

Keynote Speakers:

Tuesday, March 30, 2010, 9:15am – 10:00am

Dr. Ed Kesgen is an inspirational speaker, interpretive naturalist, teacher of tai chi chuan, former US Naval Officer, retired therapist and university professor. Dr. Kesgen is actively engaged in spreading joy, hope and optimism and celebrating through a variety of speaking engagements and experiential workshops across the country.

Self-Empowerment: There never were any locks

If you spend your entire life searching for keys . . . the key to happiness, the key to success, the key to love, the key to health . . . you may become startled and somewhat humbled at the end of your time on this planet to realize no keys were to be found . . . because there never were any locks! Together, let's look at a framework for controlling your destiny.

Thursday, April 1, 2010, 9:00am – 10:00am

More Than Just a Song and Dance: Music as an Element of Interpretation

Dan Best, Foster Brown, Dennis Pilaske & Mark Szabo

Music enhances cultural and natural history interpretive programs by making both emotional and intellectual connections for program participants. Interpretive songs blend the emotional power of music and lyrics that are grounded in program content. Using this interpretive method in your programs can inspire your audience while giving them a chance to sing along, get up and move, or just sit back and listen.

Join interpreters Dan Best, Foster Brown, Dennis Pilaske and Mark Szabo as they share their original interpretive songs dedicated to the natural world, the seasonal cycle and the stories of people on the land. This toe tapping session is meant to inspire you to consider adding music into your own programs and to get the morning started off with a song.

Thursday, April 1, 2010, 1:15 -1:45pm

The Miracle Cure for Emerald Ash Borer

Scott Beam, Pete Stobie & Bob Dispenza

Emerald Ash Borer was unintentionally introduced into the Great Lakes Region in the early 1990's. Ash trees in America have no natural defenses to battle infestations of this tiny beetle. Millions of trees have been ravaged to the point of questioning the future survival of ash trees in North America. Experiments for controlling spread of EAB (such as quarantine, firewood relocation ban, pheromone traps) have largely failed. New experiments with mechanical devices have successfully reduced EAB populations and even eliminated them. Plans for EAB capturing apparatus are demonstrated with experiments that led to the final design.

Friday, April 2, 2010, 8:00 – 9:00am

A Lighthearted Look at Interpretation Past and Present

Evie Kirkwood & the Nature Gals

Evie Kirkwood & the Nature Gals will take us on a journey highlighting the changes in interpretation. Although times have changed, the elements interpreters use remain constant. This lighthearted look at interpretation both past and present will refresh your interpretive soul.