



OCTOBER MEMBER MEETING

Exotic Earthworms in Minnesota Forests

with Lee E. Frelich, Director, U of M Center for Hardwood Ecology
October 9, 2008

Are you surprised to learn that Minnesota has no native earthworms? But exotic earthworms, first introduced at the time of European settlement, are now widespread in our state, thanks to released fishing bait, transport of nursery stock and sod, even mud in ATV and logging truck tires.

Earthworms are ecosystem engineers that are causing major changes to our state's forests. They cause loss of the insulating duff layer, leading to faster soil warming than would occur from global warming alone. They are altering habitats for all animal species and even aquatic ecosystems.

Dr. Frelich notes that several exotic plant species, such as buckthorn and garlic mustard, have co-evolved with the invasive earthworms.

Dr. Frelich will discuss steps needed to prevent the introduction of additional earthworm species (some now are being sold on the Internet) and research underway on ways to mitigate the worms' impact. He has led the *Earthworm Research Project* at the University of Minnesota for the last eight years.



BOTTOM: LUSH FOREST
TOP: INVADDED FOREST

NOVEMBER MEMBER MEETING

The Red-headed Woodpecker Recovery Program

with Jerry Bahls
President, Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis
November 13, 2008

Who can forget their first sighting of the dramatic, Mondrian-style markings of the Red-headed Woodpecker, a bird listed on Audubon Minnesota's *Action List* of high-risk species facing significant challenges?

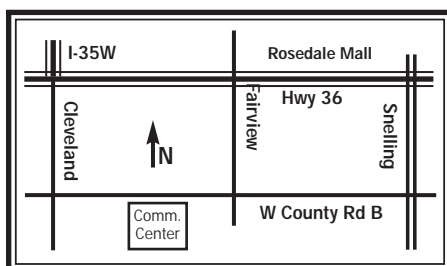
Jerry Bahls is one of the guiding lights behind the *Red-headed Woodpecker Recovery Program*, dedicated to educating the public about these stunning birds and supporting a research program at the Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve in East Bethel, Minnesota. Many Audubon members participated in the recovery program's first summer by conducting woodpecker nesting and fledging surveys at this University of Minnesota research station.



PHOTO BY JIM WILLIAMS

Bahls will probe the reasons for this woodpecker's population decline and how dead and dying trees have a significant impact on the bird's prospects. He will discuss the recovery program's findings to date, and future plans. "The Red-headed Woodpecker is one of a number of species in serious decline," says Bahls, "and since bird population decline is an indicator of overall

environmental degradation, it's important to understand what's happening."



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
December 11
Change in the BWCA Forest
January 8
The Eskimo Curlew

NEW WAYS TO HELP

PROGRAMS CHAIR: Do you aspire to a life of learning? It's a worthwhile endeavor. Taking up the reins of Programs Chair, you will follow on the heels of some really great "programmers." Our chapter is known for it's fun and educational programs. Doing this "job" is also a way to stay "up" on information about wildlife and habitat in Minnesota. You work with a team to devise the year's schedule, then each member contacts a few potential speakers. Many come from institutes of higher learning and research in Minnesota's fine university system, or from the various sections of the state DNR.

FIELD TRIPS CHAIR: You don't need to be a crackerjack birder to be our Field Trips Chair, honest! What you do need is to have a good sense of the circle of the seasons, and be fairly good at coordinating details: where to go, when to meet, what to bring, and the like. It doesn't hurt to know our team of leaders, and if you (think you would) enjoy leading trips, so much the better!! It would be nice if you have that aforementioned love of learning since we usually go a little slower than a paid tour does. We take time to savor each species and learn a bit about it: songs and calls, breeding and nesting data, plumage and other ID tips. We like to have fun, too. We often carpool, so you'll get to know a lot of our members.

THANK YOU TO JOHN O'CONNELL for responding to our "ask" for Membership Chair!!

If one of these great opportunities appeals to your sense of fun and you enjoy being involved with our chapter, please be so good as to contact president Dan McGuiness at dan@dmcguiness.com or 651-260-6260. Much appreciated you will be; a fine job you will do!

CHAPTER INFO & VOLUNTEER OPS

A River Rat's Tale

It is 6:30 AM on September 6TH. On my somewhat regular Saturday morning bicycle ride to the Farmer's Market, I always take note of what is happening on Pig's Eye Lake—that somewhat forlorn backwater of the Mississippi River and first real "wide spot" that links us all, headwaters to gulf. Rafts of White Pelicans are evident in the distance—unlikely snow banks on an early fall day.

Earlier this week I spent part of a day on the river aboard one of the local excursion boats, guest of the St. Paul Riverfront Corporation's "Mississippi River Mixer." About 20 of us locals interpreted the river to 250 people from the ten states that border the river; the RNC convention delegates, news media and others.

They loved a chance to get out on the last day of the get-together and see the river more up-close and personal.

These two trips near the river—one systemic in nature and the other focused on one place—reminded me that 300-plus bird species spend all or part of their year on and along this river—at times settling down in one place to nest or rest—at others using it as an international flyway during their seasonal migrations.

The work that members of the Saint Paul Audubon Society do in one of the key cities along this river is important onto itself; but it is also important for the contributions we make to improve habitat for birds and educate people about their significance all along this 2,350 mile flyway. Saint Paul Audubon is part

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Audubon Minnesota	651-739-9332

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 2,000 members. We hold 9 Member Meetings a year. Feel free to contact anyone listed for more information, or write to Saint Paul Audubon Society at PO Box 7275, Saint Paul, Minnesota, 55107-7275 or visit our website at www.saintpaulaudubon.net

ABOUT OUR NEWSLETTER

The Cardinal is published 6 times. Copy is due on the **5TH of January, March, May, July, Sept, and Nov.** Send copy to hpbirdscouter@msn.com All submissions are subject to editing or revision.

If you are an Audubon member and don't live in the Saint Paul area, but would like to receive *The Cardinal*, send \$15 for a year's subscription to **Bob Sherman**, 14129-30TH Street, Stillwater, MN 55082

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

MEETINGS & FIELD TRIPS

of a system of chapters and state offices working increasingly in collaboration, to build a national constituency for the Big Mississippi—for all the birds, fish, wildlife and people who depend upon it. If the river could speak for itself, it would surely say, “Thanks Audubon, for all you do.” That translates to: *“Thanks Volunteers, each and every one of you, for your donations of time, talent, and dollars.”* Stay engaged and involved. With looming problems in our back yards and, indeed globally, this is not the time for the conservation community to relax our guard.

Dan McGuiness, President

BOARD MEETINGS

Saint Paul Audubon 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, call **Dan McGuiness** at 651-260-6260 or send email to dan@dmcguiness.com

Fall Meetings are **October 6, November 3, and December 1.**

Audubon Applause



This time we have a very special person to thank. **Susan Solterman** is leaving Audubon Minnesota to return to college to complete her Masters. She will continue to be involved in her “home” chapter, Saint Paul Audubon, which we are very grateful for, as she currently serves as Co-Chair of our Conservation Committee. *We wish you very good luck with all you take on in the future, Susan!*

Upper Midwest Audubon Conference “Partners in Conservation”

October 17-19, Dubuque, Iowa

The conference focuses on how to preserve, revive, research, reintroduce, enjoy and teach about nature.

This year’s theme is “Partners in Conservation.” Saturday morning there will be field trips to natural areas cradled in the *Driftless Area*, and excursions along the Mississippi River. John Flicker, National Audubon’s president, will deliver the Keynote address at noon, followed by afternoon sessions on topics such as the acquisition of Whitewater Canyon, Trumpeter Swan and Peregrine Falcon reintroductions to Iowa, revival of the Tall Grass Prairie, and there will also be a photographers’ exhibit.

Sunday morning the sessions will be mostly “How To:” run your chapter, do publicity and membership, there’s a session for teachers, and a talk on NAS board experiences. Then wrap-up, and door prizes!

It’s a great way to make new friends and hear all about the latest NAS projects: progress on IBA’s, the Watch List, Activist “Boot Camps” in Washington, D.C., etc. Many of the Audubon National staff attend, so make your list of questions to ask and sign up today!!

To sign up to attend the conference, send email to Joe Tollari at jtollari@mchsi.com. To book a room at the Dubuque Holiday Inn, call 563-556-2000 (sorry, no 800 number was given). For more information, please contact Maggie O’Connell at birdlady1@iowatelecom.net.

FIELD TRIPS

Sparrows Plus!

**Saturday, October 18
7:30 AM to Noon**

Woods, fields, and bluffs overlook the big bend of the Mississippi called Spring Lake, just west of Hastings. We’ll hike through the Spring Lake Park archery range preserve, and visit Scharr’s Bluff. This is good bird habitat, and the remaining fall foliage will enhance the experience.

We hope to find migrant sparrows, including White-crowned, White-throated, and Fox — with luck maybe a Harris’s— plus raptors, thrushes, and other songbirds.

Difficulty Easy (but a lot of walking)

Carpool 7:30 AM, from Sears
(see Field Trips map, p.4)

Contact Julian Sellers, 651-698-5737
juliansellers@msn.com
(call only if you need info)

Ducks, Eagles, Swans, River Values

Saturday, November 8, Day Trip

This annual road trip exposes the *grand* topography of the Mississippi Valley and the late migrants that use



it heavily. Waterfowl and raptors have interesting life histories and travel great distances every year.

State lines blur along this top flight migratory corridor (pun intended). Birds do not recognize governmental boundaries or political divisions. Communities near Lake Pepin in Minnesota and Wisconsin have re-formed a single interstate cooperative association to improve the economy of the region. All of this

FIELD TRIPS • NEWS • HAPPENINGS

and much more can be part of the conversation along the way, depending on the interests of the group. Bring binoculars, a scope if you have one, and your curiosity!

We'll spend ~45 minutes at the National Eagle Center in Wabasha, enjoying their Bald and Golden Eagle education birds, as well as the wild birds along the river from the observation deck. We will then cross into Wisconsin to view Tundra Swans



on one of their few stop-overs between breeding grounds in far northern Canada and their wintering sites along the SE coast of the U.S.

If you can drive please come with a full tank of gas. Dress in layers with special emphasis on hands, feet, and head! Expenses depend on your choice for lunch. There is a \$6 (\$5 for seniors) fee for the Eagle Center, and there may be a voluntary donation to your driver for their gas. Reservations are requested but not required. Return to Sears between 5:00-6:30 PM.

Difficulty Easy

Carpool 7:30 AM, SW Corner of Sears
(see Field Trips map, this page)
Chase Davies, 651-633-1663
ccdavies@aol.com

Wintering Raptors at Carlos Avery WMA

November • December • January
(Date TBD as Winter Advances)

I will keep track of raptor reports at Carlos Avery WMA since I live close-by. I will alert our Field Trip Chair when they begin to appear, then send an E-Note announcing this Field Trip. We will use our cars as blinds. There will be time for stops to use binoculars and scopes.

Mid-afternoon to early evening is the best time to view these wintering raptors. We'll be looking for Rough-legged and Red-tailed Hawks, maybe even a late No. Harrier, all three accipiters are possible; Short-eared, Long-eared, Great Grey, No. Saw-whet, Great Horned and Barred Owls, Co. Ravens, perhaps even an eagle or two, and songbirds such as winter finches, Tree Sparrows, and Snow Buntings.

Difficulty Easy

Carpool I-35 Exit 129 Park & Ride
(NW quadrant, opp. BP gas sta.)

Leader Holly Peirson, 651-464-6743
hpbirdscouter@msn.com

Mark Your Calendars!

109TH Christmas Bird Count, December 20

Make plans now to participate in the 109TH Annual Christmas Bird Count! It's not too early to call or email Julian to reserve your place. We need birders of all skill levels to make the most of this premier citizen science event. Our "St. Paul North" Count Circle extends 7.5 miles in all directions from the intersection of County Rd. B and Dale Street, in Roseville. You can join a team in the field or keep an eye on your feeders at home. A tally party follows.

Compiler: Julian Sellers
651-698-5737
juliansellers@msn.com

2008-2009 Member Meeting Schedule

Information about Saint Paul Audubon's Member Meetings and Field Trips can also be found on our website at www.saintpaulaudubon.net

September 11, 2008

Weather and Climate in Minnesota with **Mark Seeley**

October 9

Exotic Earthworms in Minnesota Forests with **Lee Frelich**

November 13

Red-headed Woodpecker Recovery Program with **Jerry Bahls**

December 11

Changes in BWCA Forests with **Peter Reich**

January 8, 2009

The Eskimo Curlew with **Bob Russell**

February 12

History of Logging in Minnesota with **Zachary Klaus**

March 12

Lichens with **Imke Schmitte**

April 9

Falconry with **Frank Taylor**

May 14

Paleoecology with **David Fox**



Field Trips Meeting Location

Leave Valuables at home, not in your car. If no reservations are required, please do not call Trip Leader unless you need more info.

Upcoming Field Trips with Saint Paul Audubon

Dec 20: SPAS Christmas Bird Count

Jan 4: *Explorers!*

Outdoor Life in January (see p6)

AUDUBON MINNESOTA EVENTS

*Voters! Tell Your Friends and Family -
Don't Forget to Vote Yes on November 4th!*

MINNESOTA CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

The Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Act

Protecting and maintaining Minnesota's natural areas are critical to protecting birds and their habitat. Unfortunately, the environment is the first funding arena cut in times of budget crisis. ***This year, after nearly 10 years of legislative debate and discussion***, the legislature passed a constitutional amendment that will be on this fall's ballot as a referendum question. Voters will be asked to increase the state sales tax by 3/8 of 1% to fund habitat conservation, clean water initiatives, parks and trails and arts and cultural heritage initiatives. If the referendum question passes, the "Lessard Outdoor Heritage Council," consisting of four state lawmakers and eight citizens, will advise the Legislature on what to do with the additional \$90 million allocated for habitat funding.

This state investment will amount to about \$300 million each year for 25 years, ***with more than 80 percent going toward clean water, wildlife habitat and natural areas***. Allocation of the funding will be 33% for water quality, 33% for wildlife habitat, 19.75% for arts and cultural resources, and 14.25% for parks and trails.

Audubon supports this initiative not only because the environment takes funding hits every budget cycle, but because it is also a fair funding source. Minnesota's sales tax is actually the 2ND most progressive of our four modes of taxation. Moreover, the sales tax is more stable and predictable than other revenue sources, allowing for more accurate long-term planning. **When compared to other metropolitan areas of comparable size and affluence, the Twin Cities currently has one of the lowest sales tax rates in the country.**

Although some opponents complain that there shouldn't constitutionally dedicated funding—there are several good arguments why we should have it: By **reducing competition** for limited general funds, the amendment gives the legislature **more flexibility** in other appropriations. The revenue proposal is funded with new money so strain on the state's budget will be alleviated. Secondly, the environment always takes the hit during tough economic times. Right now, general fund dollars spent on the environment (as a percentage of total spending) **are at a 30-year low**. When the governor and the legislature need money fast, dedicated environmental funding accounts are raided for non-conservation spending. In Minnesota, amending the constitution is the only mechanism for creating a truly dedicated funding source. Thirdly, this amendment will sunset in 25 years—it's not a permanent change to the constitution. And last, contrary to popular belief, **it's not unusual to amend the state constitution**—Minnesota's constitution has been amended many times for many other reasons.

As you can see, this is a win-win opportunity for Minnesota! We'll continue to advocate that our members and the general public vote **YES** on the ballot referendum this fall. **Make sure you let your family, friends, and neighbors know that they MUST vote yes on the ballot—a blank vote is an automatic "no vote."**

For more information, please visit www.yesformn.org

Audubon Minnesota's Fall ISSUES BALLOT and Members' Meeting: Easy as 1, 2, 3!

1 Each year, Audubon Members from across Minnesota help to select and prioritize state legislative issues for Audubon to focus on during the following spring's state legislative session by ranking their top wildlife and environmental concerns on Audubon's Issues Ballot!

Don't forget to pick-up your *Issues Ballot* at either the October 9TH SPAS Members' Meeting (*see page 1*) or by sending email to Susan Solterman at ssolterman@audubon.org

2 Come together at our Fall "Fellowship" Members' Meeting on **Saturday, November 8TH**, where Audubon members from 14 chapters and all over the state come together to discuss and consider the highest ranked issues. Please join us to hear state agency and environmental experts make presentations on the top three priority issues.

3 We've improved the process. In previous years members ranked their top five issues on the ballot and in November they came to the Members' Meeting to debate and vote on the top three issues. This year, members will simply choose

their top three issues via the ballot ranking; we'll no longer debate which three of the top five issues should make-up our

priorities. This new process will give us more time at the Members' Meeting to learn about the issues and ***focus our efforts on solutions and strategy for the upcoming legislative session.***

Allocation of the funding will be:
33% for water quality
33% for wildlife habitat
19.75% for arts & cultural resources
14.25% for parks & trails

EXPLORERS!!

Explore the Outdoors

In January 2009, SPAS begins a new monthly series of family-oriented 2-hour walks, as we EXPLORE THE OUTDOORS!! Yes! This is for everyone age 10 and older, with a minimum of one responsible adult for each two young people. Yes! Monthly—all year around. Yes! We really do hope the walks will be intergenerational.

Chase has wanted to do walks like this for a long time. She has done many similar intergenerational walks while wearing her green National Park Ranger hat; working as an environmental educator in the Interpretation Division.

We have no idea how much interest is out there in SPAS for this sort of intergenerational activity. It is time to find out. It is time to help adults and youth enjoy their world. *If kids should not go out alone anymore, we adults must work harder to help them to get in touch with their natural environment.*

So, Chase is excited to be going out with folks of all ages who want to see what is happening out there! We'll all be **Explorers!!** We hope to ask more questions than we have answers for. We do not intend to exclude, nor focus primarily on birds. Wintery weather will dictate some locations and summer heat will dictate a change of time. We have Youth Mentor Program binocular and scope kits for use, and Chase will loan out 10-power loupe-style magnifying glasses (You haven't *SEEN* a flower or a lichen or a rock or a leaf until you've looked at it through a loupe! Nature's attention to detail is truly amazing!) Thermometers are always in Chase's kit, along with a pocket-sized note pad and a decent pencil. You might want to bring something to write your own questions on!

Registration in advance will be requested, at least in the early months, to allow for appropriate preparation and leadership. Flexibility and open communication among participants will help to develop and improve both format and style. *Explorers* need to be steady on their feet, able to traverse uneven ground, and be dressed appropriately for the weather. There will be no fee for leadership; but at times there may be an entrance fee to an area we want to explore!

Here a some questions to ponder as we finalize day and time for these walks in Ramsey County. The first walk is scheduled for **January 4TH** (For a full list of dates, see the Field Trips Calendar on p. 5 of the August September Cardinal, or go online to our website, at www.saintpaulaudubon.net.) To provide your answers, please contact Chase at ccdavies@aol.com.

- 1 What months are you likely to come on the walks?
- 2 How many children are you likely to bring with you, and what are their ages? If you're a kid, how many of your friends and/or Scout group can you bring?!
- 3 Saturday or Sunday afternoons better? Does it matter?
- 4 Does 2:00 to 4:00 PM seem reasonable?
- 5 Are you interested in helping lead? Enthusiasm, not expertise, is the prerequisite!
- 6 What do you need to know to feel comfortable attending?

PS A release signed by parent or guardian will be required whenever a child is in the care of an adult other than his or her parent or guardian. A future Cardinal will have the necessary wording.

Work Party! Buckthorn Bust

October 11, 9:00 AM to NOON

Meet at the Como Park Pool parking lot. Bring your Scout group, church group, student group or just bring yourself. This is a cooperative effort between SPAS, EcoPartners, the District 10 Environment Committee, Como Park High School, and Como Woodland Outdoor Classroom Advisors. Because buckthorn seeds keep reinfesting our woodland from other parts of Como Park, we're going after buckthorn wherever we find it.

To RSVP or for further info: dmrobinson@bitstream or www.comowoodland.org

Breeding Bird Atlas a Go!

The Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources approved funding for the first 2 years of the upcoming Minnesota Breeding Bird Atlas Project. Watch for word on Routes, Coordinators, etc., in upcoming *Cardinals*.

MOU Paper Session

December 6TH, 9:00 - 4:30

Bell Museum of Natural History, U of Minnesota, 10 Church St., corner of Church and University Ave, Minneapolis. \$5 at the door.

There is a concurrent Used Bird Book Sale during the paper session!! To donate books about birds and nature: contact Barbara or Denny Martin at 952-474-4371 or email to dbmartin@skypoint.com

Duck Stamp Art Contest

October 17-18, 2008

**Bloomington Center for the Arts
1800 W Old Shakopee Rd**

Hosting the Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest in the Twin Cities area is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. The US Fish and Wildlife Service invites you to come view the entries and VOTE!! Free, Open to Public.



Learn more about birds by helping with "Citizen Science"

Go to www.birds.cornell.edu to learn more about these fine long-term citizen science projects:

- Project FeederWatch (many years old, books published about data, what to feed, etc.)
- NestWatch
- Celebrate Urban Birds! (for all city dwellers)
- Project PigeonWatch
- House Finch Disease Survey (contagious eye disorder)
- Birds in Forested Landscapes
- Great Backyard Bird Count (annual February weekend snapshot)
- Christmas Bird Count (over 100 years old!)
- Bird Sleuth Curriculum
- Home Study Course in Bird Biology



Reaching Our Leaders

Washington, D.C.

President	The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, D.C. 20500, 202-456-1111 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	Norm Coleman 202-224-5641, MN 651-645-0323 320 Hart Sen. Office Bldg, Washington, DC 20510 2550 University Ave W, #110-N, Saint Paul, 55114 http://coleman.senate.gov
US Rep	4TH Betty McCollum DC 202-225-6631 MN 651-224-9191, 1029 Longworth House Office Bldg, Washington, DC 20515, Internet email: 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 Bachman DC 202-225-2331, 412 Cannon House Office Bldg, W., DC 20515 MN 651-731-5400, 6043 Hudson Rd #330, Woodbury, MN 55125 http://bachmann.house.gov/Email_zip.htm

Minnesota

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MN Senators	To find your senator, call the Secretary of State 651-296-2344, or go to www.senate.leg.state.mn.us
MN Reps	To find your representative, call the MN House at 651-296-2126, or go to www.house.leg.state.mn.us



Electronic Resources "you gotta bookmark these sites!"

New
& Revised

Saint Paul Audubon's website is at:
www.saintpaulaudubon.net (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
(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](http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us/parks/NaturalResources/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>

SPAS E-Notes

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 You may unsubscribe at any time.

SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY

PO Box 7275, St Paul, MN 55107-7275

October November 2008

Dec '08 Jan '09 Deadline 11/5/2008

30% POST-CONSUMER 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 the Earth's biological diversity.*

CALENDAR

OCTOBER

Board Mtg: 6
Member Mtg: Exotic Earthworms 9
Como Work Day: Buckthorn Bust 11
Upr MW Aud. Conf: Dubuque, IA 17-19
Field Trip: Sparrows Plus 18

NOVEMBER

Board Mtg: 3
VOTE YES!! 4
Field Trip: Mississippi Day Trip 8
Audubon MN Members' Mtg 8
Member Mtg: RHWQ Recovery 13
Field Trip: Reservoir Woods 20
Field Trip: Winter Raptors @ Carlos ... TBD

DECEMBER

CBC 20

Non-profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit # 3795
St. Paul, Minnesota

Time Dated Material

Birding Gear

Have favorite footwear, or a jacket that has its own bird list? We know some birders who wear those many-pocketed vests. For some a hat is all they need. Some carry photo equipment, field notebooks, drawing supplies. Of course they all carry binoculars: some around their necks, some across their shoulders; everyone has an opinion on the best binocular strap, the best backpack, whatever. Let us know your birding musts! Send an email to the editor and we'll compare lists!

St. Paul Audubon Society Local Sponsorship M03

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 Society, c/o Bob Sherman, 14129-30TH Street, Stillwater, MN 55082

National Audubon Society Membership M03 7XCH

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, Membership Data Center, P.O. Box 51001, Boulder, CO 80322
(Write on envelope: "Attention: New Membership, please process immediately.")

Contributors

Thank You very much to those who contributed to this issue of *The Cardinal*: **Val Cunningham, Chase Davies, Gene Groebner, Dan McGuiness, Holly Peirson, Deb Robinson, Susan Solterman.** To submit an article, send your text via Email to the Editor at hpbirdscouter@msn.com