

The Sugarloaf Interpreter

A Publication Of The
Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association

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TWIN POINTS LAND EXCHANGE PUBLIC HEARING

Completion of the exchange of the Sugarloaf property for the Twin Points Resort is a critical step towards the accomplishment of SICA's mission. A hearing will be held at 1:00 p.m. on September 13, 1996 at the Mary McDonald school in Silver Bay, MN. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public input regarding the land exchange. At the hearing everyone will be given an opportunity to be heard. The more people who attend and voice their support, the greater will be the assurance that the exchange will be approved by the Minnesota Executive Council.

The Lind family sold SICA the Twin Points Resort in 1995 with the understanding that the property would be placed in public ownership. A portion of the property was transferred to the State of Minnesota immediately. SICA has proposed a land exchange which would result in the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources taking ownership of the remainder of the Twin Points site with SICA receiving title to the DNR Sugarloaf Cove property except for the Scientific and Natural Area.

LEASE SIGNED BY LTV STEEL FOR SCHROEDER SMALL BOAT HARBOR

A major step in the struggle to establish a small boat harbor for the Schroeder area was accomplished in August with the signing by LTV Steel Company of a 25-year lease, automatically renewable, between LTV and the State of Minnesota for an area in the western part of Taconite Harbor waterfront. This will mean that a

site is available which has the approval of local interests as well as the Department of Natural Resources. When funds become available, construction can now be initiated.



- CALENDAR -

- Sept. 13 - Land Exchange Public Hearing** (Twin Points Resort for Sugarloaf). Silver Bay at Mary MacDonal Elementary School, 1 p.m.
- Sept. 27-29 - Wolf Ridge Fall Weekend**
- Sept. 28 - Gooseberry Falls State Park Visitor's Center Dedication**, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Opening program, 1 p.m. Award of Willard Munger Environmentalist of the Year.
- Oct. 1-2 - SICA Cruise On "Grandpa Wu"**, Grand Portage to Thunder Bay and return. \$225 per person. Phone 1/218/226-4100 for information and reservations.
- Oct. 28 - Sugarloaf "Open House"**, Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center, Finland. 7 to 8 p.m. LCMR research reports and maps; land exchange boundaries.
- Nov. 16 - Scandinavian Festival**, Twin Ports Rosemaling Society, Duluth, College of St. Scholastica. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

SICA BOARD CHANGES

At the annual meeting on August 17, it was announced with regret that Ann-Marie Rose will no longer be able to serve on the Board. Present Board members who will serve another term are: Bob Bruce, Art Fenstad, Pat Maus, Dick Ojakangas, and Andrea Peterson.

Two new Board members were elected: Carrie Anderson and Gene Clark. Carrie and her family live near Lake Superior north of Illgen City. A former teacher, Carrie is currently an interpreter with the U.S. Forest Service in the Lutsen-Tofte area. She spends her free time "recycling" beach rocks, exploring the woods, changing the kids' wet shoes, and occasionally canoeing. She's excited about the interpretive opportunities available at Sugarloaf.

Gene has over 16 years experience in coastal engineering and water resources throughout the Great Lakes and is currently lakeshore engineer for the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources. Gene and his family live on 10 wooded acres in Hermantown.

SECOND LCMR GRANT IN PROSPECT FOR SICA

With the first SICA research grant from the Legislative Council on Minnesota Resources (LCMR) virtually completed (it will be ending in 1997), information has been received that a sec-

ond grant has been recommended for legislative approval. This will be on "Pre-European History of North Shore Native Americans." The grant will be \$90,000 of which \$60,000 would be State funds with \$30,000 matching private funds. For this project SICA will be joined by the Grand Portage Ojibway Band and the Cook County Historical Society.

Contingent upon approval by the 1997 Legislature, the project will begin July 1, 1997 and conclude December 31, 1998.

SUGARLOAF "OPEN HOUSE"

Updates on SICA and the Sugarloaf site will be presented on Monday, October 28 from 7 to 8 p.m. at Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center, Finland. Research reports from the LCMR program and maps depicting the proposed trail development as well as land exchange boundaries will be displayed by SICA Board members. RSVP to B.J. Kohlstedt at Wolf Ridge ELC. Phone (218) 353-7419.



SICA THUNDER BAY CRUISE SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 1-2

Those who attended the SICA annual meeting on August 17 know what a pleasurable experience is in store for the October 1-2 cruise on the "Grandpa Wu" to Thunder Bay and return. The 150-passenger "Grandpa Wu" has all the accoutrements to make for an enjoyable voyage. The cruise would make an ideal gift to any Lake lover.

Members and friends will board the vessel at Grand Portage at 9 a.m., Tuesday, October 1. The cruise will then proceed leisurely reaching Thunder Bay in late afternoon. We will disembark at the Prince Arthur Hotel for dinner and an overnight stay, returning to Grand Portage by

about 4 p.m. on Wednesday, October 2.

As announced earlier, the total fee for the cruise including all meals and accommodations at the Prince Arthur Hotel will be \$225 per person. A portion of the fee will be a tax-free donation to SICA. Reservations should be made to Capt. Dana Kollars at 1-(218) 226-4100 by September 15. In an emergency reservations can be made after September 15 by leaving a message on Kollars' answering machine.

This is the big event of the SICA 1996 year. Don't miss it!

IONA LIND'S ENVIRONMENTAL LEGACY

By STEVE PIHLAJA, President, SICA

The Twin Points Resort has become a significant factor in SICA's program.

Over past years many resorters have found inspiration in a visit to Twin Points and Iona's Beach. Just as inspirational is a visit with Iona Lind herself.

John and Iona Lind and their children, Alden and Arlene, have been at the forefront of the environmental movement to protect Lake Superior and the North Shore. In 1929 at age 20 the future Mrs. Lind emigrated from Finland and settled in the Finnish area of Thunder Bay, still known as "Finn Town". In 1933, in the midst of the darkest days of the depression, Iona married another Finn, John Lind, who was working as a printer for *The Industrialist*, a newspaper published by the IWW.

In 1938 the young couple bought 15 acres of land (which was later increased to 56 acres) with six cabins near Gooseberry State Park. The establishment wasn't nearly grand enough then to be called a resort; rather the Linds called it Deer Trail Lodge because of the deer tracks that led down to the lake. The land was covered with brush and was nearly impassable for people. When Iona discovered that the trails were funneling the deer to Highway 61 where they were struck by cars, she decided it was time to change the landscape and the name of the place. In 1939, the Linds cleared brush, planted trees, and the establishment became Twin Points Resort.

The new resort depended upon business largely from a small advertising brochure. In 1938, they paid \$8 for four lines of advertising, but the price rose to \$9 in 1939. Iona learned that the rate increase had not been passed on to other resort owners, and this revelation resulted in the formation of the North Shore Resort Owner's Association. Mr. Lind's printing skills were put to use for the benefit of North Shore businesses, and in the spring of 1940, the first "birch bark folder" was published. The familiar blue fold-out guide remains a familiar hallmark of the North Shore Drive.

Electricity did not come to Twin Points until about five years after the Linds bought the property, and Mrs. Lind used her political skills to campaign for rural free electric service all along the North Shore.

The late 30's through the early 50's were strident political times. Because of his early political activity, John was labeled as a communist and was shunned

by some of his neighbors. In spite of this animosity, the Linds continued to build their resort's reputation as a tranquil place to enjoy the Lake. Among others, Judge Magney was a frequent guest.

The resort was not a plush business operated with many labor-saving devices. Iona proudly displays the gnarled fingers that she earned through nearly 50 years of hanging sheets in the cold winds off Lake Superior.

Guests at Twin Points became part of the extended Lind family. Many guests would send photographs of family weddings, birthdays, and graduations. Iona, like a proud grandparent, treasures these memories and is happy to show any visitor her photos and to talk of the lives of her extended family.

It wasn't only humans that came to rely on Iona Lind. The "family" photos include two bear cubs that she cared for and fattened up for winter in "the year they killed Kennedy."

In the early 60's, Iona and a neighbor were discussing the streak of dirty brown water caused by taconite tailings being dumped into the Lake by Reserve Mining. Iona resolved to stop the pollution and exploitation of the Lake and she aided in the formation of "Save Lake Superior Association" which has led the fight which has stopped the dumping of tailings.

The battle to save Lake Superior brought new challenges, antagonisms, and friends. During the Reserve Mining controversy, "Save Lake Superior" invited Phillippe Cousteau and the crew of the *Calypso* to visit the North Shore. While they were here, they stayed at Twin Points and became lifelong friends of the Lind family. Mrs. Lind continues to promote the "Association", allowing no visitor to leave without a membership application.

A significant geological feature of the Twin Points Resort is a red shingle beach where Iona, during her nearly fifty years of residence, spent a portion of each day. After purchasing Twin Points, SICA initiated encouraging the Department of Natural Resources to designate the shingle beach as a scientific and natural area to be called "Iona's Beach." The beach, like Iona Lind herself, continues to stand as an environmental inspiration to all of us interested in the future of the North Shore. Iona Lind's story will be preserved in greater detail by the SICA Personal History Committee.

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401 Hunter Building
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Duluth, MN 55802

Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association

Sugarloaf Interpreter is published quarterly by Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association. Merlin H. Berg, Editor, P.O. Box 674, Grand Marais, MN 55604. Articles, graphic arts, and letters to the editor are warmly encouraged. Subscription to *Interpreter* is one of the benefits of membership in SICA; single copies available upon request.

SICA Officers: President: Steve Pihlaja, Minneapolis
Secretary: Patricia Maus, Duluth

Vice-President: Barb Liukkonen, Duluth
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, 401 Hunter Building, 31 W. Superior St., Duluth, MN 55802.

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 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 Howard Sivertson's "Once Upon An Isle: The Story of Fishing Families on Isle Royale."

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone: _____ Date: _____

Membership Categories

_____ \$5 Student/Senior	_____ \$50 Supporting
_____ \$10 Individual	_____ \$100 Sustaining
_____ \$15 Family	_____ \$500 Patron
_____ \$20 Library/School	_____ \$1000 and Up Benefactor
_____ \$25 Contributing	

_____ Payment Herewith _____ Please Bill Me

Make checks payable to Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association and mail to SICA, 401 Hunter Building, 31 W. Superior St., Duluth, MN 55802. Memberships are annual and expire December 31, except those applications received after October 1. Thank you.