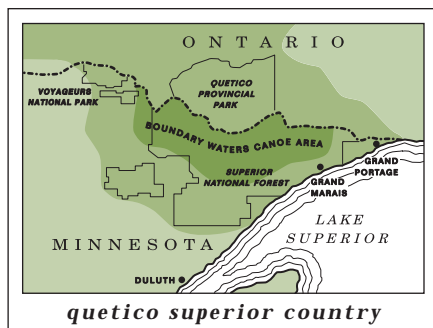


Wilderness News

FROM THE QUETICO SUPERIOR FOUNDATION SPRING 2010



The Quetico Superior Foundation, established in 1946, encourages and supports the protection of the ecological, cultural and historical resources of the Quetico-Superior region.

We are trying to bridge the gap between our old racial wisdom, our old primeval consciousness, the old verities, and the strange, conflicting ideologies and beliefs of the new era of technology. One of the most vital tasks of modern man is to bridge this gap...None of us is naive enough to want to give up what technology has brought or to evade the challenges now before us. This too is a frontier, not only of the mind but of the physical world. Somehow we must make the adjustment and bring both ways of life together. If man can do this, if he can span past and present, then he can face the future with confidence.

– Sigurd F. Olson from “The Spiritual Aspects of Wilderness”

Wilderness News

Published by the Quetico Superior Foundation
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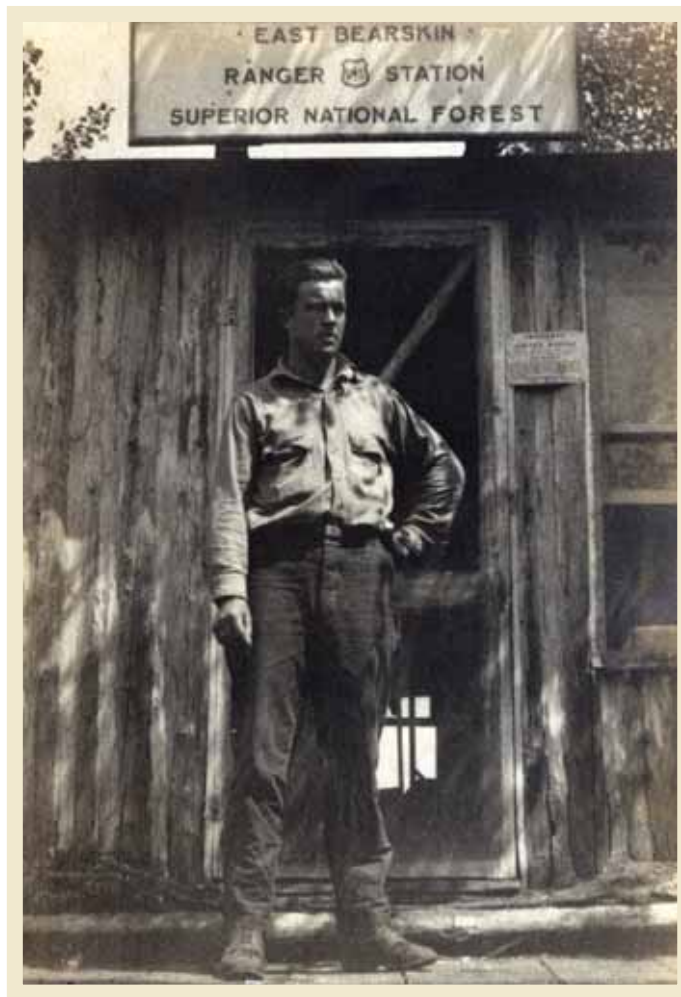
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Big Bill Wenstrom *Last Man Standing*

By Barbara Wenstrom Shank and William P. Wenstrom

Sig Olson's readers were introduced to Big Bill Wenstrom in Open Horizons (p. 97). Sig wrote: "It was Big Bill Wenstrom who taught me how to throw on a canoe. He didn't tell me, but I noticed the ease with which he did it, the balancing on his thighs, the short kick of the hips, the twist of the arms as the canoe went overhead. It took many tries before I could drop one neatly on my shoulders, but when I was finally able to do so, it was the easiest way of all."

To his friends like Sig, Bill Wenstrom was Big Bill, Willie or Bill. To us he was dad. But Big Bill Wenstrom would probably like best to be remembered as the last man standing at Basswood Lake. Let us explain.

Big Bill Who?

William John Wenstrom was born on May 24, 1899 in Section 30, a mining settlement outside of Ely, MN. Bill attended school through the eighth grade. Following the death of his mother he left school and town, riding the rails to California. As he later recounted on numerous occasions, Bill survived by picking olives, "for 25 cents a day and a catsup sandwich that they didn't even put butter on."

Lying about his age, he enlisted in the Navy at 17. Bill served in WWI aboard the transport ship USS America, ferrying troops to and from Europe.

Bill returned to Ely in 1921 guiding for Wilderness Outfitters and working for the U.S. Forest Service. He was one of the earliest commercial guides in the Superior National Forest and Canada's Quetico Provincial Park. He was locally known for his wilderness skills and his fine looks. As recently noted in an upcoming book by Connie Ahola, Bill was the 'local catch.' In 1932, he bought 9.8 acres on Basswood Lake, which he developed into Basswood Beach Resort and Canoe Trips.

continued on page 2



continued from page 1

When and how Bill met Lillian Schaefer and when they became an item is unclear. Little is known about their courtship. From a tribute written about our mother in 1975 upon her 50-year membership in the Order of the Eastern Star, we learned that Lillian, daughter of Peter Schaefer, editor of the local newspaper, the *Ely Miner*, became quite smitten with Big Bill while she was attending Carleton College in Northfield, MN. Bill and Lillian managed a successful elopement on October 13, 1932. They moved to Basswood Lake in 1933, living there year around for 13 years. Big Bill took another time-out to serve his country during WWII. He was conscripted as a civilian worker to construct early warning radar sites in the Canadian Arctic. After the birth of their son, William Peter in 1946, they relocated to a permanent home in Ely. After moving into town, Lillian was known to have said that their home on Chapman Street was as close to the woods and wolves as she then cared to get.

Basswood Beach Resort

Basswood Beach Resort was a fishing camp typical both of the period and a small town mom and pop operation. It operated for 35 years boasting seven housekeeping cabins and canoe outfitters. Big Bill built all seven cabins: three were hand-hewn log structures and four were of traditional wood framing. Clients came primarily from the upper Midwest and became 'family.' They booked their summer vacations a year in advance usually for the same two weeks and usually in the same cabin every year.

We looked forward to summers with our friends. We explored the lake, and went fishing, canoeing, and swimming. We built evening bonfires at Sandy Beach, we picnicked at Basswood Falls, hunted night crawlers, cleaned fish, picked blueberries, and occasionally motored down to the Paul Bunyan Trading Post at the Four Mile Portage. We hiked to neighboring Basswood Lodge for a Coke or to next-door Hubachek's Wilderness Research Station, to see how the other half lived. In many ways, ours was the perfect childhood.

Challenging Change

Forty years later, it is reported that some folks in Ely have not worked through their opposition to the establishment of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. You can feel and see the palpable angst about the role and actions of the federal government and 'those Cities folks telling us how to live and how we can use our wilderness.'

Our Basswood Beach was the last resort operating on Basswood Lake. Big Bill would not sell. He was the last man standing. As the final holdout, the federal government condemned Big Bill's property under eminent domain.

Now, did he have angst over losing his land – undeniably yes. Did he have angst over losing his livelihood – you betcha. Did he have angst over not having the resources to fight the government – yes sir. Did he have angst over being too old to start over – absolutely. Most importantly, was there angst over having the wilderness he loved and to which he devoted his life memorialized in perpetuity as a treasured national resource – no way. Big Bill felt passionately that the wilderness should be protected and preserved.



Page 1 Photo: Ranger Bill Wenstrom at the USFS Station on East Bearskin Lake.

This Page, clockwise from top left: Ranger Wenstrom on Saganaga Lake, circa 1920; Big Bill Wenstrom's Quetico Guide's License, 1923; Big Bill with fish caught on Burntside Lake, West Arm.

Embracing Change

Bill Big was a big man and as such had a big vision. Visionaries and leaders generally do. He loved nothing more than introducing someone, especially children, to his wilderness. He loved raising two kids on Basswood Lake. He said over and over, Basswood Lake is not a good canoe lake for beginners. It needs protections from those who don't understand and appreciate the wilderness.

Basswood Beach Resort has been gone for more than forty years. Basswood Lake however remains as the heart of the Boundary Waters. It is in great shape. It is pristine. It is protected. It is there for all who love the wild, and want a real wilderness canoe experience. Reflecting on our years at Basswood Lake, our family has held our love and passion for the wilderness. Do we wish we had our place on Basswood Lake, yes. Are we angry, no. Remember, Big Bill taught Sig Olson how to shoulder a canoe with grace and ease. His other lessons are worth remembering as well. Move on, get over it, and appreciate what has been done to preserve his wilderness.

Big Bill and Lill will reside at Basswood Lake in perpetuity. After their deaths in the 1980s, we deposited their ashes at the base of Big Bill's favorite lilac bush at Wenstrom's Point. Not being too sure how our mother would have reacted to this news, Big Bill Wenstrom, at least, undoubtedly remains a happy camper at the place we all very early learned to love and continue to respect.



Barbie, Peter and Big Bill Wenstrom at Basswood Beach, 1952.

New Trends in Visits to Quetico-Superior Wilderness

By Charlie Mahler

Fewer visitors are spending the night in the Quetico-Superior region's wilderness areas compared to 15 years ago, but visits by day-trippers may be on the rise.

Quetico Provincial Park managers report a decrease in wilderness camping visitors to the park that has lasted more than a decade; overnight visits dropped off particularly sharply in 2009. Overnight visitor numbers have fallen on the U.S. side of the wilderness as well. U.S. Forest Service officials charged with managing the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW) of the Superior National Forest have seen a downturn in the number of overnight reservations since 2003. On the other hand, Superior National Forest managers say that overall visitation—which includes day use—to their wilderness remains steady or is growing slightly.

The decline in overnight visits in the wilderness area is likely a reflection of economics, administrative policies, and local conditions, as well as wider demographic factors and trends in the public's recreational preferences. The changing patterns of recreational use of wilderness could affect the Quetico-Superior for years to come. Counting wilderness visitors to Quetico Park and the BWCAW is not as simple a proposition as it appears. Quetico, which charges overnight campers on a per-person, per-night basis, compiles visitor data directly from those camping-fee transactions. BWCAW managers explained that BWCAW visitation numbers are derived using statistical analysis of tallies of reservations, visitors' self-issued permits, and other usage categories.

"It's been a gradual decline each year...perhaps more pronounced in this last year...our higher fees and restrictions on the use of live bait and barbed hooks could be a contributing factor."

Robin Reilly, Superintendent, Quetico Provincial Park

Counting the Visitors

In Quetico Provincial Park, overnight visits to its wilderness interior peaked at 130,338 camper-nights in 1994, according to data compiled by park authorities between 1991 and 2007. Camper-night numbers remained fairly steady at 120,000 between 1996 and 2001, when the count fell further to 105,968 visits.

In 2007, the final year of data supplied by the Park, visits fell to 87,388, marking an 18.6% decline in camper-nights over 13 years, or 42,950 fewer camper-nights. Quetico Superintendent Robin Reilly said that 2008 and 2009 numbers continued the downward trend,

which he pegged at 20% off the 1994 high point. (At press time, definitive visitation values were not available for 2008 and 2009 because the reservation system was being overhauled.) Reilly noted that the decline has been "more notable at the south side of the Park than the north. Our Canadian visitation numbers for the same period are up slightly."

Overnight camping reached its peak of popularity more recently in the BWCAW than it did in Quetico. Summer reservations for overnight visits peaked in 2003 at 39,304. Reservation numbers have declined each year since then, to a low of 34,000 in 2009 – a 13.5% decline in reservations over those six years. An average of four people visit the Wilderness on each permit issued, according to Superior National Forest personnel, so the reduction in permits between 2003 and 2009 equates to more than 21,000 visitors.

What Happened to the Visitors to Quetico Park?

Decreased overnight visitation in Quetico appears tied to its southern entry points. Visitors from the United States typically make their way into the Canadian park via jumping-off points near Ely and along the Gunflint Trail. Reilly noted a host of factors—from post-9/11 upgrades in border security to changes in park policies—that may deter Americans and their guests from visiting the park.

Economics, though, seems a major factor in the decline in visitation from the south. The currency exchange rate between the two countries—which once favored American visitors—has tipped back toward a more even balance, while fees to camp in Quetico have risen relative to those in the BWCAW. Reilly suggested that the decrease in visitors may closely match the decline in the US dollar and rising gas costs.

Still, not all the factors influencing overnight visitors to Quetico are external to the park itself. Reilly admits that recent policy changes inside the Park may have contributed to the visitation fall-off. "Our higher fees and restrictions on the use of live bait and barbed hooks could be a contributing factor," he allowed. Since 2008, Quetico has prohibited live bait and the use of barbed hooks in the Park. These decisions met with resistance in some quarters which may have resulted in fewer anglers, an important subset of Quetico's backcountry travelers.

In addition, Quetico's practice of charging camping fees by the night makes it a more expensive canoe-camping option than the BWCAW. Higher

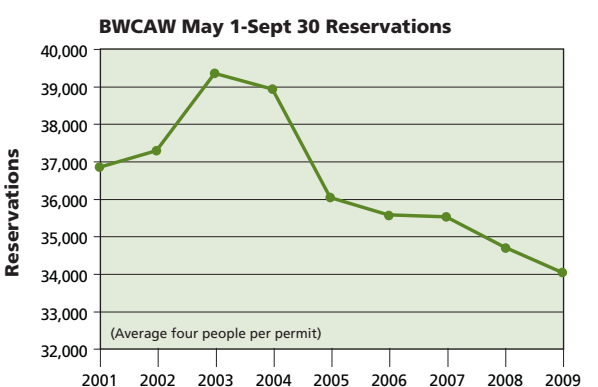
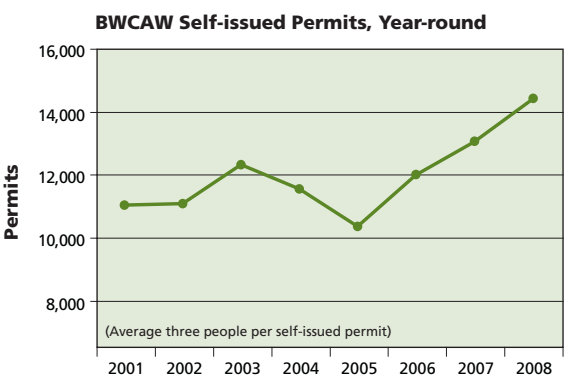
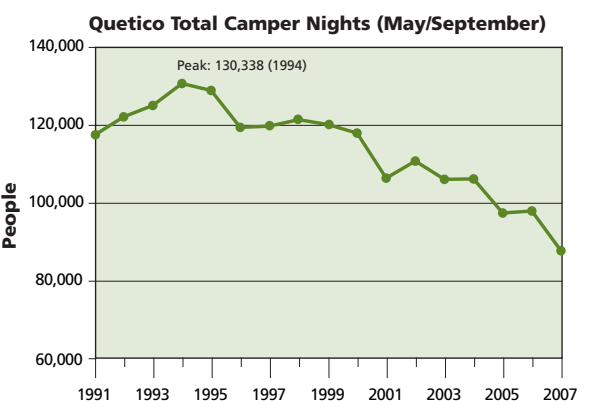
fees for non-residents of Canada and for southern entry-point visitors (who are likely to be non-residents of Canada) can make a typical Quetico trip more than \$100 more expensive per person than a similar one south of the border.

In 2010 Quetico will charge each adult visitor from the southern entry points at Cache Bay, Prairie Portage, and Kings Point \$20 (CAN) per night to camp in the park's backcountry. Non-residents entering via Lac la Croix will be charged \$16 (CAN) while Canadian residents entering from there will be charged \$12 (CAN).

Where are the Visitors to the BWCA Wilderness?

While the number of reservations for overnight camping in the BWCAW has shown a downward trend since 2003, Kristina Reichenbach, Public Affairs Officer at the Superior National Forest cautioned that the reservation numbers don't tell the whole story of visitation in the BWCAW. Reichenbach noted that the number of reservations made could be influenced by, among other

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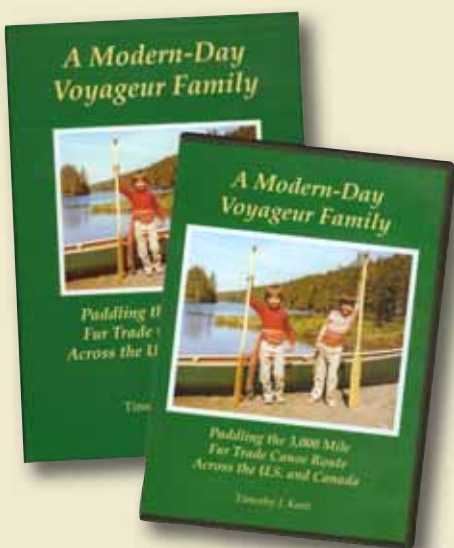
A Modern-Day Voyageur Family Paddling the 3,000 Mile Fur Trade Canoe Route Across the U.S. and Canada

By Timothy J. Kent

Published by Silver Fox Enterprises
(2009, 760 pages, hardcover + DVD with
370 color photos \$59.95)

Review by Ralph Frese, *Chicagoland
Canoe Base*

This book certainly offers a tale that sheds light on the past as well as the present. While few readers will ever have the time, the energy, or the courage to retrace such a route as the Kent family has done, at least they can share the many moods of the country, the vagaries of nature that the family encountered, and the changes that man has wrought on some portions of the voyageur highway. I particularly liked the insertion of Doree's many comments throughout the book, as we do not often have the opportunity to read the distaff side of canoe trips. Tim did a remarkable job of keeping very detailed notes while on the various segments of the route, in order to be able to put together such a complete narrative as he has created. During challenging voyages, this recording of details takes great dedication and effort, and the book is proof of his success at it. I also loved reading the thought-provoking quotes at the head of each chapter! I realize many readers will just pass over them to get into the text, but they add a note of something I am having a difficult time finding words for.



continued from page 3

things, the number of motor permits available in a given year; weather, ice-out, and insect conditions in the wilderness, as well as travelers' familiarity with the electronic reservations process.

Furthermore, more visitors may be making day trips to the BWCAW, rather than having a more extended stay. "It is important to remember that while the reservation statistics reflect a slight decline as reported through the permit system," Reichenbach said, "our visitor use survey indicates a slow but steady increase in overall visitation to the Wilderness."

"Demographics indicate that average visitor ages are going up...Some studies say that those visitors are preferring day use and that younger users have less vacation time – they are taking shorter trips and fewer trips."

Kristina Reichenbach, Superior National Forest,
Public Affairs Official

In an effort to track visitor use (including in wilderness areas), the U.S. Forest Service conducts National Visitor Use Monitoring (NVUM) on each national forest every five years. Reichenbach explained how visitors at locations across each national forest are asked a series of standardized questions. Taking a representative sample of visitor use on the Superior National Forest—whether overnight use, day use, or exempt use (for resorts and landowners), the Forest Service uses statistics to estimate total visitation within the Superior National Forest, both inside and outside the BWCAW. NVUM statistics compiled in 2006, the most recent survey for the Superior National Forest, tabbed total Wilderness visitation at 252,601 individuals.

Reichenbach offered the NVUM numbers to support the Forest Service's observation that visitation to the Superior National Forest is growing slowly and steadily. But data from previous NVUM surveys would not be directly comparable at the local level, she said.

One measure of growth in BWCAW visitation, however, is the number of year-round self-issued permits. Self-issued permits are typically used by summer-season day visitors and early-spring, late-fall, and winter overnight visitors to the BWCAW. The number of self-issued permits has risen fairly steadily, from 10,961 permits in 2001 to 14,325 permits in 2008.

Decreased overnight camping—whether at Quetico or the BWCAW—may be attributed to the age of visitors. "Demographics indicate that average visitor ages are going up," Reichenbach said. "Some studies say that those visitors are preferring day use and that younger users have less vacation time; they are taking shorter trips and fewer trips."

Superior National Forest officials are aware that some observers argue wilderness recreation is less appealing to a younger generation of

potential visitors. Data on visitors' age—which may be the most important variable affecting wilderness recreation—aren't available at the BWCAW level, however. "We are concerned about the general trend reported in today's society that indicates fewer opportunities for young people to connect and care about natural resources," Reichenbach said. "As an agency and as a partner with other agencies and organizations, we are stepping up our educational outreach."

But education outreach and actually attracting visitors are two separate things. The Superior National Forest leaves marketing the BWCAW to its gateway communities and Quetico-Superior area outfitters and guides.

On the other hand, a reduction in some kinds of visitor usage of the BWCAW could have benefits. "For example, if there is a decline in overnight permits, does it indicate visitors are camping outside the BWCAW and coming in for day use?" Reichenbach asked. "If so, it is actually achieving one objective of the 1978 [Boundary Waters] Act, to disperse use on the Forest both inside and outside the Wilderness."

"If there was a reduction in visitation during the reservation period," Reichenbach added, "the actual users of the wilderness would likely experience more seclusion and less evidence of other humans." For the people continuing to visit the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and Quetico Provincial Park, greater seclusion—and a little more elbow room on the portages—could be the good news in the complex story of wilderness recreation in the Quetico-Superior region.

2010 BWCAW Fees

Permit Reservation Fee: \$12.00

User Fees; per person, per trip:

Adults: \$16.00

Youth (Age 0-17): \$8.00

Interagency Senior/Access Card Holders: \$8.00

More information can be found online at

http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/superior/bwcaw/documents/Basics_000.pdf

2010 Quetico Provincial Park Fees

Non-resident Backcountry / Interior Camping Fees vary by entry point

Southern entry points located at Cache Bay, Prairie Portage, and King's Point:

Adults: \$20.00 per night

Youth (Age 6-17): \$8.00 per night

Southern entry point at Lac la Croix

Adults: \$16.00 per night

Youth (Age 6-17): \$6.00 per night

Northern entry points at French Lake and Seine River

Adults: \$14.00 per night

Youth (Age 6-17): \$6.00 per night

More information can be found online at

<http://www.parkreports.com/fees/backcountrygst/2010>

Moments of Clarity

By Andy Wright

All I'm saying is, you would just never expect to find jellyfish in the Boundary Waters.

Sure, you always hope to spot wildlife on a trip; wolves, bears, pine martens. With luck, a rare glimpse of a moose. At the least, you're able to actually anticipate these moments. But meeting a freshwater jellyfish leaves a deep impression – considering most people don't even know they exist. **Do you? I didn't.**

Yet there they were. My wife and I sat spellbound in our canoe as we discovered dozens – and then hundreds – of tiny pulsating shapes in the waters of Ruby Lake. Bell-shaped bodies expanding, contracting. Tentacles flexing in time to the undulating waves. Milky-white and translucent, the penny-sized creatures performed their slow motion ballet for this audience of two.

It was unreal. It was *X-Files*. It was *The Abyss*.

Better yet, unlike most wildlife encounters, this was no fleeting moment. For several minutes we reveled in the beauty of this first contact. After a time, our craft drifted outside the school of . . . whatever these things were, and we moved on, talking excitedly.

Needless to say, I was not at all prepared for this rare sighting. But what followed, was entirely unexpected. Like myself, Author Douglas Wood had enjoyed many outdoor memories in his life, but his perhaps most profound memory occurred indoors, at home, far from the wilds.

He fondly recalls picking mulberries at age 3; catching sunfish with a cane pole at 7. On his first visit to Lake Kabetogama, he immediately darted into the forest, emerging only after his grandfather was sent to find him. Though the north woods remained in his heart over the years, their mystique would change his life's direction in his 25th year, as he lay bedridden with a nasty flu.

A high school teacher at the time, Wood asked his wife to read something to him. She reached for a book recommended by one of his students; a title by one Sigurd Olson.

"She started reading the first pages from Listening Point, and I soon had tears running down my cheeks, and not from the flu. Here was someone who put into words, all my feelings about the outdoors and the north country." He'd been bitten by a different bug now.

Within two months, Wood had read all of Sigurd Olson's books. He sent Olson a heartfelt letter of gratitude, and they became fast friends. Another month passed and Wood had quit his teaching job and began to write. Moreover, he also started using his other talents to perform "EarthSongs" – the nature-inspired music he continues to play today. And Wood now leads the Board of Directors for the Listening Point Foundation.

So, just what is it that transforms a nature enthusiast into an advocate; that turns a mere "enjoyer" into a protector?

I read aloud from the web page: "*Craspedacusta sowerbyi*, they're called." Although not indigenous to Northern Minnesota, our freshwater jellyfish (sometimes also called *hydromedusae*) prefer bodies of fresh, standing water. Luckily, we have some of those in Minnesota.

After our trip, a Google search satisfied our quest for truth. But for the five days until then, we spoke of our chance encounter with a sense of awe and wonderment usually reserved for the supernatural or the sacred. I could not forget it.

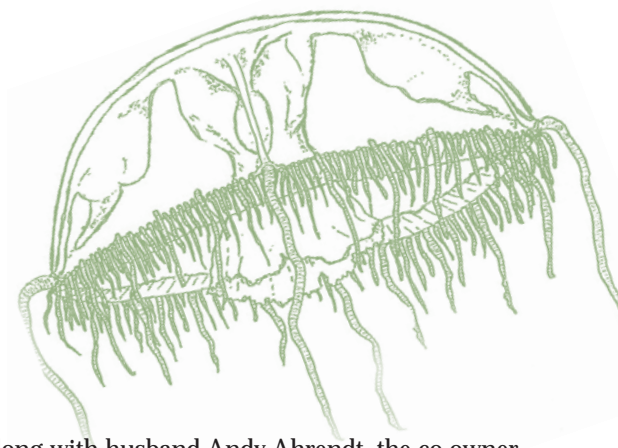
I had been to the Boundary Waters many times before, going back into childhood. I'd seen much wildlife (enough, probably, to have taken the sightings for granted.) But jellyfish – this had tipped the scales for me. I could not keep silent about the place any more. And I had to tell everyone the rare privilege my wilderness experience had been for me.

Dusting off a long-forsaken love of writing, I began blogging all things Boundary Waters. In sharing news of the area with readers, I found fulfillment in promoting its care, and promoting those who fought for its preservation. Something on that trip changed things for me. I found a sense of stewardship, my "outside voice."

But now, in the wake of modern threats like overdevelopment and "nature deficit disorder," I often wonder how we can encourage new voices, more voices for wilderness.

But first, how to identify them?

Ask the people who hear those stories first: the outfitters. "Basically, we look for happy, relaxed people," says outfitter Sue Ahrendt of families coming off the trail.



Along with husband Andy Ahrendt, the co-owner of Tuscarora Lodge on the Gunflint Trail, is something of a scout for wilderness lifers. In addition to daily introducing people to the region, she's written the guide *Becoming a Boundary Waters Family*.

"The area has an uncanny way of getting under peoples' skin," she says. "I believe that we have an innate yearning for wild places, for natural settings, for beauty."

As in her book, Ahrendt seeks to teach families about living in canoe country. Sue says they educate "more than anything else . . . This is why we want kids to come, to learn to care for it and respect it." The learning process Ahrendt speaks of, can take time.

For Douglas Wood, it was time, but not that alone. The inspirational writings of Sigurd Olson provided for Wood a pivotal "a-ha moment." They brought to fruition a love for wild places, and from this came a dedication.

Perhaps it's not so coincidental that I had a similar moment of clarity which led me to write. That it took a certain amount of time and exposure, until I became an advocate and not just a vacationer.

Sigurd Olson seemed to know of such epiphanies. He wrote that each of us are born with a share of curiosity and wonder which, over the years can be lost. Yet, he said, "their latent glow can be fanned to flame again by awareness and an open mind."

If each of us does have the promise of an a-ha moment waiting for us somewhere ahead (should we seek it.) I think people like the Ahrendts are doing the right thing.

"We know that as [Boundary Waters families] grow up, they will take care of what they know and love," says Ahrendt.

Now I seek to cultivate those formative wilderness experiences, among my readers, but also among my children. Their own flashpoint of inspiration may be on their first visit to the BWCA. Or their fifth. Or perhaps, as with Douglas Wood, they'll be far away altogether, and will read something that fans the embers into flame again. For me, the flame was an outspoken love for wild places. For a long time, I didn't truly know I had it. **But I did. Do you?**

Editor's note: You can read more of Andy's insight, and inspiration at his blog: www.UpNorthica.com

Wilderness News

Spring 2010

Big Bill Wenstrom: Last Man Standing 1

New Trends in Visits to Quetico-Superior Wilderness..... 3

Book Review: *A Modern-Day Voyageur Family* 4

Essay: Moments of Clarity..... 5

The Heart of the Continent Partnership Comes of Age..... 6

www.queticosuperior.org

The Heart of the Continent Partnership Comes of Age

By Rob Kesselring

Six years ago Quetico Park Superintendent Robin Reilly first approached the Quetico Foundation with the idea of developing an international border lakes coalition. His rationale was that a moose can wander the region crossing willy-nilly through provincial, state and international jurisdictions and if we are going to protect, understand and study that moose we need a similar freedom to communicate openly and clearly with everyone concerned regardless of their affiliation. But there was a second reason to come together; the 100th birthday of Quetico-Superior was fast approaching and there was a need to coordinate celebrations. Some observers feared that once the party was over the coalition would dissolve.

But the moose won. What has come to be called, The Heart of the Continent Partnership (HOCP) is growing stronger with every meeting. Collaboration on research, a regular forum to exchange information and an emerging focus on harvesting the wisdom of communities in the region to help build identity and support economic growth, are all tangible examples of an organization that has found its niche. Successful projects have spanned the spectrum, from collaboration on a sturgeon study to hosting a cooperative 60 participant expedition to celebrate the "heart" by voyageur canoe.

Three factors have contributed mightily to the success of the partnership. Only once each year does the HOCP meet in a metropolitan area. Moving the quarterly meeting site from community to community along the edge of the "heart" keeps the meetings fresh and real. Secondly, at a key moment in time, the Quetico Superior Foundation supplied HOCP with seed money.

This enabled the organization to build some inertia, hire a coordinator and develop a HOCP culture with group norms, a mission, goals and objectives. Finally, HOCP was founded on the principle of not taking environmental or political positions. It has steadfastly adhered to that tenet. Being an inclusive, non-partisan forum has encouraged a respectful exchange of ideas and a deep level of trust.

The most recent two-day April, 22nd-23rd, meeting included a public lecture by forest ecologist, Dr. Lee Frelich. At the Friday session the group formulated the beginnings of a method to gather contributions so that the HOCP can become self-sustaining. The group also reviewed current and past scientific research within the HOCP geography with an emphasis on encouraging increased collaboration. Participants who attended the World Wilderness Conference shared how, at that event, the HOCP was recognized as an outstanding example of international cooperation. Also on Friday's agenda were presentations by the Great Lakes Forest Alliance, Wilderness Inquiry, and the Urban Connections Initiative.



At the meeting Robin Reilly unveiled the new HOCP logo. It is not a wandering moose, but instead an artful sprig of bunchberry and some classy lettering. Truly, the Heart of Continent Partnership has come of age.

The next HOCP meeting will be held in Grand Portage, Minnesota on July 29th-30th, 2010.

For more information go to:
www.heartofthecontinent.org

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Wilderness News Online is now on **Facebook**—follow our fan page and receive instant updates on the issues that affect the Quetico-Superior region.

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online updates

Check out *Wilderness News Online* for updates to news stories in the print edition, and ongoing news coverage you might be missing. Visit www.wildernessnews.org today to subscribe by email or RSS.

What's New Online

- Fire Restrictions in Quetico Provincial Park, BWCAW; expectations for a high risk of fire in Northeastern MN
- The Future of Moose in a Warming World – Voyageurs National Park Association hosts symposium
- PolyMet Mining Updates
- Plans for Vermilion Park Advancing
- Updates on proposed Namakan Dam
- 2010 Gunflint Green Up

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