

*People of the Sturgeon: Wisconsin's Love Affair with an Ancient Fish*, by Kathleen Schmitt Kline, Ronal M. Bruch, and Frederick P. Binkowski, with photographs by Bob Rashid. Madison: Wisconsin Historical Society Press, 2009. xii, 292 pp. Illustrations (mostly color), timeline, appendix, notes, illustration credits, index. \$29.95 cloth.

Reviewer Gordon O. Hendrickson is retired State Archivist for the State Historical Society of Iowa.

*People of the Sturgeon* is a well-written history of the relationship between the people of Wisconsin's Lake Winnebago area, especially the Fox and Wolf River valleys, and the ancient freshwater lake sturgeon. The story of Wisconsin's sturgeon fishery demonstrates the value of implementing careful conservation practices to ensure the long-term preservation of a species. This coffee-table-style book looks at the role of sturgeon in Native American culture, explores the impact of sturgeon during Wisconsin's pioneer period, and details the evolution of a sport fishery dependent on careful regulation for its continued existence. Nineteenth-century exploitation, especially a demand for caviar, brought freshwater sturgeon near to extinction, but a handful of conservationists led efforts to regulate sturgeon fishing in Wisconsin. *People of the Sturgeon* documents the effort to create and enforce effective regulations to preserve the sturgeon fishery. Despite initial resistance, state regulations slowly became accepted in the Lake Winnebago area and, with the aid of citizen support organizations, lake sturgeon now prosper.

*People of the Sturgeon* is well written, heavily illustrated, and well documented. Sidebars throughout the book provide enjoyable stories of individuals, organizations, and traditions related to this special fish.

*Somewhere to Belong*, by Judith Miller. Daughters of Amana Series. Minneapolis: Bethany House Publishers, 2010. 364 pp. \$14.99 paper.

*Love Finds You in Homestead, Iowa*, by Melanie Dobson. Love Finds You Series. Minneapolis: Summerside Press, 2010. 345 pp. \$12.99 paper.

Reviewer Jonathan G. Andelson is professor of anthropology at Grinnell College. He has researched and written extensively about the Amana Colonies.

The *Annals of Iowa* does not normally publish reviews of fiction, but as the Amana Colonies are a virtual Iowa icon, an exception was made for these two novels set in the colonies' past. This review will not deal with the literary merits of these books, but only with their relevance to Iowa history.