

Wolf's Eye



ISLE ROYALE NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION

2001 No. 4

2001 Loon Survey Results

This summer marked the twelfth consecutive year of the Isle Royale Common Loon monitoring program. Loons, a threatened species in Michigan, are common summer residents on the island where they breed in inland lakes and protected Lake Superior harbors, coves, and bays.

This summer's survey was conducted from July 21 through September 8. According to preliminary reports, loon numbers were up substantially this summer, with 86 adult pairs and 52 juveniles counted. Those figures are well above the averages of 51 adults and 30 juveniles recorded during previous counts on Isle Royale.

The report shows that there are at least 101 loon breeding territories around the island, 36 of these in Lake Superior waters and 65 in inland lakes. 46% of the breeding pairs on Lake Superior were successful in raising young, while 71% were successful on inland lakes. Although those productivity numbers are with-

in the average range for Common Loons, it is clear that human disturbance and territorial competition are factors affecting

the loon population on the island. *Research on Isle Royale loons is funded in large part by the IRNHA.*

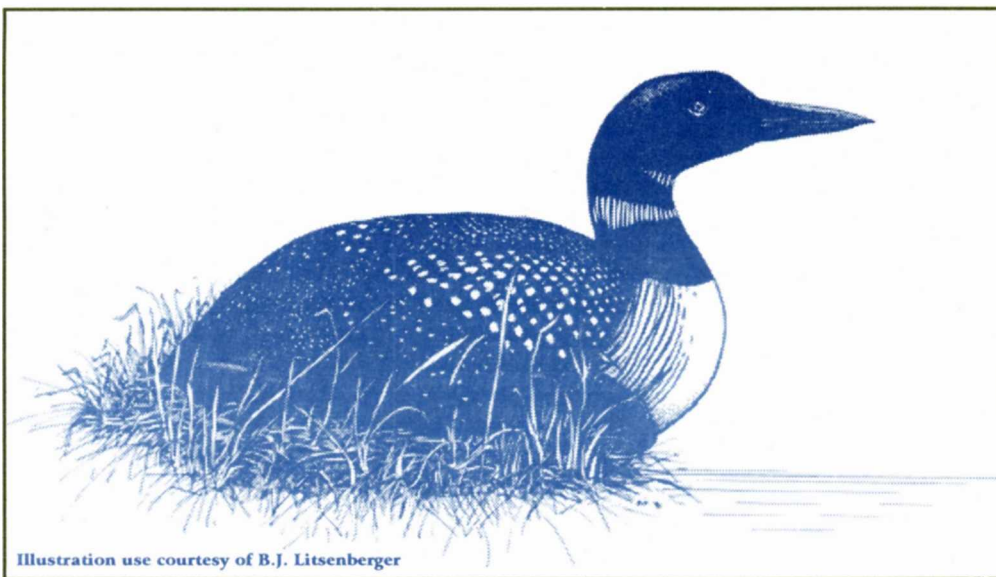


Illustration use courtesy of B.J. Litsenberger

Phyllis Green to Head Isle Royale

Phyllis Green, the current Forest Supervisor of the Ottawa National Forest in the western end of the U.P. has accepted the position of Superintendent of Isle Royale National Park. As Forest Supervisor, her duties included overseeing a wide range of responsibilities of a National Forest. The Ottawa is nearly one million acres and employs over 150 people.

Green's background includes experience in Natural Resource Management including historic trail development in Washington, development of sustainable forest criteria, recreation trail and corridor development on the Ottawa, and threatened and endangered species reintroduction for trumpeter swans and native brook trout strains.

During her tenure with the Forest Service she has received many awards, including awards for exceptional performance, marketing planning, and leadership. She has served on several national special assignments including the national team to draft strategies for the Chief of the Forest Service as well as a national task force on communications networking.

Phyllis Dorman Green graduated from Houghton High School in 1972, from Michigan Technological University in 1976 with a B.S. in Forestry and BA in telecommunications and from Michigan State University in 1981 with a masters in Natural Resource Management and a minor in marketing and communications.

She looks forward to relocating to Houghton with her spouse and two children. Ms. Green will visit the island before the official park closing in October, and will begin her duties as superintendent on December 2.



Thursday, July 25
in Calumet

Sunday, July 28
in Rock Harbor

We began our year as usual with opening the facilities that were closed for the long cold winter of 2001. Ice was still prevalent both on the island and the mainland as the spring opening date grew near. Past winters the persisting ice had forced the park to fly the opening crew to the island by helicopter. Last season helicopter transport was considered, however the ice gave way in time to allow passage of park vessels. The island and facilities weathered the winter quite well. There were very few problems compared to previous seasons with downed power lines and equipment issues. The buildings were opened, the generators were fired up, and the island was prepared for those who would visit this wonderful island.

Each year begins with the trail crew checking every trail and campground for windfall. The island's severe winter storms are notorious for bringing trees down across trails and in the camp-

grounds. Spring 2001 was mild with only 285 trees removed from the trails—relatively few compared to the record year of 1999 when 1620 trees had fallen across trails. I continue to be amazed by the trail crew traversing and clearing all 168 miles of island trail before a single visitor sets foot on the island. Few realize that the trail crew consumes the entire summer with repetitive 10-day camping trips to the wilderness to complete the trail maintenance requirements. The trail crew is surely respected for these long work stints and the laborious tasks of carrying materials, tools and heavy wood planks to the remote areas of the island wilderness. In 2001, Raspberry and Feldtmann trails projects were completed along with the routine maintenance of trails. In 2002 the trail crew will be focusing on trail projects in the Feldtmann Lake, Siskiwit River Bridge, and Hatchet Lake.

The Campground Crew completed work at the Hay Bay, Moskey Basin,

Siskiwit Lake, and Malone Bay Campgrounds in 2001. The backcountry campground crew also works and camps in the backcountry for ongoing 10-day stints throughout the season. Campground work is planned at Lane Cove, Chippewa Harbor, Todd Harbor and Little Todd in 2002.

Volunteer groups arrive every year to lend a hand with the maintenance activities at the island. The Student Conservation Association, SCA, assisted with the Feldtmann reroute. A group from Marian High School in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan painted shelters at Moskey Basin and Malone Bay. This all-girl Detroit area high school's graduation requirements include 40 hours of community service. School counselor and IRNHA board member John Dunn has been bringing students from this school to Isle Royale for over 15 years. These are only a few of the numerous volunteers that dedicate countless hours to Isle Royale.

Dock replacements in 2001 included the rebuild of the Grace Island dock, three docks at Snug Harbor, and the Windigo Gas Dock. The Windigo main dock also received some much need attention. In 2002 dock work is planned at Tobin Harbor and Wright Island.

Pollution control and prevention is a significant function of the park emphasized by the General Management Plan. There is a significant number of maintenance staff behind the scenes completing tasks that are less visible to the visitors. Among those are the utility system operators who supply water and treat wastewater at the developed areas. These individuals received special recognition in 2001 for pollution prevention and control. The Rock Harbor wastewater treatment plant received a first place award from EPA Region V and second place national award for Outstanding Operation and Maintenance of the Water Pollution Control Facility. Isle Royale and the National Park Service are proud to be recognized as a leader in wastewater treatment.

It brings me great pleasure to report the progress and planned improvements that enable our visitors to have a comfortable enjoyable experience at this beautiful island. The maintenance staff extends a sincere thank you for all the positive comments. Thank you for your understanding and patience with this improvement process.

Rick Barrett
Facility Manager



The Ingot

This summer IRNHA made its first gift to Keweenaw National Historical Park, a donation of \$900 to help print the park's newspaper, the Ingot. The four-page paper provides park visitors with some historical background on the park as well as a map and a description of each of the park's twelve cooperating sites—Calumet, Quincy, the Seaman Mineral Museum, Old Victoria, Porcupine Mts. State Park, McLain State Park, Ft. Wilkens State Park, Hanka Homestead, the Delaware Mine, and Keweenaw County, Copper Range, and Houghton County Historical Museums. If you would like a complimentary copy of the Ingot, please give us a call or send an e-mail to IRNHA at the phone number or address given on the back page.

And the Winners Are:

Winners from this summer's drawings for free copies of *The Island Within Us* are Douglas Garrity from Poughkeepsie, New York, and LeRoy Graham from Freeland, Michigan. Congratulations!

2001 IRNHA ANNUAL MEETINGS

Thursday, July 26, 7:00 p.m./Sunday, July 29, 1:00 p.m.
Keweenaw Natl. Historic Park Headquarters/Rock Harbor Auditorium

Welcome and opening remarks were made by Board Member Gary Pethe. Those elected to the board were: Steve Merritt, Christine Manninen, and Mark Gleason. Recognition was given to Doug Welker for his six years of service on the board.

Executive Director Jill Burkland gave the highlights of the year. These included production of a Rocks and Minerals checklist, new Isle Royale T-shirt, and the 1939 Isle Royale Map poster. The fourth edition of the park newspaper The Greenstone, and the second edition of the KNHP newspaper, The Ingot, were published with help from IRNHA. In Summer 2002, the diaries of an Isle Royale Fisherman will be published. Additional info on our members was collected and entered in a new data base. The Wolf's Eye was expanded to six pages. A Keweenaw membership solicitation is planned for fall 2001. A \$2,000 grant from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs was awarded to IRNHA. A \$1,000 gift was received to begin work on the fisherman's diary, and \$8,500 was received in donations from individuals. IRNHA's website has been updated and moved to a secure server. 60% of mail order sales come from the Internet. Over \$17,000 was contributed to IRNP in aid-to-the-park, and \$5,000 in-kind help was contributed in Rock Harbor and Windigo Visitor Centers. The IRNHA administrative office was moved to the old Paymaster Building on Quincy Hill, now owned by KNHP.

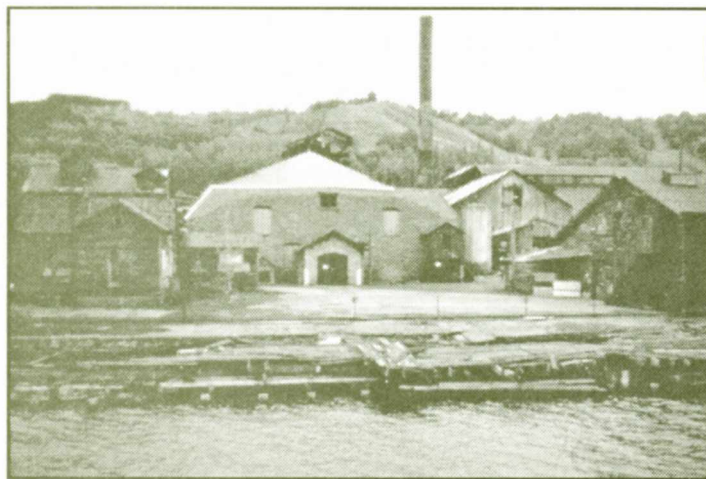
Treasurer's Report: For FY 2000, total sales were \$115,301, total income \$164,344, and total expenses were \$187,636. Total assets were \$183,368, liabilities \$26,355, and equity \$157,013.

Chuck Boyle gave the membership report. He announced new membership categories and amounts. (See article on page 5) There are currently 900 members. IRNHA collects approximately \$20,000 annually in dues. The membership committee is putting together a member survey.

KEWEENAW MEETING:

Supt. Frank Fiala reported on the growing staff at KNHP, including new hires in exhibit planning and curating, administration, and maintenance. Positions of Chief of Interpretation, Oral Historian, and Management Assistant will be filled this fall. The park is also in the process of acquiring historic buildings in Calumet including the Calumet and Hecla Library Building, which will house the park archives and include a genealogy center and sales area. The Pay Office Building on Quincy Hill, which houses the administrative offices of IRNHA, will be rehabilitated with further office space made available. The artifacts from that building are being secured and cataloged. Plans have been developed for the reclamation of the Quincy Smelter complex in Ripley; those plans include a combined visitor center for Keweenaw and Isle Royale parks. Supt. Fiala thanked the IRNHA for helping fund their park newspaper, The Ingot.

Following the business meeting, Acting Chief of Interpretation Brian Hoduski led IRNHA members on a tour of the KNHP archives.



Quincy Smelter: Site of planned Visitor Center

ISLE ROYALE MEETING:

Acting Park Superintendent Betsy Rossini talked about the dock improvements at Rock Harbor and Windigo, and dock maintenance. In Windigo, a duplex was completed. The Rock Harbor Water Treatment and Waste Management workers received an award. ISRO received a base increase which helped them to reach compliance, hire permanent rangers, and hire more trail crew. The lawsuit with the Isle Royale Boater's Association was won by the Park, and progress has been made on the Wilderness Management Plan. The Coast Guard will transfer the remaining lighthouses to the Park. The Isle Royale Institute is a partnership between MTU and ISRO. It will promote education and research. Volunteers have contributed 13,000 -15,000 hours a year to the Park. A new Superintendent should be on board early in the fall.

A slide program entitled "Isle Royale: Rocks and Pointy Trees" by Lou Mattson followed the meeting.

Sixteen New Life Members in 2001!

A warm welcome and special thanks to all of you who became life members of IRNHA in 2001:

Stephen Allegrina, Plymouth, MI
Janet Franczek, Detroit, MI
Martina Friedeberg, Midland, MI
Richard and Nancy Imm, Marquette, MI
Jon A. Koivunen, Wasilla, AK
Christine Manninen, Livonia, MI
Jim Maple, Port Deposit, MD
Robert J. McEnroe, Noblesville, IN
Bruce and Renie McVeety, Dublin, OH
Suzanne Righetti, Dearborn, MI
James Robertson, Plymouth, MI
Elizabeth Rossini, Hancock, MI
Vaughn and Terri Snook, Okemos, MI
Mike Tremblay, Clyde Twp, MI
Jerry Van Wormer, Lowell, MA
Kathryn A. Wilson, Cedarburg, WI

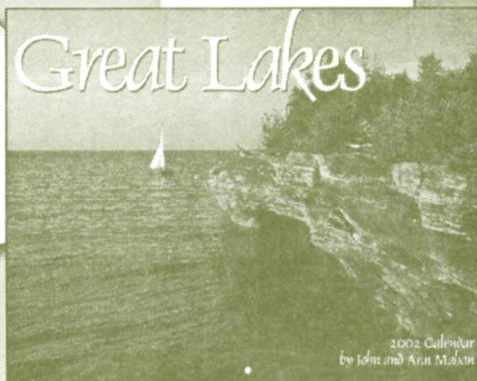
Park Visitation Stats 2000

Approximately 15, 500 people visited Isle Royale National Park during the 2000 season.

*5% of those visitors came in May
*15% in June
*35% in July
*34% in August
*9% in September
*2% in October.

Of those visiting Isle Royale last summer

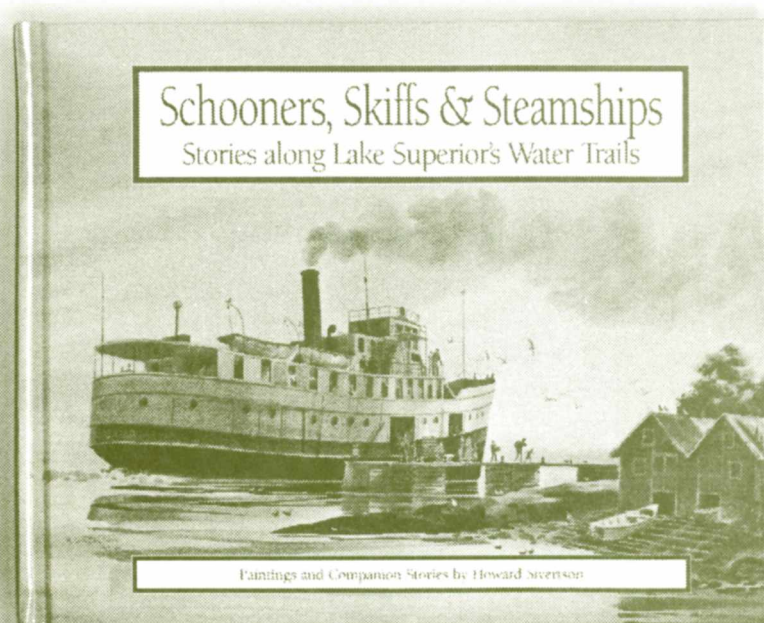
*41% were hikers
*3% were sailors
*16% were power boaters
*7% were canoeists or kayakers
*13% were single day visitors
*19% were lodge guests
*1% were non-recreational visitors.



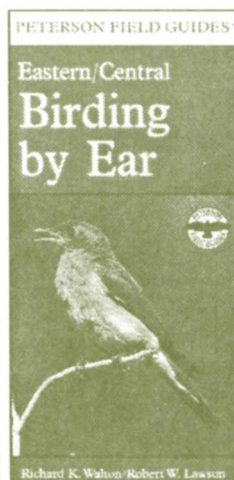
Holiday Gift Ideas from Isle Royale

Delight those on your guest list and help support research and interpretation on Isle Royale with the latest from IRNHA.

- **Schooners, Skiffs, and Steamships** is a stunning collection of paintings and stories from Howard Sivertson, long-time Isle Royale resident and author of *Once Upon An Isle*. In this book he tells the stories of Lake Superior boats and the people who used them, from Native American canoes, to Isle Royale fishing vessels, to the steamers that brought vacationers and freight to Isle Royale. 39 paintings and stories. Hardcover. \$24.95
- **Great Lakes 2002 Calendar.** Photos by John and Ann Mahan. A scenic Lake Superior color photo for each month, from Isle Royale to South Bass Island on Lake Erie to Sodus Bay on Lake Ontario. \$11.95
- **Moose Ornament.** A realistic three-dimensional moose for your Christmas tree. Made of wood resin. 4 1/2" high. \$7.95
- **Isle Royale T-Shirt.** Heavyweight, 100% cotton shirt in natural color depicting 8 images of Isle Royale flora and fauna—wolf, moose, loon, brook trout, wood lily, thimbleberry, moccasin flower and balsam fir. Available in Adult M, L, XL, and XXL. \$18.85
- **Birding By Ear, Eastern and Central U.S.** Edited by Roger Tory Peterson. Learn to recognize birds by their songs and calls. 86 common species are arranged into 17 groups such as "whistlers," "name-sayers," and "mimics." 3 audio cassettes with printed guide. \$30.00



Visit our Holiday Gift Stores at NPS Offices in Houghton, Quincy Mine Hoist on U.S. 41 in Hancock, and on-line at www.irnha.org or call 800-678-6925 to order



Two Poems from an Isle Royale Backpacker

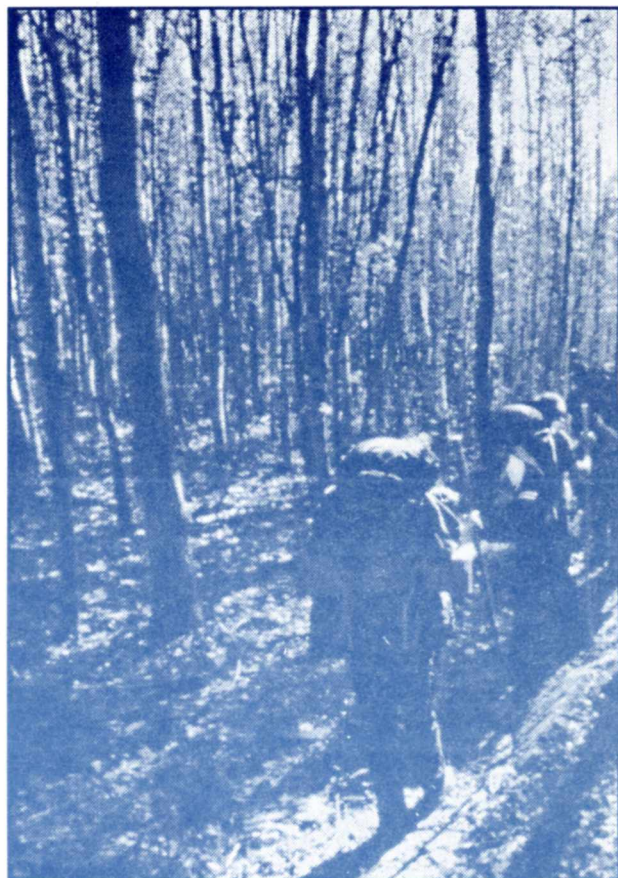
Greg Romaneck from DeKalb, IL backpacked Isle Royale from Rock Harbor to Windigo this past summer. Rather than keeping a trail journal, he used verse as a way to recall his trip. In the note he sent with his poems he said, "I was challenged by that trip in many ways. Hopefully, those challenges will help me maintain a balanced perspective in days that come. Whatever the case, wilderness places such as Isle Royale carry great meaning and value."

Sun Dappled Trail

*A sun dappled trail on a warm day.
The polished rock of the ridge glistens.
Wildflowers bob in the welcome breeze
Providing a yellow-headed carpet for the upland clearing.
How many feet have burnished this stone?
People searching for themselves, adventure, and humility.
(Greenstone Ridge 6/29/01)*

Rumors of Moose

*Each passing hiker claimed to have seen moose.
Close encounters, distant views, and mother & child events.
The two tired travelers plodded along without a glimpse of them.
Suddenly, at the start of a day's journey, things change.
A quick movement, a glance, and the unseen animals appear.
A cow and calf spook across the trail
Careful as the men are stunned.
A blackened maternal mass followed by a tawny child.
There for a moment and then gone.
Out of sight but part of memory.
(Hatchet Lake 6/29/01)*



New Membership Dues Structure

In an effort to keep up with increasing operating costs, the IRNHA Board has approved a new membership dues structure for 2002. Our annual Individual Membership dues will increase from \$15 to \$20, our life membership will increase from \$500 to \$1000, and several new membership levels will be added.

PRESENT

Individual — \$15
Household — \$25
Supporting — \$50
Sustaining — \$100
Life — \$500

2002

Individual — \$20
Household — \$25
Supporting — \$50
Sustaining — \$100
Patron — \$250
Benefactor — \$500
Life Member — \$1000

The good news for current members is that if you act quickly, you can still become a life member for \$500! Please send your check or contact us via e-mail or website before December 1, 2001 to become an IRNHA member for life. By doing so, you help to guarantee the future of the Isle Royale Natural History Association.

Thanks

Special thanks go out to Steve Walton, visiting professor at Michigan Technological University in Houghton, and The Print Shop, also in Houghton, for contributing computer printers to us. They are in use and much appreciated.

Isle Royale Natural History Association
800 E. Lakeshore Drive
Houghton, MI 49931-1895

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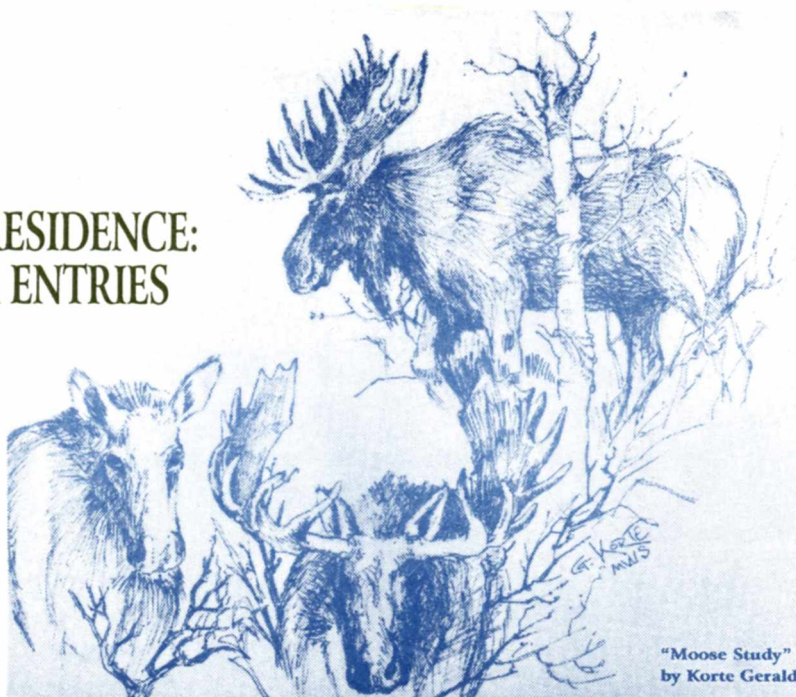


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Houghton, Michigan
Permit No. 45 Wolf's Eye

ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE: A CALL FOR ENTRIES



"Moose Study"
by Korte Gerald

Betsy Rossini, Acting Superintendent at Isle Royale has announced that applications are being accepted for the park's 2002 Artist-in-Residence Program.

The Artist-in-Residence Program at Isle Royale is open to professional artists whose work can be inspired by the park's unique character. The program offers writers, composers, and all visual and performing artists the opportunity to capture the moods and magic of Isle Royale through their particular art form.

The selected artist will be given the use of a canoe and the Dassler Cabin on Scoville Point while on the island. The program runs from mid-June through early September. Complimentary transportation to and from the island is provided on the Ranger III. Each residency is scheduled for two to three weeks.

During the residency, the artists will be asked to share their experience with the public through art demonstrations or talks. The artists are required to contribute an art piece representative of their Isle Royale residency.

A panel of professionals from various art disciplines and a park representative will choose the finalists. The selection is based on artistic integrity, ability to reside in a wilderness environment, a willingness to donate a finished piece of artwork inspired on the island, and the artist's ability to relate and interpret the park through their art medium. The program is open to all art forms except those that manipulate or disturb the park's fragile environment.

Applications for the program must be postmarked by February 16. Notification will be made by April 15.

To receive an application package, please contact: Artist-in- Residence Program, Isle Royale National Park, 800 East Lakeshore Drive, Houghton, Michigan 49931-1869, or call 906-482-0984.



Isle Royale Natural History Association

800 E. Lakeshore Drive
Houghton, MI 49931
Tel: 906-482-7860 or 800-678-6925
e-mail: irnha@irnha.org
website: www.irnha.org

IRNHA is a non-profit membership organization that assists Isle Royale National Park and Keweenaw National Historical Park by publishing and selling educational materials to park visitors.

Gifts, bequests, memorials and memberships are U.S. tax deductible.

Membership Categories

Individual	 \$15
Household	 \$25
Supporting	 \$50
Sustaining	 \$100
Life Membership	... \$500*
Corporate Sponsor	.. \$1,000
Corporate Patron	.. \$5,000

**Life memberships may be paid
in 5 annual installments.*

Board of Directors

David Duchamp, President, Charles Boyle, John Dunn, Mark Gleason, Nancy Leonard, Christine Manninen, Steve Merritt, Gary Pethe, Charles Zamzow.

Staff

Jill Burkland, Executive
Director & Wolf's Eye Editor;
Donald Durfee, Business Manager;
Lauren Rastello, Mail Order.