



The Heritage Initiative

Event Records

Heritage Discovery Workshops
in Minnesota & Wisconsin counties
of the St Croix River watershed

Spring 2012

To all participants, event hosts and community partners: Thank you!

There are three important engines driving The Heritage Initiative: a regional task force, a wide range of local partners, and an ever increasing number of interested and energetic individuals. Together we share a unifying belief: the St Croix watershed holds important stories of ecology, immigration, agriculture and innovation that are unique, interesting, and potentially valuable to our region's economic development.



The Heritage Initiative began in 2010, organized by the St. Croix Valley Foundation and a task force of engaged citizens. Their first task was to explore other regions that have earned federal National Heritage Area (NHA) designation. After a study of benefits and challenges, the task force decided to take the next step – a Feasibility Study – organized as a community-based self-assessment process involving organizations, communities and residents in eleven counties throughout the St. Croix watershed.

This two-year self-assessment process involves a range of community meetings, workshops, gatherings and events designed to help community members tell shared stories of family and cultural heritage, identify special places, discuss possible strategies and ultimately decide whether to pursue Heritage Area designation.

The Heritage Discovery Workshops were the first round of meetings in this community-based process (see Page 2 for full outline). From February through May 2012, The St. Croix Valley Foundation and the Heritage Initiative task force held ten workshops throughout the 8,000

square mile St Croix watershed. These community meetings were organized in a *story circle* format, with the goal of identifying a set of broad regional story-lines built from the individual stories we each have to share. The task force is happy to report:

The Heritage Discovery Workshops were a success! We now have online event records of all 10 workshops, reflecting the input and interesting stories of 246 participants from 11 Wisconsin and Minnesota counties!

This data immediately serves as building blocks for the Regional Gatherings which will be held in Fall 2012 and - if National Heritage Area designation is eventually sought - will inform a required Statement of National Significance.

A quick scan of the records affirms and makes tangible the feeling long shared among many in the area: that the combined stories of our region form something significant, not just to people of the region — important to the world, as a part of the American story. Still, declaring full success of this initiative will only come when we are closer to answering some underlying (and still very open) questions:

Is formal NHA designation a good fit for our region? How exactly would local communities leverage a regional heritage identity to achieve positive outcomes?

We are looking forward to seeing many of you again soon — and working together to answer those questions at the upcoming Regional Gatherings! Thanks again -

Marty Harding

Heritage Initiative Task Force Chair,
Board Member
St. Croix Valley Foundation

Jill Shannon

Director of Community Outreach
St. Croix Valley Foundation

What is a National Heritage Area?

National Heritage Areas (NHAs) celebrate places with important connections to our country's culture and history.

A National Heritage Area recognizes a region's important contributions to American's history and culture and celebrates its stories, conserves its special qualities and helps promote economic growth through local partnerships.

Heritage Areas are designated by Congress and are planned and managed by citizens, community leaders and public and private organizations.

Currently there are 49 Heritage Areas across the county.



The Folsom House is located on Angel Hill, overlooking the St Croix River in Taylors Falls, Minnesota.

The Heritage Initiative



The **Heritage Initiative** is facilitated by the St. Croix Valley Foundation and led by a task force made up of citizens from Minnesota and Wisconsin who live in communities throughout the St Croix watershed. Participants on the task force represent a wide array of interests including nonprofits, businesses and public entities.



ST. CROIX VALLEY FOUNDATION

Process: Groundbreaking, interesting & surprisingly fun!

Heritage Discovery Workshops

Eleven Counties - Spring 2012

SHARING OUR STORIES

This past spring, the task force hosted ten workshops in communities across the St. Croix watershed. These were the first events in a series of community engagement gatherings to explore our region's significance and to connect communities using shared culture and history as a basis for collaboration in economic development, historic preservation, conservation and tourism. The workshops introduced the concept of a National Heritage Area and gave participants the opportunity to share stories of our region's history, traditions, and its special places. **This document is a record of these workshops.**

Regional Gatherings

Four Locations - Fall 2012

REVEALING OUR STORYLINES

The Regional Gatherings will bring communities, organizations and residents together at four events across the watershed. We will identify the broad stories that our communities have in common and consider the existing natural, historic, and cultural resources available to interpret these stories. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss various geographical footprints for a heritage region and begin to define broad, regional strategies to protect and promote the resources that define our region.

Heritage Summit

Location TBD - Spring 2013

MOVING TOWARDS REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

The community engagement meetings will culminate in a Heritage Summit with participants throughout the watershed. We will discuss our vision, goals and a preliminary plan of action for regional collaboration that celebrates our history and culture.

This meeting includes final consideration of whether or not to pursue designation of a National Heritage Area.

National Heritage Area Feasibility Study

2012-2013

Transforming Data Into Understandable Information

Congressional designation of a National Heritage Area is based on an evaluation of three necessary traits—a history significant to our nation's development, a special landscape and living traditions that express our stories, and the capacity for collaboration across geographic and political boundaries. Building upon the results of the community meetings, we will prepare a written document that reflects these findings and decisions. This study will be available online for public review and comment. If a National Heritage Area is the desired outcome, this document will be the basis for Congressional designation. If not, it will be the basis of regional collaboration, using our history and culture to build our future.

Statement
of
National
Significance

The Heritage Initiative Task Force

Monthly Meetings - Since 2010

The Heritage Initiative



HERITAGE DISCOVERY WORKSHOPS

Intent: to inform, engage, and listen in eleven counties.



The Heritage Initiative Task Force held ten Heritage Discovery Workshops in the spring of 2012 involving residents of eleven Minnesota and Wisconsin counties in the St. Croix River watershed (see map). There were three objectives:

1. Discuss Local-Regional Identity

All participants were asked to identify what they believe makes their communities special, and why the St. Croix region is unique in the nation.

2. Listen to Participant Stories

Each participant was asked to share a story about a place, event or tradition

in the region important to them.

3. Gauge Opinions & Reactions

Each workshop included an informational presentation and conversation about the St. Croix region's Heritage Initiative and the merits of National Heritage Area designation in this region.

1 Watershed

2 States

4 Months

10 Workshops

11 Counties

71 Sponsors & contributing agencies

286 Participants

10,412 Years in the region

414 Stories
on record

www.stcroixheritage.org



Chisago County
Minnesota



Pine County
Minnesota



Burnett County
Wisconsin



Sawyer & Bayfield Counties
Wisconsin



Douglas County
Wisconsin



Washburn County
Wisconsin



Washington County
Minnesota



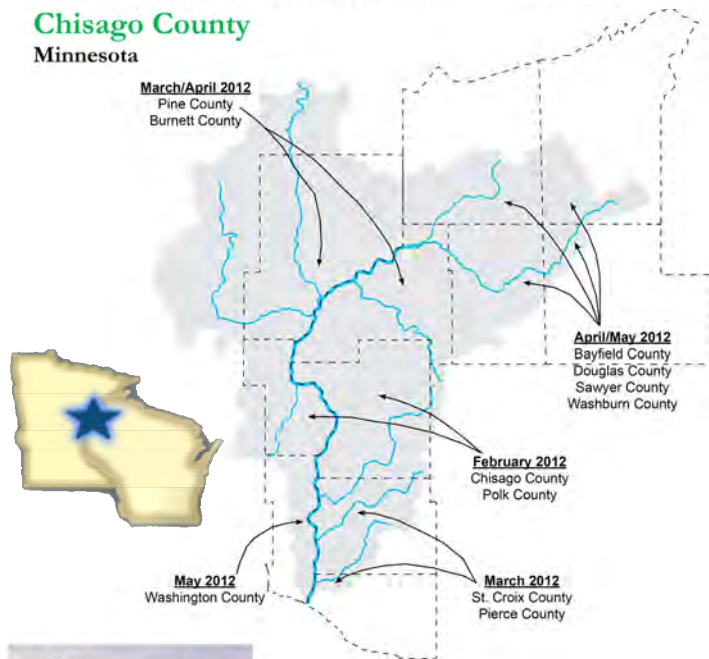
Pierce County
Wisconsin



St. Croix County
Wisconsin



Polk County
Wisconsin



Spring 2012

What happened at each Heritage Discovery Workshop?

Participants arrived to a venue set up in a similar manner by local volunteers at ten host locations.



Each meeting followed the same agenda (see right).

Opinions, stories and feedback were consistently recorded and published at www.stcroixheritage.org.

The Heritage Initiative



9:00

Doors Open, Social Time

9:30

Welcome, Overview, Presentation & Questions

Informational slideshow on National Heritage Areas and the St Croix Heritage Initiative.

Scramble into Tables for Introductions

Participants count off into tables of 4-7 with task force recorder facilitating. Tally & report the number of years people have lived in the region.

10:30 **Individual Exercise:**

Regional & National Distinctiveness

[See Event Records](#)

Each participant was given a white card and a blue card. On the white card, they were asked “...write one thing you think makes your local area special or distinctive from the other communities around you. This can be a natural feature, a cultural event or tradition, or something about the way of life, historic or contemporary....” For the blue card, they were asked, “...Write one thing you think makes the St. Croix Region special or distinctive within the larger region or the country. ...” Cards were collected from the entire room. Answers were tallied and reported near the end of the workshop.

White card question:

What makes your immediate area special in this region?

Blue card question:

Why is the St Croix region unique in the nation?

10:40 **Small Group Exercise:**

Heritage Discovery

Each person was asked to take turns sharing/speaking about one story, one at a time around the circle. Facilitators took notes and the group appointed one person to report out highlights to full group.

[See Event Records](#)

Story Circles

First time around the circle: “Imagine you’re visited by a dear friend or relative from your past – someone from outside the Midwest or even a different country. You have time to share with them only one activity, a place, or a community or family event that’s important to you. What would it be? Describe it and where it would be.”

Second round: “Share why this event or place has importance to you.”

Third round: “Share more about the origins of this event or place, or little-known things about this place.”

11:15 **Report Back & Reflect**

11:40 **Thank You, Next Steps and Feedback Survey Issued...**

National Heritage Areas: Opinions & Reactions

[See Event Records](#)



Interstate State Park

Polk County

Wisconsin

EVENT RECORD

Heritage Discovery Workshop (#1)

*This event record was compiled by Jeff Schommer, Paul Anderton & Peter Musty.
This record last updated on July 12, 2012.*

February 11, 2012 – The Polk County Heritage Discovery Workshop (held at Paradise Landing in Balsam Lake, Wisconsin) was one of ten held in early 2012 throughout eleven counties in Minnesota and Wisconsin that are located in the St. Croix River watershed. (See map to the right.) The intent of the workshops was to:

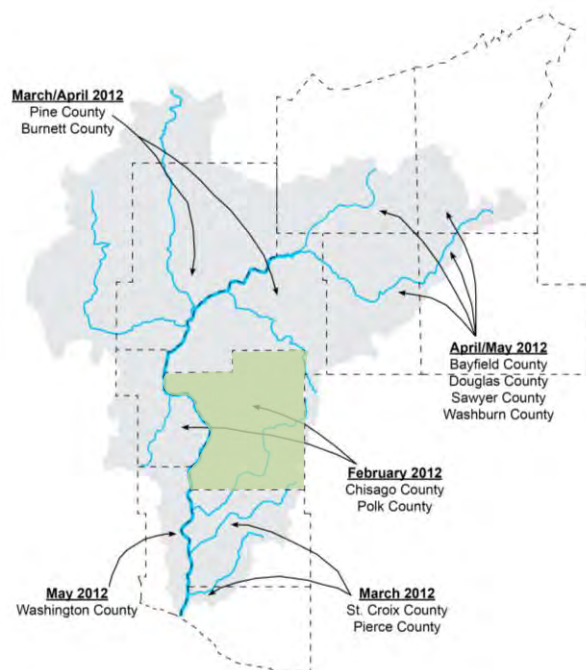
- provide information and conversation about the St. Croix region's Heritage Initiative and National Heritage Areas (NHA); and
- identify stories and places that define the St. Croix River region.

This document contains a record of the event, contributing to a collective database developed and managed by St. Croix Valley Foundation and their Heritage Initiative Task Force on behalf of all eleven counties. Each workshop created opportunities for participants to share:

- their reactions and opinions about National Heritage Areas;
- their opinions about what makes their community special in the region, and why the St. Croix region is unique in the nation;
- a story about a place, event or tradition in the region important to them.

The records from all the workshops have been published via the Heritage Initiative's website: www.stcroixheritage.org, and will be shared with community leaders to illustrate community response to this workshop. The information collected will be used in three other ways within the Heritage Initiative:

- a) to determine the big themes and the broad stories shared across the watershed;
- b) to help inform the upcoming Regional Summits that will be held in the Fall of 2012;
- c) as a foundation of information for a written document that might be the basis for Congressional designation as a National Heritage Area, if that outcome is what communities throughout the watershed desire.



Thank You...

Participating Polk County Sponsors and Supporting Organizations

St. Croix Festival Theatre

ArtReach St. Croix

Paradise Landing Restaurant & Bar

Amery Community Foundation

Polk County Volunteers

** Cindy Stimmler*

Heritage Discovery Workshop Team

** Marty Harding (Board Member of St Croix Valley
Foundation & Heritage Initiative Task Force Chair)*

Task Force Members

** Alyssa Auten, Kathy Bartilson, * Julie Galonska,*

*Sam Griffith, John Lennes, * Ann Moonen,*

** Bill Neuman, * Danette Olsen, Scott Peterson,*

*Tangi Schaapveld, Jean Schaeppi, * Margaret Smith,*

*Chris Stein, * John Velin*

St Croix Valley Foundation

Jane Stevenson, President

** Jill Shannon, Director of Community Outreach*

** Jonathan Moore, Heritage Coordinator*

Facilitation Team

Creative Community Builders

** Tom Borrup (co-lead)*

** Peter Musty (co-lead)*

** Paul Anderton*

** Carol Ahlgren*

Jeffrey Bruce, FASLA

Robert Claybaugh, AIA

Frank Edgerton Martin

Danette Olsen

Jeff Schommer

Harry Waters Jr

** - (present at this workshop)*

Pages 3-5

National Heritage Area: Opinions & Reactions Feedback Forms

Pages 6-10

Regional and National Distinctiveness Note Card Questions

Pages 11-14

Stories Records from Story Circles



National Heritage Areas: Opinions & Reactions

The table (following pages) is a record of written comments transcribed from feedback forms each participant was asked to fill out at the end of the workshop.

30

participants were present
at the workshop

1,036

total years
they have lived or worked
in the St. Croix region

The Heritage Initiative

*Many WATERS
Many STORIES*

THANK YOU for your FEEDBACK on the following:

I came to this meeting because:

My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is:

The most likely benefit of an NHA to my organization or my community is:

I am willing: (Please check all that apply.)

☐ ...to help host a public meeting

☐ ...to contact people in my community to encourage their attendance

☐ ...to share additional stories, photos or other information regarding our regional heritage

☐ ...to help the NHA effort in other ways

Your name and contact information:

Name _____

E-mail _____

Telephone _____

Mail Address _____

Please return this form to:

 **ST. CROIX VALLEY FOUNDATION**

St Croix Valley Foundation
c/o Jill Shannon
516 Second Street, Suite 214
Hudson, WI 54016
phone 715.386.9490
fax 715.386.1250
jshannon@scvfoundation.org

Written Comments from Feedback Forms

I came to this meeting because...	My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is...	The most likely benefit of a NHA to my community or my organization is...
<i>Danette Olson personally described this initiative to me and invited me to attend. She knows my family -- my values, beliefs and passion for this area.</i>	<i>YES! Concerns allow area to remain ITSELF = Do not change or newly regulate the beauty and land use of area, including hunting.</i>	<i>continued pride in area, knowledge/awareness for new generations and visitors, ongoing respect and maintenance of assets</i>
<i>Interested in historical aspects</i>	<i>excellent (...)?</i>	<i>Knowledge, tourism</i>
<i>curious</i>	<i>Excellent Idea - huge undertaking - questionable benefits</i>	<i>Tourism? Safeguard development? Preserve heritage, natural beauty, rural way of life.</i>
<i>I live in one of the unique areas of the state and I think the preservation of the stories in a great idea.</i>	<i>positive - economically + educationally</i>	<i>Awareness + possible (likely) economic benefits</i>
<i>I was E:Mailed by Danette O.</i>	<i>I wanted to find out more about NHA</i>	<i>To let visitors know the beauty + history of this part of Wis.</i>
<i>interest in area - especially by a son who now lives in CA</i>	<i>"go for it!"</i>	<i>possibly more tourist or visitor influx to add to economic, etc. benefits</i>
<i>of my wife and my interest</i>	<i>Great</i>	<i>to make my comm. aware of our heritage</i>
<i>This initiative will help protect the natural systems + preserve the cultural history of this region</i>	<i>Absolutely terrific.</i>	<i>SCV / Taylors Falls is an important component in many ways to NHA.</i>
<i>I want to learn as much as possible about initiative.</i>	<i>i Positive!</i>	<i>Broader outreach to rest of world</i>
<i>presentation @ Polk County Board</i>	<i>very important</i>	<i>recognize of area (past and present) to ourselves and to the world</i>
<i>Learn about what it is</i>	<i>very positive</i>	<i>Recognition of significance to US History & Development</i>
<i>learn more - networking</i>	<i>working together to share resources benefits all</i>	<i>making connections + networking</i>
<i>conserving heritage, etc. of our area</i>	<i>fantastic!</i>	<i>recognition of assets</i>
<i>I was invited to participate</i>	<i>very positive. Will give us recognition</i>	<i>preservation of existing</i>

Written Comments from Feedback Forms

I came to this meeting because...	My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is...	The most likely benefit of a NHA to my community or my organization is...
	<i>nationally + internationally</i>	
<i>I am interested in this heritage</i>	<i>very positive</i>	<i>Educational</i>
<i>Interested in regional development of tourism</i>	<i>it could be a helpful structure to promote the unique nature of our area across political boundaries, especially across state lines.</i>	<i>coordinated and effective marketing</i>
<i>It was a cold morning and they promised coffee</i>	<i>a good idea</i>	<i>another tool of historical preservation</i>
<i>I support the initiative</i>	<i>very positive</i>	<i>strengthened sense of community avenues for sharing/educating young people as to heritage</i>
<i>I am interested in the area history - wanted to know more</i>	<i>It is huge + there are multiple stories</i>	<i>to get our minds away from political boundaries + then regionally</i>
<i>my affiliation w/the SCVF</i>	<i>"a lot of work....Wow!"</i>	<i>possible overarching organizational framework that could unify efforts to communicate the beauty and heritage of the region!</i>
<i>Interested in all aspects of the area</i>	<i>positive</i>	<i>Cooperation with other groups</i>
<i>of my interest in history and the role that the development of a heritage area will have an impact on econ. devel.</i>	<i>Great Idea</i>	<i>Recognition of Wanigan Days and its meaning = "House the walks on water" of the Ojibwe word WANIGAN</i>
<i>I am interested in how citizens of the SCV embrace (or not) the idea of a NHA</i>	<i>... positive for the area</i>	<i>Community pride; connect communities</i>

Local & Regional Distinctiveness

Participants were asked to give answers to two questions. Recorded below are a tally of themes identified in answers, then full transcriptions of participant answers (following pages).

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

- 8 Waterways
- 8 Geology
- 5 Sense of Community
- 4 Recreation
- 4 Water Power (Dams, Mills)
- 4 Emergence of Railroads
- 4 Arts
- 4 History
- 3 Trading Trails
- 3 Scandinavian Traditions
- 3 Forests
- 3 Rural
- 3 Natural Beauty
- 3 Native American History & Culture
- 3 Historic Downtowns
- 2 Agriculture
- 1 Unrecorded History
- 1 Suicide Rates
- 1 Cemeteries
- 1 Wildlife
- 1 Recreational Trails
- 1 Dairy Farming
- 1 Birding

Blue Card Question:

What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?

- 11 Waterways
- 9 Logging
- 8 Cultural Heritage
- 8 Native Americans
- 7 Geology
- 6 Conservation Ethic
- 5 French Fur Trade
- 5 Natural Beauty
- 4 Rural Forests
- 3 Trails
- 3 Wildlife
- 3 Industry
- 3 Arts
- 3 History
- 2 Railroad Connections
- 2 Tourism
- 2 Bootlegging
- 1 River Roads
- 1 Prehistoric Archeology
- 1 Agriculture
- 1 Natural Resources

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

- 2194 239th Ave, Cushing, WI 54006 "Cut across Road"
- Wapogasset / Amery 1. -water -trails - Arts -Sense of community
- Frederic, WI -- early logging supported by the emerging railroads - early trading -- trails through the area, Clam Falls
- distinctive in "my" area -- River Falls -- Kinnickinnic Trout River --Foster Cemetery -- Grassroots Arts & Artists
- Danish Heritage --Luck
- Trees, isolation, wildlife, nature, plants, frogs, eagles, quiet --- My Area Distinctive
- Amery -- Trails -Rivers - Lakes - Potential to be a good destination
- Woods - Wildlife - Maple Syrup -- Rural Cushing -- Good Neighbors - local Post Office
- History that can be recovered. So much history has been lost in the immediate area! Wanderoos is south - it has so much history & no one has recorded that I know of.
- Geology -- St. Croix Falls
- Tour of Luck -- Ice Age Trail - Straight Lake State Park - Trade River - Iver's Mountain - Early Cooperatives - our Socialist history
- Frederic -- 1900 railroad destination - Much logging. Several native American communities - early fur trading in Trade Lake area - lots of neat ecological areas. Now with State Park & State Trail in the area.
- Amery -- The lakes, rivers and streams
- Special Home place
- Garfield Town Park- Lake Wapo Park - 100 year history of park -- Formation of our town 126 years ago -- Native Am. History back to 2500 BC
- Franconia/Osceola -- Special -- Waterfall, high bluffs, Park and River
- 1. Live on Apple River in Amery - area was a pasture and still have some barbed wire closer to river -- names of streets in the circle relate to owner's family. A sawmill was in the area to the North of our lot. Children found bottles, etc. in the river
- I live on a clear, spring fed lake next to an undeveloped city park that is on the Great Wisconsin Birding Trail -- Pike Lake, Amery, WI
- Water & Woods -- compare to many of the other areas of the US
- My local area - distinction - Greater Cushing Area -- Geography - lakes, streams, glacial features, sand barren (the barrens) -- River Roads - The road from the Falls to the logging areas & the development along them -- Dairy Farming
- Dalles of the St. Croix River formed from receding glaciers -- Pot Holes in the Interstate Park formed as glaciers melted & waters swirled
- Distinctive from area -- historic downtown area (Marine on St. Croix) -- 1st sawmill in the St. Croix Valley -- very strong feeling of community
- Rural Amery --> Star Prairie Area -- thinking about the Apple River Valley & what it must have looked like eons ago, i.e. we live in a "flood plain" but it seems impossible to imagine the river/water would ever come to our house/land the water & woods are ever-changing and unless we (people) adapt, we won't survive. we must allow nature to form and guide us -- always -- Distinctive Point = Ever Changing
- We live in the terminal moraine of the last glacier - Dahl Lake - Bone Lake Township, Polk County
- I was born here some of my family came here 1850's
- SCF Valley - Immediate area is special -- Natural Beauty -- The varied cultures that lived here -- The variety of outdoor activities
- Amery - History - "saving the past for the future"



-
- *Amery - many lakes and Apple River - nature - rural life - caring neighbors*
 - *The area is very arts orientated i.e., visual arts, oral arts (Festival Theatre) etc. but still maintains its rural feeling with agriculture*
 - *Logging on the Straight River, dams, mills, etc. West Denmark Settlement, Scandinavian traditions & culture & philosophies*
 - *(1) The feeling of community among local residents (Amery, Clayton, Osceola) (2) per capita, Polk Co., WI ranks #1 in the state for young people's suicides.*

Blue Card Question:

What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?

- *Region Special -- collective -- Intersection of Native American, trapping, logging, farming, many many different immigration sources*
- *Region Distinctive -- Grassroots Arts across region -- Natural beauty of area , St. Croix/Taylors Falls, St. Croix River, Crex Meadows wildlife - Sandhill crane migration*
- *Distinctive for region in the Nation -- St. Croix National Scenic Riverway (one of the 1st eight rivers in the Nation protected by the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act) -- Scandinavian heritage plus others*
- *Dalles of the St. Croix River -- Pot Holes in the Interstate Park -- Esker in Downtown St. Croix Falls*
- *The LIFE supported by the watershed ... livelihoods, transportation, connectedness, physical well-being*
- *Immigrant History -- Native Peoples History --Industry: Farming, Logging, Mining -- Natural Beauty - wildlife - haven't been paved over yet -- Region of Individuals - 20th century migration from urban to rural areas*
- *logging and ag industry*
- *Special in the Nation: Chippewa (Ojibwe) & Sioux -- French: fur trade --Scandinavians: loggers -- Pioneer schools (one room school houses)*
- *Riverway -- Depth of history documented -- Bison bones -- Indian Mounds*
- *SCV - many lakes and rivers - nature - rural life*
- *St. Croix region is very tourism in nature. Hence, attraction to nation as a whole. Much to see and do here!*
- *French Canadian fur trade. Logging - Pinery -- St. Croix River transportation*
- *1) The rural, forest beauty of the area -- 2) _____*
- *The waterways and different groups that settled it - Indian tribes, Scandinavian, glacial effects on the terrain*
- *Historically - SCRV was integral in early development of area because of watershed areas & resources. Glacial region makes it interesting.*
- *CONSERVATION ETHIC, CREX Meadows, Wild & Scenic Riverway, State & National Parks, Protection of Public Places*
- *St. Croix District N____ ? -- Wild & Scenic River -- History -- Rural Northwoods*
- *It is geologically significant, a waterway for native Americans and once controlled by French, British & American -- It is also forested by the great Pinery & the logging part of the Cut Over Country - Polk County is the home of two WI - State Parks & a Nat. Park*
- *artists -- Ideas -- activists -- Woods -- trap Rock -- creativity*
- *FUR TRADE AND LOGGING THAT LEAD TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MIDWEST THROUGH THE RAILROADS THAT SPRUNG UP TO SUPPORT LOGGING*
- *National Scenic Riverway & Public Lands*
- *All the Lakes & Rivers & Pristine Landscape. The Many stories of the Logging Era & settlements in the area*
- *A wild and scenic river, the Lower St Croix has close proximity to a major metropolitan area -- in the north it provides an expression of the north woods, nature and solitude - the wild*
- *SIZE - Number of Lakes (that supply the Upper St Croix)*
- *St. Croix Region -- Logging -- Scandinavian Immigration -- Dairy Farming -- Native Americans*
- *Natural beauty of the waterway (watershed) that divides and brings together*
- *Amery -- Lakes Rivers and Streams*
- *St. Croix River Valley is part of clean watershed - which affects the Stillwater Bridge project - Interesting historical area*

-
- ST. CROIX RIVER - LOGGING - FISHING - CREX MEADOWS - ICE AGE TRAIL - INTERSTATE PARK
 - glacier edge - the story of our fo__ ? w/the last melt -- native American meeting area - the story of the Dakota Ojibwe battles & movement of people
 - Distinctive in Nation? Tourism - Wild River - Proximity to Twin Cities, Twin Ports - History of: bootlegging - logging --Retirees from twin cities w/\$\$

Stories: Records from Story Circles

The following summaries and lists were gained through roundtable discussions where participants were asked, in turn, to respond to the following three questions/scenarios. *Important note:* These are transcriptions of hand-written notes taken by table facilitators during the story circle exercise at the workshop. The accuracy of the names, dates and locations represented as fact have not been confirmed, as they are merely the informal paraphrasing of participants' oral stories.

Round 1: *Imagine you'll be visited by a dear friend or relative from outside the Midwest or even from outside the country. You have time to share with them only one activity, tradition, place, or community or family event important to you...describe it and where it would be.*

Round 2: *Why is this important?*

Round 3: *Share more about the origins, details or lesser known facts.*

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
1.	<i>Growing Up & Coming Back</i>	When he was growing up on a dairy farm, the speaker thought that there was nothing more ordinary than coming from Polk. Moving away and returning to this area allowed him to fully appreciate this county. Harry's home community in West Denmark is a large part of his local identity and he talked about the Danish settlement escaping monarchic rule back in Europe.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Straight Lake State Park. West Denmark. Polk City. Polk County. Dairy farming. All you can eat sweet corn.
2.	<i>A Wonderful Piece of America</i>	A 30 years resident, the speaker discussed the region's commitment to holding parades and festivals "every town here has one". She wished her family could be with her to sit at the curb and watch the parades go by. "Little Miss Amery" - a wonderful piece of America. She feels these events are important because young people grow up in this region assuming they will leave town.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interstate Park. Amery. "Little Miss Amery". Parades, festivals, food stands, church culture
3.	<i>Tornado Damage</i>	The speaker talked about families getting together to dedicate replacement trees in the wake of a tornado.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site of tornado. Community efforts after tornado damage.
4.	<i>A Changing Environment</i>	The speaker talked about the town of Wanderoos which used to be booming and now all it has is a bar. She also talked about the loss of little country churches in the area and the loss of local post offices etc to big box stores.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lake Wapogasset Park for boating. Garfield. A monument dedicated to Wallace. Old post offices and old country churches.
5.	<i>A Farmers Movement</i>	A farmers market came about through the emergence of a farming movement in Luck.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Luck farmers market?

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
6.	<i>Things To Do</i>	When friends come from Iowa, the speaker takes them on a boat trip on the St Croix from Taylors Falls and a trip to Festival Theatre in St Croix Falls. Train down at Osceola.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taylors Falls. Boat trips on the St Croix. Festival Theatre. Train at Osceola.
7.	<i>Bringing Beauty to Local Youth</i>	The speaker discussed the fact that Polk County is number one in the state for teenage suicide and number two in the nation. He felt that the area's youth don't understand the beauty of their region and thinks that there should be a way to give them that perspective. He mentioned the success story of a local soprano performer from Olive farmstead born in Sweden and buried in Grantsburg.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Olive Farmstead. Swedish Heritage. Local Arts. Grantsburg.
8.	<i>Experiencing the Hills</i>	The speaker brings visitors to the area to high vistas, falls, forests and bluff tops. He discusses the geological beauty of the region through glacial deposits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geological beauty. Bluffs. Glacial deposits.
9.	<i>Exchange Student Trips</i>	The speaker takes foreign exchange students to Interstate Park. Her family has a tradition of a Mothers' Day Picnic there.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interstate Park. Mother's Day Celebrations.
10.	<i>Pigeon Pies</i>	The speaker's great great great grandfather was a teacher. He used to scatter wheat for the birds to eat and then shoot them. The sky would be black with them. He killed 52 birds with just two shots from a double barrel shot gun. The family would then eat pigeon pie.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pigeon Shooting. Pigeon Pie.
11.	<i>Paddleboats</i>	When the speaker's family come to stay from Maine they take a trip on the St Croix via paddleboat and get off at Osceola.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Osceola. St Croix Paddleboats.
12.	<i>Potholing</i>	The speaker talked about the MN Interstate Pothole Trail. Emphasized outdoor beauty of the area and talked about the amazing experience of climbing into big potholes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interstate Park. Potholing.
13.	<i>Danish Traditions Live On</i>	The speaker's husband family come from Denmark and he grew up listening to Danish being spoken. The family still celebrates holidays that aren't celebrated in Denmark anymore. He knows lots of punch lines to Danish jokes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Danish heritage and traditions.
14.	<i>Deer Lake Conservancy</i>	For a good number of years the Deer Lake Conservancy, in conjunction with the Deer Lake Improvement Association, has worked toward the preservation of Deer Lake and the surrounding land that contributes to the natural, scenic, recreational and productive value of the lake.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deer Lake Conservancy.
15.	<i>Old Native Camp</i>	Squaw Pond is a day's walk from Osceola. The speaker's grandfather observed as a young child Native Americans camping there in the past on their way to Luck.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Native culture. Squaw Pond near Osceola.
16.	<i>WWII POW Camp</i>	There was a prisoner of war camp for German prisoners south west of Milltown Wisconsin. Inmates served as farm laborers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> POW Camp.
17.	<i>Children Die in Diphtheria Outbreak</i>	An old settlers chapel on Evergreen avenue is just 10x2 and seats 12 people. There's an old cemetery there with many children buried following a diphtheria outbreak after a Christmas program one year. Visitors ring the bell when they leave.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Old Settlers Chapel on Evergreen Ave. Cemetery.
18.	<i>Transporting Logs with Horses</i>	The speaker's grandfather transported logs in the winter with teams of horses. They had stopping places in Osceola, Wolf Creek and other logging camps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Logging trails and camps.
19.	<i>Ice Age Trail</i>	The speaker lives in Luck on terminal moraine- the place the last glacier stopped in Luck. He described an Ice Age Trail there.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ice Age Trails.

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
20.	<i>Esker Trails</i>	The speaker talked about Esker Trails which overlook the river at Saint Croix Falls. There are very few Eskers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Esker Trails.
21.	<i>Waterways and Immigration</i>	The speaker discussed the immigration which occurred due to the waterways in the area. Paddlewheels built in Osceola. Locals Ken and Dan Mosay would hold more information about this.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waterways.
22.	<i>Civil War Burials</i>	400 Civil War vets were buried in Polk County. They were given land in this area when they were discharged from the military at the end of the war. Some vets buried at Atlas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atlas Cemetery.
23.	<i>Poker Games and Property</i>	During the lumber boom in Amery property changed hands on a weekly basis as it was lost and won at poker games. Property then went back to the county.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
24.	<i>Bird Wildlife</i>	There are 40 years of records regarding bird wildlife on the St Croix through bird banding exercises. The wildlife has increased in number as the speaker was 30 before he saw wild turkey, loons, sandhill cranes, trumpeter swans and bald eagles in the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bird Banding Records.
25.	<i>Local Characters</i>	There are many local characters that represent local heritage. Al Brown (photographer, painter and bookkeeper) painted pictures blindfolded and made it into Ripleys Believe It Or Not. Calvin Coolidge only sitting President to visit Lewis, WI.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
26.	<i>Flashback to Old America</i>	Little Falls (population 20) holds an annual July 4th parade . It looks like something from a Norman Rockwell painting come to life. 200 participants, trucks, lawnmowers followed by a pot luck picnic. The event celebrates American community connections. The event even brings in international visitors and looks like something from a movie. There's also a big technical firework display.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little Falls 4th of July Parade.
27.	<i>Lovers Lane</i>	There's a cut across road found in the woods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
28.	<i>Potluck Socializing</i>	The speaker talked about how many potluck dinners and socials take place in the area. People from the metro meet more friends here at pot lucks that they do back in the city. She described a potluck trail (like the Massachusetts bean dinners).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potlucks
29.	<i>Sense of Community through Nature</i>	An area once exploiting its natural resources has come together to protect them. Clam Falls Trail.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clam Falls Trail.
30.	<i>"Craniacs" Watch Bird Shows</i>	The speaker talked about a love of the sandhill cranes and the emergence of a culture of "Craniacs" (people mad about cranes). There are early morning and evening 'shows' in the sky in the fall. these events triggered personal and exploration for the storyteller. She feels that bringing out the love of the land could help young people connect.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fall migration of the cranes
31.	<i>Awestruck by Nature</i>	The speaker talked about the way the natural beauty of the region amazes visitors. Dalles, parks, rock formations, potholes, Esker Trail, remains of glacier activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Esker Trails. Potholes. The Dalles.
32.	<i>Area Forms Personal Identity</i>	The speaker discussed how his region formed his personal identity. He uses the environment to show visitors who he is through fishing at Little Falls or a visit to the park where there is a memorial for his mom and dad.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little Falls
33.	<i>Early Settlers</i>	Early settlers from the storyteller's family came to the region to grow wheat to supply the loggers on the river. The family has connections to an old cemetery near Trade River from the 1700s. Wolf Creek was a trading post.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wolf Creek. Trade River

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
		There was some marriage with native people.	
34.	<i>The Full Package</i>	The speaker talked about the full package of activities offered in the region. As a student she skied and biked along Taylors Falls. She loves the area's history.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skiing and Biking. Taylors Falls.
35.	<i>Headwaters of St Croix</i>	The speaker brings visitors to the headwaters of the St Croix near Solon Springs where the river is only 6 feet wide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solon Springs
36.	<i>Prohibition Black Market Trade</i>	The area made and supplied booze during the prohibition.	
37.	<i>Native American Battles</i>	Battle of St Croix Falls/Osceola was the boundary between Sioux and Chippewa (Ojibwe) territory. Battles were fought in the dells areas (now Lions Park)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Native American battle grounds. Lions Park.
38.	<i>Immigrants.</i>	Many different cultures arrived in this area including Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, Yankees, Canadians and Civil War Unionists from Alabama	



Statue of Karl and Kristina Oskar, Chisago, MN Photo: J. Stephan Conn

Chisago County Minnesota

EVENT RECORD

Heritage Discovery Workshop (#2)

Compiled by Jeff Schommer, Paul Anderton & Peter Musty of Creative Community Builders; last updated on July 12, 2012.

February 25, 2012 – The Chisago County Heritage Discovery Workshop (held at North Branch Area Library in North Branch, Minnesota) was one of ten held in early 2012 throughout eleven counties in Minnesota and Wisconsin that are located in the St. Croix River watershed. *(See map to the right.)* The intent of the workshops was to:

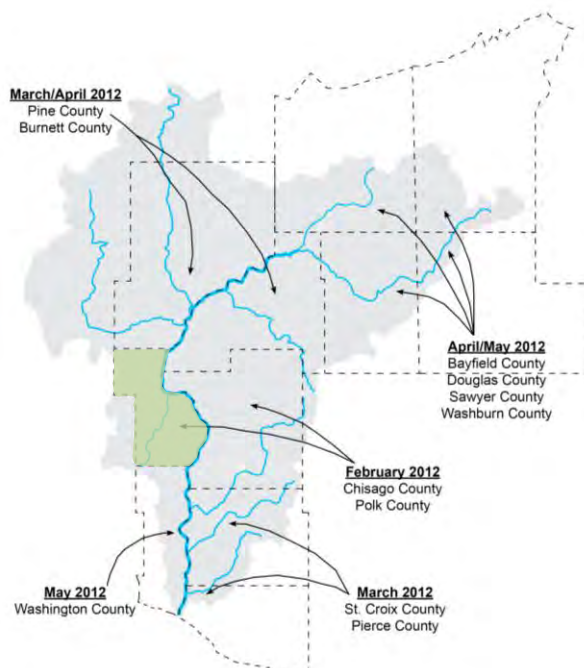
- provide information and conversation about the St. Croix region's Heritage Initiative and National Heritage Areas (NHA); and
- identify stories and places that define the St. Croix River region.

This document contains a record of the event, contributing to a collective database developed and managed by St. Croix Valley Foundation and their Heritage Initiative Task Force on behalf of all eleven counties. Each workshop created opportunities for participants to share:

- their reactions and opinions about National Heritage Areas;
- their opinions about what makes their community special in the region, and why the St. Croix region is unique in the nation;
- a story about a place, event or tradition in the region important to them.

The records from all the workshops have been published via the Heritage Initiative's website: www.stcroixheritage.org, and will be shared with community leaders to illustrate community response to this workshop. The information collected will be used in three other ways within the Heritage Initiative:

- a) to determine the big themes and the broad stories shared across the watershed;
- b) to help inform the upcoming Regional Summits that will be held in the Fall of 2012;
- c) as a foundation of information for a written document that might be the basis for Congressional designation as a National Heritage Area, if that outcome is what communities throughout the watershed desire.



Thank You...

Participating Chisago County Sponsors and Supporting Organizations

Northwoods Roasterie
North Branch County Market
North Branch Public Library
Chisago Lakes Chamber of Commerce
North Branch Chamber of Commerce
Rush City Chamber of Commerce
Chisago Lakes Area Community
Foundation

Exhibit/Gallery Contributors:

Folsom House Historic Site; Ian Dudley;
Chisago Lakes Historical Society

Chisago County Volunteers

* Ian Dudley, * Jane Harper, * Kathy Lindo

Heritage Discovery Workshop Team

* Marty Harding (Board Member of St Croix Valley
Foundation & Heritage Initiative Task Force Chair)

Task Force Members

* Alyssa Auten, Kathy Bartilson, Julie Galonska,
Sam Griffith, John Lennes, * Ann Moonen,
* Bill Neuman, Danette Olsen, Scott Peterson,
* Tangi Schaapveld, * Jean Schaeppi, Margaret
Smith, Chris Stein, John Velin

St Croix Valley Foundation

* Jane Stevenson, President

* Jill Shannon, Director of Community Outreach

* Jonathan Moore, Heritage Coordinator

Facilitation Team

Creative Community Builders

* Tom Borrup (co-lead)

* Peter Musty (co-lead)

* Paul Anderton

* Carol Ahlgren

Jeffrey Bruce, FASLA

* Robert Claybaugh, AIA

Frank Edgerton Martin

Danette Olsen

Jeff Schommer

* Harry Waters Jr

* - (present at this workshop)

Pages 3-5

National Heritage Area: Opinions & Reactions Feedback Forms

Pages 6-8

Regional and National Distinctiveness Note Card Questions

Pages 9-12

Stories Records from Story Circles



National Heritage Areas: Opinions & Reactions

The table (following pages) is a record of written comments transcribed from feedback forms each participant was asked to fill out at the end of the workshop.

35
participants were present
at the workshop

1,771
total years
they have lived or worked
in the St. Croix region

The Heritage Initiative

*Many WATERS
Many STORIES*

THANK YOU for your FEEDBACK on the following:

I came to this meeting because:

My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is:

The most likely benefit of an NHA to my organization or my community is:

I am willing: (Please check all that apply.)

☐ ...to help host a public meeting

☐ ...to contact people in my community to encourage their attendance

☐ ...to share additional stories, photos or other information regarding our regional heritage

☐ ...to help the NHA effort in other ways:

Your name and contact information:

Name _____

E-mail _____

Telephone _____

Mail Address _____

Please return this form to:

 ST. CROIX VALLEY FOUNDATION

St Croix Valley Foundation
c/o Jill Shannon
516 Second Street, Suite 214
Hudson, WI 54016
phone 715.386.9490
fax 715.386.1250
jshannon@stcroixvalleyfoundation.org

Written Comments from Feedback Forms

I came to this meeting because...	My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is...	The most likely benefit of a NHA to my community or my organization is...
<i>I received an invitation and thought it was a good idea</i>	<i>I think it's very good.</i>	<i>Promote community assets awareness</i>
<i>Preserving water resources & regional history</i>	<i>not sure of the structure</i>	----
<i>Interested in Area</i>	<i>very positive</i>	<i>More interaction among all the wonderful pockets of information</i>
<i>We need to preserve our area Sept or August another meeting</i>	<i>great</i>	---
<i>I wanted to share my stories & impact the eventual NHA</i>	<i>WAS - why bother? Now IS- We must do this!</i>	<i>More understanding of the width & breadth of the St. Croix Watershed will benefit the river & its watershed inhabitants</i>
<i>I am a retired history teacher and also spent 25 years in the historic preservation arena. I am currently a member of the MN State Review Board which acts on nominations to the Nat'l Historic Regis.</i>	<i>Very worthwhile as it would not only focus the rest of the nation upon this area, but it really is more important to unify the Chisago County population around a common goal to "unite from No. to So." in promoting the area!</i>	<i>It would help unite the Rush City area to the rest of the county and the region in general and to then result in a boost to the economy as well as the local pride.</i>
<i>I am interested in seeing the Chisago County being included in the National Heritage initiative to be a National Designation</i>	<i>very positive!</i>	<i>Preserving history and documenting the stories. Economic development for the area</i>
<i>Interested in preserving the Heritage of the Area.</i>	<i>great idea - great experience</i>	<i>preserving the Heritage. Economic growth</i>
<i>to support & evaluate effort</i>	<i>positive</i>	<i>Reference for various resources</i>
<i>I try to be aware of my surroundings</i>	<i>Positive</i>	<i>Carrying on the ---(?) work.</i>
<i>Interested in genealogy + stories</i>	<i>Keep it local</i>	----
<i>I support the National Heritage Initiative for the St. Croix Region.</i>	<i>We need to preserve and promote our heritage and its influence on our Nation's history.</i>	<i>Economic, and an important way to preserve history</i>
<i>I am interested in the program</i>	<i>Looks like a very large area - to cover have to see what the meetings bring out.</i>	<i>Bring people to visit</i>

Written Comments from Feedback Forms

I came to this meeting because...	My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is...	The most likely benefit of a NHA to my community or my organization is...
To learn the history of the different communities	Because I feel there it of these areas we all need to know of the back ground of all areas	Hearing the stories.
Contact with Chisago Lakes Area Chamber	Great Concept!	Preservation & information of the importance of our area.
Interested in our history	We want it -	---
The first ---(?) was so informative + interesting	WOW!	pride & ownership in my area and home
I was enthused about the Polk Co. (?)TC	Very positive - Must do this	Cultural - Economic
Possible tourism/economic development aspects	Sounds somewhat attractive, not sure if the shared "heritage" completely coincides to the watershed. Far NE probably feels more connection to Duluth/Superior	Tourism assistance
I am 100% Swedish & my great grandparents came here in 1869 & years following. Our family now has residents in the 7th generation.	I'll be interested in watching it develop	pride in the community & tourism
General interest in preservation	That the area is too large	Preservation, tourism
I was interested in what was going on	very interesting a good idea	Anything that help economically to our area

Local & Regional Distinctiveness

Participants were asked to give answers to two questions. Recorded below are a tally of themes identified in answers, then full transcriptions of participant answers (following pages).

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

10	Ethnic Heritage
7	Heritage Sites
6	Water
3	Geology
3	Natural Beauty
3	Tourism
2	Community History
1	Dairy Farming
1	Literature
1	Transportation
1	Water Power

Blue Card Question:

What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?

13	Water
7	Natural Beauty
6	Ethnic Heritage
5	Logging
3	Geology
3	History
3	State/National Parks
3	Tourism
1	Community History
1	Frontier Heritage
1	Gateways
1	Lifestyle
1	Native American
1	Railroad
1	Water Power

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

- *Drinking Water quality surrounded by Trap Park, all nestled in a woods*
- *Chisago Lake Lutheran Church, Center City*
- *Lakes & Scenic Areas*
- *County Seat -- Historic Church*
- *Fictional setting of settlement of Swedish Immigrants, Karl & Kristine Oscar from Welhalm ---Moberg's The Emigrant Saga*
- *Danish Community -- Duncan Yoyo in Luck*
- *the Dalles area of the St. Croix river & its designator as Wild & Scenic*
- *NB - Key area between Wis/Min 95 / interstate --Sunrise River*
- *Chis Lakes settled in 1851*
- *Gammelgarden Museum - Scandia*
- *Site of First Sawmill on the St. Croix River - 1838*
- *Karl Oskar House*
- *Swedish heritage (German, etc.)*
- *Swedish & other Heritage*
- *The Heritage - Immigration, Ag -- History, Dairy Farm area -- History*
- *Border of prairie and northern woods (Savannah)*
- *Swedish Heritage*
- *Chisago Lutheran Church Center City*
- *Chisago Lakes Chain*
- *Ecumen Parmlly, Lot of History for many years 1800's*
- *Rush Lake, East & West, covers 2400 acres and is a major fishing/boating area, only 1 hr drive from Metro!*
- *Chain of Lakes*
- *Lindstrom - Chisago Lakes Area, Destination Area of Swedish Immigrants, for Swedish Tourism*
- *Swedish Heritage*
- *Ethnic Back Round*
- *lakes*
- *scenic rivers*
- *Great Grandparents came up St. Croix to Franconia in 1854 -- Homesteaded on property part of which is now Hayelt (Katrina & Peter Falin)*

Blue Card Question:
**What makes the St Croix region
 special or distinctive in the nation?**

- *The logging on the St. Croix River, historically*
- *Natural Beauty - somewhat unspoken*
- *The water and trees*
- *St. Croix Wild & Scenic River*
- *Forest Lake is intent in starting a History Center Sue Talymen*
- *St. Croix Region Special -- "River & Lakes" -- Tourism Binds the St. Croix Region from T. C. -- Importance of the Railway to the area & How its serving as a link now*
- *River & Wildlife*
- *Home of Lumbering that Helped to settle the upper Midwest, First Lumber mill & Industry in MN*
- *Scandinavian Heritage (not all the area), St. Croix River itself*
- *The lakes and rivers*
- *Larger Region, Immigration of people (Scandinavian)*
- *Logging of White Pine, Indian Wars*
- *2 State Park, 1 National Park*
- *St. Croix River Wild River Designation*
- *St. Croix Region, (i) Historic, (ii) Protected River, (iii) proximate location to Major Urban Area*
- *All the beautiful lakes -- and the St. Croix River*
- *Site of glacial potholes at MN Interstate Park*
- *Original settlement of Swedish immigrants along St. Croix River and on either side (WI & MN) of St. Croix*
- *High Quality of Life-Style-Safe and easy!*
- *Scenic Beauty of St. Croix Valley Region*
- *Taylor's Falls Scenic Boat Rides, St. Croix River, The Dam Area, Wild Mountain Area*
- *St. Croix River*
- *Lots of Possibilities i.e. "Gateways"*
- *St. Croix River, Wild River State Park*
- *Franconia landing*
- *Rivers & Lakes*
- *St. Croix Area District, lots of Rivers*
- *Keeping Swedish things popular with the children*
- *Capital of MN territory - Stillwater, settling of Midwest/western expansion of the country*
- *Landscape*
- *Swedish heritage, St. Croix River, unspoiled beauty*
- *Swedens*
- *St. Croix Dalles*

Stories: Records from Story Circles

The following summaries and lists were gained through roundtable discussions where participants were asked, in turn, to respond to the following three questions/scenarios. *Important note:* These are transcriptions of hand-written notes taken by table facilitators during the story circle exercise at the workshop. The accuracy of the names, dates and locations represented as fact have not been confirmed, as they are merely the informal paraphrasing of participants' oral stories.

Round 1: *Imagine you'll be visited by a dear friend or relative from outside the Midwest or even from outside the country. You have time to share with them only one activity, tradition, place, or community or family event important to you...describe it and where it would be.*

Round 2: *Why is this important?*

Round 3: *Share more about the origins, details or lesser known facts.*

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
39.	<i>A River Vacation</i> <i>"Sailing at Lake City"</i>	"We like to go sailing from Lake City down to Red Wing, Eagle Center, Wabasha, Pepin. We go for 10 days on the Mississippi River and sleep in the boat. It's very tranquil, peaceful and I get my 'Zen' moment. "	Sailing
40.		The speaker's mother taught in Chisago and lived in the same building Wilhelm Moberg lived in. She taught home economics and chemistry (although she had to take on other subjects during the war when the male teachers weren't around). She went on to develop Pillsbury's first boxed pie crust.	
41.	<i>The Karl Oskar Story</i>	Wilhelm Moberg came to this area in 1948 to research the immigrant story. He did a lot of research at Chisago Lake Lutheran Church in Center City. It was called Center City because it was the center of the settlement here. He also traveled around on a bicycle. Moberg wrote three famous books and was active in socialist politics in Sweden, committing suicide because he felt his voice wasn't being heard.	The house Moberg slept in is on Old Towne Rd in Chisago City.
42.		"When we had a Swedish exchange student staying with us we took them to crawl around rocks at Taylors Falls and to a museum about Swedish heritage south of Lindstrom. "	Lindstrom museum. Taylors Falls
43.		"This area was always 'potato land' before it became dairy. "	
44.	<i>Native American Battles</i>	"The point of highest elevation in Chisago County is also a prehistoric burial mound. It is private land but the owner allowed people to visit if they don't disturb it. This area (especially Taylors Falls) was a battle ground between Sioux and Chippewa. There are serpentine mounds closer to Pine City. "	An Indian mound west of Rush City north east of Rush Lake

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
45.	<i>Keeping Ojibwe Memory Alive</i>	When we have foreign exchange students from Sweden they already know the Scandinavian story, they are interested in what they don't know- The Ojibwe story. There is a park associated with Ojibwe history. The name means "Sweetness of Life" and was given by an Ojibwe princess. There is 1800 year old pottery found on the site. There is also a mound in City Center that was cut through by Highway 8. These artifacts are now in a cabin in that town. Chisago was originally an Ojibwe word "Ki-Chi-Saga" meaning 'large lovely waters'. Since the "Ki" was dropped we celebrate 'Ki-Chi-Saga Days' to keep that name alive. This will be the 43rd year of that celebration. Two years ago the celebration was dedicated to the Ojibwe 'The Year of the Ojibwe'	Ojiketa Regional Park in Chisago City. Ki Chi Saga Days.
46.			
47.	<i>Old Military Rd</i>	An old government military road here is the oldest in the north (City Rd 57 today)	
48.		Social Services Parmley Senior Housing (working farm like a commune)	
49.		Ferry Rd was an old river crossing	
50.		Cafe Stuga in Harris has great food and shows the history of the area on its walls	Cafe Stuga
51.	<i>Karl Oskar Days</i>	Karl and Christina Oskar Sculpture is modeled after a sculpture in a Swedish Harbor.	
52.		Per Anderson paved the way for 100 immigrants from Sweden.	
53.		There is a tradition of a Christmas Eve celebration at Trinity Lutheran Church - a candlelight 10pm service. "This carries on the spirit of our community. "	Trinity Lutheran in Lindstrom
54.		"When you live on a lake you're always watching weather and wildlife. I saw white pelicans 3 years ago. "	
55.		Schlimmer Point (Slough) has eagles nests. The speaker spotted a baby eagle on the shore. Their guests were surprised to see the nest so close to the Metro.	
56.		Rush Lake covers 2400 acres and flows into the St Croix. This was an important resort area and you can still fish and snow mobile. "There is still an old hotel with a modest white frame."	Rush Lake. Fishing. Tourism
57.		The speaker enjoys the sense of community found at the Parmly Candlelight Dinners. They also appreciate Taylors Falls where they take boat rides.	Parmly Candlelight Dinners. Taylors Falls.
58.	<i>Plymouth Rock for Sweden</i>	The speaker discussed this area as the 'Plymouth Rock for the Swedes'. Immigrants came to Lindstrom via Per Anderson's 'loan'. His personal wealth and generosity brought 100 people here. The speaker heard this story as a kid but as an adult it all really sunk in.	
59.		This speaker discussed their family tradition of traditional Swedish dinners including meatballs, lutefisk and a genuine Swedish smorgasbord.	Swedish food.

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
60.		Swedish motorcyclists return to this region annually	Motorcycling
61.		The lakes in this region are a community. The speaker discussed activities including lighting camp fires, fishing, boating, duck hunting. They also mentioned an old cabin from 1905.	Camp fires. Fishing. Boating. Duck hunting.
62.	<i>Parks</i>	Speaker discussed historic aspects of the area and its connections to nature. Old railroads. "The local parks here are an asset."	Wild River State Park. Prairie Lake Forest. Interstate Park. William O'Brien Park.
63.		Speaker listed things of interest: Swedish festivals and heritage, Swedish Historical Society, Karl Oskar house, tours, Gammelgarden, Center City Church, a sit down dinner in Century Barn	Karl Oskar House. Gammelgarden. Center City Church. Century Barn.
64.		Appreciated Interstate Park, glacial formations around the river.	Interstate Park
65.		The first wave of immigrants came here after the first wave settled in Stillwater. There is a steel ring imprinted on a rock anchor on the river which reads SWEDEN.	Old engraving on a rock
66.		There was an old railroad meant to connect St Paul and Duluth but it goes no further.	Old railroad
67.		There is a yearly midsommer Swedish festival event at Karl Oskar House	Swedish Festival. Karl Oskar House
68.		Ki Chisago Swedish Club joins Swedish and Native Histories. Bob Porter wrote a book about this.	
69.		The Scenic Byway links state parks and links communities together.	Scenic Byway
70.		Village of Marine. There is a sense of history. Buildings, a ferry and the site of an old mill.	Village of Marine (ferry, mill, town)
71.		The speaker spoke of the history of Scandia including links to the Princes of Sweden. Interest in Scandia 'then and now'. Interest in the preservation of Swedish Heritage.	Scandia. Swedish Traditions.
72.		The restoration of a house in Center City led to an NR Nomination and Restoration. of the area. Preservation Heritage Commissions were mentioned.	Summit Ave. Church. Courthouse.
73.		There is a house and burial site for early settlers. Small things that hint at history, orchids growing, wildlife. Restoration of the Prairie. Reflections of Almelund. Potato City- Sue Leaf (book on the history N Branch)	Nevers Dam. Indian Marker Tree. Log jams.
74.		Clean water and woods. Beauty, birds, woods, plants and rustic roads.	Straight Lake SP. Interstate. Rustic Roads (a number of them)
75.	<i>Barn full of Civil War memorabilia</i>	"Clear Lake has a fascinating history. People restoring carriages. Two men have a barn where they store old items including Civil War canons."	A barn in Clear Lake.
76.	<i>State Parks Are Everywhere</i>	There are State Parks scattered throughout the area. Nature Centers, County Parks. Some of the nature areas are under threat from sand mining.	Wild River. Interstates. Bluffs.
77.		Wild and Scenic Rivers Act .	

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
78.	<i>7th Generation Church.</i>	Center City was discussed. Chisago Lake Lutheran Church members who are 7th generation. The Swedish heritage dates back to 1851. There are historic photos at Cafe Stuga. The speaker spoke of old ferry crossings at Rush City and Marine on St Croix.	Chisago Lake Lutheran Church.
79.	<i>Family lumber heritage</i>	The speaker discussed their family heritage which included talk of a lumber camp. The family has connections to Grasston and lived at Marine on St Croix (1839) before resettling in Stillwater.	Marine on St Croix. Grasston.
80.	<i>The Blueberry Special</i>	The speaker spoke of the history of St Croix River including Fish Lake Park which used to be a public dump when the water was less valued, an old roller rink in Rush City which was a large part of local social life and a train named the 'Blueberry Special' which took people to local swamp to pick blueberries when they were in season.	St Croix River. Fish Lake Park. Rush City
81.		There are many activities in this area: hiking, canoeing, potholing, an apple festival at Almelund.	Interstate Park, St Croix Falls. Taylors Falls.
82.	<i>Threshing Histories come to life.</i>	The Almelund Threshing Show at the county fair shows the area's agricultural heritage. Crex Meadow near Grantsburg has a bird sanctuary.	Chisago County Fair. Crex Meadow bird sanctuary. Almelund threshing Show.
83.		Decedents of Swedish immigrants, the speaker's great great grandfather built Karl Oskar House. Moberg Statue and Sunrise River were mentioned.	Karl Oscar House. Moberg Statue. Sunrise River
84.		German wife of a GI. Connections to South Dakota. Point Pleasant.	Point Pleasant.
85.		This speaker spoke about the importance of the personal stories of Swedish immigrants to the area and of the old Swedish style barns in the countryside. Center City Lutheran Church was also discussed. A sculpture of Moberg was mentioned.	Center City Lutheran Church. Swedish barns. Moberg sculpture.
86.		The speaker discussed Lindstrom and its popularity with Swedish visitors. Swedish Circle Tours was mentioned which tells the real-life story of the Swedish immigrants who came to Minnesota and became the subjects of research for Swedish author, Wilhelm Moberg's novels. Paddle boats were also mentioned.	Swedish Circle Tours
87.		The speaker discussed learning more about her immigrant heritage. Old farmsteads were discussed including one on Pleasant Valley Rd dating back to 1854. Franconia Town mentioned.	Old farm homesteads.
88.	<i>Something Special Here</i>	The speaker said that there was 'something special here' and went on to talk about skiing, canoeing on the St Croix, glaciers, town halls, and the area's back roads.	ski, canoe, St Croix River, back roads.
89.	<i>Fishing and Canoeing</i>	Speaker said they fished and canoed on Sunrise River	Fish, canoe. Sunrise River.



Kinnickinnic river joining the St. Croix. DNR Photo by Bob Queen

Pierce County

Wisconsin

EVENT RECORD

Heritage Discovery Workshop (#3)

Compiled by Jeff Schommer, Paul Anderton & Peter Musty of Creative Community Builders; last updated on July 12, 2012.

March 3, 2012 – The Pierce County Heritage Discovery Workshop (held at River Falls Public Library in River Falls, Wisconsin) was one of ten held in early 2012 throughout eleven counties in Minnesota and Wisconsin that are located in the St. Croix River watershed. (See map to the right.) The intent of the workshops was to:

- provide information and conversation about the St. Croix region's Heritage Initiative and National Heritage Areas (NHA); and
- identify stories and places that define the St. Croix River region.

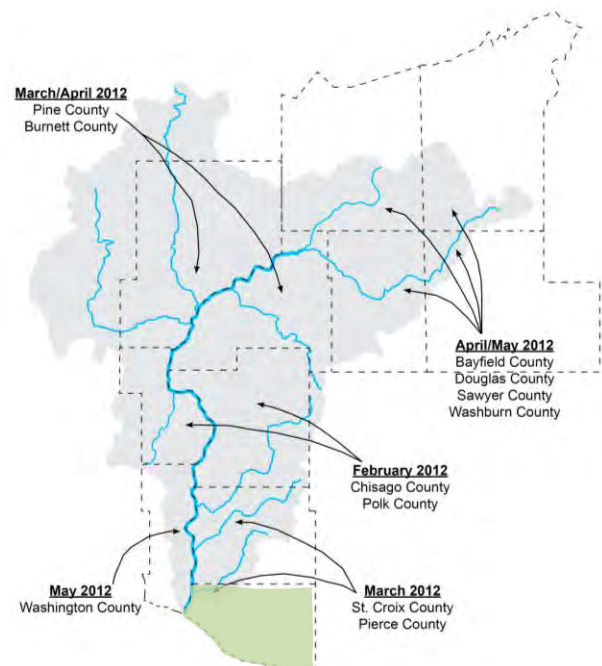
This document contains a record of the event, contributing to a collective database developed and managed by St. Croix Valley Foundation and their Heritage Initiative Task Force on behalf of all eleven counties. Each workshop created opportunities for participants to share:

- their reactions and opinions about National Heritage Areas;

- their opinions about what makes their community special in the region, and why the St. Croix region is unique in the nation;
- a story about a place, event or tradition in the region important to them.

The records from all the workshops have been published via the Heritage Initiative's website: www.stcroixheritage.org, and will be shared with community leaders to illustrate community response to this workshop. The information collected will be used in three other ways within the Heritage Initiative:

- a) to determine the big themes and the broad stories shared across the watershed;
- b) to help inform the upcoming Regional Summits that will be held in the Fall of 2012;
- c) as a foundation of information for a written document that might be the basis for Congressional designation as a National Heritage Area, if that outcome is what communities throughout the watershed desire.



Thank You...

Participating Pierce County Sponsors and Supporting Organizations

City of River Falls
 First National Bank of River Falls
 Pierce County
 Junction Mill
 River Valley Catering
 The River Falls Community Fund
 Friends of Freedom Park
 Pierce County Historical Association
 Pierce County Volunteers

** Jane Harper, * Kim Kiskiinen, * Don Richards*

Workshop Team

Marty Harding (Board Member of St Croix Valley Foundation & Heritage Initiative Task Force Chair)

Task Force Members

*Alyssa Auten, Kathy Bartilson, * Julie Galonska,
 Sam Griffith, John Lennes, Ann Moonen,
 Bill Neuman, * Danette Olsen, Scott Peterson,
 Tangi Schaapveld, * Jean Schaeppi, * Margaret
 Smith, Chris Stein, * John Velin*

St Croix Valley Foundation

** Jane Stevenson, President*

** Jill Shannon, Director of Community Outreach*

** Jonathan Moore, Heritage Coordinator*

Facilitation Team

Creative Community Builders

Tom Borrup (co-lead)

** Peter Musty (co-lead)*

** Paul Anderton*

** Carol Ahlgren*

Jeffrey Bruce, FASLA

Robert Claybaugh, AIA

Frank Edgerton Martin

Danette Olsen

Jeff Schommer

** Harry Waters Jr*

** - (present at this workshop)*

Pages 3-5

National Heritage Area: Opinions & Reactions Feedback Forms

Pages 6-9

Regional and National Distinctiveness Note Card Questions

Pages 10-15

Stories Records from Story Circles

National Heritage Areas: Opinions & Reactions

The table (following pages) is a record of written comments transcribed from feedback forms each participant was asked to fill out at the end of the workshop.

35
participants were present
at the workshop
1,187
total years
they have lived or worked
in the St. Croix region

The Heritage Initiative



THANK YOU for your FEEDBACK on the following:

I came to this meeting because:

My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is:

The most likely benefit of an NHA to my organization or my community is:

I am willing: (Please check all that apply.)

☐ ...to help host a public meeting

☐ ...to contact people in my community to encourage their attendance

☐ ...to share additional stories, photos or other information regarding our regional heritage

☐ ...to help the NHA effort in other ways

Your name and contact information:

Name _____

E-mail _____

Telephone _____

Mail Address _____

Please return this form to:

 ST. CROIX VALLEY FOUNDATION

St. Croix Valley Foundation
c/o Jill Shannon
516 Second Street, Suite 214
Hudson, WI 54016
phone 715.386.9490
fax 715.386.1250
jshannon@scvfoundation.org

Written Comments from Feedback Forms

I came to this meeting because...	My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is...	The most likely benefit of a NHA to my community or my organization is...
Margaret S. said I had to :)	YES	VISIBILITY beyond the community + immediate area, AWARENESS of unique features for improved community pride + investment, CROSS-BORDER cooperation (state + local)
My interest in the local history and to see this local resource protected as its popularity increases.	cautiously optimistic	----
Relevant to my involvement in the arts and community	Absolutely - must be done to protect our area, however.	will stimulate the artists and organization here.
I am on the (?) Fund Board	very positive	finding new ways for community(s) cooperation - collaboration
It's an interesting concept w/potential	positive	partnerships/tourism/appreciation/broadened understanding
I was interested and think our area is great and worth sharing	YES!	share with others - local promotion
I want to help this cause	Great!	Organization and promotion of the region for enhancement & preservation of its value.
I am a member of the RF Historic preservation commission and wanted to know more.	a wonderful idea that if worked on further could be excellent for the region	being able to collaborate with other groups in order to preserve/promote River Falls
1.--- (?), 2. Interest and curiosity	Strongly support - very interested!	Preservation of wildlife, rich historical heritage.
1) Volunteer entertainment 2) curiosity 3) interesting cause	Could provide a well-deserved recognition of local treasures and interest of national interest	Sense of Pride and focus from the treasures contained within the area
my family history is in this area - RF Founder & Heritage	absolutely!	To provide additional draw to the Region - RF, to enjoy the history, cultural & environmental heritage & beauty. FCF is creating a physical community & HFP center (to support the work in this area)
The History of River Falls is important to me.	Great Idea!	Help to preserve the stories of how our community

Written Comments from Feedback Forms

I came to this meeting because...	My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is...	The most likely benefit of a NHA to my community or my organization is...
		was built.
<i>I have recently retired to the area, returning after an absence of about 40 years and am reconnecting with my past.</i>	<i>Positive - even if the only result is the ...(?) that is precipitated makes it a worthwhile process</i>	---
<i>Interested in regional/local history</i>	<i>excellent</i>	<i>identity and growth</i>
<i>learning about our region. getting our community if plan(?) include!</i>	<i>excellent - we need to move forward</i>	---
<i>Interested in promoting tourism to the area.</i>	----	<i>Tourism</i>
<i>I am interested in this project</i>	<i>A Great need and idea</i>	<i>Great & hopes it comes about</i>
<i>find out more info</i>	<i>great idea</i>	<i>can we be the official archives for the whole initiative?</i>
<i>to be more informed, so I could share info with others in the community</i>	<i>Is there enough here....</i>	<i>national recognition of the natural beauty and history of the area</i>
<i>I am part of the Pierce County Historical Association</i>	<i>people should be supportive of it</i>	?
<i>I believe this area is unique and understated. I want to help keep it economically viable without exploiting it.</i>	<i>I was intrigued</i>	----
<i>I am interested in history, love the land and sharing the beauty of the earth is a love of my life as a farmer</i>	<i>something that will bring preservation to an area that is irreplaceable</i>	<i>it will remain for my and many more generations.</i>
<i>I am surprised there was no recognition about the culture (hospitality/innovation/perseverance) to the exception of early importance of the churches.</i>	<i>Great idea, let's go for it!</i>	---
<i>Local History buff</i>	<i>positive</i>	<i>encourage heritage components to be offered as part of ongoing community events (a replacement for such things as beer tents, loud bands, Shriner motorbike parades, etc.)</i>
<i>P.C.H.A. Alert</i>	<i>Very Positive</i>	<i>Providing cultural awareness independent of cheesehead sports enthusiasm</i>

Local & Regional Distinctiveness

Participants were asked to give answers to two questions. Recorded below are a tally of themes identified in answers, then full transcriptions of participant answers (following pages).

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

- 12 Kinnickinnic
- 11 UWRF
- 9 Confluence of St. Croix & Mississippi
- 6 Historic Buildings
- 5 Natural Beauty
- 3 St. Croix
- 2 Geology
- 1 Historic Stillwater
- 1 Native American History / Places
- 1 Rural Landscape
- 1 Immigrant History
- 1 Devil's Den
- 1 Kinni State Park
- 1 River Falls City Parks
- 1 Cascade Falls
- 1 Arts
- 1 Gustav Stickley / birthplace Osceola
- **1 Prescott

Blue Card Question:

What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?

Natural History

- > Geology
- > Conservation Ethic
- > Wild & Scenic Designation
- > Flyway
- > Clean Waters & Fish

Cultural Geography

- > Impact of Place on Development
- > --> Native American Livelihood
- > --> French Fur Trade
- > --> Immigration
- > --> Logging
- > --> Green Movement
- > Gateway To NW Territories

Wild & Scenic Rivers Act

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

- *Convergence of the St. Croix and Mississippi Rivers - made for early history and transportation - as compared with other communities in the area. (Prescott)*
- *Confluence of two of the greatest rivers - cleanest - St. Croix - longest- Mississippi*
- *Prescott is @ Confluence of Mississippi & St. Croix Rivers Also beginning of WI Great River Road Nat'l Scenic Byway (I am Secretary of this group)*
- *The "confluence" of two rivers (Mississippi & St. Croix)*
- *Great River Road Visitors Center at Prescott, WI, where St. Croix & Miss. meet*
- *University of WI River Falls, Kinni River, St. Croix Access*
- *My community of Stillwater is the Birthplace of MN*
- *Kinnickinnic River - Class One Trout Stream, Outstanding Resource Water (Both highest designation for waters of the State) - Runs through the City of River Falls probably the only class one Trout Stream running through city > 10,000 people - Is Nationally recognized for trout fishing*
- *UWRF - Kinnickinnic River - St. Croix River - River Falls in two counties - Cultural Identity e.g. Scandinavian/Polish*
- *Univ. (UWRF) / tech sch / Kinni R.*
- *Pierce County - Native American story - Fishing / clamming - Steamboats - Logging lumber - Great River Road - Agriculture to urban - connected to Twin City hub - Natural beauty (coulees) - Father Solanus*
- *Kinnickinnic River and history - UWRF - quality of Life*
- *Prescott while part of the Metro Area retains a significant character of a river town*
- *Special to area - The river is a great recreational choice. Lends beauty to the area.*
- *Junction of St. Croix and Mississippi*
- *Prescott - a very early immigrant entry point (via Mississippi & St. Croix Rivers)*
- *Native prairies, water, rivers, swamps, wildlife habitats*
- *Falls Theatre - UW-RF - Cultural & Educational wealth - Kinnickinnic river runs through RF*
- *What makes my area distinctive? Topography, cultural base, diversity of people*
- *Kinnickinnic River - Rural farm land - Wonderful River Falls - UWRF - RF Public Library - Kinni State Park - City parks in River Falls - Devil's Den*
- *Spectacular topographic features*
- *Kinni Trout stream*
- *Cultural and intellectual resources available*
- *Kinni River - University town - lack of Historical Group - old flouring mills*
- *Cascade falls (Osceola) - Gustav Stickley (very famous Arts & Crafts designer) born & raised in Osceola*
- *Distinctive area Pierce County - The geology & topography is varied & affected settlement, commerce & natural resources. Filled with trout streams, 2 big rivers (St. Croix & Mississippi). Pierce County's scenery is fantastic plus 19th Century downtowns*
- *Immediate Area - Natural geology - Upper lower Kinni & S Fork trout streams - Hydro power > 100 yrs. - Artists connection to community - University / education w/ State Normal School - Native prairie plants - Foster Cemetery*
- *For me it is the Kinni - the water provided the power for industry. Mills, sawmills make the community possible*
- *Smaller scale allows for visual examples + witness of many phases of development. Evidence of past significant events, developments etc. is still there.*
- *It shows a rural bond with the river + farm culture as well as the connection to the industry (Flour Mills, etc.) of the urban Twin Cities.*
- *Wide variety of Resources both natural + manmade - Lakes*
- *Sustainable Community Based Initiatives & Performance*
- *University*
- *University, Kinni*

Blue Card Question:

What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?

- UWRF - Kinnickinnic - St. Croix River - WI-MN Border - Forestry / logging area, White Pine History
- St. Croix Regional Distinction in Country -- The early settlement - Native American followed by fur trade, logging, railroad & many immigrant groups. Fabulous geology.
- WI Geology - The Mill/Farm cultures & logging heritage
- St. Croix Watershed has unique geography which has led to a unique history - water transport / recreation life / immigration / woods / logging / recreation / history / diversity of culture - Native American / German / Norwegian / Swedes / Italian / Bohemian / etc.
- it's Geology + resultant industries
- St. Croix Region District -- management and recreation value of watershed - architecture - Development of eco-friend + green tech focus -> Fiberstar, Interfacial, etc. - War Veterans - Spy's: Aldrich, Ames, etc. - Geology
- Mississippi River - peoples Heritage passed down to generations
- Riverway and all things tied to it
- Number of Rivers in Watershed - # of Cities on Rivers - History of Logging using Rivers
- Geology, Climate, Wildlife, flyway
- Beauty of the total area. the rich history of the St. Croix Valley.
- The important + numerous high quality rivers used for commerce, recreational + fisheries of importance to the varied communities.
- Communities comprising a region united by a National Scenic river - both close to a major metropolitan area but with more remote areas easily accessible
- Possibly oldest watershed in the country. By one argument 1.1 billion years. By another 3.6 billion years.
- Kinnickinnic River - St. Croix Scenic River areas - Bluff areas - The People! - Local farming + logging Industry - outdoor opportunities esp. camping + canoeing
- great outdoor natural recreation area - hard working, persevering people - good farmland- no poisonous snakes
- It is habitat for the Walleye fish - unknown on East & West coasts.
- clean clear water of St. Croix River - recreation on river
- St. Croix area has historical significance -> recreational -> Working River History -> Beauty of the Rivers + Adjoining areas
- The Kinni has been a source of Food, Power, transportation. The River is a spring fed River. This is how much of our country was settled and Developed.
- Missis./St. Croix R. Scenery
- Scenic Waterways
- Inherent identity & sense of place related to the river that already exists.
- What makes the St. Croix distinctive in the nation? - National scenic river designation - Fight over the bridge between WI & MN
- St. Croix river 1st National Protected riverway
- The beauty of the whole area landscape
- St. Croix River was the first Wild & Scenic River
- St. Croix history and people - MN:WI connection - geography
- St. Croix to Nation - Prescott was the area responsible for the settlement and development of the Northwest.
- Early history of fur trading route

- combination or sequence of variety fur trade, agriculture, small town industry - the sum of history
- St. Croix region is a complete capsulized demonstration of U.S. / continental developmental progress over time.
(---)? -> French + British fur trade/exploration -> European settlement + conflict -> Economic Development - forests, transport (river), Agriculture,

Manufacturing, Education - - from B.C. to the present all waterway influenced

Stories: Records from Story Circles

The following summaries and lists were gained through roundtable discussions where participants were asked, in turn, to respond to the following three questions/scenarios. *Important note:* These are transcriptions of hand-written notes taken by table facilitators during the story circle exercise at the workshop. The accuracy of the names, dates and locations represented as fact have not been confirmed, as they are merely the informal paraphrasing of participants' oral stories.

Round 1: *Imagine you'll be visited by a dear friend or relative from outside the Midwest or even from outside the country. You have time to share with them only one activity, tradition, place, or community or family event important to you...describe it and where it would be.*

Round 2: *Why is this important?*

Round 3: *Share more about the origins, details or lesser known facts.*

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
90.		The local area has extreme natural beauty. Near County Roads F & FF, Clifton Town Hall (woods behind the house), weeping wall on the Kinni River	Kinni River. Clifton Town Hall.
91.		Canoeing is the 'thing to do' and the best way to see the area on the Kinni or the St Croix.	Canoeing
92.		The St Croix River is full of opportunities including canoeing at Taylors Falls, Franconia Landing, Walk William O'Brien Park, Osceola Fish Hatchery	Canoeing, walking, fish hatching
93.		Visit apple orchards, Stillwater and Taylors falls. Beauty in local agriculture	Apple picking
94.	Farmers Markets	Local farmers markets and roadside stands allow people to buy fresh and local.	Markets
95.		Devil's Den Punchbowl - County Rd F and 770th along the Kinni. Natural Beauty	Devil's Den Punchbowl
96.	Bryozoa found in	Canoeing on the St Croix we came across illuminated water with something which looked a lot like a pineapple. It was a gelatinous	Wildlife/vegetation

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
	<i>river.</i>	mass growing around a stump, out of which the water changed color. It was an organism called a bryozoan.	
97.		Crystal Cave in Spring Valley.	Crystal Cave in Spring Valley
98.		Canoe trips on the lower Kinni. First canoed there 15 years ago with his family. They had a picnic and it was a real adventure- cliffs, lack of houses, eagles, herons, fishing, unique spectacular scenery right outside your backdoor. People need to experience this. Unspoiled and close to its original condition. Inaccessible except for at a few points. Remarkable natural beauty.	Canoeing. Kinni River.
99.		The storyteller explained how personal experience of nature can become a wider group experience. Glen Park's lower walk along the river through restored prairie, lime kilns. Across the swinging bridge in Glen Park to White Pathway (an old Railroad path) to City Hall. Kinni pathway from City Hall to lower Kinni (Glen Park) to Rocky Branch.	Walking. Lime Kilns. Railroads. Prairies. Rivers.
100.		Bridge in Prescott to Point Douglas (beach picnics). The bridge to Point Douglas can give you an experience of St Croix on Mississippi. There's a great view of Freedom Park from Blockers Beach. You can see the confluence of the rivers.	Parks. Rivers.
101.		One of the best things about this area is experiencing the beauty of nature and wondering where we fit in to it all. The speaker talked about watching the migration of birds at the confluence and discussed light, and natural beauty. The best time to see this is during a fall sunset.	Rivers. Nature. Bird watching.
102.	Church Life	On Sunday mornings people come to Ezekiel Lutheran in River Falls for Lutheran heritage. There are one and a half pounds of donuts. People then walk north on 2nd street for another worship experience at St. Bridget's The two churches share stories... (worship. neat priest, Polish/German and Irish heritage)/	
103.		Nugget Lake County Park - geology, native plants, meteor hit. Trout streams and wildlife in Pierce County (also Rush, Big River, Pierce Creek).	Nugget Lake County Park
104.		Father Solanus Carey was born in the 1870s in a house on Big River. Settled on the Mississippi then worked in Stillwater at the prison. Moved to Superior and studied to be a priest. Became a low-order priest. Soon to be sainted.	Worship.

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
105.		Canoe down Namekagon or Kinni - Devils Punch Bowl by Clifton Hollow. So easily accessible. Trout fishing.	Canoeing.
106.		"My grandfather worked at a hydro power plant". The plant provided power for River Falls. There are lots of local mills that would make a great mill tour. Greenwood, Junction Mills. Also Episcopal Church Cemetery.	Milling. Worship.
107.		The first full weekend after labor day there is an outdoor festival in Prescott. The festival isn't something for tourists anymore - but there are very many small festivities like this for locals.	
108.		Helps to take care of the river with the Kinni Land Trust. Walks the river both sides near where he lives. Likes to Kayak the Kinni too. The conservation of this area is a success.	Kayaking.
109.	<i>Stillwater Pioneer Park</i>	Stillwater Pioneer Park (comprehensive views of the St Croix Valley from the lookout). You can see everything from one place.	
110.		There is a rare book room in Stillwater Public Library	Libraries.
111.		This area was full of steamboats. They stopped at Clifton Hollow. These were working rivers. River was the I-94 of its time.	Waterways.
112.		The area is full of ghost towns - this would make a great tour.	Ghost towns.
113.		"Our family has a cabin near Siren on Crooked Lake". There is a sense of family history there. The family build this place with their own hands. Foreigners are always impressed that the family has this second home.	
114.		Indian Reservations are part of local culture.	
115.		Family has a cabin on Knife Lake, north of Mora. Radisson and Groschellier camped there. French explorers canoe the waters in 1659 and traded knives with Native Americans. History of the lake.	
116.		Indian Mounds along the bluffs at Prescott. Lots of early history here. The oldest building in Pierce County is the old stone house in Clifton Township built before 1848 on the first survey map.	
117.		The Great River Rd connects interesting spots & many stories along the route. The speaker took a bus tour along the Great River Rd and	Bus tours.

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
		stopped at each community with a local expert connecting on the significance at each spot. "We don't have much sense of the cultural richness outside of our own communities."	
118.		"In 1940 we didn't travel away a lot because we had to milk the cows. I went to Kettle Park in St Croix Falls. It was the first time I'd ever seen an colored person (I'd only read about them). " This spot was a destination where people encountered one another.	
119.		I grew up on a farm in Pleasant Valley. Red Cedar Lake is really a paradise spot. My uncle George was involved in logging and was a carpenter. He built a house there in 1920. This family home is full of history.	Logging.
120.		Our family cabin on Deer Lake has a deep history. Even though we have moved across the country it remains a place of great connection. It's been in the family for 5 generations since the civil war.	
121.		In Hudson Octagon House has a festival one day a year.	Octagon House
122.		The history of the rivers in the area through industries like logging is of national significance. My family have been here for a couple of generations. The number of rivers around here is really significance including the Kinni, the Apple and the St Croix. I once brought a New Yorker here and he was amazed at how green everything was.	Rivers
123.		People make this area special. This area celebrated many cultures and traditions through festivals. In Plum City one of these festivals started as a family reunion and became a festival for all with buggy rides, traditional food and costume. The vibrancy of these festivals is very special while the greenery and beauty of the countryside and its wildlife is remarkable to foreigners.	Plum City Festivals. Buggy rides. Food. Traditional clothing. Landscape
124.	<i>A Land of Festivals</i>	I grew up in River Falls and married a girl from Prescott. The truly unique thing about this area is the number of festivals and the tradition/cultures they celebrate. Cultural diversity is key. Rutabaga Festival (Italian tradition), a parade at Somerset Pea Festival, Lilac Festival in Siren (Siren is a misspelling of the Norwegian word for lilac).	Rutabaga Festival. Somerset Pea Festival. Lilac Festival in Siren.
125.		The university is so important to this community with 60% of students coming from the watershed area	University Study.
126.	<i>Transportation</i>	There's a train in Osceola where people can learn about the history of	Trains

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
		local transportation. There's a bluff above the train station with a park. Locally old railroad tracks still have old signs on the side of the tracks from when trains stopped at local farms to pick up fresh milk and dairy products.	
127.	<i>Cheese</i>	Cheese production is so important here. Traditionally milk only travelled 2 miles from the dairy farm to the cheese factory. You can see this history at places at Ellsworth and Bass Lake.	Cheese production.
128.		I volunteer at the Great River Rd Visitors Center. People from all over come to learn our stories. Prescott sees the meeting of the rivers. There's a great view there from a cemetery	Rivers. Graveyards.
129.	<i>The Steamboat Inn</i>	There's a beautiful old restaurant in Prescott which used to be called the Steamboat Inn. Its standing empty now and in need of attention. There's real potential there.	Steamboat Inn Restaurant.
130.		The parks system makes these high quality river systems available to everyone. I work for the Kinni Land Trust. On Highway 65 there is an access point named Swinging Gate where anyone can access the river even kids and people with disabilities. Kelly Creek is a special place too where a natural spring bubbles up. It's a magical place.	Rivers.
131.	<i>Star Prairie</i>	Star Prairie was one of the largest in the states and helped fuel easy agriculture	Prairies
132.	<i>Changing Landscapes</i>	There is a changing way of life here. Small farms are disappearing and replaced by feed production.	Farming
133.		Somerset was the 'bootleg' capital where gin was produced during Prohibition and shipped down to St Paul	Alcohol production
134.		Fur trade in Danbury	
135.		This was a disputed zone between native tribes. Native influence continues through the casinos	
136.		Canoeing one day we came across two classic canoes with a women there in a traditional white dress (like something from the 1920's). This was one of those magical moments on the waterways	Rivers. Canoes.
137.		We like to go canoeing up the river from St. Croix Falls to Osceola. Its scenic and not industrial. Cascade Falls. Hudson and Stillwater have	Canoes. Rivers.

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
		historic Architecture.	
138.		Logging is a reason for early settlement	Logging.
139.		At Osceola a boat goes upriver to MN and WI Interstate Park. You can walk on the rocks there. At Taylors Falls and St Croix Falls the geological rock history shows you the role of the rivers, glaciers, lava, sinking, deposition, sandstone and limestone.	
140.		One of the first lumber barons was Austin Jenis from Osceola. He built an opera house.	Lumber.
141.		Pierce County Diamonds Bluff. The speaker talked about this history of Steam Boats including one named the Sea Wing which sank with great loss of life. 1894 in LaCrosse, 1895 in Stillwater. The natural resources of this area and the waterways are responsible for the area's success.	Steam Boats.
142.		Historic mill sites, Glen Park trail, Rocky branch, Clifton Hollow, Kinni State Park. You can really enjoy the natural beauty of this area. There's something to appreciate here.	Milling.
143.		There is a local early dedication to education – State Normal School, now UW - River Falls	
144.		I'd hike along the bluffs for a couple of miles and then drive along to Stillwater and Taylors Falls.	Hiking.
145.		The Kinni River has some of the best trout fishing in the country. Lower Kinni and any /all of that river.	Trout fishing.
146.		Diamond Bluff has limited access from the river.	
147.		In River Falls the Powell Family convinced Charlie Cox to start a flour mill and this led to the start of the town. They needed rail road access earlier than the Twin Cities.	Milling.
148.	<i>Native Battlefields</i>	Ojibwe and Dakota battlefields between tribes. There was a MN uprising in 1862 and no talk of them in the area after the Civil War	Native histories.
149.		New Englanders, Swedes, Norwegians, Danish and Irish. Settlements here originated with gene specific towns had different ethnic make-up. There were two French forts at Prescott and Brule.	Wealth through immigration.



Old St. Croix County Courthouse, Hudson, WI. Photo: Jimmy Wayne

St. Croix County Wisconsin

EVENT RECORD

Heritage Discovery Workshop (#4)

Compiled by Jeff Schommer, Paul Anderton & Peter Musty of Creative Community Builders; last updated on July 12, 2012.

March 10, 2012 – The St. Croix County Heritage Discovery Workshop (held at WITC in New Richmond, Wisconsin) was one of ten held in early 2012 throughout eleven counties in Minnesota and Wisconsin that are located in the St. Croix River watershed. (See map to the right.) The intent of the workshops was to:

- provide information and conversation about the St. Croix region's Heritage Initiative and National Heritage Areas (NHA); and
- identify stories and places that define the St. Croix River region.

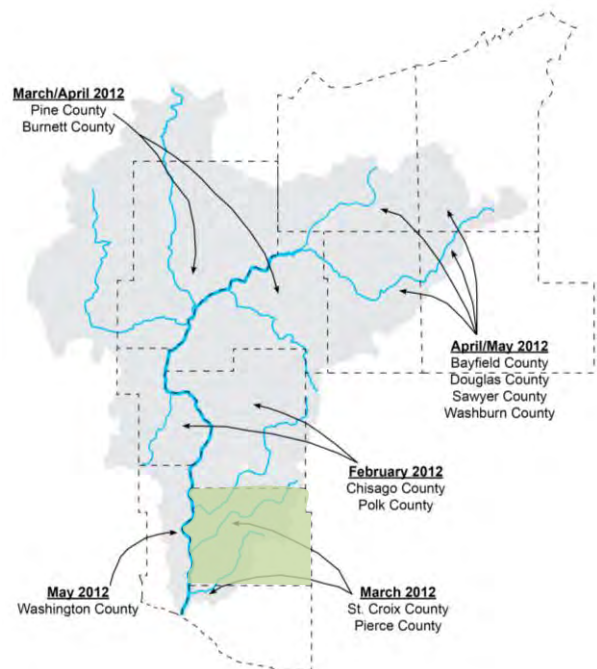
This document contains a record of the event, contributing to a collective database developed and managed by St. Croix Valley Foundation and their Heritage Initiative Task Force on behalf of all eleven counties. Each workshop created opportunities for participants to share:

- their reactions and opinions about National Heritage Areas;

- their opinions about what makes their community special in the region, and why the St. Croix region is unique in the nation;
- a story about a place, event or tradition in the region important to them.

The records from all the workshops have been published via the Heritage Initiative's website: www.stcroixheritage.org, and will be shared with community leaders to illustrate community response to this workshop. The information collected will be used in three other ways within the Heritage Initiative:

- a) to determine the big themes and the broad stories shared across the watershed;
- b) to help inform the upcoming Regional Summits that will be held in the Fall of 2012;
- c) as a foundation of information for a written document that might be the basis for Congressional designation as a National Heritage Area, if that outcome is what communities throughout the watershed desire.



Thank You...

Participating St. Croix County Sponsors and Supporting Organizations

Friends of Freedom Park
Hudson Community Foundation
**Hudson Area Chamber of Commerce &
 Tourism Bureau**
What We Need Is Here
**St. Croix Economic Development
 Corporation**
The Phipps Center for the Arts
New Richmond Heritage Center
St. Croix County Historical Society
New Richmond Heritage Center
St. Croix County Volunteers
** Mike Bauer, * Jane Harper*

Workshop Team

** Marty Harding (Board Member of St Croix Valley
Foundation & Heritage Initiative Task Force Chair)*

Task Force Members

*Alyssa Auten, Kathy Bartilson, * Julie Galonska,*
Sam Griffith, John Lennes, Ann Moonen,
** Bill Neuman, Danette Olsen, Scott Peterson,*
Tangi Schaapveld, Jean Schaeppi, Margaret Smith,
*Chris Stein, * John Velin*

St Croix Valley Foundation

** Jane Stevenson, President*
** Jill Shannon, Director of Community Outreach*
** Jonathan Moore, Heritage Coordinator*

Facilitation Team

Creative Community Builders

Tom Borrup (co-lead)
Peter Musty (co-lead)
** Paul Anderton*
** Carol Ahlgren*
Jeffrey Bruce, FASLA
Robert Claybaugh, AIA
Frank Edgerton Martin
** Danette Olsen*
Jeff Schommer
Harry Waters Jr

** - (present at this workshop)*

Pages 3-5

National Heritage Area: Opinions & Reactions Feedback Forms

Pages 6-8

Regional and National Distinctiveness Note Card Questions

Pages 9-12

Stories Records from Story Circles

National Heritage Areas: Opinions & Reactions

The table (following pages) is a record of written comments transcribed from feedback forms each participant was asked to fill out at the end of the workshop.

32
participants were present
at the workshop

1,420
total years
they have lived or worked
in the St. Croix region

The Heritage Initiative



THANK YOU for your FEEDBACK on the following:

I came to this meeting because:

My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is:

The most likely benefit of an NHA to my organization or my community is:

I am willing: (Please check all that apply.)

☐ ...to help host a public meeting

☐ ...to contact people in my community to encourage their attendance

☐ ...to share additional stories, photos or other information regarding our regional heritage

☐ ...to help the NHA effort in other ways

Your name and contact information:

Name _____

E-mail _____

Telephone _____

Mail Address _____

Please return this form to:

 ST. CROIX VALLEY FOUNDATION

St Croix Valley Foundation
c/o Jill Shannon
516 Second Street, Suite 214
Hudson, WI 54016
phone 715.386.9490
fax 715.386.1250
jshannon@scvfoundation.org



Written Comments from Feedback Forms

I came to this meeting because...	My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is...	The most likely benefit of a NHA to my community or my organization is...
<i>I was invited and felt it was significant & important</i>	<i>a great idea and tool to grow awareness, interest and support for our unique and diverse region</i>	<i>an opportunity to generate awareness and appreciation for our area and organization and to partner & collaborate with our neighbors.</i>
<i>1) I am very excited about this initiative! 2) I have encouraged Rotarians to be involved, so I will too.</i>	<i>wonderful - the process has huge value! even if we aren't designated a NHA. I think it is a great focus to bring communities together.</i>	<i>I believe NHGA will attract visitors. For Rotary, there are 17 clubs in the St. Croix watershed - it is another unifying factor.</i>
<i>Represent my agency - WDNR and to network for increasing partnerships that preserve, manage and protect our scenic landscapes for wildlife.</i>	<i>Let's work together & achieve this great opportunity</i>	<i>community involvement, increased appreciation of nature, help achieve mission of WDNR.</i>
<i>I was invited by the local Heritage Center, and I have a yearning/thirsting for the better of the environment.</i>	<i>It has a great purpose, and it's enjoyable to be around intelligentsia and no negative people</i>	<i>conservation and beautifyingness, here and nationally</i>
<i>SCVF involvement, interested in our valley story, I believe in the value of the outcomes</i>	<i>High Value - irrespective of government approval. This is great and necessary work. The result can and will be an element of our SCVF and all affiliate constituents</i>	<i>A soundifying method to create a watershed brand connecting all communities</i>
<i>interested in regional history and historical & natural preservation</i>	<i>-can only be a good thing! The St. Croix River Valley seems to be a very strong candidate for such a designation.</i>	<i>-promote preservation and heritage awareness for future generations.</i>
<i>I was invited the Bauers</i>	<i>great - I do lots of traveling + love history - would love to see this area become a NHA. I have to 40 of the 58 national parks</i>	<i>would love to see more people come to the museum in Luck - great place</i>
<i>Interested in learning more about the area</i>	<i>Positive & believe this will be the perfect venue for regional promotion & preservation</i>	<i>community promotion</i>
<i>wanted to get more info about the Heritage Initiative</i>	<i>very positive. Let's do it!</i>	<i>Tourism, fringe economic benefits, community growth</i>
<i>I am very interested in preserving and sharing</i>	<i>Very positive - would like to see NHA</i>	<i>To learn + enjoy our community more</i>

Written Comments from Feedback Forms

I came to this meeting because...	My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is...	The most likely benefit of a NHA to my community or my organization is...
<i>history.</i>	<i>evolve.</i>	
<i>Interested in</i>	<i>exited</i>	<i>more traffic</i>
<i>I'd like to help preserve, protect & help share local history & natural resources</i>	<i>great idea!</i>	<i>learning about all the heritage + natural resources and working collaboratively to promote & preserve the NHA</i>
<i>find out about initiative, value living in valley</i>	<i>high value to protect culture of valley & provide economic benefits</i>	<i>increased awareness of local culture to both residents and visitors</i>
<i>Heard about it through the Hudson Comm. Foundation, interested in promoting the concept</i>	<i>Great idea about binding the overall community, Hidden Jewel</i>	<i>Great way to demonstrate the unique character that comprises the St. Croix, unifying - promotes better linkages throughout the basin</i>
<i>I'm interested in the river and its history</i>	<i>fantastic! very beneficial to our area</i>	<i>link us together a special area for residents to enjoy and to attract tourists to help grow our economies</i>
<i>interested in getting Osceola and OSC & St. Croix Valley Rwy</i>	<i>a good project to help small entities become involved</i>	<i>marketing & advertising</i>
<i>I wanted information</i>	<i>confusion</i>	<i>as an asset to be used for marketing</i>
<i>I was asked to attend because I am a local historian</i>	<i>Positive, but uncertain as to what it will mean, or its impact</i>	<i>Build regional community. Be on a list on history places to visit and have a list we can visit.</i>
<i>E-mail invite</i>	<i>Great idea!</i>	<i>Preserve: History, Natural Landscape and river awareness</i>
<i>to watch the process & understand more about the Heritage Initiative</i>	<i>very positive</i>	<i>tapping into heritage tourism & making sure the arts are highlighted</i>
<i>To learn more about the Heritage initiative</i>	<i>very positive</i>	<i>Help protect the natural resources</i>
<i>The Heritage Initiative sounds wonderful!</i>	<i>great experience - So much to share!</i>	<i>Sharing more of our wonderful community</i>
<i>Judy Freund contacted me</i>	<i>A great cause - make it so.</i>	

Local & Regional Distinctiveness

Participants were asked to give answers to two questions. Recorded below are a tally of themes identified in answers, then full transcriptions of participant answers (following pages).

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

- 8 Rivers
- 8 Local Histories
- 6 Natural Beauty
- 6 Small Town / Community Spirit
- 4 Architecture
- 4 Arts
- 3 Ethnic Heritage (French)
- 3 Water Power
- 3 "City Beautiful"
- 2 Natural Resources
- 2 Recreation
- 2 Wildlife
- 2 Designated Wildlife Areas
- 2 Geology
- 1 Transportation
- 1 Native Heritage
- 1 Location
- 1 Ecology
- 1 Quality of Life
- 1 St. Croix Riverway
- 1 Native
- 1 Historic Industries

Blue Card Question:

What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?

- 19 Riverways
- 11 St. Croix Riverway (designate)
- 11 Logging + Farming
- 9 Local History
- 7 Intact Environment / Water
- 7 A(?) Location
- 7 Logging
- 6 Natural Beauty
- 4 Geology
- 4 Farming
- 3 Wildlife
- 3 Ethnic Heritage
- 3 Native Culture
- 2 Community Spirit
- 1 Pioneer Spirit
- 1 Park System
- 1 Transportation

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

- *The great rivers and the history they bring to our area -- Burkhart history at the dams*
- *McKenzie Wild Life Area*
- *Convergence of the Apple River with St. Croix river, French Canadian heritage*
- *It's the "City Beautiful" honored by the logo & beauty of the weeping willow tree!*
- *In Osceola: Cascade Falls in downtown, bridge crossing the river*
- *Phipps Center for the Arts, Octagon House Museum*
- *Architecture, River front*
- *A log home built in 1856, Indian Burial Mounds on the Bluff overlooking the river*
- *Crossroad in Upper Midwest, Railroad - Major Hwy*
- *Natural resources for many users and uses.*
- *Scenic Beauty*
- *Retained small town functionality*
- *Natural Beauty, Hudson's Walk-ability*
- *New Richmond-- 1. City Beautiful/Historical 2. Many Activities*
- *What makes immed. area - special: Highly motivated people, Destruction of community in 1899 - left a can-do lasting legacy*
- *People*
- *The connection between generations - families with long-time roots*
- *Hot Air Affair, Phipps*
- *Stillwater - hilly, cliffs + caves, St. Croix Wild & Scenic Riverway - less developed*
- *Community of survivors - Rebuilding after 1899 Cyclone. City Beautiful - designated nationally in 1930s.*
- *Undeveloped open landscapes with micro gems of remnant prairies and wetlands amidst rolling farmlands.*
- *Natural Resources, Quality of Life*
- *1. The proximity to the St. Croix River - i.e. on the river, birds migrate, recreation beauty 2. Our community has a terrific art center & downtown region for a small town*
- *Pioneer history, 1899 destruction, dam construction*
- *St. Croix River, Cascade Falls/Mill Pond, Trails - Bike/Hike*
- *Temperance until 1934*
- *French Heritage, Apple River*
- *Martells Landing is home to the historic Martell family with the original 1856 Log Home still standing, Rich Native American History*
- *Boardman - flour mill*
- *Location on Apple River - New England roots & Scandinavian immigrants. Proximity to wildlife areas - bird population*
- *1. Richmond has pulled together to engage in more civil discourse*
- *Immediate Area - Civic Passion coupled with unlimited resources (human, natural, cultural)*

Blue Card Question:

What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?

- *The River Connects: two states, rich diversity, wildlife and unique history*
- *designated a national riverway in the 70s (early recognition)*
- *Scenic River system that is still intact and can be further improved.*
- *National Park , Landscape Diversity*
- *The St. Croix River, logging history, immigration and ethnic groups, home to famous people*
- *Scenic river and wildlife + geology*
- *St. Croix River - Nat'l Riverway, tributaries -- Farming*
- *St. Croix - farms, lumber industry*
- *St. Croix River, Pioneer Spirit*
- *1. The St. Croix is important bird migration area 2. flows into the Mississippi River :) - major riverway*
- *St. Croix (and confluence w/ Mississippi) great part of neo-tropical bird migration*
- *The history of the St. Croix River*
- *park system, shared history*
- *A shared connectivity through the generations beginning 10,000 years ago. (native cultures, immigrants, logging, modern times)*
- *1. Where Sioux and Chippewa Nations interacted / warred (Neutral Territory) 2. Lumbering*
- *Extreme changes from glaciated lands; coulees to St. Croix River floodplains and the great trout streams there-in.*
- *The fault line the helps define the St. Croix river*
- *Relatively unspoiled*
- *Pristine Protected Watershed of Multiple Use*
- *Nature (pristine) -- rivers & woodlands, Lumbering, farming*
- *Pristine river, Scenic waterway, History*
- *1. Natural beauty - The Land of Sky Blue Waters 2. Our white pine was milled and shipped down the St. Croix River & the Mississippi to build the housing throughout the new nation.*
- *Quality of Water, Historic Transportation Connection to North*
- *Color Terrain - Small Rivers - Germain*
- *Beauty of environment, Lakes & Rivers*
- *1. Varied opportunities 2. Scenic year around*
- *The history of logging, turning to farming -- tight knit communities*
- *first farmers transition from lumber*
- *Ice Age History*
- *What makes St. Croix Region Special: fast growing, proximity to large metropolitan area*
- *Mix of city and country*
- *We had Wisconsin represented by three of the Best US Senators, Proxmire Gaylord Nelson & Russ Feingold and Johnny "Blood" a member of the NFL Football of Fame - A Charter Member!*



Stories: Records from Story Circles

The following summaries and lists were gained through roundtable discussions where participants were asked, in turn, to respond to the following three questions/scenarios. *Important note:* These are transcriptions of hand-written notes taken by table facilitators during the story circle exercise at the workshop. The accuracy of the names, dates and locations represented as fact have not been confirmed, as they are merely the informal paraphrasing of participants' oral stories.

Round 1: *Imagine you'll be visited by a dear friend or relative from outside the Midwest or even from outside the country. You have time to share with them only one activity, tradition, place, or community or family event important to you...describe it and where it would be.*

Round 2: *Why is this important?*

Round 3: *Share more about the origins, details or lesser known facts.*

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
151.	<i>An Irish Bar</i>	The speaker talked about an Irish Bar, a bridge across Willow River and a Homestead. It's a community gathering place.	Willow River.
152.	<i>New Richmond Heritage Center</i>	The Heritage Center in New Richmond tells the story of this area. The Flea Market, Summer Concerts and programming were mentioned as well as the Tour Buses stop.	New Richmond Heritage Center. Summer Concerts. Tour Buses.
153.	<i>Churches</i>	St Patrick's Church and Cemetery in Erin Prairie	Churches and Graveyards.
154.		When we bring foreign visitors to the house in Hudson for dinner we like to show them real American Family life- not the Hollywood version. We also take them to the Kinni River and City Park overlook of Willow River.	Food. Kinni River. City Park.
155.	<i>Railroads</i>	Railroads have a historic organizing theme- they reorganized people. The railways have now turned into trails which bring people together in the modern day.	
156.		We take people to mass in Stillwater and St Patrick's Church in Hudson (you're no longer a tourist once you arrive at church because people connect with each other there).	Churches.
157.	<i>Ethnicity and Food</i>	This area is a product of many ethnic groups (Irish, Norwegians, Swedish, German). We like to serve visitors a special meal to experience the area. Every area here has an ethnic flavor.	Food
158.	<i>Churches</i>	There's a Russian Orthodox Church near Clear Lake.	Churches
159.		I like to take people canoeing on the Namekagon River - I lived near the river growing up.	Canoeing. Namekagon River.
160.	<i>Round Barns</i>	I took my cousin from Switzerland to see the barns in the St. Joseph	St. Joseph Township. St. Croix River.

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
		township right on the St. Croix River. There's a history of round barns in the area (two on our family homestead are now gone).	Round Barns
161.		There are dairy farms on the St. Croix Valley's highways.	Dairy Farming.
162.		Franconia Sculpture Park - there's a wild flower meadow, experimental and ultra-modern use of the landscape to organize this area. It's an artist community with a strong pottery tradition.	Artists. Wild Flowers.
163.	Canoeing	We rent canoes at Wild River State Park and canoe on Upper River. That's how we experience the river.	Canoeing. Wild River State Park. Upper River
164.		Paddleboats at Taylors Falls	Paddleboats. Taylors Falls
165.		Scenic experience at Taylors Falls and St. Croix Falls - the beauty of the Dalles.	Taylors Falls. St. Croix Falls. The Dalles.
166.		Gammelgarden, Scandia and Lindstrom allow people to explore Scandinavian immigration, sacrifice, bravery that shaped culture today. There are old Scandinavian buildings to see.	Gammelgarden. Scandia. Immigration. Architecture.
167.		The trains in the area are a way to share stories and experiences. Railroad cards, the depot etc. It's like stepping back in history. Original , authentic, romantic. People love trains.	Railroads.
168.		There is a walking tour of Roberts which explains why it's located in that place, how and why it evolved and the evolution of farming communities in that area from land farming to dairy. There's a library there with lots to see, a depot from the railway line. "It gets my vote for a rainy day activity every year"	Roberts Walking Tours. Farming and agriculture.
169.		I'm interested in how things today are affected by settlement choices (why towns are located where they are). Road placements, dams, community buildings, water power, railroads, bridges.	Transportation.
170.		We ride from Osceola to St Croix Valley Railroad. We do to Marine and back. We see the bluffs, historic sites, farmland etc. MN Transport Museum is a great way to experience all of this heritage and captures what life was like.	Biking. Bluffs. Farms. Transportation.
171.		Interstate Park for the geology.	Interstate Park.
172.		Willow River State Park for the geology. "What did this area look like before the dams were built?"	Willow River State Park.
173.	Peach Lake	The speaker's grandparents had a cabin on Peach Lake in the 1950s when lots of people came there in the summer to cool off. His father loved to swim. Peach Lake is a glacial lake of crystal clear waters. You can walk three steps into the lake and take a dive. There are so many loons there that you'd think you were 'up north'.	Peach Lake. Swimming. Cabins.
174.		St. Croix Valley in Hudson was a gateway to this whole area. Two Indian nations had neutral territories here- a little like a no man's land until the steamers and the railroads came through.	St. Croix Valley. Steamers. Railroads.

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
175.		Western Prairie Habitat Restoration Area. There's a birding town guide brochure available. Visit WPA. this is the largest area for nesting fowl and prairie birds.	Western Prairie Habitat Restoration Area.
176.		West Prairie Pothole Area (of national significance)	Potholing.
177.		Discover the history of Martell Wisconsin beginning in 1816. Logging history, Sioux and Ojibwe roots. Significance of the Apple and St Croix Rivers for this region.	Logging. Native Cultures.
178.		St. Croix Falls, Interstate Park area and Forest Lake provides a getaway for people from the Twin Cities.	Vacations.
179.		The power of the water is important here. St. Croix Falls, Cascade Falls, Osceola, Aveda Mills, ferries.	Water power. St. Croix Falls. Cascade Falls. Osceola. Aveda Mills. Ferries.
180.	Trout Fishing	The area is unique for trout fishing. People and geography have coexisted here for 10,000 years with wildlife being a staple.	Trout fishing.
181.		We get in the car and take County Rd F to the confluence up the Afton side to Taylors Falls and to St. Croix Falls where we cross the river. Boom site, Interstate Park and end at Willow River. The tour represents the valley and the watershed. The water features and activities are summed up by this great driving route.	Driving. Taylors Falls. Afton. St Croix Falls. Interstate Park. Willow River.
182.		South Fork of the Flambeau River (no portaging needed). White river rafting and canoeing on this river gives you an incredible sense of being one with nature. People take care of this place - there's no trash in the river.	Flambeau River. Rafting and Canoeing.
183.		I take people to the confluence because people from everywhere know the Mississippi and understand the confluences. It's almost spiritual. We also all have birds in common so they appreciate Crex Meadows in spring and fall.	Riverways. Crex Meadows.
184.	An Outdoor Classroom	The Kinnickinnic River (Native American name) is revered by locals and those in the region as well as those around the country and the world for its fishery (trout). It speaks to the diversity of scenery and landscapes present in the watershed. People come here to appreciate nature by paddling, fishing and bird watching. The area also acts as an "outdoor classroom".	Trout Fishing. Paddling. Bird watching. Kinni River.
185.	Hobo Camps	There were hobo camps below the dam in New Richmond and above Lake George in River Falls above Division St. where Elks Lodge is.	Hobo Camps. Lake George. River Falls.
186.		This Wisconsin DNR Wildlife area is a little patch of diversity and a heritage Landscape Vignette that offers a glimpse of the prairie ecosystem that thrived here before Euro American agriculture. Pre-1850s Tower Valley was all prairie.	Wisconsin DNR Wildlife.
187.		The French settled in Somerset.	
188.	Maple Syrup	We make maple syrup with the family - it's a real event. We also enjoy seeing the river on the way up from Stillwater.	Maple syrup.

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
189.	<i>Tornado Survival</i>	The storyteller's grandfather was caught in the Tornado of 1899 at New Richmond while he was in a hardware store. The community rebuilt itself after this disaster. People can learn more about this at the New Richmond Heritage Center	Local History. New Richmond Heritage Center.
190.		Star Prairie Trout Farm	Trout Farming. Star Prairie Trout Farm
191.		People are important to this area including famous people. The historical society in this town is old.	Local History.
192.		The Octagon House is worth seeing (an Octagon shaped house).	Octagon House Museum
193.		Interstate Park (note the two story hotel built south of Osceola).	Interstate Park
194.		Sites include Crex Meadows, Apple River Bluffs, remains of old mills.	
195.		"I think the heritage area should be extended to Lake Superior"	
196.		McKenzie Creek Wildlife Area north of Luck is a beautiful nature center - there used to be a log home there on the property. You'll see history, lakes, creeks and woods.	McKenzie Creek Wildlife Area.
197.	<i>Martell's Landing</i>	The speaker's great great grandfather came down the Apple River to Martell's Landing. We acquired their property in the 1950s as a cabin. These old cabins tell the universal stories of people searching for a better life (poor loggers and farmers).	Apple River. Martell's Landing. Cabins. Immigration. Logging. Farming.
198.	<i>Hudson Lakefront Park</i>	I like to take people to Hudson, named after Hudson Bay. this area is spectacularly beautiful. If you stand on the overlook you can imagine early settlers calling it Hudson after the Hudson River. You can find an 1837 Map of St Croix Reserve at Octagon House.	Hudson. Local History.
199.	<i>The Loss of Never's Dam</i>	Never's Dam was originally built in the 1800s for logging and destroyed in the 1950s. It was the only wooden dam in the World. "When I was a boy in the 1950s the dam almost flooded-out. We spent hours watching trucks hauling dirt to save the dam.	Never's Dam. Local History.
200.	<i>Sugar Bush near Baldwin</i>	My favorite place in the World is the 20 acres of land my parents owned when I grew up. they bought it when I was 8 years old. We had an old saw mill on the land and used the space for maple sugaring. Sugar bush has become central to my family's history and meant a lot to settlers and native peoples alike.	Maple syrup. Immigrants. Native culture.
201.	<i>New Richmond Heritage Center</i>	The New Richmond Heritage Center quickly summarizes the history of this region. The site is significant because it's the old Levi and Timothy Oaks Farm. 30 years ago the site started to transition into a heritage center with 25,000 artifacts and 11 buildings.	New Richmond Heritage Center. Lilvi and Timothy Oaks Farm. Local History.
202.	<i>Boardman Farm</i>	Boardman Farm has been in the family for nearly a century. Many Boardman families settled here and farmed the land. They came for adventure and this farming story must be told. St Croix Electric Cooperative is funding the collecting of stories from the farm.	Boardman Farm. Local History.
203.		There are Indian mounds north of Somerset.	Native culture and history



Hinckley Fire Museum. Photo: <http://www.hinckley.govoffice2.com>

Pine County Minnesota

EVENT RECORD

Heritage Discovery Workshop (#5)

Compiled by Jeff Schommer, Paul Anderton & Peter Musty of Creative Community Builders; last updated on July 12, 2012.

March 24, 2012 – The Pine County Heritage Discovery Workshop (held at Sandstone Senior Center in Sandstone, Minnesota) was one of ten held in early 2012 throughout eleven counties in Minnesota and Wisconsin that are located in the St. Croix River watershed. (See map to the right.) The intent of the workshops was to:

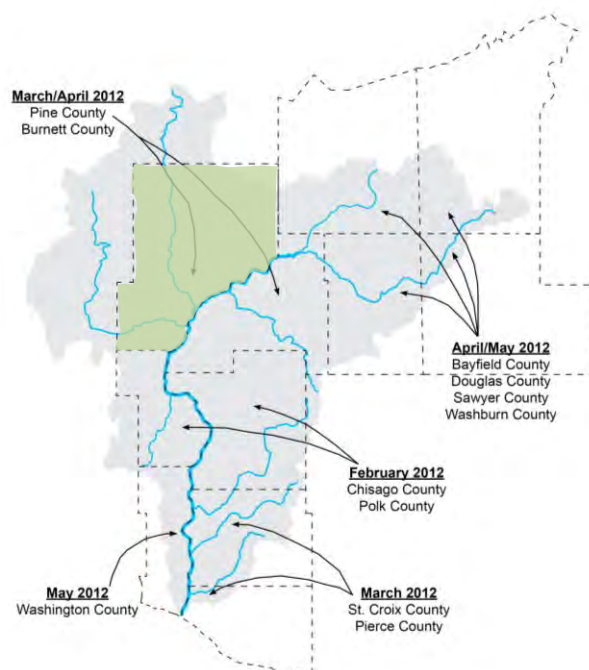
- provide information and conversation about the St. Croix region's Heritage Initiative and National Heritage Areas (NHA); and
- identify stories and places that define the St. Croix River region.

This document contains a record of the event, contributing to a collective database developed and managed by St. Croix Valley Foundation and their Heritage Initiative Task Force on behalf of all eleven counties. Each workshop created opportunities for participants to share:

- their reactions and opinions about National Heritage Areas;
- their opinions about what makes their community special in the region, and why the St. Croix region is unique in the nation;
- a story about a place, event or tradition in the region important to them.

The records from all the workshops have been published via the Heritage Initiative's website: www.stcroixheritage.org, and will be shared with community leaders to illustrate community response to this workshop. The information collected will be used in three other ways within the Heritage Initiative:

- a) to determine the big themes and the broad stories shared across the watershed;
- b) to help inform the upcoming Regional Summits that will be held in the Fall of 2012;
- c) as a foundation of information for a written document that might be the basis for Congressional designation as a National Heritage Area, if that outcome is what communities throughout the watershed desire.



Thank You...

Participating Sponsors and Supporting Organizations

Sandstone Area Senior Citizens

Chris Foods

Sandstone Art & History Center

City of Hinckley

City of Pine City

City of Sandstone

Pine County Volunteers

** Mark Perry, * Nathan Johnson,*

** Miss Sandstone Emilee Franklin*

Workshop Team

** Marty Harding (Board Member of St Croix Valley Foundation & Heritage Initiative Task Force Chair)*

Task Force Members

*Alyssa Auten, Kathy Bartilson, * Julie Galonska,*

** Sam Griffith, John Lennes, Ann Moonen,*

** Bill Neuman, Danette Olsen, Scott Peterson,*

*Tangi Schaapveld, * Jean Schaeppi, Margaret Smith,*

Chris Stein, John Velin

St Croix Valley Foundation

Jane Stevenson, President

Jill Shannon, Director of Community Outreach

** Jonathan Moore, Heritage Coordinator*

Facilitation Team

Creative Community Builders

** Tom Borrup (co-lead)*

Peter Musty (co-lead)

Paul Anderton

** Carol Ahlgren*

Jeffrey Bruce, FASLA

Robert Claybaugh, AIA

Frank Edgerton Martin

Danette Olsen

Jeff Schommer

Harry Waters Jr

** - (present at this workshop)*

Pages 3-4

National Heritage Area: Opinions & Reactions Feedback Forms

Pages 5-7

Regional and National Distinctiveness Note Card Questions

Pages 8-10

Stories Records from Story Circles

National Heritage Areas: Opinions & Reactions

The table (following pages) is a record of written comments transcribed from feedback forms each participant was asked to fill out at the end of the workshop.

15
participants were present
at the workshop

552
total years
they have lived or worked
in the St. Croix region

The Heritage Initiative



THANK YOU for your FEEDBACK on the following:

I came to this meeting because:

My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is:

The most likely benefit of an NHA to my organization or my community is:

I am willing: (Please check all that apply.)

☐ ...to help host a public meeting

☐ ...to contact people in my community to encourage their attendance

☐ ...to share additional stories, photos or other information regarding our regional heritage

☐ ...to help the NHA effort in other ways

Your name and contact information:

Name _____

E-mail _____

Telephone _____

Mail Address _____

Please return this form to:

 ST. CROIX VALLEY FOUNDATION

St Croix Valley Foundation
c/o Jill Shannon
516 Second Street, Suite 214
Hudson, WI 54016
phone 715.386.9490
fax 715.386.1250
jshannon@scvfoundation.org

Written Comments from Feedback Forms

I came to this meeting because...	My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is...	The most likely benefit of a NHA to my community or my organization is...
<i>Advice of friend</i>	<i>positive</i>	<i>connecting past and perception of present to what can be helped to happen next.</i>
<i>my husband was encouraged to come</i>	<i>sounds interesting</i>	<i>bring more people to visit the area</i>
<i>I wanted to check it out. (Interested)</i>	<i>It would be amazing for our area.</i>	<i>Bring more people to town to visit.</i>
<i>I was aware of the project & represent the Hinckley Fire Museum</i>	<i>great - I visit the Hudson River Valley area often</i>	<i>Get our story out - more visitors - preserve more history.</i>
<i>I have lived in this area most of my life and my family has been here for many generations</i>	<i>Great way to share information</i>	<i>spotlight on this area</i>
<i>I am a history nut</i>	<i>let's go</i>	<i>educational "growth"</i>
<i>I wanted to know what it was all about.</i>	<i>It has real possibilities both to attract people from outside the area and involve those within the area.</i>	<i>It will build community</i>
<i>wanted to learn more about our area</i>	<i>great and we can achieve it.</i>	<i>illumination of our area to a broader audience.</i>
<i>of my interest in the environment and history of this area</i>	<i>very positive</i>	<i>continued focus on the environment and appreciation of our cultural heritage (s)</i>
<i>to represent Sandstone, as Miss Sandstone, as well to learn more about my community and area. Also take pictures.</i>	<i>it's really cool; I hope it is possible, help our community shine.</i>	<i>Help share the stories with education in our community, as well as make it available for others to want to come and learn.</i>
<i>I am the historian for Askov - and I am helping set up the new museum in Askov</i>	<i>One more great way of sharing the past and what is important to our communities</i>	<i>Travel to the Museum and Nat'l Register of Historic Places sites in Askov - Tourism dollars</i>
<i>To find out some more history of Pine County and see how these county meetings are run prior to the one to be convened in Burnett County</i>	<i>Very Positive</i>	<i>Preserving history for future generations. Letting them know how they got to where they are. Build appreciation for this history. There's possibly some economic benefit.</i>
<i>I'm interested in the Area</i>	<i>good idea</i>	<i>To draw more people to the area</i>
<i>Interest in area</i>	<i>Fantastic Idea!</i>	<i>Area recognition</i>

Local & Regional Distinctiveness

Participants were asked to give answers to two questions. Recorded below are a tally of themes identified in answers, then full transcriptions of participant answers (following pages).

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

- 6 Sandstone Quarry (Robinson Park)
- 3 Banning State Park
- 2 Logging History
- 2 Waterways
- 1 Emigrant (? s/b Immigrant) History - Danish
- 1 Fur Trade
- 1 Tobies
- 1 Hinckley Fire
- 1 Natural Resources

Blue Card Question:

What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?

- 5 Logging / Lumbering
- 3 People / Residents
- 2 Farming
- 2 Native American History
- 2 Waterways
- 2 Natural Resources

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

- *small town with accessibility to larger city, lots of natural resources.*
- *progressive*
- *The tide of civilization has been receding for a very long time.*
- *The Snake River & the Northwest Co. Fur Post make Pine City special.*
- *Pine City - The waterways (resource) around and through Pine City. Also, the history of these waterways and their effect on Pine City.*
- *Distinctive -- Hinckley Fire of 1894 - 1. larger than Chicago - more deaths 2. start of conservation effort in MN - Tobies - Halfway stop from Duluth to Twin Cities.*
- *Sandstone Quarry - Banning State Park -- Robinson Park*
- *Banning State Park*
- *Askov - Danish Heritage - Founded by the Dansk Folkesam fund to preserve Danish culture and traditions.*
- *Sandstone Quarry - Banning State Park -- Robinson Park*
- *Sandstone Quarry - On National Register, supplied stone for buildings throughout U.S. - i.e. Chicago, Boston etc*
- *The Quarry & The Kettle River*
- *The Quarry (Sandstone) was sent all over nation. People still call to try to get Sandstone for expansions of the historic buildings.*
- *Logging History*
- *Sandstone - The Kettle River Quarry is unique in that the stone quarried there is evident throughout the U.S.*
- *Banning State Park*
- *This environmental transition zone between hardwoods & pines. The forests used to be logged for building Mpls, St. Paul, Chicago, St. Louis and to ...*
- *1804 wintering fur post and the lumbering tradition*
- *Sandstone Quarry (Robinson Park)*
- *Waterways*
- *Emigrant (? s/b Immigrant) History - Danish*
- *Fur Trade*
- *Tobies*
- *Hinckley Fire*
- *Natural Resources*

Blue Card Question:**What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?**

- *Lumbering*
- *Logging- lumbering*
- *Logging & fur trade*
- *Major logging area - Lumber was shipped from trees cut in the area to build around the U.S. Largest stand of White Pine in 1800's.*
- *Its history & waterways.*
- *The Rivers for boating, fishing & camping*
- *Immigrant waves & cutover story connection to lumbering*
- *Mix - The ultimate flyover country.*
- *influence of the Mississippi River and the differentiation between the East and Midwest logging/farming areas.*
- *The Native American History*
- *The wild life diversity because of the transition zone between hardwoods & pines and it's clean water quality in upper reaches.*
- *National -- Indian settlements -> logging -> farming -> history*
- *confluence of cultures throughout history - due to resources & water.*
- *The Amazing people who live here. They are strong and resourceful.*
- *It's full of small towns and hardworking people built around the river. The river made life possible here from logging to transportation.*
- *Logging / Lumbering*
- *People / Residents*
- *Farming*
- *Native American History*
- *Waterways*
- *Natural Resources*
- *Lumbering*
- *Logging & fur trade*

Stories: Records from Story Circles

The following summaries and lists were gained through roundtable discussions where participants were asked, in turn, to respond to the following three questions/scenarios. *Important note:* These are transcriptions of hand-written notes taken by table facilitators during the story circle exercise at the workshop. The accuracy of the names, dates and locations represented as fact have not been confirmed, as they are merely the informal paraphrasing of participants' oral stories.

Round 1: *Imagine you'll be visited by a dear friend or relative from outside the Midwest or even from outside the country. You have time to share with them only one activity, tradition, place, or community or family event important to you...describe it and where it would be.*

Round 2: *Why is this important?*

Round 3: *Share more about the origins, details or lesser known facts.*

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
204.	<i>Black market moonshine</i>	The speaker said that the area was a really good place to buy moonshine. They talked with someone who remembers driving through Somerset with moonshine in their truck (covered by cabbages and dead chickens). By repute the moonshine went all the way to New York City.	Moonshine
205.	<i>Woodshed Artists</i>	The speaker talked about local Woodshed Artists . They met Clem Hopper and Clara Meyers in Clara Folkways. Locals are interested in etching and painting them (realistic/impressionist)	Woodshed Artists.
206.	<i>Hinckley Fire Survivors</i>	The speaker talked about their family and their heritage. They came from Sweden and setting in Isanti. First they were loggers. They built boats too. They then moved to Sandstone and changed their occupations from sawing to farming in 1885. Two members of the family survived the Hinckley Fire. One by throwing themselves into the river, another by hiding in a root cellar which the family has built from rock from the local quarry and dousing themself in fresh milk.	Lumber, quarry and farming industries. Hinckley Fire.
207.	<i>Natives save family from fire.</i>	"Indians said they're not stupid enough to get caught in a fire". The speaker discussed the fate of Frank Patrick who planned to picnic at Grindstone Lake with his family during the Hinckley Fire. The family took a boat ride there but the conditions got dark and windy on account of the nearby fire and the party was rescued by a local native American who guided the boat to shore and took care of the family. This individual gave the family a pair of moccasins. The speaker discussed Black Feather (Mackadawan) who married a white man at 22 and moved to White Earth	Hinckley Fire. A local mural of an incident during the fire. Hinckley Fire Museum.

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
208.	<i>St Croix soil pigments.</i>	The St Croix carries with it pigments in the soil and earth. Historically local native Americans used to come to the area and collect it for pigment painting. this was a sacred area that all could come to. Late in the 1880s or 90s the speakers family owned land in this area and discovered a copper vein. they mined this copper but didn't make enough money from it so they took the soil and mixed it with linseed oil to make paint. They used an old water mill to mix their paint and ship it down the river.	Copper mines. Paint production. Native use of natural pigments.
209.		Calamite makes good paint pigment.	
210.	<i>Nelsons Landing</i>	Nelsons Landing is an archeological site. There is a carbon layer which we discovered when we were making a campsite. People have discovered clay pots there. Carbon dated back to 350BC (the base of the logging road protected it).	Native settlements. Carbon. Logging. Archeological Sites.
211.		The landings on the river today are often where Indian trails crossed the waters	Native trails. Waterways. Landings.
212.		"I was a dairy farmer. My neighbor had a foreign exchange student and brought them to our dairy farm. Today I would be hard pressed to find a dairy farm here but they used to be every mile or so. "	Decline of the dairy farming industry.
213.	<i>Rural School</i>	There is an old rural school on Old District 69 built about 1906. It has just 25 desks and was moved into town at Pine City. Three weeks in the summer the school welcomes one week sessions for kids in costume. The speaker talked about how modern day children who spend so much time playing computer games love playing with slate and chalk. It's a great experience through which to learn our history.	Rural schools. Pine City Rural School Museum.
214.	<i>Northwest Company Fur Post</i>	The speaker talked about Northwest Company Fur Post in Pine City. " People are unaware of how worldwide this trade was.- it connected this area to the whole world. This place is unique as there aren't many fur posts to visit. It's had a great curator.	Fur Trading. Northwest Company Fur Post.
215.	<i>Hiking</i>	We like to hike from Banning down to Robinson Park, there's so much to see. The foundations of old buildings associated with the quarries, Wolf Creek, the sandstone bat cave, Kettle River, The Kettles (land formations).	Hiking. Quarries. Local History. Bat caves. Geology. Waterways.
216.	<i>Houses of Ill Repute</i>	"Banning had been full of houses of ill repute. My aunt thought the women of the town were beautiful ladies and thought that was the way to live"	Local History. Prostitution
217.		The Hinckley Fire was a result of bad management of the logging industry and poor practices. The Hinckley Fire Museum tells the story of the fire which lost more people than the Chicago Fire. The fire saw the start of conservation efforts in Minnesota.	Hinckley Fire Museum. Conservation. Logging Industry
218.		"The sandstone deposits here actually gave us our name. You can see this stone in buildings all around the country." The quarries connected us to the rest of the world and brought the railroads in. The old school (1901) was built of this stone and people still come to the area to buy the	Quarries. Sandstone.

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
		stone for restoration projects.	
219.		The Snake River is a great way to experience much of this area. You can see the NW Company Fur Post and voyageur wood carving in Voyageur Park.	Riverways. Canoeing. Fur Trade. Northwest Company Fur Post.
220.		Northwest Company Fur Post shows the importance of the area's two lakes and the river system. The waterways dictated where posts would be. The fur posts connected us to the rest of the world for example through the export of beaver pelts to England.	Riverways. Fur Trade. Northwest Company Fur Post.
221.		300 exchange students came here from England.	
222.	<i>Ed Stoffel's Farm</i>	There is a public family farm museum- Ed Stoffel's Farm. The speaker discussed hospitality at the farm. Food would start to be prepared on the Friday for a traditional Sunday dinner. Regularly 24 people attended.	Farming community. Sunday dinner.
223.	<i>Rural School Museum</i>	There is a rural school museum in Pine City. Every summer the museum offers an opportunity for school children to attend in costume. They bring their lunches in pails. The original building has been moved from elsewhere.	Rural farming. Heritage recreations.
224.	<i>Shuey Farm</i>	Shuey Farm is a 100 year old farm in Pine City. It's one of the most beautiful places in the area. you can see the river from the far. Three generations of family are involved with the farm. It's a private place- you can feel the history of farming there.	Shuey Farm. Farming. Local History. The St Croix River
225.	<i>Danish immigration to Askov</i>	Askov was an area sold off in the late 1800s. In Iowa there was a group founded to preserve Danish traditions. They sent a group to this area who purchased 20,000 acres but sold to Danes only. The land was advertised in Denmark. There is an old hotel register which shows names from 1906-1910 but the hotel no longer exists.	Askov. Danish immigration.
226.		in 1976 the town put up Danish street signs, now there are English translations.	Danish language.
227.		the Danish Lutheran Church has a wood sculpture carved by a man from west Denmark	Danish. Churches
228.	<i>"Rutabaga Capitol of the World"</i>	Askov was the "Rutabaga Capitol of the World". 700 carloads of rutabagas a year were exported	Rutabagas. Farming
229.		Quarry heritage and stories are interpreted in the Banning State Park and in Robinson	Quarries



Forts Folle Avoine Historical Park Photo: <http://visitsiren.com>

Burnett County

Wisconsin

EVENT RECORD

Heritage Discovery Workshop (#6)

Compiled by Jeff Schommer, Paul Anderton & Peter Musty of Creative Community Builders; last updated on July 12, 2012.

April 15, 2012 – The Burnett County Heritage Discovery Workshop (held at Forts Folle Avoine Historical Park in Danbury, Wisconsin) was one of ten held in early 2012 throughout eleven counties in Minnesota and Wisconsin that are located in the St. Croix River watershed. (See map to the right.) The intent of the workshops was to:

- provide information and conversation about the St. Croix region's Heritage Initiative and National Heritage Areas (NHA); and
- identify stories and places that define the St. Croix River region.

This document contains a record of the event, contributing to a collective database developed and managed by St. Croix Valley Foundation and their Heritage Initiative Task Force on behalf of all eleven counties. Each workshop created opportunities for participants to share:

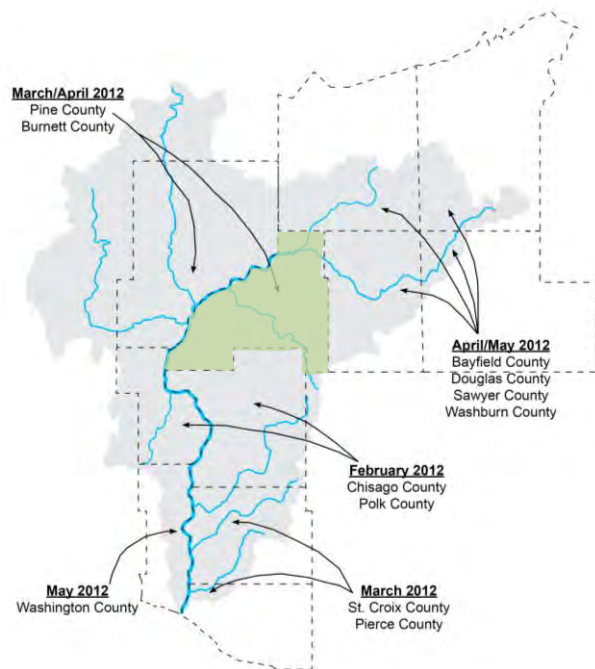
- their reactions and opinions about National Heritage Areas;

- their opinions about what makes their community special in the region, and why the St. Croix region is unique in the nation;
- a story about a place, event or tradition in the region important to them.

The records from all the workshops have been published via the Heritage Initiative's website:

www.stcroixheritage.org, and will be shared with community leaders to illustrate community response to this workshop. The information collected will be used in three other ways within the Heritage Initiative:

- a) to determine the big themes and the broad stories shared across the watershed;
- b) to help inform the upcoming Regional Summits that will be held in the Fall of 2012;
- c) as a foundation of information for a written document that might be the basis for Congressional designation as a National Heritage Area, if that outcome is what communities throughout the watershed desire.



Thank You...

Participating Sponsors and Supporting Organizations

Forts Folle Avoine Historical Park
 The Burnett County Historical Society
 Nuthouse Deli
 Smoland Prairie Homestead Inn
 Burnett Dairy Cooperative
 Wild River Outfitters
 Grantsburg Animal Hospital
 Friends of Crex Meadows
 Northwest Wisconsin Destination Marketing
 Organization
 Governor's St. Croix Area Promotion Committee
 Burnett County Volunteers
 * Marilyn Chesnik, * Paul Cunliffe, * Jerry Dorff,
 * Jane Harper, * Virginia Hennessey, * Clayton Jorgensen,
 * Mike Kornmann, * Kathy Palmquist, * Jean Van Tatenhove

Workshop Team

Marty Harding (Board Member of St Croix Valley Foundation & Heritage Initiative Task Force Chair)

Task Force Members

Alyssa Auten, Kathy Bartilson, * Julie Galonska,
 Sam Griffith, John Lennes, Ann Moonen,
 * Bill Neuman, Danette Olsen, Scott Peterson,
 Tangi Schaapveld, Jean Schaeppi, Margaret Smith,
 Chris Stein, * John Velin

St Croix Valley Foundation

Jane Stevenson, President
 * Jill Shannon, Director of Community Outreach
 * Jonathan Moore, Heritage Coordinator

Facilitation Team

Creative Community Builders

Tom Borrup (co-lead)
 * Peter Musty (co-lead)
 Paul Anderton
 Carol Ahlgren
 Jeffrey Bruce, FASLA
 Robert Claybaugh, ALA
 Frank Edgerton Martin
 * Danette Olsen
 * Jeff Schommer
 Harry Waters Jr

* - (present at this workshop)

Pages 3-4

National Heritage Area: Opinions & Reactions Feedback Forms

Pages 5-7

Regional and National Distinctiveness Note Card Questions

Pages 8-9

Stories Records from Story Circles

National Heritage Areas: Opinions & Reactions

The table (following pages) is a record of written comments transcribed from feedback forms each participant was asked to fill out at the end of the workshop.

23

participants were present
at the workshop

768

total years
they have lived or worked
in the St. Croix region

The Heritage Initiative



THANK YOU for your FEEDBACK on the following:

I came to this meeting because:

My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is:

The most likely benefit of an NHA to my organization or my community is:

I am willing: (Please check all that apply.)

☐ ...to help host a public meeting

☐ ...to contact people in my community to encourage their attendance

☐ ...to share additional stories, photos or other information regarding our regional heritage

☐ ...to help the NHA effort in other ways

Your name and contact information:

Name _____

E-mail _____

Telephone _____

Mail Address _____

Please return this form to:

 ST. CROIX VALLEY FOUNDATION

St Croix Valley Foundation
c/o Jill Shannon
516 Second Street, Suite 214
Hudson, WI 54016
phone 715.386.9490
fax 715.386.1250
jshannon@scvfoundation.org

Written Comments from Feedback Forms

I came to this meeting because...	My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is...	The most likely benefit of a NHA to my community or my organization is...
<i>I'm interested in the project. Marilyn did not make me attend.</i>	<i>Very Favorable</i>	<i>Groups/Organizations that promote and tell the stories of the area. The area itself in catering to people interested in such history and activities.</i>
<i>I love national parks, historic areas, and all areas designated by the federal government.</i>	<i>Great! Thank You!</i>	<i>tourism</i>
<i>If I didn't, Marilyn would take all my beads away :)</i>	<i>Great idea. Will really be an important organizing mechanism to help the area tell the story of this place.</i>	<i>---</i>
<i>---</i>	<i>very positive</i>	<i>---</i>
<i>It sounded interesting</i>	<i>Good Idea</i>	<i>National recognition</i>
<i>Friends encouraged us to attend</i>	<i>Positive</i>	<i>---</i>
<i>Interest in Area</i>	<i>Lots of work, will watch for future info</i>	<i>Knowledge on larger scale</i>
<i>it was being held at Forts Folle Avoine</i>	<i>I had no idea</i>	<i>It will bring tourists and economic development to the area. Also local people will learn more about the area.</i>
<i>I wanted to and I wouldn't take Jean's beads away!!!</i>	<i>This is a GREAT THING</i>	<i>Tourism - National & International attention</i>
<i>I am interested in Partnerships between Historical Organizations & Business Organizations</i>	<i>Positive- Partnerships are important</i>	<i>More visitors to learn about the history of Burnett County</i>
<i>Paul Cunliffe invited me & he thought it was important</i>	<i>Worthwhile if it isn't financially draining</i>	<i>More awareness nation-wide of our site.</i>
<i>to learn</i>	<i>xxxx positive</i>	<i>National visibility</i>
<i>It helps the community</i>	<i>Let's Get it Done!</i>	<i>Branding - Ec. Dev</i>
<i>I'm interest in history and this area</i>	<i>I think it is a good idea.</i>	<i>Educating and drawing people to this area.</i>
<i>Interest</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>---</i>

Local & Regional Distinctiveness

Participants were asked to give answers to two questions. Recorded below are a tally of themes identified in answers, then full transcriptions of participant answers (following pages).

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

- 2 Fishing
- 2 Water Recreation
- 1 Jordan Buck
- 1 Diversity of Land Uses
- 1 Tranquility
- 1 Blueberries
- 1 Lifestyle
- 1 Wild Rice
- 1 Climate
- 1 Gateway to Upper Midwest
- 1 Fur Trade
- 1 "Lost" tribe
- 1 Artists
- 1 Hunting
- 1 Tourism
- 1 Natural Areas
- 1 Farming
- 1 Seasonal Population

Blue Card Question:

What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?

- 7 Lakes & Rivers
- 4 St. Croix Scenic Riverway
- 4 Historic "Highway" of Regional Development
- 3 Forts Folle Avoine
- 3 Wildlife
- 3 Forest Tourism
- 3 Fur Trade

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

- good recreation lakes
- easy access to Minneapolis; swimming, cross country skiing, canoeing
- Lumbering
- Gateway to upper Midwest; 1679 explored Duluth, open travel to area
- Logging
- Voyageur history
- This area is special to me is the hunting, fishing, & trapping culture. And that it is still a vibrant part of the culture.
- Artists from entire watershed area
- St. Croix Nat'l Scenic Riverway
- Access to a special river - St. Croix National Scenic River
- Burnett Dairy
- Crex Meadows Wildlife Area & Fish Lake Wildlife Area
- Webster is known as the "Fish Bowl"
- Forts Folle Avoine
- Sandy soil north and west more fertile soil (for crops) south and east
- style - people - tree cover - climate - Rice - Unique
- Immediate area special - Woodlands, wild flowers, Wildlife - tranquility
- 1. Big Yellow Lake - record sturgeon, numerous species of fish 2. The Forts - unique to the area & country of 2 side-by-side Fur Trading Posts, restored on exact footprint of original 3. Yellow Lake, Little Yellow & Yellow River - about the longest chain for canoeing.
- Jordan Buck
- Forts Folle Avoine Historic Site - Restored 1802-1804 Fur Posts on exact site & reconstructed exactly as they were then.
- Sand - Lakes - Rivers - Blueberries - Lake - summer life
- Fur trading & the voyageurs that discovered the area
- The "Lost" Tribe
- Settlers in the Sterling Sand Barrens
- The most seasonal residents population grows from 17K in summer to twice that
- Natural Areas with access (Dalles, NPS, Ice Age Trail, Gandy Dancer, Canoeing, State Parks, many trails, St. Croix Falls)
- Burnett Dairy Coop & Cheese Store - Winner of Nat'l cheese comp.
- Tourism - Logging - Forest - Lakes- Wildlife
- There's still some wild land
- diversity of land uses
- Forts Folle Avoine
- Crex Meadows + Northwest Sands Region
- An actual thriving dairy (Burnett) in this time of dwindling local farmers
- The age of the area, people came from Smoland in Sweden

Blue Card Question:

What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?

- *Forts Folle Avoine*
- *The Forts - only place in USA with 2 Fur Trading Posts reconstructed on actual footprints of side-by-side posts. The river is site of early Fur Trade in Midwest.*
- *Forts Folle Avoine*
- *Forests - Tourism*
- *Great Tourist Areas*
- *Lakes, Rivers, Forests*
- *abundance of lakes and rivers*
- *St. Croix National Scenic Riverway*
- *Scenic Waterway*
- *St. Croix Region special*
- *Crex Meadows & Fish Lake Wildlife Area: primitive - historical- wildlife*
- *Logging & Fur Trading industry along the Brule & St. Croix River Route*
- *the rich fur trade history*
- *The Riverway was a highway for trading, fur harvesting & lumbering. Now it is for recreation.*
- *Gateway to Upper Mississippi Area. 1654 Radisson Couderay explored*
- *voyageur history*
- *Highway of development of the area*
- *All the farms*
- *scenic beauty - outdoor sports - thriving agriculture - art education in a mix of cultures European & Native*
- *Historical travel south from Europe to Duluth for early development of this northern area.*
- *Burnett Dairy Coop & Farming in Burnett County*
- *Gaylord Nelson*
- *The rural culture and way of life.*
- *a major tributary of this Mississippi*
- *It's the link between the Great Lakes and the Great River*
- *The "Lost" tribe*
- *Transition zone between Hardwoods and Conifer creating a unique habitat for animals*
- *Outstanding natural areas of preservation, yet proximity to major metro area.*
- *All Canoeing Rivers are compared to the Namekagon - some are as good none better*
- *Forts Folle Avoine*

Stories: Records from Story Circles

The following summaries and lists were gained through roundtable discussions where participants were asked, in turn, to respond to the following three questions/scenarios. *Important note:* These are transcriptions of hand-written notes taken by table facilitators during the story circle exercise at the workshop. The accuracy of the names, dates and locations represented as fact have not been confirmed, as they are merely the informal paraphrasing of participants' oral stories.

Round 1: *Imagine you'll be visited by a dear friend or relative from outside the Midwest or even from outside the country. You have time to share with them only one activity, tradition, place, or community or family event important to you...describe it and where it would be.*

Round 2: *Why is this important?*

Round 3: *Share more about the origins, details or lesser known facts.*

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
230.	<i>Historic Grantsburg</i>	Historic Grantsburg tells the story of 'boom towns. There is a historic home there from 1895, a home market, hotels and Crex Meadows (popular for birding).	Logging Industry. history. Tourism. Birding.
231.		We go paddling on the river to share geology, cultural and economic history. There was a geological dig at Nelsons landing (carbon layer 300-500 BC) and a copper mine which has been well documented by local historians. This was a sacred place to native people.	Geology. Nelsons Landing. Copper mines. Native histories.
232.		The speaker worked in 'morale' for the army and knows that social recreation and the ability to relax and unwind is very important. She spoke of paddling and fishing on the Namekagon trail to Riverside for a picnic. She noted that a touch of nature can help a visitor with balance, recreation, distress and understand how nature influences their lives.	Recreation. Relaxation. Fishing. Namekagon River. Paddling.
233.	<i>Forts Folle Avoine</i>	Forts Folle Avoine Historical Park is located near Danbury, Wisconsin on 80 wooded acres along the Yellow River. The park is a living history site with fur trade posts reconstructed at the actual site known to be active from 1802 to 1805. The speaker discussed how the rivers had been used as a highway when the area benefitted from world trade.	Waterways. Trade. Local History. Fur trade
234.		Glaciers and a low population have made this area unique as a pristine environment. We like to spend a day at Bass Lake or on the Namekagon River	Rivers. Nature. Bass Lake. Namekagon River
235.	<i>Earth Day Founder</i>	Gaylord Nelson is recognized internationally as the founder of Earth Day was born in River Falls and grew up in Clear Lake WI	Earth Day

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
236.		The European population used Duluth as a major point of entry locally (settlements came from the north)	
237.		The area is known for its co-op history. This county was an inter-county leader. the first co-op was in Denmark, Luck.	Co-ops
238.	<i>Historic Portage</i>	An historic Native American portage between St Croix River and Yellow Lake highlights a way of life of early people and how they got around. During dredging a few years ago birch bark canoes were discovered there - Yellow lake used to be a prolific wild rice lake.	River ways. Native histories. Wild Rice. Canoes. Portages.
239.	<i>Birth of the Green Movement</i>	This region was not only the birthplace of Gaylord Nelson but also the movement that he set forth- Earth Day and the Green Movement. The storyteller mentioned the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, NPS designation of Apostle Islands and St Croix National Scenic Riverway.	Gaylord Nelson. Protected places. Green Movement. Earth Day. Rivers. Nature
240.		Transportation and the movement of people through this area were very important. There was a stage coach relay station and steam ships would come here from St Paul. This was the gateway to early settlements. The Stagecoach Company of St Paul got the right to carry mail from Sunrise Minnesota to Bayfield Wisconsin. Early bridges charged a toll.	Transportation
241.	<i>Forts Folle Avoine</i>	Forts Folle Avoine is unique in that it is two competing fur trade posts within 100 yards of each other. The sites also chart Native histories. They now stand as two reconstructed fur trade posts on those footprints. The original buildings were lost to forest fire but charred remains are still there.	Fur trade. Forts Folle Avoine



Wisconsin Great Northern, Spooner Train Ride
Photo: <http://www.washburncounty.org>

Washburn County Wisconsin

EVENT RECORD

Heritage Discovery Workshop (#7)

Compiled by Jeff Schommer, Paul Anderton & Peter Musty of Creative Community Builders; last updated on July 12, 2012.

April 18, 2012 – The Washburn County Heritage Discovery Workshop (held at Jersey's Ballroom & Event Center in Spooner, Wisconsin) was one of ten held in early 2012 throughout eleven counties in Minnesota and Wisconsin that are located in the St. Croix River watershed. *(See map to the right.)* The intent of the workshops was to:

- provide information and conversation about the St. Croix region's Heritage Initiative and National Heritage Areas (NHA); and
- identify stories and places that define the St. Croix River region.

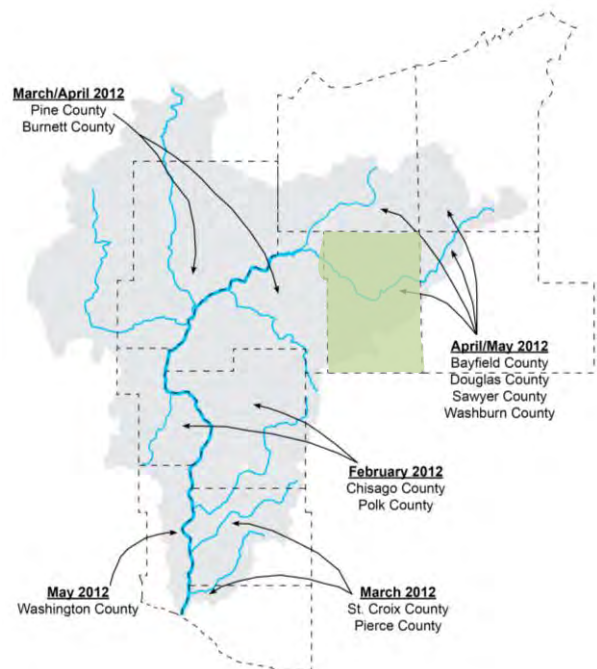
This document contains a record of the event, contributing to a collective database developed and managed by St. Croix Valley Foundation and their Heritage Initiative Task Force on behalf of all eleven counties. Each workshop created opportunities for participants to share:

- their reactions and opinions about National Heritage Areas;

- their opinions about what makes their community special in the region, and why the St. Croix region is unique in the nation;
- a story about a place, event or tradition in the region important to them.

The records from all the workshops have been published via the Heritage Initiative's website: www.stcroixheritage.org, and will be shared with community leaders to illustrate community response to this workshop. The information collected will be used in three other ways within the Heritage Initiative:

- a) to determine the big themes and the broad stories shared across the watershed;
- b) to help inform the upcoming Regional Summits that will be held in the Fall of 2012;
- c) as a foundation of information for a written document that might be the basis for Congressional designation as a National Heritage Area, if that outcome is what communities throughout the watershed desire.



Thank You...

Participating Washburn County Sponsors and Supporting Organizations

Washburn County Tourism Association

Spoooner Area Chamber of Commerce

Jersey's Ballroom and Event Center

Washburn County Volunteers

* Aaron Arf, * Kathy Bartilson,

* John Haack, * Michelle Voight

Workshop Team

* Marty Harding (Board Member of St Croix Valley
Foundation & Heritage Initiative Task Force Chair)

Task Force Members

Alyssa Auten, Kathy Bartilson, Julie Galonska,

Sam Griffith, John Lennes, Ann Moonen,

* Bill Neuman, * Danette Olsen, Scott Peterson,

Tangi Schaapveld, * Jean Schaeppi, Margaret Smith,

Chris Stein, John Velin

St Croix Valley Foundation

Jane Stevenson, President

* Jill Shannon, Director of Community Outreach

Jonathan Moore, Heritage Coordinator

Facilitation Team

Creative Community Builders

Tom Borrup (co-lead)

Peter Musty (co-lead)

Paul Anderton

* Carol Ahlgren

Jeffrey Bruce, FASLA

Robert Claybaugh, AIA

Frank Edgerton Martin

Danette Olsen

* Jeff Schommer

Harry Waters Jr

* - (present at this workshop)

Pages 3-4

National Heritage Area: Opinions & Reactions Feedback Forms

Pages 5-7

Regional and National Distinctiveness Note Card Questions

Pages 8-10

Stories Records from Story Circles



National Heritage Areas: Opinions & Reactions

The table (following pages) is a record of written comments transcribed from feedback forms each participant was asked to fill out at the end of the workshop.

20

participants were present
at the workshop

862

total years
they have lived or worked
in the St. Croix region

The Heritage Initiative



THANK YOU for your FEEDBACK on the following:

I came to this meeting because:

My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is:

The most likely benefit of an NHA to my organization or my community is:

I am willing: (Please check all that apply.)

☐ ...to help host a public meeting

☐ ...to contact people in my community to encourage their attendance

☐ ...to share additional stories, photos or other information regarding our regional heritage

☐ ...to help the NHA effort in other ways

Your name and contact information:

Name _____

E-mail _____

Telephone _____

Mail Address _____

Please return this form to:

 ST. CROIX VALLEY FOUNDATION

St Croix Valley Foundation
c/o Jill Shannon
516 Second Street, Suite 214,
Hudson, WI 54016
phone 715.386.9490
fax 715.386.1250
jshannon@scvfoundation.org

Written Comments from Feedback Forms

I came to this meeting because...	My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is...	The most likely benefit of a NHA to my community or my organization is...
<i>I was asked and I think it's important</i>	<i>Great idea! needs to happen so we don't lose our heritage</i>	<i>tourism & preserving our heritage</i>
<i>Interested in the NHA Initiative</i>	<i>would be extremely beneficial for this area</i>	<i>economic growth via tourism</i>
<i>I care about connecting our community together & sharing our experiences amongst ourselves & with the world</i>	<i>Great! Amazing!</i>	<i>Economic Growth - preserve our nature resources also. Enjoyment of other resources not known before. Pass on the wisdom to future generations.</i>
<i>It was suggested to me by a co-worker</i>	<i>Good idea, as long as can be kept from turning entire area into a tourist trap.</i>	<i>Increased visitation to our natural resources.</i>
<i>I was curious</i>	<i>I think that it is a great way to work together as a region</i>	<i>hopefully get more exposure and visitors</i>
<i>I wanted to get a better understanding of what a National Heritage Area is - accomplished</i>	<i>Positive - worry about more exploitation of our natural resources</i>	<i>awareness - more visitors</i>
<i>I wanted to know more</i>	<i>Great!</i>	<i>increased tourism</i>
<i>I represent a small nonprofit museum</i>	<i>It seems rather Eurocentric. You can't talk about heritage without native input.</i>	<i>It will preserve the public lands and waters & promote tourism instead of exploitation</i>
<i>I am very interested in this initiative. The partnership between businesses & culture is critical for economic development</i>	<i>very much needed</i>	<i>More visitors to our area which will promote our businesses & museums</i>
<i>I want to see this effort succeed & I wanted to hear our local input</i>	<i>Yes! It's one more tool to help protect the resources & features we cherish</i>	<i>A national designation highlighting how special our area is.</i>
<i>to learn more and participate</i>	<i>Honestly, I was not completely sold, but after tonight I'm completely sold.</i>	<i>Recognize this nationally important place</i>
<i>I am interested in the history of the area</i>	<i>good</i>	<i>Expansion of the total history of the area & its impact on the national scene.</i>

Local & Regional Distinctiveness

Participants were asked to give answers to two questions. Recorded below are a tally of themes identified in answers, then full transcriptions of participant answers (following pages).

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

- 7 Shell Lake
- 7 Spooner
- 4 Rice Lake
- 3 Geographic References
- Life Style

Blue Card Question:

What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?

- 9 Natural Resources
- 8 History - Tribal, French, Fur Trade
- 7 Industries - logging, mining, railroad
- ? Geology

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

- The rock formations & potholes within the MN State Park
- Spooner: The development of logging & railroads in Spooner supported my family for 5 generations. The riverway & railroads made the --- --- ---(?)
- Source of the St. Croix River part of Northwest Sands area (transitional prairie)
- Spooner's history - as a railroad center, RR museum, now undeveloped trails on RR ROWs.
- Quantity & Quality of the lakes & rivers
- French arrived at same time as Ojibwe - interesting history. Virginal & local.
- People love and respect nature - lakes, animals, outdoor recreation
- Bringing in people to enjoy a density of natural beauty and recreation.
- Isolated small lakes (the reason for moving here.)
- small, wild and remote (compared with metro area)
- Native Americans , use for ricing and maple syrup
- Immigrants who came for railroads esp. Italians
- Rice Lake Area/Blue Hills -- timber industry
- Rice Lake/Blue Hills – Felsenmeer Deposit
- Rice Lake/Blue Hills - oldest mountain range in North America - higher than Rockies in the past.
- Crossroads for regional traffic for all purposes w/HWY 53, 63, 70
- Historic -train- downtown - highways
- Northern fringe of Agriculture
- Spooner shows up on the Wikipedia "cougar " page
- Spooner - largest musky fish hatchery in the world. Started in the early 1900's - like 1920's
- World's largest Musky fish hatchery
- Spooner - Spooner Lake & Yellow River flowage created as a result of damming Yellow River for early hydro power.
- Spooner - 1893 St. Croix - Lumber Co. log draw down the Yellow River.
- Spooner Railroad
- Spooner - Railroad Hub for northern railroad expansion. Chicago, St. Paul, & Omaha Railroad, subsequently named Chicago & Northwestern R.R.
- Shell Lake - Washburn Co. Hist. Museum
- Shell Lake - Lumber Industry
- Shell Lake - the lake
- Shell Lake high quality lake recreation, large, clear lake supports multiple/diverse water recreation.
- Shell Lake Boat Building
- Shell Lake - Peterson & Shell Lake Boats
- Shell Lake Canoe Co.
- Pacwawong
- Fort Folle Avoine

Blue Card Question:**What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?**

- Indian heritage - Fur Trade
- Tribal Culture & importance of outdoor recreation with lakes & rivers
- St. Croix - Namekagon River System
- Height of the land surrounding the St. Croix watershed
- Weyerhaeuser started in this region
- History of logging & mining (Building the Nation)
- Because we live here in a very historical area. Fur trade - Native Americans - Logging - Agriculture
- Contribution to building America with timber
- Old History of Building the Nation w/ logging, rail, etc.
- lakes, rivers
- Area lakes, rivers, hunting
- Woods, Water & Wildlife: people came here for these resources & we still do.
- The high quality water resources: lakes, rivers are globally unique as a concentration of glacial lakes & rivers
- Riverways w/o man-made diversions
- Watershed is junction of Great Lakes forest and western tall grass prairie combined w/large rivers in intensely important area to native peoples.
- Diversity of water resources that have shaped the history through today.
- The quaintness of the place with the potholes, the canoeing, the friendly nature of the people in the downtown area to where you are able to walk from the highway to see a variety - rushing river, calm lake & green trees.
- Railroad/Timber/Wilderness tradition
- European exploration of upper Midwest region -- Timber/Logging industry
- we supplied the nation with the raw resources i.e. lumber, waterways, transportation
- Rich Native American history in connection to the riverways

Stories: Records from Story Circles

The following summaries and lists were gained through roundtable discussions where participants were asked, in turn, to respond to the following three questions/scenarios. *Important note:* These are transcriptions of hand-written notes taken by table facilitators during the story circle exercise at the workshop. The accuracy of the names, dates and locations represented as fact have not been confirmed, as they are merely the informal paraphrasing of participants' oral stories.

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Round 2: *Why is this important?*

Round 3: *Share more about the origins, details or lesser known facts.*

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
242.	Fish fry	The fish fry is a regional tradition	Fish fry. Fishing. Food
243.		Downtown Spooner is an historic Downtown. "It's all very real with lots of history". It's not tourist oriented.	local history.
244.		The storyteller enjoys having guests stay at her house so they can enjoy the wildlife and birds together there.	Wildlife.
245.		There are old railroad tracks all over this area. They have now been turned into some amazing trails.	Old railroads. Trails.
246.		The Lake Superior Visitors Center is out of the Watershed area but tells the story of this region excellently.	Tourism.
247.		The waters of this region are so important. The storyteller would like to take visitors on the rivers to show the history of the area and to learn more about the ecology and nature of the area.	Rivers.
248.		Stone Lake Cranberry Festival is a very unique festival.	Cranberry growing. Stone Lake Cranberry Festival
249.		Sawmill Park and other areas have been shaped by glacial activity. "Natural history is important here"	Natural History. Glaciers
250.		The storyteller spoke of canoeing on the river at dawn at Gordon to Riverside. They like to spend 3 days on the river fishing, camping and enjoying nature. They see bear, deer etc..	Camping. Rivers. Fishing. Wildlife.
251.		"This area was about the LCO Tribal Powwow. The colors.. the dancing"	Native American Culture
252.		The Friday night fish fry is part of the culture here in this region. It gets	Fish fry.

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
		families together to socialize.	
253.		The storyteller grew up in Jack Pines. Fishing bullheads from Potato Creek. Crows had a 15c bounty on their heads. One dog got a 60c check.	Fishing. Hunting.
254.		The storyteller hosted a German exchange student and together they went on the water to ski, boat and swim. Shell Lake has amazing water quality. You can sail there too. It's very clear and perfect for all outdoor recreation. There used to be an old sawmill there and still to this day remnants of old logs surface.	Lakes. Water sports. Logging.
255.		Kayaking on the rivers to see wildlife.	Kayaking. Wildlife.
256.		"You can canoe from Whispering Pines to Howell in 1.5 hours. It's amazing because there are no buildings. "	
257.		The storyteller married a local person. They feel that people here don't realize how lucky they are to have nature all around them. There is a difference between the industrial rivers and the pristine wild rivers of this area.	Rivers. Wildlife.
258.		A 1914 geological survey neglected to include this area but there are so many resources - geological history, lakes, rivers, glacial till, the Blue Hills, quartzite.	Geology.
259.	Public land.	The fact that this area has so much public land with a right to roam here is very special. A legal framework has made the waters public. There is enough shared land that it has impacted local culture.	Rivers. Public land.
260.		LCO, Lac de Flambeau is a pre-white settlement of the Chippewa Tribes.	Native American Settlements
261.		The storyteller loves to explore the lakes and rivers of Washburn County as it tells the best story of the area. There are so many museums here that tell the story of tribes, fur traders, loggers and natural beauty. Birchwood Area Museum, Howard Moreys Homestead, Birchwood and Spooner Railroad and Canoe Museum were all mentioned.	Rivers and lakes. trade. Loggers. Natural Beauty. Birchwood Area Museum, Howard Moreys Homestead, Birchwood and Spooner Railroad and Canoe Museum
262.		The storyteller would take a visitor around Spooner Lake to see eagles, loons, muskrats, and otters for about an hour on a pontoon. Kayaking down the Namekagon from Earl to Trego or further to experience the solitude in nature.	Nature. Rivers and lakes.
263.		The railroad was the core of this community at one time. 50 or 60 years ago when trains were at their peak about 300 people worked for the local railroad and got passes to travel wherever they wanted.	Railroads.
264.	Boat Manufacturing	There was boat manufacturing on Shell Lake. Washburn County Historical Society tells the story of Shell Lake Boats/Peterson Boats which were manufactured there until the 1950s. The boats were of such good quality they became too expensive.	Boat manufacturing.
265.		Brule St Croix portage trail is 2 miles long. On the upper part of Lake Namekagon there is a dam and another at Upper St Croix.	Portages and Dams. Geology. Rivers and lakes.

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
266.		Kayaking, paddleboat riding, potholing at Taylors Falls Marine, Obrien, Franconia. It's unique here. One can find a spiritual energy and independence.	Kayaking. Paddleboats. Potholing. Geology. Nature.
267.		"We're lucky to live here. There's an abundance of lakes and rivers. There's something very special here".	Rivers and lakes.
268.		Wild Rice - Early summer; explained how it is grown, processed, history, environmental significance. History - cause of conflict between Ojibwe and Sioux. Battle on Red Cedar Lake over wild rice. It was a food source for the fur traders-North West Company... As important as Fur... It sustained them. Currently it is a sentinel for water quality, land stewardship. Indicator of water quality.	Native culture. Wild Rice.
269.		I like to take visitors tubing, canoeing on Namekagon, hot July with cooler of beer	Tubing. Rivers. Beer. Namekagon River
270.		Washburn County Historical Museum in Shell Lake. A lot of exhibits about Washburn - watch building (used to look for Japanese and Koreans during WWII and Korean War; 1 room schoolhouse; Civil War jacket/military uniforms, Early Lumber, history of Shell Lake boat works	Washburn County Historical Museum. Shell Lake.
271.		The Totagatic River is pristine and untouched.	Totagatic River. Rivers. Nature.
272.		Blue Hills are excellent for hunting, fishing, history and geography.	Hunting. Fishing. local History. Geology.
273.		Pipestone quarry (location not public) - Pipestone is the only stone that can be carved. Traded across the country by native Americans. Blue Hills are the oldest mountain range in the country (but eroded due to glaciation). National Lumber Hall of Fame will tell the story of hard wood lumbering in the region. Felsenmeer deposit (mineral that feels cold?)	Geology. Quarries.



National Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame
Photo: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hayward,_Wisconsin

Sawyer & Bayfield Counties Wisconsin

EVENT RECORD

Heritage Discovery Workshop (#8)

Compiled by Jeff Schommer, Paul Anderton & Peter Musty of Creative Community Builders; last updated on July 12, 2012.

April 21, 2012 – The Sawyer and Bayfield counties Heritage Discovery Workshop (held at The Sawmill Saloon in Seeley, Wisconsin) was one of ten held in early 2012 throughout eleven counties in Minnesota and Wisconsin that are located in the St. Croix River watershed. *(See map to the right.)* The intent of the workshops was to:

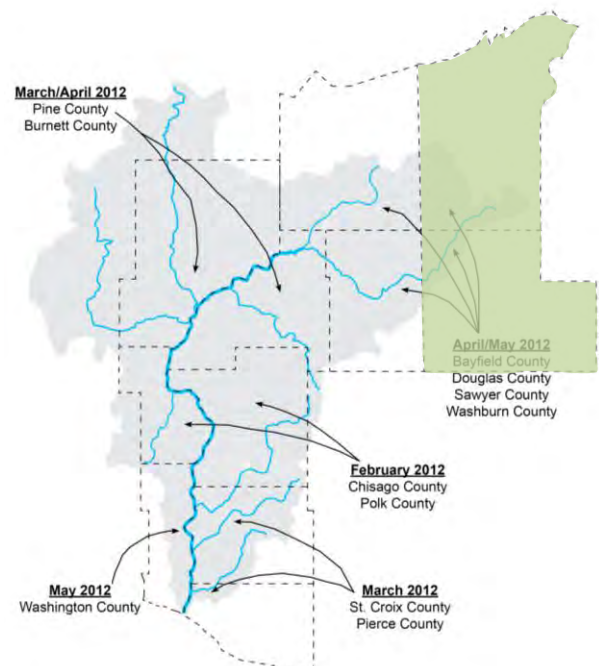
- provide information and conversation about the St. Croix region's Heritage Initiative and National Heritage Areas (NHA); and
- identify stories and places that define the St. Croix River region.

This document contains a record of the event, contributing to a collective database developed and managed by St. Croix Valley Foundation and their Heritage Initiative Task Force on behalf of all eleven counties. Each workshop created opportunities for participants to share:

- their reactions and opinions about National Heritage Areas;
- their opinions about what makes their community special in the region, and why the St. Croix region is unique in the nation;
- a story about a place, event or tradition in the region important to them.

The records from all the workshops have been published via the Heritage Initiative's website: www.stcroixheritage.org, and will be shared with community leaders to illustrate community response to this workshop. The information collected will be used in three other ways within the Heritage Initiative:

- a) to determine the big themes and the broad stories shared across the watershed;
- b) to help inform the upcoming Regional Summits that will be held in the Fall of 2012;
- c) as a foundation of information for a written document that might be the basis for Congressional designation as a National Heritage Area, if that outcome is what communities throughout the watershed desire.



Thank You...

Participating Sawyer and Bayfield Counties Sponsors and Supporting Organizations

Namekagon River Partnership
Cable Natural History Museum
Forest Lodge Public Library
Down to Earth Tours
Sawmill Saloon & Lenroot Lodge
Sawyer County Historical Society
Cable/Namekagon Historical Museum
Bayfield Regional Conservancy
Sawyer & Bayfield County Volunteers

**Gretchen Bell, *Mike Gardener, *Bill Hannaford,
*Jane Harper, *Kristine Lendved, *Deb Malessevech,
*Scott Peterson, *Deb Proctor, *David Thorson*

Workshop Team

*Marty Harding (Board Member of St Croix Valley
Foundation & Heritage Initiative Task Force Chair)*

Task Force Members

*Alyssa Auten, Kathy Bartilson, Julie Galonska,
Sam Griffith, John Lennes, Ann Moonen,
* Bill Neuman, * Danette Olsen, Scott Peterson,
Tangi Schaapveld, * Jean Schaeppi, Margaret Smith,
Chris Stein, * John Velin*

St Croix Valley Foundation

*Jane Stevenson, President
Jill Shannon, Director of Community Outreach
* Jonathan Moore, Heritage Coordinator*

Facilitation Team

Creative Community Builders

*Tom Borrup (co-lead)
* Peter Musty (co-lead)
Paul Anderton
Carol Ahlgren
Jeffrey Bruce, FASLA
Robert Claybaugh, AIA
Frank Edgerton Martin
Danette Olsen
* Jeff Schommer
Harry Waters Jr*

** - (present at this workshop)*

Pages 3-4

National Heritage Area: Opinions & Reactions Feedback Forms

Pages 5-7

Regional and National Distinctiveness Note Card Questions

Pages 8-10

Stories Records from Story Circles

National Heritage Areas: Opinions & Reactions

The table (following pages) is a record of written comments transcribed from feedback forms each participant was asked to fill out at the end of the workshop.

18
participants were present
at the workshop

660
total years
they have lived or worked
in the St. Croix region

The Heritage Initiative

*Many WATERS
Many STORIES*

THANK YOU for your FEEDBACK on the following:

I came to this meeting because:

My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is:

The most likely benefit of an NHA to my organization or my community is:

I am willing: (Please check all that apply.)

☐ ...to help host a public meeting

☐ ...to contact people in my community to encourage their attendance

☐ ...to share additional stories, photos or other information regarding our regional heritage

☐ ...to help the NHA effort in other ways

Your name and contact information:

Name _____

E-mail _____

Telephone _____

Mail Address _____

Please return this form to:

 ST. CROIX VALLEY FOUNDATION

St Croix Valley Foundation
c/o Jill Shannon
516 Second Street, Suite 214
Hudson, WI 54016
phone 715.386.9490
fax 715.386.1250
jshannon@scvfoundation.org

Written Comments from Feedback Forms

I came to this meeting because...	My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is...	The most likely benefit of a NHA to my community or my organization is...
<i>I'm interested in this N.H.A. designation for our area</i>	<i>positive</i>	<i>cultural enhancement</i>
<i>To learn more about the initiative.</i>	<i>Favorable</i>	<i>Increased tourism</i>
<i>personal & business interest</i>	<i>very positive</i>	<i>awareness</i>
<i>Interest in regional history - wilderness preservation - importance of region in national - international history</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>---</i>
<i>Love of the River</i>	<i>Good potential</i>	<i>Potential to inspire respect for nature</i>
<i>Interested in being involved, More info.</i>	<i>Great/positive</i>	<i>---</i>
<i>I have lived most of my lifetime in the study area, and have deep connection to the resources of the area.</i>	<i>Positive, especially if our project area receiving designation leads to funding for assisting local school districts in their providing field trip opportunities for students.</i>	<i>Increased support for interp and education activities, for all types of organizations, to build a legacy of understanding and appreciation.</i>
<i>I love the Namekagon River, but since I'm "new" to the area I'm looking for ways to feel more connected to this place, as well as be of service to it.</i>	<i>Yes, but with a focus on present day activities & their impact - Protect today, to preserve the past...</i>	<i>A stronger sense of place for residents, and of course also tourism.</i>
<i>I'm interested in keeping information alive for people who want to know more about the great area we're concerned about & interested in.</i>	<i>It's a "must do" - esp. for posterity. It won't be done if your fine committee can't do this. (But you can!)</i>	<i>Connections</i>
<i>I am interested & also as a director of Cable-Nam Hist. Museum</i>	<i>More questions-- Theme- Logging History</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
<i>Hear the local historical stories</i>	<i>lots of work but well worth it.</i>	<i>The Sawyer County Lakes Forum should be in touch with this organization</i>
<i>I am curious of the process of becoming a National Heritage Area</i>	<i>Hell, Yes! our area is worthy!</i>	<i>Recognition & increased tourism</i>
<i>Interested. To honor Gaylord Nelson initiating Earth Day & Week</i>	<i>Good idea</i>	<i>more tourists</i>
<i>To learn of the Initiative & our rivers</i>	<i>Do It!</i>	<i>Increased communication creating better conservation & protection</i>

Local & Regional Distinctiveness

Participants were asked to give answers to two questions. Recorded below are a tally of themes identified in answers, then full transcriptions of participant answers (following pages).

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

- 8 Rivers: Namekagon, Brule, St. Croix, Headwaters, Portage Routes
- 5 Voyageurs History
- 4 Logging
- 3 Outdoor Tourism
- 2 Lumberjack Championships
- 2 Birkebeiner
- 2 Chequamegon National Forest

Blue Card Question:

What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?

- 3 Logging - lumber built the nation
- 3 Glacial Lakes - Geology
- 3 Travel of the River System
- 2 Native American History
- 2 Forests
- 2 Rivers
- 2 Wildlife
- 1 Namekagon
- 1 Wild-ness quality

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

National - Contribution to building the nation from its lumber 1839-1914

The variety & wealth of wilderness & outdoor activities for all -Namekagon River, Seely Hills, Memorial Forest, Silverthorne Lake, Hunter/Hiking trails/ski, etc.

The land and people living here past & present - Malefler Heritage (?)

Unique for shopping, museums and entertainment i.e. Birkie and Lumberjack World Championships

Immediate area – Special: Barnes - Solon Springs - Gordon. Headwaters - St. Croix - Logging history - economic impact.

Small town on river that is a natural treasure

1) the history of the use of the river corridors for cultural and economic purposes (tied to fur trading and logging industries)

HISTORY - Social, communities; Economic, logging fields back to trees; Racial, immigration, voyageurs; Philosophical.

1). Upper Nam. is unique, compared with lower; 2). My "immediate" area is Cable - Much USFS & county forest land plus large tracts of "wild" land make this "upper" area unique.

Special Region - Headwaters of the Namekagon

Community Vitality (Cable) & History of Name Ancient River Route, Railroad, hoboing & Tourism

Ongoing interest in and effort at having people participate in the great outdoors - sort of "hooking" them -

A Stunning Jewel to Protect

Special Region - on the main routes between L. Superior and Namekagon/St. Croix (the portages)

very strong shoreline regulations

Immed Area: Nam River - National Forest - Neighbors - Lake Namekagon

FOREST - Chequamegon National Forest, Brule, North Country Scenic Trail

Beginning of the Namekagon River

The big mill at Hayward

*MAJOR EVENTS THAT CELEBRATE OUR HISTORY.
Example: Lumberjack Championship, Birkie*

Blue Card Question:**What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?***Logging History*

National Difference - Less development has resulted in greater opportunity to experience "Wilderness" quality

Species diversity esp. Birds

There is only one. Woods, Waters, Rivers, Natural Formations

A drawing card for birds, animals & humans with water & land available

St. Croix Region - Woodland Indian Heritage - Midwest - Ojibwe, etc. (Neglected in US History - Regionally - NY etc. Iroquois - Mohawk etc. well known. S.E. Cherokee - 5 "civilized" tribes - history - lifestyle well known. Plains - Dakota, Cheyenne etc. well known because of most special of Indian culture - Indigenous peoples of St. Croix region VERY important culturally - historically - less well known.

St. Croix Region - Logging - economic impact

Rich history of early exploration (Native American & European

Historic Waterway connecting to Mississippi. Namekagon is wild & scenic river. Entire Riverway - though developed/settled - not ruined yet.

Natural History

The River System - 2) provided for early exploration by European citizens, expanding early settlement and westward expansion of European cultural influence.

Nature (most people call it God's country) and the four seasons.

Special USA - Largest concentration of glacial lakes in the country. The lakes are the sources of the rivers.

Travel ways = from water to land - natural resource - life stall.

local - Glacial & Geologic history

Distinctive because of the beautiful woods, rivers, lakes

Tourist Draws: Lumberjack Championship, Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame, Birkie

Turtle Portage Trail, "Heritage tourism" what incremental effect? Big difference between lower (down from St. Croix Falls) & Upper watershed.

Stories: Records from Story Circles

The following summaries and lists were gained through roundtable discussions where participants were asked, in turn, to respond to the following three questions/scenarios. *Important note:* These are transcriptions of hand-written notes taken by table facilitators during the story circle exercise at the workshop. The accuracy of the names, dates and locations represented as fact have not been confirmed, as they are merely the informal paraphrasing of participants' oral stories.

Round 1: *Imagine you'll be visited by a dear friend or relative from outside the Midwest or even from outside the country. You have time to share with them only one activity, tradition, place, or community or family event important to you...describe it and where it would be.*

Round 2: *Why is this important?*

Round 3: *Share more about the origins, details or lesser known facts.*

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
274.		Turtle Portage Trail runs between Lake Owen and Namekagon River. there is a big rock where the trail enters the river. You can experience the history of this route which was used by Native Americans, early settlers, explorers and fur traders as well as seeing a variety of landscapes.	Rivers and lakes. Portages. Natural beauty. Transportation.
275.		The Namekagon River is in the Fishing Hall of Fame. Big Muskie market here.	Fishing
276.		There is a military history in this area. H Company was a horse drawn artillery company put together at the beginning of the Civil War. The area was a location of a reserve unit and then into the National Guard. Wismer Range was used for shooting and target practice.	Military history.
277.		Moose Lake by Kayak. There are over 20 islands there. Moose Lake Legacy Project recorded trees and plants in and around the lake. It is part of the West Fork of Chippewa River.	Kayaking. Natural beauty.
278.		The storyteller's grandfather came from Norway and their grandmother from Sweden. Their father started Hayward Wood Products in the 1940s. The family shop and house is now over 100 years old.	Logging.
279.	Wild Rice	Wild rice grows in this region. There are rice beds along the river. Native Americans harvested here.	Wild rice. Rivers.
280.		There are old trapper routes (many of which have not been identified). Old wagon trails too can be found.	Local history. Fur trade. Transport.
281.		Canoe on the Namekagon River.	Canoeing.

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
282.		Clam Lake is an Elk reintroduction area. The species was almost lost.	Elk. Wildlife. Preservation
283.		The storyteller spoke of storytelling to visitors as they canoe down the Namekagon River. A journey from Hwy M to Phillipi Landing allows them to share stories on the river about the places they drift past. The trips inspire wonder and allow visitors to connect to nature. The trip takes about 2.5 hours.	Canoes. River. Local history. Tourism.
284.		A retired teacher likes to follow old logging camp and ice trails through this area. He's found dams along the way. A notable trip is from Cable to Seely. The trips allow him to connect to his own area and understand it better.	Logging. Ice trails. Hiking.
285.		The speaker talked about the Cable Natural History Museum and went on to talk about events and sites which bring in international interest including the North Country Trail (North Dakota to New York) and Birkebeiner (an international spectacle).	Cable Natural History Museum. North Country Trail. Birkebeiner.
286.		One of the most important things about this region is the preservation of natural assets and wildlife. The speaker has been hunting, fishing and bird watching since the age of four in the Willow River Valley. They remarked that local State Parks are valuable and here because people realized how important they are.	Hunting. Fishing. Birding. Wildlife. State Parks.
287.	<i>Wild Ricing!</i>	Wild ricing is integral to the life cycle of Native people and unique to this region. "I would like to take someone wild ricing because there is so much culture attached to wild rice (which is actually a grass, not a grain). The entire life cycle of Native people was connected to food sources like wild rice. William Aitkens wrote in his journal that a particular season yielded only 8 fawn skins of rice as opposed to 800 the previous year and that people were starving. Numbers of lakes are known for this, including 'Rice Lake'. Late August and early September is rice season. A store on the main street of Hayward offers samples of wild rice soup to tourists. It should also be noted that natural wild rice is a different strain from Californian wild rice."	Wild rice.
288.	<i>Walk in the Woods</i>	"I take my visitors walking in the woods on the roads around my house. I want them to see the wildlife and the experiences unique to this area. I like to get them outside to see otters, eagles, elk, wolves, deer, fox, and loons on the water. Muskies as wide as the dock."	Walking. Wildlife.
289.		Sawyer County Historical Museum tells the story of how Hayward comes to be. We have an 1875 dugout canoe carved from a single white pine log. The 'why' of people came here. Tools and implements associated with logging, lumber jack boots and a replica of a lumber bunk house can be seen.	Local history. Lumber. Sawyer County Historical Museum.
290.	<i>Lumber Made This Area</i>	"Lumber made this area and bred everything around here"	Lumber
291.		"13.5 billion board feet of lumber passed through the St Croix Boom Site."	Lumber

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sites / Landscapes ▪ Resources ▪ Living Traditions / Activities ▪ Languages / Foods Etc...
292.		Kayaking down the Namekagon River - the river is wadable and on a human scale.	Rivers. Namekagon. Kayaks.
293.		There are several things locals to represent Native culture. Church Reserve, an Ojibwe cemetery. Sawyer Country History Museum has Native American displays too.	Church Reserve
294.		American Birkebeiner is a large ski race.	Skiing.
295.		Ricing carries with it a fascinating culture.	Wild rice.
296.		There is a spot on the river south of Phillipi where you can canoe and camp. It's a beautiful serene spot where you can feel an affinity with the past.	Canoes. Camping. Rivers.
297.		This is a pioneer community where people have come to make a living out of the area by surviving here. There is a homestead near Seely which was built by a French person 113 years ago.	Pioneer community
298.		"There is a strong pride of place here. History is at the heart of that. "	Local history



Brule Bog Boardwalk. Photo: <http://www.northcountrytrail.org>

Douglas County Wisconsin

EVENT RECORD

Heritage Discovery Workshop (#9)

Compiled by Jeff Schommer, Paul Anderton & Peter Musty of Creative Community Builders; last updated on July 12, 2012.

May 12, 2012 – The Douglas County Heritage Discovery Workshop (held at the Solon Springs Community Center in Solon Springs, Wisconsin) was one of ten held in early 2012 throughout eleven counties in Minnesota and Wisconsin that are located in the St. Croix River watershed. *(See map to the right.)* The intent of the workshops was to:

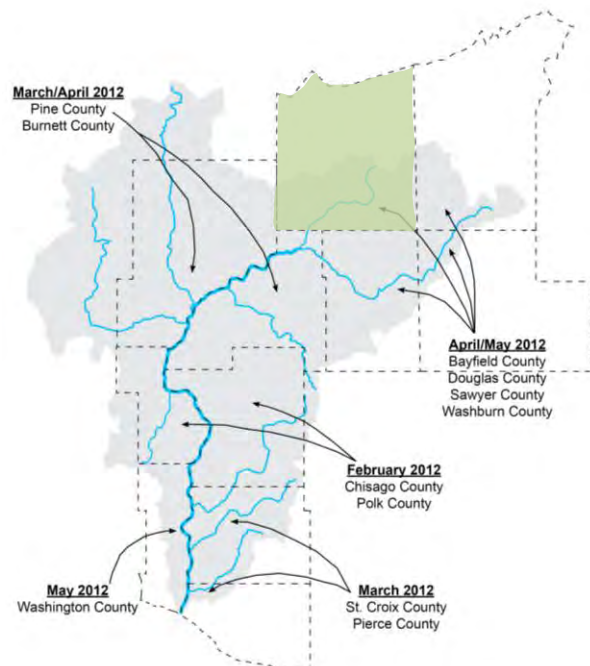
- provide information and conversation about the St. Croix region's Heritage Initiative and National Heritage Areas (NHA); and
- identify stories and places that define the St. Croix River region.

This document contains a record of the event, contributing to a collective database developed and managed by St. Croix Valley Foundation and their Heritage Initiative Task Force on behalf of all eleven counties. Each workshop created opportunities for participants to share:

- their reactions and opinions about National Heritage Areas;
- their opinions about what makes their community special in the region, and why the St. Croix region is unique in the nation;
- a story about a place, event or tradition in the region important to them.

The records from all the workshops have been published via the Heritage Initiative's website: www.stcroixheritage.org, and will be shared with community leaders to illustrate community response to this workshop. The information collected will be used in three other ways within the Heritage Initiative:

- a) to determine the big themes and the broad stories shared across the watershed;
- b) to help inform the upcoming Regional Summits that will be held in the Fall of 2012;
- c) as a foundation of information for a written document that might be the basis for Congressional designation as a National Heritage Area, if that outcome is what communities throughout the watershed desire.



Thank You...

Participating Sponsors and Supporting Organizations

Friends of the St. Croix Headwaters
Gordon-Wascott Historical Society
Upper St. Croix Lake Association
West Wisconsin Land Trust
Once Upon a Blue Moon
Solon Springs Community Center
Douglas County Volunteers
** Cathy Dahlberg, * Lloyd Dahlberg*

Workshop Team

Marty Harding (Board Member of St Croix Valley Foundation & Heritage Initiative Task Force Chair)

Task Force Members

*Alyssa Auten, Kathy Bartilson, * Julie Galonska,
Sam Griffith, John Lennes, Ann Moonen,
* Bill Neuman, * Danette Olsen, * Scott Peterson,
Tangi Schaapveld, Jean Schaeppi, Margaret Smith,
Chris Stein, John Velin*

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Jeffrey Bruce, FASLA
Robert Claybaugh, AIA
Frank Edgerton Martin
Danette Olsen
* Jeff Schommer
Harry Waters Jr*

** - (present at this workshop)*

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Regional and National Distinctiveness Note Card Questions

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14
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at the workshop

537
total years
they have lived or worked
in the St. Croix region

The Heritage Initiative

*St. Croix WATERS
Many STORIES*

THANK YOU for your FEEDBACK on the following:

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☐ ...to contact people in my community to encourage their attendance

☐ ...to share additional stories, photos or other information regarding our regional heritage

☐ ...to help the NHA effort in other ways

Your name and contact information:

Name _____

E-mail _____

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Mail Address _____

Please return this form to:

 ST. CROIX VALLEY FOUNDATION

St Croix Valley Foundation
c/o Jill Shannon
516 Second Street, Suite 214
Hudson, WI 54016
phone 715.386.6490
fax 715.386.1250
jshannon@scvfoundation.org

Written Comments from Feedback Forms

I came to this meeting because...	My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is...	The most likely benefit of a NHA to my community or my organization is...
<i>Watershed Protection and Heritage Preservation</i>	<i>Excellent idea, hope it continues to grow</i>	<i>my lifelong presence here</i>
<i>Of our area is so important because of the Eau Claire River meets with the St. Croix River in the town site of Gordon, Wisc.</i>	<i>I would like to see the Gordon-Wascott Historical Society be a part of this.</i>	<i>Interest in preservation</i>
<i>our friends/neighbors invitation and interest in our area</i>	<i>exciting opportunity</i>	<i>worldwide exposure</i>
<i>As Pres. of FOTSCH, I felt obligated ... but now I'm glad I came</i>	<i>Okay, but we don't want too many people "flooding" in.</i>	<i>Ultimate preservation of the watershed.</i>
<i>interest in preserving natural resources in the area</i>	<i>Well done. Good organization. Efficient & well thought out.</i>	<i>Help people consider carefully on-going development. Encourage wise use of natural resources. Educate kids.</i>
<i>A fellow Bird Sanctuary Board member, Scott Peterson, had sent me an email and it sounded very interesting.</i>	<i>I had no idea what this was, what it meant - not anything about it at all.</i>	<i>Economic perspectives are potentially huge.</i>
<i>Heritage - Natural Resources - Wildlife. Protect it for generations of people to come and enjoy.</i>	<i>Great - We have a lot to show case, make this a world class destination to visit.</i>	<i>Business in this North Country struggle (especially in Winter) this could give them a boost.</i>
<i>I knew Jill :) I love rivers & want to keep them all wild</i>	<i>Government intervention!! Is that what I want?</i>	<i>How well organized your presentation. Gave me a much better understand of what the Heritage Initiative all about. I loved the stories & learned a few new places I plan to explore</i>

Local & Regional Distinctiveness

Participants were asked to give answers to two questions. Recorded below are a tally of themes identified in answers, then full transcriptions of participant answers (following pages).

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

- 3 Wild-ness, undeveloped areas
- 2 Sand Barrens
- 2 Confluence of St. Croix, Eau Claire Rivers
- 2 Water Fowl / Bird Sanctuary
- 2 clear, clean water, lakes
- 2 Ojibwe people's history
- 1 Voyageurs
- 1 Big Trees
- 1 Continental Divide
- 1 European History
- 1 people
- 1 glacial soils
- 1 pure clean air
- 1 wild rice
- 1 Minong Flowage

Blue Card Question:

What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?

- 5 Connects Mississippi to Superior
- 3 Headwaters / Source of St. Croix
- 2 Wildlife (Birds) cranes warbler
- 2 History of Preservation
- 2 Explorers & Voyageurs
- 1 Logging/transport logs
- 1 Continental Divide
- 1 Rural / Urban mix
- 1 Not Commercialized
- 1 WI's first roadway

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

- *Minong Flowage - lake that was created in 1937 for recreational area especially fishing. Created by a dam*
- *wild rice in my backyard*
- *the area immediately around me: the waterfowl*
- *Barrens habitats*
- *Air is pure - and sounds are mostly wild (during 9 months at least ...)*
- *soil formed on the glacial spillway of the St. Croix River*
- *continental watershed boundary between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi*
- *BIG Trees*
- *PEOPLE*
- *Our Original Americans (Ojibwe nations)*
- *Family (Euro) here since after Civil War. Indigenous family here in area much longer.*
- *Family (Euro) here since after Civil War. Indigenous family here in area much longer.*
- *Family (Euro) here since after Civil War. Indigenous family here in area much longer.*
- *1. Confluence of Eau Claire and St. Croix Rivers at Gordon, WI. 2. Clean, clear sand lakes 3. Sand Barrens at Bird Sanctuary (Solon Area): 4,000 acres 4. Brule-St. Croix historic portage*
- *The first drops of water that trickle into Lake St. Croix spill over rocks and waterfalls from one community to another ... enabling agriculture, industry and recreation along the way.*
- *Wild yet close to world-class metro areas - for ed. med, entemt lake Superior, etc.*
- *We are the headwaters of the St. Croix Riverway System!*
- *Clear & cold waters (spring, streams, lake ... more)*
- *Headwaters of St. Croix and Eau Claire Rivers. protect the History of*
- *The joining of the Eau Claire River and the St. Croix River is one of the distinctive reasons Gordon should be recognized as special.*
- *Undeveloped - natural areas*

Blue Card Question:

What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?

- Not Commercialized
- 1. The St. Croix River was so instrumental in floating/moving the logs to Stillwater bringing in lots of employment. Gordon at one time had two hotels and one boarding house. 2. Gordon had an Indian village here long before Gordon and it was called Amik (meaning beaver).
- The early explorers came through the Great Lakes until they discovered the Headwaters of the St. Croix on their way to finding the Mississippi waterway.
- Kirkland's Warbler federally listed habitat / pair
- 1. Fresh water resource: estuary of Lake Superior. 2. Wild Scenic Rivers area: example of preservation of river resources. 3. Unique wildlife resources Sandhill cranes
- Starts out so rural & moves through successively more urban areas.
- North-South continental divide - Brule - other rivers flow north - St. Croix flows south
- The source of St. Croix River and Eau Claire River. Historically needs protection and keep from harmful development. Need setbacks enforced when development.
- The number of rivers that flow through our areas that end up in the Mississippi River
- We are a destination to come to, with all its Heritage (i.e. - Grand Canyon) and our access is easier
- St. Croix special to nation: One of WI's first roadways
- It connects the top borders of our country from Lk Superior to the gulf.
- Connects North to Lake Superior & GL system to Atlantic & South to Mississippi & Gulf - uniquely connected area.
- Water highway & travel arterial since last Glacial period ended (Cappee Culture) to present (Indig. people(?) to Euro settlers)
- Headwaters of the St. Croix / Mississippi
- The purity of the Headwaters

Stories: Records from Story Circles

The following summaries and lists were gained through roundtable discussions where participants were asked, in turn, to respond to the following three questions/scenarios. *Important note:* These are transcriptions of hand-written notes taken by table facilitators during the story circle exercise at the workshop. The accuracy of the names, dates and locations represented as fact have not been confirmed, as they are merely the informal paraphrasing of participants' oral stories.

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Round 3: *Share more about the origins, details or lesser known facts.*

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299.		A local school teacher came up with a project where by school children worked to create a statue to celebrate Native American history which stands on the Portage Trail. It was a community and school project that symbolizes the history of the different people who inhabited this place.	Portage Trail
300.	<i>Eagles' Nests</i>	"We like to pile into a canoe down the bend in the river with the eagle's nest which has been there for 18 years and watch the eagles fledge. I marvel at the thought that the water from here goes down to the Gulf of Mexico- that we have this physical connection to a large part of the world through the water. It is the little piece of the planet that God gave me."	Birding. Nature. Rivers. Canoes.
301.		4th of July brings Good Neighbor Days in Gordon. This is a great community celebration with the best fireworks north of Milwaukee. "It's as American as apple pie"	Good Neighbor Days in Gordon.
302.		Seven Mile Dam was a crossing for Native American people which became a dam site to help move more logs down the river.	Logging.
303.		"I like to take visitors out on my porch and give them a beer or a glass of wine and then just watch the wildlife. This morning I saw blue heron, ospreys, fox. You can see bear, coyote and everything but a wolf."	Wildlife.
304.		"I feel like the Indian who saw the voyageurs arrive. From Memorial Day to Labor Day it's noisier, dirtier and there's more trash. Tourists are slobs. I'm not sure I want more."	
305.		"One of the little gems that not a lot of people know about is parking on Highway P and going down the North Country Trail boardwalk to see the headwaters of the St Croix.	Rivers. North Country Trail

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
306.		"A stretch of the Totogatic River is under consideration as a state wild and scenic river. Residents like the idea of protecting it but are curious about attracting more people to it. We don't like to tell a lot of people because it's so primitive".	Totogatic River.
307.		The storyteller was originally from New Richmond but has a lifelong connection to the St Croix area. "Brule St Croix Portage in late fall is amazing. You can see one of the first roads in the state - it's where it all started. The North Country Trail is great too".	Brule St Croix Portage. The North Country Trail. Canoes. Rivers.
308.		There's an old voyageur trail at the north end of Person Lake (named after Ole Person who owned the lake at one time). You can see wagon ruts on the land from the portage trail. The track was used to bring furs down from the north headed for Stillwater.	Local history. Portages. Immigrant.
309.		One of the best things to do is to kayak down the river in early spring once there is enough water. The Totogatic River allows you to experience the wilderness. It's a State Wild River. You only pass a few cabins along the whole 3.5 hour trip.	Totogatic River. Rivers. Canoes.
310.		The St Croix River offers so many experiences: history, freshwater ecology, wildlife, glacial history, volcanic rock formations, copper mining, and Native American histories. ""We like to canoe at Gordon Dam and we never know what we are going to see".	History. Freshwater ecology. Wildlife. Glacial history. Volcanic rock formations. Copper mining. Native American histories.
311.		Brule River to Lake Superior (the largest body of fresh water on the planet).	Canoeing.
312.		Whitefish Lake is 102 ft. deep. You can fish, swim and sail there. Krabb property, now owned by DNR is open to the public.	Fishing. Swimming. Lakes. Sailing.
313.		"The best time to visit this area is in the spring because the waterfowl are amazing. You can see loons and swans on the lakes. "	Birding. Lakes. Wildlife.
314.		There is a bird sanctuary. 4000 acres provides a rare ecosystem.	Birding. Wildlife.
315.		Lucius Woods at Solon Springs is one of the best places to play music because of the acoustics. There is a music park there where prisoners built the band shell.	Music.
316.	<i>Canoeing Brule, Namekagon, St. Croix rivers</i>	Primitive, beauty of it. Native American and voyagers. Explored early... As early as explorers in the East. Links from Lake Superior to the Gulf of Mexico	Brule, Namekagon, St. Croix rivers
317.	<i>Rock Cut Creek - hiking</i>	Tom's farm is on the crest of the lake St. Croix-Lake Superior watershed... Can see shoreline of lake superior... "It's a darn beautiful place"	Rock Cut Creek- Rockmount Road = the ancestral shoreline of lake superior
318.	<i>Copper Culture</i>	Native American - The Copper Culture - apparently had trade routes trading with the Phoenicians of the Middle East and Latin America, Europe (Midwest copper found there). The trading routes were 7 - 10 thousand years. They would go north, St. Lawrence trail... connected to the rest of the world. Tom King wrote on the copper culture.	

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
319.	<i>Empire Rail Road - Sauntry</i>	Loren wrote history of Empire Rail Road. Logging road was then a railroad-- a standard gauge railroad (4 foot 6 inches between the rails). Connected with the Great Northern Rail Road ad Deadham. The railway went upstream along St. Croix. Held up by copper mine	
320.	<i>Logging camp on Sheosh Creek - Holmes Lumber Camp - discontinued in 1905</i>	200 people were employed at the lumber camp... They Grew and Delivered Potatoes	Road crosses/near Dead Man's Creek. Off of Crotte Brook Road
321.	<i>Belden Swamp - the headwaters of Lake Superior and St. Croix - State Natural Area Bird Sanctuary at the Namekagon Barrens</i>	St Croix-Lake Superior watersheds. Drains to Hudson Bay and to Gulf of Mexico. Goes both ways. Barrens - native habitat... Great examples of the environment as relates to glacial formations. Some species of birds are only found here (e.g. the Sharp Tailed grouse. The Barrens are part of the same glacial story that links to interstate park.	Belden Swamp - the headwaters of Lake Superior and St. Croix - State Natural Area Bird Sanctuary at the Namekagon Barrens



Stillwater Lift Bridge. Photo: James Luscher

Washington County Minnesota

EVENT RECORD

Heritage Discovery Workshop (#10)

Compiled by Jeff Schommer, Paul Anderton & Peter Musty of Creative Community Builders; last updated on July 12, 2012.

May 16, 2012 – The Washington County Heritage Discovery Workshop (held at the Water Street Inn in Stillwater, Minnesota) was one of ten held in early 2012 throughout eleven counties in Minnesota and Wisconsin that are located in the St. Croix River watershed. (See map to the right.) The intent of the workshops was to:

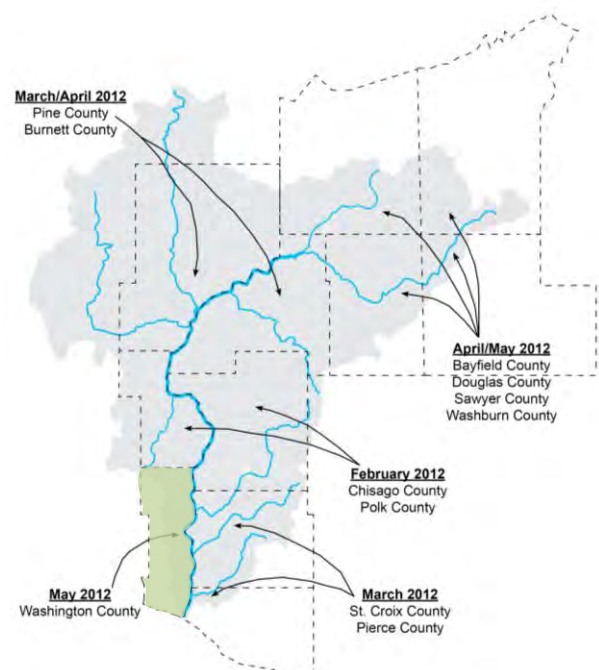
- provide information and conversation about the St. Croix region's Heritage Initiative and National Heritage Areas (NHA); and
- identify stories and places that define the St. Croix River region.

This document contains a record of the event, contributing to a collective database developed and managed by St. Croix Valley Foundation and their Heritage Initiative Task Force on behalf of all eleven counties. Each workshop created opportunities for participants to share:

- their reactions and opinions about National Heritage Areas;
- their opinions about what makes their community special in the region, and why the St. Croix region is unique in the nation;
- a story about a place, event or tradition in the region important to them.

The records from all the workshops have been published via the Heritage Initiative's website: www.stcroixheritage.org, and will be shared with community leaders to illustrate community response to this workshop. The information collected will be used in three other ways within the Heritage Initiative:

- a) to determine the big themes and the broad stories shared across the watershed;
- b) to help inform the upcoming Regional Summits that will be held in the Fall of 2012;
- c) as a foundation of information for a written document that might be the basis for Congressional designation as a National Heritage Area, if that outcome is what communities throughout the watershed desire.



Thank You...

Participating Sponsors and Supporting Organizations

ArtReach St. Croix
Arcola Mills Historic Foundation
Gammelgården Museum
Lower St. Croix Valley Community Foundation
Stillwater Area Foundation
Washington County Historical Society
Warner Nature Center
Washington County Volunteers
** Gary Noren, * Heather Rutledge, * Cindy Stimmler*

Workshop Team

** Marty Harding (Board Member of St Croix Valley Foundation & Heritage Initiative Task Force Chair)*

Task Force Members

*Alyssa Auten, Kathy Bartilson, Julie Galonska,
Sam Griffith, John Lennes, *Ann Moonen,
*Bill Neuman, *Danette Olsen, Scott Peterson,
Tangi Schaapveld, *Jean Schaeppi, *Margaret Smith,
Chris Stein, John Velin*

St Croix Valley Foundation

** Jane Stevenson, President
* Jill Shannon, Director of Community Outreach
* Jonathan Moore, Heritage Coordinator*

Facilitation Team

Creative Community Builders

** Tom Borrup (co-lead)
* Peter Musty (co-lead)
Paul Anderton
* Carol Ahlgren
Jeffrey Bruce, FASLA
* Robert Claybaugh, AIA
Frank Edgerton Martin
Danette Olsen
* Jeff Schommer
* Harry Waters Jr*

** - (present at this workshop)*

Pages 3-7

National Heritage Area: Opinions & Reactions Feedback Forms

Pages 8-13

Regional and National Distinctiveness Note Card Questions

Pages 14-21

Stories Records from Story Circles



National Heritage Areas: Opinions & Reactions

The table (following pages) is a record of written comments transcribed from feedback forms each participant was asked to fill out at the end of the workshop.

64
participants were present
at the workshop
1,619
total years
they have lived or worked
in the St. Croix region

The Heritage Initiative



THANK YOU for your FEEDBACK on the following:

I came to this meeting because:

My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is:

The most likely benefit of an NHA to my organization or my community is:

I am willing: (Please check all that apply.)

- ☐ ...to help host a public meeting
- ☐ ...to contact people in my community to encourage their attendance
- ☐ ...to share additional stories, photos or other information regarding our regional heritage
- ☐ ...to help the NHA effort in other ways:

Your name and contact information:

Name _____

E-mail _____

Telephone _____

Mail Address _____

Please return this form to:

 ST. CROIX VALLEY FOUNDATION

St Croix Valley Foundation
c/o Jill Shannon
516 Second Street, Suite 214
Hudson, WI 54016
phone 715.386.6490
fax 715.386.1250
jshannon@scvfoundation.org

Written Comments from Feedback Forms

I came to this meeting because...	My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is...	The most likely benefit of a NHA to my community or my organization is...
Advocate for Cultural Tourism	good idea, but big challenge to be as selective and cohesive as possible	preservation and honoring of cultural resources
love living in the Valley and professional responsibility	mostly positive	(Oak Park Heights) Build community while the bridge is built through our community
My sister and nephew invited me.	Wonderful to promote our beautiful river	Help people publicize and promote the beauty and rich cultural history of these river communities.
I like the idea of the NHA for the St. Croix Watershed.	Very positive - The area has obvious attributes for a NHA	Awareness of the diverse attributes.
I have a lifetime interest in the St. Croix Valley and tributaries rivers. Grew up on the river and currently have property "up North" which is part of the watershed.	A curiosity! Seems like National Heritage will preserve heritage and protect the environment and natural beauty.	Preservation and recognition that will foster economic development.
I was invited by the National Park Service	good idea, the river is nationally significant	one more reason to protect it.
I wanted to learn more about this initiative	Yes - This is a wonderful idea/effort	awareness of this rich and beautiful area of our nation.
I am a French / Social Studies teacher who teaches a class on immigration / cultural diversity.	Excellent - Extraordinaire - Formidable!	Somerset is a beautiful town w/loads of history and "stories". We have a restored Town hall and a lovely "Apple River".
wanted to see and hear what this is all about	excellent idea	building community / partnerships and bringing people to the area.
I wanted to encourage the effort to create the NHA	Yes. Go for it! Do it. It will be great.	To spread the word - nation wide - of the beauty of our region. (a mapping tool) to aid in the preservation of our environment & culture.
I wanted to learn more about the initiative & provide feedback	of course!	Helping to preserve our heritage & share with others.
I wanted to contribute some stories about the history of the pioneers who settled this area.	this is a great idea	increased attention on the people and places in this beautiful area.
I support efforts to protect and preserve the St. Croix River watershed.	What is this NHA about?	Bring recognition and appreciation of historic heritage to encourage visitors to the Valley/Watershed.
I am an employee of St. Croix NSR as a historian of the region.	Great idea.	A community of interest supporting the culture & natural resources of the area.
I serve on St. Croix Fdn Board	++ No-brainer to move forward to next step	increased visibility to further efforts to protect for future generations.
I am interested in this area to learn more info which I	Great - Thank you	Feeling & continuing the pride of what the

Written Comments from Feedback Forms

I came to this meeting because...	My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is...	The most likely benefit of a NHA to my community or my organization is...
love to share.		Creator gave us.
I am interested in protecting and maintaining the St. Croix areas unique scenic and cultural attributes.	A very good idea - Could be hard to get Congressional approval unless other areas (e. g. Fort Snelling) are included.	would potentially make people more aware of the unique qualities of this area and enhance commitment to maintaining those qualities.
I am interested in preserving the unique character / history of the region & raise awareness of the significance.	Fantastic!	Preservation and generating interest in others relating to the history
Danette Olsen of ArtReach St. Croix passionate plea to come!	of course! perfect. Good for all concerned	Increase business and attention to myself and community, national recognition
I love the St. Croix River and want it preserved	Positive and useful	Share our beautiful river and history
I represent a supporting organization AND believe strongly in the value of this effort.	Yes! make it happen	increased guests & interest. Resulting in increased revenue
Barb Bend invited me	I'm protective about keeping my family corner of Afton wild - more for wild life than people.	--
I have an interest in preserving the waters of the St. Croix watershed	important for our communities on the St. Croix	more tourism, preserving what we have!
I am a member of the Board of the St. Croix Valley Foundation and have supported this initiative from the beginning	---	Community Building -- Preservation of a remarkable heritage
I wanted to contribute to the story of how important this region is.	Terrific - Positive impact on our communities and support for preservation & promotion of our heritage on interest.	---
I love this area & want to be involved in the story telling to move toward designation.	very positive. Seems like a good fit for the history we have here in helping to build our nation.	The value placed on the community by the rest of the world. Sense of deep pride. And most of all partnerships created with surrounding towns & community building. I do not want Taylors Falls (& others) exploited but preserved, experienced & valued.
I love the St. Croix!! (including watershed)	Let's identify, explore, talk, share about the St. Croix NHA but not exploit!!	Connections - use as partnerships base - Protect / Preserve / Enjoy
Jill made a presentation at Scandia-Marine Lions	Positive but somewhat concerned about the way change could be controlled to not spoil what we love.	Increased traffic for commerce
Someone I respect & admire as a steward of the area invited me.	Great! I would love to know more about all the beautiful & significant places in the area	Additional language (terminology) to speak about our area & the tourist opportunities surrounding us..
of my love for the St. Croix Valley area.	curious and wondered how it would affect	Help the people of the watershed gain a greater

Written Comments from Feedback Forms

I came to this meeting because...	My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is...	The most likely benefit of a NHA to my community or my organization is...
	the area.	appreciation for what we have.
My interest in heritage preservation past & present board member of SCVF & ArtReach.	it's going to be a lot of work but it's about time! We have so much history & environment to preserve and share.	historical preservation & sharing it with anyone who we can encourage to visit.
I wanted to hear what people would say - stories about the watershed.	Positive - keep going forward	Building pride in region - knowledge of area - connecting people.
Helen met someone at the national convention in Omaha, heard about this, and I came with, and really enjoyed myself.	Positive. I am from here, into history, and don't think I know enough.	Compiling History and Stories; getting them told & preserved.
I was invited by my son	very enjoyable process	increase tourism & preservation of the riverway
I am involved w/the National Heritage Area effort for the Fox-WI Heritage Parkway. I am originally from Appleton, WI, & wrote their Feasibility Study. I am now looking to get involved here now that I've moved recently.	This would be a huge benefit to this region. would provide resources for these small river-based communities to each tell their story & bolster their economies through tourism.	greater appreciation for our heritage - increase tourism/economy
Board Member of SCVF	---	---
SCVF board member, interest in local history, importance of the river	How do we parlay all this enthusiasm into history lessons, sense of community, etc.?	Reinforce sense of place, increased interest in community philanthropy
I think that the heritage corridor presents an opportunity to create collaborations among many diverse groups/communities/governments in the watershed to preserve, enjoy & deliberate the unique character of its landscape, its people and its history.	positive, but I am concerned that the emphasis on the cultural aspects does not slight the cultural connections to the natural environment that draw people to the watershed to live, work, recreate.	if cultural and natural resource assets will be identified, valued, and protected, and celebrated.
wanted to learn about the project	Positive - we should preserve stories for future generations.	Create sense of "community"
I believe in the NHA idea! (If federal dollars ever become available [don't count on it] it is the best return on investment of federal dollars I've ever seen in my 34 year career	It's about time! ... should have been recognized as such 20 or 30 years ago.	Community Pride
I am interested in the effort	positive	Greater understanding & appreciation of the Historic character of the area.
I was interested in hearing the stories because I know how important this area is for people who live here.	Good if it helps protect what's here for generations	Increased awareness of history especially for young people ... perhaps a bit of a brake on negative growth and development
Love of this area, specifically the river	positive	N/A
I care about my Place and have a strong sense of place. I was curious to hear other's stories.	I am curious to know more about the consequences of being a NHA in terms of effects on the landscape impact from larger	Increased/expansion of a stewardship ethic for preserving the pristine quality of the river and its watershed.

Written Comments from Feedback Forms

I came to this meeting because...	My initial reaction to the idea of a National Heritage Area (NHA) is...	The most likely benefit of a NHA to my community or my organization is...
-----------------------------------	---	---

numbers of visitors/tourists.

I believe the St. Croix River is a beautiful amazing bioregion with vital communities with great cultural resources and a dedicated stewardship ethic. I want to be a part of that & think this idea could be important to strengthen the values I mentioned above.

Great idea!

Integration of whole region around common values to create more synergy from coordinated efforts.

As a member of the Heritage Pres. Commission did not really know what it was about. Glad I came.

Fantastic - this is a great area and should be preserved as much as it is possible

Local & Regional Distinctiveness

Participants were asked to give answers to two questions. Recorded below are a tally of themes identified in answers, then full transcriptions of participant answers (following pages).

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

17	Historic small towns
13	Logging & Lumber Milling History
8	St. Croix River
8	Natural Beauty / Views
6	Historic Human Habitation
5	Stillwater – the Birthplace of Minnesota
5	Environmental Stewardship
3	Community / Sense of Place
3	Fur Trade / Voyageurs
3	Agriculture
2	Railroad
1	Gateway to the North
1	Army Trail
1	Westward Expansion
1	Andersen Windows
1	Bluffs
1	Brick Factory
1	National Scenic River Designation

Blue Card Question:

What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?

11	Lumber History
11	Environmental Stewardship
10	Waterways / Rivers
10	Wild and Scenic River Designation
9	Scenic Landscape
9	Urban/Wilderness Interface
7	Role in the settlement of the West
5	Native American History
4	Clean Water
3	Transportation
3	Scandinavian Immigration
2	Voyageur History
2	Fur Trade
1	Immigration
1	Geology
1	Arts
1	Mussels
1	Outdoor Recreation
1	Pace of Life
1	Garrison Keillor
1	Federal Prison
1	Spirit of Philanthropy

White Card Question:

What makes your immediate area special or distinctive?

- Twin partnership with towns across the river.
- Historic human habitation
- My immediate area was developed prior to the introduction of the automobile, which makes my neighborhood a "walkable" friendly place.
- My father was born and raised in River Falls, WI
- The area really connects the south north axis of the region, gateway from the farming of the south to the Lumber industry of the north. St. Croix River, followed by the St. Paul, Duluth, Winnipeg Railroad, the first MN highway, et. The old Army trail along the river. The westward expansion occurred during a very transitional time in the beginning of MN
- the beautiful view of the river & Bluff line as you enter the Valley @ 94 & 95 and traveling north through Stillwater.
- The Stillwater area is uniquely focused on the river, with parks next to it and overlooking it and almost everyone finds some way to enjoy the river.
- The ever changing St. Croix River, it's beauty and history running through it.
- My area of the St. Croix has so much water that helps with recreation & enjoyment of life. We also have land & cabin on the Eau Claire River - Gordon, WI, that has an old logging dam, very unique to other part of the county
- I love being able to see the river every day. It gives life and beauty for all to enjoy.
- Scenic river designation, brick factory on Brick Pond, former farm sites.
- St. Croix River itself is unique in its pristine quality of landscape. People in this river valley have a strong stewardship ethic.
- Historical (long) relationship b/t people(s) and the river. From Native Americans -> fur -> Logging -> farming -> resorts
- Historic towns; architecture
- Extensive trails for walking and biking
- Village of Arcola: Logging history, riverboat construction, restoration of Arcola Mills, reuse as Nat'l Park site.
- Bayport: Industry -> Andersen Windows & Doors 100 year history
- 1st sawmill in the St. Croix Valley: Marine on St. Croix
- Marine on St. Croix is unique in that it is a Historic Logging entity, and the town continues to have a small town character. The towns people are very connected. The town was a model for "Lake Wobegon", Bob's Bank, Ralph's pretty good grocery.
- Marine on St. Croix is the site of the first commercial sawmill in Minnesota. It has preserved sawmill ruins, still functioning historic businesses established in the pioneer days, historic working city hall & volunteer fire dept. established in 1886. Summary: Historic pioneer site of early Minn. lumber business with surviving artifacts and legacy institutions.
- Logging & Historic Industry
- Hudson: Vibrant downtown, Multiple river access points, Entertainment/Arts/Scenic Beauty destination
- North Hudson - Monroe Street train depot, Willow River & Malileau Dam, Italian Heritage
- Hudson/North Hudson - N. Hudson has a Italian heritage, which is why it was separated from Hudson
- The Stillwater area is truly the Birthplace of the State of Minn., 1st High School, Territorial Prison, Initial Lumber Industry, etc.
- Preservation of historic architecture in Stillwater area.
- Stillwater is special due to its physical proximity to the river and its historical downtown that has survived more intact than most.
- Importance of river in initial settling - i.e. logging on river, Stillwater is oldest town
- I live in Stillwater and enjoy the history of the town. I also enjoy the water and beauty of the Valley. I also have deep family history in the Northern reaches of the upper watershed area. This history is connected to lumbering and fur trading dating back to the 1700's. History of how Stillwater was settled.
- Stillwater is unique because it is near the metro area and yet its own community - not a suburb. The town is beautiful. There are activities happening every week and such a sense of community unique now days.

- *An historic community in a natural setting that offers artistic, cultural and environmental values a stone's throw (or short bike ride) from the front door yet shopping nearby.*
- *Stillwater is the birth place of Minnesota. This city was the center of commerce in this region for most of the 1800s.*
- *Stillwater - one of the oldest communities in the history of Minnesota, an early entry for immigrants.*
- *1st Federal prison built here in 1848. Original Walden's House still there. Battle Hollow - Ojibwe ambushed the Dakota on the same site.*
- *The town of Stillwater where I live has a very distinct history going back to the beginning on Minn. history and a special connection to the St. Croix River.*
- *The Dalles of the St. Croix near St. Croix & Taylors Falls*
- *Pothole area of St. Croix/T.F. created by glaciers. The "Valley" feeling in St. Croix/Taylors Falls - a friendly & energized feeling - The logging industry in St. Croix, T.F., Franconia*
- *Community sense of place*
- *Scandia has first Swedish settlement & Marine on St. Croix has one of the first saw mills on St. Croix River.*
- *Early Swedish settlers - farmers existing with logging; scenic; Marine on Str. Croix: historic - important preservation - site of 1st saw mill in this area - oldest non-military settlement in MN*
- *Somerset was/is comprised of mainly descendants of French-Canadians. Today there are a few left who speak French!*
- *A community that values environmentalism & community engagement*
- *Ethnic heritage/settlers, history*
- *small community - close knit ...welcoming - historical to MN logging industry - community pride cohesion to preserve, enjoy and share w/others*
- *Sense of place - pride; kinship; protective (guarding what we have special)*
- *It is tranquil, slow-paced, people living here are proud of the surrounding nature. It is wealthy and it is still*
- *We live next to Warner Nature Center and Wilder Forest which consists of 2-3000 acres. As I love wildlife, trees, flowers. It is a very special & quiet area for us. Also has history (May Farm) Scandia is close by, and my heritage stories here.*
- *Populated heavily by European descendants.*
- *A strong, active & genuine sense of community anchored in a common sense of place.*
- *we live near the Willow River back waters; so there are many swampy areas for wild life. Native prairies and diverse land forms. it is also part of a glacial dumping ground. Lots of wildlife.*
- *small town roots/community with almost cosmopolitan connections to people from many places*
- *Unique - Marine on St. Croix is a connected small town - lots of volunteers - most folks very concerned about the environment - and our name is all about the river.*
- *Clean River & sandy beach in metro area - eagles, fish, deer & other wildlife - border between states - hot air balloons - great Victorian homes - preserved downtowns*
- *6 generations of family sharing the nature - including animals from snapping turtles (my mother caught one in her bloomers) hog-nosed snakes - birds & all the farms & lakes & rivers have to offer.*
- *What's distinctive? Beautiful landscape - nature- wild animals; commitment to the land; preservation-controlled development*
- *The Stillwater region (as part of Washington County) still provides a "community" that I am a part of. There are people here that I know, institutions that I am part of or know about. When I go out to the Cub store, to the bank, to the library I know many of the people and they know me.*
- *Stillwater is distinctive b/c it is a magnet for creative types.*
- *Marine -> first European settlement in Minnesota 1837-> has retained much of its historic character -> has many civically engaged citizens who are interested in celebrating/preserving its historic character.*
- *it is a very happening place as folk continue to engage in stewardship, water quality awareness and citizen groups awakening to take charge.*
- *Healthy, diverse natural environment/ecosystem so close to major cities.*
- *Browns Creek is a trout stream, diverse eco-system, wildlife habitat, a beautiful treasure*
- *Scandia - First Swedish settlement in Minnesota - setting for epic novels by Wilhelm Molberg - Research site for American Girl book/doll Kirsten - 3rd oldest Lutheran*

*congregation in Minnesota - oldest Lutheran parsonage
& sanctuary in Minnesota*

- *1st Swedish immigrant settlement in Minnesota*
- *where the St. Croix empties into the Mississippi - the starting point for early settlers getting off the boats to settle in Minnesota.*

- *nature natural resources*
- *diversity of species of birds - especially during migration*

Blue Card Question:

What makes the St Croix region special or distinctive in the nation?

- *St. Croix Region is distinctive by its confluence of Native American, Fur Trade, Lumbering histories - all rooted in the waterways that connect the region*
- *St. Croix Region it's unique in the nation because of the rich Native American heritage, lumbering, Scandinavian influence.*
- *The confluence of all of the immigrants & their interaction with the Native population.*
- *St. Croix Waterway for immigrants from Scandinavia, about 1/3 of First Minnesota Regiment came from immigrants in this area (Afton Pond North)*
- *St. Croix Region is distinctive in its role in settlement of the country and in the unique natural environment it encompasses*
- *It is distinctive b/c of a unique confluence of peoples over time in a geography. No other area experienced logging in the same way for instance.*
- *I think the area is really recognized for the Scandinavian immigration. The crossroads of Northern Forest, Prairie, South Farmland, etc.*
- *Logging History; Mussels: historic harvest for buttons, largest # of species in a river - includes rare & endangered species. Geology - potholes, etc. Glacial History*
- *Interest in arts throughout St. Croix region.*
- *The St. Croix River serve as a vital boundary for treaties, highway for trade and immigration, and of course - lumbering.*
- *St. Croix Region - Very Historic - 1st MN Territorial Gathering; Early Court House; Territorial Formation - 1849; Scenic*
- *The river stories and different cultures who used the rivers. it is a place where people settle down and stay*
- *Meeting point of so many connecting rivers & importance of those rivers to the development of the area*
- *Provided the raw materials (lumber) & trade to push development west of Mississippi*
- *Connection to Mississippi; Fur Trading & Logging history*
- *Its natural beauty; Cultural richness; Environmentally healthy place to live*
- *Vast Green of the Northern Woods*
- *The St. Croix is unique in that it is not over developed, but wild and scenic.*
- *St. Croix River Watershed supplied millions of board feet of lumber to build St. Louis and towns throughout the West.*
- *Logging History; River Transportation; Superior to Mississippi Portage; Early Territories & state borders; Native American significance.*
- *The St. Croix region supplied wood for the initial "construction of the West"*
- *Lumber and tradition of the Arts and their effect on our region.*
- *Logging on the Wolf River (I edited a logger's memoirs)*
- *Connection to the Waterways: Logging industry/recreation*
- *St. Croix NSR; birthplace & home of Gaylord Nelson - founder of Earth Day; Logging story - helped build cities of the Midwest (like St. Louis); one of the > places in US for Scandinavian immigrants.*
- *Garrison Keillor lives here; The pace of life is slower and more relationship oriented than the west and east coast areas...in my experience.*
- *1st Federal prison built in 1848; warden's house open for tour, Battle Hollow Ojibwe ambushed the Dakota on the same site, Site House Condos now haunted.*
- *Size as a watershed: 27,700 sq. miles; Such beauty and diversity so close to a major metro area (Twin Cities)*
- *The beautiful St. Croix River. The rich forests. The lovely 100+ year homes and buildings.*
- *St. Croix Watershed: many miles of scenic landscape, important transportation corridor, very close to major metro area, played important role in the development of*

Minnesota, many outdoor recreational assets

- *Our Watershed District provides some of the cleanest water flow in the Nation.*
- *The St. Croix River is unique because it is still largely "Unspoiled" yet is within only a few miles from a major population center- Can we keep it?*
- *Unique blend of rural, suburban and access to urban areas.*
- *Well preserved environment is a central value that people form their community around with a spiritual connection to the land.*
- *the history and the natural beauty of Northern urban areas as well as the "UP North" traditions and culture*
- *diversity of rivers, fish & different plant life; sense of community & healing arts; various wineries, entertainment, youth programs geared toward connecting adult & youth with one another; profound connection to earth & land*
- *The beauty of the bluffs along the river - the sweet little towns to wander through.*
- *the diversity of the natural area (Nature Lover)*
- *The St. Croix region is special because even though it is relatively close to major cities & towns, you can easily get on a very wild and beautiful stretch of river.*
- *The St. Croix River, protected by the National Wild Rivers Act, keeps the pristine natural state of the river from more development. It is a natural environment that lots of people can enjoy. The upper St. Croix, with it slow - no wake zone is ideal for canoes, kayaks and fishing boats or pontoons. No new building - wild; close to urban areas*
- *It is slow-paced, beautiful both architecturally and environmentally. it is situated both near nature and yet close to a large metropolitan area.*
- *The St. Croix was one of the original 6 designated wild and scenic rivers. This is something that could never be done in this time.*
- *St. Croix special or distinctive; The spirit of philanthropy, people giving of their time, money, service to better the community*
- *It's a wild and scenic river yet close to major population centers. When you are on the river you feel like you are in the wild but there could be a town just beyond the bluff.*
- *Holding National Riverway distinction, protection; St. Croix protection is an example for other gems in nation; Thank you Gaylord Nelson and Walter Mondale for your vision!*
- *St. Croix designated as Wild & Scenic River - protected and preserved wilderness*
- *St. Croix region is special b/c it is protected as a wild & scenic riverway.*
- *St. Croix River and its pristine condition (Except for new bridge!!)*
- *river system headwaters*
- *River connections define region all the way from settlement to current farming, industrial, tourism, etc.*
- *Cold winters, beautiful summers and smiles all year long.*
- *Virtually unknown jewel in nation.*
- *St. Croix River used as a waterway road for the first voyageurs.*
- *Clean/Pure; River Access; Travelway for early settlers*
- *Nationally important. A wild and scenic river a short drive away from a major metro area*
- *Distrust of the southern St. Croix by those living in the north.*
- *One of the cleanest, most protected rivers in the country thanks to careful controlled development.*

Stories: Records from Story Circles

The following summaries and lists were gained through roundtable discussions where participants were asked, in turn, to respond to the following three questions/scenarios. *Important note:* These are transcriptions of hand-written notes taken by table facilitators during the story circle exercise at the workshop. The accuracy of the names, dates and locations represented as fact have not been confirmed, as they are merely the informal paraphrasing of participants' oral stories.

Round 1: *Imagine you'll be visited by a dear friend or relative from outside the Midwest or even from outside the country. You have time to share with them only one activity, tradition, place, or community or family event important to you...describe it and where it would be.*

Round 2: *Why is this important?*

Round 3: *Share more about the origins, details or lesser known facts.*

Story Number	Title (provided after workshop by Creative Community Builders Facilitators)	Summary & Significance of the story or tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites / Landscapes Resources Living Traditions / Activities Languages / Foods Etc...
322.	<i>Memories of a childhood on a farm.</i>	The writer was born in Lindstrom, Noth of Scandia. Remembers summer time on his aunt's farm when he was 10/11 years old. Very simple living conditions with no electricity and just one bedroom upstairs. Perishing conditions in winter. "Gammelgarden is great, gorgeous." He remembers Mother's Day and bringing buckets of flowers.	Ate chicken and roasts. As a kid went to. Columbia. Heights on the west side of St.-Paul.
323.	<i>Significance of the River and Swedish way of life.</i>	The river was important. As children they would steal away to jump off the river bridge. Daughter was baptized there. Values have been passed down the generations. Like the Swedish love of nature.	Gammelgarden had buffalo.
324.	<i>Cabin Life and cabin hopping. Enjoying natural beauty but close to metropolitan area</i>	Friends had an old cabin with a view on the river. Showed it to a friend from India. Talked about cabin life and cabin hopping but now nobody to save that kind of life. There was a general store in Marine and it was fun to cruise to Taylors Falls.	Cabin Hopping. Cruising
325.	<i>Connection to natural resources for family & friends.</i>	Talked of canoeing every year, usually in summer, from St. Croix Falls down to Osceola and camping. Sometimes there would be family trips in the afternoon.	Canoeing and camping
326.	<i>Outdoor experience. Park for herding deer. Rare plant species.</i>	Remembers planting raspberries. Found an arrow spearhead dating back 8,500 years to continuous native habitation on a site just off the river. Mentioned Washington County Fossil collection. Referred to Boom Site property north of Stillwater, Little Venice and Mile Long Island on St. Croix north of and opposite Boom Site.	Indian history. Logging.
327.	<i>Voyagers in canoes across the 'continental divide' - Gulf to Great Lakes.</i>	Female College Students were taken to Headwater in St .Croix for a leadership seminar on the importance of water. Walking across the	

328. *Land Trust. Farm life.* The writer talked about family business and the history of a covenant Land Trust - Green Acres. Their first farm was in 1968 working with cattle, hay and corn. Raised a family there.
329. *High incidence of child suicide* Points raised about the pride of a connected family and in Polk County the high incidence of child suicide which made the area special.
330. *A number of ways protecting the landscape.* Memories of water coming off the landscape if the river is low and the danger and importance of the riverbanks.
331. *Land being worked.* Movies, Sweden, New York, St. Louis up river at Stillwater mentioned. 'Immigrants - A new land' Told story of wife's family history who went west. Swedish Immigrants
332. *Obelisk. Navigable river* Reports of an obelisk in Scandia. Taylor Falls was navigable up there - cliffs that the River runs through. Talk of log jams.
333. *Documentation complex of recreational assets. Framework of connections. The academic significance of research.* The writer outlined that southern parts of the river which fed Lake St. Croix experienced changes due tohydrology. Inventory of Parks, trails and mapped recreations at both local and federal level.
334. *Senator Gaylord Nelson. Impact of one man on the world! Environmental story.* The 40th Anniversary of Earth Day, Creation of St. Croix Natural River Way, Northwards Environmental - the respect of the land, Sigurd Olson, Gaylord Nelson, and Fritz Mondale were all outlined. The First River to become a unit of the National Park System.
335. *Coal Plant Train Regulator* The river was not for recreation. There was a change in the direction of turning back to river. Coal which came up on barges north of Stillwater in the 1960s.
336. *Territorial Capital, Prison, University Stillwater.* 'Keep your daughter away from the lumberjacks!' There was a street car to Stillwater. White Bear - St. Paul - Early Minnesota founding.
337. *Transformation from rural to industry.* The writer talked about phases of River life and the transformation in native traditions to industry and recreation. Destinations for families into Otsville, Marrylake - Cooling. Native American
338. *Radicals* Bridge Dedication - by Governor Floyd B Olson, Minneapolis, who was a populist and progressive figure in 1936 representing the Farmer Labor Party. Lumber to make Chicago came from this area.
339. *Family - ongoing to family today* In the 1930s the writer remembers a camping trip up Taylors Falls to Osceola to Stillwater. Camped under canoe and bathed in the stream with the Boy Scouts. Stopping on the Wisconsin side.
340. *Family had to sell. Bridges* The writer remembered that the Mississippi did not have the same kind of bridges. There were commercial locks. St. Croix has bridges on it. The family had a Houseboat and they went in it to Two Rivers at Prescott after the World War 2 to watch the people coming and landing on the sides.
341. *Marine Landing in St. Croix. Memorial* It was noted that in 1965 the Ferry engine stopped operating.

Day, Labor Day,
Friday dinner -
simple menu.

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| 342. | <i>The history of going to see the spot of the event of two visits.</i> | 20 years ago sat in a bus with a visitor from Stockholm. | Immigration - history |
| 343. | <i>Pristine natural beauty</i> | MN & WI Inter-state Park, High Trails, Port Houses, Rock Climbing and Geology were all talked about. | |
| 344. | <i>Way to get on the water</i> | Ways of using St. Croix River Boats. | |
| 345. | <i>River stewardship. Family Catherine. Ethic</i> | The writer told of St. Croix River in July when the family camped on the beaches. | Ethnic |
| 346. | <i>Community Heritage with pristine natural environment.</i> | The writer mentioned Marine on St. Croix, and an eagle's nest in the natural setting of a small town, then a walk to River at Mid-Stream on the 4th July. | |
| 347. | <i>Natural & human and human history</i> | Story about log cabin dated 1856 which was built from trees on site. It had a lot of old furniture. The kitchen was added in 1918. It sounds like rain forest kind. Of cabin. People have visited it from all over the world. It is an Education Site with a living classroom. | |
| 348. | <i>Protected wilderness habitat for education of children.</i> | There is a preserved area of 700 acres containing wild life. Preservation extends across from Prescott. History opened up in an area which extends to Minnesota Point Douglas. Shows pioneers making a living. | |
| 349. | <i>River trip to Stillwater</i> | The writer told of a three day canoe trip to home town of Stillwater and an Indian site. Saw White Pines and pictures of the river in the wilderness which transported them back in time. | Indian scout |
| 350. | <i>Connect visitors to Minnesota. Lack of development grown wild.</i> | Memories of visitors coming down from New York for a wedding and being on the river. 'So beautiful an open space.' | |
| 351. | <i>Wild birds right in Stillwater. Level of wildlife including eagles. Almost prehistoric.</i> | Going out on the water in canoes. 'Blue horizons taken away by West Site.' | |
| 352. | <i>Wild river, still pristine.</i> | 'Namekagon, canoes, almost like the Boundary waters, unique' | |
| 353. | <i>The river is central to people living in the St. Croix Valley.</i> | Descriptions of Stillwater and Taylors Falls in the fall and summer. The writer said it was a beautiful community and would bring families and guests there. | |
| 354. | <i>Paddleboats. Historical paddle boats display the beauty of the river.</i> | The paddle boat on the river from Hudson River was a featured source of enjoyment - The Afton Princess. The writer also mentioned Kinnikinnick Beach where she met her husband! | |
| 355. | <i>Unique event. National group in local historic</i> | Stillwater Music Festival took place with a string quartet in the old Courthouse. A nationally known group, the Brooklyn Rider - held master classes in August. | |

courthouse. Music.

356. *Sense of Place and history.* There was talk of a sense of place, no matter where one landed with a canoe. Go up to Dalles. Living in St. Paul was like being in a city in a garden. National paths flow through new communities which mean a wilderness of some kind is experienced.
357. *Forest Lodge* Forest Lodge, outside of Cable, was not open to the public yet. Namekagon Lake was a family compound with a lodge and visitors houses. Was donated to the forest service.
358. *Arcola Mills tells the history of the area and is in an incredibly beautiful setting* The writer told of Arcola Mills and its logging history. It was described as a beautiful place which was full of history and culture. Logging history
359. *Tells the story of the Chicago gangsters.* Seven Pines - Lewis - was an old Adamdale type lodge.
360. *Nature Center, Afton State Park* Information about Afton State Park and Carpenter Nature Center offering skiing, hiking and environmental education. The writer visited as a girl and never knew that she had lived there. Selma's Ice cream. Afton Jazz musician
361. *The powwows at LCO, a special thing to experience.* The writer mentioned Native American history I Hayward area. the dancing at the powwows in the La Courte Oreilles community. Writer's family has a cabin in Spooner. 'It's one of my favorite places in the words. Native American history and powwows. It is such a part of living here on Potato Lake.'
362. *Special events and places people from outside the area can experience.* 'In the 1960s we'd come down to the Afton Inn. They'd bring New Orleans jazz artists, Dixieland jazz musicians. William O'Brien. In high school I once stayed overnight in the camp ground. We left our food out and raccoons ate it. We embarked on canoes the next day. We were told we could camp on an island. We went paddling and came back to see tent was full of Daddy Long Legs! My dad picked us up in Stillwater and we looked defeated! Jazz musicians
363. *Communities coming together to enjoy their place on a non-touristy night of the week.* 'There's nothing better than Stillwater in the Summer'. 'I took my old boss to 8 weeks of Summer Tuesday's non-touristy night of the week. She said "You get to live here!" It's a community building event and an opportunity for us to see neighbors and others that we see every time. Farmer's markets. Local musicians. Lowell Park in Stillwater. Also talk of a farmers market and music by local musicians by the river.
364. *A sculpture park with a difference.* The Franconia Sculpture Park was experimental and a bit crazy... different from the usual park. 'The way they use the landscape to shape the park, the birding, natural and migratory species is amazing. No matter how long people have lived here they still jump up to the window to see a bald eagle. Even though I've worked at sculpture park I the past, this one is unique in the way it incorporates the landscape. A path will be moved through a flower meadow to suggest how you should move through it.' Wild life.... birds, eagles. Franconia Sculpture Park.
365. *A company boat built by and for employees who allows employees to come together and enjoy the river.* We host groups at Andersen Windows in the 1937 boat 'Glengarry'. It was built during the depression when construction was slow. Local captain on boat tells stories about the river and the thousands who worked in the factory. It was built to be enjoyed by Andersen employees and was docked near the plant in Bayport. Andersen Windows employees boat
366. *An eccentric event* 'One of the first events we went to in the Valley was the Hot Air Affair. It Embracing winter, Hot Air Affair,

	<i>that gets the community together outside in the winter. A celebration of winter.</i>	was zero degrees. We had just moved to Hudson and it was a strange electric event but there was a strong sense of community. It defines the Valley. There were hundreds of balloons. A spirit of embracing the winter.'	Hudson
367.	<i>Two states connected by ice road</i>	The writer told of an Ice Road near Bayport stretching to North Hudson used as a short cut across the river. People who visited the company from other part would go out driving on the ice to give them the thrill of driving on the river.	Ice roads on river.
368.	<i>Founder of Andersen Windows.</i>	Hans Andersen was a Danish immigrant who settled in Hudson and started a lumber yard in 1903. He then moved up to Bayport, Home to innovation. He had the first company to start profit sharing. Made frames from white pine in a kit mass production. The glass was made on site, possibly using sand from the valley.	Andersen Windows. Lumber yard in Hudson. Timber resources coming down the river.
369.	<i>Nature Centre</i>	The Carpenter Nature Center which rehabilitates birds and raptors. It reconnects kids to the landscape and gets them out of the sedentary lifestyle. It has land and does work in both states.	Wild life rehabilitation.
370.	<i>High quality of life so close to the city.</i>	'You feel so far away from everything in Hudson. It feels like home. It has a quieter, slower pace and yet is so close to the Twin Cities. I work in Minneapolis but never wanted to live there.	
371.	<i>Riverway.</i>	'There is something nationally significant about the wild and scenic Riverway. I look across the river and see three houses and a million trees!'	
372.	<i>Ruralness, out of city experiences all of your senses. Streetcars from St. Paul to go trout fishing on the Kinni.</i>	The writer talked of Dinner Cruises on the Taylors Falls Princess and being away from the city, experiencing the woods, wild flowers and wild asparagus. A cabin in the woods, Askov, MN (near Sandstone) was mentioned and hiking in the Kettle River Area. Hardworking people rallying for each other.	Woods, wild flowers, wild asparagus.
373.	<i>Deer Lake Cabin, 5 generations</i>	Five generations of one family used the Deer Lake Cabin. (Polk County). The writer's great grandfather bought a good part of the lake after the Civil War and divided it amongst ten kids. 28 people at Barb's Cabin have an immediate connection to the place. Beams came from Nevers Dam. They can see the fingerprints from family cabin.	Wood came from Nevers Dam.
374.	<i>Natural experience. Gigantic feature.</i>	There is a great vantage point for explaining the town, its history and the way it is laid out. Helps people to understand the place. 'Northwoods culture is truly unique. This area is not well known in the nation. '	Somerset/Cable. Bootleggers, outlaws, Mafia, gangsters.
375.	<i>History of the Afton Area and how the cultures made their way on this land, hunting, fishing.</i>	The river was used for speed boating, skiing, tubing and gawking talk about the river. 'Folks think it's dirty because of the tannins. It is fun to take them to the confluence and go into Afton State Park and look at the prairies. There is a military road route from the Civil War.'	Skiing. prairies.
376.	<i>History of the lumber era.</i>	This area is described as a 'boom site' which captures the history of lumber era. Washington County has more horses per capita than any county in the region. The writer's family has seven generations of connections. He talked about the high levels of creativity in the area and the famous Log Jam in 1880s. Present day sees Farmers' Markets and gardening founded on an agricultural ethic.	Lumber, skiing, dogsledding, hot-tubbing in winter. Tradition oriented - Scandinavian, German , Irish, Italian.
377.	<i>Family history, special times.</i>	Canoe trips to Namekagon and staying at a log cabin at Wolf River, eating meat, potato and apple pie were all remembered by the writer.	Clamming, looking for pears above Afton. Even found them. Mother now

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| | She recalled playing marbles down on the floor. And a logger who slept over the water. Who threw chunks of lard in socks to keep dry. Her grandmother and sisters had houses in a row in St. Mary' Point. | has a ring with pearl (now aged 87).
Sold to Jewish market. |
| 378. | <i>Natural Area, timelessness.</i>
"We had a cabin by Gordon on the Eau Claire River. It was a unique spot. Could fish in a kayak or canoe. The logging dam made a swimming hole. For a long time there were no utilities but added now." | Fishing, swimming. |
| 379. | <i>Natural beauty, wildlife, water special place.</i>
The writer remembers boating and canoeing at Marine on St. Croix and feeling close to nature. They went camping there and Mother used to stay in summer cabins along St. Croix near Marine. She came up by train. Writer now lives near one of these cabins which have been winterized. | Canoeing, boating, and camping. |
| 380. | <i>History linked with his life.</i>
Lots of time was spent river fishing, and boating recalls the writer. He was the former superintendent of school in Stillwater, beginning in 1986, which was on the territorial prison site. Bus garage for school was old territorial prison I huge warehouse shed. Salvager would store things behind bus garage. | |
| 381. | <i>Wildlife opportunities</i>
Mays Lake, now Lake Edith, was a private lake about one mile long. The area was wild with few houses. People could have close encounters with wildlife, fawns, birds, beavers and enjoy swimming and fishing. | Fawns, birds, beavers. |
| 382. | <i>Traditional activities using & experiencing nature.</i>
The writer remembers blueberry picking and making pancakes. They would go to the Hayward cabin which used to be a lumbering restaurant with family style fun. | Blueberry picking. |
| 383. | <i>Wildness, escape near City. Tradition - link to the past.</i>
The Storyteller said that St. Croix and William O'Brien State Park are places to be intimate with nature which are preserved and protected. He remembers canoeing and part of the family tradition which link the past to the present is the 4th of July Parade and ice cream in the Marine. | 4th July Parade |
| 384. | <i>Beauty - public use.</i>
Stillwater High School was the first High School in the State. There are lots of parks. The storyteller does oil painting and goes to State Parks Afton, Wm. O'Brien, Wild River, Interstates. Thinks it is fun to see families using the facilities. | Stillwater High School |
| 385. | <i>Family Connections.</i>
The storyteller discovered connections to Somerset through her grandparents when she was in her 20s. She has taught her own decedents. Discovered her family connection to Somerset (she grew up in Stillwater) late in life. Now teaches French and History at Somerset High School. She told of Pea Soup Day. | Pea Soup Day 1st Wednesday in June in honor of French voyagers been celebrated since mid to late 1950s. |
| 386. | <i>Ethnic connection</i>
Storyteller told of Italian Pepper Fest in North Hudson in the late 1899 - 1900 to work in the railroad in North Hudson. Pepperfest been going on since 1950s. Best Italian food. Included a parade, beauty pageant and street dances. Still popular. As a member of the only German family in the area, it gave him a look at Italians. As a child he would run free, have lots of fun and experience community and ethnic connections. | Italian Pepper Fest in North Hudson. |
| 387. | <i>Good points about Marine on St. Croix</i>
The reader brings visitors to Marine which he considered to be unique. There are lots of old buildings, a general store, mill site, walking trails, settler's cabin. It is a quaint town so close to the Twin Cities. There is a 4th of July parade which lasts 10 minutes with little kids on bikes starting it and a fire truck ending it. | 4th July Parade |
| 388. | <i>Dinner Cruise</i>
In 1999 the writer's family went on a Dinner Cruise which began at Taylors Falls for a 3 hour sail. 'That there is such a thing as the cruise and the beauty in the area, it is a chance to get family together on the river, enjoy specular scenery and be with each other in a relaxed way.' | Dinner Cruise |

389. *Nature tourism. Ecological appreciation.* Namekagon solidarity; 'City Boy comes to the Woods'; NPS Park ranger/interpreter
390. *Whittaker House* Whitaker House in Marine on St. Croix was built in 1982 and remodeled. Two families merged into one household - a cabin into a house. The Elam Lutheran church is the center of the town.
391. *St. Croix River Valley was populated because of the lumber here.* Isaac Staples logging history, connection to Maine, the river name and Hersey was a partner were all discussed. Mentioned was the Rev. Boutwell, a Presbyterian Minister who sometime worked on the logging. Missionaries. Logging
392. *Access to the river* Access to the river could be via walks in Bayport.
393. *Historical nature of Marine original lumber mills. Historical Society on a mill site. Connection to the lumbering origins. Small town that will never have a McDonalds!* The storyteller told of time spent in Marine with guests on a pontoon on St. Croix. Breakfast at the Marine 4th of July Parade, Bump at the Brookside Bar Restaurant, The General Store with top of the line products and St. Croix Chocolate were all included. The Post Office is a meeting place in a small town where everyone knows your name. Lots to do at Marine St. Croix & Taylors Falls. Another place to visit is the Taylors Falls rock climbing, Franconia Sculpture Park, Art stuff in Stillwater as well as cross country skiing to Wm. O'Brien from her home.
394. *Quiet sports* Quiet sports were mentioned like canoe and kayaking from Arcola High Bridge.
395. *East meets West. South meets north for landscape, geology, and geography and terrain transition.* Writer described driving on 95 from Stillwater to Osceola, St. Croix Falls to North Branch farming land evolving to forest architecture.
396. *Immigrant stories. Swedish tourist destination.* This story is about Scandia and the immigrant Swedish and the emotional experience no matter what century you arrive. Gammelgarden Museum shows that adults become dependent on their children for language creating potential tension. Early immigrants had to create everything they needed. There were many cultural and intellectual challenges. Not now though with new immigrants. 1850 - 1900 50% of Sweden was affected by immigration. The Elam Lutheran church is the center of the town
397. *Progression from Native Art to Prison to industrial and manufacturing to destination for tourists. Politics, cultural necessity.* The writer told the old story of the Old Federal Prison, until 1925 until moved to other location. Younger brothers (Northfield robbers) making spirits, air smelling of sewers,, visions of Native Art, soldiers, prison guards, tapping on walls. There were lots of springs under the building cobblestones which created construction problems. She is moving as she gets woken up too often. Talk too of a String Factory, Land o Lakes mostly empty for 75 years and the bus depot. . Stills on the river during prohibition. First Territorial Legislature held in Stillwater. Prohibition, role of river
398. *Unique glacial features. Conservation.* Descriptions of being down at Taylors Falls, p-Potholes, unique in world. Mentioned glacial landscape.
399. *Paddling in the river.* Memories of a 'big paddle' when 150 - 200 canoeists and kayakers did the entire St. Croix 17 days trip. Retracing the trip first done by Jim Dunn (1966). Some days were fast others slow. Writer had a family by the time St. Croix River Association.

- we were done!...baby born!
400. *Makes art accessible.* The Franconia Sculpture Park is free. Art for public sale. You are invited to be part of it. Sells water and freeze pop and is community based. It has expanded dramatically recently. You get to be part of the art and get dirty. Great for kids, "Yes, climb on it!" Potholes at Taylors Falls.
401. *Swedish History. Immigration.* The storyteller has been in Sandia all his life and is familiar with everything from Continental divide to Prescott. Scandia was the first Swedish settlement in Minnesota. Went to school there for 5 years. Swedes living at Marine on St. Croix and west to Scandia. Gammelgarden Museum and Swedish Festivals. Great tours, magnificent history and he oldest homes. Swedish immigration. Ham Lake School.
402. *Really important historic town. Logging.* The Marine on St. Croix was the focus of this story. In 1870 the first sawmill was built in MN, 7 hotels, 5 brothels. It was a Boomtown. Logs were floated down St. Croix River so the sawmill was very important. Loggers are part of the early history. Garrison Keillor makes references). sawmills and other buildings
403. *Water quality. Preservation.* The storyteller talked about Buttermilk Falls, falling in glory into the river and 900 acres of cedars, a 65 foot waterfall cascading. He did not find out about this for 50 years. The water quality was maintained until pollution came in later with the confluence with the Mississippi. Waterfall. Standing Cedars. Native History. Fur trade History.
404. *National treasure in our own back yard.* Snake River, River on Stateline Road. Confluence at Danbury.
405. *Happiness* 'A feeling of unique energy. Your soul feels full here.
406. *Protection of land. Care for land preservation.* 'In Frederick Luck there is an identity and people don't hump their chests, they just acknowledge it. (Mainstay on little Buttermilk.) Guarded about over exploiting the area. People here are protective of this. What is the economic impact?'
407. *Osceola* Behind the vet clinic on 35, there are great walking paths north of Osceola and fish hatching is now there. Fish hatching
408. *Sense of community* 'Difference - it doesn't matter how long you live here, you have a passion for the area.
409. The storyteller told of Voyager Rocks and Solon Springs to headwater at St. Croix. 'My wife and I were on the trail out there when there came three dogs running at us. We thought we were a wolf pack's dinner but they were a woman's German Shepherds off the lease'.
410. *Preservation, Natural beauty, Conservation.* Crex Meadows are a real success story for the Sandhill cranes. They make holes in your yard looking for grubs before they become junebugs. We used to go blueberry picking in Crex Meadows. blueberries, cranes
411. *Natural beauty* A river walk in Taylors Falls from Car Rate Gas Station, walking over covered wooden bridge, MCC built, walking along bluff, connecting into neighborhood is next plan. Queen and Princess River Cruises
412. *Interstate St. Paul. Buttermilk Falls. Standing Pines. Natural beauty.* A walk on the train bridge across the river, less than quarter of a mile towards Oseola, is Buttermilk Falls. There is a bridge of stone over the Falls which leads to Farmer's back yard. Curtain Falls, Old Railroad grade.
413. *Logging history* Arcola Mills is a historical site. It is an old mill site donated by a Doctor and his wife. National Park Service was involved. It is the longest piece of private property, one mile of river. Fundraising events are held there. Logging.