

Minnesota Men's Conference



September 8th- 13th, 2009

25th Annual at Camp Miller

Sturgeon Lake, Minnesota

MINNESOTA MEN'S CONFERENCE 2009

For more information call:

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Conference Site

This years conference will be held once again at Camp Miller, a beautiful YMCA camp on 100+ acres of woods, fields and waterfront, on Sturgeon Lake 100 miles north of the Twin Cities. The cabins, dining room and main meeting lodge are a combination of rustic and modern. The camp staff are superb the food is excellent and the sauna is always hot!

25th Anniversary!

conference details and updates:

<http://www.hiddenwine.com/MMC>

Teachers:

Robert Bly, John Lee, Miguel Rivera, Daniel Deardorff, Martin Shaw, Orland Bishop, Tom Gambell, Doug von Koss, and many others...

WHERE IS IRON JOHN NOW?

Twenty five years have passed since the first Minnesota Men's Conference and what has happened? Men's work began by asking what sort of fathering and mentoring was possible for young men inside their own families and within the culture as a whole.

There is a deep hunger for intelligent leadership from adult men. It seems clear that many men have become involved in the complicated work of fathering and mentoring young men and women, yet it is also clear there's a lot more to be done.

In the early 80's Robert Bly used the story of "Iron John" to lay out a map of the soul's journey in maturing the deep masculine. This year, as we retell the story "Iron John", we will ask those new to this story, and those who have lived it: 'Where are we now in this story, what is valuable about this story of Iron John?' What other stories do we need?

The Minnesota Men's Conference was started by Robert Bly in 1984. This was shortly after the interview between Keith Thompson and Robert Bly called "What do Men Really Want?" This first conference, as well as all the ones following have included the telling of old stories, the gifts of poetry, making music together and opening our hearts to grief, which sometimes appears when men who trust each other gather together for a few days. This conference has been blessed with many fine teachers such as Etheridge Knight, James Hillman, Michael Meade, and Terry Dobson in the 1980's. Aaron Kipnis, John Lee and Robert Moore joined us in the 1990's. In 1993 with the addition of Malidoma Somé, Miguel Rivera, Haki Madhubuti and Martín Prechtel, the conference moved towards a richer diversity of thought and a deeper connection to our ancestors. In the last few years we have begun to ask that men who have been given the honey of the old stories and soul teaching give some of this sweetness back to younger men. So again we are inviting 30 young men between the ages of 13 and 20 to attend this years conference.

Scholarship Fund

The Minnesota Men's Conference is supported entirely by participant fees and individual donations to the scholarship fund. Help reach out to a young man by sponsoring him to this year's conference. Please send a check or money order for \$10, \$25, \$50, even a full scholarship

Recommended Books:

Robert Bly: Iron John, A Book About Men, The Insanity of Empire; My Sentence Was a Thousand Years of Joy; The Winged Energy of Delight; The Urge to Travel Long Distances; The Night Abraham Called To The Stars; Morning Poems; Eating the Honey of Words

John Lee: The Missing Peace, When The Buddha Met Bubba, The Flying Boy: Healing the Wounded Man, Growing Yourself Back Up, Recovery: Plain & Simple, Courting a Woman's Soul

Daniel Deardorff: The Other Within: The Genius of Deformity in Myth, Culture, & Psyche

Martin Shaw: A Branch From The Lightning Tree, Wilderness, Myth, and the Life Not Yet Lived