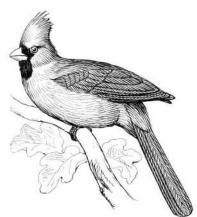
JUNE JULY 2019 WWW.SAINTPAULAUDUBON.ORG • SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY

The Cardinal is Moving to Electronic Distribution

At the end of 2019 The Cardinal newsletter will go to an email distribution. To continue receiving The Cardinal please go to the SPAS website and enter your email address in the green box just above the great bird images.

Members of the Saint Paul Audubon Society are spread all over the east metro and engage in many different activities. What brings them together is their affection and appreciation of birds. What helps keep them together is regular communications such as The Cardinal and our monthly meetings. The Cardinal has been the go-to source for relevant, trustworthy content about Saint Paul Audubon Society and its meetings, field trips, and bird issues in the



east metro for many years. When it began, The Cardinal was probably type set by hand and printed on a hand operated printing press. The technology of its distribution has changed many times as typesetting, printers ink and printing presses are long gone. The Cardinal is now "printed" by some version of a copy machine. However, a huge amount of hand labor still exists in placing labels on each copy and mailing them to our members.

The Cardinal is going to continue in its important mission but its distribution is going to change again to take advantage of newer technology. These changes will be observable to members but the benefits will be more observable as well. Modern electronic methods of distribution can better achieve our goal of communicating with and uniting our membership.

Story continues on page 3

Butterfly Count takes place Saturday, July 13, 2019

Our annual Butterfly Count will take place the first weekend after July 4. We hope you'll join us on Saturday, July 13 for this great citizen science project.

The census will again take place at the Arden Hills Army Training Site (AHATS) from 9:45 a.m.- 2 p.m. Dean Hansen, our amazing and entertaining butterfly expert, will

again be our expert leader. Because of land-use controls, no one under age 18 may participate. A

map and information packet will be mailed to registered participants the week before the count. Registrants will be contacted if weather causes a last minute change of date.

Story continues on page 5

BOARD MEETINGS

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

Upcoming: Monday, June 3

Join the SPAS Board!

There is currently an opening on the St. Paul Audubon Society Board of Directors, and we need your help. SPAS is run entirely by volunteers who work on our focus areas of education, conservation, policy/ advocacy, and chapter structure.

The Board meets the first Monday of the month, 10 months of the year, from 6-8 p.m. in Little Canada. Board members are expected to attend the majority of meetings, and to do a small amount of work between meetings. We are especially looking for a member with expertise in communications and/or finance, but anyone willing to bring new ideas and to help guide the organization is most welcome.

If you are interested in serving birds, habitat, and our members, please contact President Donn Waage at 612-735-4085 or Vice President Jane Braun at 651-636-4009.

SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY		
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Donn Waage		
Vice President	651-636-4009	
Jane Braun		
Treasurer	651-231 -0453	
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Secretary	651-633-1663	
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Nancy Uppgren		
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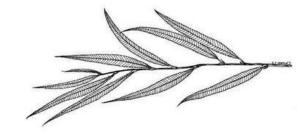
ABOUT OUR CHAPTER

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

A B O U T THE CARDINAL Published 6 times a year; articles are due on the 5TH of January, March, May, July, Sept, and Nov. Submissions may be edited. Send to cardinalstpaul@gmail.com.

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.



Landscape Revival Native Plant Expo & Market

Landscape Revival is a Native Plant Expo and Market that is much more than a plant sale. It provides two big opportunities:

Expo: Learn how to select and grow native plants from local conservation and

restoration groups. By planting the "right stuff," one can create a safe environment for various birds,

Landscape Revival

bees, and butterflies.

Market: Purchase Minnesota native plants and accessories from a variety of local growers. NO cultivars or systemic insecticides. (Cash or

June 1: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Shepherd of the Hills North Parking Lot 3920 Victoria St. N. Shoreview

June 8: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Oakdale City Hall Parking Lot 1584 Hadley Ave. N. Oakdale (food truck)

check preferred)

For a list of exhibitors and growers at each location go to: www.tiny.cc/SHOREVIEW or www.tiny.cc/
OAKDALE

Hope to see everyone at one of these locations, if not both! -Colleen Swedberg, SPAS Board Member

Free and open to all; rain or shine

Cardinal will move to electronic distribution

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By year end 2019 The Cardinal will be distributed by email and also available on our website, as it has been for some time. The reasons for this change are below:

Expense of printing and mailing. High cost is the most obvious reason for changing to email distribution. It costs more than \$12,000 a year to print and mail The Cardinal. Email distribution will cost much, much less so that thousands of dollars can be put to better use for birds.

Labor involved in mailing. It takes a great deal of hand labor to print, place labels on, sort, and mail the Cardinal. It is getting more difficult to find people who are willing to do this this work.

Timeliness. Laying out The Cardinal, printing it, pasting labels and mailing takes more than a month. In our fast-paced world not many things take that long. Lack of timeliness shows itself in several ways:

Emergency Notifications. The March member meeting had to be cancelled due to a pipe break and the April meeting postponed due to bad weather. We want to notify people of these changes but have no organized method to do so. Creating an email distribution list for The Cardinal will allow us to communicate with members in emergencies.

Schedule changes. When the April meeting was cancelled, we were able to reschedule our speaker for later in the month. We currently can actively contact only a small percentage of the membership to tell them about changes. An email list will allow us to keep members abreast of changes in schedules.

Advocacy. In our planning questionnaire the membership told us they would like SPAS to be active advocates for birds. To be effective in advocacy we need the ability to communicate quickly to our membership as events unfold. Again having an email distribution list will allow us to accomplish this goal.

Take Advantage of Events. We were recently notified by Minnesota Audubon that Minnesota United (also known as the Loons) soccer team wanted to celebrate migratory birds with an event. We were unable to notify our members who might have wanted to attend.

These are the reasons that have led the Board to change to electronic delivery of The Cardinal. To be effective we will need to collect email addresses from all the members. We don't want to lose anyone in the change. The most efficient way to do this will be to have everyone go to our website www.saintpaulaudubon.org/subscribe-spas/ and enter their email address. We appreciate your assistance to continue to receive the Cardinal and to enhance the communications with the membership.

-Donn Waage, President

Everyone's a bluebird fan

By Val Cunningham

Here are a few things I know about bluebirds: They return to our area as early as April each year, they make excellent parents and they feast on insects during spring and summer. Oh, yes, and then there's that extraordinary color, that blue beyond blue, so intense that someone seeing a bluebird for the first time invariably gasps in awe.

As recently as 30 years ago I wouldn't have written a column about these small thrushes because there was so little chance of seeing one. Sightings of bluebirds had become worrisomely rare by the 1970s but concerted action by a whole host of agencies and individuals have made them a more common sight these days (some local bluebird heroes to give thanks to: Doreen Scriven, Dick Peterson, Dave Ahlgren, Carrol Henderson).

These days, if you're near the kind of habitat they prefer — meadows and open areas with fairly short grass — you can almost count on seeing bluebirds. As a matter of fact, their preferred habitat often lies on a golf course, especially if the staff has spaced nest boxes out among the fairways. Why the preference for mowed grass? These birds are insectivores, spending much of the



day perched on a utility wire or fence post, watching for juicy beetles and other ground-dwelling insects. Mowed grass makes it easier to spot a meal.

2018-2019 Annual Fund Drive Donors

The 2018-2019 SPAS Fund Drive was more successful than anticipated this year. With the tax law changes

fewer people were expected to itemize deductions and consequently fewer charitable contributions were expected. Instead it was a banner year for the Fund Drive. Thank you!

-Dean Doering Fund Drive Chair



Egret: Donna Anderson, Elwood Anderson (In memory of Judy Anderson), Kathy Anderson (In honor of Milton Anderson, who feeds the birds!), Anonymous (3), David Blaney, Katherine Brown, Nancy Browne, Monica Bryand, Dagmar Christensen, Madeline Colberg, Ken Cramer (In honor of Inge Cramer), Barbara Dacy, Liz Danielson, Marjorie Davis, Joan Decker (In memory of my mom - Louise), Keith Doty, Bruce Fisher, Leah Gannon, Barbara Gee (In memory of Ethel Williams), Melody Gellerman, Joe Gherity, Clara L. Gray, Janet Green, Ronald & Marie Grimm, Mary Jane Haemig, Donna & Glen Hambleton, Terry Hamm, C. W. Herman, Barbara Jobst, George C. Kirk, Beverly Kramer, Susan Lamoureux, W. E. Landis (In memory of Diane Landis), Don E. Lee, Patricia Libra (In memory of my beloved cat, Willie), Patricia Lockyear, Anne Lowe (In honor of my mom, Marcia Lowe), Ellen Lowery, Julie Maas, Virginia Mackay (In memory of Neil Mackay), Tony & Alice Maistrovich, Joyce Markham (In memory of Johnny Markham), Howard Markus, Sheila Maybanks & Jerry Doherty, Marilyn Melson, Rita Messing, Judith Monson (In memory of Tibetans on Nebraska), Maxine Mootz, Manley Olson, Doris Petrie, Ronald & Charleen Prill, Glenn Puncochar, Sally Reynolds (In honor of Janet Zander & Mark Ellenberger), Burt Riskedahl, Deb Robinson, Tom Scanlan, Ralph Schwartz, Barbara S. Sellers, Marge & Ed Senninger, Carrolyn Shepherd, Kathy Sidles & Paul Gade, Lydwine T. Sisson (In memory and in honor of John & Bernice Sisson and their love of the environment), Sandra Skaar, Duane R. Smith, William L. Sulzbach, Lois L. Swanson (In memory of Roy Swanson), R. [Ronald] Tabaika, Winifred Tillmann, Mary Kay Ulness, Eric Vehe, Kathryn Vilendrer, Bruce Weeks, Mike & Janice Weum, John Wicklund

Bluebird: Bonnie J. Anderson, Anonymous (3), Louis Asher, Lynn Belgea, Ann Bucheck, Lockwood & Darlene Carlson, Jane Cheney & David Arbeit, Chisago Lakes Girls swim and dive (In memory of W. Wayne Wakefield), Mark Citsay, Brett & Janice Culver, Mariann Cyr, Marcia Dahlquist, Ron & Jackie Dexter, Jane Dickerson, Martha Douglas, Walter Ebertz, Janet Folsom, Roger Forman, Susan Fuller, Judith Gavin, Faith Graefe, Ken Harris (In memory of Dr. Jack Boylan), Lynn & Dick Hartshorn, Gerald Hendrickson, Leigh Homstad, Sreve Johnson, Alfred & Sharon Kauth, Joseph & Julie Koegel, Ron Kroese, Jan Leite, Linda Lingen, Kathy Manderscheid, Tim Metcalf, Suzanne Meyer, Carol Mizuno, Jenny Mockenhaupt, John & Yvette Oldendorf, Martha Osterberg, Bruce C. Perkins, Phillip Peterson, Leanne Phinney, David Piskorski, Kelly Povo, Cathy Croghan & Kathy Robbins, Gail Roberts, Karen E. Rose, George Sarner, Robert J. Sherman, Robert Sirr, Colleen Swedberg, Jeanne M. Tanamachi, Robert Tautges, Mary Volk, Donn Waage, Don & Leny Wendel, Jane Wicklund, Mary Williams, William Zelm, Ben Zimmerman

Cardinal: Linda Amrein, Roger & Margie Anderson, Craig Andresen, Rochelle Arens, Janet M. Baker, Caroline Beckman, Charlotte Brooker, Ralph Butkowski (In memory of Mary Jo Blommel), Stewart Corn, Val Cunningham (In memory of Rog Bergerson), Jacalyn Eastman, Karen Eckman, Sally Ehlers, Patrick Gerkey, Mary Glaeser, Florence Gleason, Dr. Jo-Ida C. Hansen, Nancy Hasse, Mary Henry (In memory of William Henry), Norma Herther & Kevin Loney (In memory of Gladys & Norman Herther), Sally Heuer (In memory of the poet Mary Oliver), Donald Janes, Charles & Hope Lea, Eric Lind, James Lindner, Barbara Lindstrom, Debra L. Magnuson, Sue & Tom McCarthy, Michael Nation, Richard Newmark, Judith Olsen, Linda Otteson, James Pearson, Carol Perkins, Molly Redmond & Steve Ring (In memory of Noel J. Cutright), Susan & Jeffrey Saffle, Robert Schmitt, Lee & Jerry Shannon, Roger & Phyllis Sherman, Marschall & Debra Smith, John Stoklosa & Nancy Cole, Jim & Ann Stout (In memory of Christopher Stout), Jim Thommes, Paul Tuckner, Shannon Whitaker, Beverly & David Wickstrom, Paul & Jean Wulterkens, Ann Wynia, John Zakelj

Butterfly Count

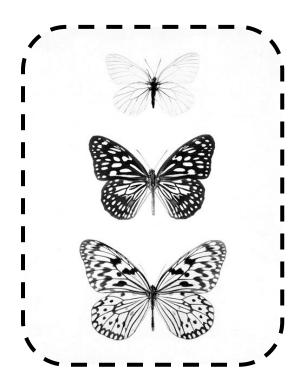
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What to Bring and Wear: Be sure to bring plenty of cool drinks, snacks, and a bag lunch. A wide-brimmed hat, lightweight long pants, and a long-sleeved shirt (for protection from deer ticks, sun, and sharp grasses), sunscreen, high socks, old sneakers or rubber boots for bog-tromping, and insect repellent are recommended. You'll want to bring binoculars, a camera, a butterfly field guide, and a butterfly net. There is quite an interesting bird list for AHATS, so you may also wish to bring a bird field guide. We'll have some extra butterfly nets and butterfly identification sheets

Registration: Contact **Dorothy Waltz** at **651-917-0930** or **waltz.ds@yahoo.com** for more information or to register, no later than Sunday, July 7. Saint Paul Audubon pays the NABA Census fees, so this count is free to all.

Directions: Come prepared to carpool with others. Registered participants will meet in the parking lot at the AHATS Arden Hills Readiness Center, 4761 Hamline Avenue N. (just north of Highway 96).

Drive through the AHATS gate to the Readiness Center, the first building on the left after you enter the training site. Restrooms are available in the Readiness Center. We will **carpool** to the various sites.





Useful Information to Help You Prepare:

- www.naba.org The official website of the North American Butterfly Association. Find everything to do with these beloved insects: Membership options, magazine PDFs, gardening information, checklists, regional information, beautiful photos. A great source of information about butterflies.
- www.wisconsinbutterflies.org An excellent site, up-to-date data of sightings all across Wisconsin, but centered mainly in the SW part of the state. GREAT photos and information about life cycles, etc.
- ecobirder.blogspot.com A blog mainly about nature photography. There are several great photos of butterflies!
- butterfliesandmoths.org Another nationwide source for recent distribution data is the original United States Geological Society (USGS) site, now maintained in Montana.

Recommended Butterfly Field Guides:

Butterflies through Binoculars: The East, A Field Guide to the Butterflies of Eastern North America by Jeffrey Glassberg. Used copies are frequently found at used bookstores or websites.

Butterflies of North America (Kaufman Focus Guides) Hardcover or Paperback - October 17, 2002 by James P. Brock (Author), Kenn Kaufman (Author and photographer)

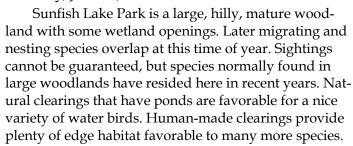
For other books, go to your local library!! Or, type 'butterfly' into your browser. The list seems endless, whether you wish to focus on field guides, data-gathering, children's books, caterpillar ID, life cycles, gardening and plant lists, or read both fiction and non-fiction stories about enthusiasts and researchers.

FIELD TRIPS

Birding at Sunfish Lake Park, Lake Elmo

10000 Stillwater Lane North, Lake Elmo 55402

Saturday, June 15, 7-10 a.m.



DIRECTIONS Drive on I-694 to Exit 55 (just south of MN 36), for Hwy 14/34th St N, go east 1.8mi, then bear left onto Stillwater Lane. After 100 yards, turn left (north) at the Sunfish Lake Park entrance sign. Meet in the parking lot.

INFORMATION Bring water, binoculars, insect repellent, and a field guide.

REGISTRATION None required

DIFFICULTY Moderate, well-defined walking paths with some hills.

LEADERS Linda Kellar 651-275-0461 <u>aandlkellar@comcast.net</u> and Chase Davies 651-633-1663 <u>RockyBirder@gmail.com</u>

Birds and Trees, Langton Lake Park

1894 County Rd. C2 W, Roseville, MN 55113 Saturday, July 20, 7:30-9 a.m.

Join us for a stroll at Langton Lake Park to observe and identify birds and trees, and consider their interactions.

DIRECTIONS Meet at the parking lot on County Road C2 at the **west** side of the lake.

INFORMATION Bring binoculars, bird guide, tree guide and 10-power magnifier if you have them.

REGISTRATION None required

DIFFICULTY Easy

LEADERS Kathy Robbins <u>Krobbins@umn.edu</u> and Cathy Croghan 651-636-6475 <u>crogh001@umn.edu</u>

Would you like more field trips? Please consider selecting a familiar birding place and volunteering to lead there. Contact Cathy Croghan for details at crogh001@un.edu



All Tuesday Walks are from 7 to 9 A.M. unless noted. All easy unless noted. No registration needed. Meet at the sites. Bring water, insect repellant and field guide. Contact Leaders only if you need additional information.

June 4: Rachel Lilly Preserve, a part of Dodge Nature Center, 680 MN-110, Mendota Heights, MN 55118

Don't miss this gem! Many possible sightings await you at this little-known preserve. Distance up to 2 miles.

DIRECTIONS 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.

LEADER Linda Whyte 651-690-4838

June 11: Battle Creek Park, 2350 Upper Afton Rd, Maplewood, MN 55119

Terrific late spring birding opportunity.

INSTRUCTIONS Meet at the parking lot next to the off-leash dog park.

DIRECTIONS From McKnight Rd turn east onto Upper Afton Rd., drive 0.2 mi, turn right, destination will be on the right

LEADER Monica Bryand <u>mjbryand@gmail.com</u> 651-246-5522

Prairie Tuesdays (PT) Summer Walk Series

Three prairie Tuesday evening walks to highlight numerous bird-native plant effects.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS All are easy walks. Bring your 10-power magnifier or borrow one from Chase, consider a camera and bug repellent. Wear closed-toe shoes with socks above the ankle. No registration required. All trips led by Chase Davies 651-633-1663 RockyBirder@gmail.com

(PT #1) Long Lake Prairie

Tuesday, June 18, 6:30-8 p.m.

LOCATION 1500 Old Highway 8, New Brighton

TOPIC Prairie Walk 101 - How do native plants improve the bird-life web?

DIRECTIONS Park entrance is on Old Highway 8 in New Brighton. Enter the park and drive to the second parking lot which is on the RIGHT side of the road. I-35W to MN Hwy 96, one exit north of I-694, go west on MN 96 to the T at Old Highway 8. Turn south on Old Highway 8, go about ½ mile to the entrance on the right (west) side of the road.

(PT #2) Valley View Park, Oak Park Heights Tuesday, August 13, 6:30-8:00 PM

LOCATION 5575 Ozark Ave N, Oak Park

Heights, MN 55082

TOPIC Late summer blooming prairie - How has abundance and diversity of native plants impacted the local bird-life web?

DIRECTIONS www.saintpaulaudubon.org/ events will have detailed directions

(PT #3) Fish Creek Prairie at Sundown Tuesday, September 10, 6:30-8:00 PM

LOCATION Fish Creek Natural Area, 2465-2475 Carver Ave, Maplewood, MN 55119

TOPIC Autumnal falling temperatures with shortening days bring preparations for big changes to the local bird-life web.

DIRECTIONS From I-94 and Century Avenue, go south about 3.5 miles to the end of Century where it turns west becoming Carver Avenue. Go west and immediately past I-494 turn south (right) onto Henry Lane. Travel about 1/2 mile to the Fish Creek Natural Area; turn around and park on the street as directed.

Be sure to check **www.saintpaulaudubon.org** for field trip changes throughout the season

Bluebirds —continued from page 3

Not feeder birds

With their focus on insects, bluebirds aren't drawn to seeds in our bird feeders. The best way to entice them to stop in for a meal is to offer mealworms or grubs. Some people report success with the dried kind, but the birds seem to prefer live mealworms. Keeping insects handy can get expensive and messy, so many of us forego bluebirds at our feeders and vow to admire them from a distance.

Food habits aside, bluebirds have fairly exacting standards for housing, too. The placement of thousands of well-constructed nest boxes around the state has been a key factor in increasing this bird's population. They use nest boxes because these approximate their traditional housing inside a cavity, formed by a woodpecker or by a branch breaking off. Since tree holes are always in short supply, nest boxes have proved to be an excellent substitute.

(In fact, I'd identified bluebirds so closely with man-made boxes that a bluebird startled me, a few years ago during a casual walk through Wood Lake Nature Center in Richfield. A blue flash landed on an oak branch, and then disappeared into a hole in the trunk. This most natural bluebird behavior seemed almost unnatural, after all the focus on restoring the population through the placement of nest boxes.)

Hard-working parents

A pair of bluebirds can raise two, even three broods a summer and they're some of the hardest working birds around, bringing in food and carrying out fecal sacs from dawn to dusk. As humans who monitor those next boxes (and some golfers) can attest, they're fierce defenders of their nestlings, and will dive-bomb anyone who approaches too closely.

They are migratory, but they don't travel far, with most ending up in the South or Mexico for the winter. Since they're short distance travelers, they arrive back in Minnesota before many other migratory birds. And some don't leave at all: A number of readers were astonished to see bluebirds in shrubs or at heated birdbaths this winter. As long as they can find food — mostly fruit in the winter — and water, they can survive. They're known to huddle up with others of their kind in nest boxes or tree cavities on very cold nights.

Their bigger, brassier cousin, the American robin, gets all the notice for his robust spring song, but bluebirds are fine singers, too. Their song is so soft you can easily miss it, but when your brain catches up with your ears you realize that soft warble, almost a chortle, has to mean a bluebird is nearby.

Migrant bluebirds begin to return in March, but most of them flood in during April. Keep your eyes peeled, because any day that includes a sighting of a bluebird is a good day. Their stunning, unexpected beauty has a way of cheering even the lowest of spirits.



SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY

PO Box 7275, St Paul, MN 55107-7275
W W W . S A I N T P A U L A U D U B O N . O R G

Next issue: Aug./Sept. 2019

Deadline 7/5/2019

Welcome...

To the Saint Paul Audubon Society.

We're a chapter of the
National Audubon Society.

Our mission is to promote the enjoyment, understanding, and protection of birds and other wildlife by engaging people of the East Metro in birding, education, and conservation.

Please check our website at www.saintpaulaudubon.org for calendar updates!

CALENDAR

June

Landscape Revival (Shoreview)	1
Board Meeting	
Rachel C. Lilly Preserve	4
Landscape Revival (Oakdale)	8
Battle Creek Park	1:
Sunfish Lake Park	1
PT #1 Long Lake Prairie	18
July	
Langton Lake Park	20

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