ADIRONDACK COMMUNITY
Capturing, Retaining, and Communicating the Stories of Who We Are

100 Story Celebration
September 14, 2019

WHAT IS ADIRONDACK COMMUNITY?

- Adirondack Community: Capturing, Retaining, and Communicating the Stories of Who We Are is a multi-year local history project that collects and organizes audio stories and related photographs from Town of Keene community members through an online platform to share the rich social and cultural history of this community located in New York State’s Adirondack Mountains.
- A “story” is a first-person three-five minutes account by people in their own voice about their own experience and those of their ancestors, accompanied by up to five photos from the library’s archives and posted on myadirondackstory.org in one-three categories.

THE NUMBERS TODAY

Two years of planning, 4 focus groups with 31 participants in 2018.
198 initial names of storytellers in worksheet.
Three months since website released June 2019.

Over 750 people have gone to the website for stories;
over 275 in storyteller worksheet.

123 stories in the eight categories, once, twice, or three times.
Half used computers, half mobile devices.
Almost all came directly to myadirondackstory.org,
but some came from the library’s website, Facebook, Google, or other ways.

Most viewed categories are People, Outdoor Activities, and Catastrophes.

PROJECT STAFF

- Jerry Y. Huntley, Volunteer Grants Manager
- Karen Glush, Library Director, Keene Valley Library
- Bethany Garrett, Story Aide
- Olivia Dwyer, PR/Marketing/Communications
- Elizabeth Rogers & Margarete Howethorn, Archives, Keene Valley Library

But most important are you, the storytellers!

FUNDING THROUGH 2022

- 2018-19
  - Humanities New York (HNY) for planning and implementation through Vision and Action Grants
  - Glenn and Carol Pearsall Adirondack Foundation
  - Northern New York Library Network (NNYLN) Innovation Grant
- Community and in-kind donations
- 2020-22
  - Community donations from “The Plateau”
- 2023 on
  - Hoping the library can carry minimal costs at this point.

Go to myadirondackstory.org
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WHAT’S HAPPENING NOW?
- Story booth set up downstairs in the library
- Coordinating with Keene Central School, Keene Library, and Keene Historical Society
- Growing relationships with HumanitiesNY, Northern New York Library Network, Adirondack Foundation, Adirondacks Center for Writing, Glenn and Carol Pearsall Adirondack Foundation, and Neighborhood House
- Podcasts introduced
- Storytellers say they are happy with the project and continue to keep coming back for more! School and community excited!

WHAT’S NEXT?
- More and more stories taken 12 months a year! Tell your friends!
- Looking for grants and planning to expand throughout the North Country, NYS, and eventually, beyond!
- Email myadirondackstory@gmail.com to tell a story or ask questions...

Go to myadirondackstory.org to listen!

THE STORIES

CATEGORIES FOR STORIES
FROM THE FOCUS GROUPS
- Arts & Culture
  - Music/art/theatre/literature/philosophy/photography/religion/tall tales
- Work
  - Guides/forester/mining/logging/climbing/career and temp/camping/poleman/cabin/forester
- Outdoor Activities
  - Hiking/white water/bicycling/boating/skiing/fishing/skiing/hiking/skiing/sports/lake activities/guide boats
- Community
  - Cemeteries/hospitals/schools/churches/fire departments/telephone/restaurant/hotels/schools
- Catastrophes
  - Disasters/tragedies/war
- People
  - Colorful characters/strong women/early settlers
- Daily Life
  - Events and traditions/volunteerism/activism/philanthropy/demographic changes
- Natural & Man-made Environment
  - Natural history/architecture/Great Camps/mountains/nature
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COMPLETED
- Social Justice & Social Change
- Catastrophes & Community Reaction
  - Water, Part I

NEXT PLANNED
- Music
- Farming
- Work
- School
- Volunteers
- Fire Department
- 1st Ancestors Here

IN PROGRESS
- Catastrophes & Community Reaction, Fire
  & Mountains, Part II
- Legacies
- Hiking

SELECTED STORIES

https://app.memria.org/stories/public-story-
view/6e4e2f24a06f4794847ba84d1608c618/
https://app.memria.org/stories/public-story-
view/f7ae75c7641b479993c6cc191d17802c/

COMMUNICATIONS, MARKETING, & PUBLIC RELATIONS

Olivia Dwyer

MARKETING GOALS
- Story Collection: Connect with Town of Keene residents and visitors to build awareness of the project and inspire them to prepare and tell their stories
- Story Listening: Inspire Town of Keene residents, visitors, and general public to go to the website and listen to stories

MEDIA REPORT
- Outreach
  - Press Releases: 8
  - Facebook posts: 31
  - Reach: 5,082 users
  - Engagement: 582 actions
- Keene NextDoor: 23
- 92 community thank you & comments
- Posters: 4
- Regular notices to Keene Valley Congregational Church, Keene Friday Letter, and Jay News audience

PRESS CLIPS
- Earned
  - Local Media: October 9
  - Sue Community News
  - Lake Placid News
  - Adirondack Almanack
  - Four articles, two front page stories
  - Podcast: "We Are Lake Placid"
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SELECTED STORIES

http://app.memria.org/stories/public-story-view/33d329b1cf074994a92be7ef5fa2bf0d/

http://app.memria.org/stories/public-story-view/59ab6f3055da499c95a157c2bd1ece8a/

Go to myadirondackstory.org