



# Keynote Address by Dennis Cawthorne 3:00 p.m.

Dennis Cawthorne knows the famed Great Lakes destination, its people, and its idiosyncrasies like few other people. For a great part of each of the last 54 years, he has lived, worked, and played on iconic Mackinac Island. He is also a world traveler, having visited sixty countries on six continents. He has served as an official United States delegate to international conferences of government leaders in Moscow, Beijing, and Brussels. Mr.

Cawthorne is a graduate of Albion College
(Phi Beta Kappa) and Harvard Law School. He makes his
home in East Lansing, Michigan. He and his wife Cynthia
have two sons and three grandchildren.



## 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 best-seller 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 D. Bowman

Mary wrote *Little Spruce of Raspberry Creek* while on a five week driving/camping trip to Alaska with her husband, Andy. The "wonderful, wild scenery" inspired her work as the story began to take on a life of its own. Although it is primarily a children's picture book, teachers of older children have used it to help with writing projects. Mary has lived in Harbor Springs for 40 years and has two children.



## **Rob Brown**

Rob Brown was a finalist in the Pacific Northwest Writers Association. He studied creative writing at Richard Hugo House, the University of Washington, and Story Studio. He played tight end on The University of Michigan freshman football team. But, unlike, Beau Lightfoot, he did not move on to the varsity and become a star. He lives with his wife, Ruthie, and his bulldog, Gloria, in Harbor Springs, Michigan, and Chicago, Illinois.



## **Charles Cleland**

Charles Cleland has a master's degree and PhD in anthropology, archaeology, and zoology. He taught at Michigan State University for 36 years and has published 90 scholarly articles and five books, which were focused on the culture and history of the native people of the upper Great Lakes region. In 1978, Michigan State University named Dr. Cleland Distinguished Professor of Anthropology. In 2002 the Society of Historical Archaeology awarded him its highest honor, the JC Harrington Medal, for his contributions to the field. Charles' books include *Beyond the Far Horizon, Rites of Conquest: The History and Culture of Michigan's Native Americans, and Faith in Paper: The History and Litigation of Upper Great Lakes Indian Treaties.* 



## Alison DeCamp

Like Stanley Slater, the hero of her middle-grade novels, *My Near-Death Adventures (99% True!)* and *My Near-Death Adventures (I Almost Died. Again.)*, Alison grew up in the U.P. Unlike Stan, however, she had indoor plumbing and more than two pairs of pants. She attended MSU, taught for 8 years in Pellston and now makes her home in Harbor Springs where she also works part-time at Between the Covers bookstore.



## John Deckinga

John Deckinga was born in Chicago, Illinois, and now lives in Boyne City, Michigan. Deckinga lived in Latin America with his wife Nancy for fourteen years. He won the 2006 Paraclete Press Fiction Award for his novel *The Road to Cocoyoc*, which Alice McDermott judged. The biennial award, presented at Calvin College's Festival of Faith & Writing in Grand Rapids, is given for a novel with Christian themes. His first novel is called *Enemy in Shadows*.



## **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* was published which received the State History Award from the Historical Society of Michigan. She was featured in "Into the North" a production by CMU-TV, was interviewed on WCMU-Radio about her research on virtuoso violinist Hugo Gottesmann, and has been interviewed for the documentary "Young Hemingway, Finding His Muse in Northern Michigan." She has given numerous presentations around Northern Michigan.



## Tanya Drinkall

Tanya Drinkall discovered the joys of beekeeping through the eyes and heart of her youngest daughter, Sophia. Emerging from a "bee-phobic" to "bee-advocate" has been an interesting experience and she hopes to share the joys and importance of these amazing creatures with anyone who will listen. Her book "The Littlest Beekeeper" is a heartwarming and true story wrapped around educational information about the honey bee.



## **Zev Lawson Edwards**

Zev was born and raised in Northern Michigan. His debut novel, *The New Punk*, is a young adult book about an orphan in Detroit, abandoned by society, trying to find his place in this world. Zev has lived and taught in Perth, Australia, Gyeongju, South Korea, and Jazan, Saudi Arabia. He currently lives in Michigan. Visit his Web site at <a href="https://www.zevlawsonedwards.com">www.zevlawsonedwards.com</a>.



## **Randy Evans**

Randy Evans is the author of *Red Sky Anthology: Reading Out Loud in Northern Michigan* and *Out of the Inferno: A Husband's Passage through Cancerland.* He writes poetry, short stories, memoirs, and novels. His work has appeared in Bear River Review, Dunes Review, and Walloon Writers Review. Randy and his wife Denise live year-round in Petoskey along with Little Traverse Lizzie, their English Setter.



## **Suzy Farbman**

Suzy Farbman excels at creative non-fiction. She has written two memoirs about surviving personal crises—*Back from Betrayal* (which landed her family on Oprah) and *Godsigns*. In her weekly blog, *Godsigns: Synchronicity, Turning Points and Beyond*, Suzy tells inspiring human interest stories. She invites people to share their stories with her.



## **Kenn Grimes**

Kenn Grimes writes short stories and novels, and is a screenwriter of screenplays and TV mini-series. He has two books published, both set in Kentucky: *Camptown*, a collection of 24 short stories from 1847 through 1997; and The *Other Side of Yesterday*, a time travel novel set in the 1920s and 1860s. He is currently finishing a cozy mystery, *Booker Falls: Miss Sinclair in the Library*, set in the Keweenaw Peninsula in the early 1900s. Kenn makes his summer home in Michigan, and his winter home in Louisville, Kentucky.



## **Peg Herring**

Peg Herring lives in northern Lower Michigan with her husband of many years. She reads and writes mysteries, both historical and contemporary, with positive reviews, a few awards, and loyal fans for emotional support. Peg's recent titles include Somebody Doesn't Like Sarah Leigh and Dead to Get Ready—and Go.



## **Marla Kay Houghteling**

Marla Kay Houghteling lives in Harbor Springs. She has an MFA in Writing from Vermont College. Her work has appeared in publications from The Christian Science Monitor to Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine. Her books include two poetry collections The Blue House and Assisted Living, as well as a novel The Journey of Aurora Starr.



## **Stewert James**

Tom Renkes writes under the pen name of Stewert James and is the author of the Super Pac trilogy as well as two collections of short stories, including Writing with Hemingway at City Park Grill. He is a retired RN, former college teacher, administrator, business owner, and CEO. When Stewert is not writing he is hiking, fishing, birding, biking, and enjoying the northern Michigan landscapes and people. He is also a contributor to the long-established poetry site called tomspoetry.com.



# **Christine Johnson**

Northern Michigan native Christine Johnson has authored over ten books for Revell and Love Inspired. Her inspirational historical romances blend adventure with heartwarming romance. Some of Christine's titles include *Mail Order Mix-Up, Love's Rescue, and Honor Redeemed*. She has been twice named a finalist for Romance Writers of America's Golden Heart® award.



#### Ken Kerr

Ken's has published *Life of a Double Agent* and *The First Madam President*, both works of fiction that range from suspenseful thrillers to political intrigue. He lives with his wife Kryl on Lake Charlevoix in the summer and Hilton Head Island, SC the rest of the year. His daughter Kathryn is married and lives in East Lansing.



#### 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.



## **Suzanne Malpass**

Suzanne Rogers of East Jordan writes true stories with happy endings for grade school children, under her maiden name, Suzanne M. Malpass. Each of her seven books features an animal saved from a dangerous situation. Suzanne and her husband divide their time between Michigan and Arizona, and so her writing reflects both states. Each book is illustrated with gorgeous watercolor paintings by Charlevoix's Trish Morgan. Her titles include Where's Our Siamese? and Colorado the Flying Horse: a True Arizona Story.



## 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. The first two Michael Russo mysteries, "*Murder at Cherokee Point*" and "*Murder on Lake Street*," were published in 2014 and 2015, respectively.



## 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. A few of her titles include *His Montana Homecoming, The Deputy's New Family,* and *A Temporary Courtship* which will be released in October of this year.



## Kathleen 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.



## Suzanne Shumway

Suzanne, the author of the novel *Effie Martin*, specializes in Victorian literature. She is a recently retired English professor from North Central Michigan College and has a Ph.D. in English from The University of Texas at Austin. Suzanne writes both historical fiction as well as non-fiction (criticism and literary analysis).



## Joshua Snider

Joshua Jacob Snider is a multilingual translator, publisher and linguist dedicated to producing language learning materials for endangered and marginalized languages through his publishing company Mundart Press. He has published two books on Algonquian Native American Languages and also works with Yiddish as well as many other languages.



## Ian Weller

lan is a poet on the autism spectrum. He writes poetry that "packs a punch". Some of lan's titles include *Strength for Autism* and *Peace and Redemption, Darkness Into Light: Selected Poetry.* He also has a memoir in progress that he hopes to finish by the end of the year.



#### **Chris Weston**

Chris, the winner of the Michigan Hemingway Society's 2011 Short Story Contest, has been an author for over 30 years. His writing is geared toward juvenile readers but is enjoyed by people of all ages. His stories revolve around old fashioned values, family, and true imagination. A few of Chris' titles include Hawgeye, A Baseball Man, The Pine Tree Monster, and The Canoe Chronicle.



#### **Christine Wilson**

Christine is a Certified Life Coach at Wilson Wellness Counseling, Coaching and Consulting. She is passionate about helping people realize their true identity and value through the power of Perfect Love. Christine has published a self-help book entitled *Recovered Essence: How Toxic Relationships Impact Your Inner Child* which she considers both spiritual and inspirational. To find out more about Christine's book and Recovered Essence program, visit her website at www.recoveredessence.com.



# David Wyant

David writes historical fiction that focuses on the early life of Ernest Hemingway during his Petoskey years. Wyant adds "snappy dialogue" to historical events to make his stories come alive, mimicking to his readers Hemingway's personality and character in a way that he believes is true. His titles include Stolen in Paris: the Lost Chronicles of Ernest Hemingway and The Town That Haunted Hemingway.





