOA. Even better for this particular workshop are the variety of trails and mini-habitats, the diversity of landscape edges that offer a great training place for most of the challenges encountered on group field trips.

**HANDOUTS** are an important part of this workshop so it would help, but is not required, for you to **RSVP**.

**BRING:** binoculars, your favorite pocket bird guide, a notepad and pencil if that is your style, curiosity, and anticipation. Consider bringing a friend – yes, a buddy is a good thing to have. Dress for the weather and consider having a snack or drink in your pocket.

Questions? Contact Chase Davies at 651-633-1663 or ccdavies@aol.com

**DIRECTIONS:** From I-494 and 24TH Ave interchange near the Mall of America, follow 24TH Ave south approx. 1 mile to the traffic light at 86TH Street, turn east (left) toward the river bluff and bear left into the Bass Ponds parking area (*see map below*.)



## FIELD TRIPS, UPCOMING EVENTS

### 2010 Beginning Bird Identification Classes For Adults

See a more complete article in the Dec/Jan Cardinal, or go to the website to download it. This is a reminder to RSVP and pay your fee on this one!

Due to popular demand, we are once again partnering with Maplewood Nature Center to offer a Bird ID. Birding experts Bonnie Sample and Chase Davies will help us know how to really see and then identify the birds. We will begin by using common birds to learn identification techniques, then practice those techniques in winter & migration.

Each session includes a classroom workshop on Tuesday evenings at Maplewood Nature Center, followed by a Saturday field event.

There is a \$10 fee for each session. Participants may register for individual classes or for all 6. All six classes are offered as a \$50 package. Please be aware that the last four classes build on the information presented in the first two. [www.ci.maplewood.mn.us/nc](http://www.ci.maplewood.mn.us/nc) or see [www.saintpaulaudubon.org](http://www.saintpaulaudubon.org)

#### Dates and topics of the classes

Topic	Tues.	Sat.
Feeder birds	2/16	2/20
More winter birds	3/2	3/6
Waterbirds	3/16	3/20
Early migrants	3/30	4/3
Early warblers	4/13	4/17
More warblers	4/27	none

### Save these Dates!

SPAS' Warbler Weekend  
May 7-9, 2010

Ramsey County Urban Bird  
Fest May 14-16, 2010

### The GBBC is Coming!

The next **Great Backyard Bird Count** (GBBC) takes place Friday, February 12 through Monday, February 15, 2010. National Audubon and Cornell Lab of Ornithology are calling on everyone to "Count for Fun, Count for the Future!"

Last year's participants turned in more than 93,600 checklists online, creating the continent's largest instantaneous snapshot of bird populations ever recorded. We hope you'll join us again, and spread the word! To register, go to <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/>

If you have questions that the website cannot answer, please contact a local GBBC "Ambassador," either Tom Bel at 651-459-4150 [tnejbell@comcast.net](mailto:tnejbell@comcast.net) or Cathy Gagliardi, at 651-690-9525.

### Field Trip: Bald Eagle Winter Lifestyles

**Saturday, February 21st**  
**8:00 AM to 5:00 PM**

Awesome Bald Eagles return north mid-winter. Let's go see them!

Each February a pulse of Bald Eagles returns from southern winter residences. We will seek them from Lake Pepin south to Wabasha and across the river in Wisconsin.

Tradition calls for a breakfast break in Red Wing and lunch

Bird Banding at Carpenter Nature Center is open to the public every 4TH Friday, from 8:00 to Noon. For more info and directions, call 651-437-4359. You may watch and may also be allowed to release birds. Dress for the weather!

somewhere in Wabasha. We will stop at Colville Park, the eagle viewing pullouts on Hwy 61, and the National Eagle Center's viewing platform. Return usually is through Wisconsin to view eagles as they soar on afternoon thermals or updrafts created as they encounter westerly winds along the bluffs on the Mississippi River.

Dress for winds and cold weather especially hat, gloves and warm footwear. Bring snacks and fluids.

Come with a full tank of gas.

**Carpool** From SW corner of Sears Parking, near Marion & I-94.  
**Leader** Chase Davies, 651-633-1663  
[ccdavies@aol.com](mailto:ccdavies@aol.com)

### Field Trip: Waterfowl Migration on Metro Lakes

**Saturday, April 10th**

Join us as we explore several lakes looking for migrating loons, grebes, mergansers, ducks and other migrants as well as resident birds. We'll form a car caravan at St. Paul Sears and drive from site to site. The final itinerary will depend on what lakes are open, perhaps all in Ramsey Co., perhaps the Mississippi River or Dakota Co. as well. Directions will be provided at Sears. Bring water, snacks if you wish. Reservations not required. Bring your scope if you have one.

**Carpool** From SW corner of Sears Parking, near Marion & I-94.  
**Meet at 8:00, return at Noon**  
**Difficulty** Easy, always near the cars  
**Contact** Clay Christensen  
651-631-0949 (h)  
612-619-2580 (c)

Audubon's **Environmental Issues Committee** meets monthly during the legislative session. This year board member **Don Arnosti** will lead the meetings. Members will watch certain of the issues mentioned in the article on p.5 and others as well.

For more information and to find out when and where the meetings are held, please contact Don through the Audubon Minnesota office, at 651-739-9332.

## CONSERVATION SHORTS

### Senator Janet Johnson WMA, North Branch

*Senator Janet Johnson WMA* will be the beneficiary of invasive species removal work by member Craig Andresen's company, Prairie Restorations. Craig commonly works with Sentence to Service crews to accomplish removal of exotic and native species such as European Buckthorn through cutting, pulling, and prescribed burning. Craig will then reseed the prairie savanna landscape.

This is one of three projects submitted by the partnership of Prairie Restorations and Saint Paul Audubon Society. In this round of the LCMR Granting process, there were a total of 127 Grant applications for \$16.5 million. Of those, 35 projects were awarded funding for a total of \$3.74 million.

### 2010 Legislature Begins February 4TH

*Reprinted from Audubon Minnesota's January eNewsletter. To subscribe, send email to: [audubonminnesota@audubon.org](mailto:audubonminnesota@audubon.org)*

At noon on February 4, 2010 the gavel will pound in St. Paul, announcing a reconvening of the 86th Session of the Minnesota Legislature. Wildlife issues are not likely to be high on the list of elected officials. For most of them, there are three things more important than all others:

- 1) The enduring economic recession;
- 2) The bonding bill; and
- 3) The coming elections in November for every seat in the State House and Senate.

These three are united by jobs. The recession is the impetus for job creation. Job creation is best achieved through the bonding bill. The bonding bill is essential for re-election. So just what *is* this **bonding bill**?

The bonding bill grants authority for the state to issue bonds which are repaid over 10 to 30 years, but which garner up-front capital today. It's not unlike a mortgage. Bonding is only permissible for items of enduring value, like land or buildings. Conservation projects have typically fared fairly well in the bonding bill. One analysis concludes conservation should expect 22% of the revenue from bonds - less than 2% of the general fund budget.

Audubon has been a key advocate in using the bonding bill to assist wildlife projects. Typical investments include acquiring key conservation lands or easements on those lands, and wetland/ grassland restoration projects that benefit bird conservation. Readers of the bill will find conservation goals under "Bonding Priorities."

See Note on p. 4 about EIC Meetings...  
Audubon's Projects Considered

Every year Audubon Minnesota supports public funding of important bird conservation projects promoted by many different entities. In addition to our ongoing advocacy to restore wetlands/grasslands, preserve prairies, and conserve forested lands, Audubon Minnesota has two projects that we've helped conceive and initiate. Both have received preliminary approval by the Legislative Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR – the committee in charge of overseeing proceeds from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund).

#### Minnesota Breeding Bird Atlas

\$372,000. Enables Audubon Minnesota to complete years 3-4 of a six-year project, and to continue recruitment efforts in the state, with a goal of creating 500 priority survey block surveyors in 2010.

#### Integrated Operational Action Plan for Conserving Minnesota Birds

\$151,000. This is a two-year project to complete a blueprint for conservation actions in the future. Audubon Minnesota will help educate legislators about the value of science-based conservation projects.

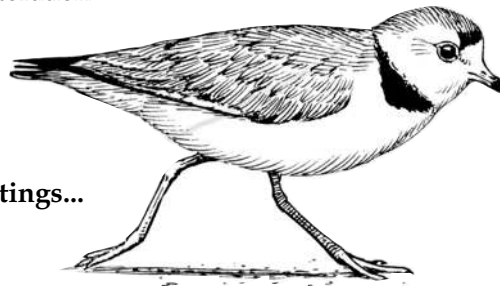
#### Majority of Off-Highway Vehicle Fatalities are Alcohol-Related

According to the most recent published data, 73% of off-highway vehicle deaths in the state are related to the use of alcohol. This is one reason that Audubon is partnering with Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and others to pass a bill to close the loophole allowing OHV riders to carry open bottles of alcohol. The related reason is that the fatality number is but a glimpse at the far greater number of inebriated riders who make poor decisions, riding on undesignated trails through wetlands, creating habitat damage of all kinds. The conservation of our natural resources and the safety of OHV riders are both compromised by the current "open container" law which allows riders to drink and ride.

#### The Piping Plover

The Piping Plover is one of 60 birds on Audubon's State Action List, and its population has dropped to just a few viable populations in the state (*learn more at our February Member Meeting*). Despite occasional sightings in the northern lakes area, a stable breeding population only exists on Lake of the Woods and a more tenuous one on Lake Superior. If this newsletter were to adopt a bird namesake, a water bird whose population is threatened would be a good choice!

—JOHN CURRY,  
AUDUBON MINNESOTA'S POLICY DIRECTOR  
(John has taken a job with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, so will be leaving Audubon this month.  
Congratulations, John!)



## EDUCATION COMMITTEE NEWS!

### Birds — the Canary in the Coal Mine for a Changing Climate

Scientists and volunteer bird-watchers have monitored and documented the wintering and breeding ranges for birds throughout North America. Results show that nearly 60% of 305 species that winter in North America have been shifting their ranges northward an average of 35 miles over the last four decades, and in some cases by hundreds of miles. The observations indicate that global warming has already happened. Much of the data collected is from the Audubon Christmas Bird Count, a 109-year tradition where birders visit predetermined sites and record all the species they find within a 24-hour period. About 40 volunteers from St. Paul Audubon are among the 50,000 volunteers at 2,000 locations across North America. Will plant ranges shift fast enough

for birds to survive? Eastern and Western Meadowlark: These popular robin-sized grassland birds form winter flocks and

always feed on the ground. Neither species has been wintering farther north over the past 40 years, probably because the quality of northern grasslands is not sufficient to support these birds through the winter. The Eastern Meadowlark is one of Audubon's Common Birds in Decline; its population has plummeted 72% in population over the last 40 years.



Purple Finch: A frequent visitor to bird feeders, frequently confused with the more common House Finch, is

an "irruptive species," meaning that it winters far to the south in some winters and farther north in others. As temperatures have increased in recent years, however, the birds have not gone as far south during their

irruptions - resulting in overall northward movement of over 433 miles in the last 40 years.



**Red-breasted Merganser:**

This striking fish-eating duck most often winters in saltwater, but is increasingly found in winter on large bodies of freshwater, including the Great Lakes. It is frequently seen foraging in groups. The species' overall northward movement of approximately 317 miles is driving winter populations up in Minnesota, for example, while its numbers in states like Kentucky and Nevada are substantially down over 40 years.

Paraphrased from Science News, [www.sciencenews.org/view/generic/id/40713/title/Winter\\_birds\\_shift\\_north\\_](http://www.sciencenews.org/view/generic/id/40713/title/Winter_birds_shift_north_)

BY RICHARD NEWMARK

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### EDUCATION NEWS!

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### Two Opportunities to go Birding with Children!

#### The Summer Birding Class for Kids is Back!

Steve Johnson, SPAS Education Chair, announced that St. Paul Audubon Society is sponsoring a mornings St. Paul Parks and Recreation summer Birding Camp for 3rd - 6th graders the week of June 14-18. The Streetcar Station at Horton and Lexington in Como Park is the location. The neighborhood area is "North Dale." We hope all of our "usual" volunteers and anyone else who wants to enjoy this great experience will call Steve Johnson at 651- 776 - 0104 or send an email to [csrockclimb@yahoo.com](mailto:csrockclimb@yahoo.com)

### Let's Take Kids out Where the REAL "Wild Things" Are!

**Saturday, May 22, 8:30 - 10:00 AM**

The first ever *Audubon Trek & Tally*, a team competition, offers at least a dozen of us adults an opportunity to help teams of urban 4TH, 5TH & 6TH graders outside next May! There will be 4 students on a team. They will compete to find the most species of birds at Battle Creek Regional Park in Maplewood!

Please save the date, and call or send an email to Steve Johnson, Education Committee Chair, to indicate your interest in getting Volunteers for this new event will help the children to identify or verify the birds sighted by at least two of the four student team members. There will be prizes for the top 5 student teams as well as a small reward for participation for all of the others who complete the hour and a half of birding with their teams. Teams and volunteers are assigned on the competition day.

Volunteers will attend an orientation session **Thursday, May 20TH**, from 6 - 7 PM at Battle Creek Regional Park. The park is south of I-94 between Hwy 61 on the West and Century Ave. on the East - between Upper and Lower Afton Roads.) Watch for further details.

Alert your children and/or grandchildren to also save the date. Details will follow on the St. Paul Audubon website, in *The Cardinal*, and through flyers delivered to classes at schools in the area this spring. The cost is \$20 per team of 4 students. The participants choose their own teammates, bring their own snacks and are responsible for their own transportation. Binoculars will be available for those who need them.

To volunteer or for more information, contact Steve Johnson at 651-776-0104 or send an email to [csrockclimb@yahoo.com](mailto:csrockclimb@yahoo.com)

## THE LAST PAGE

### ★ Electronic Resources

*"you gotta bookmark these sites!"*

Saint Paul Audubon's website is at:  
**www.saintpaulaudubon.org** (Member Meetings,  
Field Trips, Conservation, Education, "Cardinal" archives)

Audubon Minnesota is at **www.mn.audubon.org**

National Audubon Society is at: **www.audubon.org**  
(birds & science, issues & action, education, Audubon at  
home, state centers & chapters, environmental news)

Minnesota DNR is at **www.dnr.state.mn.us**  
or call 651-296-6157 or 888-MINNDNR  
(Info on State Parks, State Forests, Wildlife Mgmt Areas,  
Scientific & Natural Areas, bird lists, wildlife info)

National Wildlife Refuges in MN can be found at  
**www.fws.gov/midwest** (click on "Minnesota")

National Parks in USA & MN can be found at **www.nps.gov**  
(w/clickable map)

Minnesota Ornithologists' Union is at [www.mou.mn.org](http://www.mou.mn.org)  
(birding listserves, migration and nesting occurrence maps,  
State Park bird lists, RBA (Rare Bird Alert) reports,  
all 87 county bird lists, seasonal reports, etc.)

Minnesota's Rare Bird Hotlines are:

Metro/Statewide 763-780-8890

Duluth/No. Shore 218-728-5030

Northwestern MN 1-800-433-1888

Ramsey County & Saint Paul Audubon have collaborated to  
publish "A Guide to Birding Ramsey County." Find it online at:  
**http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us/parks/Natural  
Resources/BirdinginRamseyCounty.htm**

Northwest MN's *Pine to Prairie Birding Trail* website is at  
**www.mnbirdtrail.com**

The *Minnesota River Valley Birding Trail* is at  
**www.birdingtrail.org**

Mississippi River from Itasca to Iowa, the *Great River Birding  
Trail*, is at **www.greatriverbirding.org**

MNBirdNet Statewide Electronic Bird Club, is at:  
**mnbird-request@linux2.winona.msus.edu**

Bob Ekblad's great list of events and MN Bird Checklist is at:  
**http://home.rconnect.com/~ekblad/MN-Event.htm**

Get Involved in saving/restoring habitat: Buy Duck Stamps!  
**http://www.fws.gov/duckstamps/stamps.htm**

### ✧ Reaching Our Leaders

Washington, D.C.

President Obama The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500, 202-456-1111  
[president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)

US Senator Amy Klobuchar DC 202-224-3244, MN 612-727-5220  
<http://klobuchar.senate.gov/emailamy.cfm>  
Russell Senate Office Bldg, Washington DC 20510  
MN: Federal Building, #298, Ft Snelling, MN 55111

US Senator Al Franken DC 202-224-5641, MN 651-221-1016  
[info@franken.senate.gov](mailto:info@franken.senate.gov) 320 Hart Senate Office Bldg,  
Washington DC 20510

US Rep 4TH Betty McCollum DC 202-225-6631, 1029 Longworth  
House Office Bldg, Washington, DC 20515;  
MN 651-224-9191, 165 Western Avenue N, #17,  
Saint Paul, MN 55102; Internet email:  
[www.house.gov/mccollum/contact.html](http://www.house.gov/mccollum/contact.html)

US Rep 5TH Keith Ellison DC 202-225-4755, MN 612-664-8000  
1130 Longworth House Office Bldg, DC 20515  
250 Marquette Avenue #225, MPLS, MN 55401  
<http://ellison.house.gov>

US Rep 6TH Michelle Bachmann DC 202-225-2331, MN 651-  
731-5400, 412 Cannon House Office Bldg, Wash,  
DC  
20515 MN: 6043 Hudson Rd #330, Woodbury, MN  
55125 [http://bachmann.house.gov/Email\\_zip.htm](http://bachmann.house.gov/Email_zip.htm)

Minnesota

Governor Tim Pawlenty 75 Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr Blvd,  
#130, Saint Paul, MN 55155, 651-296-3391  
Fax: 651-296-2089 [tim.pawlenty@state.mn.us](mailto:tim.pawlenty@state.mn.us)

MN Senators To find your senator, call the Secretary of State  
651-296-0504, or go to [www.senate.leg.state.mn.us](http://www.senate.leg.state.mn.us)

MN Reps To find your representative, call the MN House at  
651-296-2146, or go to [www.house.leg.state.mn.us](http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us)

## Audubon's Photo Contest Winners

For those of you who may not receive *Audubon* magazine, the Jan/Feb 2010 issue contains many of the first Audubon photo contest winners. The website below provides more photos. Many of these pictures are simply stunning.

In addition, the article "Ghost Chasers" is about the 2004-2005 irruption of the Great Grey Owl in Minnesota.

<http://audubonmagazine.org/index.html>

- SPAS MEMBER GORDON ANDERSSON

## SPAS' E-Alert!

If you have email, sign up today for our online notification system! You'll receive announcements about upcoming events, information about current legislative happenings, and other Saint Paul Audubon happenings between issues of *The Cardinal*. When you *change your email address*, notify list manager Chase Davies of your new address. She is at [ccdavies@aol.com](mailto:ccdavies@aol.com)  
You may unsubscribe at any time.

SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY

PO Box 7275, St Paul, MN 55107-7275

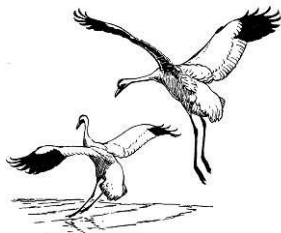
WWW.SAINTPAULAUDUBON.NET

February March 2010

April May Deadline 3/5/2010

100% RECYCLED PAPER

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.



Operation Migration is a Success in 2009-10!!

Go to this website to watch video and read about the cranes' journey from Necedah NWR in Wisconsin to their wintering grounds in central Florida! What a miracle.

http://www.savingcranes.org/ultra-lightledwhoopingcranesarriveatfirst-winteringdestinationinfloridajanuary142010.html

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

Board Meeting . . . . .1
Member Mtg: Piping Plovers . . . .11
Great Backyard Bird Count . . .12-15
Field Trip:Eagles on the Mississip . . .21

MARCH

Board Meeting . . . . .1
Member Mtg: Miss. River Quality . .11

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- I'm a NEW member! Please send my Welcome Packet right away!
I currently receive National's Audubon Magazine.

Name
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City State Zip

Please sign gift card:
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National Audubon Society Membership C9ZM030Z

Yes! I will become a new member or give a new gift membership in the National Audubon Society. I will receive Audubon Magazine and Saint Paul Audubon's The Cardinal newsletter. Please fill in the form, make a check for \$20 out to National Audubon Society, and send it to the address below. Thank You Very Much!

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(Write on envelope: "Attention: New Membership — please process immediately")