

Wolf's Eye



ISLE ROYALE NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION

2003 No. 3

2003 Membership Meetings

The 2003 IRNHA Membership Meetings were held in Hancock on July 24 and in Rock Harbor on July 27. The Hancock meeting was held at Finlandia College and was followed by a program on Finnish-American Architecture in the Upper Midwest. Weekend events at Rock Harbor included a field trip led by Cultural Resource Chief Liz Valencia, a Program by artist/author Howard Sivertson, a showing of historic Isle Royale films, and a picnic.

Isle Royale Supt. Phyllis Green spoke at the Rock Harbor meeting. She expressed her appreciation for the work of the IRNHA and summarized some of the recent events at Isle Royale:

- Park personnel who have left this year are Chief Ranger Pete Armington, Branch Chief for Natural Resources Jack Oelfke, and East End Ranger Bill Munsey.
- IRNP is involved in a new fund-raising effort. The Superior National Park Fund is being established among parks, including Grand Portage, Apostle Islands, Pictured Rocks, and Isle Royale.
- There has been a good response to the posting for a float plane concession for Isle Royale. Service should be available next season.
- The Wright Island dock is restored, currently for day-use only.
- The Recreation Fee Demo Program brings 80% of fees collected directly to IRNP. Total annual revenue amounts to about \$100,000, but because it is a national program, IRNP gets more than it puts in. One result is the rehab of the Windigo Dock funded with \$250,000 from the national "pot". A future project will be a \$450,000 rehab of Tobin Harbor docks.

Summary of IRNHA Committee Reports

Elections Committee Report:

Retiring board members Chuck Boyle, John Dunn, and Nancy Leonard were thanked for their years of service. New board members were announced and introduced. They are: Joan Chadde, Bob Guillian, and Tom Wiselogel.

Membership Report:

As of July 15, we had 947 total members, 240 of them are life members. Individual dues for 2004 will go up to \$25 and household will go up to \$30.

Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2002:

IRNHA ended the year in the black; total assets as of Sept. 30, 2002 were approximately \$175,000.

Publications Report:

Newest products are *Diaries of an Isle Royale Fisherman*, the Lake Superior Beach Stones poster, and Isle Royale photo postcards. Upcoming publications are a children's book and a comprehensive field guide.

Fundraising Committee Report:

Emphasis this year has been on conducting focus groups, increasing individual giving, preparing a planned giving brochure, and soliciting grants for several projects. Funds are being sought for publication of a children's book, loon research, historic film preservation and renovations to the artist-in-residence cottage.



Isle Royale Supt. Phyllis Green addresses annual membership meeting at Rock Harbor.



Program speaker artist/author Howard Sivertson (right) and long-time IRNHA member Laurie Snell (left) sporting their red suspenders at the IRNHA members' picnic.

IRNHA Board Changes

The Isle Royale Natural History Association bids farewell to four wonderful, long term board members. Chuck Boyle of Marinette, WI; John Dunn of Livonia, MI; and Nancy Leonard of Chassell, MI will complete their terms on the board this month. Gary Pethe of South Bend, IN resigned his position with the board in April.

Chuck has served as an IRNHA Board

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Board Changes continued from front page

member for the last six years, heading up the Membership Committee, and serving on the Marketing Committee. Prior to this term, Chuck served a president of the Association for 2 terms in the 1970s.

John Dunn has served 12 consecutive years on the board, including a 2 year term as President. He has been chair of the Personnel Committee, and a member of the Publications and Finance Committees.

Nancy Leonard has been a member of the IRNHA Board since 1997 and has served as our treasurer for her whole term. She also served as head of the Marketing and Finance Committees, and as a member of the Publications Committee.

Gary Pethe served on the IRNHA board for 7 years, including 2 years as president. Gary was head of our Publications Committee and served on the Marketing and Fund-raising Committees.

Together these four people have devoted almost 50 years of service to the association and served in very key roles. They will continue to provide some continuity to our organization by serving on committees.

Meanwhile, IRNHA has four new board members ready to step in and fill their shoes. They are Marilyn Cooper, a professor of humanities from Houghton, MI who was appointed to fill Gary Pethe's position, and three newly elected members: Joan Chadde, an environmental educator from Calumet, MI; Bob Guiliani, a photographer from Clare, MI; and Tom Wiselogle, a retail manager from White Pine, MI. We welcome them and look forward to their contributions.

LAKE LEVELS LOW DESPITE RAIN

In spite of a rainy summer season, water levels on Lake Superior and the other Great Lakes remain low for the fourth year in a row. Rainfall in the the Lake Superior Basin was up 10% over average this summer, which has brought the lake level up slightly. July level was 27 centimeters below the average for the period from 1918 through 2002; as of August 8, Superior was at 26 centimeters below average.

However, rain is not the only factor affecting lake levels. Temperatures and evaporation also play a role. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is predicting low levels continuing on the upper Great Lakes through early spring.

For more information check these websites: www.gllrc.org and www.on.ec.gc.ca/water/level-news

Thanks for Your Donation!

IRNHA's Annual Campaign is off to a good start. Letters were sent to all our members in late July requesting your contributions for loon research, historic film preservation, publication of a children's book, or discretionary use. We will need to raise \$20,000 this year to complete these projects. As of August 27, \$3500 has been raised: \$800 for film preservation, \$750 for loon research, \$350 for the children's book, and \$1600 undesignated. If you have not yet made your **tax-deductible** contribution for this year, we urge you to do so today! And thanks to those of you who have already responded!

Staff Changes at Isle Royale

Two of Isle Royale's Law Enforcement Rangers moved on to new assignments this summer. Pete Armington, who served as Chief Ranger at Isle Royale for eight years, has assumed a new position as Chief Ranger at Denali National Park in Alaska. Bill Munsey, Isle Royale's East District Ranger for the last four years, moves on to Taos, New Mexico where he will work as a Park Ranger for the Bureau of Land Management.

New to Isle Royale this summer is Jean Battle who will take over the position of Branch Chief for Natural Resources vacated by Jack Oelfke last winter. Jean comes to us from the Bureau of Land Management in Eugene, Oregon.

In Memory of Betsy Boyle

IRNHA Life Member Betsy Boyle of Marinette, WI died July 23 at age 73 after a 7 year battle with cancer. Betsy served on the IRNHA Board of Directors from 1980 through 1985. Her husband, Chuck has served several terms on our Board. Betsy, Chuck, and their 13 children began spending summer vacations as campers on Isle Royale in 1959. They have continued the tradition for over 40 years, for the past several years as guests at the Wolbrink cottage in Tobin Harbor.

Betsy will be remembered by her many Isle Royale friends for her kindness and generosity, her sense of humor, and her willingness to lend a hand with any task. Betsy is survived by her husband Chuck, her children and their spouses, and by her grandchildren.

The Betsy Boyle Memorial has been established to benefit the Bay Area Cancer Center at 3000 Shore Dr. in Marinette, WI. A memorial fund has also been established with IRNHA.

Gas Barge Out of Service

The NPS vessel Greenstone which is used to transport gasoline from the mainland to various facilities on Isle Royale underwent a routine dry dock inspection this summer, as mandated by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990. The law provides procedures and vessel standards that reduce the potential of petroleum spills on the navigable waters of the United States. This mandated U.S. Coast Guard inspection of the Greenstone revealed unforeseen hull degradation.

In compliance with the Coast Guard safety requirements, the Greenstone was taken out of service in August with plans to replace the barge with a double hulled state-of-the-art barge in 2004. With the Greenstone out of service, gasoline sales to the public were cut back on the east end of the island for the remainder of the summer, and the Park cut back on its gas consumption by maximizing the use of diesel powered boats and boats powered with energy efficient 4-Stroke gasoline outboards.

Book Project Grant Received



Michael Allkins, Advisory Committee Chair for the Upper Peninsula Sustainable Forest and Wildlife Fund presents grant check to IRNHA Director Jill Burkland.

The Isle Royale Natural History Association has been awarded a grant from the Upper Peninsula Sustainable Forest and Wildlife Fund to provide support for publication and distribution of a children's book and teacher's guide about Isle Royale National Park.

Although many studies have been published concerning the Isle Royale ecosystem, little has been done to share this important story with children. The book *Wolf Tracks and Moose Scat: A Visit to Isle Royale*, by Sault Ste. Marie teacher Jean Mannesto will give young readers an introduction to Isle Royale and to the environmental lessons that this wilderness island has to teach. The book is written for first through third-grade students and illustrated with lovely water color illustrations and color photos. A teacher's guide gives suggestions for how *Wolf Tracks and Moose Scat* can be used as the centerpiece for a unit teaching the concepts of balance of nature and ecological inter-relatedness.

We plan to offer one free class set of *Wolf Tracks and Moose Scat*, and a teacher's guide, to all elementary schools in the Upper Peninsula. We also plan to reproduce the materials from the book as a special students' page on our web site. The grant from the Upper Peninsula Sustainable Forest and Wildlife Fund will provide funding for pre-publication expenses. A second grant application for the project is pending at Mead Westvaco Corporation.

Leaving a Legacy

Making a charitable contribution presents many opportunities for a person planning for their own future. Planned giving options exist that provide a means to continue to provide for yourself and your family as well as your favorite charitable organization.

Various estate planning tools include the following vehicles for leaving a legacy:

- living trusts,
- charitable lead trusts,
- bequests of tangible personal property,
- life insurance
- bequests of real estate.

Gifts made in any of these ways can be either restricted or unrestricted. For instance, if a person has a special interest in the history of the timber industry on Isle Royale or the labor movement as it relates to the mining industry, a bequest to the Isle Royale Natural History Association, which also provides support for the new Keweenaw National Park, can be specifically restricted to the use of funds for a purpose related to that interest – for instance, the publication of research relating to that subject.

Various strategies utilized in estate planning can be tailored to the specific needs and objectives of a donor. Life income gifts provide the donor with an income stream for their life or for a term of years with the principal being either a restricted or unrestricted gift. Outright bequests, either in one's will or trust, are made primarily through gifts of cash, securities, real estate, and tangible personal property. Retirement plans often provide for the designation of a beneficiary of a remainder or a percentage of the remainder of a retirement plan. Other creative options include the charitable lead trusts and annuities.

Planned giving is a unique philanthropic tool that can help preserve both the cultural history and ongoing research at both Isle Royale National Park and Keweenaw National Historical Park, while also advancing your own financial and family objectives. And, certain gift options may assist the Isle Royale Natural History Association in carrying out its mission and may also create tax savings and/or income benefits for you. If you have questions regarding these options, please contact your attorney, financial planner, or the IRNHA office at 1-(800)-678-6925.

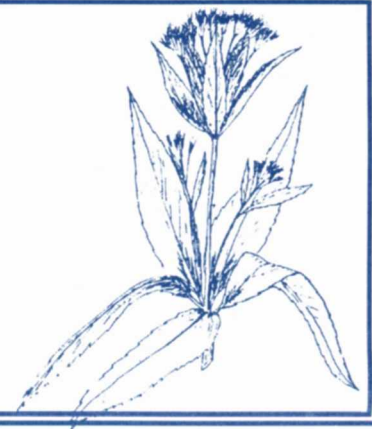
UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, October 18, 2003, 12:00 Noon
IRNHA Board Meeting

Keweenaw National Historical Park
Administrative Office Building

Thursday, October 23, 2003, 7:00 p.m.

First Thursday in History Program–
"The Huron Mining Company:
History and Historic Preservation"
Houghton City Council Chambers



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

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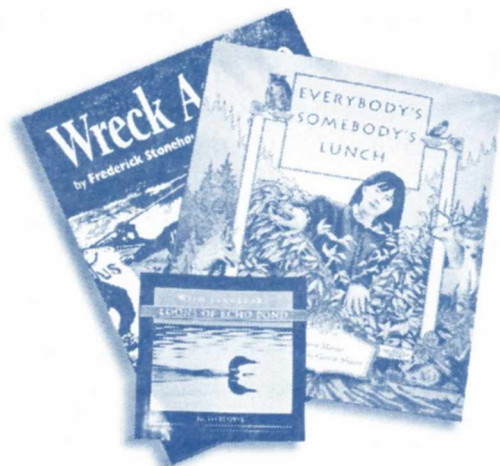


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New Products from IRNHA for Fall 2003!



Wreck Ashore: Stories of Storm Heroes by Frederick Stonehouse

From stormy shipwrecks to catastrophic disasters, the lifesavers were always there, risking their lives to save others. From the mid-1780s until it transformed into the U.S. Coast Guard in 1915, the U.S. Life-Saving Service was responsible for safety on the seas. This historic look into our earliest heroes on the Great Lakes is now back in print. Illustrated with historic photos.

214 pages. \$19.95

Everybody's Somebody's Lunch

by Cherie Mason

Many children—even many adults—believe that there are "good" animals and "bad" animals. This story puts predators in an entirely new light as a sensitive young girl, shocked and confused by the death of her cat, learns the roles that predator and prey play in the balance of nature, and comes to understand why some animals kill and eat other animals in order to live. For children in grades 3-6. 40 pages. \$7.95

Everybody's Somebody's Lunch Teacher's Guide

by Cherie Mason and July Kellogg Markowsky
Provides educators with information, activities, and play that can easily be incorporated into wildlife and nature-study programs—interesting, instructive, and fun.

70 pages. \$9.95

Loons of Echo Pond, CD

Loons and peepers enchant the listener of this compact disc with a spring chorus. Recorded in the Adirondack Mountains, this natural chorus is reminiscent of Isle Royale. One hour. \$16.95

10% Discount for all members. 6% sales tax for MI residents.

Shipping charges:

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between \$10 - \$15, add \$4
between \$15 - \$30, add \$5
between \$30 - \$50, add \$6
between \$50 - \$75, add \$7
over \$75, add \$8

Order now from IRNHA,
800 E. Lakeshore Dr.,
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Make checks payable to "IRNHA".
Or, call (800) 678-6925 or order on our website:

www.irnha.org



Isle Royale Natural History Association

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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

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Nancy Leonard, Nelda Liebig,
Christine Manninen, Gary Pethe.

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