

# The



# Cardinal

FEBRUARY MARCH 2012 • WWW.SAINTPAULAUDUBON.ORG • SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY

## FEBRUARY MEMBER MEETING

## MARCH MEMBER MEETING

### Conservation in Galapagos: Protecting the Galapagos Hawk

With **Julia Ponder**

D.V.M., Executive Director, The Raptor Center

**February 9, 2012**

Among the most famous destinations in the world of birding are the Galapagos Islands. Spectacular birds abound, including the Galapagos Hawk. Unfortunately, for many years, invasive species have plagued these famous islands, putting the native bird and animal populations at risk. Recently, a pilot project was undertaken to remove invasive, non-native rodents to protect the native species. Because the Galapagos hawk was identified as at risk for secondary, non-target mortality, The Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota was asked to lead a plan to protect them during the project.

Julia Ponder will tell us about the precarious balance faced by native island populations, the challenges of a massive rodent eradication project and the novel efforts used to protect these incredible hawks. We will learn about what happened during the project and the results. Take a virtual trip with us to this amazing place where Darwin's theory of evolution took shape.

For this ambitious project, the Galapagos National Park and the Charles Darwin Foundation partnered with various organizations including The U of MN's Raptor Center. Medical supplies were provided by the 3M Foundation.

For more info about the islands' restoration, visit these websites:  
Galapagos National Park  
<http://galapagospark.org/>  
The Raptor Center  
<http://www.theraptorcenter.org>



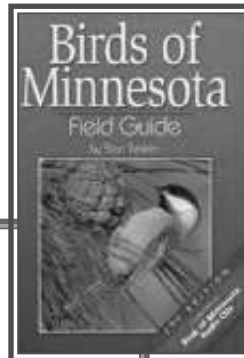
Galapagos Hawk; adult on left

### Uncommon Facts about Common Birds

With **Stan Tekiela**, Naturalist, Wildlife Photographer and Writer

**March 8, 2012**

Stan Tekiela is the originator of the popular state-specific field guides such as *Birds of Minnesota Field Guide*, *Wildflowers of Minnesota*, and *Trees of Minnesota* to name just a few. Over the past two decades Stan has authored more than 100 field guides, nature appreciation books and audio CDs for nearly every state in the nation, presenting many species of birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians, trees, wildflowers and cacti.

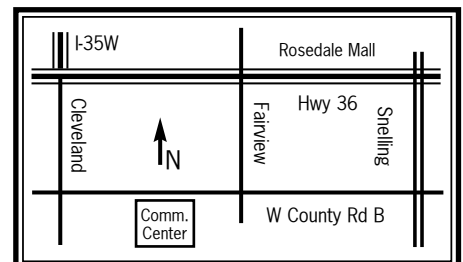


Holding a B.S. in Natural History from the University of Minnesota, and as an active professional naturalist for more than 20 years, Stan studies and photographs wildlife throughout the U.S. He has received various national and regional awards for his books and photographs.

Stan is also a well-known writer and radio personality. His syndicated column appears in over 20 newspapers, and his wildlife programs are broadcast on a number of Midwest radio stations. He is a member of the No. American Nature Photography Assoc., and Canon Professional Services along with many other professional organizations.

Be sure to invite your friends and family members for what is guaranteed to be an entertaining and informative evening.

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!*



## CHAPTER INFO & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### *A Note from our President*

I have been known to ask groups questions such as, "How many total parts are there in a Boeing 747?" The responses have ranged from 10,000 to 9 billion.

I obtained the correct answer from an article in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* some years back. The article noted that a Boeing 747 weighs 165 tons and contains 6 million parts. The article had taken its information from the book, "*Beyond Engineering*" and went on to quote its author, Robert Pool, who stated: "No single person can comprehend [its] entire workings .... not the pilots, not the maintenance chief, nor any of the thousands of engineers who worked upon its design." Pool further noted that, "Such complexity makes modern technology fundamentally different from anything that has gone before."

This left me thinking that the complexity of our modern society can be staggering, and it therefore requires that we work together. I keep hoping that our nation and indeed the entire world would do this more often.

I am very grateful to say that we in the *Saint Paul Audubon Society* do work well together in a cooperative spirit, and have a *great group of dedicated volunteers*. There is always room for additional people who want to get involved. Contact me if you have such interest/questions. Please also see the notice this month of the two Board Member openings for the upcoming May Annual Meeting.

*May 2012 be a wonderful year  
for you and your loved ones.*

*Regards, Louis B. Asher*

### BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

February 6, March 5, April 2, May 7, and June 4, at Ramsey-Washington Watershed office, 2665 Noel Dr., Lt. Canada. For info or regrets, send email to Louis Asher, at [lbashernow@iphouse.com](mailto:lbashernow@iphouse.com)

#### SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY

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Louis Asher	<a href="mailto:lbashernow@iphouse.com">lbashernow@iphouse.com</a>
Vice President	651-269-7889
Bruce Bevis	<a href="mailto:bruce.bevis@thomsonreuters.com">bruce.bevis@thomsonreuters.com</a>
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Secretary	651-292-0004
Tess Rizzardi	<a href="mailto:mjbryand@qwest.net">mjbryand@qwest.net</a>
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Mark Bearss	<a href="mailto:mark.bearss@co.hennepin.mn.us">mark.bearss@co.hennepin.mn.us</a>
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Field Trips Chair	651-633-1663
Chase Davies	<a href="mailto:ccdavies@aol.com">ccdavies@aol.com</a>
Education Chair	651-776-0104
Steve Johnson	<a href="mailto:csrockclimb@yahoo.com">csrockclimb@yahoo.com</a>
Membership Chair	651-738-8310
John O'Connell	<a href="mailto:john-sharon-oconnell@att.net">john-sharon-oconnell@att.net</a>
Newsletter Editor	651-464-6743
Holly Peirson	<a href="mailto:hpbirdscouter@msn.com">hpbirdscouter@msn.com</a>
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Jane Schuler	n/a
Speakers' Bureau	651-631-0949
Clay Christensen	<a href="mailto:clay.christensen@comcast.net">clay.christensen@comcast.net</a>
Chapter Phone	651-291-2596
<i>(Outgoing Message Only — take down numbers to call for info)</i>	
Audubon Minnesota	651-739-9332
	<a href="http://www.mn.audubon.org">www.mn.audubon.org</a>

#### 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](http://www.saintpaulaudubon.org)*

#### ABOUT OUR NEWSLETTER

The Cardinal is published 6 times a year. Articles are due on the 5<sup>TH</sup> of January, March, May, July, Sept, and Nov. Submissions may be edited. Send to [hpbirdscouter@msn.com](mailto: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.

#### 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](http://www.audubon.org)

#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

**The SPAS Nominating Committee thank those who have suggested names or have volunteered to be a part of the next SPAS leadership team.**

**We are still looking for candidates for Vice President and Secretary. Both positions are for a one year term. For those of you who might consider being a future president of SPAS the Vice President position is an excellent bridge to the presidency.**

**The Nominating Committee's report will be presented at the February member meeting. Nominations from the floor will be accepted, after which the nominations will be closed. The slate and a short bio will be in the April/May Cardinal. The election will be conducted at the May annual meeting.**

**Please note that the nominations process will remain open until February 9<sup>TH</sup>. Your suggestions are welcome! For more info please contact Chair Dean Doering at 651-487-5270 or President Louis Asher at [lbashernow@iphouse.com](mailto:lbashernow@iphouse.com).**

**NOMINATING CHAIR DEAN DOERING**

### Welcome to Facebook!

[www.facebook.com/pages/Saint-Paul-Audubon/191193867637543](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Saint-Paul-Audubon/191193867637543)

The SPAS has created a Facebook page to help communi-cate with our members and future members.

Please "Like Us" next time you're on Facebook. **NOTE:** As soon as we have 25+ friends, the URL will be

<https://www.facebook.com/Saint-Paul-Audubon>.

Ben Wilson  
SPAS Webmaster

## NATIONAL AUDUBON'S NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

### Audubon's View

*The National Audubon Society has had many achievements, but the best is yet to come, with its new strategic plan.*

This fall Audubon adopted a new strategic plan, after a process that engaged more than 150 staff, Chapters, volunteers, partners, and others. At the plan's heart are two words: "**Conservation Network.**" The focus on birds is clear, as are our priorities: saving the most important places for birds; combating climate change and mitigating its impacts; building bird-friendly communities and cities; protecting our seas and shores; and collaborating with foresters, ranchers, farmers, and other landowners to make working lands work for birds. We will align our efforts along the four flyways of the Western Hemisphere (see map below) in an unbroken chain of protection.

Our "secret sauce" is Audubon's unparalleled 'wingspan' – our Chapters, members, and partners – reaching into communities throughout the hemisphere. We are renewing our commitment to sound science, policy, and education. Connecting people with nature – and letting birds lead us to that work – gives our 50 Centers and the surrounding populations they serve a central role in on-the-ground conservation.

In the past few years alone Audubon has racked up a remarkable list of achievements:

- Protecting 240,000 acres of wilderness at California's Tejon Ranch.

- New Audubon Centers that inspire and empower urban, suburban, and rural communities alike.
- Our hemispheric *Important Bird Areas* program (with partner *BirdLife International*), the foundation for stewardship of 370 million acres of vital habitat.
- Over a century of Christmas Bird Count data that reveal how climate change and other threats affect birds and how to help our continuing leadership role in Gulf Coast recovery and restoration.
- Our *TogetherGreen* program funded by Toyota, which engages diverse communities coast to coast; and innovative outreach like *Birding the Net*, which is reaching brand-new audiences.

But as I heard from Audubon staff, Chapters, volunteers, and members over the past year, we can do more – and we can do better. *And we must*, to prevail in the face of today's enormous environmental challenges and to ensure a healthy and vibrant future for birds and all of us who share the planet with them.

The Audubon legacy gives us much to be proud of. But the best is yet to come. I thank each of you for your support as we start the year by beginning Audubon's new journey on behalf of birds and the environment.

DAVID YARNOLD  
PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

For more info: [www.audubon.org/2011-annual-report](http://www.audubon.org/2011-annual-report)

### SPAS Speakers' Bureau

The St. Paul Audubon Society is forming a *Speakers Bureau*, which will provide speakers for topics related to birds, bird watching, the environment, creating bird habitats, ecology, energy conservation and the like. The goal is to provide a designated person from the chapter that other organizations may contact to arrange for a speaker.

If you're interested in applying *to become a speaker* for the Speakers' Bureau, please contact Clay Christensen at 651-631-0949 or [clay.christensen@comcast.net](mailto:clay.christensen@comcast.net)

And, if you belong to or know of an organization that might be interested in a speaker on the topics listed above or related subjects, let them know about the SPAS Speakers Bureau and direct them to our website at [www.saintpaulaudubon.org](http://www.saintpaulaudubon.org). There's a link there to request a speaker for your organization.

CLAY CHRISTENSEN, SPAS SPEAKERS' BUREAU CHAIR



**Look for the Loon and Chickadee on the Minnesota State Tax Return forms!!**

# SAINT PAUL AUDUBON'S SPRING WARBLER WEEKEND!!

**May 11-13, 2012**

**Reservation deadline April 11, 2012**

Many birders are aware that some of the world's best birding is available right here in Minnesota! During the spring migration one of the best locations to be looking for birds is along the north-south Mississippi and St. Croix River Flyway. Our annual Warbler Weekend is held at the Villa Maria, located on Lake Pepin near Frontenac, right on the flyway!

Our annual weekends over the last 30-40 years have averaged 130-135 species, including an average of 21-24 species of warblers. You may bird by car, on foot on the Villa and Frontenac State Park trails, or simply by relaxing on the lawn at the Villa. In addition to this informal style of birding, the Chapter's Field Trip leaders offer bird walks for beginner, medium, and experienced birders. Several locations are always canvassed, including Sand Point, Hok-Si-La (a Lake City Park), Well's Creek, and the State Park's prairie restoration project behind the Villa. A Bird Board is located near the cafeteria, so if you decide to stop birding and come in for sustenance, and then see that there's a Kentucky Warbler about ¼ mile from your location, you have a decision to make.

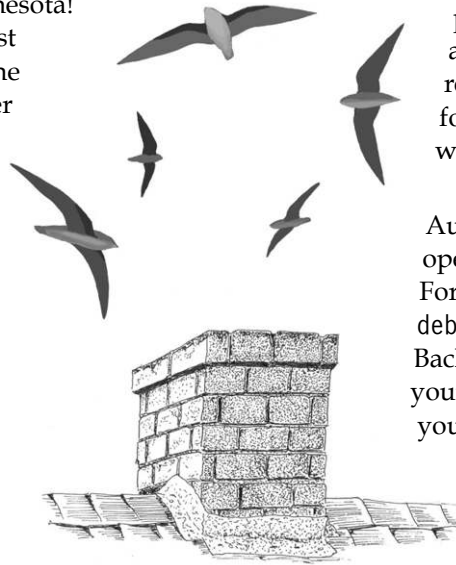
The Villa Maria is a former convent and school. The Retreat is under new management this year and their rules regarding registration have changed. The Villa wants registrations 30 days in advance and does not make refunds for any cancellations received after 10 April. Last year we had to turn some people away because the weekend was oversubscribed. Please register early. In addition, if you want confirmation of your registration, please send an e-mail to that effect or enclose a self-address stamped envelope. Accommodations include dorm-style rooms, shared bathrooms and dining at very reasonable prices. Please review carefully the new rates on the form before making your registration. *Note the early registration deadline of April 11.*

Camping is available on the Villa's grounds, or at nearby Frontenac State Park (day or annual pass required). Traditional events are watching and counting the Chimney Swifts entering the Villa's chimney at dusk; and Friday and Saturday evening owl walks (bring flashlights and dark sweat-shirts!). Don Arnosti, a local environmentalist and former member of Audubon

Minnesota's Board, will speak on "How You Can Protect Birds" on Saturday evening.

Dinner is on your own on Friday (there are numerous restaurants in Red Wing). There will be a program with socializing, snacks, coffee and information for new birders regarding warblers beginning at 7:00 PM, followed by the Chimney Swifts and owl walk.

Registration is limited to Saint Paul Audubon members until March 20<sup>TH</sup>, then open to all on a first-come first-serve basis. For more information please send email to deb.bachrach@yahoo.com or call Deb Bachrach at 651-690-4130. Thank you for your registration! We look forward to seeing you, and to a repeat of the wonderful weekend and super-abundance of birds we saw last year!!



## Warbler Weekend Registration Form

Quantity	Options	Amount
___	Full Wknd Adult . . . . .sgl \$150 .shr \$140	\$ _____
___	Fri. night +3 meals . . . . .sgl \$90 .shr \$80	\$ _____
___	Sat night + 4 meals . . .sgl \$100 .shr \$90	\$ _____
___	Child under 12 (sharing with adult . . . . .)	\$.35 \$ _____
___	Saturday Breakfast . . . . .8:00 AM . . . . .	\$.5 \$ _____
___	Saturday Lunch . . . . .NOON . . . . .	\$.10 \$ _____
___	Saturday Dinner . . . . .6:00 PM . . . . .	\$.10 \$ _____
___	Sunday Brunch . . . . .10:00 AM . . . . .	\$.10 \$ _____
___	Camp (no hookup) \$30- ea nt + \$35/4 meals	\$ _____

*(Prices include registration fee. No refunds for missed meals.)*

**Total** (check payable to Saint Paul Audubon) . . . . . \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Day phone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening phone \_\_\_\_\_

Names of People attending \_\_\_\_\_

Send check to Saint Paul Audubon Society,  
c/o Deb Bachrach, 1163 Edgcumbe Rd., St. Paul, MN 55105.  
Checks will be held until April 10. No refunds after April 10.  
For more information please call Deb Bachrach at 651-690-4130  
or send email to [deb.bachrach@yahoo.com](mailto:deb.bachrach@yahoo.com)

## Christmas Bird Count Results

This year's St. Paul (North)CBC was held on December 17, 2011, one of the warmest and most snow-free events in recent memory... We had 70 field participants and 6 feeder watchers.

- We found a record 67 species on the day of the count! The average of the previous 10 years was 56.4 species. In 2010, we found 60 species. Our previous record for number of species was 62 in 2006.
- The number of individual birds this year was 13,349, which was much lower than the 10-year average, and 2000+ birds less than 2010. Did the fall drought have an effect??

### Highlights

- 42 Trumpeter Swans, up from 29 last year – 34 on the North Oaks count, 8 on the White Bear count.
- 2 American White Pelicans, 5 Great Blue Herons, and 11 additional waterfowl species at or near the Pig's Eye water treatment plant.
- A Rose-breasted Grosbeak near Pig's Eye, a new species for the count.
- Only 144 American Robins, way down from 821 in 2010. Did the dry fall have an effect on this species?
- 3,264 Mallards – which represents 24.5% of our total species count of 13,349!!!

Thank you all for making this another fun and successful CBC. Mark you calendar now for next time:  
**Saturday, December 15, 2012.**

Also, a special thank you to Julian Sellers for 10 years of service as the St. Paul North compiler. I will do my best to continue the successful CBC, which has always run smoothly under Julian's direction.

BILL STJERN

## www.eBird.org

eBird has revolutionized the way birders report and accesses information. Launched in 2002 in a joint effort by the **Cornell Lab of Ornithology** and the **National Audubon Society**, eBird provides rich data on bird abundance and distribution. eBird's goal is to maximize the utility and accessibility of the vast numbers of bird observations made each year by recreational and professional bird watchers. It is amassing one of the largest and fastest growing biodiversity data resources in existence. For example, in January 2010, participants reported more than 1.5 million bird observations across North America!

The observations of each participant join those of others in an international network of eBird users. eBird then shares these observations with a global community of educators, land managers, ornithologists, and

conservation biologists. In time these data will become the foundation for a better understanding of bird distribution across the western hemisphere and beyond.

A birder simply enters when, where, and how they went birding, then fills out a checklist of all the birds seen and heard during the outing. eBird data are stored in a secure facility and archived daily, and are accessible to anyone via the eBird website. *Try it today!!*

## Spring Sandhill Crane Festivities

**March 15-18, 2012**

The annual Crane Festival at Rowe Sanctuary near Grand Island, Nebraska is one of the most unique and interesting things you can do. The sights and sounds of cranes from a blind is magnificent, and there is always the possibility of a Whooping Crane...

Visit [nebraskacrane festival.org](http://nebraskacrane festival.org) for more information.

## SPAS Annual Fund Drive reminder

If you haven't already donated, the Chapter will greatly appreciate your tax-deductible donation, and use it wisely for the benefit of birds and other wildlife in the East Metro Area.

## Saint Paul Audubon Society

### Annual Fund Drive Donation

Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation, to be used for:

\$\_\_\_\_\_ for Annual Operating Fund

\$\_\_\_\_\_ for Endowment Fund

\$\_\_\_\_\_ 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 was given in memory of or in honor of someone, we will send an acknowledgement card.*

Card will be sent to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please Remit 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) and click on "Support Us."

## BOOK REVIEW

**Feathers:** The Evolution of a Natural Miracle

I rarely quote directly from a book in a review, but this author's mixture of poetic prose and factual biology is so interesting that I cannot resist.

From p. 4, "Animals with backbones, the vertebrates, come in four basic styles: Smooth (amphibians), hairy (mammals), scaly (reptiles, fish), or feathered (birds)... Nothing competes with feathers for sheer diversity of form and function. They can be downy soft or stiff as battens, barbed, branched, fringed, fused, flattened, or simple unadorned quills. They range from bristles smaller than a pencil point to the thirty-five-foot breeding plumes of...an ornamental Japanese fowl. Feathers can conceal or attract. They can be vibrantly colored without using pigment. They can store water or repel it. They can snap, whistle, hum, vibrate, boom, and whine. They're a near-perfect airfoil and the lightest, most efficient insulation ever discovered."

From p. 5, "At Chauvet Cave in southern France, there is a Long-eared Owl carefully etched into the soft stone of the ceiling. Simple deft lines show the bird looking backward over its feathered shoulder in an unmistakably owl-like posture.... Haunting and evocative, the ancient animals, designs and figures are crafted with such skill that they moved Pablo Picasso to lament, "We have learned nothing in 12,000 years." In fact, the artwork at Chauvet dates back more than 30,000 years, making that small owl the world's oldest known depiction of a bird."

From p. 13, the first page of chapter 1, "Pick up a feather and run it between your fingers. It feels light and soft, yet sturdy, the hollow quill tapering upward to a graceful vane. Whether it slipped loose from a gull's wing or escaped from a down pillow, the design is unmistakable. We know immediately that it came from a bird — nothing else is so uniquely avian... Of all the conspicuous traits and behaviors that make a bird a bird, only feathers are theirs alone."

During chapter 1, Mr. Hanson talks about the evolution of feathers. I have read several other treatises on the phenomenon, but none were as clearly-written, as descriptive of the history of the fossil records that have come to light over the last 150-200 years as this one. I learned about a small, out-of-the-way but influential museum that I *must* visit on my next trip west, in tiny



Thermopolis, Wyoming, where one can view 1 of 10 known fossils of *Archaeopteryx*, the only one in the U.S. I also learned about a newer source of fossils from the Cretaceous period, the Yixian Formation in Liaoning Province in NE China. This area has a fossil record of all types of animals of the time, including birds. But the greatest recent finds are in a small family of dinosaurs called *Theropods*. To date the Chinese have added at least eight species of feathered dinosaurs for paleontologists to study in the quest to figure out such things as, did birds evolve wings and feathers to use to get them *into* the trees, or to get them *down* from the trees? One of the funniest passages tells a story about a researcher's son, who was instructed to note how baby Chukars got onto bales of hay, while he took a short work-related trip. When he returned, his son was quite upset—he said they were cheating! What his son had found was that instead of flying to the top, they *ran up the sides*, using their wings to help, which opened up a whole new question to think about...

"Feathers'" first section is a treatise on the evolution of birds. Section 2 tells how a bird uses its feathers to stay warm, and cool. Section 3 studies how flight works. Section 4 talks about how feathers evolved to be attractants in the all-important mating cycle, how they are used as human attractants, and most interestingly, how color evolved and is created in a feather. Section 5 talks about other uses of feathers.

Mr. Hanson's own experiments throughout the book are interesting as well. He thinks about how such a tiny bird as a kinglet stays warm in sub-zero temperatures: so he uses a meat thermometer to measure under both the feathers and on the outside of them, on a bird placed in the sun in his yard, with surprising results. He attempts to tie a fly to try his hand at fly-fishing. His study of how/why feathers are waterproof is way cool. He creates his own pen nibs to try writing with a quill just as people did for thousands of years up to when steel pen nibs began to be mass-produced in the late 1800's. Did you know the need for writing implements is one reason why there are so many recipes for goose in older cookbooks...

This is the type of book that, when you first find it in the library you never want it to end! I will be purchasing a copy of my own in the near future, so I can go back and re-read passages as often as I want to. As with most well-written treatises, the appendices are thorough (this one takes up at least 1/8TH of the total width of the book) and are well worth the price of owning your own copy.

*Feathers: The Evolution of a Natural Miracle*, by Thor Hanson, © 2011, \$25.99, Basic Books.

BY HOLLY PEIRSON



## ONLINE INFO & REACHING OUR LEADERS

### ★ Bookmark These Sites!

Saint Paul Audubon Society is at

**[www.saintpaulaudubon.org](http://www.saintpaulaudubon.org)**

- Chapter Member Meetings • Field Trips
- local Conservation issues • Education news/happenings
- "The Cardinal" newsletter archives

**Audubon Minnesota** is at **[www.mn.audubon.org](http://www.mn.audubon.org)**

- National and state-wide Conservation info
- map and contacts for all Audubon Chapters in MN
- State Breeding Bird Atlas info

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

- NAS Science research and reporting
- National Environmental & Conservation issues & action,
- NAS Education opportunities • *Audubon at Home* features
- National Centers & State Chapters clickable map

Minnesota DNR is at **[www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us)**  
or call 651-296-6157 or 888-MINNDNR

- **State Parks:** A-Z clickable map, historical and natural info, visitor centers, reservations, bird lists
- State Forests • Wildlife Mgmt Areas
- Scientific & Natural Areas • "Minnesota Volunteer" subscriptions • lake maps & fishing guides • wildlife info
- **invasive species** alerts and eradication information

Nat'l Wildlife Refuges **[www.fws.gov/midwest](http://www.fws.gov/midwest)** (click state)

National Parks are at **[www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)** (clickable map)

Minnesota Ornithologists' Union is at **[www.mou.mn.org](http://www.mou.mn.org)**

- state-wide birding listserve • migration and nesting occurrence maps • 87 County bird lists • RBA (Rare Bird Alert) • seasonal reports • Where to Bird in MN

**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/NaturalResources/BirdingInRamseyCounty.htm>

Northwest MN's *Pine to Prairie Birding Trail* website is at **[www.mnbirdtrail.com](http://www.mnbirdtrail.com)**

The *Minnesota River Valley Birding Trail* is at **[www.birdingtrail.org](http://www.birdingtrail.org)**

Mississippi River from Itasca to Iowa, the *Great River Birding Trail*, is at **[www.greatriverbirding.org](http://www.greatriverbirding.org)**

MNBirdNet Statewide Electronic Bird Club, is at: **[mnbird-request@linux2.winona.msus.edu](mailto:mnbird-request@linux2.winona.msus.edu)**

Find a list of Minnesota birding events and checklist 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>**

Cornell Lab of Ornithology is at **[www.birds.cornell.edu](http://www.birds.cornell.edu)**

### ✧ Reaching Our Leaders

**In 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 MN: 60E Plato Blvd. #220  
St. Paul 55107

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)

**In Minnesota**

Governor Mark Dayton 75 Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr Blvd,  
#130, Saint Paul, MN 55155, 651-201-3400  
Fax: 651-797-1850 [mark.dayton@state.mn.us](mailto:mark.dayton@state.mn.us)

MN Senators To find your senator, call the Secretary of Senate  
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)

### Got Good Birding/Nature Blogs?

Let us know about them; We'd love to put them on our website and in *The Cardinal*. Here are some to check out and report back on...

<http://dantallmansbirdblog.blogspot.com/>

### Watch Bird Banders

**Carpenter Nature Center**, Washington  
Co., 4TH Fridays, 8 - noon. For info and  
directions, call 651-437-4359.

**Springbrook Nature Center**, Fridley,  
Anoka Co.; for dates and times to to  
[www.springbrooknaturecenter.org](http://www.springbrooknaturecenter.org)

You may be allowed to release birds.  
Dress for the weather!

PO Box 7275, St Paul, MN 55107-7275

WWW.SAINTPAULAUDUBON.ORG

February March 2012

April May Deadline 3/5/2012

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.

FEBRUARY
Board Meeting . . . . .6
Member Mtg: Galapagos Islands . . . . .9
Great Backyard Bird Count . . . . .17-20

MARCH
Board Meeting . . . . .5
Member Mtg: Facts/Common Birds . . . . .8

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St. Paul, Minnesota

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MOU Website a Treasure Trove of MN Birding Data

Check out the "Query Sightings Database" feature of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union's website, which lists where people have seen unusual birds very recently. Useful for adding to your Life List!

You may also download a bird list for every MN State Park, keep your own County and State lists, or research where to go to find birds.

There are many reasons to visit www.moumn.org

St. Paul Audubon Society Local Sponsorship

Yes! I want to be a sponsor of my local chapter, Saint Paul Audubon, by donating \$15, for which I will receive The Cardinal newsletter and other online news. Please fill in the personal information, make a check for \$15 out to Saint Paul Audubon Society, and send it to the address below. Thank You Very Much!

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign gift card: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Saint Paul Audubon, c/o John O'Connell, 2184 Larry Ho Drive, St. Paul, MN 55119

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!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign gift card: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: National Audubon Society, P.O. Box 422250, Palm Coast, FL 32142-2250
(Write on envelope: "Attention: New Membership — please process immediately")

Social Media Fans...

SPAS is looking for those who would enjoy connecting the Chapter to Social Media sites. Contact Louis Asher, at lbashernow@iphouse.com