



# The Sugarloaf Interpreter

A Publication Of The  
Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association

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Phone (218) 726-7201

Autumn, September 1995

c/o 140 Engineering Building, College of Science and Engineering, University of Minnesota/Duluth, Duluth, MN 55812

## LCMR APPROVES SICA RESEARCH PLAN

A hearing of the Legislative Committee on Minnesota Resources approved the projected SICA research program on June 7. This permits the initiation of several research contracts at the Sugarloaf site.

The SICA Task Force which governs the conduct of the research has included until recently, Dr. Martha Henderson. Unfortunately, Dr. Henderson has been obliged to resign since she has accepted a teaching position at Evergreen College in Oregon. Dr. Frederick T. Witzig, UMD emeritus geography professor, has replaced Dr. Henderson, will oversee the geography component of the project, and will do selective oral history interviews. Patricia Maus of the SICA board is project manager.

The \$100,000 project, which is funded by a \$70,000 grant from LCMR and a \$30,000 SICA contribution, is already under way with about 1/3 of the available funds committed by research contracts. Contractors on board are Chel Anderson (vascular plants), John Green (geology), Donald Prettyman (soils), Kent Montgomery (birds, mammals, herps), Cindy Hale (plant communities), Robert Vogel (land use, industrial geography), Jan Janssens (bryophytes), Clifford Wetmore (lichens), UMD Archaeometry Lab (archaeology), NRRI (GIS mapping), Patricia Maus (bibliography, archival resources catalog), and Linda Morris (documentary photography).

## TWIN POINTS ACQUISITION PROGRESS; FUND DRIVE APPROACHES FIFTY PERCENT

At the annual meeting of SICA on August 19, 1995 it was reported that \$367,300, or nearly half of the \$750,000 purchase price, been received in contributions or pledges to date. Pledges or contributions for any amount are most welcome and payment can be extended over three years if necessary. Exercise of the purchase option is expected to be completed by Labor Day. Title will be in SICA with mortgage debt until financing is completed and title is transferred to the State.

## IJC BIENNIAL MEETING MEETING TO DISCUSS GREAT LAKES WATER QUALITY

The biennial meeting of the International Joint Commission in Duluth-Superior, September 22-25, will focus attention on Great Lakes water quality. The sessions, to be held at the DECC in Duluth, will be open meetings which will provide an opportunity for citizens, government officials, special interest groups, and the media to discuss issues of concern for the Great Lakes basin.

The IJC is charged with advising the governments of Canada and the US on how to implement the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. Although the Agreement covers a variety of topics, much attention in the past ten years has been related to persistent toxic pollutants and how to eliminate or greatly reduce these substances in the Great Lakes.

The Commissioners are appointed by the President and Premier of their respective governments. The biennial meetings of the IJC had traditionally been quiet, low key events. Then in 1989, citizens gravely concerned about the lack of government efforts to address persistent toxic substances in a comprehensive fashion, attended the meeting in large numbers. Influenced by the scientific testimony and the concerns of citizens, the IJC began responding with a series of powerful recommendations that continued after the 1991 and 1993 biennial meetings. Local concerns relate to water control in the International Falls area by Boise Cascade and its influence on Voyageurs National Park and private properties.

### - CALENDAR -

Sept. 22-25 - International Joint Commission biennial meeting, DECC, Duluth (see article above).

Sept. 26 - Upper Great Lakes Watersheds Future Water Quality Workshop, DECC, Duluth (see article, pg. 2).

Sept. 29-Oct. 1 - Wolf Ridge Weekend Programs: "Autumn on the Superior Hiking Trail", "Cycles and Seasons in Watercolor", "Fall Hawk Migration."

Nov. 18 - SICA quarterly board meeting.

## FUTURE GREAT LAKES WATER QUALITY WORKSHOPS TO FOLLOW IJC MEETING SEPTEMBER 26, 1995

On Tuesday, September 26, 1995, following the IJC meeting, there will be held a workshop sponsored by Minnesota Sea Grant, which will include speakers, panels, and work groups on Upper Great Lakes Watershed problems. Business, industry, and university experts; local, state and federal officials; and private citizens will participate. Phone 218-726-8106 for more information.

## PORTLAND, OREGON SICA MEMBER RECALLS HIGHWAY 61 CONSTRUCTION

Theresa McElwee Enroth, who graduated from Marshall High School (Minneapolis) in 1943, recently retired from teaching English for a quarter of a century in a college in California. She writes:

"...when I was a kid, my father spent many lonely winters on the North Shore blasting through rock for the scenic highway. He supervised a crew of catskinners and dragline operators and dynamite men, all surviving the winter in trailers and tourist courts in Two Harbors, Beaver Bay, and Little Marais. In the summers he brought us all up to stay in lake cabins near the job."

"...I have pictures of the job sites, including one of a dragline tumbling into a river. Those were all hard jobs, and he loved them - especially the ones with a tough, talented crew of Minnesotans."

## MPTC PURSUING NORTH SHORE GOALS

The Minnesota Parks and Trails Council is actively engaged on projects of significance to the North Shore. For instance, the Council is negotiating to acquire a 40-acre landlocked Tettegouche State Park inholding adjacent to the acquired Illgen Falls property. Exploratory contacts and appraisals are in process for possible acquisition of privately and government-owned land parcels along the Devils Track River in Cook County. In a long-standing project the Council is working toward possible acquisition of a 20-acre parcel including the Pigeon River's Middle Falls for inclusion in Ontario's Pigeon River Provincial Park.

Counsel and support are being provided to SICA in the acquisition of the Twin Points Resort property.

At its annual meeting on March 9, Sam Morgan of St. Paul was awarded the first annual Reuel Harmon award. Sam was cited among other things for his leadership and fund raising for many state parks: William O'Brien, Tettegouche, Grand Portage, George Crosby Manitou, and Judge C. R. Magney.

## ISLE ROYALE PROJECT DOCUMENTS VERNACULAR BOATS

Since 1990 nautical archaeologist Hawk Tolson has worked single-handedly to preserve a piece of northeastern Minnesota history. Tolson is director (and solo staff member) of the Isle Royale Vernacular Boat Study, a project to document surviving examples of Scandinavian-American commercial fisheries at the turn of the century.

He's concentrating on the main working vessel of the Isle Royale and North Shore fisheries, a gas-powered boat created from a converted Mackinaw sailboat. The only intact example is the *Isle*, built in 1912 at Grand Portage.

No construction plans were ever made of these workaday boats which were adapted and equipped to withstand the rigors of western Lake Superior fishing. So Tolson is painstakingly recording hull shapes and construction details. His collection of drawings will be housed at the future North Shore Commercial Fishing Museum in Tofte.

- The Minnesota History Interpreter, Oct. 1994

## SICA PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

*SICA Interpreter*, Vol. 1, Nos. 1-4  
Vol. 2, Nos. 1-4  
Vol. 3, No. 1

Address on Sugarloaf Association by Emily E. Andersen to Conference on "Ecosystem Management Strategies for the Lake Superior Region", Duluth, MN 5/18/93. Nine pages.

"Site Description and Proposed Management Plan for Sugarloaf Point and Adjacent State Owned Lands on Lake Superior, Cook County, Minnesota," July 29, 1993. SICA. Nineteen pages, bound.

To order, write to SICA, 140 Engineering Bldg., c/o College of Science and Engineering, UMD, Duluth, MN 55812. No charge.



# "JUDGE" HELLA REMEMBERS NORTH SHORE PARK DEVELOPMENT

*Starting when he graduated as a civil engineer from the University of Minnesota in 1931, "Judge" Hella has been a prime advocate of the preservation of the natural characteristics of the North Shore. He became the Director of the Division of State Parks in 1953 and was its distinguished head until he retired in 1973. His enthusiasm, common sense, and great ability made him a national figure and a recognized authority on state parks. Now at the age of 87 he is still active and enjoys his retirement at his home in St. Paul's St. Anthony Park. The following is an extract from comments he recently furnished to Sugarloaf Interpreter.*

Among the many who contributed to the development of the North Shore Parks, Judge C. R. Magney is probably the most significant. As a young Duluth attorney he found it necessary to travel to Grand Marais by water. Observing the beauty of the rugged natural shoreline he became obsessed with the idea of preserving it, and became a factor in the development of most of the state park and wayside units from Duluth to the Canadian border. He became involved in the preservation of many natural areas with their inherent biological values on a statewide and nationwide basis.

Judge Magney participated in the acquisition of nine major park tracts, some of which contained the most spectacular water falls on the North Shore, at a cost of only \$26,000. These included Baptism River, Split Rock, Ray Berglund, George Crosby Manitou, Cascade River, Temperance River, and C. R. Magney State Parks, and Caribou River and Kodonce River State Waysides. Because of his rapport with the members of the Grand Portage band, Magney, in chairing a meeting of the Tribal Council, succeeded in calling for a vote that authorized the National Park Service to proceed with the establishment of the Grand Portage National Monument - another plus for the North Shore. Magney also worked with the Grand Portage band to reroute the North Shore Drive close to the lake at the international boundary, thus making the Grand Portage State Park feasible.

Rex Green, the Highway Department's chief right-of-way engineer, and Magney, both had homes on the North Shore and were much together. Over sessions of cribbage they discussed the assets of the area and devised means for their acquisition. Through their efforts Cascade and Temperance River lands were acquired by the Highway Department - and those lands in excess of the highway right-of-way were turned over to the Division of State Parks for park purposes.

A great addition to the North Shore park system was Tettegouche, a unique and magnificent area which was established as a hunting club. It contains four beautiful lakes nestled in connecting hills and commanding a breathtaking view of Lake Superior. It was owned by Clement K. Quinn

who was concerned that the wilderness character of the area be preserved. In 1969 Hella visited Mr. Quinn with two acquaintances, Albert Marshall and F. Peavey Heffelfinger. Hella relates, "We toured the area in a gentle rain, which seemed only to enhance its incredible beauty. The wildness of the area was attested by the presence of fresh wolf tracks." Quinn later sold the property to John Delaittre, who fortunately was also deeply concerned about preserving this unique area for posterity. Delaittre eventually granted an option to the Nature Conservancy to acquire Tettegouche, and in 1981 the Legislature authorized funds for its purchase as a state park.

The development of the park sites and Highway 61 enjoyed the talents of outstanding planners. The dean of these was A. R. Nichols, who arrived in Duluth, as he described it, in the "horse and buggy" era. He was a graduate of MIT's first class in landscape architecture. Nichols and his partner Morel on their arrival in Duluth developed a plan for the enhancement of the Glensheen estate. Later they planned the bridge at the mouth of the Lester River, the beginning of the North Shore Drive.

With the establishment of the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s, work programs were undertaken in the state parks and on the highway. In the fall of 1934 Hella was assigned as superintendent of the Spruce Creek Camp at the mouth of the Cascade River. It was a highway department camp and a program was instituted by the Federal Bureau of Public Roads to streamline highway alignments as a matter of highway esthetics and driver safety. However, because of extensive rock outcroppings in this area and with the emphasis on hand labor, only an experimental section could be undertaken. The work did benefit the development of Cascade River Park and thus Hella became involved in what became his first love and life work - state parks.

At this time Hella became acquainted with Roger Hale, president of the Tennant Company in Minneapolis who had a summer home on the North Shore. He had a concern about the future threat to the environment of the increasing through and commercial traffic on the highway. Hale proposed that in order to restrict further damage to the ecology a second road should be built roughly paralleling Highway 61 to accommodate this traffic. A section of such a road from Duluth to Two Harbors has been built and of course is in service. Such a road could be extended sectionally as necessary. This concept has not met with much favorable response because of the high cost, but it is Hella's strongly held view that at least a study of extending the existing commercial route beyond Two Harbors, by-passing Gooseberry State Park, should be undertaken.

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SICA Officers: President: Emily Andersen, Schroeder/Duluth  
Secretary: Patricia Maus, Duluth

Vice-president: Steve Pihlaja, Minneapolis  
Treasurer: Howard Olson, St. Paul

### Twin Points Support

Yes, I/we will help Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association to keep Twin Points for public access with this gift to the Twin Points Purchase Fund.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ is my/our total gift commitment to be paid as follows: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed herewith.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ is pledged as follows:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_

and/or: \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ is pledged through a gift of insurance, real estate, a trust or will provisions as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print) Signature Date

Spouse's Name (please print) - Signature Date

Address City State Zip Home Phone

This gift can be matched by my employer.

Special gift designation if desired.

Make checks payable to Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association and mail to SICA, c/o 140 Engineering Building, College of Science and Engineering, UMD, Duluth, MN 55812.

### SICA Membership Application

I like the idea of interpretation and education on the North Shore. I certainly believe that the important Scientific and Natural Area of Sugarloaf Coye, Beach, and Point should be protected and not be endangered.

Please enroll me as a member of the Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association in the category I have indicated. SICA is an educational, nonprofit 501 (c) (3) Minnesota corporation. Please send me, as a new or renewing member, my free copy of Dr. Duane Lund's "The North Shore of Lake Superior, Yesterday and Today."

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Categories

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Payment Herewith      \_\_\_\_\_ Please Bill Me

Make checks payable to Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association and mail to SICA, c/o 140 Engineering Building, College of Science and Engineering, UMD, Duluth, MN 55812. Memberships are annual and expire December 31, except those applications received after October 1. Thank you.