

**Michael Rotter** is a graduate student at Northern Michigan University. Currently he is studying the floral composition of Isle Royale National Park and the long-term impacts of moose browse on plant communities. Michael graduated from NMU with a degree in botany in 2008. Before returning for his master's degree, he worked for the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy in California restoring native plant communities and worked for the National Park Service as a botanist for the prescribed fire programs of the Natchez Trace Parkway in Mississippi and in Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in Indiana.



**Justin Savu** believes the work we do in today's forests sets the stage for generations of people and wildlife to come: "Born from a motivation to produce my own woodworks, my materials focus is on locally sourced

solid-wood products. With occasional exception for a regional specialty wood, all of my work has come from trees obtained through my business—low-impact forestry work, tree service work, blow-down recovery, and prized saw log rejects from local loggers. Having a portable sawmill allows me to cut a specific size & orientation of logs and burls, with a woodworking shop set up to finalize products. Other works include timber framing, carpentry, furniture, sculptural, and commission pieces. I enjoy being able to utilize unique natural shapes, often include



commercially regarded "defects", and allow the wood itself to convey most of the feeling about the work. In Japanese culture this would be referred to as kodama, meaning "the spirit of the tree." This I am a firm believer in...after all, the work is only partly about me—I just happen to be the one presenting the wood to you.

**Doug Welker** has been a UPEC board member since 1987. He's also active with the North Country Trail Association, FOLK, the North Woods Native Plant Society, and other groups. His interests include trail construction and maintenance, natural area protection, forestry, education, ecology, fishing, and other non-motorized sports. Doug has degrees in Geology and in Solar Heating and Cooling Technology, and has worked as a geologist, energy auditor, wilderness ranger, and in education. He and his wife Marjory Johnston live near Alston in a passive-solar, super-insulated home that he designed and built. They have a second home in Atlantic Mine.



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# CELEBRATE THE UP

March 8 and 9, 2013

CELEBRATE WHAT BIRDERS, ALPACA FARMERS, ARCHAEOLOGISTS, ARTISTS, AND BOTANISTS

AMONG OTHERS FIND SO SPECIAL ABOUT LIFE IN THE U P

## Friday, March 8 – Kick-off – Federated Women's Clubhouse

- 2 – 5 p.m. Quarterly UPEC Board Meeting & Annual UPEC Membership Meeting. All are welcome.
- 7:00 p.m. Executive Director of Michigan Audubon **Jonathan Lutz** explores "**Strategic Initiatives for Bird Conservation in Michigan's Upper Peninsula**" Michigan's UP is a year-round haven for birds, both resident and migratory, as well as a classroom and laboratory for a broad community of conservation-minded bird enthusiasts. Lutz will highlight work – grassroots bird counts, NGO-led habitat restoration projects, and university-level studies of migration – which is helping shape Michigan Audubon policy and strategy for bird conservation in the UP and beyond.

## Saturday, March 9 – Individual Presentations at Multiple Locations

### Peter White Public Library – Community Room

- 10:15 – 11:15 a.m. **J.D. Phillips – Birds of the UP: An Embarrassment of Riches**  
Michigan's UP is a premiere birding destination. We have boreal breeders, Arctic wanderers, neotropical migrants, and (owing to our abundant shorelines) more than our fair share of vagrants. In this presentation we'll survey the Upper Peninsula's rich avifauna, and talk about strategies to get you out in the field seeing birds.
- 11:30 – 12:30 p.m. **John Anderton – Jesuit Rings & other Artifacts from the French Fur Trade**  
John has recently been involved in the excavation of an amazing protohistoric/early Fur Trade archaeological site in Marquette County. The site is perhaps best known for having rare "Jesuit Rings" but it has also proven to be rich in other early French trade goods, such as glass beads, as well as faunal remains, which are mostly moose bones. It dates likely 1620-1650, the beginning of the French arrival in the Lake Superior region.
- 1:30 -- 2:30 p.m. **Donna Pearre and Carole Van House – From Academics to Avalon: An Amazing Journey**  
Carol and Donna will discuss their mid-life decision to change careers from academician and psychologist, to full-time alpaca farmers. Now fully ensconced in the world of alpaca breeding and showing, they've never looked back.

### **The Landmark Inn – Sky Room**

- 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. **Carol Fulsher – Iron Ore Heritage Trail**  
Carol will give an update on plans for the 48-mile, multi-use year-round trail that traverses the Marquette Iron Range. Twelve miles are currently under construction, and another five miles are being planned for west of Ishpeming.
- 11:30 – 12:30 p.m. **TBA**
- 1:30 -- 2:30 p.m. **Steve Garske – A Natural History of the Trap Hills**  
The Trap Hills region of western Upper Michigan is one of the most unique and spectacular areas in the Midwest. It encompasses a rich diversity of habitats, ranging from streams and rivers to high rock outcrops and sheer cliffs. This diverse landscape supports more than 350 plant species, including at least 8 rare species. While still relatively pristine, the Trap Hills faces new threats ranging from invasive plants and animals to potential mining and climate change. We will explore the Trap Hills ecosystem, past, present and future.

### **The Landmark Inn – Board Room**

- 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. **Dianne Patrick and Pam Christensen – Connecting Upper Peninsula Communities through Literature**  
We will discuss some of the literature (fiction and non-fiction) that represents the Upper Peninsula from the mid-1800s until the present. We will also discuss community events that happen throughout the UP including The UP Author Tour and the Great Michigan Read. Q&A will hopefully include discussions on local writers groups and publishing your material. We will also identify various UP bookstores and libraries which house and encourage UP-based work.
- 11:30 – 12:30 p.m. **Michael Rotter – Thimbleberries, Pines and Maples: The Flora of the Upper Peninsula**  
From the thimbleberry cottage industry in the Keweenaw to the timber empires and the maple sugar culture, the plants of Michigan's Upper Peninsula have defined this region for centuries. Where did these plants come from and why are these species here? This talk will explore these ideas and introduce several interesting species that find their home in the UP.
- 1:30 -- 2:30 p.m. **FOLK – New Mining's Economic Impacts in the Western UP: A Study by Acclaimed Economist Dr. Thomas Power**  
A recent study by the respected consulting firm Power Associates analyzes the potential economic impacts of new mining in the Western UP. Commissioned by the Education and Empowerment Campaign of FOLK (Friends of the Land of Keweenaw), the study details both the pros and cons of such mining. We'll discuss Tom Power's revealing conclusions in our presentation.

### **Federated Women's Clubhouse**

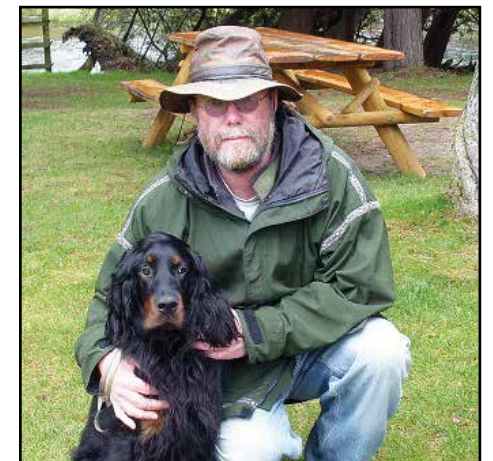
- 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. **Martin Reinhardt – Eating Our Words: American Indian Treaties & Indigenous Foods in Michigan's UP**  
The Anishinaabe Three Fires Confederacy of Ojibway, Odaawa, and Bodwewaadomi entered into multiple treaties with the United States and other foreign nations infiltrating their traditional homelands. Among the treaties'

**J.D. Phillips** has been a birder for 25 years. He's led Audubon hikes, as well as longer slogs, in Ecuador, central Europe, and places throughout the U.S. These days he has his "listing" under control (more or less), but is still willing to put up with a lot to see good birds—he has been vomited on (big, spewing fountains of the stuff) by seasick fellow pelagic-birders while chasing Fea's petrels and flesh-footed shearwaters; his extensive optical gear has earned him intimate encounters with scores of airport security agents (many of whom, he has learned the hard way, don't have a sense of humor); he has been attacked by a group of derelict squatters in rural Moravia while chasing a capercaillie; and he has rowed hung-over American college students down rivers in the Amazon, after learning dejectedly that they prefer the seductions of Quito discotheques to the charms of Plate-billed Mountain Toucans and Tawny Antpittas (go figure). When not birding, he can often be found professing mathematics, at NMU, where he is also head of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department. But he spends most of his time these days with his wife, Cathy, shuttling their three sons around Marquette—to soccer practice, hockey practice, Boy Scouts, band practice, ski practice, and birthday parties (vast quantities of birthday parties).



**Dr. Martin Reinhardt** is an Anishinaabe Ojibway citizen of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians from Michigan. He is an assistant professor of Native American Studies at Northern Michigan University, and is the co-owner and education division director of First Nations, LLC. His current research focuses on the relationship between humans and Indigenous foods of the Great Lakes Region. He is a former research associate for the Inter-west Equity Assistance Center at Colorado State University, and the former vice president for diversity and research for Educational Options, Inc. He has taught courses in American Indian education, tribal law and government, and sociology. He has a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from the Pennsylvania State University, where his doctoral research focused on Indian education and the law with a special focus on treaty educational provisions. Martin has previously served as a member of the Michigan Indian Education Council, Chair of the American Association for Higher Education American Indian/Alaska Native Caucus, Co-Primary Investigator for the Michigan Rural Systemic Initiative, and as an external advisor for the National Indian School Board Association. He also holds a B.S. and M.S. in Sociology.

**Marvin Roberson** is a lifelong Michigan resident. He has lived in the UP for almost 25 years, and has been involved with the Sierra Club for just as long. He was educated as an undergraduate and graduate student in both philosophy and forest ecology. Marvin is an avid backpacker, canoeist, kayaker, fly fisherman, and bird hunter. He enjoys walking in the woods with his beloved Gordon Setter, Ruger.





Area Wilderness. Steve has worked for Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission since 2001, first as Invasive Plant Specialist and now as Forest Pest Project Coordinator. A resident of Gogebic County since 1990, Steve enjoys being out in the woods and wetlands, as well as gardening, fishing and trying to keep his two old VW diesels running. He currently serves on the board of Save the Wild UP.

**Jonathan Lutz** earned his B.S. degree in 2002 from the University of Michigan School of Natural Resources and Environment. He spent the next two years coordinating



conservation programming for the South Carolina Aquarium in Charleston before landing his "dream job" of living and working on a remote barrier island. As Director of Environmental Programs for the Dewees Island Property Owners Association, Jonathan established and monitored critical nesting zones for least terns and Wilson's plovers, led the community's loggerhead sea turtle nesting program, and wrestled the occasional American alligator. Today he serves as Chair of the Michigan Bird Conservation Initiative and is currently finalizing a three-year strategic plan for Michigan Audubon that will launch April 1, 2013. On returning to Michigan in 2008: "How could I pass up the opportunity to lead Michigan's longest-active conservation organization? Michigan Audubon programs are attended by more than 10,000 bird- and nature-lovers each year, with participants coming from Japan, England, Canada, and at least 15 states. It's a critical time for making conservation connections and I could not be more thrilled about the challenge!"



After completing their doctoral degrees in Counseling Psychology, and teaching in Europe for Ball State University for a year, **Donna Pearre** and **Carole Van House** (pictured to left) moved to the UP in 1977 to teach for NMU in the Masters Program in Counseling. Carole taught, provided services as a psychologist in the NMU Counseling Center, and served as Director of the Center. Donna also taught, directed the Academic Advisement and Counseling Services, and became the Vice President of Student Services. Eventually, Carole left NMU to develop a full-time private practice, but they both yearned for a "simpler" life in the country. This yearning led them to the ultimate decision to leave their professional lives behind. They purchased an 80-acre property in West Branch Township which they christened "Avalon Farm", taken from the then popular novel, *The Mists of Avalon*. Having made this leap of

faith together, Carole and Donna bought two horses (for pleasure) and looked for the perfect way to make their farm self-sufficient. For them, the answer was breeding alpacas. They have never regretted these life-altering decisions. [www.AvalonFarmAlpacas.com](http://www.AvalonFarmAlpacas.com)

provisions were retained rights to hunt, fish, and gather within the ceded territories. Equally important are those aspects of tribal sovereignty that were never relinquished by treaty or otherwise, and the protection of tribal rights against adversarial entities both foreign and domestic. Join us for some treaty analysis using the Canons of Treaty Construction, as we consider the relationship today between treaty rights and indigenous foods in Michigan's UP.

11:30 – 12:30 p.m.

**Ritch Branstrom – It's All a Matter of Perspective**

An inside look at the journey of becoming a found object artist. Ritch will discuss the people, places, and conditions that influenced how he views the world and the desire to explore and express himself through his work.

1:30 -- 2:30 p.m.

**Justin Savu – Life Among Wood**

Travel through 10 years of a unique woodworking lifestyle based upon living and working in the woods. Examples will include timber-framing, portable sawmilling, furniture & custom woodworking, low-impact forestry work, "rescue" work, sculptural wood art, a local artist gallery, and use of secondary products [maple syrup, kiln wood, firewood].

**Panel Discussion with the Public – Peter White Public Library**

3:00 -- 4:45 p.m.

**Harvesting Biomass and Forest Health**

The renewable energy of biomass, i.e. burning trees, became an issue in a 2012 ballot initiative among environmentalists. Is this practice a threat to forest health as real as invasive species, forest fragmentation, and climate change? Will the new demand compete with other forest users of wood fiber? What is "sustainable demand"? Will the practice lead to more crop-like tree plantations? How much logging debris should be left after harvesting to protect forest soils? The panel will explore these questions, among others.

**Panelists:** Chris Burnett, Lauri Labumbard, Marvin Roberson, Doug Welker

**Moderator:** David Allen

**Public Reception – Federated Women's Clubhouse**

5:00 -- 7:00 p.m.

Please join us for refreshments and hors d'oeuvres, meet other folks who share a love of all things UP, and talk with many of the presenters and panelists.

**Consider EarthShare payroll deduction to support UPEC**

UPEC is a proud member of EarthShare of Michigan, an organization that allows working people to donate to environmental organizations through workplace giving campaigns. Each year EarthShare provides UPEC with critically needed funding for environmental education and program operation.

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## Presenter Biographies

**Dr. John Anderton** was born in Marquette, Michigan nearly 100 years to the month after his great-great grandfather arrived in Marquette County from Italy. He earned a B.S. degree at NMU, an M.S. at the University of Wyoming, and a Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In 1999 he joined the Department of Geography at NMU, where he served as Department Head in 2008-2011. Anderton is particularly interested in developing methodologies for Phase I archaeological surveys in heavily forested landscapes. His current projects include studies of Paleo-Indian and early fur trade era Native American sites in the Upper Peninsula.



The magical world of **Ritch Branstrom's** artistic vision fashions Michigan's raw material of cast-off automobiles, wood, worn farm implements and the homely detritus of a family and friends into three-dimensional works of eloquence, humor, and heart. Those who feel an affinity with the tapestry of cultures, endurance, natural resources, beauty, and socioeconomic realities that comprise The Great Lakes State, will find its expression in the work of this Michigan native whose Found Object Art is a natural result of his own upbringing which spanned the diverse cultures of both of the State's peninsulas. Branstrom's knowledge of and appreciation for the provenance of many of the components adds yet another layer of meaning to his work.

**Chris Burnett** grew up in the Berkshire Hills of western Massachusetts. He received a B.S. in forest biology from the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse in 1971 and a Ph.D. in mammalian ecology from Boston University in 1982. He has worked as an environmental consultant, interpretive naturalist, wildlife ecologist (specializing in the energetics and behavior of bats), consulting forester, public service forester, and professor of forestry, biology and education. Currently, he works throughout the Lake States and parts of Canada as an independent chain-of-custody auditor in the Forest Stewardship Council system of certified wood products. He moved to Chocolay Township in 1989 where he manages 80 acres of woodland, farmland, and streams for recreation, biodiversity, water resources, timber, and good things to eat and drink. He is a former board member of UPEC and the Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve. Currently he is on the Upper Peninsula Land Conservancy board focusing on developing working forest conservation easements that enable perpetual land conservation through active management.



**Pam Christensen** (right side in photo) has been the Director of Peter White Public Library for over 20 years. Her vision for this library includes the now 12-year-old renovation/expansion and accepting on behalf of all her staff the 2010 National Medal for Museum and Library Services. She is also instrumental in advocating for our local literary culture through her support of the UP Book Tour, the Great Michigan Read, and Great Lakes Great Books (a children's list). The programming that PWPL offers showcases our community's historic, contemporary, and environmental concerns.



**Dianne Patrick** (left side in photo) has worked at Snowbound Books for 20 years. Snowbound specializes in Upper Michigan literature and history, and also takes part in the peninsula-wide UP Author Tour. In addition to her experiences with Snowbound, Diane has participated in the selection committees for One Book One Community and the Great Michigan Read.

**FOLK** is an active all-volunteer organization located in Michigan's western UP. It works with other regional, state and national organizations to protect and preserve the ecological integrity of the Lake Superior Watershed. In 1989, the James River Corporation proposed the construction of a \$1.2 billion bleached kraft pulp/paper mill next to Keweenaw Bay in Michigan's Western UP. If allowed to be built, the mill would consume the equivalent of 80 clear-cut acres of forest and discharge 41 million gallons of dioxin-laced waste effluent into Lake Superior each day. This threat to the Lake Superior watershed jolted local residents into action and gave birth to Friends of the Land of Keweenaw (FOLK). In less than a year, the tireless efforts of many caring citizens prevailed, culminating in the withdrawal of the mill proposal. Currently FOLK's primary focus is potential new mining in the western UP. Through its Education and Empowerment Campaign FOLK hopes to inform citizens of the potential impacts of new mining and to enable them to address the issue in an effective way.



**Carol Fulsher** is the Administrator of the Iron Ore Heritage Recreation Authority, which is responsible for maintaining the Iron Ore Heritage Trail. She has been with the project since its inception a decade ago. Carol has worked with the Noquemanon Ski Marathon, the Ore to Shore Mountain Bike Epic, and the Noquemanon Trail Network. As an avid cross-country skier and mountain biker, she has been successful in marrying her professional and personal interests. Carol graduated from NMU in 1991 with a degree in marketing.



**Steve Garske** received a B.S. degree in ecology from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, and an M.S. in biology from the University of Minnesota-Duluth. His M.S. project involved the study of an invasive Eurasian plant, which had spread from a former resort site to cover an entire hillside near the shore of Basswood Lake in the Boundary Waters Canoe