

The Cardinal

APRIL MAY 2017 • WWW.SAINTPAULAUDUBON.ORG • SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY

APRIL MEMBER MEETING

“Our National Parks: Protecting America’s Largest and Smallest National Treasures”

with **Dr. Mark Edlund**

Univ. of Michigan in Natural Resources

Thursday, April 13, 2017

The U.S. National Parks have outstanding scenery and unique natural features – protected in perpetuity. People go to them to camp, hike, fish, watch wildlife, ski, learn, boat, paddle, row, dive, climb, and always, stand in awe.

Besides preservation and recreation, the parks serve as living laboratories. With diverse ecosystems and strong protections, they are ideal environments to study natural processes, human impacts, and the intricate and infinite connections between them. There are a lot of ways to measure the health of a National Park. Researchers and park managers often inventory birds, plants, and other wildlife to observe increases and decreases.

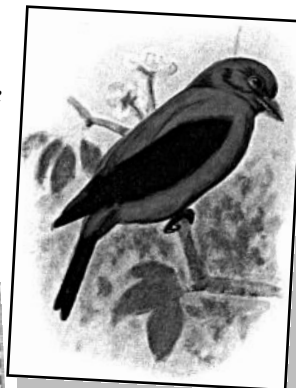
The *Great Lakes Inventory and Monitoring Network of the National Park Service* leads this work at nine national park units in Michigan, Indiana, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. It monitors and analyzes various “vital signs” to help parks make scientifically-informed management decisions. Dr. Edlund will describe research that the Science Museum of Minnesota conducts. Examples include:

- Discovering new species
- Solving environmental problems
- Understanding how our world works

Check these resources for more information:

www.smm.org/scwrs/fieldnotes

(text for talk copied from this website)



MAY ANNUAL ELECTION & MEMBER MEETING

“The Case of the Scarlet non-Tanager and the Missing Dendroica”

with **Dr. Scott Lanyon**, Univ. of Minn.

Professor in Ecology, Evolution and Behavior

Thursday, May 11, 2017

For all you mystery fans, here are some *Avian Classification Mysteries!!* In recent years there have been many changes in the classification of Western Hemisphere song birds. Many of these changes are the result of research conducted by Professor Lanyon and various colleagues and their research teams. Dr. Lanyon will explain where classifications come from, why they change, and how the research was conducted. He will conclude with a review of some of the changes that have resulted from the U’s research on blackbirds, cardinals, sparrows, tanagers, and warblers, including: Why the Scarlet Tanager isn’t a true tanager, and why the warbler genus *Dendroica* no longer exists.

Dr. Lanyon has been associated with the University of Minnesota since 1995, when he became the Director of the Bell Museum of Natural History. He was the head of the Dept. of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior until June of 2016, and is now the Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate

Education. He also served as President of the American Ornithologists’ Union from 2014 to 2016.

Check out these resources for more information:

Classification and Evolution:

http://evolution.berkeley.edu/evolibrary/article/evo_10

DNA Sequences and Evolutionary Time:

<http://www.timetree.org/>

What is a Phylogenetic Tree?

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phylogenetic_tree

Before the talk, the chapter will conduct its Annual Meeting and Election of Officers and Board. See p. 3 for the slate of nominations and budget for 2017-18.

Arrive at 6:45 for social time or 7:00 for the Program;
held at Fairview Community Center, 1910 Cty Rd B, Roseville.
Free and open to the public.

BOARD MEETINGS

The Chapter's Board Meetings are on the first Monday of the month, 6:30-8:30 PM, at the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed Office at 2665 Noel Drive, Little Canada. Exit 35-E at Little Canada Rd, go east to Noel. Upcoming: **April 3, May 1** (please attend to vote on by-laws changes.).

President's Message

A Time for Change

Spring is the time when the mercury rises on the thermometer, the snows give way to rain, the sun feels a bit warmer on the face, trees bud and flowers begin to bloom. For me, this gradual change from the grayish overtones of winter to the vibrant colors of spring is when my neck starts to ache. You may be thinking, oh, that's probably just barometric pressure, but alas it is not. I like to think that I have a few years before I feel the changing of the seasons in my bones. Rather, my aching neck is a consequence of continually looking up.

Spring is the time when the skies come alive. Warm days and south winds bring Greater White-Fronted Geese. Hawks and Herons will soon be seen circling high in the skies. In my opinion, spring does not officially begin until one hears the familiar call of the Red-Winged Blackbird.

Spring brings change and this year it appears to have arrived early. We experienced record February temperatures in Minnesota. The ice fishing season ended well ahead of schedule. Eagles and Eastern Bluebirds arrived weeks ahead of schedule. Though you may disagree, I was not ready for winter to end. Snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, and ice fishing remained on my mind.



SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY

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Much like the unanticipated early arrival of spring, changes are on the horizon for Saint Paul Audubon. Though I have served one short term as President and had planned to run for another year term, a career opportunity has pulled me away to Fargo, ND in September. Though I am excited for the opportunities and challenges ahead, I am saddened to leave Saint Paul Audubon.

I hope you all will continue our 70+ years' work of bird and habitat conservation in the East Metro Area and beyond. Our Conservation Committee is planning habitat restoration projects for the summer, as well as developing a *Ramsey County Guide to Birding* web mapping application to engage residents and visitors to go out and watch birds. Our Education Committee is continuing to educate school children through the National Park Services Big River Journey and

ABOUT OUR CHAPTER

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

ABOUT THE CARDINAL Published 6 times a year; articles are due on the 5TH of January, March, May, July, Sept, and Nov. Submissions may be edited. Send to hpbirdscouter@msn.com (for now...)

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

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

Audubon Minnesota 651-739-9332
www.mn.audubon.org

National Audubon www.audubon.org

in the Como Woodland Outdoor Classroom. Our website has been redesigned (get a look at www.saintpaulaudubon.org), to engage members and the public with our chapter. We continue to fund projects, including Minneapolis Audubon's Red-Headed Woodpecker Recovery Project. Our speaker lineup for our Member Meetings has been and will continue to be stellar. Opportunities to bird with our fabulous field trip guides abound; (see pages 4-6). All of these successes of our chapter would not be possible without our cadre of dedicated volunteers and members. Currently, we have open officer and positions on our Board of Directors. Elections occur at the May Annual Meeting. Our chapter is always seeking new members, who bring fresh ideas and vigor to our education and conservation committees.

In this current political climate, local participation is needed now more than ever. I encourage you to get active, be involved, and keep birding!

Matt Jacobson, President

2017-18 Chapter Budget Explanation

The *Projected Income* for this fiscal year is expected to be lower than the last couple of years. Local dues revenue of about \$700 were eliminated last year and less money has been received from the fund drive this past fiscal year. The telephone answering machine has been turned off, which will save about \$600/year, as most members now have access to email and the website. Expenses are considerably higher. A major upgrade of the web site was completed last year but minor additional expenses continue. Since the Villa Maria closed on June 30, 2016, Warbler Weekend, the major item in the field trips lines under income and expenses, required a new venue. The net loss for the weekend has been estimated at \$1,000 to allow for flexibility in working with the new location in Lake City. The Conservation Committee is recommending we commit up to \$5000 to prepare a website about birding in Ramsey County. This board-approved proposed budget shows a deficit of \$13,905. The deficit will be covered by reserves as we work to find new projects to fund, using a bequest received in 2012.

Board and Officer Slate for 2017-18

President: Open: Nominations accepted from floor; job description below.

Vice President: Open: Nominations accepted from floor.

Treasurer: Louise Eidsmoe: Current Board Member, Publicity Chair.

Secretary: Chase Davies: Current Field Trips Chair, Historian. Life-long member of Audubon; biologist/zoologist.

Board Members up for Election

Colleen Swedberg: Current Board Member, Commissioner on the Park and Rec Board in Oakdale.

Beth Blich: Resident of St. Paul, very concerned for environment.

Open: Nominations accepted from floor.

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Continuing Board Members

Brian Goodspeed, Nancy Uppgren.

Retiring Officers and Board: Many years' worth of service is represented in these names, so when you see them, thank them for their valued volunteerism!

President, **Matthew Jacobson**, Vice President **Jim Lindner**, Treasurer **Richard Newmark**, and Secretary **Deb Robinson**; Board Members **Barbara Lindeke** and **Laurel Stiebler**.

2017-2018 PROPOSED Budget

Approved by Board, March 7, 2016

INCOME

Field Trips & Warbler Weekend..... \$3,500
Total Committee Income \$3,500

Donations.....\$300
 Fund Drive.....\$9,000
Total Donations Income \$9,300

Total Dues Income..... \$6,300

Grants/Div's. from Endowment Fund \$2,000
 Interest & Dividend Income \$20
Total Grants/Dividends Income..... \$2,020
Total 2017-2018 Income..... \$21,120

EXPENSES

Fund drive\$550
 Insurance.....\$350
 Membership Recruitment\$100
 Misc & Contingency.....\$150
 Operating Expenses.....\$600
 Web Page.....\$2,000
 Equipment.....\$300
Total Admin. & Oper. Expenses \$5,650

Ramsey Co. Birding Website Maps.....5,000
 Butterfly Count\$200
 Conservation Committee..... \$2,000
 Education Committee\$500
 Field trips and Warbler weekend \$4,500
 Programs.....\$2,700
Total Progs & Field Trip Exp. \$14,900

Art & Design.....\$1,100
 Labels & Postage.....\$2,700
 Printing.....\$8,000
Total Newsletter Expenses \$11,800

Grants \$2,000
 Audubon Ctr of North Woods \$2,000
 Other Orgs.: MEP & MOU\$275
Total Support to Orgs. Expenses..... \$4,275

Total 2017-2018 Expenses..... \$35,025
Gain/Loss..... <13,905>

What the Chapter's President Does

St. Paul Audubon is looking for a new president. Serving as president takes a little time beyond general board of director duties, but former presidents agree that serving in this role is a rewarding experience. The president sets the agenda and presides over board meetings and Member Meetings. Aside from meetings, the president serves as a primary contact for people who may reach out with

inquiries about ideas they may have, questions about chapter happenings, or simply to ask when meetings are held. The president also writes an article for *The Cardinal*. On occasion, Audubon Minnesota or National Audubon may reach out to ask for an official stand on a conservation issue. If desired, the president may set goals for the chapter. All told, duties may take 10-12 hours per month, including meetings.

Spring & Summer Field Trips

Woodcock of Rush City

Tuesday, April 11, 8:00–10:00 PM on-site (Bad weather backup Wednesday, April 12, 8:00–10:00 PM on-site.)

The American Woodcock song and sky dance are more than remarkably entertaining. They both breed and migrate through this peaceful, prime habitat in the St. Croix River Valley.

The American Woodcock is an incredible *wood-land* shorebird with unique adaptations for seeing, feeding, and courting. They pay little attention to bird watchers as courting males spiral high, then fall, twittering, to land in nearly the same takeoff place. Viewers normally have had their choice of several pair to approach for closer observation of the Sky Dancers in this easily-accessible area. (Of course there are no guarantees, wild birds being what they are even when so single-minded.) We will discuss the unique qualities of these birds, and what makes this place so special for both resident and migrant populations. **Moonrise is at 7:25; Sunset is at 7:52. The moon will be full on April 11TH.**



SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS Wear boots or shoes that can get wet; bring something to sit on, and an extra jacket for cooling temps. There are no facilities. Optional: Bring a very strong flashlight to help spot the birds. We will all leave together.

BAD WEATHER BACKUP Wednesday, April 12TH is the storm backup date. Give Chase your name, phone, and email address by April 8TH so you can be notified on April 11TH if there is a high probability of extended strong thunder with lightning storms.

CARPPOOLING We will meet at the site.

REGISTRATION None required

DIFFICULTY Easy 2-4 block walk.

DIRECTIONS Drive time from the northern junction of 35W/35E to the site is 40 minutes at the speed limit. Drive north on I-35 to exit 159 for Rush City. Turn right (east) onto 4TH Street/MN 361. Travel through Rush City to the only stop sign and turn left (north) onto Bremer/Forest Blvd. Travel 2.25 mi. Turn right (east) onto 530TH street/Cty 3. You will drive 3 mi. from Co 361 to your destination: after 1.5 miles the paved road becomes gravel, one mile farther you will cross Rock Creek (cement bridge), your destination is .5 mile farther. Park on the shoulder.

LEADERS Chase Davies, 651-633-1663, and Ed Davies, 612-819-1196. Call Chase with questions (for questions on April 11TH, call 651-246-9754).

Nerstrand Big Woods' Birds and Blooms

Saturday, April 29, 8:30-12:00 noon

Our annual walk when bright spring flowers carpet the bluff-side woodlands, with resident and migrant birds flying and chattering overhead. Come and we'll see what has popped into bloom or is feeding or flying above us along our walk down to Prairie Creek. Usually, but not always, spring ephemeral flowers far outnumber the migrants in this remnant of the Big Woods.

Woodpeckers, kinglets, creepers, bluebirds, other migrants... Bloodroot, hepatica, wild ginger, trout lilies... How far we travel along the creek depends, among other things, on the weather, interest, and water levels.

SUGGESTIONS Bring a 10-power loupe or borrow one from Chase. Consider bringing either or both flower and bird field guides. Exercise your camera's macro capabilities. Bring a bag lunch and watch Bluebirds and Red-headed Woodpeckers while picnicking after the walk.



DIRECTIONS Take I-35 south from cities to Hwy 19 (east) into Northfield. Turn right (south) onto Hwy 3, go a very short way, then east onto Hwy 246. The road winds and turns, then eventually goes south. Good signs indicate the right turn (west) onto Cty Rd 29 for the entrance to Big Woods State Park.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS Meet in the large parking lot inside the entrance of Big Woods State Park. **FEE AREA:** Day pass or a MN State Park Annual Pass required.

REGISTRATION None required

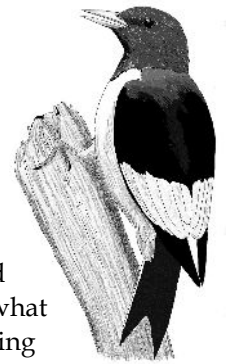
DIFFICULTY Easy to Moderate with very leisurely descent to Prairie Creek (includes some stairs) and return.

LEADER Chase Davies, 651-633-1663 (email or call only if you need additional information).

Warblers & Waterfowl Along the Minnesota River

Saturday, May 6, 7:30–11:00 AM

One of the very best birding locales in the state; and so close to St. Paul! We'll check the Bass Ponds, Long Meadow Lake, (waterfowl, waders...), and visit the newly-renovated Long Meadow Lake/Old Cedar Avenue walking bridge (*it's on the US Register of Historic Places due to the type of original construction used*). The Minnesota River is a great spot to catch migrating passerines, as well as the



Spring & Summer Field Trips



water birds. We will walk east from the bridge and return. Bring binoculars and scope if you own them.

DIRECTIONS From I-494, go south on Cedar Avenue and Old

Cedar Ave, which dead-ends in the parking lot for the bridge and Minnesota River Valley NWR trails complex.

CARPOOL Meet 7:00 AM, SW corner of St. Paul Sears lot at Marion St., or 7:30 AM at the bridge.

REGISTRATION None required

DIFFICULTY Easy

LEADER Paul Spreitzer, paul.spreitzer@gmail.com

Come One, Come All, to Warbler Weekend '17

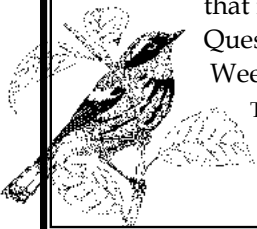
Mother's Day Weekend,
May 12-14TH

Have you registered yet? Would you like to take your meals with other birders on Saturday? Registration and meal reservations close April 20.

Plans for humans are finalized. Weather is looking to be ahead of season. Census of the birds on or near Lake Pepin in mid-May need all our eyes and ears. Such an early spring (again)! We will have first hand feel for how the migration is proceeding this unique year (again). We need and want your eyes, ears, and thoughts, especially on **Saturday, May 13TH**. Check out the program in the evening of May 12TH. If you will stay to bird Sunday morning, so much the better!

Go to our website for details and to register: www.saintpaulaudubon.org, > Events > Warbler Weekend. Or, use the registration form on p. 4 of the January-February *Cardinal* to register by mail. If you didn't receive a copy in the mail, use the website to find

that issue, and many other back issues. Questions? Send an email to Warbler Weekend coordinator Tess Rizardi at TESSMONI.RIZZO@GMAIL.COM, or leave a message for Chase Davies at 651-633-1663.



Shown above: American Redstart, Bay-breasted, and Magnolia Warblers

Tuesday Mornings in May

All Tuesday Walks are from 7:00 to 9:00 AM unless noted. No registration required. Meet at the sites. Bring water. Contact Leaders only if you need additional info.

May 2: Crosby Farm Regional Park

Early warblers and other passerine migrants. Southwest of downtown St. Paul on Shepard Rd. Meet in the parking lot. Bring water.

DIFFICULTY Easy

LEADERS Linda Whyte, 651-690-4838 and Chase Davies, 651-633-1663

May 9: Silverwood Regional Park

Passerine migrants, wetlands. 2500 Cty Rd E, just west of Silver Lake Rd. DRIVING DIRECTIONS From 35W, take Cty Rd D/37TH Ave. west, turn north (rt) onto Silver Lake, or, from I-694, take Silver Lake exit, go south. Finally, go west on Cty Rd E for ~1,000 ft, entrance on left. Meet at the LARGE main parking lot. Paved trails. Restrooms available. Bring a field guide and water.

DIFFICULTY Easy

LEADERS Reenie Lundgren, 612-965-1232 and Chase Davies, 651-633-1663

May 16: Rachel Lilly Preserve

Passerine migrants, wetlands. 680 MN Hwy 110, Mendota Heights. rior Lake. Many habitats so many possible sightings are in this little known jewel. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS Enter from Hwy 110 - bear left to park by the barn or right to park in the church parking lot. Meet by the red barn. Bring a field guide and water.

DIFFICULTY Easy. Distance up to 2 miles.

LEADERS Linda Whyte, 651-690-4838 and Chase Davies, 651-633-1663, or ccdavies@aol.com

May 23: Snail Lake Regional Park

This is the fourth and last Tuesday walk in 2017.

Wetlands and woodlands with lots of edges make this a good birding site. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS Enter from Snail Lake Blvd at lake level, go straight ahead to park and meet. Bring a field guide and water.

LEADERS Louise Eidsmoe, 651-231-0453 and Joan Osgood, 651-470-3615

*A note to the Tuesday Mornings in May Walkers:
Please consider writing about your experience and*

Spring & Summer Field Trips & Other Events

Maplewood Nature Center

Saturday, May 20, 8:00–10:00 AM

Wooded land and water deep within the metro area are prized by migrants and residents alike. This is an opportunity to walk the trails, see the sights, and hear the sounds of Washington County's Maplewood Nature Center, a compact yet continually productive (birdy!) open space magnet within the city. **DIRECTIONS** 2659 E. 7th Street. On Century Avenue, look for the Nature Center sign, turn west onto East 7TH Street.

REGISTRATION None required

DIFFICULTY Easy

LEADERS Ellen Lowery, at ellen.lowery@gmail.com and Chase Davies, 651-633-1663



Woodland Birds, Lebanon Hills Regional Park

Saturday, May 20, 7:30–11:00 AM (7-12 if carpooling)

Lebanon Hills Regional Park in Eagan is a terrific place for migrant and resident songbirds! Join friendly birders seeking the sounds and colors of springtime in a section of this beautiful 2,000-acre regional park. We will walk maintained woodland, meadow, and lakeside trails. Recent sightings in this area include Canada and Mourning Warblers, Scarlet Tanager, and Wood Thrush.



DIRECTIONS To Carpool, meet at SW corner of St. Paul Sears parking lot on Marion Street at 7:00 AM. To meet at the park, be at the Holland Lake entrance of the Park at 7:30. From St. Paul, take 35E south. Exit at Cliff Rd/Cty Rd 32, go east approx.

two miles. The park entrance is on the north boundary, just west of Holland Lake.

REGISTRATION None required

DIFFICULTY Strenuous: for distance and hilly terrain

LEADER Paul Spreitzer, at paul.spreitzer@gmail.com.



Get your nets ready...
The Butterflies are coming...
Save July 8TH for NABA

Birding at Sunfish Lake Park, Lake Elmo

Saturday, June 10, 7:00–10:00 AM

Sunfish Lake Park is a large, hilly, mature woodland with some wetland openings. Migrating and nesting species overlap at this time of year, so we may have an interesting list with a mix of migrating and nesting species. Of course sightings cannot be guaranteed, but species found in large woodlands have resided here in recent years. Natural clearings that have ponds are favorable for a nice variety of waterbirds. Human-made clearings provide plenty of edge habitats favorable to even more species.

DIRECTIONS Drive on I-694 to Exit 55 for Hwy 5 (just south of MN 36), go east, then bear left onto Stillwater Lane. After ~100 yards, turn left (north) at the Sunfish Lake Park entrance sign. Meet in the parking lot.

REGISTRATION None required

DIFFICULTY Moderate, well-defined walking paths

LEADERS Linda Kellar, 651-275-0461, and Chase Davies, 651-633-1663.



Look for more Field Trip opportunities in the June-July issue of The Cardinal

Landscape Revival Native Plant Expo & Market

Saturday, June 3RD, 9:00–3:00

Cub Foods' outdoor pavilion at 1201 Larpenteur Avenue, Roseville

This wonderfully diverse combination of information and sale day offers gardeners one convenient location to shop for Minnesota native plants from 12 local growers, and, to learn how to use the plants from metro area conservation organizations.

The goal of the *Landscape Revival Expo* is to promote the use of native plants by educating about their benefits for wildlife habitat, pollinators, and water quality.

This event is sponsored by: The Saint Paul Audubon Society, the Capitol Region Watershed District, Wild Ones, Blue Thumb, and the Ramsey/Washington Metro Watershed District.



Minnesota DNR's Eagle Cam

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/features/webcams/eaglecam/index.html>. On the right side of the page, find a link to the Eagle Cam under "DNR Videos."

Nongame Wildlife Program

Donating to Nongame Wildlife
State Wildlife Grants
MN Frog & Toad Calling Survey
Watchable Wildlife
Projects
Project Wild
Natural Heritage and Nongame
Research Program
Bird feeding tips
Butterfly gardens
Critical habitat plates
Research reports
Web Cams

And, BTW, while you're there, check out the DNR's newly-redesigned website.

Like the Mississippi, the DNR website is deep and wide.

Popular Links include:

Licenses, Fishing, Hunting & Trapping, Jobs (including how to become a Conservation Officer), State Parks, Maps for just about everything, LakeFinder – with depths for fishermen, Events

by the Season, Invasive Species ID and eradication info, Legacy Projects, Publications, Public Input, Grants, Nurturing Nature, and Volunteerism. The site includes *everything* to do with nature in Minnesota.

Did you know? The *Minnesota Volunteer* is the only state magazine fully paid for by the citizens of their state? So, if you're not receiving your copy, sign up now, and give an annual donation, whatever you can afford. You, and your children will enjoy it, and continue the tradition.



Advocacy

Speaking of volunteerism, working for nature's health and well-being, and adding to the great article on working with our MN legislators on p. 5 of the January February *Cardinal*, here is information provided by a Washington, D.C. legislative staffer, on how and when to contact your elected officials.

The number 1 way? Face time: Do what you can to meet in person – go to their offices in MN (and Washington DC if you visit), go to their Town Hall Meetings, their mobile offices... Learn about your most important issues, then ask questions. Push for answers.

The number 2 way? Call them. Often. As many as 6 calls a day is great (2 to each office, in MN and in W, DC). Be SURE to give the staffer your zip code. Mention a *single topic* on each call. Why? Because calls are what they pay attention to. Every day they get a report of the three most-called-about topics and how many people said what about those topics.

Environmental topics are *way* out-numbered, so let's get busy and visit or call!

"BOOK" REVIEW

Princeton Warbler Guide App

By Tom Stephenson and Scott Whittle
© 2016, \$12.99, requires iOS 7.0 or later or Android 4.1 or later, ☆☆☆☆☆



"OMG, U HAVE to get this Gde!!!"

Ok, in my own words, "No, really, you have to get this new *Warbler Guide App*." It's a 10 out of 5; superlative; it's got that real WOW factor that you used to get when you were a kid at gift-opening times... Let me explain:

First Star, it is the digital version of the most innovative birding guide to hit the market in many years – like since the first *Peterson East*. You may already have a copy of "*The Warbler Guide*;" it's the one with the *Quick-Finders*, the flight ID pages, and illustrations of the undertail coverts, 45°, side, and face for all the US warblers..

Second Star, the authors decided to merge vocals and visuals, so, if you're not sure about your ID when flicking through the 1st screen, you may open the 'Filter Tray.' Here you click on the various parts of a bird to describe what you are seeing, while also listening to the song. This section also provides images and vocals for all of the possible comparable species. Based on your selections, it narrows your choices down.

Third Star, by accessing the **Overview, Songs, Photos, Age/Sexing, and Maps** sections of each species entry, you can read the info about the bird *while listening* to the song at full or ½ speed. This section also shows a sonogram to 'visualize' the vocals! Songs provided: chips, flight, most common, and those 'dawn' songs that birds use to like, mess, you up.

Fourth Star, the Hi-res, 3D models. With your finger, you can swipe to look at the bird from any angle. This is a very important and significant innovation! It's a WOW!

Fifth Star, the number of photos of all ages and sexes of the birds far exceeds what can be afforded to print in a bird guide. The images from the *QuickGuides* are also seen in this app; they provide the 'first look' when you open the guide. To understand more about what you are seeing in the photos, you decipher researchers and bird-banders' notes, for instance, 'UnTC' refers to 'UnderTail Coverts,' and in the Yellow Warbler's Aging and Sexing section: [ADM/1YM SP (AESTIVA)] refers to the photo as being an Adult Male/1 year old, aestiva subspecies.

It takes a *while* to download (be on WIFI to do it), but the reasons why will certainly be apparent when you open it for the first time!! The fix for version 1.1 makes sure that the images don't go into your device's 'Gallery' section. Works equally well on tablets.

Reviewed by Holly Peirson,
SPAS member and former newsletter editor

SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY

PO Box 7275, St Paul, MN 55107-7275

WWW.SAINTPAULAUDUBON.ORG

April May 2017

Next Deadline 5/5/2017

Welcome...

To the Saint Paul Audubon Society.

We're a chapter of the
National Audubon Society.

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

*Please Check our Website
for Calendar Updates!*

CALENDAR

April

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Member Meeting: National Parks.....13
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May

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Warbler Weekend 12-14
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Non-profit Organization
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PAID
Permit # 3795
Twin Cities, Minnesota

FIELD TRIP: Maplewood Nature Cntr 20
FIELD TRIP: Lebanon Hills Reg Park ... 20
TUES AM Birding: Snail Lk Reg Park 23

June

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Board Meeting/Potluck5
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Look for more summer events in June/July Cardinal

Conservation Committee Update

The Conservation Committee seeks volunteers for two priority areas of work for the upcoming summer season. The committee is in the process of developing a *Ramsey County Guide to Birding Web Mapping Application* for the website as well as mobile devices. We are seeking volunteers to help provide descriptions of birding locations and bird species in Ramsey County and the Greater East Metro. In short, we need your bird knowledge! The goal of the web mapping application is to provide visitors and beginner birders with the knowledge to bird Ramsey County and the East Metro Area. We aren't looking to post any secret locations or known sites of specific birds, just to give folks a general idea of the great birding opportunities in our area.

The Conservation Committee is also hard at work planning habitat restoration projects in partnership with the City of Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Department. Please join us at a meeting if you are interested in participating or planning one or more of these events.

We typically meet on 3RD Monday's of the month at the Roseville Public Library's Board Room, 4:30-6:00 PM. Our April meeting will be on **Monday, April 17TH.**

Contact Co-chairs Matt Jacobson at matthew.jacobson28@gmail.com or Nancy Uppgren at nancy.uppgren@icloud.com or 651-247-1718 if you are interested in getting involved with bird and nature conservation in the East Metro Area!

Coming in June/July Issue of *The Cardinal*:

- ◆ Summer Field Trips
- ◆ Butterfly Census at AHATS (July 8)
- ◆ More Book Reviews...!



Look for the **LOON on Minnesota Tax Forms** (...add to the % of Minnesotans who donate to the Non-Game Wildlife Program!)