

SUMMARY AND BIO

(Speaker Introduction on next page)

Christian Milaster will share the story behind the design and construction of his “**off-the-grid, off-the-well, off-the-furnace**” house in Lanesboro, Minnesota which successfully combines a contemporary design and 21st-century comfort with an environmentally-friendly and energy-sustainable life style.

The house, located 3 car minutes from downtown Lanesboro, combines wind energy, passive solar design, masonry stove, rainwater collection, insulated concrete forms, environmentally-friendly building materials, and energy- and water-efficient appliances (with a photovoltaic and solar hot water system as well as a fossil-fuel-free radiant in-floor heating system coming online soon, hopefully in 2008).



Christian Milaster is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP) and holds a Masters Degree in Technical Information Science from the Technical College in Wedel near Hamburg, Germany and a 3-1/2 year electronics technician degree. He started software development in 1987 and is currently working as a Project Manager in the Mayo Clinic Division of Engineering, where he and his colleagues design and build one-of-a-kind devices and solutions for Mayo’s physicians and researchers.

Born, raised, and educated in Hamburg, Germany, Christian has lived in the US since 1998.

Christian is a member of Rotary International and a trained Prejudice Reduction Workshop Facilitator for the Rochester Diversity Council. He also serves on the board of directors at the Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center in Lanesboro, the Lanesboro Art Council and is the 2008 board chair of the Rochester Area Quality Council.

INTRODUCTION

Today, Christian Milaster will share the story behind the design and construction of his “off-the-grid, off-the-well, off-the-furnace” house in Lanesboro, Minnesota which successfully combines a contemporary design and 21st-century comfort with an environmentally-friendly and energy-sustainable life style.

Christian Milaster is a German-born, German-educated Diploma Engineer with a degree in Technical Information Science who is proud of his heritage but very happy to live in the beautiful Bluff Country of south-eastern Minnesota. He has lived in the United States since 1998 and works at the Mayo Clinic as a Project Manager in the Division of Engineering where he and his colleagues design and build one-of-a-kind devices and solutions for Mayo’s physicians and researchers.

Christian is a certified Project Management Professional, a member of Rotary International and he serves on the board of directors at the Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center in Lanesboro, the Lanesboro Art Council and he is the 2008 board chair of the Rochester Area Quality Council.

After two years of dreaming, researching, designing, and planning—followed by 11 months of construction management and lots of sweat-equity—it was finally time to move into the “off-the-grid”, “off-the-well”, and “off-the-furnace” house in August of 2006. Since moving in, almost 300 people have toured the house on five “open house days” and today Christian is delighted to share with you some details about this inspiring, unusual project!

Please join me in welcoming Christian...