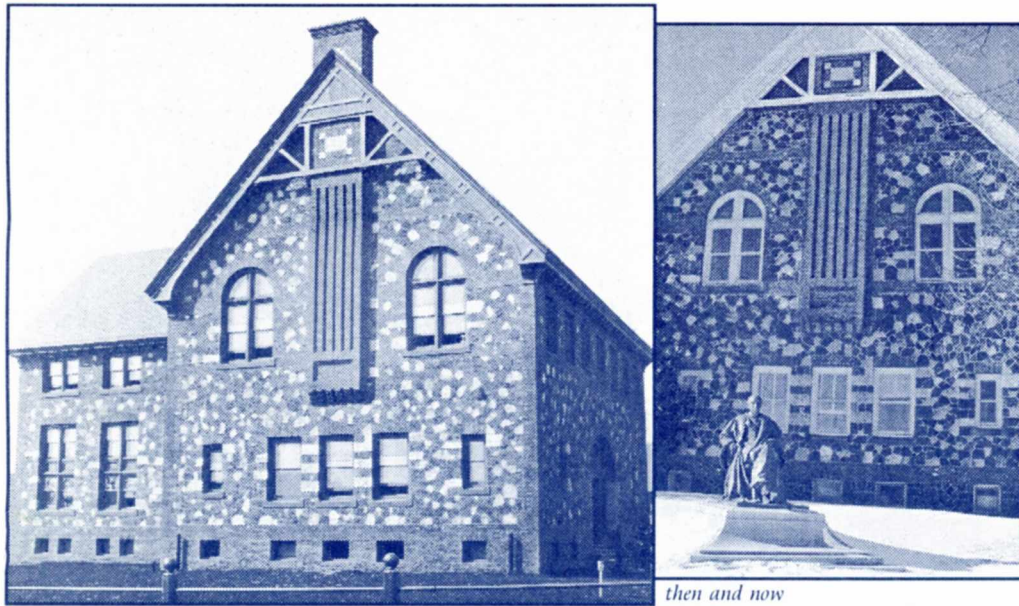


Wolf's Eye



ISLE ROYALE NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION

2002 No. 1



then and now

Keweenaw History Center Planned

Keweenaw National Historical Park has completed purchase of the old Calumet and Hecla Library in Calumet. The library building, across from Park Headquarters on Red Jacket Road, was purchased from Lake Superior Land Company for \$604,000.

The building, once the Calumet and Hecla Mining Company's library, will be used by the park to establish the Keweenaw History Center. The History Center, which will be open to the public, will house the park's archives and an IRNHA sales facility. The center will serve as a research facility with aims of increasing understanding of the role of the Keweenaw Copper Range in America's industrial development and promoting preservation of the area's buildings, artifacts, documents, photographs, art, and stories.

Present plans call for opening the Keweenaw History Center in the fall of 2002.

Winter Study Update

— from Rolf Peterson on Isle Royale

Preliminary indications from the winter wolf/moose study on the island indicate that there has been a slight wolf population decline; as of February 15, the count is 17 animals (compared to 19 last winter). This remains a preliminary count, as we still have two weeks to go before the project winds down for the winter.

The moose population count is still in progress. As of now, the calf crop looks large, and thus we expect a continued slow increase in the moose population.

Poor ice conditions have been common this winter, and there is only about 10-12" of snow in the woods.

Remember, these are preliminary numbers. Look for a final report of the 2002 wolf/moose count in the next issue of Wolf's Eye.

Island Within Us Wins NPS Award

IRNHA is the winner of one of the 2002 National Park Service Cooperating Association Excellence in Interpretive Media Awards. Our recent publication, *The Island Within Us: Isle Royale Artists in Residence 1991-1998* was the co-winner of the Best General Book award. There is a great deal of competition among all national parks for these awards and no other park of our size was included among the winners.

According to Richard Ring, Associate Director for Park Operations and Education, "These awards, a 25-year tradition, recognize the cohesive relationship that exists between the National Park Service and the cooperating associations that proudly support the historical, educational, scientific, and interpretive mission of the National Park Service. Each winner demonstrates creativity in design and construction producing the highest quality books, videos, visual media, and programs that bring greater understanding of our treasured National Park Service resources to visitors."

BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED

IRNHA is seeking qualified IRNHA members to serve on our Board of Directors. This summer at least two current board members will be retiring. Their positions will be filled by election this spring. If you are a IRNHA member and are interested in becoming more involved, consider running for our Board of Directors. Persons with experience in fund-raising and/or an interest in Keweenaw National Historical Park are especially encouraged to apply. Board members serve three year terms during which they are expected to attend two or three meetings each year in Houghton and a meeting every other year on Isle Royale. Members are also expected to serve on committees and participate in fundraising. These are

continued on page two...

BREEDING BIRD SURVEY, 2001

Based on a report by Jack Oelfke, IRNP Branch Chief of Natural Resource Management and Alexander Egan, IRNP Biological Technician

Isle Royale National Park established a formal breeding bird survey in 1994 to integrate island population data with other studies being conducted in the region. This program has continued through 2001 with the objective of determining the relative abundance and composition of the neotropical migrant community on Isle Royale, as well as to monitor and compare songbird populations over time.

Point counts were conducted at Isle Royale from 17 June to 25 June 2001, using eight park trails as transects. Transects were established in each "region" of the park (east, west, and central), as well as at one offshore location: Passage Island. Transects surveyed on the main island were the Mt. Franklin Trail from Three Mile to Lane Cove, the Mt. Ojibway loop, the Indian Portage Trail from Lake Richie to the Greenstone Ridge, the Indian Portage Trail from Chippewa Harbor to Lake Richie, the Ishpeming Trail, the Feldtmann Lake Trail, and the Greenstone Ridge Trail at Windigo.

A total of 54 species and 1425 individuals were recorded. The number of species is below the average of 59 for Isle Royale, while the number of individuals is above the five-year average of 1353. Four species (Magnolia Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Winter Wren, White-throated Sparrow) were present at all eight transects, while 16 species were recorded at only one transect.

Five species accounted for 46% of the total number

of individuals recorded during the 5-minute counts. They were the Ovenbird (11%), White-throated Sparrow (10%), Winter Wren (10%), Nashville Warbler (9%), and Red-eyed Vireo (7%). These were also among the most numerous species in the 1996-2000 surveys.

Most species that are observed yearly during the seven-year survey appear to be either stable or increasing, regardless of migratory or residential status. One exception is the Swainson's Thrush. Others may include the Cape May Warbler, and the Least Flycatcher (low numbers in 1999 and 2000, absent from survey findings in 2001).

A total of fourteen species recorded in 2000 were not observed during point counts in 2001 (American Goldfinch, Eastern Bluebird, Gray Jay, Least Flycatcher, Marsh Wren, Northern Parula, Palm Warbler, Pine Warbler, Purple Finch, Red-winged Blackbird, Scarlet Tanager, Tennessee Warbler, White-breasted Nuthatch, and Yellow-billed Cuckoo). Similarly, nine species recorded in 2001 on point counts had not been observed in 2000 (Chimney Swift, Dark-eyed Junco, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Evening Grosbeak, Northern Cardinal, Northern

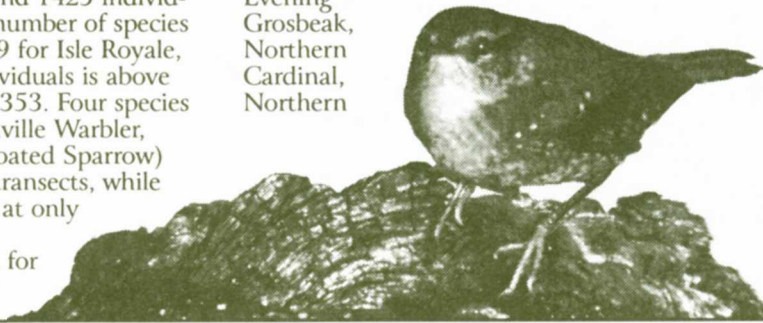
Waterthrush, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Pine Siskin, and Ruby-crowned Kinglet). Generally, these species are found in very low abundance or as casual species on ISRO. Inconsistent patterns for these species can be expected annually.

In 1994, the low number (2) of Black-throated Blue Warblers recorded during the breeding bird survey was noted with concern due to the historic presence of the species on Isle Royale. In 1991 the western third of Isle Royale was listed first among six areas in Michigan with high Black-throated Blue Warbler concentrations. Isle Royale's protected and undeveloped land base should offer solid habitat for this warbler, which seems to have declined steadily across Michigan since the early 1900s. In 1999 the highest number of Black-throated Blue Warblers was recorded in the seven years of surveying, with 15 individuals found on five transects and three individuals recorded as miscellaneous. In 2001, personal observation revealed regular Black-throated Blue Warblers on the western Greenstone and Minong Ridges, but individuals appeared to be very spread out. This regular presence with low density may simply be a normal aspect of this species' nesting pattern. Researchers will continue to watch the development of long-range data regarding the Black-throated Blue Warbler given their high rank among the species of management concern in the Midwest.

Three other species may be interesting for regional and yearly Isle Royale comparisons: the Canada Warbler, Veery, and Swainson's Thrush. The Canada Warbler is historically an uncommon summer resident and recent surveys show it to be annually present in low numbers. The USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center noted a significant decline between 1980 and 1998 in Ontario and a non-significant decline in Michigan.

The Veery, while found in high densities across Ontario and Michigan, is used as a special concern species in the Apostles. It significantly declined between 1980 and 1998 in Ontario and Minnesota and future declines in Michigan are possible due to vulnerable breeding and wintering habitat, nest predation and parasitism, and competition with other thrushes. The Veery is a regular nesting species on Isle Royale but has fluctuated in numbers from year to year.

The Swainson's Thrush is considered a regular nesting species on Isle Royale but has shown a steady decline over the past seven years. Isle Royale appears to have abundant nesting habitat for this thrush. A decline of the Swainson's Thrush may be due to deforestation on wintering grounds (tropical central and south America.)



Keweenaw Foundation Endowment Established

Donations are being accepted for the newly established Keweenaw Community Foundation Isle Royale Natural History Association Endowment. The endowment has been established to support IRNHA's future publication projects. A fund of \$600,000 would provide IRNHA with approximately \$30,000 annual income which would enable us to continue an active publishing program while initiating new educational programs and increasing funding for interpretive and research activities at Isle Royale and Keweenaw parks.

Donations made to Michigan Community Foundations generate a tax credit of fifty cents for every dollar contributed. Individuals who pay Michigan income taxes can receive a tax credit of up to \$100; joint filers are eligible for a credit of up to \$200. It's as if the State of Michigan makes an appropriation to support IRNHA projects each time our Michigan members make a contribution!

\$1600 has been contributed to the IRNHA endowment since its establishment last fall. For more information on how you can make a cash or planned gift to the endowment, please contact Jill Burkland at jburkland@irnha.org, 800-678-6925, or 800 E. Lakeshore Dr. Houghton MI 49931, or contact the Keweenaw Community Foundation directly at kcf@chartermi.net.

BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED *continued from page one...*

volunteer positions; board members receive no compensation.

If you are willing to run in the upcoming election, please send a short biographical sketch indicating educational background and current employment as well as a statement indicating why you believe you are qualified to hold a position on the board. Please also include your address and phone number. Nominations should be mailed no later than April 15 to IRNHA, 800 E. Lakeshore Dr., Houghton, MI 49931, or submitted by e-mail to jburkland@irnha.org.

Ballots will be distributed to all current members in June.

IRNHA Highlights 2001

In 2001 IRNHA • Collected and prepared manuscripts for our next publication Diaries of an Isle Royale Fisherman • Took the IRNP Artists-in-Residence art collection to galleries in Duluth, Hancock, Muskegon, and Escanaba with artists' programs held at each site • Secured a grant from the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs to design and print a brochure for the Artists-in-Residence collection • Held book signings for The Island Within Us at several bookstores in downstate Michigan • Operated a holiday sales outlet with the Quincy Mine Hoist at their gift shop in Hancock, MI • Produced several new products including a new Isle Royale T-shirt and a Lights of Isle Royale poster • Established a Fund-Raising committee and began plans for a major campaign • Moved our offices to the Keweenaw National Historic Park Paymaster Building in Hancock • Opened an endowment account with the Keweenaw Community Foundation and began accepting contributions to that account • Participated in a seminar on Fundraising for Small Non-Profits at the Indiana U. School of Philanthropy • Provided funding for an exhibit planner from Harper's Ferry to begin planning for new IRNP exhibits • Provided a total of \$14000 in cash and \$6500 in staff assistance to IRNP • Made our first contribution of \$3700 to Keweenaw National Historical Park for publication of their park newspaper • Held annual meetings in Calumet with Brian Hoduski as speaker and in Rock Harbor with Lou Mattson as speaker.

Balance Sheets for 9/30

2001

2000

Assets

Current Assets

Cash and Investments	\$12,824	\$27,350
Receivables	\$4,205	\$5,120
Inventory	\$140,008	\$149,697
Total Current Assets	\$157,037	\$182,167
Fixed Assets (Equipment)	\$872	\$2,216
Total Assets	\$157,909	\$184,383

Liabilities and Equity

Accounts Payable	\$1,323	\$6,519
Grants Payable	\$6,791	
Payroll and Sales Tax Payable		\$0
Bank Loan	\$0	\$20,000
Total Current Liabilities	\$8,114	\$26,519
Equity	\$149,795	\$157,864
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$157,909	\$184,383

2001 Aid to Park

Cash Contribution

Greenstone Newspaper	\$3,700
Ingot Newspaper	\$3,700
Free Park Brochures	\$1,575
Exhibits	\$4,000
Non-native plant survey	\$1,500
Historic Film Preservation	\$1,200
Artist in Residence Program	\$530
Interpretive Materials	\$300
Young Scientist Program	\$300
Park Library	\$300
Junior Ranger Program	\$50
Programs	\$300
Miscellaneous	\$620

Statement of Income and Expense for Years Ended September 30:

Income	2001	2000
Sales Income	\$114,820	\$115,249
Member Dues	\$20,625	\$21,126
Donations/Grants	\$13,247	\$21,519
Interest/ Misc. Income	\$775	\$1,768
Shipping & Handling Income	\$4,971	\$4,682
Total Income	\$154,438	\$164,344
Expense		
Cost of Goods Sold	\$54,285	\$69,557
Operating Expense	\$90,076	\$99,526
Total Expense	\$144,361	\$169,083
Net Annual Income	\$10,077	(\$4,739)
Aid to Isle Royale Natl. Park	\$18,077	\$18,553
Net Increase/Decrease	(\$8,000)	(\$23,292)

In-Kind Contributions

\$18,075

Isle Royale Natural History Association
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New Books of Interest

The Canoe, An Illustrated History by Jim Poling, Sr.

Jim Poling explores our relationship with the canoe—from its place as a symbol of mobility, spirituality, and craftsmanship to its role as an instrument for commercial trade, recreation and sport. With accounts of historic canoe trips and infamous battles, detailed explanations of canoe building, and more than 80 photographs, *The Canoe* is a must-read for paddlers and historians alike.

Hardcover. 143 pages. \$24.95

Submerged: Adventures of America's Most Elite Underwater Archeology Team by Daniel Lenihan. Adventure writing at its best, *Submerged* is the first book on the remarkable story of America's elite underwater archaeology team. Lenihan, recounts experiences from his first 25 years as head of the National Park Service Submerged Cultural Resources Unit including their survey of Isle Royale shipwrecks in frigid Lake Superior waters, their expedition to videotape the USS Arizona in Pearl Harbor, their resurvey of the ships sunk by atomic bombs at Bikini Atoll, and many other missions around the U.S. Sure to delight anyone interested in diving, archaeology, American history, and rescue missions.

Hardcover. 287 pages. \$29.95

Women and the Lakes: Untold Great Lakes Maritime Tales by Frederick Stonehouse

From deep sea diver to ship's captain, lighthouse keeper and rescuer, women have filled virtually every job of the Great Lakes maritime trade. In this book you will relive the history and stories of these truly remarkable women. The women featured are an inspiration to all who treasure Great Lakes history.

Paperback. 187 pages. \$15.95

Available now from IRNHA, 800-678-6925, www.irnha.org



Memorial

IRNHA has learned of the
death in September of life member
Majorie McPherren of Port Ludlow,
Washington. Marjorie, her husband,
Mack, and their daughters spent
summers on Isle Royale's
Captain Kidd Island.

A memorial contribution has been made in
her name by Ruth Ann Bennett.

2002 MEMBER MEETINGS

IRNHA will have its 2002 membership meetings on Thursday evening July 25 in the Houghton area and Sunday afternoon July 28 in Rock Harbor. The membership committee will be meeting soon to schedule activities and speakers for those events. If you have ideas for presentations, field trips, or social activities for the annual meetings please get in touch with Jill Burkland at jburkland@irnha.org or 800-678-6925, or Chuck Boyle at cboylesr@hotmail.com or 715-735-5919.

Make plans now to attend!



Isle Royale Natural History Association

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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	\$20
Household	\$25
Supporting	\$50
Sustaining	\$100
Patron	\$250
Benefactor	\$500
Life Membership . . .	\$1,000*

*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;
Lauren Rastello, Mail Order.