

FOUNDATION NEWS

The Canoe Diary Audiobook Celebration

On June 30th, Roxanna Erickson-Klein and Robert Erickson hosted an open house at the Erickson Historical Residence (see Roxanna's article on the residence on page 4), in celebration of the launch of the audiobook of *The Canoe Diary*.

The Canoe Diary is Erickson's own account of his adventures down the Mississippi River in 1922. At age 21, with little more than the shirt on his back and a few staples, Erickson embarked alone on a three-month-long journey to build his strength to attend college after enduring more than a year of illness and being paralyzed from polio. By the end of the trip he had increased stamina and strength. This challenging undertaking was a metaphor for the rest of his life, which was truly a hero's journey.



Robert and Kathy Erickson with Roxanna Erickson-Klein and her daughter, Olivia Klein.

On a hot summer's evening in Phoenix, approximately two dozen guests gathered at the Erickson home, to enjoy conversation, entertainment, and tours of the historic residence. Guests included Roxanna Erickson-Klein, who traveled from her home in Texas and her daughter, Olivia Klein, from New Orleans; Robert Erickson and his wife, Kathy; Marilia and Michael Baker; Richard Eddleman, a long-time family friend; Leo Sustaita, a former neighbor from Cypress Street; and a woman from Tucson who had studied with Milton Erickson, a man from Europe, and an ER physician. The next morning, Takahito Ko, a donor to the historic residence who was enroute to Japan, visited the home.

In the room where Milton Erickson held his training seminars, guests enjoyed photos of Milton Erickson which were projected on a screen with accompanying narration. This program was created by Roxanna Erickson-Klein and Lance Erickson Jr., grandson of Milton Erickson, who narrates the diary for the audiobook.

To purchase the audio download and CD of *The Canoe Diary*, please visit: <https://www.ericksonmuseum.org/canoe-diary/>

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