

Chequamegon Bay Film Festival—Making It Home  
May 5, 2009 Minutes  
Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center

Present: Steve Cotherman, Mary Gruhl, Linda Middlestadt, Susan Nelson, Ruth Oppedahl, Kate Siegler

**1) Wisconsin Humanities Council update.** We learned on April 22 that we have been awarded one of the four film festival grants. We received our first choice of dates April 24-25, 2010 (Earth Day Week). The other locations for film festivals are Baraboo, Dodgeville and Milwaukee.

**2) Goals**

- To bring films to the Bay area
- To build partnerships with other organizations and institutions
- To be active in the community
- To increase visitors to the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center
- To provide information and dialog on natural resource issues
- To understand the cultural history and natural history of the region
- To make students aware of these issues

**3) Timeline—NEXT STEPS**

- a) Kate and Ruth will immediately check on venues (WITC, StageNorth, NGLVC)
- b) Ruth will get the date on Chamber calendars (meet with chambers, ask to serve on committee)
- c) Ruth will connect with publicity people like Rose Haveri, Donna Kurilla at the NGLVC and Mary Motif and Mary McPhetridge at the Chamber and the Bayfield CO Tourism Dept.
- d) Steve and Ruth will send out news release
- e) Kate will check with Molly and Greta about helping organize the food film and activities
- f) Steve will contact Wisconsin Film Office, Madison Film Festival for suggestions
- g) Steve will ask Jeremy Oswald to consider documenting the festival
- h) Susan will check on getting Greenfire producers here using USFS budget funds

**4) Film topics and scheduling (tentative)**

- a) **Thursday, April 22, 2010 film festival kick-off at Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center**  
[\*Greenfire\*](#), the hour-long film *GreenFire* provocatively examines Leopold's thinking, renewing his idea of a land ethic for a population facing 21st century ecological challenges. Profoundly moving, *GreenFire* will engage viewers intellectually and emotionally.

Activity ideas: Aldo Leopold Trail walk, film producers talk-back, build Leopold benches, Curt Meine (biographer) discussion

**b) Friday, April 23, 2010 Day**

**Food films for schools and elders**

[What's On Your Plate](#) is a witty and provocative documentary produced and directed by award-winning Catherine Gund about kids and food politics.

- Tracking where food comes from
- Support local food production
- Connect with school gardens and cooking from scratch
- Refreshments
- Other activities that link with curriculum at schools

Food film at WITC especially for elders

- Share stories on preserving food
- Book discussions? [Animal, Vegetable, Miracle](#) (Kingsolver), [In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto](#) (Pollan), others
- Refreshments of local food (in April?????????)

**c) Friday, April 23, 2010 Evening**

\_\_\_\_\_ (film ?) \_\_\_\_\_ (location)

**d) Saturday, April 24, 2010 Day**

\_\_\_\_\_ family films \_\_\_\_\_ (location)

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**e) Saturday, April 24, 2010 Evening**

\_\_\_\_\_ feature film \_\_\_\_\_ (location)

In general, we are mulling over film selections.

**5) Wisconsin Humanities Council partnership**

WHC has offered to produce a playbill, develop marketing materials like flyers/posters, radio spots etc., and underwrite the movie rental fees. We are very interested in the fall trip to meet with WHC staff and other festival planners to share ideas.

We discussed the UW-Madison's film class that will be creating short films next fall. At this time, incorporating them in to the festival doesn't seem to be a good fit.

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Ruth Oppedahl

**Next meeting is Tuesday, May 26 from 3:30pm – 5:00pm at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center**

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**Films for consideration (keep checking back and/or adding suggestions)**

#### **Food**

[What's On Your Plate](#) – NYC kids tracking their food

[Our Daily Bread](#) – silent, art film about industrial food production

[The Hunger Season](#) – the world's massive food crisis

#### **Native American Perspective**

[Upstream Battle](#) – Native Americans on the Klamath River fight for their fish

[Lighting the Seventh Fire](#) – Chippewa Indian fight to restore spearfishing in N Wisconsin

#### **People and Land**

[Saving Luna](#) – young killer whale trying to make friends with people, Vancouver Island

[Restoring the Mauri](#) – how do you resuscitate the land, restoring the Mauri of Lake Omapere

[Grapes of Wrath](#) – adaptation of Steinback's book, the impact of the Great Depression on the Joads

[Never Cry Wolf](#) – adaptation of Mowat's book, raises interesting issues about the preservation of wildlife and the necessary role of the wolf in the ecosystem of the north

[Princess Mononoke](#) - Japanese animated historical fantasy feature film concentrates on the struggle between the supernatural guardians of a forest and the humans who consume its resources

[Black Robe](#) - The film is set in the 17th century and tells the story of a [Jesuit](#) priest and his young companion who are escorted in late fall by [Algonquin Indians](#) across what is now called Quebec, to find a distant [mission](#) in a [Huron](#) village.

[Sweet Land](#) – is a poignant and lyrical celebration of land, love, and the American immigrant experience.

[Winged Migration](#) – a documentary showcasing the immense journeys routinely made by [birds](#) during their migrations.

### **Wisconsin's Conservation Legacy**

[Greenfire](#) - examines Leopold's thinking, renewing his idea of a land ethic for a population facing 21st century ecological challenges