

Meeting Our Mission for 20 Years

It may be hard to believe, but Sugarloaf: The North Shore Stewardship Association turns 20 years old this year. On April 18, 1992 Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association Incorporated became a reality. In 2005, having accomplished

At Sugarloaf Cove.

You will notice some changes this summer inside the building. Sugarloaf received a grant from Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program for the design and construction of a new, indoor exhibit at Sugarloaf Cove. This exhibit will feature a three dimensional map of the Cove with information about our organization, the history and geology of the Cove, and our restoration efforts. We are planning to unveil it at our annual meeting on August 11.

We have been working hard to provide educational programs that are exciting and relevant to North Shore residents and visitors. This summer we are planning to add a movie night featuring nature and environmental issues films. To make attending our programs more comfortable, we are purchasing new tables and chairs. And to store those tables and chairs, and other equipment, we are planning to add a storage room to the side of the building in the near future. We will need your help with these improvements. Watch for more information about how you can contribute toward these needed additions.



Sugarloaf's Lost Forest program is a vital part of meeting our stewardship mission. Pictured above is our 2011/2012 Lost Forest participants.

significant preservation, restoration and interpretation at the 34-acre Sugarloaf Cove site, Sugarloaf changed its name and mission to reflect its larger shore-wide role of education and restoration. Our mission is: To inspire the preservation and restoration of the North Shore's unique environment through education and exemplary stewardship, especially at Sugarloaf Cove.

Meeting our mission is very important to us and to you, our donors and supporters. This year, we are really ramping up our efforts to meet our mission. Here is a peek at some of our current and upcoming efforts.

Along the shore.

Helping private landowners restore the North Shore forest is an important part of Sugarloaf's mission. On May 11, you are invited to a North Shore Landowners Community Meeting at Wolf Ridge. We will talk about the future of the forest and how you can make a difference on your property. This is a joint project of Sugarloaf's Lost Forest program and the North Shore Forest Collaborative. If you are interested in the future of the North Shore forest, we urge you to register online at www.sugarloafnorthshore.org/landowner.php.

Sugarloaf employee Mike Lynch continues as coordinator of the Cook County Invasive Team

Continued on page 2.

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BUSINESS OFFICE:

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Duluth, MN 55804
218-525-0001
Email: sugarloaf@boreal.org
www.sugarloafnorthshore.org

SUGARLOAF COVE:

9096 Highway 61
Schroeder, MN 55613
(not a mailing address)
218-663-7679

MISSION STATEMENT

Sugarloaf: The North Shore Stewardship Association strives to inspire the preservation and restoration of the North Shore's unique environment through education and exemplary stewardship, especially at Sugarloaf Cove.

SUGARLOAF's VISION is a healthy Minnesota North Shore of Lake Superior where an informed citizenry takes personal and group responsibility to ensure that natural and ecological systems and human economic and social systems coexist in a fashion sustainable into the future.

Summer Musings

By Margie Menzies, Sugarloaf Naturalist

Summer of 2011 whirled by way too quickly as summers always seem to do. It was a cool and soggy start for the nesting birds with a good portion of late May and June rainy and wet. We had a resident pair of Merlins (A species of falcons) who made their



"Merlin" Photo courtesy of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

presence known with shrill cries aimed at whatever happened to catch their attention. Unfortunately the Merlins more than likely failed in their nesting attempt due to the cool, wet weather. Many birds suffered the same fate last summer.

In July, we were happy to be open and fully functional during the state government shutdown lasting nearly

three weeks. During that time we housed a displaced Minnesota Conservation Corps (MCC) group (they had been working at a state park), and were glad to have their assistance in planting trees, completing projects, and waging war on invasive species at Sugarloaf. There were a few days in July that were very warm. But for those of us enjoying the wonders of Sugarloaf it was definitely cooler by the lake, and we were most grateful for the natural air conditioning.

August began the fall migration of birds. By mid-month there were many travelers passing through including hundreds of cedar

waxwings, golden bellied plovers, horned grebes, and many other shore and water birds. Human visitation for the summer was up from previous summers and a few fall programs were held in September. The fall passed quickly into winter and the quiet time for Sugarloaf. Thanks to all who visited and took part in summer programming. We look forward to your return this summer.

Meeting Our Mission *(continued from Page 1)*

and has been very busy conducting workshops and assisting landowners. For more about his activities see <http://tinyurl.com/ccitsugarloaf>.

Sugarloaf is also participating in the Minnesota Forest Resources Council's NE Regional plan update. This plan is one of 6 state forest management plans that provide landowners; forestry professionals; and industry, tribal, and agency officials with methods of

pursuing the sustainable management of the region's forest resources. Sugarloaf is representing private North Shore landowners at these meetings.

As 2012 continues, we will continue pursuing partnerships and opportunities that will help us meet our mission of inspiring the preservation and restoration of the North Shore for the next 20 years. Thank you for your support!

Highlights of 2011

COVE NEWS

With funding from the Donald Weesner Foundation and a private donor, we installed a new bridge and trail at Sugarloaf Cove. Visitors can now walk from the parking lot along a wooded trail and arrive at the front of the interpretive center. The bridge spans a small ravine and offers a peek at an area previously inaccessible to visitors.

Arrowhead Electric Cooperative's Operation Round-up provided funding for the purchase and installation of an invasive species interpretive sign at our northeast parking lot trailhead. The sign includes a boot brush at the base for visitors to wipe dirt, which may include unwanted seeds, off the treads of their shoes.

The Cook County Community Fund, the Carl and Verna Schmidt Foundation and Loll Designs (through 1% for the Planet) provided us grants for summer programming and advertising.



New boot brush invasive species sign at Sugarloaf's northeast trailhead.

and other educational centers; and obtaining and releasing spotted knapweed root boring weevils at the Cook County airport. Visit <http://www.co.cook.mn.us/index.php/invasives-species-team> to learn more about the CCIT.

Sugarloaf was an integral part of the formation of the North Shore Forest Collaborative. Sugarloaf received funding from the Lloyd K. Johnson Foundation to hire the coordinator for this effort, Cheryl Erickson. The mission of the North Shore Forest Collaborative is to revitalize and maintain a healthy and functioning ecosystem along the North Shore of Lake Superior with emphasis on restoring and maintaining native trees and associated forest communities. The Collaborative consists of land management agencies (local, state and federal), organizations, and individuals who share an interest in working together toward a healthy forest along the North Shore. This work takes the form of shared projects, public educational efforts, coordinated activities and involving private landowners in realizing common goals. Please join us on

May 11 for a community meeting during which we will discuss how you can get involved in North Shore forest restoration and the NSFC. Visit our web site for more information.

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Our Lost Forest program continued throughout the year with 13 very enthusiastic participants taking part in a variety of workshops including how to use a GPS, monitoring wildlife, how to keep your land in your family, forest insects and tree planting. Participants enjoyed touring each other's properties and discussing their forest restoration challenges and successes. This program will wrap up in 2012 with a community meeting on May 11 and a trail building workshop on June 2. Watch our website for more information.

Sugarloaf employee, Michael Lynch, continued as coordinator of the Cook County Invasive Team (CCIT). Mike had a busy summer designing and installing invasive species "boot brush" signs at 7 Cook County trailheads, including Sugarloaf Cove; conducting an invasive plant inventory of gravel pits in Cook County; helping landowners control invasive plants on their properties; conducting workshops at Sugarloaf

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Our Twin Cities North Shore evening fundraiser took place on November 6 at the Dodge Nature Center. Over 80 participants enjoyed great food, speaker Dale Tormendson as he reminisced about living on the North Shore, and the chance to visit with other North Shore enthusiasts while supporting Sugarloaf. Thanks to the wonderful volunteers and board members who make this special event happen every year. Mark your calendars now for November 4. Meteorologist Mark Seeley is our special speaker this year.

We were happy to welcome Greg Koschinska, Mark Magney, Elaine Ruzycski and TJ Yocum to the board of directors.

Financially, we ended 2011 in the black thanks to our generous members, donors and grantors.

association Members

Names listed are for new and renewing memberships received between January 2011 and December 2011.

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 Mr. Steve Wilson
 Susan Zimmerman

2011 statement of financial Position

asset s

current assets

Checking/Savings	
Business Checking - US Bank	25,698
Sales bag	20
Petty cash bag	5
Endowment (Schwab)	19,445
Savings — US Bank	38,705
Total Checking/Savings	83,873

Accounts Receivable	
Grants Receivable	1,494
Total Accounts Receivable	1,494

Total Current Assets 85,367

fixed assets

Accumulated depreciation	-54,395
Building and improvements	183,180
Land	570,989
Total Fixed Assets	699,774

total assets 785,141

Lia BiLit ies & eQu it Y

Liabilities

Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	612
Total Accounts Payable	612
Other Current Liabilities	
Deferred revenue	35,475
Total Other Current Liabilities	35,475
Total Current Liabilities	36,087

Total Liabilities 36,087

equity

Opening Bal Equity	-245
Unrestricted Net Assets	-485
Unrealized Gain (Loss)	5,482
Unrestricted Fund Balance	741,850
Net Income	2,451
Total Equity	749,053

total Liabilities & equity 785,140

2011 s tatement of a ctivities (Jan - Dec)

o rdinary r evenue/expense

r evenue

Contributions Income	23,296
Grants	91,312
Interest earned	15
Membership Dues	20,395
Program Fees	190
Sales	279
Total Revenue	135,487

expenses

Bank Service Charges	114
Contract Labor	33,339
Depreciation Expense	4,697
Dues and Subscriptions	215
Equipment Purchase	85
Fundraising	130
Insurance	2,744
Internet expenses	655
Miscellaneous	138
Office Supplies	754
Payroll Expenses	67,142
Postage and Delivery	1,223
Printing and Reproduction	3,140
Program Expense	3,323
Rent	3,000
Telephone	940
Training	45
Travel & Ent	7,240
Visitor Center Costs	4,113
Total Expenses	133,037

net o rdinary r evenue 2,450



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 In memory and honor of Steve Pihlaja
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 In memory of George W. Roberts
 by Mary Jo Roberts

A special thank you to all of our volunteers. We really appreciate your donation of your time and talents. Whether you were a site host, helped with maintenance of Sugarloaf Cove or hosted a fundraiser, you are all a vital part of Sugarloaf: The North Shore Stewardship Association.

Thank you!

sign up now for newsletters  via email.

As mailing costs increase, many organizations are offering members the opportunity to receive their newsletters via email. If you would like to receive your Sugarloaf newsletter via email, please send an email to sugarloaf@boreal.org.

Have you ever wanted to be on the Sugarloaf Board?

The Nominating Committee is seeking new Board members. Contact Margit Berg, 612-377-4776 or margitkb@comcast.net if you are interested.

Volunteers Wanted:

Are you spending some time on the North Shore this summer? Why not consider volunteering at Sugarloaf Cove?

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help with a variety of tasks including welcoming visitors and gardening. You do not have to commit for the entire summer. One day is fine. A few hours is fine. It's easy and fun.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Molly at molly@sugarloafnorthshore.org or 218-525-0001.

A North Shore Evening

Mark your calendars for November 4 and plan on attending Sugarloaf's annual North Shore Evening soup supper and silent auction in the Twin Cities. This year we are pleased to welcome University of Minnesota Extension climatologist and meteorologist **d r. Mark seeley** as our special speaker.



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membership APPLICATION

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ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

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PHONE _____

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- \$ 50 Supporting
- \$ 100 Sustaining
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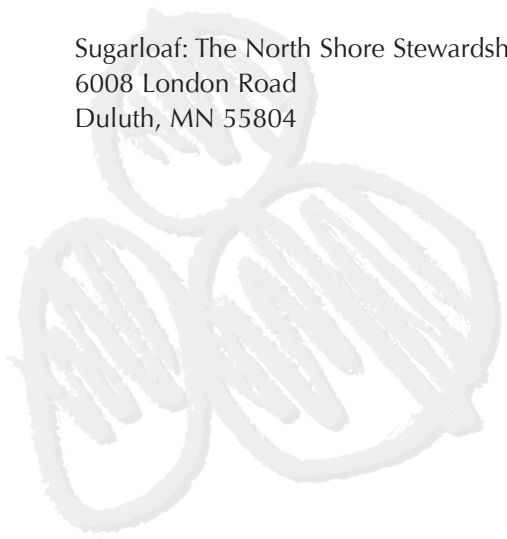
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Annual memberships are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to Sugarloaf, and mail to the business office at 6008 London Road, Duluth, MN 55804. Memberships are also available through the website at www.sugarloafnorthshore.org. Sugarloaf is an educational, non-profit 501(c)(3) Minnesota Corporation.

upcoming events

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

- april 14** – 10 am, Second Saturday program at the Cove- *Is it Spring yet?*
- May 11** – North Shore Landowners meeting at Wolf Ridge ELC
Sign up on our website <http://sugarloafnorthshore.org/landowner.php>
- august 11** – Annual member meeting
- november 4** – A North Shore Evening featuring Mark Seeley

SUMMER NATURALIST PROGRAMS AT THE COVE: (TIMES TBA)

- thursdays** – Bird Banding Demo
- fridays** – Movie night at the Cove
- saturdays** – Guest speakers and Hike of the Week
- sundays** – North Shore Geology

Watch our website or join our email list (via website) for dates and times of our upcoming summer programs. www.sugarloafnorthshore.org

