



Celebrate the UP! 2016

Event Schedule and Presentation Summaries

Friday, March 18th

1 – 5 PM Room 112 – Quarterly UPEC Board Meeting

6 –7 PM Room 112 – UPEC Annual Meeting. All are welcome at these meetings.

7 – 9 PM **In the Gym – A showing of Michael Loukinen’s film *Ojibwe Drum Songs***
Ojibwe Drum Songs, produced with Grant Guston of Lake Effect Media, offers a revealing glimpse into the life of an Ojibwe elder from the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe. His stories come to life around the drum and the songs that accompany drumming.

Saturday, March 19th – Presentations and other events

Gym

9 AM **Welcoming ceremony by KBIC Tribal Council President Chris Swartz**, followed by some important announcements about events of the day.

9:30 AM Bill Rose: **Keweenaw’s Geohistory and Geoheritage**
In the Keweenaw, five strong geoelements, *Lava Flows*, *Redbed Sandstones*, a huge *Thrust Fault*, *Glacial History*, and *Lake Superior* have strongly influenced our lives from the days of prehistoric copper mining to today. As a result of this diverse set of geoelements, the Peninsula is being recognized as a geoheritage focal point for America.

10:30 AM Rolf Peterson: **Counting Wolves**, by filmmaker and photographer George Desort. In this movie, Desort provides a behind-the-scenes look at the annual Winter Study of wolves and moose in Isle Royale National Park. Peterson, a renowned wildlife biologist, began leading the Isle Royale Wolf/Moose study in the early 1970s, and remains very active in the project today.

1:00 PM Nancy Langston: **Sustaining Lake Superior**
Local, regional, and international communities overcame enormous threats to the lake's ecosystems in the past century. Nancy will discuss what we learn from those experiences to help deal with issues we now face such as mining, climate change, changing forests, invasive species, and emerging chemicals of concern.

2:00 PM Joseph Youngman: **Birds of the Keweenaw - Migrants and Breeders**
A photographic overview of the 333 bird species that pass through or nest in the Keweenaw (Houghton, Baraga and Keweenaw counties) with an emphasis on large migration movements and rare breeding birds.

3:30 PM *Our featured speaker, Trevor Thomas*, will discuss how, in spite of his blindness, he has hiked almost 20,000 miles on some of America’s most challenging trails, sometimes alone with just his service dog Tennille.

Room 113

- 9:30 AM Joe Bouchard: **Happy Birthday, Baraga Trails!**
For just over five years, a small and determined trail group in Baraga County has carved a recreational paradise and provided numerous fun and informative community events. Wish Baraga County Trails in Motion a happy birthday and look back at the first five years of the little group that could! *and*
Doug Welker: **The North Country Trail in Baraga County**
Through photos and anecdotes, Doug will give us a tour and a history of the trail.
- 10:30 AM Two person panel discussion, Evan McDonald and Whitey Soli: **Two Faces of Land Conservancy Acquisitions: The Importance of Land Conservation for the Future and its Unintended Consequences in the Present**
Evan will provide an overview of the Keweenaw Land Trust (KLT) mission programs and partnerships that benefit the quality of life in our communities and protect natural resources. Our approach to natural resource conservation and stewardship now will have benefits for future generations and the planet that they will inherit.
Whitey's role in the panel discussion is to illustrate to the audience the unintended consequences faced by taxpayers and governments in smaller counties/townships like his in the wake of land acquisitions that remove properties from property tax rolls.
- 1:00 PM Jerry Jondreau: **Mending an Ancient Relationship: The Story of the Anishinaabeg From Wiikwedong. A History That Shaped the Present Landscape and a New Way Forward**
A brief synopsis of the history and policy that set the tone for interactions between the Federal Government and the sovereign nation known today as the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community. After exploring the past he will discuss the traditional understanding of the forests and ways to rekindle that relationship in a colonial environment that still refuses to acknowledge an ancient way of understanding and respecting all forms of life.
- 2:00 PM Gene Mensch: **An Overview of the KBIC Fisheries Management**
Gene will provide a past to present discussion about the KBIC Fisheries Program, as well as brief updates for various other programs within our Natural Resources Department. Emphasis will be on the status of the Lake Superior native fishery.

Room 112

- 9:30 AM Maria Janowiak: **Climate Change and Upper Michigan's Forests: Risks, Opportunities and Ways to Adapt**
Projected climate change may pose challenges to the long-term stability of UP forests. It is important for forest landowners to be aware of anticipated climate change impacts and of adaptation options for woodland owners and managers.
- 10:30 AM Nancy Mannikko: **From Crosscut Saw to Feller-Bunchers: The Pettibone Cary-Lift and the History of Industrialized Forestry**
Nancy will describe several intersections between innovation, environment, and mechanization, from railroad logging in the 1870s to today's feller-bunchers. The Pettibone Cary-Lift is used as an example of an invention that had an impact far beyond its original intended market and helped change logging from labor-intensive to capital-intensive.
- 1:00 PM Carolyn Peterson: **Reaching Over the Fence**
Polarization has some advantages over apathy. People are aroused, excited. Let's use this energy for good by reaching out to people who we have assumed are very different

from us. May our love for the land inspire us to work with the other people who share it with us.

2:00 PM

Christopher Burnett: **Walking the Talk & Talking the Walk**

Chris will share his views on the rewards and challenges of living close to the land and will also talk about his “day job” for the UP Land Conservancy, working for permanent legal protection of UP conservation lands. He will explain various land conservation options, show pictures of UPLC properties, and discuss how we can all help protect special UP lands.

Room 111

1:00 – 3:00 **Children’s program**

Nick Baumgart, MSU Extension Service Environmental Educator, will help youth to investigate animal adaptations using skins and skulls. Attendees will be able to make a plaster cast of an animal track, and take that cast home with them.

Room between the atrium and the gym

11:30 – 1:00 Tables and chairs will be available for eating lunch.

5:00 – 7:00

Reception. Come join us for refreshments, to socialize, and to meet our presenters and the UPEC Board. This would be a good time to ask the questions of our presenters that you didn’t get to ask during their presentations!

Our presenters



Joe Bouchard, Prison Librarian and College Instructor, lives in L’Anse with his wife and daughters. Active in Baraga County Trails in Motion, he creates and promotes fun and informative community events.

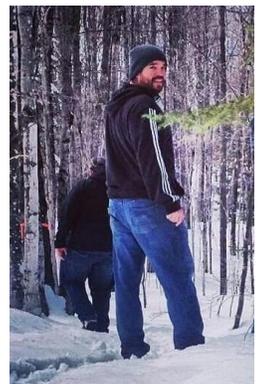


Doug Welker, retired educator, wilderness ranger, and geologist, has been active in UPEC and other nonprofits for over 30 years. Married to Marjory Johnston, Doug lives near Alston.



Evan McDonald has a biology and ecology background, and worked as a researcher studying environmental impacts on forest ecosystems. He now focuses on land conservation and habitat restoration as Executive Director of the Keweenaw Land Trust. Evan lives in Hancock Township, Houghton County with his wife, Libby Meyer.

Whitey Soli (no photo) “Whitey” is a lifetime resident of Baraga County who has lived in Arvon Twp. the past 40 years. He serves as a volunteer EMT, firefighter, township Board of Trustees member, and as Arvon Township Supervisor for 4 years, and worked as a specialty logger for 40 years. He and his wife Nancy live in Skanee.



Jerry Jondreau is an enrolled member of KBIC and Tribal Forester for the reservation. He is also the current Chairman for the Intertribal Maple Syrup



Producers Cooperative. Upholding cultural values, treaty rights and Tribal sovereignty are convictions that steer his understanding and provide a foundation for change and advocacy in modern times.

Gene Mensch is a Fisheries and Wildlife Biologist for the KBIC Natural Resources Department. He’s a Baraga High School graduate and has a BS from Lake Superior State University and an MS from MTU.



Maria Janowiak works for the Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science and U.S. Forest Service in Houghton. Her work focuses on synthesizing and communicating science about how climate change may affect the region's forests. Outside of work, she can most often be found gardening, biking, or writing.

Nancy Mannikko is an MTU grad and earned a Ph.D. in Science and Technology Studies at Virginia Tech. She is a former National Park Service historian.. Since retiring she has served as the volunteer archivist and curator at the Baraga County Historical Museum.



Carolyn Peterson grew up in Duluth, and married Rolf Peterson in 1970. While not a scientist, she is inspired by the varieties of spiritual experience and celebrates the possibilities that are available to humans today. **Rolf Peterson** is a retired faculty member of MTU's School of Forestry and Environmental Science. Rolf's primary study site has been Isle Royale National Park, where he has been part of the wolf-moose study that is the world's longest wildlife study.

Chris Burnett grew up in western Massachusetts. He has degrees in forest biology and mammalian ecology, and has worked as an environmental consultant, interpretive naturalist, wildlife ecologist, and extensively in forestry. Chris is the executive director of Upper Peninsula Land Conservancy, and manages the 80 acres where he lives for recreation, biodiversity, water resources, timber, and good things to eat and drink.



Bill Rose was professor of Geology at Michigan Tech from 1970-2012, and is now emeritus professor. His research specialty is volcanoes and he has written hundreds of articles about how volcanoes work and supervised 22 doctoral students and 55 master's students. Since retirement he works on geoheritage, especially Keweenaw Geoheritage.

Nancy Langston is Professor of Environmental History at Michigan Tech. She has also worked as a forestry professor, and as the King's Professor of Environmental Science in Umea, Sweden. She has written 3 books and dozens of articles, and she is now completing a book on Lake Superior's environmental history.



Joseph Youngman, an immigrant from lower Michigan, has worked in construction and logging, and currently at the Public Works of Chassell Township. Since 1995 he has done lots of studies and surveys of breeding birds and migrants all over the Keweenaw and Lake Superior in general. He finds it especially interesting to document bird migration routes through Lake Superior and has spent days on eight Lake Superior islands so far.



Trevor Thomas. Trevor has too long a list of blind hiking accomplishments to list here. Check out blindhikertrevorthomas.com/ when you get a chance. Trevor has also founded [Team Farsight Foundation](http://TeamFarsightFoundation.org), a nonprofit organization devoted to empowering blind and visually-impaired young adults.