

Interpreter

A Publication of The Sugarloaf
Interpretive Center Association
31 W. Superior Street, Suite 401
Duluth, MN 55802

Restoration at Sugarloaf Cove

SICA's Executive Director, Terri Port, has one of the best jobs around. The job requires her to spend much of her time at Sugarloaf Cove, coordinating and participating in programs and work days, meeting with volunteers and contractors, and soaking in the beauty of the Lake Superior shoreline.

During her frequent trips between Duluth and Schroeder, Terri has plenty of opportunity to observe the changes taking place along the North Shore. Increased traffic and increased development are leading to increased pressure on residents, visitors, native habitats, and the land itself. With road construction in full-swing along several sections of Highway 61, Terri's impression of her recent trips is one of "bumper to bumper traffic all the way from Two Harbors to Fire #9096." But once she arrives at Sugarloaf Cove, traffic is forgotten and the solitude and peace of the Cove restores her equilibrium.

Although it's not often expressed in words, the restorative power of Sugarloaf Cove lies at the heart of SICA's mission. The Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association was organized in 1992 by a group of dedicated people who joined together to convince the world that Sugarloaf Cove was important for purposes other than economic development and financial gain.

SICA's bylaws list three goals for the organization: the preservation and protection of the land at Sugarloaf Cove, the establishment of a public interpretive forum, and the creation of an endowment fund to ensure the long-term future of the site.

When the title to approximately 28 acres of the land at Sugarloaf Cove was transferred to SICA in 1998, the organization accomplished its first goal of protecting the land. SICA has now

moved into its next phase as an organization—determining what lies ahead for Sugarloaf Cove. Plans for a modest interpretive center are taking shape, and, with the help of the DNR, several projects to restore native habitats are now under way.

SICA's Board of Directors guides the direction of the organization's growth, but SICA was founded on the strength of "collaborative efforts" and "shared purpose." In order to succeed, SICA needs ideas, energy, and support from everyone who shares the purpose of protecting Sugarloaf Cove, and other areas like it, as a valuable and treasured natural resource.

There are many ways to participate in these collaborative efforts ... attend SICA programs ... volunteer to help at work days ... make a long-term financial commitment to SICA ... practice living in a more sustainable way ... and spread the word that our native ecosystems are worth protecting.

There is now a logbook in the mailbox at the start of the interpretive trail at Sugarloaf Cove...please visit the Cove and share your thoughts in this logbook. What does Sugarloaf Cove mean to you? What interesting things did you see on your visit? What should or should not change at Sugarloaf Cove?

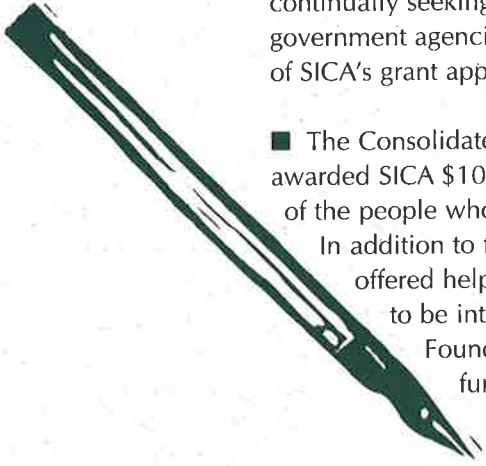
As our society continues to move at a faster and faster pace, SICA will work to maintain Sugarloaf Cove as a place of restoration—for the human spirit as well as for the native plants and animals. With your help we can succeed.



SICA'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.

Status of Grant Applications

SICA depends on the generosity of individuals and corporations to support our efforts to protect and preserve Sugarloaf Cove and offer public interpretive programs. Memberships cover only about 25% of SICA's annual \$60,000 operating budget. To find the additional funds necessary for the association to operate and carry out interpretive programs, SICA's Executive Director, Terri Port, is continually seeking grants from foundations and government agencies. Here is the current status of SICA's grant applications:



■ The Consolidated Papers Foundation has awarded SICA \$10,000 to complete oral histories of the people who worked at Sugarloaf Landing. In addition to funds, the Foundation has offered help in locating former employees to be interviewed. The Andersen Foundation will provide matching funds for the project, which must be completed by December 31, 1999.

■ The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has awarded SICA a \$5,000 grant to write a joint Management Plan for the SICA property and the DNR's Scientific and Natural Area at Sugarloaf Cove.

■ The DNR has also awarded SICA \$6,800 for a project to remove exotic plants and restore native plants at the Sugarloaf Cove site. This restoration project is separate from the DNR wetlands restoration project, which is funded by the EPA.

■ A grant application was submitted to the Great Lakes Aquatic Habitat Network and Fund (GLAHNF) to become the Minnesota Network Hub. If approved, SICA will be responsible for distributing information about GLAHNF grants, assisting applicants in the grant writing process, establishing and maintaining a network of environmental groups committed to the preservation and restoration of aquatic habitats, and providing this network with current information about aquatic habitat issues in the Great Lakes Basin. A decision is expected on this application by the end of June, 1999.

■ A grant application was submitted to the IRRRB to remove the remaining concrete slabs and basement of the green building at Sugarloaf Cove and to build a new foundation for the interpretive center.

■ A request was submitted to the Laura Jane Musser Fund for a Lecture Series on Sustainable Development.

■ A second grant application will be submitted to the Northland Foundation for the purpose of building capacity within SICA.

SICA continues to work with a number of major foundations regarding potential grants for capital and operating funds.

Please let us know if your employer offers a program for matching employees' charitable contributions. We'll happily complete any necessary paperwork to secure the match.

Grand Portage Oral History Project



The LCMR-funded Grand Portage Oral History Project is progressing nicely, thanks to the work of researchers Don Auger and Paul Driben. They have been interviewing members of the Grand Portage community for several months in order to learn and record the history of the Grand Portage Ojibwe from an Anishinabe point of view.

One of the interesting and unusual components of the project is the use of geographic information system (GIS) technology

to compile maps to accompany the narratives.

An example of the project maps, this one showing the Ojibwe people's traditional maple sugaring areas, is included as pages 4 and 5 of this issue of the *Sugarloaf Interpreter*.

This important project will help to give us all a better understanding of how the land and the water of northeastern Minnesota were used by the Anishinabe. Watch for more excerpts from the oral history project in future issues of the *Interpreter*.

Cove



On January 31 the weather was almost spring-like as I loaded my husband, Al, and my 3-year old twins, Bobby and Andy, into the car. We drove up the shore to Sugarloaf Cove. Without the usual purpose of meetings, guided hikes or tours, the four of us had the opportunity to just enjoy the Cove. We spent several hours watching the waves, throwing rocks into Lake Superior, and enjoying the sunshine. Bobby and Andy spent a lot of time sprawled on their tummies looking under edges of rocks at icicles, trying to find bugs, and generally enjoying the place.

We hiked most of the trail, and at one point crossed over to the lake side. There the pools of water on tops of rocks engaged us into wondering what most three-year olds wonder: how did the water get up here, who lives in that water, what do they eat, and aren't they cold? At one point, I felt compelled to share a bit of philosophy with Bobby and Andy and attempted to explain how lucky we are that folks cared enough about Sugarloaf Cove to preserve it for anyone to enjoy and appreciate and to come and hike and play whenever they want to. Bobby and Andy listened carefully, and after a millisecond, Bobby told me that it's nice we could come here, but Mommy, Lake Superior does belong to everyone! Didn't you know that Mommy?!

T. Port

We Appreciate Your Support!

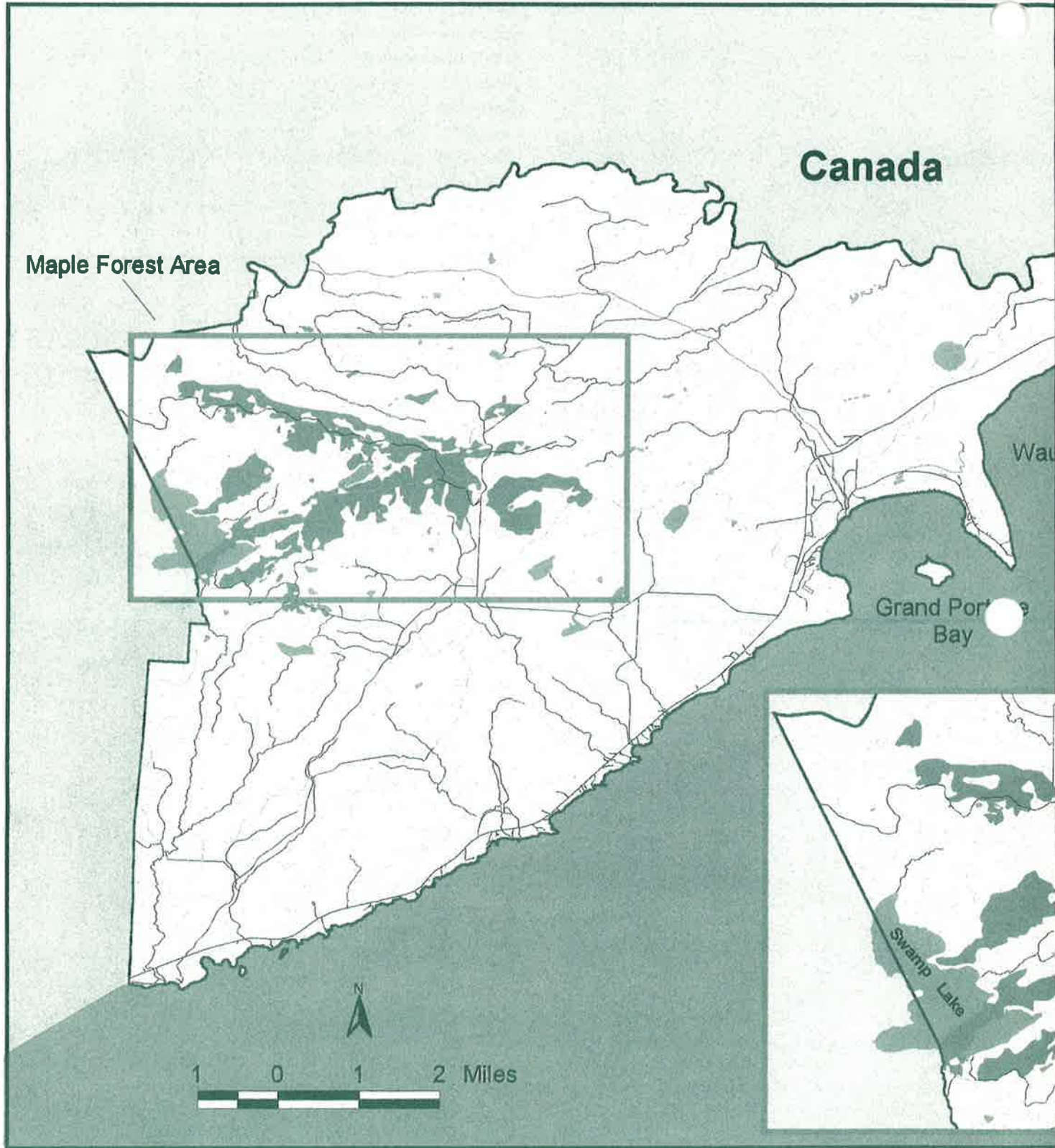
Your membership dues are crucial to the continued existence of the Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association! Your membership renewal date is printed on the mailing label for this newsletter. If you haven't renewed yet this year, please send in your membership contribution as soon as possible. And remember, every dollar you contribute is doubled, thanks to The Andersen Foundation matching grant. In other words, your \$25 immediately becomes \$50, and your \$100 contribution becomes \$200! Help us continue to protect Sugarloaf Cove by renewing your SICA membership today.

Our thanks to the following new and renewing members:

*Terry Boerboom
 Jim & Judy Brandenburg
 Dale Ulrich & Julie Brunner
 Mary Burns
 Potlatch Corporation
 Kathleen Dahl
 Mardene Eide
 Lois Eyinck
 Harley Hanson
 Ellen Harris
 Sheri Harris
 H. Dale Haugen
 Margaret Hunt
 Paul Iverson
 Kelly Jewell
 Chris & Jim Kustritz
 LHB Engineers & Architects
 Barbara Liukkonen
 Bruce Martinson
 Wilmer Miller
 Elizabeth Anne Nephew
 Montessori School of Duluth
 Jeffrey Olson
 David & Andrea Peterson
 Jack & Genea Pichotta
 Al Wright & Terri Port
 Clyde & Karen Ritchie
 Suzan Schlatter
 Beth Schraeder
 Mervyn deSouza & Jennifer Seffernick
 Henry Somsen
 Mr. & Mrs. Wilbert Storland
 Mrs. Margaret Streadwick
 Graydon & Maxine Stromme
 Kathy Anderson & Mel Urlacher
 Marsha & Edmund Zottola*

*Thank
 You*

Grand Portage Oral History



Grand Portage Reservation



Sugar Maple Areas

y Project



Don Auger, Paul Driben

Imagine a description of the historical significance of the Sugar Bush to Ojibwe people. Now imagine that the description had been provided by an Ojibwe Elder and that the narrative is accompanied by a photograph of the Elder and a map showing traditional sugaring areas. It is the latter display that will form the backbone of the Grand Portage Oral History Project, which is currently under way. Jointly sponsored by the Grand Portage Reservation Tribal Council, the National Parks Service, and the Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association, the goal of the project is to tell the history of the Grand Portage Ojibwe from an Anishinabe point of view. During the next several months principal researchers Paul Driben and Don Auger will be interviewing Elders and other members of the Grand Portage community in order to capture that perspective and use what they learn to represent Grand Portage history in a way that is not only fresh and exciting, but also uniquely Ojibwe. Be sure to look for excerpts in upcoming issues.

Work Day at Sugarloaf Cove



On April 24, 1999, a crew of SICA Board members, family, and friends put in a day of hard work at Sugarloaf Cove. Lots of tag alder was removed on both sides of the old access road to facilitate the removal

of the one building that still remains from the era of Consolidated Papers, Inc.

The road will remain in place until the building is moved (soon), the wetland is restored (spring, 2000), and the interpretive center is completed (summer, 2000). After that, the road will become a part of the restoration project and a part of Sugarloaf Cove history.

Many thanks to those who participated in the road-widening work day, including Carrie Anderson, Gene Clark, Megan Economos, Art Fenstad, John Green, Peter Harris, Ben and Mark Harris, B.J. Smith Kohlstedt, Chris Kustritz, Pat Maus, Bob and Jean Port, Terri Port, Al Wright, Bobby and Andy Wright.

Stay in Touch

If you have e-mail and are not already receiving Sugarloaf Cove news, just contact Executive Director Terri Port (tport@duluth.infi.net) and she will gladly add

you to SICA's new e-mail list. This service provided by SICA will include information about upcoming programs and events, volunteer opportunities, and good news about Sugarloaf Cove.

Board of Directors

The SICA Board of Directors is pleased to welcome Tim Dickson as a new board member. Tim, who is the son of the late Caroline Miller, "grew up in sight of Sugarloaf Cove," spending his summer breaks at the family's property just northeast of Sugarloaf Cove. He remembers the logging operation well, and one of his strongest summer memories is hearing the thunderous sound of logs rolling down the chute into Lake Superior on sunny days. He recalls it as a very incongruous sound—like thunder on a clear day.

Tim now lives in Minneapolis, where he works as a biotechnologist at R and D Systems. He still spends his vacations and every other weekend on the North Shore, but he says that it isn't nearly enough time.

A supporter of SICA since the organization's founding, Tim joined the SICA Board of Directors because it has been a tradition in his family to keep an eye on Sugarloaf Cove. He remains keenly interested in the site and very committed to helping SICA serve as a good example of conservation-minded environmental stewardship.



Planning For The Future

SICA owns and maintains approximately 28 acres of land at Sugarloaf Cove, but SICA is a nonprofit organization that exists through the generosity and support of volunteers, members, and charitable foundations. What would happen to Sugarloaf Cove if SICA ceased to exist? Recognizing that we must provide a way to ensure that Sugarloaf Cove is protected far into the future, the SICA Board of Directors recently established the Sugarloaf Cove Endowment Fund. Once our goal of two million dollars is reached,

this endowment fund will provide the necessary resources to maintain Sugarloaf Cove in perpetuity.

Thanks go to the following donors for their generous contributions that made it possible to establish the Sugarloaf Cove Endowment Fund: Nancy Nelson, Steve Pihlaja, Terri Port and B.J. Smith Kohlstedt. If you would like to contribute to the Endowment Fund, or if you would like to include SICA in a Planned Giving process, please contact Terri Port for details (218-733-9938, tport@duluth.infi.net)

SICA ACTIVITIES

JULY 18

Celebrate Lake Superior Day by joining SICA's 2nd annual Fishboil at Sugarloaf Cove! Eat good food and hear fish stories (including some about the one that got away). Cost for the fishboil is \$5 each for SICA members, \$10 for adult non-members, and \$7 for non-members under 12. Please let Terri Port know by July 10 if you plan to attend. Call 218-733-9938 or send e-mail to tport@duluth.infi.net.

AUGUST 21

Annual Membership meeting at Sugarloaf Cove. Voyageur lunch and canoe rides from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., followed by membership meeting.

SEPTEMBER 11

Sugarloaf Cove Beach Sweep and Shoreland Restoration Lecture. Every year the Great Lakes Aquarium at the Lake Superior Center sponsors the Beach Sweep...a time for volunteers to spend a few hours cleaning up unsightly trash and debris from Lake Superior beaches. Join us at Sugarloaf Cove from 2-4 p.m. to sweep our beach clean of human detritus such as bottle caps, pens, balloons, and various pieces of treated wood. Have dinner somewhere nearby, then attend the evening lecture on Shoreland Restoration at 7 p.m. in the Schroeder Town Hall. The lecture will provide homeowners with techniques for restoring native plants along shorelines as a way to control runoff, control erosion, and improve habitat for aquatic and upland plants.

The following program is still in the planning stages. Watch for details in the next *Sugarloaf Interpreter*, your local newspaper, and SICA e-mail updates.

OCTOBER :

A tour of North Shore homes that utilize sustainable technologies.

Annual Meeting

Come one, come all to the Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association Annual Meeting, 11:00 a.m. on August 21, 1999, at Sugarloaf Cove. Mark your calendars now, because this looks like it will be a great day!

From 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., you can share a lunch of Rubaboo (Voyageur Pea Soup) and Galette (Frybread) with voyageurs Marie and Jacques. Paddle in a voyageur canoe. Learn what it was like to spend your life exploring the Great Lakes and Minnesota's North Shore by canoe. At 1:00 p.m. we will convene our annual membership meeting, which will include the announcement of the winner of the SICA photo contest.

Cost of lunch will be \$5.00. If you have any voyageur stories, artifacts, or recipes, let us know and we'll add you to the program for this fun-filled day! And don't forget to dress the part!

Photo Contest

This is the last call for entries in the SICA first annual Photo Contest!

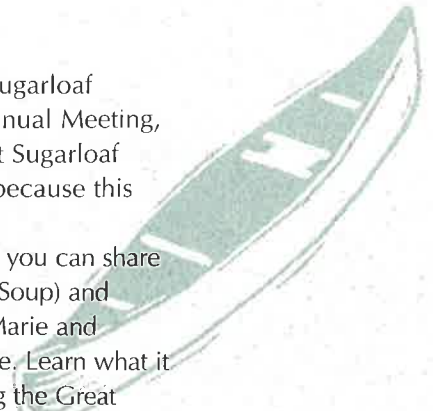
To submit your entry, send color slides, color prints, or black-and-white prints (no larger than 8x10). Do not send matted, mounted, or framed prints. Each submission should be packaged in a clear plastic sleeve. The photographer's name, address, phone number, and a description of the image must be printed on each slide mount or on the back of each print. Unlabeled or mutilated photographs will not be accepted.

To mail your entry, package it carefully in a padded envelope with stiff cardboard sheets. Include a suitably sized self-addressed stamped envelope for return. Send to SICA Executive Director Terri Port at 31 West Superior Street, Suite 401, Duluth, MN 55802 by July 15, 1999.

Entries will be judged based on the overall quality of the photograph with special attention paid to the composition of the image, exposure, color and depth of field. Judges' decisions will be final. Winning entries will be announced at the SICA annual meeting on August 21.

The winning photographer will receive a copy of Craig Blacklock's beautiful book *The Lake Superior Images*.

All winning photographs will become the property of SICA to be used in ways appropriate to supporting the association's mission of preserving, protecting, and interpreting Sugarloaf Cove.



Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association
31 West Superior Street, Suite 401
Duluth, MN 55802

S I C A O F F I C E R S

Founding Director

Elmer L. Andersen

President

B.J. Smith Kohlstedt

Vice President

John C. Green

Secretary

Carrie Anderson

Treasurer

Greg Koschinska

Executive Director

Terri Port

*The Sugarloaf Interpreter is published quarterly by Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association. Subscription is a benefit of membership. Single copies available on request.
Editor: Nancy Nelson, nnelson@computerpro.com.*

Annual memberships are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association, and mail to SICA at 31 West Superior Street, Suite 401, Duluth, MN 55802. SICA is an educational, non-profit 501(c)(3) Minnesota Corporation.

membership
A P P L I C A T I O N

Please enroll me as a member of the Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association in the category I have indicated.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

M E M B E R S H I P
C A T E G O R I E S

- \$ 25 Contributing
 \$ 50 Supporting
 \$ 100 Sustaining
 \$ 500 Patron
 \$ 1000 Benefactor
 \$ _____ Other

New Renew

Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Assoc.
31 West Superior Street, Suite 401
Duluth, MN 55802

T H A N K Y O U !

The Sugarloaf Interpreter