

Spring 1994

The Sugarloaf Interpreter

A Publication Of The
Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association



SUGARLOAF NATURAL AND CULTURAL CHARACTERISTICS STUDY PROPOSED TO LCMR

Cultural and natural characteristics of Sugarloaf Cove would be studied under a proposal which has been submitted to the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources by SICA. The study, if approved, would be financed by an LCMR grant of \$80,000 and matching SICA funding of \$40,000. The funds would be available between July 1995 and June 1997. Ed Landin, SICA, would be designated as project manager. The proposal is one of several hundred, so granting of the funds is not certain.

Under the study, geological and botanical characteristics would be inventoried and catalogued. Test plots would be established to assess the potential for reintroducing native plant species. The possibility of re-creating a former wetland on the property would be examined. Natural history would be interpreted with demonstrations, trail signage, maps, and field guides and through on-site educational programs. Human and cultural history would be surveyed and presented through oral histories, photos, displays, and written archives.

SHORELINK NEWS

The effort to bring together the many North Shore interpretive and educational organizations has met with gratifying success. Shorelink, as the committee is known, has sponsored two meetings with up to 20 organizations represented. The purpose of Shorelink is "to sustain and improve the services of member organizations and individuals in providing effective and educational programming." The group plans to compile a directory of North Shore interpretive organizations and to publish a calendar of Lake Superior region interpretive and educational events. The next quarterly meeting will be hosted by Lake County Historical Society at the Depot in Two Harbors on Tuesday, April 12, from 2 to 4 p.m. Interested groups are invited to attend.

LANDIN AND MORRIS NAMED FACILITATORS

At the bi-monthly SICA Board of Directors meeting Saturday, March 19, Ed Landin and Peg Morris of Grand Marais were retained to serve as facilitators of SICA program and development projects effective April 1. This will enable SICA to enlarge its program activities.

PAPER TO BE PRESENTED ON LAKE SUPERIOR MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

A Lake Superior Region conference on Ecosystems Management Strategies will be conducted by UMD in Duluth May 14-16. Included will be a paper presented by Emily Andersen, SICA vice president, on collaboration between non-profit organizations and governmental units to achieve goals of protecting natural sites and providing educational public access.

CALENDAR

April 12 - Quarterly Shorelink meeting hosted by Lake County Historical Society. Two Harbors Depot. 2 to 4 p.m.

May 7 - Interpretive Public Meeting, Grand Marais Community Center, 7 p.m. "Photographing Rare and Endangered Plants on the North Shore" with Malcolm and Rosemary MacFarlane.

May 8 - Interpretive Public Meeting, Two Harbors Community Center, 2 p.m. Same program as May 7.

May 14-16 - Lake Superior Region conference on "Ecosystems Management Strategies" sponsored by UMD, DECC, Duluth.

May 21 - SICA Board of Directors Meeting, Silver Bay.

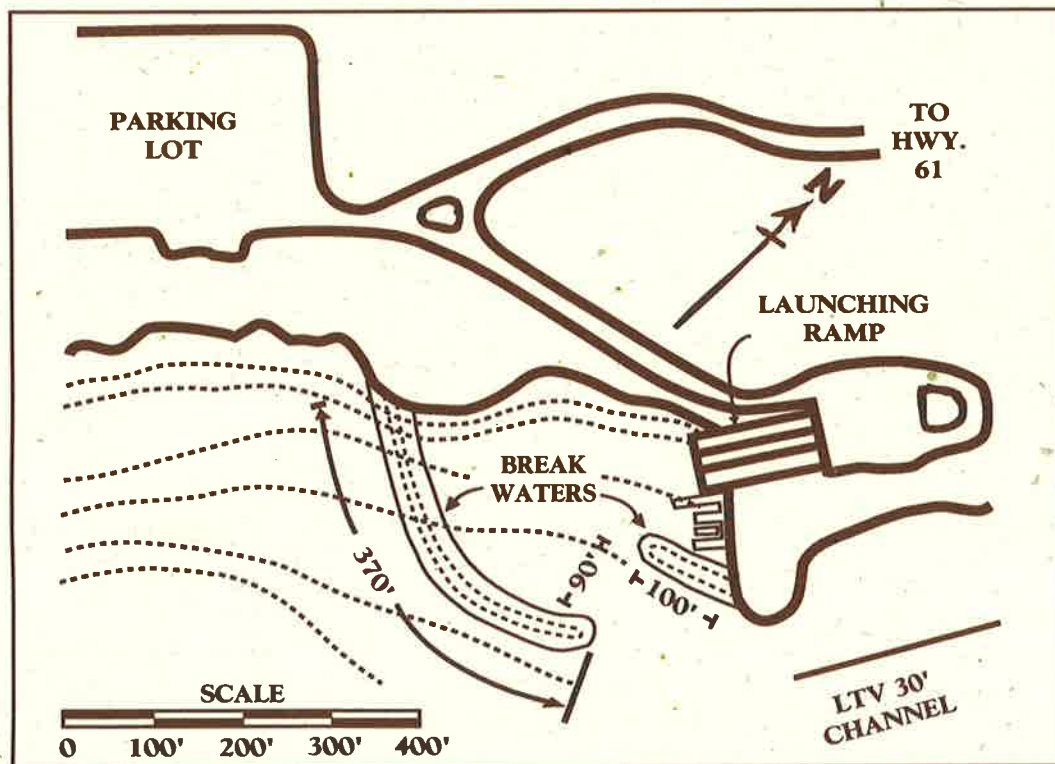
July 16 - SICA Annual Board of Directors Meeting.

SCHROEDER PRELIMINARY HARBOR PLAN AT TACONITE HARBOR ACCEPTED

A preliminary design for a small-boat launch ramp and harbor adjacent to the LTV harbor at Taconite Harbor, prepared by the Department of Natural Resources, was approved by the Schroeder Harbor Committee on January 25 and by the annual meeting of the Town of Schroeder on March 8. This is a large leap forward and funding for the project is included in Governor Carlson's bonding bill now before the Legislature. Questions of lease provisions with LTV, liability, insurance, and related factors must still be resolved.

The project would cost an estimated \$1,592,000. Included would be two breakwaters 470 and 100 feet in length and projecting 8 feet above lake level. A protected basin of over 1-½ acres with a depth of five to twenty feet would be provided. The project would include \$300,000 for parking and other on-land development, \$100,000 for ramps, and \$75,000 for docks and signs.

A Minnesota statute absolves a private property owner from liability when leasing property to the State. Thus LTV Steel, the owner of the property, need not take any risk of liability for operations by others on its property, and will not sell the site, but is willing to lease it for the small-boat harbor use. The Corps of Engineers and the US Coast Guard agree that the plan would meet safety standards, and that the activity of small boats in the vicinity would not impede LTV operations.



To quote the Cook County News Herald, "Construction of this harbor, if completed, would remove Sugarloaf Cove from consideration as a harbor or refuge site, and presumably pave the way for DNR negotiations with the Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association toward eventual development of an interpretive center at Sugarloaf."

PROPOSED SMALL-BOAT HARBOR AT TACONITE HARBOR

MACFARLANES TO SPEAK AT INTERPRETIVE PUBLIC MEETINGS

Continuing the series, informative public meetings will be sponsored by SICA at Grand Marais and Two Harbors on Saturday and Sunday, May 7 and 8, respectively. The photographic team of Malcolm and Rosemary MacFarlane will discuss and show slides - "Photographing Rare and Endangered Plants on the North Shore." They will discuss how to photograph these delicate plants and describe distinctive plant habitats. The same program will be presented at both meetings. The Grand Marais meeting will be at 7 p.m. in the Grand Marais Community Center, and the Two Harbors meeting will be at 2 p.m. in the Two Harbors Community Center.

NANIBOUJOU AND THE GOLDEN RULE

By Nancy Way Lienke

If we become acquainted with the values of another group of human beings, we see those values which are similar to our own as well as different ones not present in our culture. It may strike us that the new values have helpful and practical implications for our own lives. That realization provides a solid basis for an exchange - that is reciprocity - and thus for reconciliation and cooperation.

Naniboujou, whom most of us knew as "Hiawatha", was the legendary traditional culture-hero and value-giver of the Ojibwe. We have found that his attitudes and precepts persist today among the Ojibwe people, who call themselves **Anishinabeg** (which means "human beings"). Their ideas and ideals, behaviors and beliefs have been communicated through the centuries by way of their shared language, religious rituals, and living patterns - all intertwined. How we now regret the earlier official efforts to extinguish the Ojibwe language and rituals! The Ojibwe life-style has been communicated through time by words, signs, dancing, drumming, singing; by facial expressions and body language; by pictographs and other art.

We came to know that Naniboujou extended the Golden Rule beyond interhuman relationships to include the entire earth, everything in nature, and even the universe. It was a question of survival. Naniboujou's nature as a trickster-hero was not altogether solemn; he enjoyed his pranks and jokes. He encouraged a sense of humor as an important survival tool. Optimism and diminished self-seriousness were valued attitudes. The Chippewa accepted each day - yes, even the weather - with a kind of equanimity and sense of reciprocity. The traditionally oriented Ojibwe manifests a spirit of thankfulness on a daily basis, generosity and gentleness with a special respect for the aged and the very young. Although non-Native American culture brought conflict, confusion, and erosion of values, there is a persisting consideration of one's spiritual center as the foundation of life and a genuine respect for nature and for all people.

The Grand Portage Ojibwe recently have been organizing to protest the development of commercial marinas on one of their ancient bays. Additionally, the Tribal Council has formed an energetic land-use task force to protect their home, an integral part of the life and spirit of the Ojibwe people. Their stand is in agreement with Manuel Gonzalez Prada's aphorism: "The displacement of a little sand can change occasionally the course of deep rivers."

*Ye who love the haunts of Nature,
Love the sunshine of the meadow,
Love the shadow of the forest,
Love the wind among the branches
And the rain-shower and the snow-storm,
And the rushing of great rivers
Through their palisades of pine trees,
And the thunder of the mountains,
Whose innumerable echoes
Flap like eagles in their eyries;
Listen to these wild traditions,
To this Song of Hiawatha.*



Nancy Way Lienke is a SICA member who has long studied the Grand Portage Chippewa. The Lienkes reside at Grand Portage.

Sugarloaf Interpreter is published quarterly by Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association. Merlin H. Berg, Editor. Articles, graphic arts, and letters to the editor warmly encouraged. Subscription to *Interpreter* is one of the benefits of membership in SICA; single copies available upon request. SICA, in care of 140 Engineering Building, College of Science and Engineering, UMD, Duluth, MN 55812.

SUGARLOAF INTERPRETIVE CENTER ASSOCIATION is a Minnesota non-profit corporation with its purpose stated in the By-Laws as:

1) Committed to preservation and protection of a tract of land which includes Sugarloaf Beach, Cove and Point, a portion of which is a designated scientific and natural area that has statutory protection.

2) Committed to the establishment of a public interpretive forum which includes staff, an appropriate non-invasive physical facility, and ongoing, year-round educational programs. This center would depict the diverse aspects of the North Shore of Lake Superior including, but not limited to, geology, biology of native plants and animals, economic origins, history and cultural heritage.

3) Committed to obtaining adequate private and public funding to build and maintain the physical facility, establish a staff and programming and create an endowment fund for the center's long-range future.

To fulfill these commitments, the Association is established for the collaborative efforts of many people and organizations of shared purpose.

Membership Application

Please enroll me as a member of the Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association in the category I have indicated. I like the idea of an Interpretive Center on the North Shore and I certainly believe the important Scientific and Natural Area of Sugarloaf Cove, Beach and Point should be preserved, protected and not be endangered.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Day _____ Evening _____

Membership Categories

_____ \$5 Student/Senior	_____ \$10 Individual
_____ \$15 Family	_____ \$25 Contributing
_____ \$50 Supporting	_____ \$100 Sustaining
_____ \$500 Patron	_____ \$1000 and up Benefactor

_____ Payment Herewith _____ Please Bill Me

Make checks payable to Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association and mail to address given below. Memberships are annual and expire December 31.

Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association

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