Keynote Address by Randy Evans
3:00 p.m.

For the past ten years, Randy and his wife, Denise, have lived in Bay Harbor, Michigan. During that time, Randy has taught Developmental Psychology at North Central Michigan Community College, served on local boards, and participated in Rotary International. He enjoys outdoor sports, especially golf and pickleball. Denise and Randy enjoy their blended family of five daughters and eight grandchildren.

His doctoral dissertation, *The Zig-Zag Road: A Multiethnic Study of Breast Cancer Survivor Quality of Life*, was published by ProQuest Information and Learning Company in 2006. Bear River Review, Dunes Review, National Public Radio, Walloon Writers Review, and Whiskey Island Magazine have published his poems and short stories. His four books have received critical acclaim from Kirkus Reviews and IndieReader. His new novel, *The Lawnmower Club*, has been nominated for review by the selection committee of the 2019 Michigan Notable Book Program.
Mary Agria
Mary, a Petoskey summer resident, is a mainstream novelist who specializes in gardening fiction and novels that celebrate the lives of men and women facing the challenges of aging and the ongoing search for personal meaning and fulfillment. Since her breakthrough novel *Time in a Garden* made the bestseller list all over northern Michigan in 2006, she has published 5 novels and the nonfiction book *Bay View: Images of America*. In 2016 she released *Through the Gardener’s Year*, a collection of 52 of her best columns from the Petoskey News Review on gardening and spirituality. Mary’s News-Review gardening column won first place in the annual competition for features on gardening from the Michigan Garden Club.

Beverly K. Brandt
Beverly K. Brandt is a Professor Emerita in The Design School at Arizona State University. She has summered in the Petoskey area since 1970. An internationally-known expert on the Arts-and-Crafts movement, she now writes murder mysteries featuring Professor Ferradeen Warde. Warde’s knowledge of historic interiors and furnishing helps her solve a series of perplexing crimes.

Clifford Denay Jr.
Clifford E. Denay, Jr. is a writer and a licensed professional counselor emeritus at North Central Michigan College. He holds an M.A. in counseling and as Specialist in Education degree. He is the author of *Mourning Men: A Journey Through Grief* and has written for several publications including *Men of Integrity, Psychology for Living*, and *The Catholic Leader*. *Parents’ Grief: Daily Meditations for Healing After the Death of a Child* is his second book and is for every parent who has ever lost a child. Cliff lives with his wife Jane in Petoskey, Michigan, in the house their son Nathaniel designed for them just weeks before his untimely death.

Mary Jane Doerr
Mary Jane Doerr began writing for the Petoskey News-Review, and Graphic in 1979. In 2010, her book *Bay View, An American Idea* received the State History Award from the Historical Society of Michigan. She has given numerous presentations around northern Michigan on the history of the National Historic Landmark. Ms. Doerr was featured in “Into the North”, a production by CMU-TV, and was interviewed on WCMU-Radio about her research on virtuoso violinist Hugo Gottesmann. In December, 2017 she published an article about Gottesmann in the *Michigan Jewish History Journal*. She has been interviewed for the documentary *Young Hemingway, and His Enduring Eden*. Presently she is working on a new book featuring Tin Pan Alley lyricist J. Will Callahan.

Connie Doherty
Connie Doherty lives in northwestern lower Michigan where she loves to write, walk with her dog, kayak, paddle board, rollerblade, cross country ski, write, and eat. Her novel *Hot Property*, a cozy mystery, takes place in Petoskey. Onalee O’Conner, a commercial real estate appraiser, is called in to appraise an unpopular condominium project. Upon her inspection, she discovers the dead body of the womanizing developer, Jonathon Richmond.

Bob Fawcett
Dr. Robert Fawcett is a psychiatrist who has worked, played, and reared a family in Emmet County, Michigan for thirty-five years. When not laboring on limericks, he enjoys writing and performing songs, fishing, bicycling, and cross-country skiing. He has been a longtime volunteer, performer, and board member for the Blissfest Music Organization.
Kenn Grimes
Kenn Grimes is an author and screenwriter with five published books to his credit: *Camptown... one hundred and fifty years of stories from Camptown, Kentucky* (out of print); *The Other Side of Yesterday*, a time travel novel; and the first three books in his *Booker Falls Mystery Series*, *Strangled in the Stacks*, *Trifecta of Murder* and *Paint the Librarian Dead*. A sixth book, *Ancestors*, is due out this summer. Kenn and his wife Judy make their home in a small cabin on a lake in Michigan’s lower northern Peninsula. He is a member of Michigan Writers, Upper Peninsula Publishers and Authors, Historical Fiction Society and Mystery Writers of America. A retired Lutheran minister, Kenn served congregations in Kentucky, Indiana, and Missouri. Before retiring in 2000 and turning to writing full time, he was the owner of the largest wedding service in Maui, Hawaii. During his ministry, he has officiated over 4,200 ceremonies.

Jeremy R. Hammond
The mainstream media provide information within a very narrow framework that serves to manufacture consent for government policies and stifle meaningful debate on important issues. I provide analysis and commentary from outside the standard framework, challenging mainstream narratives, exposing government and media propaganda, and broadening the scope of the discussion. I’m an independent political analyst, a recipient of the Project Censored Award, publisher and editor of Foreign Policy Journal, and author. My most recent book is *Obstacle to Peace: The US Role in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*. Read the entire first chapter for free at obstacletopeace.com. Find me on the web at jeremyrhammond.com.

Marla Kay Houghteling
Marla Kay Houghteling is a teacher, editor and writer. Since moving back to her home state of Michigan in 1996, she has participated in the Creative-Writers-in-Schools program; conducted “Outside/Inside Poetry Workshops”, and taught composition and poetry courses at NCMC. Her first book of poems *The Blue House* was nominated in 2008 for a Michigan Notable Book award. *Assisted Living* (2011) was her second book of poems. She received a grant from MCACA to write an historical novel *The Journey of Aurora Starr*, using her great-uncle’s photos and written account as primary source material.
**Jim Lahde**
Jim Lahde is a retired educator and environmental consultant to land developers and city planning commissions. He received a Bachelors and Masters from Northern Michigan University in Biology; a Specialist in Conservation and PhD in Environmental Science from the University of Michigan. Aside from other awards, he has received the Michigan Conservation Educator of the Year Award two times. Jim’s published works include books on regional land planning, wildlife management, deer hunting, cooking venison, and political science. His most recent book, *Trump Tribalism and the God Module*, was published this year.

**G.T. Long**
G.T. Long is a new author who never really intended to write a book. The book wrote itself, as every Sunday he had conversations with Jesus on Horton Bay, and wrote them down on Facebook. After two years reading, people wanted a full copy of the talks, and so he put them together in a book. The theme is not religious, but motivational. As the conversations continue, Volume 2 is being compiled.

**Peter Marabell**
Peter Marabell grew up in metro Detroit, spending as much time as he could street racing on Woodward Avenue in the 1950s and visiting the Straits of Mackinac. With a Ph.D. in History and Politics, Peter spent most of his professional career on the faculty at Michigan State University. He is the author of the historic monograph, *Frederick Libby and the American Peace Movement*. His first novel, *More Than a Body*, was published in 2013. Later he published three Michael Russo mysteries, *Murder at Cherokee Point*, *Murder on Lake Street* and, most recently, *Devils Are Here*. The fourth novel in the series, *Death Lease*, will be published last spring. In 2002, Peter moved permanently to northern Michigan with his spouse and business partner, Frances Barger.

**Marcie McQuillan**
Author Marcie McQuillan is a gardener, writer, educator, and speaker. She offers local classes in a variety of topics, such as gardening, sustainability, and food preservation. Her first book is a workbook-style garden guide, which includes practical information as well as stories of rural life. She is currently writing a book, in a similar workbook format, about herb gardening, as well as completing a young adult fiction novel.

**Jenna Mindel**
Jenna Mindel lives in Petoskey with her husband and their three dogs. She enjoys a career in banking that has spanned thirty years and several positions but writing is her passion. A 2006 Romance Writers of America RITA award finalist, Jenna has answered her heart’s call to write contemporary inspirational romances set near the Great Lakes. Visit her online at [www.jennamindel.com](http://www.jennamindel.com) and [https://www.facebook.com/authorjennamindel](https://www.facebook.com/authorjennamindel).
**Kathleen Irene Paterka**  
Kathleen Irene Paterka is an Amazon Bestselling Author of Women's Fiction. The author of six published novels, Kathleen is also the co-author of the non-fiction work *For the Love of a Castle*, the ultimate biography of Castle Farms. Kathleen and her husband live in the beautiful north country of Michigan's Lower Peninsula, where she is busy working on her next book.

**Joshua Snider**  
Joshua has been studying secondary languages since 1992 and secondary Germanic languages since 1994. He reads all fifteen official modern written Germanic languages and is fluent in English, German, Dutch/Flemish, and Swedish. His Mennonite grandparents’ native tongue was Pennsylvania German, a Frankish language similar to Yiddish. Snider, who also has Native American family, has translated and published a comparative Algonquian grammar from Dutch and has published a Meskwaki (Fox) dictionary for the Smithsonian Institution, both through Mundart Press. He is currently translating the Itzik Kipnis novel *Months and Days* and working on several other publishing projects.

**Anne Teesdale**  
A 20-year resident of Charlevoix County, I worked for many years at the Jordan Valley Animal Clinic as a veterinary technician. Previously I worked at a wildlife and raptor rehabilitation center in Minnesota taking care of injured wildlife.  
My husband, John, and I are currently retired. We volunteer with environmental groups such as Friends of the Jordan River Watershed and WATCH (Water Air Team Charlevoix) working to protect our water and environment, and enjoy sharing our love of the woods and water with our grandchildren.

**Ruth Wilkey**  
Ruth Manthei Wilkey was born in 1956, the youngest of seven children. Ruth earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Concordia University Irvine and has taught piano, voice and writing through Creative Cottage Inc, where she lives with her husband in their cozy cottage in the woods and pursues creative endeavors. Ruth has created two music CDs, Captivating Classics and The Gentle Shepherd. Together with Ben Manthei, they published the well-received book *In His Majesty’s Service: From Success to Significance*. Summer of 2018, Ruth is scheduled to launch *The Sociable Bunny*, a children’s book series and *The First Generations of the Manthei Legacy* series.

**Thomas Ford Conlan**  
Tom Conlan lives, writes, and tends his grape vines in the highlands of Northern Michigan. He has captained a Coast Guard Cutter, sailed the world's lakes and oceans, and now searches for the elusive brook trout in backwater streams. His lyrical memoir *My Journey Begins Where the Road Ends...* was released in June, 2017, from Mission Point Press. Tom’s work has appeared in print in the anthology, *The Water Holds No Scars*, in *Vine Leaves Literary Journal*, Issue #12, in the print anthology, *Puppy Love*, in *Tulip Tree Review*, in *QU Literary Review*, *The Avocet*, and in *Walloon Writers Review*. His work was chosen as a finalist for the Annie Dillard Prize in the Bellingham Review.

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