

2020 Presenter Biographies



Wednesday, March 18th

Elizabeth K. Andre, Ph. D: *Northland College*

Elizabeth K. Andre, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor of Outdoor Education at Northland College in Ashland, Wisconsin. She instructs courses in Group Process & Leadership, Wilderness Instructor Training, Winter Travel, Accident Theory and Risk Management, Controversial Issues in Adventure Programming, and various technical skills. She is a former President of the Association of Outdoor Recreation and Education, has instructed over 1000 days with Outward Bound and the Wild Rockies Field Institute, and is a consultant for the Outdoor Safety Institute. She participated in National Geographic Explorer Will Steger's 2007 Baffin Island Expedition, serving as the Education Coordinator and publishing curricula on climate change to support this and other Steger Expeditions. She is an ACA L4 whitewater canoe instructor trainer, a competitive whitewater canoe slalom racer, and tries to get as many personal days on rivers as possible. She just released a video-based course on fundamental outdoor skills for *The Great Courses*.

Jeff Baierlein: *Viristar*

Jeff Baierlein is an author, consultant, trainer and speaker on outdoor program risk management, environmental education, and business leadership. Jeff directs the consultancy Viristar, providing safety, curriculum design, and strategy consulting and training to experiential education and other organizations world-wide. He is the author of *Risk Management for Outdoor Programs: A Guide to Safety in Outdoor Education, Recreation and Adventure*. Jeff is an outdoor safety expert witness, an adventure program reviewer with the Association for Experiential Education, and the former Executive Director of both the Boojum Institute and Outward Bound Baltimore Chesapeake Bay. He has served on numerous Boards and given presentations in 15 countries, where his work has been translated into Russian, Vietnamese and Chinese. Jeff has degrees in Environmental Education, Human Development, and Business Management, and lives in Seattle, Washington.

Zoe Bertz: *New Vision Wilderness*

Zoë Bertz is a Field Specialist for New Vision Wilderness and has been working in Outdoor Behavioral Healthcare for over 3 years. During her time with New Vision Wilderness, she has previously been a Field Instructor and had 125 field days. As a Field Specialist she has mentored and trained over 30 Field Instructors to work with adolescents who have undergone trauma. Prior to working at New Vision Wilderness Zoë completed a 30-day NOLS Backpacking expedition and earned a BS in Psychology.

Jenna Bjork: *Minnesota Department of Health*

Dr. Jenna Bjork is a senior epidemiologist in the Vectorborne Diseases Unit at the Minnesota Department of Health where she works with diseases such as Lyme disease and West Nile virus. She is currently responsible for managing the program's TickNET-associated research studies, coordinating tick surveillance activities, and enhancing health promotion efforts.

Amanda Cialkowski: *Attorney*

Amanda Cialkowski is a shareholder and trial lawyer for Nilan Johnson Lewis PA in Minneapolis where she practices in the areas of product liability/mass torts and commercial litigation. She also serves as the chair of the product liability/mass tort practice group. Amanda is a thoughtful and accomplished litigator, and she truly exceeds client expectations as a defense trial attorney. Her skills in the courtroom have earned her a sought-after reputation when a case goes before a jury or judge. She frequently joins teams on the eve of trial as drop-in counsel. Her success in the courtroom is partly due to her ability to explain a difficult set of facts to a jury in a way that makes them understand the client's position. Amanda loves being able to dig into the details of a case and learn the industry or science behind the issue at hand to better arm her defense. Not only is she thorough and insightful, but Amanda is sensitive to balancing client's business interests with the goals of litigation. Amanda is an active member of various defense attorney organizations, including DRI, FDCC and ADTA. She also serves on the Board of Directors for YMCA Camp Northern Lights.

Carrie Klumb: *Minnesota Department of Health*

Carrie Klumb is a senior epidemiologist in the Zoonotic Diseases Unit at the Minnesota Department of Health. She runs several projects related to zoonotic disease prevention, outreach, and education for agricultural workers, their families, and others exposed to agricultural settings. This work is done as part of the Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health or UMASH Center at the University of Minnesota.

Joe Malhoit: *All Points North Consulting*

After retiring from 20 years as a Special Agent with the FBI, Joe Malhoit formed a training / consulting business to make as many people as safe as possible. During his last four years with the FBI, Joe gave over 230 Active Shooter presentations to a large variety of groups and organizations. Before Joe joined the FBI he earned a BS in Pastoral Studies and a MA in Psychology. He worked as a Teacher, Pastor and in the medical rehabilitation field. This background combined with his experience as a Special Agent gives Joe a unique perspective. He utilizes these abilities to work with a diversity of individuals and organizations to increase their level of security. Joe continues to expand the mission of preparing individuals and organizations to respond to the challenges of violent events.

David Puhl: *New Vision Wilderness*

David Puhl is the Program Director for New Vision Wilderness and has been working in Outdoor Behavioral Healthcare for 5 years. During his time with New Vision Wilderness, he previously been a Field Instructor, Academic and Adventure Education Specialist, and is the current Program Director. David was the Academic and Adventure Education Specialist for 3 years, during that time he set up at least 7 trauma sensitive adventure trips each year for each group at New Vision Wilderness. As Program Director he supervises the field team and monitors NVW risk management protocol in order to maintain quality program. Before working with New Vision Wilderness David earned his BS in Wildlife Ecology and spent 2010-2012 as an Environmental Education Volunteer with Peace Corps Senegal.

Abbey Ruhland: *Minnesota Department of Health*

Abbey Ruhland is an epidemiologist in the Waterborne Diseases Unit at the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). At MDH, she assists *Giardia* surveillance activities, leads child care waterborne disease outreach, and conducts outbreak investigations.

Cathy Scheder: *Second Nature Partners*

Cathy Scheder is the managing partner of Second Nature Partners, LLC. She has a vast knowledge base and experience on aquatics risk management, general risk management, strategic planning, and operational administration. She literally wrote the book on Waterfront Management for Camp and Recreation Programs and is a faculty member for Expert Online Training.

Holly Schmies: *University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point*

Holly Schmies, PhD, ATC/LAT, is currently the Graduate Program Director for Athletic Training and an Associate Professor in the School of Health Care Professions at the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point. She has been an instructor for SOLO School of Wilderness Medicine since 2002 teaching courses primarily for Wilderness First Aid and First Responder Certifications.

Thursday, March 19th

Jordan Baxter: *Green Bay YMCA*

Jordan Baxter is the Director of Operations and Marketing for YMCA Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya and YMCA Camp Wabansi. Jordan has a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and after teaching 4th Grade in Colorado for one year she swiftly returned to her rightful place, camp. She enjoys labeling, color coding, filing, and scheduling and often offers her organizational services to office team members. Jordan loves to train and coach staff and take photos of kids that capture the magic of camp. Every Sunday she memorizes every single camper's name, and spends summer camp weeks bonding with the kids who need a little extra support. You'll often catch her hiding in bushes waiting for the perfect brochure cover shot. Jordan lives and works at Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya year round with her fiancé', Josh and their Australian Shepard, Vida. In their spare time, they are rebuilding a Ford Transit Van into the ultimate adventure vehicle. Favorite Food: Homemade Ramen Favorite Color: Forest Green.

Max Clark: *Green Bay YMCA*

Max Clark is the Executive Director of Camping Services for the Greater Green Bay YMCA. Born and raised in the hills of Colorado, Max has a Bachelor's Degree in History and Political Science which is complemented by a Master's Degree in Business Administration. While trapesing around the mountains of Colorado with his nearly useless education, Max worked as a logger, construction worker and special education paraprofessional. Somehow the fates aligned and after 15 years of camping experience Max now specializes in instilling kids and staff with resilience, grit, self-reliance and general badassery. Much to the chagrin of his staff, you'll have a hard time finding Max at his desk banging out emails and such; most of his day is spent outside fundraising, working with kids, coaching staff or dreaming up facility improvements. Max enjoys rompin' with his 2 kids, a good Netflix binge cuddled up with his wife, consuming inappropriate amounts of popsicles, mountain climbing and hunting elk in the backcountry. Favorite Food: Fire Roasted Green Chilies. Favorite Color: Flannel.

Abby Dare: *Voyageur Outward Bound School*

Bio coming shortly, please check back!