

President: Sally Berman (2017)



Sally Berman, Folk School committee member, with her late husband, Al, fell in love with the Porkies when they purchased their home "between the Cranberries" in 1976. Sally taught chemistry at a large Chicago suburban high school, and after she stepped through a golden early retirement window in 1994, she led workshops and graduate courses for educators for several years. While they were still in the classroom, she and Al spent all of their holiday and vacation time at their home on the lake and moved to the shore when they retired from teaching in 1994. A few years ago, Sally joined the Folk School Committee, and for the past several years she was the weekend Ontonagon Lighthouse tour guide. As a President, Sally's goal

is to help the Friends grow and thrive.

Vice President: Jim Bradley (2017)



Jim Bradley was the president of the Friends for over 20 years. Under his leadership the organization launched and maintained the Porcupine Mountains Music Festival, the Artist in Residence Program, and the Folk School. These programs and others resulted in the Friends receiving a Governor's Service Award as an outstanding volunteer program in 2016 and an outstanding volunteer program award from the Great Lakes Council on Youth Development in 2015. Jim's leadership did much to build the Friends into a strong, vibrant organization.

Treasurer: Barb Braithwaite (2018)



Barb has been on the Friends Board or involved in Friends of the Porkies volunteer efforts since the mid-1990's when Dan Urbanski invited her to an early-days board meeting to help out with a cross-country ski event sponsored by the Friends. She is married to Dave, a retired park ranger from the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, and herself is an ex-park ranger from lower Michigan, a former DNR district office manager, and most recently, a clinical psychologist. Some of Barb's other volunteer efforts include local ski patrol at the Porkies, duties with social work agencies around the area, and Board Treasurer for the Friends

Secretary: Carol Maass (2018)



A recently retired professional interpreter with 35 years working in National Parks, Carol has volunteered as the Outreach Coordinator for the Friends of the Porkies. With two Bachelors of Arts degrees from the University of Minnesota (Archeology and Geography), she has extensive experience in Cultural Resource Management and Interpretation. Carol has been a member of the National Association for Interpretation since 1989.

Accomplishments include planning and designing multiple exhibits and print materials at three parks. For the last, 8 years of her career, Carol was the NPS Midwest Region Interpretive Media Project Manager managing over 180 exhibit, audiovisual, wayside, brochure and social media projects ranging from the a YouTube exotic species video to the Keweenaw Calumet Visitor Center exhibits.

Robert Wagner (2017)



Hello to all the Friends! I was the Friends Secretary/Board Member for several years. Sarah, my wife of 28 years and also an active member, and I have always shared a love of the outdoors and are avid hikers, “explorers”, and cross-country/downhill skiers. We have shared many wonderful adventures in our beloved Porkies ever since we met, and find that being actively involved in the Friends Of The Porkies is a great way to not only give something back to the park, but also help improve it to enhance our future experiences there.

I have a BS and MS Degree in Forestry from Michigan Technological University. Having grown up in New Jersey, I have since lived most of my life in the “Great UP” attending college and then working for the USDA Forest Service on the Ottawa National Forest for nearly 30 years as a Soil Scientist and Silviculturist. Since my retirement 3 years ago I remain very active both in personal and volunteer activities and have found being involved in such an active and beneficial organization like the Friends a very rewarding experience.

My wife and I try to remain involved in our professional careers (Sarah is also a retired Forest Service Soil Scientist) on a volunteer consulting basis, and also like to cook, garden, bike ride, volunteer for the local animal shelter, and participate in community events. O

I look forward to many more years of activity in the Friends, and adventures in the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park and encourage others who love the Porkies to also become more involved in it support through our organization. Thank You.

Susanne Adams (2019)



Originally from Southern Indiana and a graduate of Purdue University, I worked as a wildlife biologist for 20+ years on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest in north-central WI. In the fall of 2011 I relocated to Ontonagon/Silver City after accepting the District Ranger position on the Ottawa National Forest. Both of these positions require me to work on teams, along with local community and partners. I have developed my communication skills over the years and always look for win/win projects and solutions.

I have my spouse, 2 dogs and a cat that keep me occupied along with numerous hobbies and interests. The biggest passions I have are for music, travel and most outdoor silent sports - hiking, skiing, snowshoeing, biking, etc. I have been hiking/backpacking since 1990, and have taken easily over a dozen week-long backpacking trips. I started backpacking in the Porkies around 1993, and have enjoyed the park and it's wonders off and on since then. It is a dream come true to live within a few short minutes of the best hiking in the entire Midwest.

From what I have seen so far, it the Friends of the Porkies is an organization that is getting great things accomplished for the park and for the community.

Carol Huntoon (2019)



The park is a wonderful treasure for all generations and I am so pleased that the Friends of the Porkies exists to support and promote it. I initially joined FOP to try to develop a better system of promoting membership renewals and broadening an outreach program to recruit more members. As I became involved in more aspects of the organization, I served, at various times, as a board member, treasurer, membership chair, music festival volunteer and editor of the Quill.

Mostly, I enjoy building things. My greatest and fondest experience with FOP was being one, of many volunteers, to build Dan's Cabin. In addition, I worked in furnishing and maintaining the cabin as well as being the primary "Composting Toilet Queen" by keeping that system in balance with microbes, peat moss and wood chips for the past ten years. In recent years I built all of the storage boxes for the Artist-In-Residence Program permanent art collection.

I hold a BA and MA from MSU and was an Assistant Dean of Students at Northern Michigan University until I retired in 1992 after which I served as the Ontonagon County Airport Manager for 15 years.

Marilyn Knuteson (2019)



Originally from Wisconsin, I retired after a 32 year career with the State of WI Dept. of Corrections. I have been a Master Gardener volunteer since 2010 and have an innate love for the natural world. I am a member of the Friends of the Porkies and for the last two years I have been a member of the Folk School committee, a folk school host and student, and a music festival volunteer. I believe in the mission and vision of both the FOP and the Folk School and will work to continue to make them successful. The Porkies offers an abundance of outdoor opportunities to both local residents and vacationers, and I feel the FOP and FS offer unique and valued

opportunities to enhance that experience.

Jane Rasmussen (2018)

I have been a member of the Friends for a number of years, even before we moved to the U.P. Since relocating here in 2014, I have been involved in the Folk School as a volunteer host, a member of the committee and a student. As an advocate of the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, I enjoy hiking, cross-country skiing, participating in the park events and bringing our many guests to the Park. I have been assisting the Friend's Treasurer with deposits for the past three years in order to have stronger internal controls and for the past year I have been volunteering my time as the accountant/bookkeeper.