

View from

Listening Point

Newsletter of the Listening Point Foundation, Inc.

Volume XVIII, Number 1 Summer 2016 www.listeningpointfoundation.org

Sigurd F. Olson and the National Parks

By Kevin Proescholdt

This year, 2016, marks the centennial of the establishment of the National Park Service. Though national parks had existed since Yellowstone in 1872, it was not until 1916 that Congress passed the law creating the National Park Service. Sigurd Olson played important roles both in the national parks and the agency created to care for and manage the parks.

At first glance, Sig's involvement with the National Park Service might seem odd. Throughout the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s, he had dealt much more with the U.S. Forest Service in the U.S. Department of Agriculture, since the Forest Service managed Superior National Forest in northeastern Minnesota that held the U.S. portions of the international Quetico-Superior region that he worked to protect.

But that began to change after Sig's successful work in the late 1940s to convince Congress to pass the Thyse-Blatnik Act in 1948 and President Truman to create an unprecedented airspace reservation over what would later be re-named as the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. Sig's successes brought him to the attention of the national conservation community in Washington, DC.

The National Parks Association quickly recruited Sig to join its board of directors, beginning in 1950. He became vice president the following year, and in 1953 Sig was elevated to the position as president of the National Parks Association. In these capacities Sig was exposed to many issues affecting the national parks and national monuments. He also worked personally with National Park Service staff, including Conrad "Connie" Wirth, who became Director of the National Park Service in December 1951.

His involvement with national park issues grew, including the famous 1954 hike along the C&O Canal to save it from reconstruction as a highway, the proposal to dam and flood Dinosaur National Monument along the border of Utah and Colorado in the mid-1950s, hiking in Olympic National Park in Washington state

Continued on page 7



Tourists at Yellowstone National Park, ca. 1916.

The Challenge of Our National Parks

by Sigurd F. Olson

Sig's following article appeared in National Parks Magazine in 1954, during his tenure as president of the National Parks Association. His article provides an overview of the threats and challenges to the National Parks at that time. The challenges about which he wrote more than 60 years ago are strikingly similar to today's challenges as well.

America is proud of her national parks. The glories of these beautiful areas are recorded in uncounted millions of photographs. Scenes of their brilliant canyons, plunging waterfalls, and snow-capped peaks adorn public buildings, offices, and homes all over the land. They lend dignity to the pages of books and magazines. Every state where a park or monument is located emblazons it in promotional literature.

Americans cherish and enjoy these last remnants of our continent's primeval grandeur. As proof, over a quarter of our population, 46,000,000 people, saw them in 1953. The majority believe that these areas belonging to them are safe forever, that their children and their children's children will always have them to enjoy.

They do not know that the National Park Service is fighting to hold the line in the face of reduced personnel and appropriations; that facilities are breaking down; that on account of unprecedented public use, it is no longer possible to give these superlative areas the protection they deserve.

They do not know that demands are constantly being made by a misinformed portion of the public for uses in the national parks and monuments that were never intended, uses that are in direct conflict with the ideal of leaving them unimpaired for

Continued on page 6

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Henry's Pelican: A Sense of Wonder

We spent time on the Florida beach together, grandson Henry and I. Only one and a half years old, he was bright as a penny, and already a good conversationalist in short, broken sentences. We had a good discussion about the wonderful things we saw and discovered—gulls and terns banking in the breeze, shorebirds racing back and forth before the waves, clouds above and bits of driftwood and seashells and pretty pebbles upon the sand. Wide-eyed Henry was clearly soaking it all in, filled with—well, whatever emotions little ones are filled with as they sit at the edge of the world, on the shore of a singing sea.

We also played “cover-Henry’s-toes-with-sand,” and when they peeked back out he insisted on multiple re-tellings of “This little piggy went to market.”

It was a fine thing to be out with Henry and all the family on a fine beach on such a fine day. It was nearly time to gather everyone up and go when I looked down the beach and saw a brown pelican gliding toward us along the shoreline. “Look, Henry, a pelican!” I whispered.

Henry looked up from his toes just in time to see the great bird—just a few yards away now—rise into the blue sky just a little higher, fold his wings, and plunge head-first into the ocean. After just a moment it rose once more into the air and flew off with a fish. Henry was transfixed. Then, with great excitement, he jumped up and recounted the scene: “Bird! Pelican! Splash! Fish! Fly away!!” The flying away part was, of course, accompanied with vigorous and enthusiastic arm-flapping. And all of this done with even wider eyes than usual and a sense of wonder that was palpable. Then Henry ran to his mother and re-told the same story. Then his father, then his sister, then his grandma. As we were leaving the beach we met other people and he told them, too. On the way back to Minnesota on the airplane he told each new acquaintance: “Pelican! Splash! Fish! Fly away!!”

Henry is a year older now, and we returned to the same beach just a few weeks ago. Henry had not forgotten the transcendent experience, but now he told it with a bit more panache: “Remember, Opa? (With our German daughter-in-law I am ‘Opa’) Remember the pelican? He SPLASHED into the water and caught a BIG FISH. And when he flew away he POOPED on my head!”

Well. Henry has become quite the story-teller, and evidently is not above a minor embellishment or two if it serves the story—though where he might have inherited this tendency I have no idea. But more importantly Henry is clearly in possession of a fine sense of wonder, something I hope he will always retain, will nurture and treasure throughout his life.

It is a delicate thing this feeling of wonder, of astonishment and appreciation at the miraculous world around us. I have tried to hold onto mine—and have found that being around an innocent and wide-eyed raconteur is a good way to do so. I am also fortunate to visit many elementary schools with my children’s books, a continuing opportunity to stay recharged and refreshed. Often I am asked, “Where do you get the ideas for your books?”

“Why, from you,” I often say. “And from my family. And especially from the natural world around us—things that grow and things that blow, things that migrate and sing and run and fly and swim and crawl and sometimes just sit there and ... well, all the things that share the earth with us. That’s mostly where my ideas come from. It’s not really very hard to find ideas.”

This answer usually seems to satisfy. Among elementary students, at least. They seem to have no trouble understanding it.

But there comes a time in many a life when the sense of wonder is no longer so accessible, is covered or buried beneath layers of want and worry and ambition and materialism. Eventually it becomes only a memory, a luxury meant just for youngsters, not for “realistic” and practical adults.

But Rachel Carson did not think so. Nor did John Muir or Henry David Thoreau, nor did the many heroes and heroines like Stephen Mather or George Dorr or Marjorie



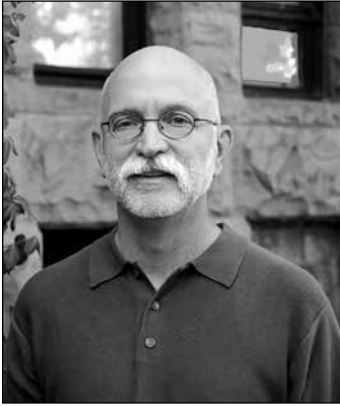
Doug Wood Illustration

Inside

New Board Member	3
This and That	3
Calendar	3
LPF Mourns	4
Protecting Burntside	5
Sig in China	7
Thank You Donors	9
Gift Shop	10
Quote from Sig	11

Continued on page 5

Mark Allsup Joins LPF Board



Mark Allsup

We welcome Mark Allsup as the newest member of the LPF board of directors. Mark is a retired landscape architect in Illinois whose career was dominated with large scale recreational landscapes for youth organizations. He has long advocated sustainable landscape designs, using native plant communities to benefit the ecological health of sites while creating teachable opportunities.

Mark has a special attachment to the Northwoods. His family has long connections in the Apostle Islands where they have spent as much time as schedules would allow. He first experienced the Boundary Waters with fellow camp counselors at the end of numerous summer camp seasons, squeezing in canoe trips before heading off to college. While a graduate student he first encountered Sig Olson's writings which became inspirational touchstones throughout Mark's career.

Beginning in 2004, Mark has made annual late fall trips to the Ely area and was finally able to fulfill a longtime dream to visit Listening Point after knowing of its existence for over 40 years. Mark has a Masters of Landscape Architecture from the University of Wisconsin–Madison, and a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the University of Illinois–Urbana. He is an emeritus member of the American Society of Landscape Architects and was an accreditation visitor for the American Camp Association for 35 years in addition to his years of professional experience working with Girl Scout councils. Recently retired, Mark now occasionally consults from his home office base in Chicago.

This and That

It has been busy winter with more than 60 visitors to the Point, including a college class from the Audubon Center of the North Woods, and four snowshoe tours during Ely's Winter Festival in February. Seems like the word is getting out about just how special the Point is no matter what time of year.

- **LPF participated in the "Earth Fest"** that took place in Mt. Iron in April. We hosted many visitors at the LPF information booth, and hope to participate again next year. Check it out on their website: www.ironrangeearthfest.com.
- **LPF presented two scholarships** this year, one to a graduating Ely Memorial High School senior, and another to a first-year student at Vermilion Community College. The competitors were asked to write an essay about wilderness, and/or Sigurd Olson. The winners were Lily Nelson from Ely High School, and Greta Saulic from VCC. Congratulations to them both.
- **Mark your calendars:** GiveMN, the statewide "Give to the Max Day," is November 15th this year. It's a great way to make your much appreciated yearly contribution online.
- **The Superior National Forest Service in Ely**, in conjunction with the Listening Point Foundation, is planning a small display in their exhibit area that features Sigurd Olson and his relationship with the National Park Service during this 100th year anniversary! The NSF is also offering several books by SFO in their gift shop. Please stop by — this is a first for them!
- **Ely is hosting the first "Great American Canoe Festival"** June 10-12. LPF will have an information booth, and will also be presenting our "The Listening Point Foundation: Two Stories" program. Please visit www.GreatAmericanCanoeFest.com for more information.
- **Our website** is undergoing much needed changes and additions — we've added videos, SFO quotes, images, and more. Check it out!
- Lastly, don't forget our **"UpKeep" special offer** of an engraved brick for the LPF House's patio. For a \$100 donation you can have up to 60 words/three lines engraved on a brick for our patio. We can even send you a photo of your engraved brick in place. Great gift idea!



Calendar

2016

July 29, 30, 31: Blueberry Arts Festival, Ely, MN LPF information booth. Stop by!

August 6: "The Song of the Wild" presentation, Sig's words and Warren Nelson's music. 7:00 at Vermilion Community College, Ely, MN

Sept 9: LPF's annual Northwoods Dinner, Grand Ely Lodge, Ely, MN

Oct 29 & 30: LPF Board Meeting & Strategic Planning Meeting, LPF House, Ely, MN

2017

April 22 (Earth Day): LPF's annual luncheon, St. Paul, MN

Please check our website and Facebook page for additional activities and dates.

LPF Mourns Loss of Ray Christensen, Robert Treuer

Listening Point Foundation recently lost two long-time friends and advisors. **Ray Christensen** and **Robert Treuer** and both passed away earlier this year. Both men had close ties to Sigurd Olson and to LPF.



Ray Christensen

Photographer and filmmaker **Ray Christensen** began making documentaries for companies and organizations while living in Omaha, Nebraska. After moving to Minneapolis, he made a film about the people of Minnesota, the soundtrack for which was composed by singer John Denver. Ray's passion for telling human stories took him around the world—to Africa, where tribes worked to preserve their precious water supplies; to East Germany, where he brought to life the historic impact of Martin Luther; and to Bethpage Mission in Nebraska, where developmentally challenged people strove to reach their incredible potential.

Well-known to LPF members and supporters is one of Ray's favorite films, *The Wilderness World of Sigurd F. Olson*, which eloquently captures the words, images, and spirit of Sig. Ray's legacy is summed up in a belief he shared throughout his life: "Never lose your sense of wonder. Always be curious."

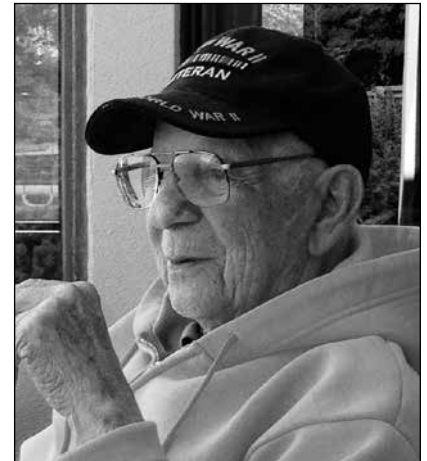
As did Ray Christensen, **Robert Treuer** served on the LPF Advisory Board and had a strong connection to northern Minnesota and to Sigurd F. Olson. An immigrant and holocaust survivor, Treuer was a writer, tree-planter, educator, environmentalist, politician, civil rights activist, and advocate for justice. Sigurd F. Olson's son Robert K. Olson wrote this remembrance:

"My memory of Bob (Treuer) is simple and elemental. He was a man of two lives. The first as holocaust survivor of the family killed by the Nazis and their helpers. It gave him a special purpose in his life to overcome that terrible experience.

"I asked him once why he came to Leech Lake Reservation to live with the Indians. 'They were the only people I ever know,' he said, 'who took me for what I was. I found refuge in their life and land.' I never asked again.

"The second half of Bob's life was related in his first book, *The Tree Farm*, which is about planting a tree farm with his wife and kids out in a Minnesota middle of nowhere. Bob's closing thought is that I can see the here and now of the forest we have brought into being; I can face the need to begin the harvest preparations. And I realize that whatever the next few years may bring, I have already gathered. My real harvest is in.

"In 1997 *The Tree Farm* was awarded the Sigurd Olson Nature Writing Award, given by the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute of Northland College in Ashland, Wis. The book is signed by the author: 'To Sig Olson with thanks and appreciation for saving the wilderness to salvation.'"



Robert Treuer

Listening Point Foundation Contribution Form

Name : _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

E-mail: _____

☐ My contribution is in (select one) honor/memory of:

CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT

☐ \$35 ☐ \$250

☐ \$50 ☐ \$500

☐ \$100

☐ (other) _____

Please send your check payable to
Listening Point Foundation to:

Listening Point Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 180
Ely, MN 55731

Listening Point Foundation is a 501(c)3 educational organization that welcomes charitable contributions that support its educational mission and preservation efforts. Giving opportunities include annual support, memorials, planned giving and in-kind donations.

For more information on giving, please contact us at 218-365-8889.

AIS Task Force to Help Protect Burntside Lake

By Sharon O'C. Rome

Sig's love for Burntside Lake, site of Listening Point, is well known. He was an intimate chronicler of the lake's many beauties: its hues of blue, its moods of weather wild and gentle, its music played on the shore, its purity for drinking from a tin cup dipped beneath its surface. He would have been the first and foremost to defend Burntside Lake from any harm.

In the spirit of Sig's vigilance, the Board of the Burntside Lake Association (a non-profit group of many property owners around the lake, including the Listening Point Foundation), met in the fall of 2015 to discuss how to protect Burntside Lake from the harm posed by aquatic invasive species (AIS), a threat unknown in Sig Olson's time. Because of the ever-growing popularity of Burntside Lake for recreation and fishing, boat traffic from other areas has increased. With this increase has come the potential arrival of aquatic "hitchhikers", sometimes obvious, sometimes small and difficult to see.

Traveling in bilge water, bait buckets, boat trailers, and fishing equipment, these invasive species are easily transported from lake to lake. These animals and plants, including spiny water flea (already present in Burntside), rusty crayfish, zebra mussels, Eurasian watermilfoil, starry stonewort, and others, pose serious and long-lasting threats to water quality, fish habitats, and water recreation opportunities. For more information contact the Burntside Lake Association at burntside.org.

Minnesota law states that when traveling between Minnesota lakes every boater must:

- Clean all aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and other prohibited invasive species from boats and trailers. You may not transport aquatic plants or prohibited invasive species in the state, even if they are dead.
- Drain water-related equipment (boat, ballast tanks, portable bait containers, and motor) and drain bilge, live well, and bait well by removing drain plugs. Keep drain plugs out and water-draining devices open while transporting watercraft. You may not transport water, or arrive at a water access with the drain plug in place, in Minnesota.
- Dispose of unwanted bait, including minnows, leeches, worms and fish parts in the trash. If you want to keep live bait, drain bait containers and refill with bottled or tap water. It is illegal in Minnesota to release bait in the water or to release worms on land.

It's not difficult to imagine Sigurd Olson playing a leading role in this effort, and Listening Point Foundation will partner with Burntside Lake Association AIS Task Force to distribute educational information about this initiative to Listening Point visitors.

More than most, Sig understood the intrinsic value of healthy forests, intact wildlife habitat, and clean waters as essentials that nurture the human spirit. His life's work was to protect and defend the wild for the future; his love for the wilderness and for Burntside Lake serves as an inspiration to those who cherish his vision and wisdom. We can best honor his legacy by working to preserve and protect the essential places that nourish us. This commitment of course includes working to protect the health, beauty, and uniqueness of Burntside Lake and its surrounding watershed. Luna Leopold, a hydrologist, Aldo's son, and friend to Sig Olson, stated "The health of our waters is the principle measure of how we live on the land." Sigurd Olson would, no doubt, agree.

A Sense of Wonder (Continued from page 2)

Stoneman Douglas, and countless others who fought for the national parks and wild areas we enjoy and treasure today. Places where one can rediscover the latent sense of wonder, the sense of being a "child of the universe."

Neither did Sigurd Olson think this feeling of enthusiasm and appreciation was meant only for children. He said, "As long as you retain a sense of wonder, you will never grow old, no matter how old you are." He did not mean we are to remain childish and immature—quite the opposite. He meant that only in keeping some capacity for child-like wonder can we behave like truly responsible adults—comprehending the glories that surround us, and the need to preserve and defend them for our children and our children's children.

The battle is difficult and exhausting and often discouraging, and it goes on forever—the battle between short-term gain and

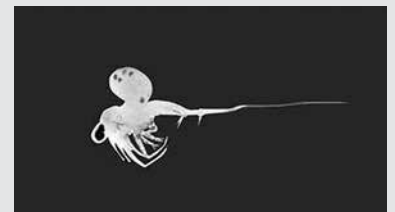
long-term cost; the false choice between jobs and beauty; the conflict between exploitation and conservation; between commerce and true wealth; between the almighty dollar and transcendent value. It is a struggle that has long been fought in this North Country of rock and lake and timber, and other areas of extraordinary natural beauty. It goes on today and none of us can know the ultimate outcome.

But we can try to maintain our sense of wonder in spite of it all. And let that feeling be our guide. Eventually life will come along and poop on your head. No matter. You just remember what it means to see a great, mysterious bird fall out of a blue sky into a blue sea and fly away with a fish. And tell the story to whoever will listen.

— Doug Wood

Spiny Waterflea

Waterfleas are tiny aquatic animals (zooplankton). They are carnivorous, eating the native zooplankton that many fish also require. Additionally, young fish may be prevented from eating waterfleas because of the fleas' barbed tail spine. Waterfleas also clump up on fishing lines, nets and other gear—jamming the first eyelet of fishing rods and damaging the drag on some reels.



Challenge of Our National Parks *(Continued from page 1)*

all time. They are generally unaware of the powerful pressures that exist for the invasion of such areas as Dinosaur National Monument and Glacier and Olympic national parks. They are ignorant of the fact that Congress fails consistently to supply necessary funds and seems to measure the worth of the parks and monuments solely by the yardstick of public entertainment, material resource values, and the number of people who visit them yearly.

A strange situation, this, in enlightened America, and one that could not have been predicted in the early days of park establishment. Then the problems were simple, for America had not yet taken to the road. The statement of policy in the congressional act establishing the National Park Service was clear, "to promote and regulate the use of federal areas known as the national parks, monuments, and reservations...and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

The National Park Standards state explicitly that the parks are for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of all the people for all time. In commenting on the meaning of this statement, former Director of the National Park Service, Newton B. Drury, said, "The enjoyment envisioned in the Act creating the National Park Service is refreshment of mind and spirit as well as physical refreshment, and for that reason development for recreational use (i.e. outdoor sports) must be subordinated to the preservation and interpretation of the significant and historical features."

Director Conrad L. Wirth stated recently, "The objective of the National Park Service in administering the national parks is to maintain their integrity of purpose as defined by Congress." There has never been any question as to the real intent of Congress or the National Park Service in the management and protection of these areas.

What then is wrong? Why are we faced today with a situation in which these much used and valued heritages of the people are threatened with degeneration and possible destruction?

The answer lies in the development of an erroneous concept as to the real meaning of the national parks. Half a century of travel advertising that has stressed the physical attractions of the parks without emphasizing the spiritual and intangible values has had its effect. As a result, many have come to regard the parks primarily as public playgrounds and recreation centers that merely provide opportunities for exciting holidays at picturesque resorts. Scenery and atmosphere have become only incidental commodities on the tourist market, and entertainment features have developed, which while appropriate in the usual vacation areas, are definitely not in keeping with national park standards. As might be expected with this attitude, vandalism and carelessness have become major evils and refuse disposal a serious problem. Awe-inspiring spectacles are often seen merely as curiosities. The true meaning of the national parks has been forgotten in the holiday rush.

Is it any wonder that there is a never-ending clamor for more and more developments and entertainment facilities? Is it surprising that we are faced with the strange contradiction of a government pledged to the protection of these areas, actually urging the invasion of Dinosaur National Monument, thereby setting a precedent which could destroy the entire national park system? Is it unexpected that elaborate chair lifts are being urged for Rocky Mountain and Mount Rainier national parks?

We can expect a continuation of such demands in the future.

We can look forward to no relief from Congress until the people speak so clearly and forcefully that there will be no question as to their wishes. They will speak only when the present concept has changed, when the parks are seen by the majority not as amusement centers but as a treasured part of our cultural heritage.

The great challenge is public education, an attempt to correct the false concept that is prevalent among so many. Unless this is done, we cannot remain true to our trust. We know that public opinion evolves slowly. However, we have media today for moving much more swiftly and effectively than in the past, the press, radio, television, color motion pictures, and skills in using all of these for educational purposes.

We must tell our people that these areas are their museums of the past; that through them they can see not only what the continent was like before the white man came, but the whole unfolding story of the ages. That the parks are part of our culture must be emphasized; that they are our greatest exhibits of nature's handiwork, and that their wonders and beauties if marred or tampered with, can never be restored or replaced.

We spend millions of dollars to protect and exhibit man-made works of art. We guard these treasures and would not presume to improve upon them. We hand old masterpieces in exactly the right light, and are hushed and reverent before them. We listen to the world's best symphonies with awe and delight. No one would dream of retouching a Rembrandt or revising a score of Beethoven. Those things are sacred and toward them we have profound respect.

We fail to see our parks as equally sacred and magnificent, that in them we have paintings on a continental scale, museums that cannot be approached by anything conceived by man, majestic symphonies that no one can ever record. These are our greatest masterpieces of all. They are capable of stirring greater emotions, and contributing more to national character and happiness than anything we have been able to save of the past.

I believe that when the people are informed, when they come to realize the true significance of their parks, that improper developments, as well as industrial threats will cease. When that time comes, the new concept will take hold of their imaginations and make them so proud and jealous of their heritage that never again will misuse be tolerated. When that time comes, the parks will be enjoyed as they should, with reverence and understanding.

The National Parks Association can perform no greater service than to stress through every medium at its command the importance of proper appreciation. It should cooperate closely with the National Park Service and all other agencies, including the schools of America, in bringing this about. There should be an enlivened and enriched program of interpretation not only within the parks but outside as well. Every piece of literature, every news release, every picture can carry the vital message. We shall use all the skills we have and all our knowledge to tell the story. Through infinite repetition over the years, the ideal will be realized, and only then will the parks be safe.

Until that time, the skirmishes and battles to protect these areas will continue. We must hold the line with all the resources at our command; oppose the slightest suggestion that might lead to further deterioration. We must provide the National Park Service with the congressional support it needs. We must keep forever before us the true meaning of the original intent of Congress to leave the parks unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.

The Wilderness Sings in China, Too

By David Backes

Excerpts from Sigurd's writings have been published in a variety of languages, including Russian and Arabic, but a Chinese company is the first to publish a complete translation of one of Sigurd's books. SDX Joint Publishing Co. in Beijing has published a Chinese edition of *The Singing Wilderness*, and sent me several copies just in time for the Listening Point Foundation annual luncheon in St. Paul on April 9.

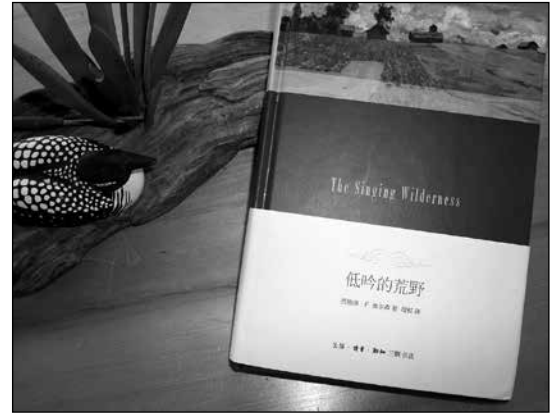
It was a long time in the making. I was contacted by the publisher in the summer of 2010, and there were several exchanges of emails but communication was difficult and spotty. Once they published it, they were supposed to send me copies for the LPF, the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute, and the Olson family. I never heard from them after 2010, and wondered if they ever finished it.

That fall of 2010, at my annual conference of the North American Association for Environmental Education, I met and became friends with a young Chinese woman, Yan Zhu, who was starting a doctoral program in Florida. She happened to have spent some time at Wolf Ridge, and so she knew of Sigurd Olson and had read *The Singing Wilderness*. She was excited to learn that a Chinese publisher was interested in making available a translation.

After years of no communication from China, we both wondered what had happened. This past December Jo Jo (as friends call her) finished her PhD and moved back to China. Soon after arriving, she discovered that the book had been published in 2012! Jo Jo set about learning who to contact, and making sure they lived up to the agreement to send those books. The surprise package from China arrived at my house on April 2.

The translator is Cheng Hong, a professor in the foreign languages department at Capital University of Economics and Business, in Beijing. She has taught English there for more than 30 years, and during a period in the mid-1990s as a visiting scholar at Brown University in Rhode Island she developed an interest in nature writing and eco-criticism. She has one book of her own about British and American nature writers, called *Tranquility is Beyond Price*, and has published several translations, including Sigurd Olson's *The Singing Wilderness*, John Burroughs' *Wake-Robin*, Henry Beston's *The Outermost House*, and Terry Tempest Williams' *Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place*.

Her husband, by the way, is Li Kequiang. Li just happens to be Premier of the People's Republic of China—the head of China's government. He took that office in March 2013.



Sig and the National Parks (Continued from page 1)



An aerial view of Voyageurs National Park, which Sig played an important role in establishing.

with Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas in 1958, and many more.

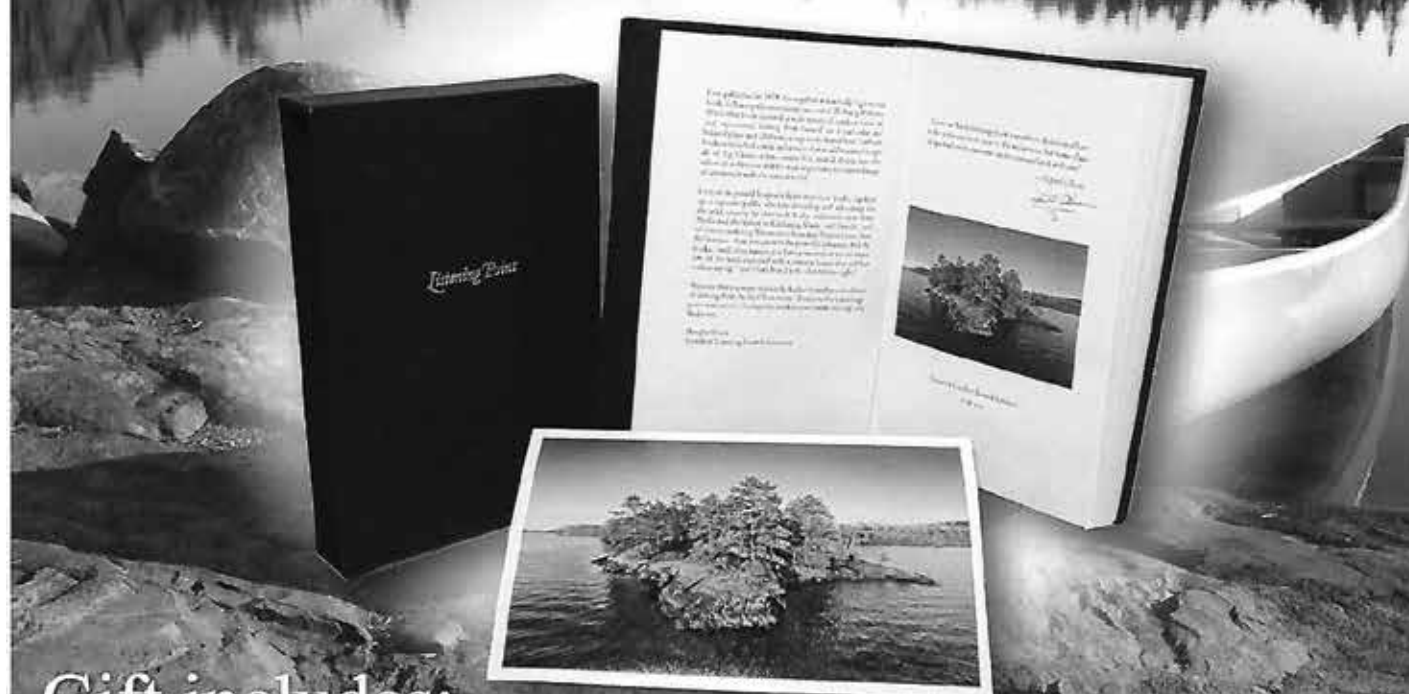
In 1959, Sigurd resigned as president of the National Parks Association, but later that same year Interior Secretary Fred Seaton appointed him to the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments. Sig served on this influential board well into the 1960s. During the Kennedy Administration, Interior Secretary Stewart Udall also appointed Sig as Udall's consultant on wilderness and national parks in addition to serving on the National Parks Advisory Board. (Udall also tried to recruit Sig to become the director of the National Park Service, but Sig demurred.)

From these posts, Sig played an enormously important role in identifying and visiting potential new national park sites, including field trips across the country and up to Alaska. This work came to fruition as new national parks like Canyonlands National Park were created in the 1960s, and years later in the monumental 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), which protected many of the areas Sig and his colleagues had identified in the 1960s. Closer to home, Sig also played important roles in the creation of Voyageurs National Park in northern Minnesota, just west of the BWCAW. Sig, in fact, is even credited with proposing the name of this new park as Voyageurs. So Sig's role with the national parks was quite extensive and critically important, and something well to remember in this centennial year of the National Park Service.

—Kevin Proescholdt is the conservation director for Wilderness Watch, a national wilderness conservation organization (www.wildernesswatch.org). His most recent book, *Glimpses of Wilderness*, is a collection of essays set in the BWCAW and Quetico that illuminates some of the values and aspects of the wilderness experience. The book is available at www.kevinproescholdt.com.

Make a \$500 donation and receive a special gift!

Unique Opportunity • Heirloom • Keepsake • Treasure
Limited Leather-Bound Edition of Listening Point



Gift includes:

Slipcased Leather-Bound edition of Listening Point,

Forward by Douglas Wood

Signed/numbered Certificate of Authenticity

Signed Brandenburg print of the Point, 6" x 8" (suitable for framing)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

email _____

☐ Yes, I would like to receive the leather-bound edition.

☐ No thank you. Please use my entire donation for the mission of LPF.



Listening Point Foundation

P.O. Box 180, Ely, MN 55731

218-365-8889

www.ListeningPointFoundation.org

Thank You!

*The Listening Point Foundation would like to thank the following individuals, businesses, foundations and organizations for their generous donations:***

Tom Ajax & Jan McElfish	Page & Jay Cowles	David Henning	David & Carolyn Oliver	Mary Clagett Smith
Mark Allsup	Bill Cunningham	Andy & Jackie Hutyera	Susan Olin	Carolyn Sneed
Kathy Anderson	Grace Curry	Anne & Stephen Jay	Alis Olsen	Bob & Mary Sneider
R. Marie Anderson	Paul Dahl	Basly Kasi	Robert K. Olson	Merrisue Soutor
Donna Arbaugh	Malcolm Davy	Martin & Esther Kellogg	Carol Orban	Leon Spies
David & Abbie Bahnemann	Thomas Dean	Arlana Kemp	Dennis & Turid Ormseth	Rubin Stenseng
Gorden Bailey	Bob DeJonge	Vic Koivumaki & Sylvia Holister	Stephen Overall	Ann & Willy Stern
Elaine Barber	Marjorie Dome	Bruce & Marilyn Konkler	Scott & Mary Ovick	Carolyn Sundquist
Shannon Barber-Meyer	Celia Domich	Amy Kuebelbeck	Randall Pachal	Diane Tessari
Mike Barrows	Larry & Nancy Eisinger	Larry Kujala	Daniel Perschau	Andre Theisen
Tim & Vicki Barzen	Sue Elsa	Kathy Landis	Mark & Erica Peterson	John R. Topczewski
Elizabeth Basler	Dwight & Ann Ericsson	Colles Larkin	David & Jane Piergras	Kaye Toquam
Mike & Stephanie Becker	Bert Flora	Mike & Marcie Lein	Walt and Lin Pomeroy	Christine Tschudy
Susan Bell	Mary Frisk	Steven Leuthold Family	Roger & Consie Powell	Nancy jo Tubbs
Barbara Berglund	Michael Foster	Foundation	Jana Preble	University of Minnesota
Michelle Bonahoom	Kathleen Franzen	Donald & Ann Luce	Mark Reed	Russel Uhrenholdt
Jeanne Bourquin Family	Karen & Wayne Friedrich	Douglas Magney	John Ritter	Judy & John Viken
Nan Bradley	Michael Frome	Timothy & Barbara Maurer	Ronald Roberts	Richard A. Virock
Robin Bradley	Richard A. Fultz	Dr. & Mrs. Charles Mayo II	Jeff & Sharon Rome	Jim Voegeli
Beverly "Rio" Bright	Jeffery & Diane Garrett	Larry Merrill	Peter Rothe	Jean Waddell
Tracy Brokering	Joseph Gerwood	Ward & Linda Merrill	Clayton Russell	Tom & Lynette Ward
Angela Campbell	James Greig	Donna Miller	Judy & Tom Saeger	Audrey & Richard Webb
John & Cindy Cantrell	Elizabeth Grossman	Marv Mitchell	Mary & Errol Sambuco	R.B. & Karen Weiger
William A. Carlson	Paul Gustad	Jeff & Patsy Mogush	Steve Sandell	Chuck & Marty Wick
Christine Chandler	Ron Haakensen	Leland & Beverly Moore	Susan Sanzi-Schaedel & Andrew Schaedel	Laramie & Donna Winczewski
Lee Colman	Burton Hall	Darby & Geri Nelson	Joy Schochet & Jonathan Green	Fred & Eleanor Winston
Wanda Copeland	Helen & Paul Hanten	Kathleen Nerlien	JoyGenea Schumer & Tom Furnstahl	Bryan & Kat Wood
Jack Cook	Sara J. Hasslen	John Nygaard	Carl & Sue Smith	Kathy Yelton
Meghan Cosgrove	Bill Heart	Katherine & Terry Oberhardt		
Anne Cowie	Jon Helminiak	Sharon Oegerle		

Donations in Memory and Honor

In Memory of...

- Rose T. Arpiarian, in memory of Vic Koivumaki
- Pepper & Clint Asche, in memory of Myrle Call
- Marlene Bantari, in memory of Ernest Bantari
- Bill & Helene Berg, in memory of Milt Stenlund
- James & Jan Call, in memory of Sharon Kastilic
- David & Lori Casey, in memory of David Repp
- Gerry & Lynn Cox, in memory of Kim Coleman
- John DeLap, in memory of Thomas Tracy

- Jean Craig & Leo Stronger, in memory of James Craig, brother
- Angie Dickison, in memory of Pam Dickinson
- Marcia Helling, in memory of Mark Helling
- Paul Lennartson, in memory of David Lennartson
- Dr. & Mrs. Charles H. Mayo II, in memory of Florence Peterson
- Montachusett Regional Planning Commission, in memory of Vic Koivumaki
- Don & Rita Myntti, in memory of Sigurd Olson, Jr.

- Helen V. Swem, in memory of Theodor R. Swem
- Doug Throckmorton, in memory of DoraLee Delzell
- Throckmorton, special friend of Sig & Elizabeth
- John Virr, in memory of Donna Virr
- Jane Watrus, in memory of Pam Silver
- John Woodworth, in memory of Lauren Larson

In Memory of Jeanne T. King

- Soren Urhrendholdt
- Christine L. Tscudy
- David & Marjorie White

In Memory of Ray Christensen

- Margaret Fahlman
- Darlene & David Greer
- Philip Jenkins
- Beth Leonard, Greg Flannigan, & friends at Laurie
- Bruce & Cheryl Little
- Ruth Martinson
- Gertrude Ness
- Lou and Vern Nornes
- Stan Peterson
- Ardi Schoonover & Sonya Brauchle
- Philip & Betsy Strand
- Evelyn Torkelson

In Honor of...

- Elton & Emily Brown, in honor of Rev. David Schneider
- Kurt & Christine Kuehn, in honor of Ray & Roberta Kuehn and Bill Kuehn
- Jack & Jane Todd, in honor of Dennis & Marti Shaak
- Richard A. Virock, in honor of Marie & Jack Virock, Jennifer Houle

Upkeep Donors

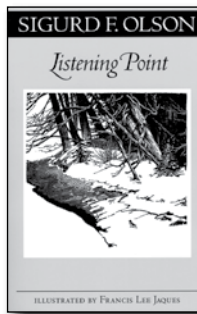
Andy Aarons	Anthony & Amy Ciala	Sue Heule	C. Roger & Lavonne Nelson	Stenlund Family*
Mitchell & Sharon Ahern	David Cline*	Steve & Heather Holthaus*	Dave & Carolyn Olsen*	Jill Stoltenberg & Paul Walker
Arnold Alanen & Lynn Bjorkman	Gerald & Lynn Cox	Anne Holub*	John Olson	Stewart Stone
David Anderson	Page & John Cowles*	John Hopkins	Robert K. Olson*	Michael Terrien*
Annoymous*	Bill Cunningham	Judy Hunter	Carol Orban	Diane Tessari
Kathy & Jim Antilla*	Tom DeJonge*	Jeff Hutchinson*	Peter Ostlund*	Jack & Jane Todd*
David Backes*	Sue Duffy & Linda Ganister*	Larry & Jan Johnson	Joe & Caroline Owens	Elaine Thrune
Gordon Bailey*	Jane Edson	Preston Johnson	Ejner Pagh*	Nancy jo Tubbs*
Keith Bassage	Cindy Findley	Dennis Kaetterhenry*	Grant & Laura Parcels	Jim Voegeli
Sherry Batterman	Forest Flint	Jeanine Kellogg	Walt & Lin Pomeroy*	Steve Waddell*
Alan & Nicole Brew	Steve Frame*	Martin & Esther Kellogg	Bob Popp	Beth Waterhouse
Jim Bonilla & Carolyn O'Grady	Michael Frome & June Eastvold	Vaughn R. Knapp	Sharon & Jeff Rome*	Pamela B. Webster
Pamalla Meilke Boyce*	Alan Golichowski	Mark Knox*	Clayton Russell*	Chuck & Marty Wick*
Linda Bristol	James C. Goar	J. R. LeBlanc	J. Sage-Martinson	John & Jan Wilke
Emily & Elton Brown*	Ted Gostomski*	Mike & Marcie Lein	Frank Salomonsen	Guy & Karen Williams
Marc & Cathy Brown	Michael L. Hanley*	Ronald Mack*	Carol F. Schofield*	Mitchell Wilson
James & Jan Call*	Norman & Jane Hanson	Betty Magnuson	Scott Simenson*	Dave & Margo Zentner*
Ray Christensen	James Hart	L. David Mech	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Snediker	
Sue & Thomas Christiansen	Thomas Hayden	Bruce McKendry & Sarah Jones	Nan & Gerry Snyder*	
Kathleen Christianson	Tim Heinle	Bill Meadows	John Staton	
	Priscilla Herbison	Milo & Ann Moyano*	Tom Steger*	

*denotes an engraved patio brick

**These lists acknowledge gifts received from October 16, 2015 to May 21, 2016

Gift Shop

Share the spirit of Listening Point with friends and family with one of these gift items that celebrate Sigurd Olson, Listening Point, wilderness and more! See next page for order form.



Sigurd Olson Classics
Attractive paperback versions of seven of Sigurd Olson's most loved books.

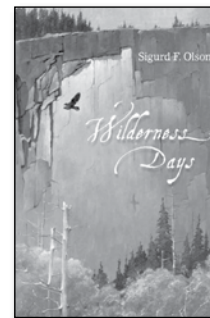
- *The Singing Wilderness*
- *Listening Point*
- *The Lonely Land*
- *Runes of the North*
- *Open Horizons*
- *Reflections from the North Country*
- *Of Time and Place*

..... \$15 each



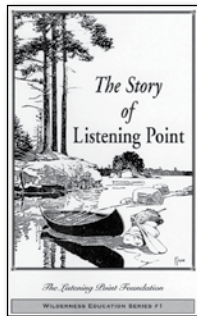
The Wilderness World of Sigurd F. Olson DVD
A digitally remastered version of the classic film "The Wilderness World of Sigurd F. Olson" includes more than two hours of conversations with Sig as he speaks about the craft of writing and life in the wilderness. You'll also hear Sig's wife Elizabeth and their son Sig Jr. speak candidly about Sigurd, his profession, and life in the north woods.

..... \$15



Wilderness Days
University of Minnesota Press has published a new paperback edition of *Wilderness Days*—a collection of Sig's writings that depicts the essence of the magnificent woodlands and waters of the legendary Quetico-Superior region that borders Minnesota and Ontario.

..... \$18



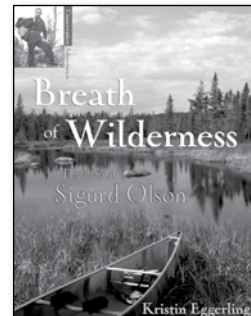
The Story of Listening Point
This 28-page booklet, written by Sig's son Robert K. Olson, tells the inside story of how Listening Point came to be and why, what it meant to Sigurd Olson, and what it continues to mean to wilderness lovers and loyalists. Features dozens of historical photos and images.

..... \$5



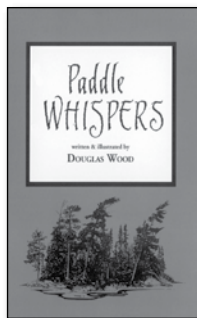
Sig Olson's Wilderness Moments
For Kids! Five selections of Sig Olson's writings, with "Points to Ponder" and "Activities" following each section. Excellent opportunity to introduce Sig to the younger generation. Includes blank pages at the end of the book for several of the activities—journaling, mapping, etc.

..... \$5



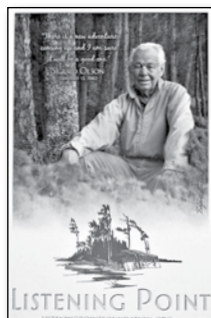
Breath of Wilderness
By Kristin Eggerling. A must have for your Olson library. The story covers Sigurd Olson's love of wild places and how that love transformed his life. It is a book written for middle school students, but can be enjoyed by all. 92 pages.

..... \$13



Paddle Whispers
An illustrated, nonfiction meditation by Doug Wood about the human soul encountering itself through the soul of the wilderness on a canoe trip through the rocks, woods and water of the North Country.

..... \$16



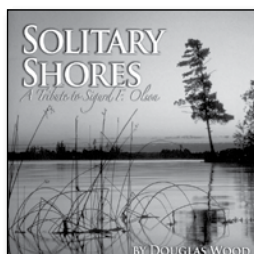
Sigurd Olson Poster
The image, taken by Bryan Stenlund, may well be one of the last photos of Sig before he died. The 11" by 17" poster includes Sig's last type written words. A must have for Sig fans.

..... \$16



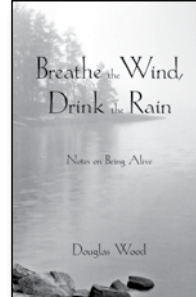
For Love of Lakes (hard cover)
The book, by Darby Nelson, focuses on the lakes, ponds, and waters outside your very home and the intricacies of the ecosystems found there. It also documents our species' long relationship with lakes and addresses the stewardship issue, while providing an improved understanding of our most treasured natural resource.

..... \$25



Solitary Shores CD
First recorded in 1983, *Solitary Shores* was Douglas Wood's musical tribute to Sigurd Olson. All of the songs have a strong North Country flavor, and there is even a segment of Sig reading from one of his own essays.

..... \$18



Breathe the Wind, Drink the Rain
Doug Wood's personal recipe for being truly alive—for arriving at the ground beneath your feet and feeling at home in the universe. Great to take on a canoe trip. Pen & ink drawings by Doug as well. 52 pages.

..... \$10



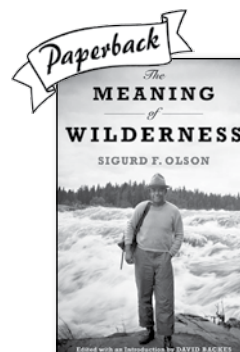
LPF Hats
For your wearing pleasure! 100% cotton, embroidered with the Listening Point logo. Choose from cranberry, cream, loden green, khaki or new colors sea foam green and sky blue. Adjustable leather strap.

..... \$18



2017 Calendar
Sigurd Olson writings, Steve Voiles photos, Listening Point and beyond! Framable images, conservation dates, incredible quotes all make for a unique calendar for 2017. Size 12" by 9". Shrink-wrapped with cardboard. Great for holiday gifts!

..... \$15



The Meaning of Wilderness
Now available in paperback! First published in 2001, this book features a collection of Sigurd F. Olson's articles and speeches. It offers a lively look at the evolution of one of the environmentalism's leading figures and is essential reading for Olson fans, historians, and outdoors enthusiasts around the country.

..... \$18

Listening Point Foundation Gift Shop order form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

☐ Sigurd Olson classics paperback books @ \$15.00 = _____

specify title(s): _____

☐ *Wilderness Days* @ \$18.00 = _____

☐ *Wilderness World of Sigurd F. Olson DVD* @ \$15.00 = _____

☐ *Story of Listening Point booklet, by Robert Olson* @ \$ 5.00 = _____

☐ *Wilderness Moments booklet* @ \$ 5.00 = _____

☐ *Breath of Wilderness* @ \$13.00 = _____

☐ *Paddle Whispers* @ \$16.00 = _____

☐ *For Love of Lakes* @ \$25.00 = _____

☐ *Solitary Shores* audio CD @ \$18.00 = _____

☐ Sigurd Olson poster @ \$15.00 = _____

☐ *The Meaning of Wilderness* @ \$18.00 = _____

☐ SFO Stationery @ \$18.00 = _____

☐ LPF Hat - (choose color) @ \$18.00 = _____

cranberry, cream, loden, khaki, sea foam green, sky blue

☐ 2017 Calender * @ \$15.00 = _____

☐ *Breathe the Wind, Drink the Rain* @ \$10.00 = _____

☐ *Shipping/Handling (\$3.00 @ for calendars) @ \$ 3.00 = _____

☐ Shipping/Handling (\$2.00 @ for other items) .. @ \$ 2.00 = _____

ORDER TOTAL: _____

Please send order form and your check to Listening Point Foundation (LPF), to:

Listening Point Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 180 • Ely, Minnesota 55731

All items may be ordered from our website via PayPal.
Orders also may be placed by email to
info@listeningpointfoundation.org. Invoices will be
included with your shipped order.

Quote from Sig:

"Joys come from simple and natural things; mist over meadows, sunlight on leaves, the path of the moon over water. Even rain and wind and stormy clouds bring joy."

— from *Open Horizons*





Listening Point Foundation, Inc.

P.O. Box 180
Ely, Minnesota 55731



THE VIEW FROM LISTENING POINT — SUMMER 2016

Special request—so you won't miss any of LPF's mailings. Please send us your winter and summer addresses. Or just give us a call. Thanks.

Published by
The Listening Point Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 180
Ely, Minnesota 55731
Telephone: 218/365-8889
E-mail: info@listeningpointfoundation.org
Website: www.listeningpointfoundation.org

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Alanna Dore

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Douglas Wood, *President*
Charles Wick, *Vice-President*
Nancy jo Tubbs, *Secretary*
Dr. Mark Peterson, *Treasurer*
Robert K. Olson, *President Emeritus*
Mark Allsup
Tim Barzen
Karen Friedrich
Patsy Mogush
Sharon Rome
JoyGenea Schumer
Bryan Stenlund
John Wilke

ADVISORS

Paul Anderson	Bloomington, MN
Dr. David Backes	S. Milwaukee, WI
John "Jeb" Barzen	Spring Green, WI
Jim Brandenburg	Ely, MN
Larry Dolphin	Austin, MN
Jon Helminiak	Mequon, WI
Mike Link	Willow River, MN
Vance G. Martin	Boulder, CO
Walter Pomeroy	Mechanicsburg, PA
Kevin Proescholdt	St. Paul, MN
Clayton Russell	Ashland, WI
Steve Waddell	Bellbrook, OH
Bryan Wood	Sandstone, MN
Dave Zentner	Duluth, MN
Franco Zunino	Murialdo, Italy

Produced and printed by:
Advance Printing
15576 US Hwy 63
Hayward, WI 54843
phone 615/634-6888
fax 715/634-6912
advprint@cheqnet.net

Editor: Laurence J. Wiland
Production: Debra Kurtzweil

Materials in the newsletter may be reproduced with attribution to the author, the newsletter, and the Foundation. We welcome readers' letters, comments and suggestions. All photos are from the LPF archives, unless otherwise noted.

Visit us online!

www.listeningpointfoundation.org

