



The Sugarloaf Interpreter

A Publication Of The
Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association

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Phone (218) 726-7201

Summer, June 1995

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

CENTENNIAL TO BE CELEBRATED ON JOHN SCHROEDER DAYS

The city of Schroeder will hold a three-day centennial celebration which will honor the early lumberman, John Schroeder, June 23-25. Schroeder conducted extensive logging operations in the Cross River area at the turn of the century. The activities will be centered at the post office square, the Town Hall, at Northland Hardware, Lambs resort, Superior bakery, and Father Baraga's cross. A grandson of John Schroeder, Frederick Schroeder, will be present for the event.

On Friday night, June 23, there will be a dance featuring the "Sauna Rocks" band. On Saturday there will be historical exhibits, a pie eating contest, a horseshoe contest, and other activities which will make the event very festive. Saturday evening the North Shore Music Association will sponsor a concert at the Town Hall.

On Saturday and Sunday there will be a craft fair at the Town Hall. There will be church services at 7:30 a.m. on Sunday at Father Baraga's cross. During the day there will be chain saw carving exhibitions and at 3 p.m. on Sunday a drawing for valuable prizes.

SICA will participate in the affair by providing information on SICA in a tent booth. Also at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday and 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, Kevin Johnson, SICA Board member will lead walking tours of the Sugarloaf site.

LCMR PROGRAM TO BE INITIATED

With \$100,000 now assured (\$70,000 from the Legislative Committee on Minnesota Resources and \$30,000 from SICA) a research program at the SICA site embracing many disciplines is being initiated. Chel Anderson will undertake a plant survey, Dr. John Green will initiate a geological survey, and Kent Montgomery will make a survey of mammals and birds. Also, soil research will be undertaken by a soil scientist.

As each segment of these investigations, as well as others outlined in the grant program, is completed monies from the fund will be provided therefor by LCMR. Patricia Maus of the SICA Board is project manager.

- CALENDAR -

- June 2 - Nature Conservancy annual meeting, Duluth.
- June 23-25 - John Schroeder Centennial Days, Schroeder.
- June 30, July 1 & 2 - Centennial Celebration, Finland.
- July 4 - Independence Day Celebration, Tofte.
- August 3-6 - Fisherman's Picnic, Grand Marais.
- August 11-12 - Annual meeting, Friends of Grand Portage. Great Hall, Grand Portage.
- August 11-13 - Grand Portage Powwow.
- Saturday, August 19 - Annual SICA board and membership meeting, Schroeder Town Hall.

- NEWS NOTES -

☞ It is understood that in the bonding bill for the next legislative session, funding for the small boat harbor at Silver Bay will receive first priority. Planning and ultimately construction can then proceed uninterrupted. A model of the proposed harbor is being studied in Michigan.

☞ Coral Berge, who works with Elmer Andersen, has organized the SICA mailing data to provide great facility in developing lists for a variety of purposes. Membership characteristics, geographic orientation, funding status, etc., can now all be reviewed and printouts prepared with relative ease. Good work, Coral!

SICA BOARD EXAMINES SITE PLANNING AND PROGRAM AIMS

At a special Board meeting on April 8 in Duluth the needs for a building and the aims of the institution were examined. The day-long meeting attended by 16 Board members was guided by Cynthia Hagley of Duluth.

It was generally agreed that a building was needed but that the functions it would serve and its specific location must await the development of a definite program and the design of site features. The program committee is working on specific program recommendations and the building and grounds committee will present a plan of site development at the November Board meeting.

It was agreed that the prime purpose of SICA is to preserve the Sugarloaf, but that a building is just one of the many possible mechanisms to achieve that purpose. It was considered that the most important group to be served by an educational program would be North Shore residents, but that long term North Shore visitors and passers-by should also be provided for.

TWIN POINTS RESORT ACQUISITION PROGRESSES

With the exercise of the option in progress and monthly option payments being made, the raising of the remainder of the \$750,000 purchase price of Twin Points resort is in full swing.

Literature is being prepared, mailings are being made, and substantial funds have already been accumulated, according to Howard Olson, fund drive chairman.

The Department of Natural Resources has had the

portion of the property which it proposes to buy from SICA appraised and the sum of \$210,000 has been agreed upon. An option form is being developed by DNR which will be enacted when SICA is the property owner.

BRECKENRIDGE NORTH SHORE FILM SHOWN TO SICA BOARD

At the May 20 meeting of the SICA Board, a unique 50-year-old film was shown which was made and narrated by Walter Breckenridge, long time director of the Bell Museum of Natural History at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. The film is of winter on the North Shore and was taken in the late 1940's. SICA now owns a video copy of the film which will become available for showing to interested groups.

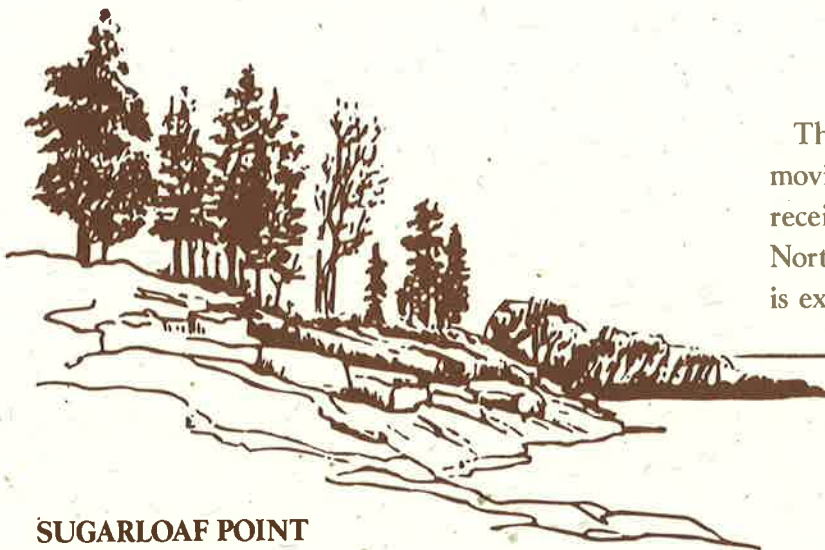
JEAN LJUNGKULL ELECTED TO SICA BOARD, PARKER RESIGNS

Mrs. Jean Ljungkull, formerly of White Bear Lake, but now a permanent resident of Lutsen, was elected to the Board of Directors of SICA on May 20, 1995. Jean has been responsible for the mailing of the SICA Interpreter for the last several issues. She has been active in a number of North Shore activities and is currently president of the North Shore Health Association. Welcome aboard, Jean.

Because of the death of her father in a distant city and the necessity of her being out of town much of the time in the foreseeable future settling estate details, Deonne Parker of Minneapolis has found it necessary to resign. We're sorry to lose you, Deonne, and we sincerely appreciate your participation in SICA's work.

FISHING MUSEUM RECEIVES FUNDS

The projected commercial fishing museum at Tofte is moving to accomplishment. The museum has recently received \$75,000 from IRRRB and \$25,000 from the Northern Tourism Alliance. With these funds at hand it is expected that construction will be initiated in the fall of 1995. This assures the establishment of a very significant adjunct to the North Shore and particularly to the city of Tofte.



SUGARLOAF POINT

GRAND PORTAGE STATE PARK OPENS

By CAROLINE MILLER, SICA Board Member

Grand opening ceremonies at Grand Portage State Park on the Boundary between Minnesota and Ontario on October 3, 1994, marked the conclusion of an unusual cooperative effort among private, state, and federal agencies, individuals, and representatives of the Grand Portage Reservation. Through a series of complicated negotiations, purchases, donations, and agreements, the newest of Minnesota State Parks is now open for public day use. The new park has the unique distinction of being the only state park in the nation within a reservation that is owned by the Reservation, not by the state.

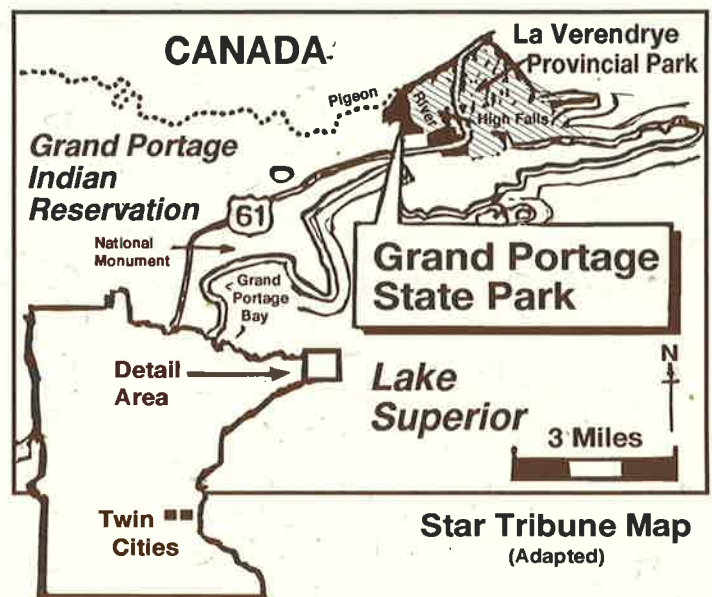
Another unusual aspect of this new park is that administration will be shared by the Reservation and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Key staff persons - Ken Sherer, Park Supervisor and Curtis Gagnon, Park Naturalist, both Grand Portage Band members - are developing and refining management practices for the site. The park complements the National Park Service Monument on nearby Grand Portage Bay which includes a replica of the stockade and voyageur transfer point from fur trading days.

For hundreds of years peoples traveling by water have used the Great Carrying Place, the ancient designation for the nine-mile trail which provides a bypass to the unnavigable, rocky descent of the Pigeon River into Lake Superior. The very features which made canoeists weary and awestruck, make the site of Grand Portage State park truly grand. The prime feature of the park, the High Falls of the Pigeon River, the highest falls in Minnesota, drops a spectacular 130 feet. A series of smaller falls, cascades, and cliffs occur all along the Pigeon River for several thousand feet within the park.

Although logging and other human use has touched the surrounding area, many natural phenomena, abundant wildlife, and the largest known Minnesota paper birch, the Wolf Tree, which is 68 feet tall and 9.5 feet in circumference near the base, accent the area. A 700-foot newly constructed timber walkway leads to remarkable vistas at the crest of High Falls. A profusion of scree, cliff, and boreal-forest-loving plants, some of them rare, all add character and interest to the rugged beauty of this place. Remnants of the logging days are

still visible in the foundations and timbers of a sluice built to route logs around the High Falls. Interpretation of Grand Portage State Park will emphasize the area's natural and cultural history from a Native American perspective.

Signs and materials for visitor self-guided tours will be available in the summer of 1995. Arrangements can be made for naturalist-accompanied visits by calling the park office at 218/475-2360. In addition, Park Naturalist Curtis Gagnon will present programs on subjects related to the Native American emphasis of Grand Portage during the summer at other state parks along the North Shore. Times and places are yet to be announced.



The new park parallels La Verendrye Provincial Park across the Pigeon River in Canada. It embraces 300 acres in Minnesota about one mile inland from Lake Superior. The entrance to the park is near Ryden's store on highway 61 just before U.S. Customs, northeast of Grand Portage Village. As stated above, the park is for day use only. There are picnicking facilities but no camping areas. The main walkway and the High Falls observation deck are handicapped accessible. As part of the State Park system, fees are \$4.00 per day. An annual State Park permit (\$18.00) allows unlimited day access to all Minnesota State Parks.

First Class
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Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association
c/o 140 Engineering Building
College of Science and Engineering
University of Minnesota/Duluth
Duluth, MN 55812

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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

SICA'S PURPOSE

1) Committed to protection of the natural, aesthetic, and educational values 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, educational materials, 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, 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.

PLEASE EXAMINE THE ADDRESS LABEL

If the number 94 follows your name on the address label, it indicates that your membership is due for renewal. If there is a dash following the 94 followed by another number, that is the amount of your previous membership contribution. If you can increase it, we would be appreciative and it would help finance an expanding program. If your name is followed by a 95, it indicates you are a member in good standing and we thank you. If your name is followed by a C it indicates you are receiving the *Interpreter* on a complimentary basis probably because of the position you hold. If you convert that to a paid membership, we would be delighted and will send you a free copy of Dr. Duane Lund's "The North Shore of Lake Superior, Yesterday and Today." This interesting book is available free to all new or renewing members. It has been provided at no cost to the Association.

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 Cove, 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.