

Wolf's Eye



Isle Royale & Keweenaw Parks Association

2012 No. 1

IRKPA Annual Meeting July 28-29 in Rock Harbor

Plan now to join us for IRKPA's annual membership meeting, which moves back to Rock Harbor for 2012. The website and the next newsletter will have more details. We do know that some events, such as the Sunday picnic, will be held in collaboration with the Isle Royale

Families and Friends Association. Other anticipated events are cultural resources presentations (possibly including a Tobin Harbor boat tour), a guided nature hike, and the meeting itself, with updates from IRKPA and the two parks and the unveiling of a plaque in the auditorium

with the names of members who donated \$50 in honor of IRNHA/IRKPA's 50th anniversary in 2007.

Board election results will be announced. Please let Kristine know by April 30 if you are interested in running to fill one of at least two vacancies.

NPS Releases Tobin Harbor Cultural Landscapes Inventory

The park planning section of www.nps.gov/isro, the Isle Royale National Park website, has the 2011 wilderness management plan and Tobin Harbor cultural landscapes inventory. The following excerpt is from the Tobin Harbor report:

A new group of vacationers began to visit the island during the first part of the twentieth century, as consistent boat service was provided to Isle Royale. Vacationers from Minnesota (St. Paul and Duluth), Omaha, Missouri (St. Louis), Illinois (Rockford) and Kansas (Leavenworth) came to Isle Royale to escape the heat, hubbub and hay fever of the Midwestern cities. Many established summer homes and cabins on the island, often camping before building or buying cabins. Often, summer residents would have friends or family visit, who would subsequently purchase property nearby. Summer communities began to emerge in Tobin and Rock Harbors in the early 1900s and would continue to grow into the late 1920s. By the early 1930s there were more than 50 cabins on lots and the small islands around Isle Royale, with the heaviest concentration in Rock Harbor and Tobin Harbor at the southeastern [sic] end of the island.

The sheltered Tobin Harbor area was especially popular. Over 20 families bought islands and lots there beginning in the early twentieth century. Tobin Harbor also had many small islands. In many cases,

entire islands were purchased for private recreational development. Tobin Harbor became the largest community of summer residents on Isle Royale. In the 1920s and 1930s nearly every island in the harbor had a cabin and a dock. Some were fine homes with large stone fireplaces and several bedrooms, while others were modest, one-room cabins.



Snell cabin painting by Tobin Harbor neighbor Elizabeth Kemmer (EK).

The Reverend Maurice D. Edwards family was among the first to establish a summer residence in Tobin Harbor. Alfred Merritt, who headed a road building crew for the mining operations in Siskiwit Bay in the 1870s, built a cabin in 1911 on the first island south of Blake Point. He later bought an island across from Tobin's Harbor Resort, where the family retains a life lease. Over the years Merritt purchased more than a dozen islands around Isle Royale.

The Dassler family was another of the first families to camp and later build a summer cabin in Tobin Harbor. Over 19 families owned cabins in Tobin Harbor, including the Connolly, Edwards, Cochran, How, Savage, Snell, Merritt, Siefert, Musselman, Newman, Smith, Beard, Stack, Bailey, Wheelock, Underwood, Kemmer and Gale families. Ralph Waldo Emerson, a relative of the famous writer, also built an elaborate house, boathouse and concrete sidewalk on a small island.

The summer communities on Isle Royale thrived during first few decades of the twentieth century. The resorts were the focal point of the summer community daily life. "Boat day" was held in Rock and Tobin Harbors and brought together commercial fishermen, summer residents and lodge guests. Everyone was invited to dances and evening programs at the resorts and members of fishing families and summer residents were often called on to play the piano, or to bring a concertina, accordion or fiddle. The harbor enclaves developed their own personalities: Tobin Harbor and the Minong Lodge attracted older folks, while the Rock Harbor Lodge in Rock Harbor was for the younger set. Recreation was the centerpiece of summer life and included boat regattas, pig roasts, trolling, "greenstoning" (collecting the island's greenstones), boat cruises and moose watching.

My Early Life on Isle Royale by J. Laurie Snell

Excerpted from <http://isleroyalefamilies.org/documents/lifeonisleroyale.pdf>

Working on Isle Royale

I have always liked to work. While in school I delivered papers starting at 4 in the morning, and after school I worked in a drugstore. I continued working in a drugstore when I went to the University of Illinois. One day the druggist asked me why I told people with a prescription to come back in fifteen minutes. I said, "because that is what we did in my home town."

The next time I went home I asked the druggist I had worked for there why we asked the customers to come back in fifteen minutes and he said, "We want to have them think that we do something for their money."

So it was natural for me to look for ways to make money at Isle Royale but not in a drug store. I first found that I could sell some of the trout that we caught to the Rock Harbor Lodge for 10 cents a pound.

A popular hike followed a moose trail from the Rock Harbor Lodge to the end of Tobin's Harbor. This trail was about a mile long and toward the end it passed by our cabin. So I put a sign on a tree offering to row the hikers back the rest of the way to Rock Harbor. Those who came to the resorts in those days were often not as accustomed to hiking as those who come today and so I got a lot of business. I charged a dime. One day, after I told a fellow the price, he said,

"Young man I think that, when asked the price, you would do better to say, 'Whatever you think it's worth.'" I followed his advice and suddenly found myself getting dollars rather than dimes, so I had my first economics lesson.

There is a ridge that goes the length of the island called Greenstone Ridge after the green stones that are found along this ridge. On our end of the island there are two popular trails from Tobin's Harbor to the top of the ridge. They both have beautiful views of the island and of Canada, which is only about 15 miles north of the island. On a clear day they might even see Michigan, which is 56 miles from the island. One is called "Lookout Louise." This name originated when Louise Savage, a child of one of the Tobin's Harbor families, got too close to the edge of the north side of the ridge, which is very steep.

The other path is called "Mount Franklin" because at one time it was thought that, in the treaty of Paris, Benjamin Franklin had made sure that Isle Royale was in America rather than in the much closer Canada. This was not supported by Franklin's biographers and now they have found that the map used in the Treaty of Paris was not accurate and had Isle Royale closer to America than to Canada, and that is a much more plausible explanation. Those staying at the lodge were encouraged to go on these trails, so I also became a guide taking people up these trails. For this I charged 50 cents. But one of my best

friends, Jimmy Lawrence, was even more of an entrepreneur than I was. He started a newspaper called Tobin's Talky and I assume he charged for this.

For a short period of time three Great Lakes tour boats, the Alabama, the North American and the South American, stopped at Rock Harbor. When they came, about 300 passengers got off the boat to look around for a couple of hours. Jimmy suggested that we sell moose antlers to the passengers. We did this for 50 cents an antler. When we ran out of antlers, Jimmy said that he bet they would pay the same amount for moose teeth and he was right.



"Our father was a legendary fisherman. Being the smallest, I always held the BIG FISH for the photo." (www.dartmouth.edu/laurieIsleRoyale/laurie.ppt)

What Connects You to Isle Royale and the Keweenaw?

You need not have grown up in the Keweenaw or spent summers in a cottage on Isle Royale to feel a strong connection to those places. We invite our longtime members to share the experiences that make our parks and IRNHA/IRKPA an important part of your lives. Here's an example:

"We have been coming to Isle Royale since 1969. I remember the year because we watched the men land on the moon on a snowy TV set in the lodge. Once or twice we have missed a year, but then there were years we came twice, so I think it would be safe to say we have been visitors forty times or more. We most often stay in housekeeping. Kim Alexander was a fishing guide along with my son Eric in the mid 1970's. As you know, Kim

went onto be the manager of concessions, but as you may not know, my son Eric became a US park ranger. Eric was first a seasonal ranger at Isle Royale and then went on to postings in New Mexico, Alaska, Hawaii and finally San Francisco where he married his wife Nancy, whom he had met years before at Isle Royale. They now live in Truckee, CA, and Eric works there for the US Forest Service. Our four daughters were visitors with us and the oldest, Carol, worked at the lodge. The girls are now scattered: Southfield, Michigan; Chicago, Illinois; Boulder, Colorado; and San Diego, California, but tell us over and over what a positive influence Isle Royale had on them."

~ Bruce (and Nancy) Beckert of Saginaw, Michigan

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Nothaft-Hammerand
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Hershiser, John & Faith
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Holm, Susan & David Wexler
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Kaufman, Richard &
Rachael Holden
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 Lowell, Dana
 Mahan, John & Ann
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 Maurer, Dick
 Monsere, Dennis & Rae
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 Morton, Robert & Denise
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 Opel, Mike & elli Schaefer
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 Peirce, Charles & Diane
 Piernick, Anthony and Marjorie
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 Tolan, Joe & Michael
 Tregembo, John & Betty*
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 Trione, Gordon & Joyce
 Valencia, Liz, Patrick & Isabel
 Vanderhorst, Jeffrey
 Waugh, David & Phoebe
 Welker, Doug &
 Marjory Johnston
 Wischart, Susan*
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 Woods, J. Edison & Jesse
 Zipp, Lawrence & Mary

INDIVIDUAL

Abbott, Steve
 Abbrecht, Peter
 Anderson, Susan
 Arden, Jim
 Arlton, Hans
 Bartelt, Margaret
 Beardslee, Gail
 Beckman, William
 Behrend, Dorthey
 Bell, Larry
 Berens, Lynn
 Bernick, Charles
 Bissell, Joseph
 Boles, Frank
 Brin, Marla
 Brode, Lisa
 Brown, Deb
 Browne, Toby
 Bryan, Larry*
 Bump, Joseph
 Campbell, Bob
 Carry, Michael
 Caskey, Mary
 Cawood, Gin
 Cerys, Daniel
 Chapman, Eric
 Chappel, Michael
 Cheaney, Stephen
 Chervenak, Paul
 Clink, James
 Colvin, Lauren
 Conderman, Jeff
 Connolly, Sally
 Coon, Linda
 Cooper, Ranessa
 Corning, Judith
 Corsi, Darrell
 Cota, Sandy
 Couch, Lorinda
 Crooks, Kevin
 DeMartini, Jane
 Dervin, Joseph
 Dewey, Gary
 Dogger, Craig
 Dogger, David
 Donovan, Katie
 Duerr, Laura
 Eagles, Dan
 Edwards, Richard
 Elmer, Brian
 Elsner, Susan
 Ferranti, Tom
 Ferris, Jan
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 Flessner, Conrad, Jr.
 Fletcher, Margaret
 Flory, Kelli
 Foerster, Sam
 Foss, James*
 Fountaine, Marilyn
 Friedle, Dennis
 Gagne, Patrick
 Gaidis, Mary
 Ganz, Tykie
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 Gehrke, Tom
 Geisler, Douglas
 Giblin, Frank
 Gobely, Michelle*
 Gomez, Cindy
 Good, Ken
 Gorski, Patrick
 Grady, James
 Hamilton, Angelika

Hancock, John
 Handy, Vivienne
 Harrington, Elaine
 Harris, Bill
 Hauptman, Mike
 Hayden, Cindy & Paul
 Heinbuck, Harold
 Henning, David
 Honrath, Lori
 Howe, William
 Hoyt, Dr. Fred
 Humblet, Steve
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 Korte, Jeff
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 Larwa, David
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 Wiest, Sr. Jeanne, OP
 Willoughby, James
 Winslow, James
 Wood, Lisa
 Woodhull, Barb
 Young, Carol
 Zhuikov, Marie
 Zychowicz, Joseph

* additional contribution
 † now deceased

IRKPA Financial Report

Income and Expense for Years Ended September 30

	2009	2010	2011
Income			
Sales & Shipping	\$97,779	\$98,527	\$79,424
Member Dues	\$27,777	\$28,360	\$22,058
Donations/Grants*	\$21,609	\$16,614	\$33,284
Programs	\$11,382	\$9,887	\$11,682
Interest/Discounts/Misc.	\$0	\$36	\$178
Auction & Special Events	\$115	\$1,343	\$1,088
Total Income	\$158,664	\$154,767	\$147,713
Cost of Goods Sold	\$52,287	\$49,176	\$34,392
PROFIT	\$106,377	\$105,591	\$113,321
Expense			
Operating Expense	\$83,430	\$88,035	\$79,827
Net Annual Income	\$22,947	\$17,556	\$33,494
Aid to Parks	\$20,447	\$14,757	\$12,397
Net Increase/Decrease	\$2,500	\$2,799	\$21,097

*Donations do not include gifts to endowment fund at Keweenaw Community Foundation; total for 2011 includes grant-deferred revenue from 2010.

Balance Sheets on 9/30

	2009	2010	2011
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash & Investments	\$11,690	\$21,479	\$7,274
Receivables	\$1,283	\$219	\$1,134
Inventory	\$139,129	\$134,475	\$143,454
Total Current Assets	\$152,102	\$156,173	\$151,863
Fixed Assets (Equipment)	\$117	\$167	\$167
Total Assets	\$152,219	\$156,340	\$152,030
Liabilities & Equity			
Accounts Payable	\$16,087	\$360	\$0
Credit Line/Credit Card	\$13,847	\$16,775	\$2,676
Payroll/Sales Tax Liability		\$2,104	\$1,768
Total Current Liabilities	\$29,934	\$29,870	\$4,445
Temp. Restricted Net Assets	\$0	\$8,685	\$5,857
Equity	\$122,285	\$126,470	\$147,585
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$152,219	\$156,340	\$152,030

Keweenaw Community Foundation Endowment Fund

	2009	2010	2011
9/30 Balance	\$128,812	\$139,237	\$136,889
Basis	\$126,752	\$131,323	\$134,574
Grant to Operating Funds	\$0	\$3,625	\$4,829

Aid to Parks

	2009	2010	2011
Cash Contribution			
Greenstone Newspaper	\$4,730	\$5,907	\$5,959
Keweenaw Guide Newspaper	\$2,839	\$2,871	\$2,415
Park Brochures	\$0	\$0	\$385
Artist-in-Residence Program	\$404	\$709	\$1,651
Interpretive Materials	\$0	\$0	\$20
Superintendents' Accounts	\$74	\$375	\$556
Natural Resources	\$10,900	\$1,395	\$1,411
Author/Designer Fees	\$1,500	\$3,500	\$0
Total Cash Contribution	\$20,447	\$14,757	\$12,397

IRKPA 2011 Annual Narrative Report

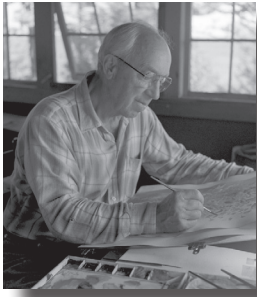
IRKPA ended the fiscal year with no debt, all bills paid on time, and net income of \$21,097. Memberships numbered 699, the majority of them couples or families. Aid-to-Park funding for Isle Royale National Park totaled \$9,514. Of that amount, \$1,651 supported the Artist-in-Residence Program and historic preservation projects for which fifteen volunteers completed 844 hours of service. Support for Keweenaw National Historical Park of \$2,883 was augmented by significant staff and volunteer hours planning for the October 2011 opening of KNHP's Calumet Visitor Center and IRKPA's new sales area there. This aid also covered printing costs of 19,000 Greenstone and 25,000 Keweenaw Guide park newspapers, plus 2,000 Rock Harbor maps, all for free distribution.

We reprinted Candy Peterson's popular *A View From the Wolf's Eye*, and published two new books, *Becoming Wilderness: Nature, History, and the Making of Isle Royale National Park* and *Exploring Michigan's Historic Copper Country*. Grants from the Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission and Travel Dynamics funded printing of the latter, which weaves the 19 Keweenaw Heritage Sites into the history of the region. IRKPA acquired and transferred an extensive collection of historic images of Isle Royale to the Isle Royale NP archives with the permission of the donor. Many of these images were used in *Becoming Wilderness*. IRKPA reached out to other Isle Royale families to help identify the photographs.

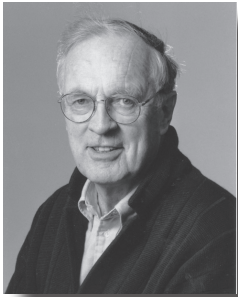
Annual membership meeting events, designed in part to increase public awareness of IRKPA locally, included a book signing for *Becoming Wilderness*; a presentation of historic 3D images of Isle Royale, the Keweenaw, and Lake Superior; and a tour of the Cliff Mine archaeological field school site led by Michigan Technological University industrial archaeology faculty. IRKPA also had displays and items for sale at various local events. Seventeen people participated in six-day Isle Royale botany and photography workshops, one person for a second time. Other outreach included creating a Facebook page and offering a recycled-content notebook and stainless steel thermos with the IRKPA logo and tag line, "Supporting OUR National Parks!" as membership premiums.

The executive director attended the Association of Partners for Public Lands convention, aided by an APPL scholarship, and brought back ideas and resources. IRKPA awarded a Bob Linn Scholarship to a graduating local high school senior and donated three local history books to each of ten schools participating in the annual High School Local History Smackdown.

In Memoriam



Gerald "Jerry" J. Korte, 82, a 1995 Isle Royale artist in residence and IRKPA member, died July 14, 2010, in St. Cloud, MN. On the faculty of St. Cloud State University from 1964 to 1986, he taught elementary education, art education methods, and watercolor. Jerry's art works garnered him many awards and appearances in group shows, juried shows, and one-person shows, in addition to his Isle Royale residency. He leaves behind his wife, Jane, and three sons, including Jeff, who was part of the first cohort of Isle Royale artists in residence in 1991. Both Jerry and Jeff are featured in *The Island Within Us*. Some of Jerry's Isle Royale work can be seen and purchased at <http://gkortewatercolors.com/isle-royale-gallery.htm>



J. Laurie Snell, 86, Tobin Harbor life lease holder and IRKPA member, died March 19, 2011, of acute leukemia in Hanover, NH. He had been a Dartmouth College math professor for 41 years, an author of books on probability and statistics, and a local music impresario who turned a barn on his property into an opera house and haven for amateur artists and musicians. His family spent summers on Isle Royale starting in 1931, and Laurie's visits spanned eight decades. Thanks to the internet, his recollections of Isle Royale and those of his wife Joan are readily available. Excerpts appear elsewhere in this newsletter. Survivors include Joan, son John, daughter Mary, and three grandchildren.



George Cameron Hite, 80, an IRKPA member and longtime trustee of the Keweenaw County Historical Society, died November 1, 2011, at his home in Eagle Harbor, MI. George spent much of his life in the Twin Cities after graduate work in public administration at the University of Minnesota, first as a city manager, then for Dayton-Hudson/Target Corporation. He retired to Eagle Harbor; sailed Lake Superior, including Isle Royale, on his boat, *Peregrine*; and created EagleHarborWeb.net and related Facebook page now kept alive by his family. He leaves behind his wife, Carol, daughters Sarah Lewis and Mary Hill and their children, sister Patricia Lombard, brother Allan, and brother-in-law Robert Burgess. A memorial service will be held in Eagle Harbor on July 28.



Birch Musselman, Jr., 84, an IRKPA life member from Denver, CO, died January 27, 2012. Like Laurie Snell, he grew up in suburban Chicago and spent summers of his youth at a family cottage in Tobin Harbor. According to Snell family lore, all were relieved when Birch's trumpet was no longer in the hands of John Snell, known for early wake-up calls. Birch especially enjoyed Dixieland music and served on the Denver Jazz Board. After working as an advertising manager for well-known New York magazines, he became a clothing manufacturer's representative and business owner in Denver. He is survived by his wife, Pat Lee Musselman, brother Bill, sister-in-law Dee, brother-in-law Stephen Lutz, niece Kim, and nephews Mark, Jeff, Scott, and Todd Musselman.

George MacVeigh, 86, an IRKPA member from Adamstown, MD, died December 20, 2011. His grandfather, Henry Beard, was a life lease holder of one of the early Tobin Harbor camps, established by the Greene family of Omaha in 1918. George was a mechanical engineer whose work for the Naval Research Lab involved nuclear weapons testing in the Pacific. He then joined the Goddard Space Flight Center that became part of the newly formed NASA. Survivors include his wife of 53 years, Ellen, son John, daughters Virginia Cook and Susan MacVeigh, two grandchildren, a nephew, two nieces, and sister-in-law Phyllis MacVeigh.

IRKPA's Latest Books Win APPL Awards

Both of IRKPA's new publications for 2011 were honored for excellence at the March 7 Association of Partners for Public Lands (APPL) Media & Partnership Awards ceremony, which concluded this year's convention. Board member Ed Sheridan accepted the awards on IRKPA's behalf. Congratulations to all involved!

Becoming Wilderness: Nature, History, and the Making of Isle Royale National Park by Amy Tholen Baldwin took honorable mention in the "General Interest Publications" category for associations with revenue of \$1 million or less, while *Exploring Michigan's Historic Copper Country* by Celeste Haapala won first place for "Visitor Guides."

Judges said of the winning guide, "Excellent! Best guide I have reviewed recently. The booklet is high quality and would meet the mission of sharing the connecting theme and stories of the many sites that make up this park. It is creative but still follows a standard guidebook format."



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Isle Royale Raffle Winners

Congratulations to Erich Hahne of Clarkston, MI, who won a round trip for two on the Isle Royale Queen from Copper Harbor plus two nights lodging at the Rock Harbor Lodge. A round trip for two on the NPS Ranger III from Houghton to Rock Harbor went to Katherine Cox of Bedford, IN. Duaine Brennen of Lansing, MI, won copies of IRKPA's *The Island Within Us* and *Island Life*.

Linn Scholarship Available

Graduating high school students in the Copper Country Intermediate School District or children of IRKPA members are invited to apply for a \$250 college scholarship in memory of Bob Linn. Seniors who plan to major in the natural sciences are eligible. Last year's award went to Mike Gierke of Chassell High School, now studying biology at Michigan Tech. To apply, see www.irkpa.org or contact Kristine Bradof at irkpa@irkpa.org or 906-482-7860. Applications due March 26.

April 22-29 eBay Auction

IRKPA's eBay auction kicks off on April 22, Earth Day! Items include Judith Corning etchings of Scoville Point, a Lawrence Ormsby artist proof of the IRKPA wolf bag/shirt design, a Chicago & North Western Railroad blanket, photography and railroad books, and more. It's not too late to donate goods or services for the auction. Just let us know! Watch for more details on our website and Facebook.

Spring Means Renewal

Not sure if your IRKPA membership has expired? Your email message has the answer. Renewal reminders were mailed in November. In addition to the IRKPA logo thermos for \$100+ dues/donation or IRKPA logo notebook for \$50+, premiums include an option to receive *Becoming Wilderness* or *Exploring Michigan's Historic Copper Country*. See www.irkpa.org for more details or to renew online. Thanks to the 372 members who have joined or renewed for 2012 already!

Isle Royale & Keweenaw Parks Assn.

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www.facebook.com/IRKPA

IRKPA is a nonprofit membership organization that supports Isle Royale National Park and Keweenaw National Historical Park by publishing and selling educational materials for park visitors. Gifts, bequests, memorials, and memberships are U.S. tax deductible.

Membership Categories

Individual \$25	Household \$35
Supporting \$50	Sustaining \$100
Patron \$250	Life \$1,200*

*may be paid in four annual installments

Board of Directors

Ron Eckoff (President), Arne Alanen, Mike George, Linda Guiliani, Bob Marr, Susan Martin, Ed Sheridan, Mike Thomas, and Sandy Wilhoit

Staff

Kristine Bradof, executive director and *Wolf's Eye* editor
Lauren Rastello, mail order and visitor service