

View from

Listening Point

Newsletter of the **Listening Point Foundation, Inc.**

Volume XXI, Number 2 Fall 2018 www.listeningpointfoundation.org

Dedicated to preserving Listening Point and advancing Sigurd Olson's legacy of wilderness education.

Three Lessons from Sig

Dr. David Backes

Sigurd Olson's long career of volunteering on behalf of wilderness began, appropriately, one night at a campfire. It was the summer of 1924, and while Sigurd and the small group of campers on Ottertrack Lake stared at the flames, they listened to a man once described as "a conservation John the Baptist, preaching in the Wilderness."

Will Dilg had founded the Izaak Walton League of America two years earlier, and was turning it into by far the largest conservation group in the country. Evangelizing at the campfire that evening, Dilg said he was going to devote his league to preserving the canoe country wilderness. He needed help.

Sigurd answered the altar call. He was hooked. He became a founding member of Ely's chapter of the IWLA. A newcomer in Ely, he soon became known—and often vilified—for his uncompromising stand against the construction of roads.

But this wasn't Sigurd's first brush with volunteering. As a preacher's son, Sigurd was raised to see volunteering as normal, important, and even a duty. When he went off to college at the University of Wisconsin, he soon joined the Madison chapter of a national evangelical organization called the Student Volunteers. He poured his energies into that group and was elected its president.

That didn't work out so well. Sigurd came to realize that becoming a Christian missionary was not his calling, and after spending a night of reflection on the roof of the YMCA building, he resigned. He would instead become a missionary for the spiritual necessity of wild places.

Lesson learned: Let your volunteering grow out of your passions.

Until the 1930s Sigurd's volunteerism was entirely local, mostly speaking to Ely civic groups about the importance of protecting the canoe country wilderness outside their back door. But in October 1933, when the International Joint Commission held public hearings over a proposal for a series of water power dams that would flood several thousand miles of canoe country shoreline, Sigurd traveled to Minneapolis to testify on behalf of Ely's canoe outfitters and resort owners.

That testimony was noted by Ernest Oberholtzer, the leading public advocate for preserving the canoe country wilderness and soon a founder of the national Wilderness Society. Oberholtzer put Sigurd on his mailing list and became a mentor. He expanded Sigurd's volunteerism and welcomed Sigurd (fifteen years his junior) as a charter member of the Wilderness Society.

Fast-forward fourteen years to 1947. A rapidly growing num-

ber of floatplanes were making daily round trips into lakes previously accessible only by canoe, and fly-in resorts were being built on isolated pieces of private land in the middle of the wilderness. Oberholtzer, at age 63, was not in good enough health to spearhead the battle against this newest threat. The wealthy Chicago attorneys who had bankrolled the earlier campaigns led by Oberholtzer against roads and dams asked Sigurd to become the public face of the new campaign.

The timing was perfect. Forty-eight years old, Sigurd had retired from his position as dean at Ely Junior College to follow his dream of becoming a full time writer. Unfortunately, after seven months and not a dime to his dream, he was getting worried. That probably played a role in his decision, but so did his longstanding commitment to what he saw as a vital public good. He accepted the offer.

Over the next five years, Sigurd wrote dozens of articles, gave many talks, and wrote, directed and starred in a documentary film. He used his gifts of inspiration and his work on the successful campaign to ban airplanes from the canoe country wilderness brought national recognition in conservation circles and a stream of new requests. He spent most of the 1950s as vice-president and president of the National Parks Association, and most of the 1960s as vice-president and president of the Wilderness Society. In addition, he served on the National Park Service's advisory board and as a consultant to the Department of the Interior during the crucial period of the late '50s and '60s, when the nation greatly expanded the park system. Sigurd helped identify many key areas.

Yes, he still received a salary from those Chicago attorneys. But what grew out of that was voluntary, and as important as his work on behalf of the canoe country.

Lesson learned: When you direct your volunteering toward your passions and focus on using your gifts, you will make a difference. And it's best to start close to home, and then see where it leads you. While only a few people will become widely known for



continued on page 4

NOTES FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A few nights ago after sunset, I launched my kayak on our small lake that is not so very far from Listening Point on Burntside Lake. I paddled toward the fading light on the west side, listening to the quiet. No other paddlers, no wind, no beavers slapping, no bugs, no loons calling. No sound. It was quiet. I watched and listened, and when my fingers began to chill, turned the kayak toward our dock. The full moon had peeked above the trees, was reflected on the water and guided me home.

Sigurd Olson wrote in *The Singing Wilderness*,

The sun was trembling now on the edge of the ridge. It was alive, almost fluid and pulsating. As I watched it sink, I could feel the earth turning from it, actually feel its rotation. Over all was the silence of the wilderness, that sense of oneness which comes only when there are no distracting sights or sounds, when we listen with inward ears and see with inward eyes, when we feel and are aware with our entire beings rather than our senses.

The silence was necessary for Sig. The property that he and Elizabeth acquired on Burntside Lake was a place to experience that silence, the quiet of wilderness areas that Sig had explored and were vital to his well-being and his soul.

Sig couldn't always be at Listening Point. He wanted the quiet life of listening and writing, but his passion to preserve the wilderness kept him traveling and speaking and convincing others of its value. The Point, though, was waiting for him whenever he returned from his advocacy work across the nation. I have images of Sig returning to Ely and almost immediately driving to Burntside Lake with Elizabeth and their cooler of food. He would split logs at the wood shed near the sauna for some immediate stress relief, then sit on the top bench of the sauna as the heat approached 200 degrees, and cool off in the shallow water of the bay. More stress relief. More quiet. More listening.

Sig walked the trails from the dock to the cabin and to the Point itself with its gnarled red pines. He sat on the benches and on the ledge rock, just as we can do today when we visit the lovely property on Burntside Lake. The Point continues to be there for all of us. After Sig and Elizabeth had both died, family and friends formed the Listening Point Foundation to preserve the property as a model for the wilderness areas that Sig and many of us have experienced. Hundreds of people visit each year, some who've read all of Sigurd Olson's books, some who've waited many years to walk on Sig's paths and sit in his cabin, some who learned about him for the first time because they were visiting Ely, Minnesota. Some cry when they enter the door of the cabin; most breathe deeply and listen.

The Listening Point Foundation is grateful for the people who guide others along the paths and into the sauna and unto the ledge rock and to the cabin at the Point, reflecting on the life and work and passion of Sigurd Olson. Phil Voxland, Bill Tefft, Sharon Rome,

continued on page 7



Inside

Calendar	3
Summer/Fall Photos	3 & 10
This & That	4
Welcome Board Members	7
Leopold Bench	8
Gift Shop	8-9
Thank You Donors	11

NEWS FROM THE FOUNDATION

Upon her retirement at the end of June, Alanna Dore handed the keys to the Listening Point Foundation to Steffi O'Brien. The transition went smoothly, and Alanna has been enjoying her retirement by traveling and staying active in the Ely, MN community. The tradition continues!



June 2018: Alanna Dore handed the keys to the Listening Point Foundation to Steffi O'Brien.



2015: Chuck and Marty Wick turn over the keys to the Olson house to Alanna Dore, Executive Director of the Listening Point Foundation.

Website Update Coming Soon! This winter, the Foundation will be revealing our completely redesigned website. Easy to navigate, simple, and designed for better community engagement with a section for volunteers and blog updates, improved information about visiting and tour scheduling, beautiful photographs, and more! Stay tuned for updates through our Facebook page.

2019 Calendar

- **February 9: Board Meeting – Ely, MN**
- **April 13: Sigurd F. Olson Birthday Luncheon – St. Paul, MN**
- **June 1: Board Meeting – Ely, MN**
- **July 26-28: LPF Booth at the Blueberry Arts Festival – Ely, MN**
- **September 6: Northwoods Dinner – Ely, MN**
- **October 26-27: Board & Strategic Planning Meeting – Ely, MN**

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



Blueberry Arts Festival booth! A big thank you to our volunteers who came and helped out!



One of our service project groups from Voyageur Outward Bound. They were a great help!



Another service project group from Voyageur Outward Bound. Pictured moving a recreated bench out to the end of the Point.



Wooden canoes pulled up on the Listening Point dock, as part of the Celebrating Canoes Weekend at the end of August.



Wolf out along the Listening Point shoreline.

We observed a chase that ended in a young buck swimming to safety across the lake while the wolves watched from shore.

An inscription in the book *Singing Wilderness* from Sigurd Olson to Edith and Mary Louise White, from whom he purchased the piece of property that became Listening Point. Sent to the Listening Point Foundation by Jill Schwartz and Bill Lockhart (Mary Louise's step-grandson) after the 2018 Blueberry Arts Festival. Thank you for sharing the history!

Edith and Mary Louise
No/ Edith and Mary Louise
White with gratitude for
"The Point" where the
Second "Singing Wilderness"
may be written and
in the hope that within
these pages you both
may reflect your memories
of a country you will
always love.
Sincerely
Sigurd T. Olson

THIS & THAT

🐾 **Wolves out at Listening Point!** The wolves have been active this year. A group that toured Listening Point as part of the Celebrating Canoes weekend in August witnessed two wolves chasing a young buck into Burntside Lake. The deer swam to safety across a ¼ mile of open water, while the wolves watched from shore.

🐾 **We had several people and various groups volunteer their time and energy in 2018.** We had Voyageur Outward Bound service groups out at Listening Point to help cut back trails, haul brush, thin trees, sweep the cabin and sauna, and move Sig's re-created benches back to their original locations around the Point (see photo page). They were a great help! We also had several volunteers come and help out at our successful Blueberry Arts Festival booth in July, along with our marvelous docents who took tour groups out to Listening Point in all seasons and all sorts of weather. Thank you to all our volunteers!



🐾 **Members of a “Stepping Up to Leadership” course** at the National Conservation Training Center in West Virginia worked with Listening Point Foundation staff to create a plaque about Sig Olson. They completed their project successfully and donated a copy of the finished plaque to the Foundation (see photo). It will hang in our exhibit space at the Olson family homestead in Ely, MN.

🐾 **Snowshoe Hikes!** All are welcome to join in on our snowshoe hikes out to Listening Point during the 2019 Ely Winter Festival, February 7th-17th! Watch the Ely Winter Festival website and the LPF Facebook page for dates and times. Come experience our winter wonderland and enjoy hot chocolate and Elizabeth's cookies by the wood stove at the cabin!

Three Lessons from Sig *continued from page 1*

their volunteering, every worthwhile cause needs many passionate people who can use their gifts to help out. Case in point: during the airplane campaign a Minnesotan named Frank Robertson took Sigurd's documentary to any church and civic group across northeastern Minnesota that would have him. After five hundred showings, his copy wore out and he had to get a replacement. Few remember Robertson today, but without his volunteer work the airplane ban would not have gotten the strong public support that it received in that part of the state, which was crucial to obtaining President Truman's precedent-setting executive order.

Sigurd knew this, and greatly respected the many women and men who worked behind the scenes. If he were alive today he'd express heartfelt gratitude to each of you who volunteer your passions and gifts on behalf of the Listening Point Foundation. His respect and gratitude for volunteers explains why, in his later years when he was a national icon for wilderness preservation, he often flew to meetings of local and regional conservation groups in the US and Canada to offer advice and to encourage them when their hopes were flagging.

This was voluntary, and came at great personal cost. His friends thought his schedule was insane, but Sigurd would say he could not let these groups down when they needed hope.

Maybe you've noticed. Sigurd's first books were published in 1956, 1958, 1961, and 1963. Then there's a six-year gap, to 1969, and then a seven-year gap, to 1976. Those gaps represent the personal cost of his volunteerism. If he hadn't seen it as his duty to use his gifts and position for the sake of the common good during the last great chance to set aside many wild areas for future generations, he likely would have written at least three more books.

It's a trade-off, really. Three fewer books to inspire decades of readers, three fewer to fulfill his great desire to write. And during those gap years he sometimes chafed about his lack of writing. His son Bob once asked him where in the world he ever found time to write. “In airplanes and hotel rooms,” Sigurd replied. But

he knew his conservation work—both voluntary and paid—was important, and he had to use his gifts in this way, too. Besides, if it hadn't been for his volunteering, he never would have made the contacts that put him in position to give the 1954 speech attended by Alfred A. Knopf, which led directly to the books that fulfilled Sigurd's greatest dream.

Lesson learned: There's not always a simple divide between volunteer work and paid work. In Sigurd's life each of those led to opportunities in the other. The common thread was in using his gifts for what he was passionate about, both for himself and for others, and then following the promptings of his heart as new possibilities opened up.

One day in 1953 his heart prompted him to respond to a young Minnesota woman with words no doubt similar to what he said to many in the decades of fame to come: “No, you are not alone,” Sigurd wrote. “There are many who feel as you do and the hope of the world is in the frustration you feel, the wanting to do something about it.”

The young woman felt passionate about nature and had a strong desire to help through her writing, as well as frustration about the destruction of wild things. Sigurd's response is fitting for anyone who seeks to volunteer and make a difference: “I understand your wanting to help people. That is the wonder of your type, your sense of mission and unselfish giving. But to help people and to write about them, you must understand them and to understand them you must love them. Love opens the door to everything.”

So often young people dropped in to visit Sigurd, or wrote to him, expressing doubts about their lives and their gifts, feeling alone in their passions and turning to him for hope. To get a letter from him, or to sit in his three-season porch with him, was to experience what he felt at that campfire on Ottertrack Lake in 1924. You can still experience it by reading his books: inspiration, hope, and an altar call. How will you respond?

LPF Welcomes Two New Board Members!

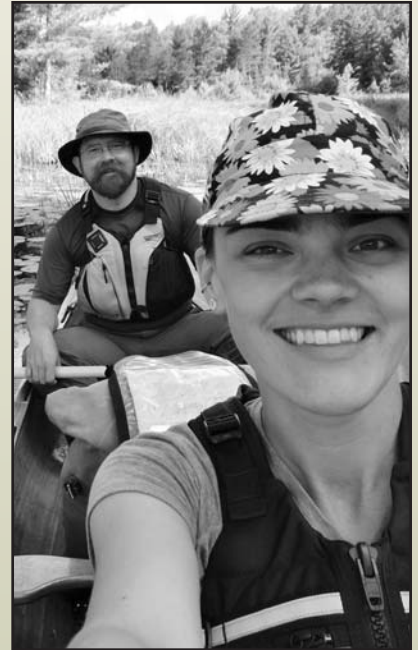
Cori Mattke is the Associate Director at the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center at the University of Minnesota. She is a graduate of Northland College with a background in environmental studies and community outreach. The majority of Cori's professional experience is in nonprofit administration, communications, and fundraising.

Cori's dedication to the outdoors started when she was a child, camping and hiking along the north shore of Lake Superior and in northern Minnesota. She first experienced wilderness in the Boundary Waters and has been hooked ever since. While at Northland, Cori focused her studies on land conservation, community engagement, and nature-based literature. Sigurd Olson's writing was central to the formation of her early land ethic and continues to echo through her personal and professional life.

After the completion of her undergraduate degree, a love of wilderness and lust for mountainous landscapes led Cori to northeast Montana where she worked with a community-based conservation nonprofit at the foot of the Swan Range and Bob Marshall Wilderness Area. Living and working in Montana deepened her relationship to wilderness and expanded her library to include writers and adventurers like Terry Tempest Williams, Annie Dillard, Mary Oliver, and Rick Bass.

Cori is passionate about sharing wilderness experiences and the opportunities for growth and connection that traveling in places like the BWCAW provides. She looks forward to contributing her nonprofit experience and skill set to the Listening Point Foundation board to help preserve the legacy of Sigurd Olson and support LPF's wilderness education initiatives.

At home in Minneapolis, Cori lives with her husband, Ryan, and son, Cyrus, where she enjoys tending to their gardens, cooking for family and friends, knitting, printmaking, and biking with a toddler in tow.



Lindsey Marschka is a writer, content creator, project coordinator and outdoor enthusiast based in Ely, Minnesota. A native of Pennsylvania, she was drawn to the Northwoods two summers ago.

She has always been fueled by a love for spaces and places, curiosity and connection. Her interests in college ranged from historical geography and writing to architecture and design. While in school at the University of Missouri - Columbia, she was afforded the opportunity to travel to Washington, DC to work alongside National Geographic, assist leadership conferences in Alabama and Florida, and eventually intern at the City of Columbia as a GIS technician in the engineering department. She graduated with honors in Geography and English and a minor in Anthropology.

In the summer of 2016, she brought her passion for storytelling and historic places up north, to work alongside Ott Historic Rehab and pursue her interest in writing and content creation. Lindsey specializes in content writing for the outdoor and interior design industries and serves as an Ambassador for outdoor brands throughout the Midwest. Now, you'll find her toiling away in old buildings or crafting stories for her adventurous clients at the cabin, pen in hand and leaves under foot.

Lindsey was drawn to Sig Olson's writing by her partner on their second date. She fell in love with Ely on her first trip in the thick of winter, which included snowshoeing out to Listening Point. Her favorite Sig books are *Singing Wilderness* and *Reflections from the North Country*. She feels most at home when she's soaking up stories - from dusty buildings, places, communities and found items such as maps and journals. She's particularly fond of hiking and running, and gains the most inspiration out-of-doors - tent in tow and bonfire ablaze. You can keep tabs with her on Instagram @elyhistori-rehab & @lindmar.



In wilderness people can find the silence and the solitude and the noncivilized surroundings that can connect them once again to their evolutionary heritage, and through an experience of the eternal mystery, can give them a sense of the sacredness of all creation.

– Sigurd Olson

Leopold Bench

Dr. John Schwach

On 11 August, 2018, Ken DeYoung, Paul Pearson, and I delivered a Leopold Bench to the Listening Point Foundation in Ely. Although of a simple design constructed of wood and metal fasteners, it tells a deeper story and represents a convergence of diverse aspects of my life.

I grew up on a small farm east of Barnum, MN. We raised beef cattle, made hay, and grew a garden, but I really came from a family of woodsmen. Every winter, when freezing weather made the swamps accessible, we cut black ash for firewood. Trees deemed too good for firewood we saved as saw logs. My Uncle Jerry owned a small portable sawmill. Every summer we had a setting and Jerry converted those logs cut on frosty mornings into fragrant lumber that smelled faintly of green olives. When Uncle Jerry died in 2005, my cousins gave the mill to my dad. We still cut firewood in winter and convert logs into lumber in the summer. I run the mill now and think often of my uncle. I constructed the Leopold Bench with native black ash that I harvested and milled with my dad.

Sigurd Olson first entered my vocabulary at age 17 when I checked out *Wilderness Days* from our high school library. His love for wild things carried me away. Around the same time a neighbor introduced me to Aldo Leopold. A *Sand County Almanac* opened a window to the world in my backyard and showed me not only what once had been, but also what could be again if we learned to live in community. The essay "Good Oak" resonated with me. I saw that the flames in my campfires released sunshine from when my father and grandfather were my age. The Leopold Bench contains sunshine as well as "Good Ash".



In the fall of 2009, on a hike at the Blacklock Nature Sanctuary led by nature photographer Craig Blacklock, I met Ken DeYoung, a retired consultant, professor, and truck driver with an interest in conservation. I mentioned that I had a weekly column in our local newspaper in Moose Lake, MN; after we parted ways, he subscribed and began reading my work. He later contacted me and our friendship began. It strengthened when we discovered a common interest in the works of Sigurd Olson and Aldo Leopold. The Leopold Bench also contains friendship.

Until two years ago, I had never heard of a Leopold Bench. I had mulled over bench ideas for my yard and for the trails in the woods where I grew up and studied every bench I saw. On a visit to the Leopold Shack near Baraboo, WI in October of 2016, this simple, functional design jumped out at me. I didn't yet know that Leopold had designed them; I just knew that I wanted one. When I discovered their history, I knew my friend Ken would want one too. He was so pleased with the result that he wanted to share it. He offered the bench to the Listening Point Foundation, and along with Ken's friend and business associate, Paul Pearson, we made our pilgrimage to Ely.

When I am faced with a writing assignment and can't find the beginning, I often dip into Leopold and Olson. I get their rhythms in my head and words begin to flow. The Leopold Bench at the Listening Point Foundation contains some of those words. It contains lessons learned in childhood, hot summer days helping my uncle, friendship, and sunshine from days past. Most of all, it contains a love for wild things inspired by two giants of conservation.



Attention!

The Listening Point Foundation shifted our mailing list to a new database this summer. The transfer went smoothly, but if your name or information is incorrect in any way, please let us know so we can fix it! You can contact us through our website:

listeningpointfoundation.org



NOTES FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS *(continued from page 2)*

Cindy Miller, Chuck Wick, Patsy Mogush, Peta Barrett, Sue Duffy, Lindsey Marschka and Sid Thompson conduct many tours throughout the year. Each tour guide has a unique perspective, sharing knowledge and appreciation of Sigurd's and Elizabeth's contributions in a most personal way.

Visitors from across the U.S. and the world express gratitude and wonder in their own words:

"Can't wait to pick up one of Sig's books. Coming to Listening Point and the cabin touched my soul." "Thanks for the inspiration." "You have changed my life forever. I have a renewed perspective of what is most important in life." "Thank you for the tour, the quiet, the views and a sense for Sig and his legacy." "Having come from Australia, I have quickly fallen in love with the north woods and all the beauty of the water and wilderness here. Sig's writings have helped me listen and appreciate the silences and sensory wonders. Thank you!" "Listening at Listening Point. Thanks, Sig." "Such an inspirational and serene place. Thanks to all who helped preserve Sig's legacy." "For beauty, for wild places, for stillness. With deep gratitude." "With thanks to those who came before and hope for those who come in the future." "Thank you (tour guide) and the Foundation for preserving Sigurd's legacy. May his memory continue to inspire us to preserve and protect the natural world because once it's gone it's gone. Listening Point is that type of place to listen, understand and perhaps be moved to experience the awe and reverence of the natural world." "This has inspired me to find my Listening Point. Grateful."

The tour guides are a few of the many volunteers who support the mission and vision of the Listening Point Foundation. David Backes wrote in his article about the progression of Sig's own volunteering and said that he "greatly respected the many women and men who work behind the scenes. If he were alive today he'd express heartfelt gratitude to each of you who volun-

teer your passions and gifts on behalf of the Listening Point Foundation."

The mission of the Listening Point Foundation has two components. First, to preserve and maintain the land and buildings on Burntside Lake as well as the house and writing shack in Ely. Second, to further Sigurd Olson's legacy of wilderness education. The first is straightforward and uncomplicated. The second is more challenging.

The guides at Listening Point are playing a significant role in furthering Sig's legacy of wilderness education. They share the stories of this lovely and inspiring place and the man who cared deeply and wrote poetically about it. The story cannot end with the tour, however. That's where the challenge begins. How do we connect our story with wilderness education? What role will each of us play in preserving wilderness?

We can use Sig's words in *Listening Point*, as the guides often do during the tours, to help us:

I named this place Listening Point because only when one comes to listen, only when one is aware and still, can things be seen and heard. Everyone has a listening point somewhere. It does not have to be in the north or close to the wilderness, but someplace of quiet where the universe can be contemplated with awe.

Nature's quiet was necessary for Sigurd Olson. It's necessary for every person. Find the quiet place, be aware and still. Listen.

Each of us can begin with our own listening point. Sig knew that the efforts to preserve wilderness areas wouldn't end with him. The need continues. The need for individuals to find their own listening point continues. We can each find that place of inspiration and discover our own ways to ensure that future generations will have their places of quiet and reflection.

—Patsy Mogush, LPF Board Member

Listening Point Foundation Contribution Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Email: _____

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

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.

CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT

- ☐ \$35 ☐ \$250
☐ \$50 ☐ \$500
☐ \$100 ☐ (other) _____

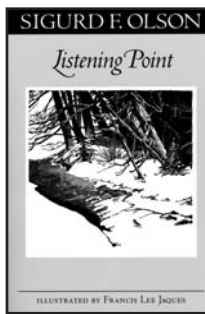
Please send your check payable to
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P.O. Box 180 • Ely, MN 55731

Or use the Or use the PayPal or GiveMN
options on our website
www.listeningpointfoundation.org

GIFT SHOP

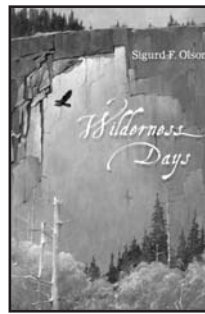
Share the spirit of Listening Point with friends and family with one of these gift items that celebrate Sigurd Olson, Listening Point, wilderness and more! See next page for order form.



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*

..... \$16



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.

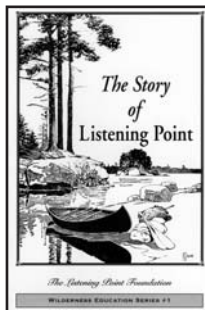
..... \$18



The 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



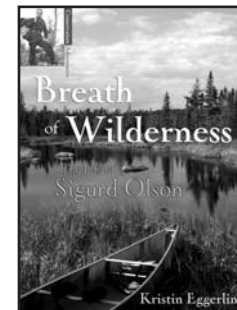
The Story of Listening Point
This 28-page booklet, written by Sig's son Robert K. Olson, tells the inside story of how Listening Point came to be and why, what it meant to Sigurd Olson, and what it continues to mean to wilderness lovers and loyalists. Features dozens of historical photos and images.

..... \$5



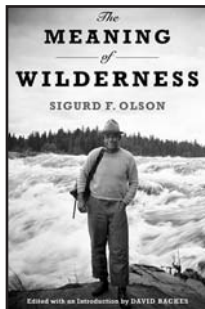
Sig Olson's Wilderness Moments
For Kids! Five selections of Sig Olson's writings, with "Points to Ponder" and "Activities" following each section. Excellent opportunity to introduce Sig to the younger generation. Includes blank pages at the end of the book for several of the activities—journaling, mapping,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

..... \$5



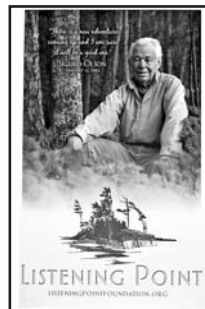
Breath of Wilderness
By Kristin Eggerling. A must-have for your Olson library. The story covers Sigurd Olson's love of wild places and how that love transformed his life. It is a book written for middle school students, but can be enjoyed by all. 92 pages.

..... \$13



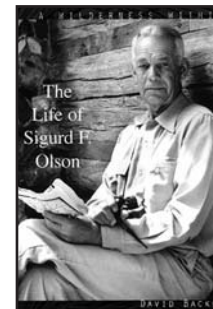
The Meaning of Wilderness
Now available in paperback! First published in 2001, this book features a collection of Sigurd F. Olson's articles and speeches. It offers a lively look at the evolution of one of environmentalism's leading figures and is essential reading for Olson fans, historians, and outdoor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

..... \$18



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 typewritten words: "A new adventure is coming up and I'm sure it will be a good one." A must have for Sig fans.

..... \$16



A Wilderness Within
By David Backes. The authoritative portrait of one of the greatest environmentalists of the twentieth century. The book is a stunning look at a man with a vision for the natural world and for himself. Essential reading for Olson fans.

..... \$23 (paperback)



LPF Mug

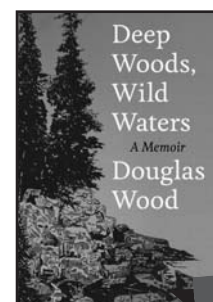
3 finger handle. With logo, website, and "Sig's legacy ... pass it on!" Available in black or white.

..... \$10



Firewood Happens
by Mike Lein.
A series of short essays, humorous, knowledgeable stories for those who love to hunt, fish, or sit on a lakeshore.

..... \$12



Deep Woods, Wild Waters, A Memoir
by Douglas Wood.
A joy to read - Wood shares bushwhacking skills, hurtling down wild rapids, crossing stormy lakes, or simply navigating treacherous currents and the twisty trails of everyday life.

..... \$23



Sigurd Olson Outdoor Adventure Cards!!!
11 water resistant colorful cards for outdoor activities. Sig Olson quotes, and nature observation ideas.

..... \$15

If you are shopping through Amazon this holiday season, please consider using AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com). The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers. Every little bit helps!



LPF Hats

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

..... \$18



Listening Point Luminaria

Created from the original watercolor batik, Last Light on the Lake, by Listening Point Residency artist Kim Gordon. The four windows of this handmade paper luminaria show a view of Listening Point and the lake in the evening light. Luminaria is 4-sided, measures 5"x5"x9.5". The windows are printed on archival Japanese washi paper and the frame is of a heavyweight, dense black Forest Stewardship Council cover stock. Place luminaria over a flameless candle or tealight - do not use with real flame! Comes completely assembled in a flat plastic sleeve with simple instructions to refold along score lines to its 3-D shape. Can be re-flattened and stored in its sleeve. Protect from wind and water.

..... \$17

*Listening
Point
Foundation
Gift Shop*
order form

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

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University of Minnesota Duluth -
Wilderness Philosophy Class



LPF Tour Guide Cindy Miller reads a chapter of *Listening Point* to an attentive audience in the cabin. Another great photo from Kevin W. Graves.



"Last Light on the Lake" A batik watercolor by Kim Gordon, one of our 2018 Artists in Residence.



Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness
Board & Staff Retreat



Inside the cabin. From a series of photographs by Kevin W. Graves taken in the early fall of 2018.

Thank You!

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

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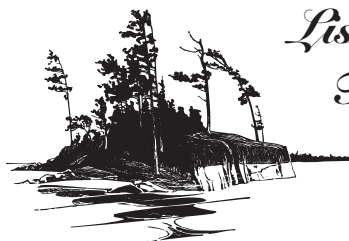
- Karen Matthews, *in honor of Sharon Rome*
- Jennifer Manor, *in honor of Ronald McAdams*
This donation is in memory of my father, Ronald McAdams, who dearly loved the north woods from the time he was a child. He and my mother built a cabin and cherished their listening point there.
- Jack & Jane Todd, *in honor of Dennis & Marti Shaak*

In Memory of...

- Priscilla Herbison, *in memory of Les Blacklock*
- Bill Berg, *in memory of Terry Berg*
- D. William O'Brien and Julie Smendzuik-O'Brien, *in memory of David W. Silha*



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THE VIEW FROM LISTENING POINT — FALL 2018

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