

Sax  
Zim  
Bog  
2019



PRESERVING, PROMOTING &  
PROTECTING THE SAX-ZIM  
BOG FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS  
OF BIRDS & BIRDERS

Northern Hawk Owl  
(*Surnia ulala*)

by Alexa Carson

Alexa Carson

# SAX-ZIM IS YOUR BOG!

What a fantastic owl winter! Sax-Zim in winter 2018-19 hosted at least 3 Snowy Owls, a very cooperative Northern Hawk Owl, several visible Barred Owls, and our local Great Grays. Almost every one of our 4,377 visitors who came through the Welcome Center saw at least one owl during their visit. And a big bonus was the influx of Pine Grosbeaks with an astonishing percentage being rosy-red males. A very nice treat! But the birds had to share the spotlight with the mammals this year as no fewer than NINE Bobcats were recorded, and at least 3 different Pine Martens fed at one of the local feeders.

## WE BE WEE

Friends of Sax-Zim Bog intends to stay a small, grass-roots organization that gets a lot done with little overhead. The only thing we hope to "grow" is our educational outreach, science & research projects, and most importantly, the number of acres we protect. In pursuit of this goal, our few employees perform multiple job descriptions, we only rent a tiny office in the Duluth Folk School, I do all the graphic designing in-house, we utilize volunteer labor when possible. All these things free up your donation dollars to accomplish our Mission — To Preserve, Promote and Protect the Sax-Zim Bog for Future Generations of Birds and Birders.

## BOG BUGGY

I have a fantastic Board! Who else would let me buy an old Ford Econoline "mini bus"? It is a bit rough around the edges, and needs a bit of TLC, but the "bog buggy" had an unexpected surprise in store for us; the bus became a real social hub. Folks riding between stops on field trips would be chatting away, sharing stories and just enjoying good conversation. It also eliminates the dusty, gas-guzzling field trip car-pools of yore. Board Member Rubin Stenseng and myself have served as the chauffeurs.

## SUMMER EXPERIMENT

A goal of Friends of Sax-Zim Bog is to work toward providing year-round education for folks visiting the Bog. One step towards this end was opening the Welcome Center on as many days as possible between mid May and mid July. This is the traditional "second season" of Sax-Zim when folks come to see the amazing variety of warblers, and especially add the Connecticut Warbler to their life list. And once again we were in for a surprise; many of the visitors were not hardcore birders, but folks who had simply heard about Sax-Zim and stopped by to see what was going on.

We recorded "only" 334 visitors during this two-month experiment but did learn some lessons. One is that we probably need to work towards being open much of the summer. But to do that we need to staff the building, and we don't yet have the budget to do that. Another goal is to create more options and activities for non-winter visitors. Stay tuned!



## FUTURE PAVED IN ROUGH-SAWN TAMARACK

The Warren Woessner Bog Boardwalk at the Warren Nelson Memorial Bog has been a much bigger success than we could have imagined. Walking this path into the bog, one enters another world that is normally inaccessible without getting wet, lost or injured. I believe that many more boardwalk projects will be coming up.

## WWBBWNMB

Not the easiest of abbreviations, but easier to say than the "Warren Woessner Bog Boardwalk at the Warren Nelson Memorial Bog"! As I mentioned above, this boardwalk has been incredibly popular to visitors and locals alike. It was made possible by generous donations from our members, the IRRRB Culture & Tourism Grant, Donald Weesner Foundation, and Warren Woessner & Iris Freeman. And this summer, thanks to a donation from Gordon Andersson, we added a 90-foot spur that leads to a platform overlooking a regrowing bog that was logged a decade ago. Volunteer Lonny Gervais built us a bench for a memorial plaque in memory of Priscilla Dean and Peter Getman.

## WHO ARE YOU ANYWAY?

To assess the economic impact of your visits to Sax-Zim, we launched a survey to see how much dollars were being spent in the region. This info will be critical when we demonstrate our growing economic importance in the area to county commissioners, legislators and granting agencies. Please complete a survey when you visit the Welcome Center this winter (and get a free sticker!).

## GOOD NEIGHBORS

We designed a paper placemat chock full of owl natural history for our friends at the Wilbert Cafe in Cotton (photo below). Owner Sandy Simek has been a supporter of Friends of Sax-Zim Bog for years, and her winter clientele is made up of a fair portion of photographers and birders coming to Sax-Zim from all over the country. We printed 5,000 and donated them to the cafe.

Another good friend of the birders coming to our area is Mary Lou. Her popular feeders draw flocks of winter finches and masses of photographers. With money from our Hoeg Family Good Neighbor Fund I designed and built her a permanent wood photo blind. Placed near her feeders that attract Evening Grosbeaks, it will be ready to go this winter.

## BOG BUDDIES DONATE TIME AND ENERGY

We could not run the Welcome Center in winter without our fantastic host/naturalists (Heather-Maire Bloom, Clinton Dexter-Nienhaus, Mark Dudek Johnson, Amy Johnson) and awesome volunteers: Ben Yokel, Carol-Ann



Placemat for the Wilbert Cafe in Cotton

# 2018-19 ANNUAL REPORT

and Tom Bloom, Cindy and Chris Edwardson, Craig Simon, Eric Gdula, Julie and Gene Ollila, John Hatcher, Julie Grahn, Kristina Dexter-Nienhaus, Lori Williams, Dave Steininger, Nancy Fisher, Richard Hoeg, Rubin Stenseng, Sheryl Sostarich, and Steph Horner. Employee AND volunteer Mark Dudek Johnson continues to go above and beyond by making the 5-hour round trip to Sax-Zim to help on boardwalk and other projects without compensation.

Huge thanks to Clyde Morse who, without even being asked, plowed out our parking pad at the Warren Woessner Bog Boardwalk all winter.

We have a talented bunch of members! Thanks to all who created and donated Tiny Bird Art for our January Boreal Wings Gala Silent Auction.

Volunteer Lonny Gervais built us not one, but THREE Aldo Leopold benches for the Warren Woessner Bog Boardwalk and Gray Jay Way. Retired taxidermist Frank Klabacek donated two beautiful mounts for the Welcome Center—a Ruffed Grouse and a Barred Owl. And Doreen Shoberg gifted us a cute little Saw-whet Owl mount. The Education Corner is growing!

All our Bog Buddy donors continue to amaze us with their (your!) generosity (listed in middle of this annual report).

## WHAT'S NEXT?

I believe the biggest projects and priorities in 2019-2020 will center around big land acquisition projects for the Owls & Warblers Critical Corridor Project. These land deals may take years to complete, but we have put the wheels in motion.

Another fun educational project will be the proposed above-ground bog garden/pool at the Welcome Center. New interpretive signage is planned for our boardwalks. More photo blinds may be in our future as well.

Owl research, banding and tracking will begin in 2019-20. Exciting!

On the education front, Head Naturalist Clinton is working on a curriculum to accompany my film, "Boreal Wings," that will go to all the schools in Minnesota.

One project that has begun but will take some time is a comprehensive Sax-Zim Bog Land Preservation Plan. This document will guide us in our use of each parcel of land we own. It will also outline how this land will be preserved for future generations.

...and of course, we have some surprises up our sleeve! Stay tuned via our website, Bog Blog, and Facebook. See you in the Bog!

*Sandy Stensaas*

## YOUR NAME ON THIS BOG? FERMOY IS NOW FRINGED GENTIAN BOG!

Only 10 one-acre blocks at Fringed Gentian Bog are still available.

Option 1: A \$1,000 donation will get your name/memorial on a one-acre block. Help us save habitat for Future Generations of Birds and Birders!  
Option 2: For a donation of \$20,000 you can name this entire parcel!

Contact Sparky at [sparky@saxzim.org](mailto:sparky@saxzim.org) to discuss.



Jim & Carly Cargill	Mason Carpenter	Lissy Carpenter	Ethan Ehlers	Caleb Ehlers
Jan Baker	Jackie Alschuler	In Memory of Ginny Baker	In Memory of Frankie Slater-Hammel	In Memory of John Haber who loved birds
Laverne Dunsmore	Barb Dunsmore	Laura Bailey	Lance & Lisa Novak	Lance & Lisa Novak
In Memory of Augustus James Feth	Sheryl & Jon Sostarich	Carl A. Raechini	Shanna & Erik Brockman	In Memory of Brother Theodore Voelker
Lots & Richard King	Jean Beyer	Michelle Hart & Dr. Bill Faber	Natural Resources Club at Central Lakes College	Valerie Kidwell
Ed & Linda Hendrickson	Doug Mayo & Susan Lang	Ken & Avis Reed	Elizabeth Neuvir	George Soule
Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
Pat & Jim DelVecchio, Nan & Scott Wischard	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 14 Thurs.—Give to the Max Day  
Dec. 7 Sat.—Welcome Center opens for season  
Jan. 3-4 Fri-Sat.—BRRRRdathon  
Jan. 11-12 —Boreal Bird Workshop  
Jan. 26 Sun.—Boreal Wings Gala in Mpls.  
Feb. 1-2 —Boreal Bird Workshop  
Feb. 14-16—Sax-Zim Winter Bird Festival  
Mar. 7—Northern Owls Workshop  
May 2 Sat.—Things that Go Buzz, Croak, Hoot  
May 6, 13, 27—Warbler Wednesdays  
May 20 Wed.—Waffles & Warblers  
DETAILS AT [www.saxzim.org](http://www.saxzim.org) (Events tab)



Sparky Stensaas  
Executive Director





## HABITAT FOR NESTING GREAT GRAY OWLS & RARE CONNECTICUT WARBLERS TARGETED

**F**riends of Sax-Zim Bog proposes to purchase nearly 1,000 acres of mature Black Spruce-Tamarack wetland bog as Phase II of our Owls & Warblers Critical Corridor Project. Acquisition of the property will preserve and protect habitat for a unique array of boreal birds and mammals, many not found in other parts of the United States, especially the Great Gray Owl and Connecticut Warbler. This acquisition will also provide educational opportunities to increase awareness of boreal birds and their bog habitat. Our goal is to begin linking bog tracts from North to South in Sax-Zim.

Most of the bog habitat in the 300-square mile Sax-Zim Bog is tax-forfeited land subject to logging just when the stand is prime for rare breeding birds such as the Great Gray Owl, Black-backed Woodpecker, Canada Jay, Boreal Chickadee, and Connecticut Warbler. Therefore much of the critical mature habitat for these rarely-seen birds is quickly disappearing due to logging. Black Spruce is the second most valuable pulp wood in northern Minnesota.

Cornell's Laboratory of Ornithology states that "according to the North American Breeding Bird Survey, Connecticut Warbler populations declined by about 2% per year between 1966 and 2015, suggesting a cumulative decline of 62% in that period....Partners in Flight includes the species on the Yellow Watch List for declining populations. Connecticut Warblers are vulnerable to some forestry practices that decrease available habitat, including logging...as well as fragmentation of habitat associated with forestry..."

Research projects in Sax-Zim by Smithsonian ornithologist Dr. Michael Hallworth found a very high concentration of Connecticut Warblers in one portion of our proposed parcels. Here he caught 6 Connecticut Warblers in June of 2017 and put geolocators on them. Bird-song-expert Dr. Donald Kroodsma studied nocturnal vocalizations of Connecticut Warblers along Owl Avenue in 2015 on another parcel that is included in this Critical Corridor Project. Both sites are currently on St. Louis County land and subject to logging.

You can help by donating to the Acres for Owls land fund. We are well on our way to our goal!



RAISED: \$185,000

Thanks to Kathy & James Cargill, & EcoTrust

GOAL: \$700,000

## NEW SPUR OFF WARREN WOESSNER BOG BOARDWALK

### GORDON ANDERSSON SPUR & PRISCILLA DEAN & PETER GETMAN MEMORIAL BENCH

**A** 90-foot spur was added to the Warren Woessner Bog Boardwalk this summer. It was made possible by a donation from Gordon Andersson. A bench donated and built by FOSZB volunteer Lonny Gervais holds a bronze plaque in memory of bog buddies Priscilla Dean and Peter Getman. The bench and plaque were made possible by donations from their family and friends: Jack Dean, Hugh & Marilyn Dean, James Stevens & Lynn Anderson, Timothy & Mary Getman, and Jane Theodore. An interpretive sign highlighting the growth and regrowth of Black Spruce & Tamarack bogs will be added this winter.



# ACRES FOR OWLS DONORS 2018-19

\$100,000

Kathy & James Cargill  
EcoTrust

\$20,000-\$30,000

Mary & Dick Brainerd  
Arvella Greenway

\$10,000-\$19,999

Gordon Andersson

\$5,000-\$9,999

Jeanne Kogl  
Ken & Avis Reed

\$1,000-\$4,999

Jean Beyer  
Sharra & Erik Brockman  
Central Lakes College,  
Natural Resources Club  
Michelle Hart & Dr. Bill Faber  
Ed & Linda Hendrickson  
Valerie Kidwell  
Richard & Lois King  
Douglas Mayo & Susan Long  
Heather Miller

Lance & Lisa Novak

Carl Racchini  
Sheryl & Jon Sostarich  
Larry & Frannie Weber  
Scott & Nan Wisherd  
Ben & Heidi Yokel

\$500-\$999

Mark Dudek Johnson  
Ann Hobbs & David Livengood  
Florinus & Shirley Kooyman  
Karen Nemchik & Tariq Samad  
Susan & Jeffrey Saffie  
Loren Snyder & Wendy Champness  
Ben & Mae Lou Thompson

\$100-\$499

Donald Beck  
Erik Berg  
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Don Coons  
John Finnegan  
Ben Fritchman  
Douglas & Mary Beth Hunt  
Jessica Jenner  
Peter Laurie

William Marengo & Esther Gesick

Susan Moe  
Beth Ann & Brendan O'Halloran  
Daniel Orr  
Gwen Papierniak  
Carl Racchini  
Lisa Romano  
Marie Ruthgeerts  
Peter Schoenberger  
Heather & Lee Simso  
Paul Sitz  
Matthew Stratmoen  
Chris Townend  
Karen & Corky Vance  
Justin Watts  
Paul & Jan Wicklund

UP TO \$99

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Andy & Jill Beim  
Milt Blomberg  
Sandy Borsheim  
Joel Claus  
Carol Cooley  
Jonathan Eirten  
Jeff & Michelle Fischer

Ron Funes

Mary Grahek  
Jan & Bob Haarman  
Lucy Hawthorne  
Nancy & Bill Henke  
Alanna Hjortland  
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Gary Johnson & Leanne Alt  
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Timothy Metcalf  
Kari Meyer  
Krista Meyer  
Minnesota River Valley Audubon  
Chapter  
Marilyn Palmer  
Dave & Nancy Samuelson  
Kara Snow & Jake Fossum  
Sandra Swanson  
Jeanne & Steve Tanamachi  
Jen Vieth  
Myki & Natasha Warwas

\*DONATIONS MADE DURING OUR  
FISCAL YEAR: APRIL 2018-MARCH 2019

\*\*See DONOR page for Dedications

Leave  
your Legacy  
in Land!  
\*contact Sparky  
for opportunities

ACRES FOR OWLS DONORS

BLUE DASHER BOG

## MEET BLUE DASHER BOG!

### ARVELLA GREENWAY'S GENEROUS GIFT HONORS THE VISION OF RACHEL CARSON

One of Arvella Greenway's greatest inspirations in conservation is famed author, naturalist, biologist Rachel Carson. So Arvella's naming rights donation created a new identity for the former "East Stone Lake Bog." It is now christened the **Blue Dasher Bog; Honoring the Vision of Rachel Carson: Biologist, Conservationist, Author, Visionary.** The sign was installed this summer, and flagging marks the route of a future hiking trail that will lead to the lake edge.



Arvella  
Greenway

The inspiration for the name "Blue Dasher" came from a sighting Sparky and his canoe group had during the 2018 Bog BioBlitz on East Stone Lake. They found a Blue Dasher dragonfly (photo right), a rare dragonfly this far north. Other species of interest on this parcel include Black-backed Woodpecker, Canada Jay, Rattlesnake Fern, Spotted and Early Coralroot orchids. Diverse tract of land!



Blue Dasher  
dragonfly

Thanks to Arvella and ALL OUR ONE-ACRE DONORS (map below) we have now paid off this parcel and have money in our Acres for Owls Land Fund for future bog preservation projects! Future plans for this site include hiking trail, interpretive signage, and possibly canoe access to East Stone Lake.



Black-backed  
Woodpecker  
at Blue Dasher Bog



Arrowhead  
flowers at  
Blue Dasher Bog



### BLUE DASHER BOG DONORS

In  
Memory  
of  
Robert  
Harold  
Johnson

# RAIN COULDN'T DAMPEN BIOBLITZ VII

OVER 560 SPECIES FOUND BY LEADERS & PARTICIPANTS IN SAX-ZIM BOG

Early rain couldn't dampen the spirits of over 50 participants who explored Sax-Zim from top to bottom on July 20, 2019. The weather just kept getting better throughout the day and it was hard to come back from the field! But everyone did return and it was so much fun to hear about all the group's finds and adventures. Preliminary results show that we DOCUMENTED OVER 560 SPECIES of flora and fauna! Amazingly, this is about 1/3 of our entire Master List of species!



Bog  
BioBlitz VII  
tentatively set for  
July 18, 2020

Highlights were 76 species of BIRDS including Red and White-winged Crossbills, Black-billed Cuckoo and Long-eared Owl; 23 species of SPIDERS; 75 species of INSECTS; Acadian and Striped Hairstreaks were two of the 29 BUTTERFLY species; 13 species of FUNGI; Dragonhunter and Zebra Clubtail were the stars of the DRAGONFLIES; 9 MAMMALS were found including Silver-haired Bat which was new to our Master List! 200-plus species of FLORA highlighted by Purple Fringed Orchids and a rare underwater-blooming Starwort. The MOTH crew of Kristina & Clinton Dexter-Nienhaus, Jessica Dexter and Ben Yokel stayed up a good chunk of the night to monitor their black light and sheets and identified 104 species including 12 new to our Master List!

We had a drawing for 10 door prizes at the end of the day...and I think we had 10 very happy winners! But everyone was a winner on this awesome day in the field!

HUGE THANKS to all our volunteer Field trip leaders!: fungi (Gene Kremer), aquatic insects (Murphy Steining), birds (Jim Lind), butterflies (Jerry McCormack), moths (Clinton & Kristina Dexter-Nienhaus), insects and spiders (Sparky Stensaas), flora (Kelly Beaster), aquatic flora (Ethan Perry), insects (Dr. Tim Craig), bumble bees (Tony), flora (Otto Gockman), dragonflies/damselflies (Clinton Dexter-Nienhaus).



It is BioBlitz day!



The tiny bloom  
of the Spotted  
Coralroot  
orchid



Brady and his  
Jewelwing friend



St. Lawrence Tiger Moth



A good Loosestrife!  
Fringed Loosestrife



A chunky American Toad



Murphy Steining  
sharing his  
aquatic critter  
finds



Four-lined Plant Bug



Two "fun guys" keying out fungi



Orange-spotted Beetle (*Brachiacantha* sp.)



Head Naturalist  
Clinton with rare  
Zebra Clubtail



Confused Haploa moth

BOG BIOBLITZ VII

# BOREAL BIRD ADVENTURE WORKSHOP

TEN FOLKS CAME FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY...WASHINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA, MARYLAND

We tried something new this winter... The BOREAL BIRDS ADVENTURE WORKSHOP! The 10 participants were literally from across the country; from Washington to Maryland. We packed a lot into our 12 hour days! Day 1 we birded Sax-Zim all day. We had a fun picnic lunch at the Welcome Center and dinner at the Wilbert Cafe. Day 2 took us to Duluth and up the North Shore to Two Harbors then inland to Isabella and the Superior National Forest. We stopped at Tettegouche's visitor center and ended the day in Superior Wisconsin. To end the workshop, we had pizza and pop while we watched Sparky's bog videos. A great time!

Bird Highlights were 8 individual owls (Great Gray, Snowy & Hawk Owl), King Eider, 150 Bohemian waxwings at close range, 7 Sharp-tailed Grouse on the lek, Black-backed Woodpecker and flock of White-winged Crossbills at Warren Woessner Bog Boardwalk, Boreal Chickadees and many male Pine Grosbeaks. Join us in 2020!

Boreal  
Bird Workshops  
tentatively set for  
Jan 11-12, &  
Feb 1-2, 2020



Deep in the Warren Nelson Memorial Bog with a Black-backed Woodpecker



Enjoying dancing Sharp-tailed Grouse on a cold January day in Sax-Zim



Bohemian Waxwings were the subject of our interest in Two Harbors

## WORLD'S COLDEST BIRDATHON!

BRRRRDATHON 2019 MAYBE BETTER KNOWN AS "BIRD-A-THAW-N"

The 9th Annual BRRRRdathon in early January was certainly not that cold, but all participants took home warm memories. Temps of 30-41 degrees were very "un-BRRRR-ish" but fantastic for the 6 non-motorized teams on fat bikes! Teams get 1 to 5 points for each species tallied; Rarer species garner more points. The "playing field" is all of NE MN & NW WI. Thanks to all who signed up and participated and especially to John Ellis who raised more than \$400 in pledges!

The composite number of species was 61 which is above our low of 55 but well below our high of 73 species in 2017. **WINNERS 2-DAY:** Team Grouching Twitchers (Dave Benson, Lars Benson, John Ellis) spotted 46 species and tallied 87 points to retain their dominance of winning every BRRRRdathon ever held except one. They birded Sax-Zim Bog, Duluth, Two Harbors and Superior. **WINNERS WINTERGREEN NON-MOTORIZED:** Competition was fierce in the WinterGreen non-motorized division as six teams vied for birdathon supremacy. Team "Snowy Howls" (Deeana Erickson, Bryan French, Matti Erpestad) edged out Team "Shrikecycles" (Andrew Webster, Mikayla Haines, Tom Beery) by ONE point, 40 to 39.

**AVIAN HIGHLIGHTS** included King Eider and Pacific Loon on Lake Superior near French River, Tufted Duck near Pier B in harbor, Merlin chasing redpolls, Great Gray, Snowy and Hawk Owls in Sax-Zim, Belted Kingfisher along Tischer Creek, Varied Thrush & Bohemian Waxwings in Two Harbors.

Thanks to our brave participants!: **WINTERGREEN NON-MOTORIZED:** Team Snowy Howls (Deanna Erickson, Bryan French, Matti Erpestad), The Shrikecycles (Andrew Webster, Tom Beery, Mikayla Haines), Minnesota Fat (Sparky Stensaas), Agate Boys (Tim Bates, Steve Nelson), Chilly Chickapees (Steven Gebhardt, Megan Hogfeldt), Busted (Ken Gilbertson, Pat Kohlin); **2-DAY BRRRRDATHON:** Grouching Twitchers (Dave & Lars Benson, John Ellis); **1-DAY BRRRRDATHON:** Steve Millard in Otter Tail County.



2020 BRRRRdathon is  
Fri-Sat. January 3-4

Team Busted scans for winter birds



Team ShrikeCycle in the WinterGreen non-motorized competition



Sparky fatbiking the Lester River gorge

BOREAL BIRD ADVENTURE

BRRRRDATHON

# DONORS APRIL 2018 - MARCH 2019 *(fiscal year)*

## \$100,000

Kathy & James Cargill  
EcoTrust

## \$20,000-\$60,000

Mary & Dick Brainerd  
To purchase additional 40 acres  
for Warren Nelson Memorial Bog  
Arvella Greenway  
For Blue Dasher Bog, honoring  
the vision of Rachel Carson  
Leuthold Family Foundation

## \$10,000-\$19,999

Gordon Andersson  
To purchase additional 20 acres  
for Warren Nelson Memorial Bog.  
Lloyd K. Johnson Foundation  
Warren D. Woessner & Iris C.  
Freeman  
To support your work in education,  
construction, & land acquisition

## \$5,000-\$9,999

Michael Hurben  
Big Half Year for the Bog  
Jeanne Kogl  
Ken & Avis Reed  
For Fermoy Bog

## \$1,000-\$4,999

Jean Beyer  
For Fermoy Bog  
Sharra & Erik Brockman  
For Fermoy Bog  
Central Lakes College, Natural  
Resources Club  
For Fermoy Bog  
Bill Faber  
For Fermoy Bog  
Ed & Linda Hendrickson  
For Fermoy Bog  
Sue & Bruce Henke  
Susan Kennedy  
Valerie Kidwell  
For Fermoy Bog  
Richard & Lois King  
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Douglas Mayo & Susan Long  
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Lance & Lisa Novak  
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Myron & Holly Peterson  
Carl Racchini  
For Fermoy Bog  
Scott & Patricia Ray  
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Christina Tarasczuk &  
David Alexander  
Steve Thompson & Ron Frey  
Jill Unferth & John Thieroff  
United Health Group  
Randall Wade  
Larry & Frannie Weber  
For an acre of Fermoy Bog in  
memory of Theodore Volker  
Scott & Nan Wisherd  
Gift membership for Jackie  
Pechin & for Fermoy Bog  
Ben & Heidi Yokel  
For Fermoy Bog & Fermoy  
Boardwalk

## \$500-\$999

Susan & Gene Bauer  
Dave & Pam Benson

Lonnie Darr  
Mark Dudek Johnson  
Robin & Charles Emert  
Shawn Goodchild & Heather Hundt  
Ann Hobbs & David Livengood  
Rich & Molly Hoeg  
Donald & Jean Kaddatz  
Robert & Linda Karcz  
Florinus & Shirley Kooyman  
Douglas & Nancy Lane  
Thank you for your effort on  
behalf of our environment.  
Mike Menzel & Kathy Iverson  
Steve & Diane Millard  
Ken & Marcia Nelson  
Karen Nemchik & Tariq Samad  
Heart & Mind Fund of the  
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Minneapolis Foundation  
Howard & Judy Rowe  
Susan & Jeffrey Saffie  
Paul Sitz

In memory of Erika Sitz  
Theresa Smith & Mark Danielson  
Loren Snyder & Wendy Champness  
Ben & Mae Lou Thompson  
Thomson Reuters  
Lance Vrieze & Cassie Kennedy  
For bench on Gray Jay Way  
in memory of Margaret Jeannette  
(1917-2005)  
Lori Williams & Dave Steiningor

## \$100-\$499

Sherry Abts  
Laurie Anderson  
Paul & Karen Anderson  
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Parker Backstrom & Holly Weston  
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Jan Baker & Jackie Alschuler  
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Laura & Bill Baxley  
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Phyllis Bofferding  
Sandy Borsheim  
Bridget Brine  
Diana Burlison  
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Brent Cizek  
Joel Claus  
Judith Ann Collopy  
Don Coons  
Robert Crabb & Andrea Lambrecht  
Maurine Davidson  
Joan Day  
Amy Simso Dean  
Jerry & Carol Dirks  
Sara Donaldson  
Ben & Melissa Douglas  
Betsy & Sandy Dugan  
Jackie Eastman  
Kim Eckert Proceeds from Birding  
By Hindsight book sales  
Paul Egeland  
Bob Ekblad  
John Ellis  
Ken & Carol Ellstrom  
Richard & Cheryl Epps  
Deborah Fellows  
John Finnegan

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Rita Goranson  
Stephen Greenfield  
For Gregg Severson's Big  
Green Half Year for the Bog  
Bettie Halverson  
Angie Hames  
Anne Hanley  
Phil & Helen Hartley  
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Diane & Patrick Herbert  
For the birds  
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Sally Heuer  
Ruth Hiland  
In memory of Nancy Jackson  
Michael Huber & Susan Fuchs  
Barb Huberty  
Douglas & Mary Beth Hunt  
Jessica Jenner  
In memory of Carolie Jenner  
Amy Johnson  
Paul Johnson  
Sandy Jorgenson  
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Gene & Julie Olilla  
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Peter Schoenberger  
Maggie Seely  
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Heather & Lee Simso

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Kevin & Cindy Thury Smith  
Paul Spreitzer  
Todd Starich  
Barbara Stark  
Ruth Stearns & Mike Mattson  
Carol Stenback  
For purchase of a bench and  
plaque in memory of Fay King  
Will Stenberg  
In memory of Karen Kjolhaug  
Stan & Connie Stensaas  
Rubin Stenseng  
Gift membership for Wendy  
Grethen & Terry Brown;  
& Big Half year for the Bog  
Ruth & Dennis Stephens  
Pamela Stevenson  
Matthew Stratmoen  
Laurie Stricker  
Carolyn Sundquist  
Jeanne & Steve Tanamachi  
Edward Therrien  
Toivola-Meadowlands  
Development Board  
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Pamela Walz  
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Laura Wentz  
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Paul & Jan Wicklund  
Sandy & Tom Williams  
Sue Wilmes  
Uri Yokel & Kathy Rodriguez

## Up to \$99

Jane Aguilo  
Pam Albin  
Deborah Allen  
Ameriprise Financial, Inc  
Susan & Brian Anderson  
Cindy Angerhofer  
Allan Apter  
Ruth Axtell-Adams & Kieran Schwartz  
Joel & Nikki Bakker  
Bruce Bartel  
Carla Bates & Susan Pollock  
Paul & Kathrynne Baumtrog  
BD  
Jim & Francie Beaster  
Sarah & Karl Beaster & family  
Corinne & Cory Bedeaux  
Kyle Belcher  
Carol Bender  
In memory of Dick Hartman  
Peggy Benson  
Frank & Kathleen Berdan  
Carla Bergloff  
In honor of Tim Squire  
Gladys Bergstedt  
Anne Bier  
Milt Blomberg  
Tom & Carol-Ann Bloom  
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David Boon  
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Linda Born  
Becky Borsheim  
In memory of Jon Mathson

Alison Boutcher  
Shelley Bowman  
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Christine Bremer  
In memory of Karl Bremer  
Peggy Brennan  
Judd Brink  
Erica Brolin  
Mychal Brosch  
On behalf of Liz Harper  
William Brown  
Donna Browning  
Monica Bryand  
Tyler Bublitz  
Therese & Ed Cacek  
Wendy Carlberg  
Ellen Carlson  
Susan Carlson  
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Laura Coble  
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Mark & Jean Davis  
Hugh & Marilyn Dean  
For bench and plaque In memory  
of Priscilla Dean & Peter Getman  
Joanne Deden  
Ron Demianiuk  
Judy & Bruce Derauf  
Clinton & Kristina Dexter-Nienhaus  
Christine Dubois-Buxbaum  
Scott Dulas  
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Jean Elton Turbes  
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Karen Farmakes  
Susan Finnilla  
Carl Fischer  
Bill Flahave  
Martha Fleck & Eric Twito  
John Fleming  
Thomas Flynn  
Forester John  
Proceeds from Sax-Zim Bog  
essential oil sales

# DONORS THANKS TO ALL!

*We could not survive  
without all of you...  
Our Bog Buddies!*

## (Up to \$99 continued)

Georgia Frazier  
Deborah Freedman  
John Frenz  
Ron Funes  
Joan Furlong  
Clarke Garry  
Dave Geary & Deanne Roquet  
Angela Gerend  
Gloria Gervais  
Lori Giebel  
Jim Gindorff  
Diane Gobran & Steve Olson  
David Gohman  
James Goodwin  
Karl Graf  
Mary Grahek  
Julianne Grahm  
Sherry Gray & David Blaney  
Janet & John Green  
Karol Gresser  
Joanne Groten  
Joyce Grove Hein  
Susan Guiswite  
Michael Gunderson  
Jan & Bob Haarman  
Thomas Haase  
Payton Hage  
William & Sarah Hague  
MaryMargaret Halsey  
Tim Halvorson  
John Hanske  
Dawn Hanson  
Tyler Harms  
Victoria Harthorn  
Lynn & Dick Hartshorn  
John Hatcher  
Gift membership for  
Maxine Dalton  
Dale & Cindy Haugen  
Daniel Hawkins  
Lucy Hawthorne  
Merrie Healy  
Melissa Hein  
John Heino  
Chad Heins  
Molly Henke  
Nancy & Bill Henke  
Alice Hennessey  
Alanna Hjortland  
Constance & Stephen Hodder  
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Patricia Hoglund  
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Ralph Jerndal  
Eric & Val Johnson  
Gary Johnson & Leanne Alt  
Judy Johnson  
Matthew Johnson  
Gift membership for Laurie  
Kelzenberg  
Joanne Jongsma  
Marilyn Kaeli  
Jessica Kainz  
Kurt Kaiser  
Laurie Kania

Michael Kanner  
Faris Keeling  
Vija Kelly  
Betsy Kerr  
Jane Kingston  
Dave Klein  
Dean Kleinhans & Sue Hix  
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Mary Krohnke  
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Val Landwehr  
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Daniel & Gaye Larson  
David Larson  
Kathy Larson  
Tim Larson  
In support of BRRRDathon  
Team Pedal Pushers  
Sabrina Lau & Mark Staba  
In memory of "Spook-the-  
Rabbit"  
Lee Charitable Fund  
Jeremy & Amanda Lemire  
For purchase of a bench &  
plaque in memory of Fay King  
Larry Leonard  
Jack Leow  
Sophia Liao-Wu  
Dean Lindeman  
Sarah Lister  
Edwin Longhway  
Paula Lozano  
Kathy MacKnight  
Janet Majerus  
Fran Maki  
Norma Malinowski  
Craig Mandel  
Sharon Mankus  
Richard & Carolyn Marra  
Mark Mathison  
Warren & Ann Mathson  
In loving memory of our son,  
Jon Mathson who passed  
away on May 20, 2017  
Donn & Kathy Mattsson  
Linda & Robert Mazanec  
Catherine McGinnis  
Patricia Melling  
Margaret Merkow  
Timothy Metcalf  
Barbara & Tom Meyer  
Kari Meyer  
Krista Meyer  
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John O'Donnell  
Jeanne O'Gorman  
Tim Oksiuta  
Manley Olson  
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Jean Osterheim  
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Marilyn Palmer  
Linda Pascoe  
Sally Patterson  
Karen Pauls  
John Pennoyer  
Cathy Perkins  
Skip Perkins  
Ethan Perry  
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Gordon & Kirsten Petty  
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plaque in memory of Fay King  
James Phillips  
Marcia & Bob Pratt  
Jerry Pruett  
Paul Randall  
Sam & Diana Rankin  
C. Gable Ray  
John Reinhart  
Cynthia Reuss  
Deborah Reynolds  
Sally Reynolds & Hampton Smith  
Mark Rhodes  
Eliot Ricciardelli  
Laurence & Patricia Ricker  
Annette & Tim Riley  
Adam Ritscher  
Sharon Robertson  
Ervin & Lois Rockhill  
Sandy Roggenkamp  
Stephen & Deborah Roman  
J Hawkeye Rondeau  
Robert & Susan Rose  
Alexander Rothman  
Penny Rund  
Lorna Rupp  
Gerald & Cheryl Rushenberg  
For purchase of a bench and  
plaque in memory of Fay King  
Shelley Rutkin  
Joseph Rydholm  
Dave & Nancy Samuelson  
Elizabeth Sanders  
Russ & Rita Sandstrom  
Tracy Sarel  
Lana Schaffer  
Elnora Scheffler  
Dick Schoenberger  
Steve Schon  
Marilyn Schroeder  
Debra Schultz  
Nancy Schweitzer  
Linda Seifert  
Carolyn Serrano  
Kathleen Shea  
Kay & Thomas Sheppard  
In memory of Richard Blair  
Hartman  
Ed & Jane Sibley  
Dena Sievert  
Craig Simon  
Scott Slocum  
Gary & Jan Small  
David & Stacey Smith  
Kara Snow & Jake Fossum  
Lynne Somers  
George Soule  
Dean & Linda Squires

Kate Srozinski  
Stacy Stanley & Ted Hall  
Marti Starr & Dave Bucholz  
Jay Steele  
Jerry & Karen Steinbach  
Dana Sterner  
Doug & Kathy Stetzer  
James Stevens & Lynn Anderson  
For bench and plaque  
In memory of Priscilla Dean  
& Peter Getman  
Sandra Swanson  
John Swartz  
Will Taylor  
Sandy Tighe  
Sandra Tipton  
Carol Tollman  
Jason Traver  
Robyn Tryggeseth  
Bonnie & Rick Tucker  
Ann Tutewohl  
Abbie & Dave Valine  
Joan VanGorp  
VENT (Victor Emmanuel  
Nature Tours)  
Jen Vieth  
Dedicated to Sarah B.  
& Sparky S.  
Cathy Wagner  
Sheila Walker  
Sylvia Walker  
Kim Waltman  
Don Wanschura  
Mykl & Natasha Warwas  
Carol & Peter Waselk  
Robb Weaver  
Kris Wegerson  
Charlotte Wenger  
Don Whitehead  
& Alisa DeRider  
Lawrence Wiesner  
Sarah Wilcox  
Pat Willenbring  
Mary Willert  
Jude & Jim Williams  
Mike Williams  
Sylvia & John Winkelman  
Dennis Wold  
Patricia Wolesky  
Todd Wood  
Jerry & Vicky Wotczak  
Joe Wujcik  
Marie Young  
Stephen Young  
& Susan Liedl  
Linda Zaletel



Sax-Zim bird guide Gregg Severson did a Big Green Year in 2019, only birding under his own power. His efforts raised \$561 for Friends of Sax-Zim Bog!

**SUSTAINED  
GIVING HELPS US  
BUDGET**  
1. monthly via credit card  
2. your Required Minimum  
Distribution from IRA  
\*\*info@saxzim.org  
for questions

You can now donate  
stock! Click on the  
"Donate" tab at  
saxzim.org



Give to the Max Day is coming up on November 14th. In 2018, bog buddy Nate Popkin of Duluth found us a "GTMD Loon" and earned us an extra \$100. Thanks Nate!

# CLINTON'S CORNER



A donation of \$500 will support a week of naturalist education

For the last three seasons, my position was shared between Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory and Friends of Sax-Zim Bog. This season, my position is full time with FOSZB! This is a really exciting development, as I will be able to focus on Bog education, outreach, and citizen science. What else was accomplished in Year Four?

Education programming was expanded this year, with my certification to teach Master Naturalist courses. The Minnesota Master Naturalist program was started in 2015 with the intention to educate folks about our state's major biomes and to engage a volunteer base for organizations. Anyone who has interest can become a Master Naturalist, regardless of educational background. More information can be found at [www.minnesotamasternaturalist.org](http://www.minnesotamasternaturalist.org). This season, I have been able to teach 5 Advanced Training Courses, covering Winter Ecology, Tracks and Tracking, and even Ferns and Clubmoss Identification. I am looking forward to teaching further Master Naturalist Advanced Training Courses.

We acquired much needed field gear this year with a generous donation from Jeff Fischer that enabled us to purchase dragonfly nets, aquatic dip nets and hand lenses. Many thanks to Jeff for his donation and support of education in the Sax-Zim Bog! I had the opportunity to create educational props from owls that had been turned in to us. The real owl feet, wings, and skulls have been a great hands-on addition to my outreach programs.

This season saw an increase in outreach events. I was able to speak at the Northwoods Birding Festival in Manitowish Waters, WI, the Eveleth Phenology series, Springbrook Nature Center's Spring Migration Celebration, and lead a field trip for the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations Small Scale Forestry Conference, which was held in Duluth this past June. I am always thrilled to share about Sax-Zim's "bogdiversity"!

I would be remiss not to add that the Sax-Zim Master Species List is now over 1700 species. Talk about bogdiversity! I hope to see you in the Bog!



\*\*Have you seen the latest installment of Clinton's Critters video series? It is about how Great Gray Owls hunt. Check it out on YouTube or at [saxzim.org](http://saxzim.org) under the "Natural History" tab.

More Clinton's Critters videos coming in 2020!

## KESTREL NEST BOX PROGRAM

The American Kestrel Monitoring season was record breaking, with 51 chicks banded, putting us at 131 chicks banded as part of the project.

A record number of boxes were occupied, as well, with 11 boxes having chicks banded. Thank you to all who built boxes and to all of the Kestrel Box Volunteers that help make this project such a success.

Our data is shared with the American Kestrel Partnership (in association with the Peregrine Fund). We join 1670 other

partners and 3,750 other registered nest boxes. All of us are working to collaboratively understand American Kestrel demographics and advance kestrel conservation.

This spring we will reach our goal of 50 kestrel boxes placed in the Sax-Zim Bog, and we hope to also reach a total of 10 Northern Saw-whet Owl boxes!

\*\*If you'd like to volunteer as a nest box monitor, please contact Sarah at [info@saxzim.org](mailto:info@saxzim.org).

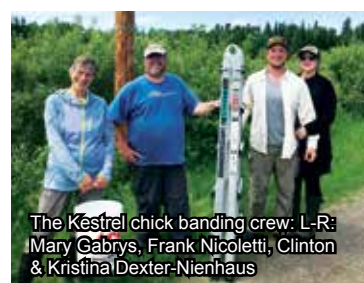
Thanks to Program Coordinator Frank Nicoletti. Much appreciated were the hours put in by the volunteer nest monitors and banding helpers: Kristina Dexter-Nienhaus, Sarah Beaster, Mary Gabrys, Jean Elton-Turbes and Victoria & Kim Harthorn.



Sharing frog natural history on our Things that Go Buzz, Croak, Hoot & Bump in the Night evening program



Can you match the owls to their nest, prey and babies? Try it at the Welcome Center!



The Kestrel chick banding crew: L-R: Mary Gabrys, Frank Nicoletti, Clinton & Kristina Dexter-Nienhaus



Young male American Kestrel after being banded

# 2019 GALA—GEORGE OF THE CRANES

## GEORGE ARCHIBALD OF INTERNATIONAL CRANE FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS GALA

**W**e managed to wedge the 2019 Boreal Wings Gala in-between bitter cold (Minus 32 when we left Duluth in early a.m.) and heavy snow (snow in Mpls held off until after the event), and over 100 of our loyal "Bog Buddies" attended! Once again we held the event at Springbrook Nature Center in Fridley, MN.

Our keynote speaker, Dr. George Archibald, founder and Director of the International Crane Foundation, delighted the crowd with a fascinating talk on the worldwide status of all 15 crane species. He gave special attention to the Sandhill Crane which is thriving in Sax-Zim and all over its breeding range. With George's breadth of knowledge on this topic, he could have spoken for six hours straight...and we all would have been rapt.

The World Premiere of a new Clinton's Critters on how Great Gray Owls hunt was a big hit. You may view this fascinating video on YouTube and our website under the "Natural History" tab. Sparky also updated members on the previous year's successful ventures and exciting new projects including songbird and owl tracking research in the Bog in cooperation with the Natural Resources Research Institute.

The Tiny Bird Art Silent Auction included many fascinating pieces...All original works of art! Our Board Chair Lori also put together four baskets with the themes: Air, Fire, Earth & Water. Folk art bird ceramics by 90-year old Duluthian Ray Naddy also went for big bucks. Sparky and Clinton donated half day field trips. Thanks to all who donated pieces this year. What a creative bunch! The auction alone raised over \$3,500!

Thank you to Lois and Richard King who protected another acre of Fermoy Bog with their generous donation, and an interested couple approached us about our next owl tracking research project. All told we raised over \$7,300. Thank you to all our Bog Buddies!

Attendees sampled some creative bird-themed appetizers, caught up with old friends and made some new acquaintances. Lots of chatter and laughter going on! Hope you can join us in January 2020 for the next Boreal Wings Gala!



George Archibald signing his books



Over 100 "bog buddies" enjoyed keynote speaker George Archibald, themed baskets and tiny bird art were popular in the Silent Auction, and Gordon Andersson bought two!; Olive & cream cheese Penguins; Jeffrey Saffie's amazing wood marquetry Blackburnian Warbler; Folks enjoy the silent auction; George signs copies of his book, My Life with Cranes (top photo).

## SHOP THE SAX-ZIMPORIUM!

2020 BOG WILD CALENDAR AND MUCH MORE UNDER THE "SHOP" TAB ON OUR WEBSITE



Our popular calendar is hot off the press! Over 90 stunning photos and all taken in the Bog in the last 12 months!

Calendar Only....\$15

Calendar + Membership....\$40



BOREAL WINGS GALA

THE SAX-ZIMPORIUM

# BY THE NUMBERS

# 4,377

Visitors to the Welcome Center  
in the winter of 2018-19

...from **45** states & **5** foreign countries  
Spain, Haiti, Canada, Denmark & England

After Minnesota, most visitors came from  
Illinois, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Texas,  
Iowa and Colorado



## 2018



Thanks to a wonderful matching  
grant of

**\$10,000 from  
Warren Woessner &  
Iris Freeman**

you helped us raise a good portion  
of our operating expenses during Give to the Max Day 2018.

## \$34,689

given in 24 hours by...

## 216 DONORS



## 48

### EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

## 2,014

education programs  
including field trips,  
workshops, presentations  
and tables at events



participants attended  
Clinton's programs and  
interacted with us at our  
table at events

## \$323,693

donated by all of you to...

### ACRES FOR OWLS

since we began the program in 2013  
—Thank You!

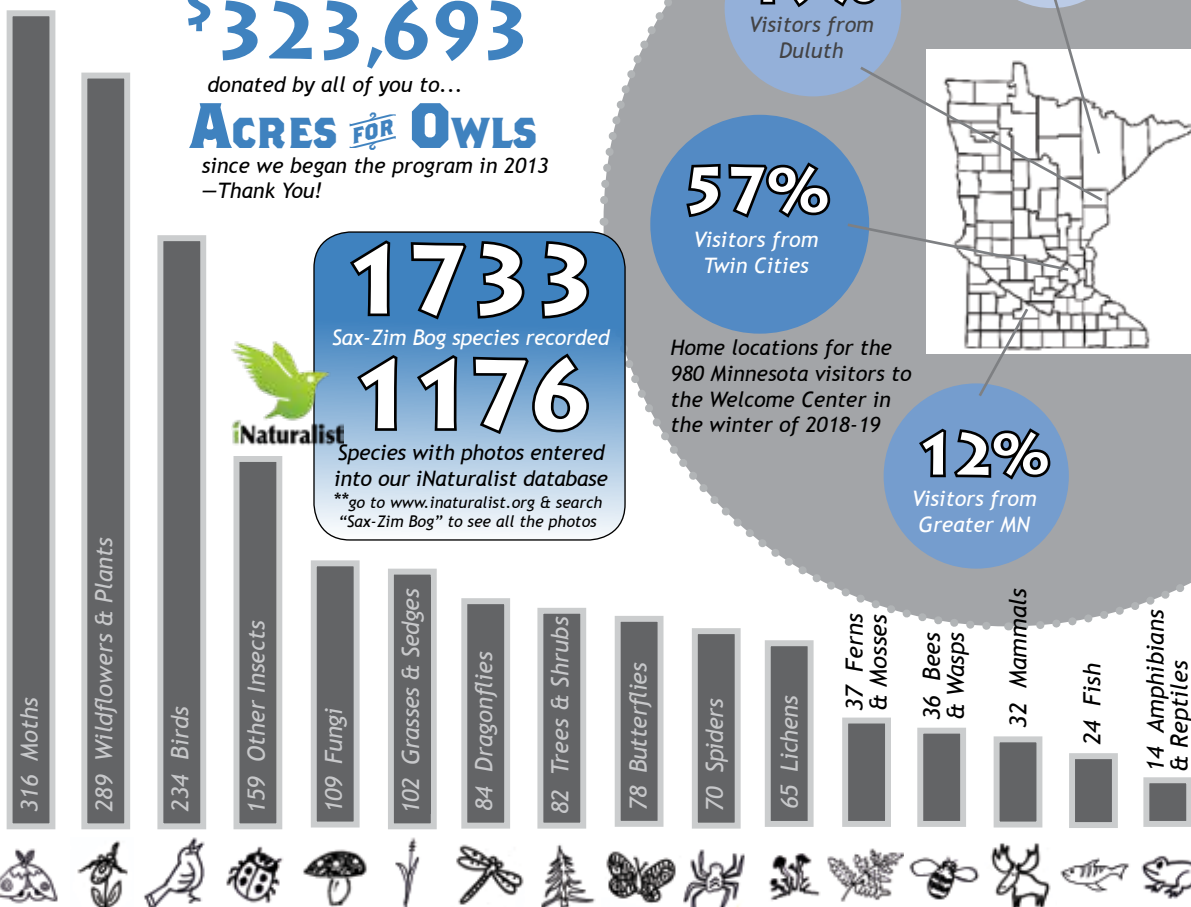
## 1733

Sax-Zim Bog species recorded

## 1176

Species with photos entered  
into our iNaturalist database

\*\*go to [www.inaturalist.org](http://www.inaturalist.org) & search  
"Sax-Zim Bog" to see all the photos



Number of species recorded in our Sax-Zim Bog Master List database

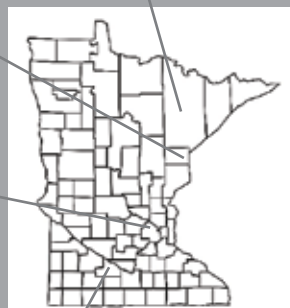
**19%**  
Visitors from  
Duluth

**12%**  
Visitors from  
Iron Range

**57%**  
Visitors from  
Twin Cities

Home locations for the  
980 Minnesota visitors to  
the Welcome Center in  
the winter of 2018-19

**12%**  
Visitors from  
Greater MN



# BOG BUDDIES AT WORK & PLAY 2018-19

## BOG BUDDIES AT WORK & PLAY



Volunteer Bruce Knutsen donated his handmade chip-carved bird for the 2020 Gala.

Brady was a huge help at the Gala. He's modeling our "Bogdiversity shirt."

Friendly FOSZB staff: Mark Johnson, Sarah Beaster, Heather-Marie Bloom at the Welcome Center



Visitors photograph warblers along the Warren Woessner Bog Boardwalk.



Sparky working on the new photo blind at Mary Lou's feeders.



Our new "Bog Buggy" worked out very well for our Warbler Wednesday field trips.



Volunteer Carol-Ann Bloom hauling frozen deer rib cages for the birds...and she's smiling!



Rubin Stenseng and Bob MacNeal cutting up bog boardwalk Tamarack decking.



John Latimer gave the board a tour of the SPRUCE bog climate change study in Itasca County.



Sarah Beaster, Ben Yokel and Carol-Ann Bloom get ready for the Boreal Wings Gala.



Head Naturalist Clinton sharing his knowledge of raptors with a Welcome Center visitor.



Welcome Center host/naturalist Mark Johnson fills the feeders.



Our Adopt-a-Highway Clean up crew. Thanks!



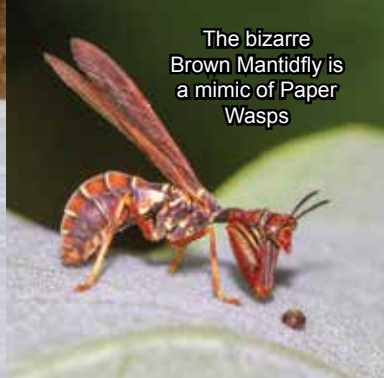
Getting the feeders ready for the birdies.



Taxidermist extraordinaire Frank Klabeczek donated a Barred Owl & Ruffed Grouse to the Welcome Center.



Red Fox leaping for lunch



The bizarre Brown Mantisfly is a mimic of Paper Wasps



Black Morel and violet in May at McDavitt Rec Area



Virginia Rail in the shrub marsh along Admiral Road

**M**y favorite bog plant has to be Few-flowered Sedge, which I found in the Blue Dasher Bog this fall. However, my favorite find this fall was Lingonberry (*Vaccinium vitis-idaea*). I have never found Lingonberry before this fall, and I found it in several of the Sax-Zim Bog parcels. I am terrible at identifying birds, but I would be blown away if I saw a Snowy Owl or a Boreal Owl.

I am so appreciative of the Friends of Sax-Zim Bog for protecting these spruce bogs and other unique habitats. Much of our state is creating habitat for game animals like deer and grouse, while leaving other animals and plant communities behind. FOSZB puts power into the hands of all of us, pooling our resources to protect these properties for the foreseeable future.

## STAFF PROFILE

### Kelly Beaster

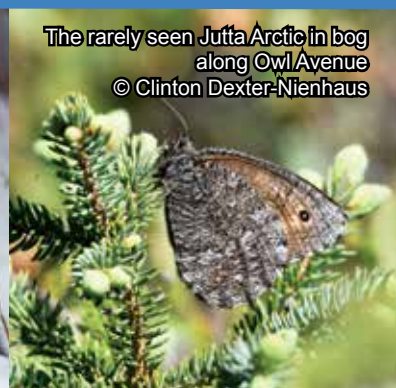
Kelly is a Duluthian and is our "on-call botanist." She recently completed surveys of most FOSZB bog parcels



The old Kelsey Store & Post Office finally succumbed; done in by this winter's heavy and deep snow



Pine Marten along Admiral Road



The rarely seen Jutta Arctic in bog along Owl Avenue  
© Clinton Dexter-Nienhaus



Hummingbird Moth & Dogbane



Wilson's Snipe "walking the rails"



Interrupted Ferns along Warren Woessner Bog Boardwalk



## DONOR PROFILE

### Dr. Bill Faber

Dr. Bill of Central Lakes College brings his students to the Bog each year. He and the club each "purchased" an acre of Fermoy Bog this year.

I am a proud "Great Gray Groupie" and love getting to see a Great Gray each winter. However, Canada Jays and Boreal Chickadees both come in a close second as my favorite Bog birds. Now I'd really like to see an American (Pine) Marten. The Bog is my favorite winter birding HOTSPOT!

If there is one theme of my lifelong commitment to conservation, it is to do my utmost to not only instill the practice of conservation in my natural resource students, but also to teach them to "give back" to Mother Nature for all she gives us. For me the best way is to donate funds toward land stewardship through acquisition and preservation... and that is one of the strong attributes of Friends of Sax-Zim Bog.



# STAFF PROFILE

*Amy Johnson*

Amy has been a Welcome Center host/naturalist for 4 winters. She is an amazing photographer and had the cover image of our 2017 calendar

**T**he Great Gray Owl is my favorite Bog bird, and still ranks in my top 3 all-time birds. There is no other bird experience I've had that matches the time I spend with one of them.

While I've had a brief glimpse of an Ermine (Short-tailed Weasel in its winter white coat), I have yet to photograph one. That's on my bucket list for this winter.

Every time I visit the bog, I find something to enrich my life. Some days it's the frost-covered willows, some days it's a flock of warblers, and on my luckiest days, it's an encounter with a Great Gray Owl. I want to be able to share this experience with others, and supporting the Friends, both with my time and my money, is an easy way to do exactly that.



Mating pair of Baltimore Checkerspots along Correction Line Rd



Arethusa Orchid © Ben Yokel



Dorcas Copper butterfly



As usual, Mary Lou's feeders hosted a flock of Eveing Grosbeaks

**M**y favorite Sax-Zim birds are the Bobolinks in the fields. Their bubbly song is just the best! Sandhill Cranes are a close second. I've never seen a Pine Marten in the Bog and would really like to. Of course a wolf or a moose would be a real treat as well.

It's important to support FOSZB in their efforts to preserve the habitat that supports all the plants and animals that we enjoy so much. Their efforts will make it possible for future generations to see Great Gray Owls, Pine Warblers and Purple Fringed Orchids and all the other wonderful creatures that call this place home. Equally important, I think, is the role FOSZB plays in educating everyone that visits so that we all understand and appreciate just how special the Bog is. As a volunteer at the Sax-Zim Bog I'm always learning something new - and it's a lot of fun.

# VOLUNTEER PROFILE

*Mary Gabrys*

Mary lives in Duluth and has worked as a Kestrel Nest Box monitor for several years.



Sandhill Crane parent and colt in clover along CR7



Ermine at the Warren Nelson Memorial Bog



Fringed Gentian along Fermoy Road



Bobcats were seen more frequently last winter



2018-19 was a fantastic winter for Pine Grosbeaks (Welcome Center)



Early October snow falls on Red Maple leaves



Trumpeter Swans return to Stone Lake in April

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Fiscal Year 2018-2019

April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019



RECEIPTS	FY 15-16	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19
Donations	\$150,396	\$86,997	\$93,075	\$379,892
Events & Programs	\$3,817	\$7,903	\$12,345	\$21,662
Grants	\$63,750	\$50,000	\$115,950	\$73,000
Merchandise Sales	\$10,407	\$14,103	\$22,616	\$22,389
In Kind Donations (Goods, etc)	—	—	\$12,782	\$2,544
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$228,373</b>	<b>\$159,003</b>	<b>\$256,768</b>	<b>\$499,487</b>

### DISBURSEMENTS

Payroll	\$63,173	\$74,981	\$81,165	\$89,491
Operations Expenses	\$30,064	\$50,876	\$145,034	\$149,807
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$2,436	\$702	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$214,393</b>	<b>\$126,555</b>	<b>\$226,199</b>	<b>\$239,298</b>
<b>SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>\$13,980</b>	<b>\$32,447</b>	<b>\$30,569</b>	<b>\$260,189</b>

### BALANCE SHEET

March 31, 2019

ASSETS	3-31-2016	3-31-2017	3-31-2018	3-31-2019
Cash (incl. liquid assets)	\$58,579	\$73,158	\$125,951	\$383,083
Other/Savings	\$3,031	\$3,034	\$3,037	—
Fixed Assets	\$362,658	\$384,086	\$453,754	\$489,534
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$424,268</b>	<b>\$460,278</b>	<b>\$582,742</b>	<b>\$872,617</b>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Liabilities	\$53,540	\$80,412	\$46,252	\$20,719
Restricted Net Assets	\$18,433	\$80,408	\$179,922	\$411,492
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$352,295	\$299,458	\$356,568	\$461,125
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>\$424,268</b>	<b>\$460,278</b>	<b>\$582,742</b>	<b>\$872,617</b>



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Head Naturalist



Mark Dudek Johnson  
Welcome Center Naturalist

*These people get serious work done! They are diligent and hard-working, cohesive and responsible. A terrific team.*

*All of us share a deep concern for this special place and its inhabitants. We will continue to uphold our mission as we move forward to Preserve, Promote and Protect the Sax-Zim Bog.*

—Lori Williams, Board Chair



Dave Steinger  
Board Member-Treasurer



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