

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, 2 pm / TBA

Fri, 3pm / Wood Canvas Canoes: Why They Still Matter with Jeanne Bourquin

Why wood? Because they still do good work. Instructor Jeanne Bourquin talks and shows slides, explaining how great wood canoes are to paddle and why you really want to build or repair one yourself here at North House.

Fri, 4pm / Travels in Our Red Handmade Honeymoon Canoe with Julie Buckles

In 1999, reporter Julie Buckles and her new groom built a E.M. White wood and canvas guide canoe (with the help of master builder Jerry Stelmok) and set off on a 1,700 mile canoe honeymoon, traveling from Lake Superior to Wollaston Lake, where they stayed for the winter. In this slideshow presentation Buckles and Ray will talk about their travels in their E.M. White from their 1999 expedition to their most recent week on the Churchill with their kids.

Sat, 2pm | Afloat Again, Adrift with Andy Keith

Join local writer Andrew Keith as he paddles downstream through the three different and distinct watersheds that originate in northern Minnesota. Most everyone knows that the Mississippi River begins in Minnesota at Lake Itasca and then flows south to the subtropical Gulf of Mexico. On the other side of the divide where the Mississippi begins, there is a lesser known watershed that flows north through a series of interconnected lakes and streams to the subarctic Hudson Bay. Minnesota's third watershed flows east through the five Great Lakes which drain off into the Saint Lawrence Seaway, and eventually into the Atlantic Ocean proper. After paddling these three different downstream journeys, Mr. Keith then published his book, *Afloat Again, Adrift* to share some of his experiences and to continue the adventure. Now you can explore along with him. Come and learn what lies downstream from our backyard.

Sat, 3pm | Gordon Family Sailing Adventures and Lake Superior Climate Change with Mark & Katya Gordon

Mark, Katya, Cedar (11), and Lamar (9) Gordon have lived and cruised on sailboats for over a decade now--yes, for the girls, that's from babyhood onward. This family from Two Harbors owns and operates *Amicus Adventure Sailing*, an adventure sailing business based out of Knife River. Their 40-ft. red steel cutter--*Amicus II*-- is easy to spot from shore or at the Northhouse dock, where it parks before its signature North House trips--to Isle Royale National Park and to the Apostle Islands, both annual June trips. This spring they have expanded their traditional young adult sailing voyage to include the entire south and west portions of Lake Superior on a 5-week mission to bring climate-change information, knowledge, and activating inspiration to concerned citizens on shore. This will be the first of three voyages over three years that will together circumnavigate the Lake and reach every major port. Their trip is entitled "Sea Change"--both to highlight what effects climate change has already brought to the Lake, and to foretell the cultural shift that must take place in order to move to renewable energy sources. Come and hear their story and share in their priorities and vision

Sat, 4pm | Travels of a Boat Builder, Tape Measure in Hand with Garry Couch

Garry Couch has been living full time in the World of Wooden Boats since the mid 1970's - commercially fishing, sailing, and working in yards and shops in Pacific waters, and then the past 20 some years in Bayfield building traditional small craft and restoring a wide variety of wooden boats. Over the past several years he has been documenting Lake Superior built working watercraft from the first half of the 20th century by taking their lines, creating a scaled lines drawing, and from those drawings shaping half hulls. His work is on display at his shop, Chequamegon Boat Works, the Bayfield Maritime museum and Bates Gallery in Bayfield. This past October Garry visited a friend in Istanbul, and from there they traveled to the Aegean Sea fishing village of Ayvalik on Turkey's west coast. With slides and stories, he shares his attempts to work his craft, first in a museum in Istanbul and then more fruitfully, in a boat yard on the Aegean coast.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP GATHERING & KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

Sun, 12:30 pm | Lake Superior to the Pacific Ocean: 7 Months in a Birch Bark Canoe with Dan Blessing

On May 5, 2010, Dan Blessing and Marc Vangrinsven left Grand Portage, Lake Superior with seven canvas portage packs, three paddles, two fishing poles, ninety pounds of wild rice, two white-tailed deer, and one handcrafted birch bark canoe. Vangrinsven had spent the previous summer in Michigan's Upper Peninsula harvesting materials and constructing the craft. This summer the duo was determined to take that boat somewhere. With just the right balance of research and naïveté to get them out the door, they were bound for the Pacific Ocean. Over the next 206 days they traveled nearly 4000 miles on a convoluted route across western North America en route to the sea. They traveled through the BWCAW and north across Lake Winnipeg. Their route then sent them upstream for over 1000 miles on several major Canadian rivers including the Sturgeon-Weir, the Churchill and Athabasca. Leaving Jasper, Alberta on foot, and now joined by Dan's wife, Greta, the three continued, crossing the Rocky Mountains at Athabasca Pass. Finally they descended the dammed up Columbia River, reaching the sea on November 26 with only minor injuries to themselves and their delicate watercraft.