

Current St. Croix Storytellers

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Anthony Minnichsoffer

Franconia Township

tonyminn@gmail.com

Topic/s: Fur trade, Logging/forestry, Geology

Description: At the state parks I did programs about the fur trade and the logging era. Locally I served as a founding member of Friends of Allemansratt Park which is both a wilderness and a Swedish heritage landmark. Raised in Franconia Township and the Shafer area I have worked with several history writers and researchers on the history of that area and The Taylors Falls and Lake Superior Railroad.

For Adults, Children, or Either: Either

Marty Harding, North Woods and Waters of the St. Croix Heritage Area

Chisago City, Minnesota

Martyharding1@gmail.com

Topic/s: North Woods and Waters of the St. Croix Heritage Area

Description: I'd love to make a presentation to your organization about NWW and this region's quest for recognition of the St. Croix River Watershed as a National Heritage Area. NWW's mission is to promote the natural, cultural, and historic resources of this nationally significant region. We now have programs and projects that unite the watershed. We'll share these with you, and use this time to learn how we can best represent your organization or community to residents and visitors. We all have a part of this region's story to tell. What's yours?

Specific areas of emphasis in this presentation can be emphasized based on interest: 1) the economic impact of designation 2) tools for amplifying our voices (LYNX, Clio, Live! from North Woods and Waters, St. Croix Storytellers) 3) specific programs - Operation Pollination, St. Croix Master Watershed Stewards

For Adults, Children, or Either: Adults

**Thomas Wayne King, St. Croix Writers; Lake Superior Writers; Wisconsin Writers Association
Solon Springs, Wisconsin**

RunHikeSkiNow@gmail.com

Topic/s: European Immigration/Culture/History; Logging/Forestry; Conservation; Rivers and lakes; Recreation; Music and the arts; Solon Springs and Upper St. Croix Lake; South Range hills overlooking Lake Superior

Description: Fun, informal talks with tales, essays, rhymes, raps and songs of the Northland, including brief readings of my original works and historical works by my pioneer settler family members, often telling of their interactions with indigenous people of WI and the WI St. Croix region, 1860-present.

For Adults, Children, or Either: Either

**Melanie Kleiss, North Woods and Waters of the St. Croix Heritage Area
Saint Paul, Minnesota**

kleissme@umn.edu

Topic/s: Conservation, Recreation

Description: A group of local advocates in Grantsburg decided to work on clearing out enough wood debris from the Wood River to allow kayak passage from Memory Lake to the St. Croix River. It took a few months and about 10 volunteers, and was a magical process of learning, exploration, and discovery. The 8-9 miles of the winding Wood River is a different world that you can't imagine from the road or from the "big river". I would propose talking about the experience to inspire others to start similar projects in their communities.

For Adults, Children, or Either: Either

**Carol LeBreck, Barnes Area Historical Society
Barnes, Wisconsin**

carol@global-links.org

Topic/s: The Historic Silver Beach Elk, Conservation, Rivers and lakes

Description: Curating the Historic Elk Exhibit for the BAHA Museum provided the opportunity for me to research the discovery process, the implications of this important archaeological find, and the interesting questions that arise. Found among the remains, was a Gainey spear point that has been dated to be about 10,000 years old.

For Adults, Children, or Either: Adult

Buck Malick

Hudson, Wisconsin

cmalick2@gmail.com

Topic/s: Economic Development, Scenic Drives

For Adults, Children, or Either: Adult

Jack McKenzie, Comfort Lake Forest Lake Watershed District

Forest Lake, Minnesota

jmackenzie426@msn.com

Topic/s: Agriculture, Lawn Maintenance Best Practices for a Healthy Watershed

Description: This workshop, between two and four hours long, educates property owners on Best Management Practices that can be implemented to limit negative impacts upon the watershed while enhancing personal space. Sections include site assessment, soils, fertility, mowing, shade, cultural practices and seed selection.

For Adults, Children, or Either: Adult

Lynne Moratzka, Gammelgarden Museum

Forest Lake, Minnesota

gammelgardenlynne@frontiernet.net

Topic/s: European Immigrant/Culture/History; Swedish Immigration

Description: Using an Immigrant basket, filled with items for Amerika, I talk about conditions in Sweden 1850's, Swedish culture and daily life for Swedes and what prompted Immigration; the reality of the journey to the Upper Midwest and challenges to start a new life in the wilderness. How they adapted, how they influenced the landscape and creation of Minnesota and what part of being Swedish they kept and handed down generations. The talk usually takes about 1 hour; I enjoy questions too. I can adapt to interests/focus of the group listening.

For Adults, Children, or Either: Either

Margaret Smith

River Falls, Wisconsin

flowers@dishup.us

Topic/s: Trumpeter swans, wetland conservation, lead poisoning in waterfowl

Description: Margaret is a Master gardener, Master Watershed Steward, Executive Director of the Trumpeter Swan Society.

For Adults, Children, or Either: Either

Chris Stein, National Park Service
Saint Paul, Minnesota
chris_stein@nps.gov

Topic/s: Conservation, Pollinators and their habitats
Description: National Heritage Areas, Pollinator Project
For Adults, Children, or Either: Either

Emily Stone, Cable Natural History Museum
Cable, Wisconsin
emily@cablemuseum.org

Topic/s: Conservation, Pollinators and their habitats, Migratory routes of birds and animals; Rivers and lakes, natural history topics
Description: The Cable Natural History Museum has three full-time naturalists who can give a variety of [lectures and/or interactive programs](#) about Northwoods nature to adults, students, and families.
For Adults, Children, or Either: Either