

## WOODEN BOAT SPEAKER SERIES

Watch, listen, be inspired. The adventurous and spirited journeys of sailors, boat builders and canoeists converge for two days of inspirational presentations. North House members receive Special Event Pass, for free admission to presentations and workshops. \$5/presentation for non-members. Become a member today, for as little as \$25 and Get The Pass!

### **Fri, 2pm | Superior Dream; Circumnavigating Lake Superior with Lucas Will**

After spending two months hand building two skin-on-frame Greenland sea kayaks for an expedition around Lake Superior, the builders were forced to abandon their crafts during the first days of their circumnavigation. What gives? Join Lucas Will to hear his stories-- what boat he did take, what he would have changed about the traditional boat, and details of his classic trip around the Big Lake. He'll also share video footage from the adventure documentary that the team is currently working on.

### **Fri, 3pm | Bending Ribs and Shaping Lives; Brian Thorkildson, Boatbuilding Instructor Urban Boatbuilders**

A pile of wood undergoes a dramatic transformation as a wooden boat is built, but at Urban Boatbuilders, the lives of the builders can change just as much. Urban Boatbuilders is a youth service agency in St. Paul that works with at-risk youth, engaging them in the positive activity of using and building wooden boats. Brian Thorkildson, an instructor at UBB, has seen numerous changes in the youth he has worked with building canoes, prams and a 22' Umiak. Come hear the stories of these youth and the boats they build, and find out how bending ribs can shape a young person's life.

### **Fri, 4pm | Escaping the Rat Race: One Family's Journey on a Sail Boat: Katya and Mark Gordon**

Mark and Katya Gordon, owners of Amicus Adventure Sailing, lived aboard their steel sailboat, Amicus, for over a year while they sailed to the Bahamas and back with their two young daughters, ages 2 and 4. Since then they have lived in Two Harbors, MN, bought a larger boat, and are passionate about taking others sailing. The Gordons will tell stories of what they learned about living the simple life while embracing a sense of adventure. Presentation includes pictures of their trip and tips for families looking to get off the beaten path and live their priorities as fully as possible.

### **Sat, 9am | 1007 Lakes and One County: Paddling Itasca with Mary the Kayak Lady**

A firm believer that you don't have to leave your backyard to find something interesting to explore, Mary Shideler spent 15 seasons paddling all 1007 lakes in Itasca County, MN in her Pygmy GoldenEye-13 Stitch-n-Glue wooden kayak. She'll share stories of her encounters with wildlife, weather, and the scenic lake country of Minnesota from her memoir, The Kayak Lady, along with inspiration to undertake a journey of your own.

### **Sat, 10am | Lake Superior: Facts, Figures and Myths: Captain Matthew Brown**

Captain Matthew Brown has spent years sailing and exploring the Big Lake, and knows Superior and her many moods from a sailor's perspective. Matthew will discuss maritime history and mythology of Lake Superior, including commercial fishing, shipping, and the many shipwrecks that color the history of the lake. Join him for tales of the boats and folks that have sailed, paddled, and lived along the waters and shores of Lake Superior.

### **Sat, 11am | Puppets on the Harbor: Stories from a Creative Community with Jay Anderson**

The Summer Solstice Pageant has evolved into a major community celebration of art, theatre and music that taps the creative heart of the Cook County community. The folks behind the Good Harbor Hill Players bring together all ages, talents and abilities in the spirit of shared creativity. Each person's inspiration feeds and plays off the other's and the

result is a unique shared art form. Jay will explore what it means for a community to create art together, and offer insight into the creative process behind the pageant

**Sat, 1pm | Names and Stories: The Lakes of the Border Country with Calvin Ottetail**

The history of people living in and traveling through the lakes of the border country reaches back thousands of years into Anishinaabe history. Join Calvin Ottetail, of the Lac LaCroix First Nation group, as he shares the names and stories of the lakes, bays, islands and rocks of canoe country. This oral history has been passed on for centuries—don't miss your chance to take part in this living tradition.

**Sat, 2pm | BWCA Wilderness Q & A with Bill Hansen**

Bill Hansen, owner of Sawbill Canoe Outfitters, has lived and breathed the BWCA Wilderness for the last 55 years. He has canoed the wilderness in birch bark, wood and canvas, aluminum and Kevlar canoes. In addition to helping thousands of wilderness canoeists, he has been active in the politics and policy side of wilderness and received the Wilderness Society's Environmental Hero Award. Ask Bill about canoe design, wilderness history, fishing tips, natural history, policy or anything else canoe country related. Everything but his favorite fishing hole is fair game!

**KEYNOTE PRESENTATION**

**Sun, 12:30 pm | Canoe Tripping and Canoe Building, One Man's Evolutionary Journey with Ken Koscik**

Ken Koscik started building cedar strip canoes in 1967, and started tripping into the Quetico in 1969. Since then, he has been involved with over sixty canoe / kayak projects. Building with friends led to teaching classes, first in Monona, Wisconsin and for the last five years in Grand Marias, Minnesota at North House. For Ken, building with others has been a joy and a gift. This coming summer he will take his skills oversea to Rauland, Norway where he was invited to share his building skills and teach a class. Ken's donated canoes have raised over \$60,000 for community projects and causes.

This spring marked Ken's 43rd year and well over sixty trips of canoe camping, snowshoeing and cross country skiing in the Quetico Provincial Park and the BWCA. Ken's presentation will explore how canoeing and canoe building has changed his life and touched the lives of others. His cedar-filled stories affirm that helping others and meeting new friends will always enrich your life.

-----  
**GET THE PASS††**

Become a North House member for \$25 and receive an event pass. The pass gets you into all speakers and workshops throughout the weekend. Family passes \$50. Otherwise \$5 for each presentation.