

THE SUGARLOAF



# Interpreter

A Publication of The Sugarloaf  
Interpretive Center Association  
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## New name sure sounds familiar



At its November 19, 2005 meeting, the Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association board of directors voted unanimously to change the operating name of the association. While the legal name will remain the same, the organization will now function simply as "Sugarloaf," with the tagline "The North Shore Stewardship Association."

"It was about time," said board president Jim Mullin. "We've been stretching the boundaries of the organization for years, but our old name just wasn't fitting anymore."

Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing recognized that most people call it "3M", and they changed their name to reflect that. Federal Express did the same thing and is now just "FedEx". Now Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association is just what everyone calls it anyway, "Sugarloaf."

Although it took just one meeting to formalize the change, it has been a long process. It began with a strategic planning session in February 2005, which resulted in a change in the organization's mission statement.

"All of a sudden," said executive director Andrew Slade, "our mission statement was broader than our name." Slade often heard partner organizations, visitors and landowners asking why the Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association is doing things like forestry outreach in Silver Bay, learning carts in Grand Marais or a new interpretive center in Duluth.

After the board approved the new mission statement in May 2005, the real work began. Not only did the organization need a new name, it also needed the support of its members and community partners for the change. A spirited discussion about the name change was a

highlight of the August 2005 annual membership meeting, where there was no agreement about a name itself but a broad consensus that the word "Sugarloaf" had to remain in the name.

Board members kept working on the process through the fall. Donn Larson, a veteran public relations expert in Duluth and a longtime Lake Superior boater and resident, participated in a vital session hosted by Cindy Hayden and Lake Superior Magazine.

Four words emerged as the critical elements to the new name:

**"SUGARLOAF", representing our history and core location**

**"NORTH SHORE", representing our area of operation**

**"STEWARDSHIP", representing our mission of education, restoration and preservation**

**"ASSOCIATION", representing our members and our broad community support.**

At the November 19 board meeting, it came simply down to punctuation and conjunctions. And, as board member and academic Bill Miller pointed out, the "definite article," making us not just any old stewardship association but **the** North Shore stewardship association. The more things change, the more they remain the same.

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.

# Thanks to fish boil donors, local kids enjoy

Sugarloaf is a wonderful resource for people throughout Minnesota. For someone from the Twin Cities, it's a quiet place on the increasingly developed North Shore. For an ecologist, it's a great example of native forest restoration. But for local residents, Sugarloaf is increasingly an active partner in the lives and education of local children.

Thanks in part to the generosity of Sugarloaf members, our Local Programs Fund supports both an

ongoing partnership with the students at Birch Grove Community School and an annual Halloween program.

Every year at the annual membership meeting and fish boil, we pass the

hat for contributions to the Local Programs Fund. Proceeds in the fund go to fund the cost of bus transportation from Birch Grove, so that three times each school year Birch Grove students can visit the Cove and enjoy the ever-changing opportunities there for fun and education. Funds also support our annual Halloween program for local families.

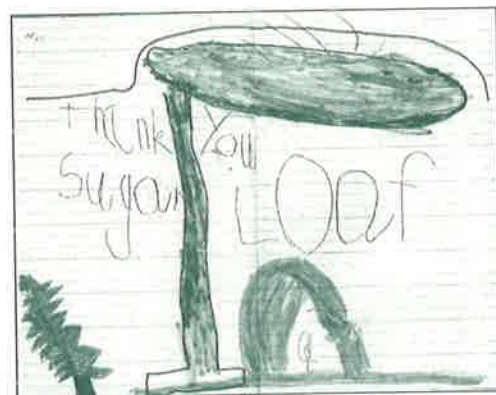
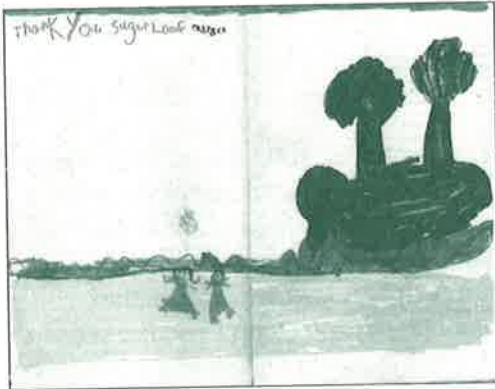
## From Birch Grove to Sugarloaf Cove

Birch Grove Community School is the closest school to Sugarloaf. It's a wonderful community success story all on its own. This is the first year the K-5 school has operated as a charter school, having separated from the Cook County school district. Enrollment increased from 24 students last year to

over 30 this year...more kids, but still small enough to fit the whole school into one school bus

In the fall, the students do a scavenger hunt around the Cove, looking for signs of animals, humans and the weather.

In the winter, they go out on snowshoes, both on and off our interpretive trail. In the spring, it's a fun outing to celebrate the return of the plants and animals.



Thanks to the following donors for supporting our Local Programs Fund

J.E. Beard

Margit Berg

Beryl Bissell

Lyle Gerard

Dan Livdahl

Roger and Barbara

Livdahl

Jane Ljungkull

Jean Ljungkull

Jerry and Jeanne Meigs

Phyllis and Greg Miron

Rae Montgomery

Jim Mullin

Hyla and Arnaldo

Napadensky

Terri Port

Dick Slade

# Sugarloaf Cove

REFLECTIONS FROM THE

# Cove



Kevin Kager, aka "The Muffin Man," reads scary stories to local kids at Sugarloaf Cove's Halloween program.

## Follow the haunted trail

The first year it was just fun. Now, after the second year, it's a tradition. On the Friday before Halloween, kids and families from the nearby towns of Silver Bay, Finland, Little Marais, Schroeder, Tofte and Lutsen come to the Cove for our Halloween program. Kids grab a glow stick and follow a guide around the eastern half of the interpretive trail. Along the way, they stop to learn little bits about the night time, the animals of the dark, and maybe something just a little spooky. Then, back at the interpretive center, there's stories and treats for all.

This year, sixteen local kids and their families participated. As far as we know, we didn't lose anyone out on the trail. Our summer ShoreLink interpreter Leah Ladehoff took time off from her new job with the Duluth Childrens Museum to lead the hike, and Pam did her usual terrific job of preparing the building for treats and stories.



Will Lamb of Schroeder enjoys comfortable Sugarloaf Cove Interpretive Center after walking the interpretive trail at dark

**What do students from Birch Grove like about Sugarloaf Cove?**

**EVERYTHING!!!**

*Specifically, the first graders like Sugarloaf Point after Pam escorted them out there as a special treat in October.*

*Charlie and Jacob like to hike on the trail, especially hiking through "the tunnel" (the alder patch down near the boardwalk.).*

*Anna likes the nurse log.*

*Kurt likes to throw rocks in the Lake.*

*Eric and Courtney like to snowshoe.*

*Sera likes to read books with Lisa.*

*Spencer likes to skip rocks.*

*Hannah likes to re-weave the deer fence.*

*Joe likes bouncing on spongy ground on The Point.*

*Shaunna and Harleigh like to look for pretty rocks.*

*Kristin and Caitlin like to learn about the "olden days."*

*Skye likes it near Sugarloaf Creek.*

*How they would describe Sugarloaf to a new student?*

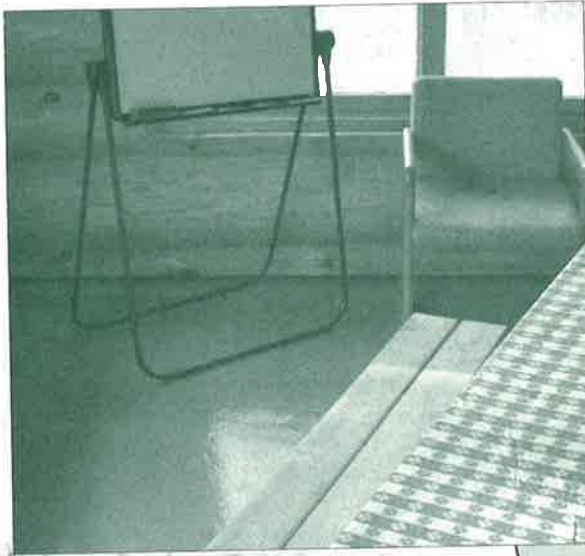
*"It's a fun place where we do stuff outside and see how people lived in the olden days."*

COLLECTED BY SITE MANAGER PAM MCDUGALL

**SPECIAL THANKS TO HONORARY HALLOWEEN PROGRAM HOST, JEAN LJUNGKULL!**



## Recent work on the site



### *Stain and Paint Job*

#### Sprucing up the place

Four years after moving into the Sugarloaf Cove Interpretive Center, we finally got around to finishing the interior. Thanks to a generous gift from Jean Ljungkull of Lutsen, we hired a local painting contractor to seal the inside logs and to finish the cement floor. It really looks great! Now we're planning to keep it nice, with new runners and new organization systems inside. Wow!

### *Pine Thinning*

#### Hard work in the woods

It had to happen. To get the forests here at Sugarloaf back to a natural state, we had to go into the plantations with a chainsaw and thin out the trees. Local schools have been great volunteers for this, but to get a lot of work done, we hired Phil Monson, a forester and ecologist from Duluth. In addition to thinning out the pine stands, Phil pulled the slash into the alder patch nearby to help with our planned spring burn. We're saving the logs for a possible tool shed. Phil also transplanted balsam fir saplings from the entrance area down to the beach area.



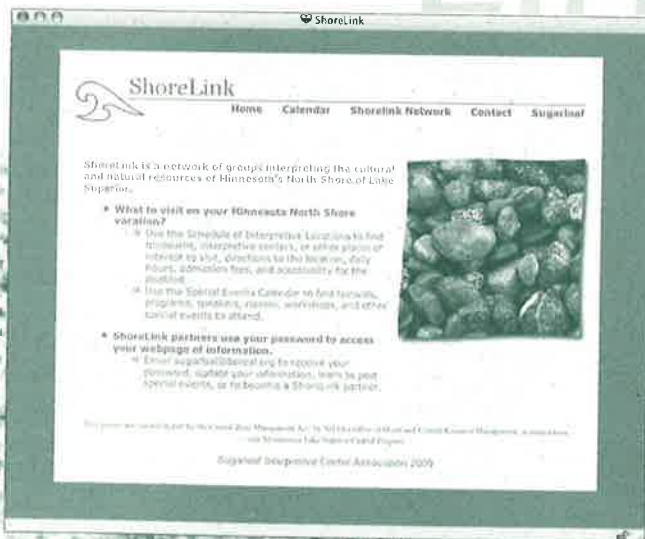


## Root Cellar

Mystery solved, problem solved too

Kids always wondered what was behind those heavy wooden doors in the hillside down by the beach. Some folks thought it was for smuggling during Prohibition. Now we've opened up the doors and found dry, cool empty space. It was a root cellar for the Consolidated workers, and all that was left in there was an old scale. Now we're using it to store larger items we don't need in the interpretive center, especially our forestry stuff. It will be great for tree seedlings in the spring, too.

# ShoreLink



shorelink

Work on the other "site"

It's not just Sugarloaf Cove, but [www.sugarloafica.org](http://www.sugarloafica.org). Thanks to our recent grant from the Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program, we've added our ShoreLink project to our website. It provides a resource to interpretive organizations up and down the shore, to share information with other organizations and to share their interpretive events with the public. Check it out at [www.sugarloafica.org](http://www.sugarloafica.org).



# Two events raise friends and funds for Sugarloaf

Just as the summer crowds thin out on the shore, we got busy with special events that support our work at Sugarloaf.

On September 24, we hosted our first ever fall logging camp supper, at Sugarloaf Cove. Site manager Pam McDougall turned the interpretive center into a very attractive loggers' mess hall, complete with plaid tablecloths and oil lamps for light. The servers put on flannel and suspenders, the fluorescent lights went off, and the atmosphere was set.

Forty people came in two seatings and enjoyed an excellent moose bourginon dinner prepared by Chez Jude catering. We raised over \$3200 for Sugarloaf but also put our beautiful building to great use.

Special thanks to our silent auction donors:

Best Western Edgewater, Duluth  
Black Woods Grill and Bar, Duluth  
Bluefin Bay, Tofte  
Cove Point Lodge, Beaver Bay  
Dave and Peggy Lucas  
Dave Carlson  
Dick and Ella Slade  
Ethan Perry  
Fish out of Water, Little Marais  
Fran Mullin  
Greg Koschinska  
Gunflint Lodge  
Jay Steinke Photography, Duluth  
Jean and Jane Ljungkull  
John Green  
Julie Magney  
Lemon Wolf Café, Beaver Bay  
Liz Diethelm  
Margit Bergs  
Mark Stensaas  
Sawtooth Outfitters, Tofte  
Stensaas-Kollath Press  
Superior National at Lutsen  
Terry Hukriede  
Tom and Kay Becken  
UMD Athletic Department  
WatersEdge Trading Company, Tofte

As one guest wrote afterwards,

"What a wonderful event!!! The four of us had a fun trip up the shore, and then arrived at this breathtaking place, greeted by so many wonderful, welcoming, interesting people!! Margit Berg—what an interesting woman—ended up sitting with us over dinner, talking about her adventures, how she got connected to the Center, what it was all about, etc. A man in a red logger's cap kept filling our wine glasses, and the food just didn't stop—sooo good!"



*Caitlin Magney helps her mom Julie with the silent auction at the third annual "North Shore Evening"*

Then on Sunday, November 6, Tom and Kay Becken, Sugarloaf neighbors in Schroeder, hosted our third annual North Shore Evening at their Lake Elmo home. Over sixty friends of the North Shore attended from across the metro area. The Beckens, along with board member Margit Berg and SICA members Julie Magney and Mollie Dean, had organized a wonderful event, with three delicious soups, a great salad, and wonderful company. The highlight of the evening was the presentation by Paul Sundberg, manager of Gooseberry Falls State Park and a noted regional photographer. His stories and images really brought the North Shore to life.

Thanks to the attendees and our silent auction donors, this event raised over \$6000 for our work on the North Shore.

# New board members already have a Sugarloaf history

In the last year, four Sugarloaf members have joined the board of directors, elected by other members at our August annual meeting and fishboil. Here you can get to know them a little better.

JANE LJUNGKULL, LUTSEN, MINNESOTA

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## **What has been your experience with Sugarloaf?**

When Sugarloaf started my mother and I did the mailing of the newsletters. I have enjoyed many of the Second Saturday programs and other classes.

## **What do you think Sugarloaf does for the North Shore community?**

It is place for locals and visitors to get information on the shore: how it was formed, what is growing, how it has been used, and what the future holds for the North Shore.

## **Besides Sugarloaf Cove, where is your favorite place on the North Shore?**

My yard. I live along the shore of the lake. It's fun to watch the lake change, especially in the fall with the storms, and in the winter when ice piles up. I like to look out during a full moon and see the light reflect off the broken ice.

## **What else should SICA members know about you?**

I've done many things. I worked at the Red Cross and also worked and volunteered at the Science Museum for 10 years before moving to Lutsen. I love to travel and have been coast to coast in Canada, and around the U.S. My father taught me the basics of camping and canoeing and I still like to do both.

JERRY MEIGS, SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA

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## **What has been your experience with Sugarloaf?**

I became aware of Sugarloaf through Elmer Andersen. Upon learning more my wife Jeanne and I became members and we have visited the site various times.

## **What do you think Sugarloaf does for the North Shore community?**

It brings the opportunity for preservation, restoration and education for this area. Sugarloaf has the potential to enlighten many Minnesota citizens about the North Shore.

## **Besides Sugarloaf Cove, where is your favorite place on the North Shore?**

Split Rock Lighthouse

## **What else should SICA members know about you?**

I have been a life-long Minnesotan. Growing up in a small central Minnesota town I enjoy the outdoors and its beauty. Graduate of Macalester College with a business career in Saint Paul.

KAREN STROMME, DULUTH, MINNESOTA

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## **What has been your experience with Sugarloaf?**

I have known about Sugarloaf since its inception. My sister (Lori Stromme) and brother-in-law (long-time board member Steve Pihlaja) were good friends with Emily Andersen, who had property near Sugarloaf. We attended local meetings on the safe harbor project.

## **What do you think Sugarloaf does for the North Shore community?**

I am inspired that their passion for preserving such a treasure actually made a difference...I want to be a part of an organization that has made such a difference to life on the North Shore.

## **Besides Sugarloaf Cove, where is your favorite place on the North Shore?**

I also love Palisade Head, the Cascade River, Iona's Beach of course and the new bike trail called

## **What else should SICA members know about you?**

I was the head basketball coach at UMD for 21 years and am now the assistant athletic director here. I grew up in Duluth, and after attending St. Olaf College, I made a conscious decision to come back to Duluth to be near Lake Superior and to enjoy the great outdoor opportunities this community offers.

BILL MILLER, DULUTH

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## **What has been your experience with Sugarloaf?**

Before joining the Board, I had only visited the site once or twice, once when Sugarloaf hosted an All-American Road Council meeting.

## **What do you think Sugarloaf does for the North Shore community?**

Sugarloaf ensures that the increasing popularity and use of the North Shore is balanced with advocacy and education about preserving this unique resource, ensuring that greater visibility and use does not ruin the resource. Instead, Sugarloaf is making sure that the increased number of visitors and residents of the Shore become ambassadors and advocates for its preservation.

## **Besides Sugarloaf Cove, where is your favorite place on the North Shore?**

Gooseberry Falls and Temperance River State Park. Nani-boujou Lodge. Grand Marais. The Scenic Cafe is another!

## **What else should SICA members know about you?**

I have a schizophrenic background with long experience in the academic world (taught at UMD and St. Scholastica over the last 20 years, specialty in ancient history) but also long experience in the tourism/cultural heritage world (Director at the Depot and Glensheen), and politically active.

■ *Watch this space! Tribute to former board members Barb Liukkonen and Dick Slade coming soon!*

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## SICA ACTIVITIES

JANUARY 14

**Second Saturday:** Snowshoe Hike on the Superior Hiking Trail

FEBRUARY 11

**Second Saturday:** Ecology of North Shore birch forests

FEBRUARY 11

**Sugarloaf board meeting, Duluth**

*All Second Saturday programs start at 10 am at the Sugarloaf Cove Interpretive Center.*

Address Correction Requested

*The Sugarloaf Interpreter is published quarterly by Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association. Subscription is a benefit of membership. Single copies available on request. Submissions welcome. Send to [sugarloaf@lakenet.com](mailto:sugarloaf@lakenet.com). Designer: Wendy Strombeck.*

*Annual memberships are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association, and mail to the SICA office at 1040 Minnesota Avenue, Duluth, MN 55802. SICA is an educational, non-profit 501(c)(3) Minnesota Corporation.*

**membership**  
APPLICATION

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

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

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

New  Renew

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THANK YOU!