



International Borders and Wilderness: Then and Now

By Kevin Proescholdt

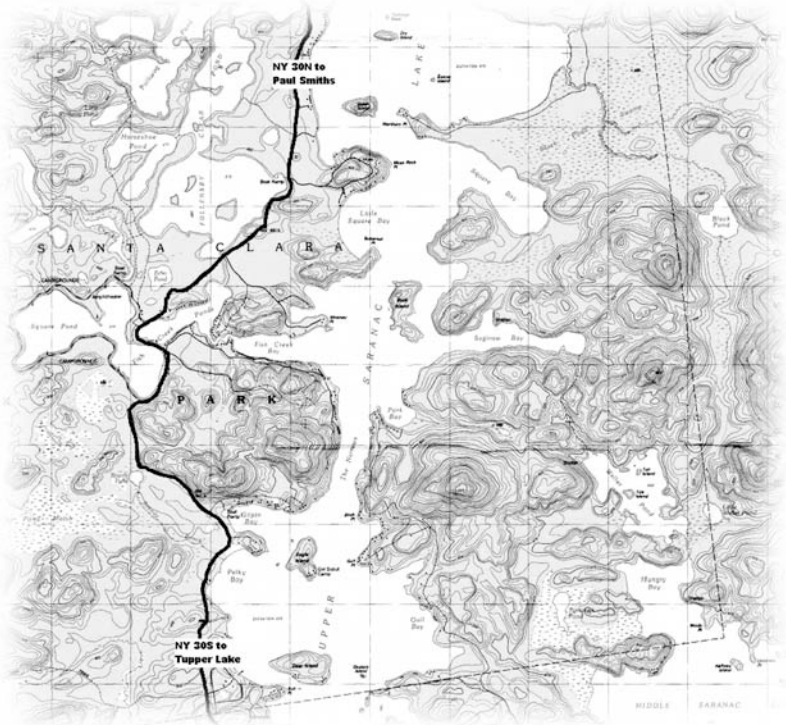
Then: The article on page 6 of this newsletter is excerpted from Sigurd Olson’s first published article in *The Living Wilderness*, the magazine of the Wilderness Society. Sig had joined the Wilderness Society when it first formed in 1935. In 1956 he joined the organization’s Governing Council, eventually becoming president in the late 1960s. He would write a number of additional articles for *The Living Wilderness* through the subsequent years.

In this article, he described the Quetico-Superior region as the international wilderness it is, one large area with the international border running between Quetico and what is now the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAN). In the part of the article not reprinted here, he also wrote of the conservation history of the region up to that point.

Now: International borders and wilderness remain a hot topic today, though perhaps not in ways that Sig could have predicted in 1942. Several wilderness areas in the National Wilderness Preservation System lie along the international boundaries with Mexico and Canada.

The Cabeza Prieta Wilderness and the adjacent Organ Pipe Wilderness in Arizona, as examples, both lie along the Mexican border. Both areas have seen degradation to their wilderness character from drug smugglers, illegal immigrants, and U.S. Border Patrol activities aimed at interdicting the smugglers and migrants. Tons of trash, abandoned cars, and roads have been developed in these areas, all of which have degraded the areas. Vehicle barrier fences have been constructed along the border here in an attempt to block vehicle traffic, and Border Patrol agents regularly use roads in the Cabeza Prieta Wilderness for their enforcement activities. For better or worse, the homeland security law passed in the aftermath of 9/11 has exempted the Border Patrol from complying with most federal laws, including the Wilderness Act and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Further west, south of San Diego, a huge border wall is being constructed along the Otay Mountain Wilderness, a BLM wilderness area that is home to the endangered Tecate cypress. The work includes extensive drilling and blasting on steep slopes to clear 530,000 cubic yards of rock. Obviously such



impacts make it difficult to protect this area as a wilderness “untrammelled by man.”

Impacts of the new border security have been felt in the BWCAN as well. Border Patrol agents are exempt from complying with the snowmobile ban in the BWCAN, for example, and their tracks can be seen along the border lakes in winter. The presence of these tracks may invite additional illegal snowmobile traffic by riders following the Border Patrol tracks. Border Patrol aircraft can fly below the 4,000 foot level established in the 1949 airspace reservation in order to conduct patrols. Border Patrol agents don’t even need to tell the U.S. Forest Service when or how they conduct patrols. One party this past winter had its winter camping experience disrupted by a helicopter hovering overhead shining a spotlight on the campers.

Legislation (H.R. 2076) introduced in the spring of 2009 by Rep. Raul Grijalva (D-AZ), who chairs the House Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands, would seek to protect wildernesses and other natural areas along the international borders from at least some of the negative impacts that we’ve seen in recent years. Watch for future developments! ●

Keep the Flame Alive

"When you wonder how things are going, just remember that you have your task to do. You have got to carry on the battle to preserve such beautiful places as this [referring to Listening Point]. ...It's your task, you've got to see that you keep the flame alive, no matter what the obstacles. The whole world depends on you."

—Sigurd F. Olson, as quoted in *The Wilderness World of Sigurd F. Olson*, produced by ChartHouse International Learning Corporation.
Filmmakers Ray Christensen and Steve Kahlenbeck.



courtesy Tim Rudnicki

Keep the flame alive, no matter what the obstacles—what a powerful reminder Sigurd Olson gives us about the need to persist at preserving not only Listening Point, but other wild and beautiful places. Whenever I read one of Olson's works, I get recharged and called to action. The recharge comes from Olson's rich literary work with its poetic wilderness voice. It is a voice that brings the sights, sounds, feel and smells of the wilderness, as Olson experienced it, to me and countless other readers. Olson's wilderness voice is energizing as it guides me through the beauty and splendor of wilderness while providing a gentle reminder about our relationship to the natural environment.

The energy that comes from Olson's works, and its ability to recharge one's soul to keep the flame alive, is amplified through people and Listening Point Foundation. Fortunately, a number of people who were close to Sigurd and Elizabeth Olson continue to keep the flame alive through their words and deeds. For instance, several Board and Advisory Board Members, including Martin and Esther Kellogg and Chuck and Marty Wick, personally knew Sigurd and Elizabeth Olson. Through the strategic growth of the Board of Directors we keep the flame alive. Richard Struck recently joined the Board of Directors to help further advance the mission of Listening Point Foundation. All those who serve on the Board of Directors, National Advisory Board and International and Senior Board of Advisors, continue to carry forth the flame through their dedication to the mission and work

of Listening Point Foundation.

What other ways is the flame being kept alive? There is, for example, the work of Dr. David Backes, Sigurd Olson's biographer and literary agent for Olson's books. All supporters of Listening Point Foundation help to keep the flame alive. And readers, like you, who walk the talk and have shared with us how they follow Sigurd Olson's example to be more at one with the environment help to keep the flame alive. Be sure to read the piece by the Nygaards in this issue of *The View From Listening Point*.

Another source of energy for keeping the flame alive comes from various multi-media learning tools available through Listening Point Foundation, including the work of filmmakers Ray Christensen and Steve Kahlenbeck. Thanks to their work, I was able to see and hear Sigurd Olson so eloquently challenge us in the opening quote I used for this article.

Sigurd Olson shares with us the beauty of special places and wilderness. We need those places for our collective well-being. When we care enough about those special and wild places, we want to continue to enjoy them and protect and preserve them for future use and enjoyment. So then, with the flame burning, what can we do to follow through on Sigurd Olson's challenge to preserve beautiful places such as Listening Point? Here are a few thoughts to get us going: continue to read Sigurd Olson's works, apply his wilderness and environmental ethic in our daily lives, enjoy those special beautiful places and contact Listening Point Foundation to learn more about how you can help to pass the flame to the next generation. The task really is left to us, to keep the flame alive, no matter what the obstacles. The world does depend on us.

I look forward to hearing from you via an e-mail, letter or telephone call.

Thanks for your continued involvement in the work of Listening Point Foundation. ●

—Tim Rudnicki

You can reach Tim by telephone at 952-915-1505
or by e-mail at tjrudnicki@earthlink.net

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Richard Struck Joins LPF Board

The board of directors of the Listening Point Foundation welcomes Richard C. Struck as its newest member.



Richard Struck

Richard retired in 2002 after a 34-year career in public relations and philanthropy. For 10 years he served in business and corporate communications capacities and held professional accreditation through the Public Relations Society of America. He began his career in fundraising, received recognition as a certified fundraising executive, working in the areas of higher education and

health care. Throughout his career, he participated in numerous fundraising campaigns and personally solicited and cultivated hundreds of donors, corporations and private foundations. He was an active member of the Minnesota Chapter of the

Association of Fundraising Professionals and served as president of that chapter in 2001. He was also active in Rotary

Richard graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1968 with a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism. He earned a Master's Degree in Organizational Communications and has taught in the undergraduate programs of Cardinal Stritch College and Western Illinois University, and in graduate programs in St. Mary's University, Winona, and the University of St. Thomas, Minneapolis.

Richard first met Sig Olson in 1973 while attending an outdoor writer's workshop sponsored by the University of Minnesota-Duluth. This led Richard to contacts with Elizabeth Olson and their sons Sigurd T. Olson and Robert Olson while Richard was working with the Friends of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Richard and his wife Peggy, a retired school psychologist, are long-standing canoe campers in the Boundary Waters. They reside in Cook County near Grand Marais, Minn. ●

Paul Monson, LPF Board Member, Passes Away

Monson, Paul Odean of Edina, MN, passed away peacefully on October 28, 2008. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn., in 1959. He graduated from Luther Theological Seminary in 1963 and served in parish ministry for 40 years: in Mondovi, Wis. (1963-1965), Rosholt, Wis. (1966-1970), as campus pastor at UW-Stevens Point (1966-1969), First English Lutheran in Faribault, Minn. (1970-1988), and Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Minneapolis (1988-2003). In his retirement, he served interim ministries at St. Luke's Lutheran in Bloomington, and Elim Lutheran in Robbinsdale. Most recently, Paul was working part-



Paul Monson

time as the Congregation and Community Liaison for Plymouth Christian Youth Center in north Minneapolis. In his active retirement, he reveled in his grandchildren. On his last report to the Minneapolis area synod office, he wrote, "Grandfathership rules the roost!" He enjoyed being an active member of the communities where he lived. Paul was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Carl Monson. He is survived by two children, Todd (Ruth) Monson of Jamestown, N.D. and Lisa (Keith) Ruehlow of Amery, Wis., and their mother, Deanna M. Monson (nee Fitch) of Mound, Minn.; grandchildren: Luke Monson of Fargo, N.D., Marie Monson of Jamestown, N.D., Sarah Ruehlow and Anna Ruehlow of Amery, Wis.

Paul was actively involved with and would appreciate memorials to: Plymouth Christian Youth Center, Listening Point Foundation, YMCA Camp Widjiwagan, Wilderness Canoe Base, Central Lutheran Clothes Closet. ●

LPF Outreach Update

LPF is working on several outreach projects this summer and fall. The first project includes a small paperback book of selected Sig writings that will be given out to young canoeists and campers, and a list discussion questions and our DVD that will be sent to the leaders of the groups. The booklet is very close to completion. The initial groups have been selected and thanks to a very generous donor, the project is set to launch this summer.

The second Outreach Project is in the initial stages—this program will include an educational package that is intended for camp leaders. The package will include "The Wilderness World of Sigurd Olson" DVD, a copy of "The Singing Wilderness" and discussion questions for both the reader and the leader. At present this project has not been funded.

The third project is a high school and early college curriculum that is based on Sigurd F. Olson's writings. This curriculum will be made available through the Foundation. One of LPF's Advisory Board members is the curriculum author. It is set for a September release. ●

This and That...

- **Website news:** Mike Lein is our new webmaster. Mike has volunteered to update info, add photos etc. We are looking forward to a timely site that will include quotes by Sig and photos from the Point. Further, we have had a good response to the "Become Involved" section of the website—more than 60 new people have joined our ranks.
- **Email addresses:** We have added a line on our contribution form to include the donor's email address—seems to be the way of the future.
- **Annual Blueberry Arts Festival** in Ely again this summer. LPF will host an information booth, with gift shop items for sale. Please stop by and see us July 24-26, 2009. Volunteers are always welcome. Call Alanna at 218-365-7890 for more information.
- **Peter Olsen**, one of our members, is working on a documentary about Sig. He notes that the work-in-progress has a new website/blog where you can watch video excerpts, read about the project, go behind the scenes, get updates, learn how to contribute, and much more. Visit www.SingingWilderness.net, and watch for information on the upcoming fundraising party coming this fall.
- **Carl-Lars Engen**, an eighth grader, from the Twin Cities area, working on a National History Day project, selected Sigurd F. Olson as his subject. The topic of this year's competition: "The Individual in History: actions and legacies," was a perfect match. Carl-Lars has produced an amazing DVD "More Than Words" covering Sigurd's life, passions, political activities and the effect he had on Ely and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. As part of his research, Carl-Lars came to Ely, visited the writing shack, interviewed Chuck Wick and Alanna Johnson, took photos and walked around the town. In May, Carl-Lars's project took second place in the state competition, and he is now on to Washington D.C. in June. Good Luck Carl-Lars! ●



Carl-Lars Engen, at right, collecting video footage for his DVD project.



Upcoming Events 2009 & 2010

Summer & Fall: guided visits to the Point. Please call 218-365-7890 to arrange a visit.

July 24-26: Blueberry Arts Festival, Ely—LPF Outreach booth

October 17: Board of Directors meeting, Audubon Center, Sandstone, MN

October: LPF Fall/Winter newsletter publication

November: LPF annual appeal

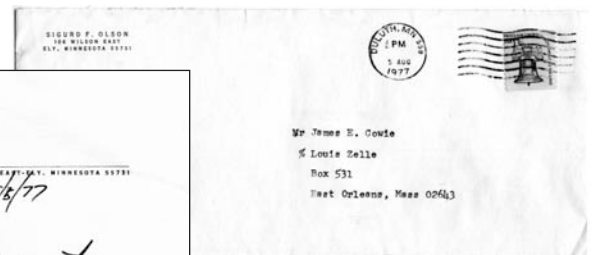
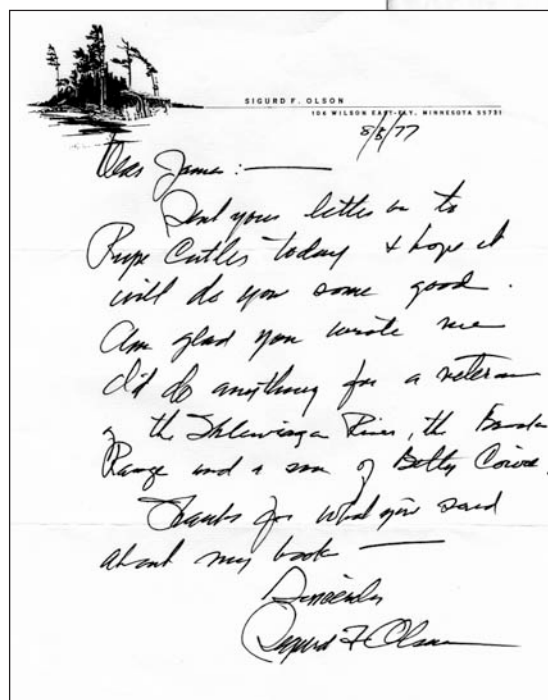
April 10, 2010: annual spring luncheon, Town & Country Club of St. Paul

Letters from Sig

Sig was known for his personal and quick response to letters he received from people all over the country. Often times people tell us how those letters changed their lives, were an inspiration, helped them make a decision and on and on.

So we thought it might be fun to share some of those letters with our readers. The letter printed here, shared by Betty Cowie of North Oaks, Minnesota, is the first of many to be included in our newsletter.

If you have a letter from Sig that you want to share, please let us know. Call us at (218) 365-7890, or e-mail info@listeningpointfoundation.org.



8/5/77

Dear James,
Sent your letter on to Ray Cutler today and I hope it will do you some good. Am glad you wrote me. I'd do anything for a veteran of the Thlewiaza River, the Brooks Range, and a son of Betty Cowie. Thanks for what you said about my book.

Sincerely,
Sigurd F. Olson

Honoring Sigurd Thorne Olson

By Robert K. Olson

Sig was one of the good guys, and we have always been proud to call him brother, father and friend. He was steady and calm, good humored and positive at all times. Despite the horrors of our century, his own combat experience during World War II, and the trials of simple living, he bore malice toward none and charity to all.

A friend and admirer has written, "Sig was often described as a gentleman." In the words of Tom Brokaw in his book *The Greatest Generation*, members of that generation have become examples for not trying to be famous although their lives have been a model for future generations. It is no exaggeration to state that everything Sig did, as man or boy, seemed to be right, good and a model for the future.

Sig had a number of credos he lived his life by and held dear always. His sons Greg and Robert knew them well and share his beliefs in them yet today. These beliefs really define him for who he was as a person.

Do the job big or small, do it well or not at all – It didn't matter what the task was or the challenge placed in front of him, Sig always strove to do his very best. If he didn't feel he was capable or could not do justice to the effort, he would find someone who was capable or could do what needed to be done.

Whence a job is first begun, never leave it 'til it's done – Sig looked at life as a job—perhaps not in the same sense as the "jobs" he held throughout his career, but a job nonetheless. He took it on and made sure he followed through to the end. Sig made sure his family was provided for and that they learned to appreciate life for what it really was—what you can make of it yourself.

If at first you don't succeed, try again – He didn't quit on anything. Whether it was finding a way to overcome the enemy he faced in WWII, a family crisis or perhaps just getting that run in fresh powder snow perfect—try try again. Sig never gave up, even at the end of his life. He didn't give up—he quit on his own terms.

A promise made is a debt unpaid—the stern code of the North – Whenever his sons would talk to Sig on the phone, especially in the last months, they would end the calls with a promise to talk again very soon. Sig would usually say the first part and they the second. Sig held a promise as gold and he stood by his word. If Sig made you a promise it was like gold in the bank. Conversely, he held your word the same way.

Uffdah – This was one of Sig's favorite expressions. It didn't matter the situation—perhaps that tremendous crash on the ski slope with goggles, hat, skis and gloves going separate directions or when he finally decided enough was enough and passed on to meet his beloved wife Esther—we are sure his last thought was "uffdah."

Sig loved the out of doors. His life showed that clearly. There are few people who held the joy of the out of doors as dearly as did he. A canoe slipping quietly through the morning mist, a splash of a fish, the slip of skis over cold snow or that feeling of a perfect run through deep powder. What he valued more than anything was the feeling everyone had a chance to share his love of the woods. As many people have stated about Sig, the thing that made



Sigurd T. Olson (1923-2008)

Longtime Alaskan resident and resident of the Juneau, Alaska community, Sigurd T. Olson, 85, passed away of natural causes on December 21, 2008. Born September 15, 1923 to Sigurd F. Olson and Elizabeth Uhrenholdt Olson of Ely, Minnesota, Sig grew up in the canoe country of northern Minnesota before enlisting in the army during WWII. Sig served in Italy with the ski troops of the 10th Mtn. Division, serving with distinction, and was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action.

Following his discharge in 1945, Sig attended the University of Minnesota, earning a master's degree in wildlife management biology. In 1951 he went to work for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and was assigned to Alaska where he spent the remainder of his life. He retired from the U.S. Forest Service in 1981. Sig's wife, Esther (Tjader of Ely), passed away in 1983.

Sig Olson was well known and respected in the Juneau area. He was an avid skier and member of the board of directors of Eagle Crest Ski Area in Juneau. He also was an advisory board member of the Listening Point Foundation. Sig was loved by all who knew him and will be greatly missed.

Sig is survived by his two sons, Greg, of Meridian, Idaho and Robert of Tucson, Arizona, their wives Peggy and Cindy, as well as four grandchildren and five great grandchildren. ●

Continued on page 7

Quetico-Superior Wilderness International and Unique Its Incomparable Primitive Lakes and Forests Must be Preserved

By Sig Olson

Living Wilderness, Dec. 1942

Along the northeastern Minnesota-Ontario border lies a wilderness lake region comprising the finest canoe country on the continent. Other areas have their lakes and rivers and forests but here alone seems to have occurred that ideal combination of physical features that makes the area superb from the standpoint of the canoeist.

The lakes and rivers are beautiful with their rugged glaciated shores and campsites beneath the white and red pines seem to be especially created for their enjoyment. The country is rich in fish and game; the portages, those all important trails to the wilderness traveler, are short and often lovely. Waterways penetrate to the utmost recesses and it is possible to travel for weeks or months without camping on the same spot twice.

Here is a part of the old wilderness and travel is still by the ancient method of the Hudson's Bay Voyageurs, pack and canoe. Roads are only along the fringes of the real canoe country and it is still possible to get away from the roar of traffic and the smell of gasoline. Within a day's travel of such great urban centers as Chicago, you can leave one night and on the next be encamped thirty miles from the end of the railroad where the only sounds are the calling of the loons and where the world of industry seems as far removed as the moon.

Americans by the thousands have come to know the Quetico-Superior canoe country and have come to love it as a sanctuary from the crowded, noisy civilization of their towns and cities and for the chance it offers to live a life of spiritual freedom and joyous adventure.

They have discovered that a cruise through Quetico Provincial Park or the Superior National Forest is much more than just another camping trip, that it is really a way of life, that it makes little difference on one of those trips if they catch fish, or see game or make so many miles by canoe; the important thing is that for a week or a month they live the life of the voyageur and know the true meaning of peace and the joys of solitude.

One reason this area has come to mean much to the people of the United States is that it is open to anyone, rich and poor, that it is possible to enjoy a wilderness vacation without great expense, the only requisite being a love of the out-of-doors and willingness to paddle and pack and live simply.

Most of these modern voyageurs go in without guides and meet the problems of the wilderness in their own way and perhaps enjoy it more because they are actually on their own. The Boy Scouts and other organizations of young people have discovered it and camps scattered throughout the middle west now count a



canoe trip as a regular part of each summer's program.

Countless young men, and women too, whose salaries do not permit expensive resort vacations have discovered the canoe country. They slip their canoes into any one of the dozens of starting places and disappear into the wilds. After a week or two they come out hard and brown and happy, to carry with them back to the cities memories of the wilderness.

This strip of country lying along some one hundred fifty to two hundred miles of the international border between Lake Superior and Rainy Lake just this side of Lake of the Woods has come to mean a great deal as a recreational area and is destined to mean more and more as wilderness lake country becomes increasingly rare. Here is a vacationland that really belongs to the people, the kind of an area that will and can contribute to the happiness and welfare of all.

That is perhaps what President Theodore Roosevelt sensed when in 1909 he set aside the lakes south of the border as the Superior National Forest and that, too, must have been what the Province of Ontario saw when at the same time it set aside Quetico Provincial Park immediately to the north.

Canadians and Americans have for generations seen eye to eye on many things affecting both countries. Now more than ever before are they realizing that cooperation and mutual trust are necessary. What better way could this old friendship be preserved than by having the Province of Ontario assure us that the Quetico lake region will be kept forever as a great international playground for both countries.

This year of 1942, when both countries are engaged in a supreme struggle to preserve their way of life, also happens to mark the one hundredth anniversary of the Webster-Ashburton Treaty which guaranteed to citizens of both Canada and the United States the right to use international portages on both sides of the border and designated the approximate locations of that border between them.

For a full hundred years peaceful relations have existed and it has in truth become the only border in the world unguarded by bayonets. Would it not be a fitting conclusion to these hundred years of peaceful cooperation to cement our friendship with a new treaty setting aside, as a monument to international goodwill, a wilderness lakeland astride that border, a land where the citizens of both countries might come forever to renew and refresh their souls in a setting of wilderness peace and beauty, a Quetico-Superior International Forest dedicated to the happiness and welfare of all. ●

Guest Pen

I find my serenity and my strength in the outdoors and I need to continually be in contact with nature to maintain these qualities. I live in Otter Tail county, and I make it a point to spend as much time as possible enjoying the many outdoors experiences that this area offers. Since I retired a couple of years ago I have the time to do a lot of interesting things and, although far from wealthy, I am blessed with enough resources to be able to afford them. Actually, although Otter Tail County is my base of operations, I also travel to many other areas and enjoy what they have to offer as well.

My outdoors experiences occur year round. In the winter I enjoy ice fishing, cross country skiing and snowshoeing. Spring means turkey hunting, an annual trout fishing trip to the Cranberry River in northwest Wisconsin, the fishing opener and the first hiking trips. My summers are mainly busy with fishing. My favorite spots are Glendalough State Park near Battle Lake, where I can catch sunnies and crappies on Annie Battle Lake from my canoe (primitive fishing only,) Lake Winnie for Walleyes and Lake Superior and the Apostle Islands area for lake trout and salmon.

This past summer I added my first experience on the Lake Superior Hiking Trail, setting out from from Judge Magney State Park. In the fall I enjoy grouse hunting in the Paul Bunyan State Forest and deer hunting in the Park Rapids area, as well as cutting and hauling wood for the fireplace in my Fergus Falls home, berry picking and more hiking. Also an annual pheasant trip to South Dakota with an old friend who lives there.

Like Sig, I make my trips and activities as simple as possible with an emphasis on being close to nature. I recall he quoted Thoreau, saying something about driving life into a corner and reducing it to simplest terms. I have access to a couple of primitive log cabins and shacks that are available

during the year, but otherwise I take a simple camping outfit and stay in my tent. My experiences are enhanced by the recollection of Sig's description of camp sites and experiences he had over the years.

My very favorite of Sig's stories is "The Sound of Rain" in *Listening Point* where he describes the rain on his tent during the night. I look forward to recreating this experience every time I camp. Other experiences he relates have also come to mind when I enjoy this activity.

I rarely travel anywhere without taking one of Sig's books along with me. Although I have read them all many times, I still get that special feeling of being close to nature whenever I read them. I have found a special spot in the woods overlooking Little Sand Bay on Lake Superior's south shore where I often take one of his books and read and meditate while looking out over the lake. When camping, my days usually end with reading one of his books by the campfire.

A few years ago I accompanied a group of students on a BWCAW trip and later found, to my delight, that we had camped in the exact spot that Sig had camped years ago. He wrote about the spot and when I came across that chapter later I realized that I had been there. Quite a thrill!

I have been blessed with good health and am inspired, when I read Sig's stories, to make the most of the time I have left and keep enjoying these experiences. Sometimes it seems like a lot of work, and I'm tempted to just skip all the preparation and planning and just stay home. A few minutes spent reading one of Sig's adventures and I'm fired up again and feel the same way he did when he described the preparations he made to go on another guiding trip. And I've never been sorry that I made the effort to enjoy yet another experience. ●

—Jon Nygaard, Fergus Falls, MN

Sigurd Thorne Olson (continued from page 5)

him happiest was sharing a picnic on the beach or just out of doors with friends or family. We think he is doing that just now—and he knows that we all would be much happier if we did the same thing.

One of the good things Sig did was the establishment of Listening Point. No one else could have known Sig's important role in the creation of the Listening Point Foundation. We talked for years following the deaths of Sig Sr. and Elizabeth about what should be done with Listening Point. We generated a thick file of pre-email letters and calls on the question over the years, weighed and discarded options and values. Finally, with the collaboration and insights provided by Chuck Wick, we made the decision to establish the Listening Point Foundation. We had had no problem with defining the objectives of the LPF. We knew basically what it should be about. It was a complicated legal and financial business neither of us was familiar with. Thanks to the advice and assistance of Randall Pachal, CPA, in Hayward and Mrs. Vona Hall of Douglas, Alaska, the LPF became a bona fide charitable organization and corporation in 1998. It all represents the thought, guidance, agreement, and blessing of Sigurd and our family. Without that the LPF would never have seen the light of day. We all are indebted to Sig for this. He was truly one of "The Greatest Generation."

We propose, therefore, a toast in his honor and memory in the words of the voyageurs: "Hommage a Sigurd T." by all who knew, loved and respected him. ●

Gift Shop

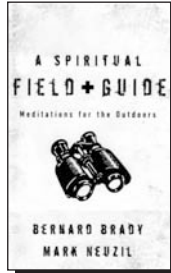
Share the spirit of Listening Point with friends and family with one of these gift items that celebrate Sigurd Olson and Listening Point.



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.

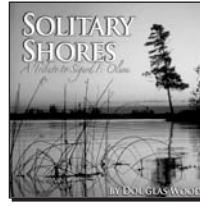
..... \$5



A Spiritual Field Guide

This 192-page softcover book contains passages from a wide variety of writers, activists and others (including Sigurd F. Olson) who have thought long and deeply about the meaning and value of nature and wilderness. A perfect trip companion.

..... \$13



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. This is an album for lovers of the Northwoods and fans of Sig Olson.

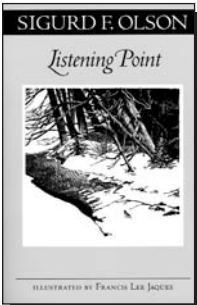
..... \$18



Brandenburg Cards

Listening Point at winter's end, captured by photographer Jim Brandenburg and featuring a quote from Sigurd Olson. Set of 10 full-color note cards with envelopes.

..... \$20



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 Video

This intimate film captures the life and spirit of Sigurd Olson late in his life. VHS format, 30 minutes long.

..... \$15



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. The audio clips are set to a slideshow of Olson family photographs.

..... \$15

Listening Point Foundation Gift Shop
order form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

- Story of Listening Point booklet @ \$ 5.00 = _____
- Sigurd Olson paperback books @ \$15.00 = _____
- specify title(s): _____
- Wilderness World video @ \$15.00 = _____
- Wilderness World DVD @ \$15.00 = _____
- A Spiritual Field Guide book @ \$13.00 = _____
- Brandenburg cards @ \$20.00 = _____
- Solitary Shores audio CD @ \$18.00 = _____
- Shipping/Handling (\$2.00 for each item) @ \$ 2.00 = _____

ORDER TOTAL: _____

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

Listening Point Foundation, Inc.
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Editor's Note: The segments of the two articles below were inadvertently omitted from the Fall 2008 issue of *The View From Listening Point*. We apologize for the confusion this caused.

Listening Point *(continued from page 4-last issue)*

The DNA we inherited from our ancestors who lived in wilderness, and knew it as familiarly as home, lives on in us. It is reflected in our innate inclination take off for wild places and in those moments spent near trees and water when our bodies seem to sigh with relief.

In his writing and in his conservation work, Olson tried to ensure that wilderness would always be protected so that that primitive person in us could be fed and nourished by it. Olson's death while snowshoeing near Ely on a 30-degree-below morning in 1981 was perhaps fitting. Robert Olson wrote of it, "...it was quite as he would have wished it to be, out in the woods, snowshoeing down the trail."

He leaves us with the richness of wilderness, and specifically the legacy of a little granite spit of land on Burntside Lake.

Of it, Olson wrote, "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," he said, "has a listening point somewhere." ●

—Nancy Jo Tubbs is a member of the LPF Board of Directors. This article first appeared in the Sept. 20, 2008 issue of the Ely Timberjay

God's Country *(continued from page 7-last issue)*

existence and the fearless battle with the elements is what makes the manhood of the north big and clean and strong. The north asks for strong men, not weaklings, for here manhood is tested down to the core. To those whom she selects she reveals all her riches and if she does not give them riches in gold she gives them riches far more worth while that mean happiness and contentment.

And so we traveled through hundreds of lakes and rivers, drunk in the beauties of countless waterfalls, rapids and virgin forests, saw naked grandeur as God intended it to be, unscathed by the hand of man.

When we ended our cruise and our canoes grated on a sandy beach for the last time our hearts were heavy and yet how happy. We were ragged and unkempt, but what mattered that; our hearts were filled to overflowing. We came back empty handed, but oh how rich we were. We could say with Kipling's explorer on his return:

"Have I named one single river? Have I claimed one single acre? Have I kept one single nugget? No, not I. Because my price was paid me ten times over by my Maker. But you wouldn't understand it. You go up and occupy." ●

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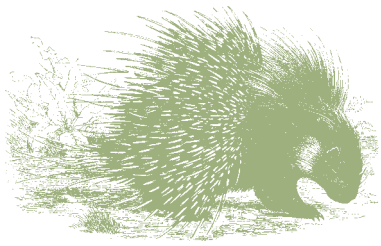
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