

Welcome to our new Executive Director!



photo credit: A. Detanico

Adrienne exploring Houghton Point during a Moosewatch expedition in 2024

2025 has been a year of transition for many of us, IRKPA included! In April, we welcomed Adrienne Detanico as our new Executive Director. Adrienne is originally from New Jersey, but has made Chicago her home since 1999.

Adrienne is a former attorney who left lawyering to pursue her passion of organic gardening and farming. Her first backpacking trip was on Isle Royale National Park, and she could not wait to return. She has also been a four-time Moosewatch expedition participant and spent a week on the Rock of Ages Lighthouse as a volunteer, installing solar panels.

She has just moved to the Keweenaw and is excited to be here finally!

“I am looking forward to spending time exploring all the Keweenaw has to offer, including visiting as many Heritage Sites as possible. I am eager to steward IRKPA through the next phase of opportunities and challenges.

I already feel so welcomed by our community, both here and nationally! Cheers to the Copper Country!”

Upcoming Events

Copper Country Strawberry Festival,
July 11 & 12, Chassell, MI

IRKPA Volunteer Workday, July 23,
9am–2pm, Keweenaw National
Historical Park

IRKPA Board of Directors Meeting, July
24, 1pm, Keweenaw National
Historical Park

IRKPA Annual Membership Meeting,
July 26, 1 pm, Isle Royale National Park

Sunrise color at Little Todd Harbor, September 2023

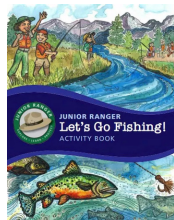


photo credit: A. Detanico

KEWE Happenings:

There is lots to explore this summer at the Keweenaw National Historical Park!

- **The Calumet Visitor Center** (and the IRKPA store) is open 7 days a week from 10 am to 5 pm, with daily Ranger Programs.
- **Join a volunteer workday** on Wednesday July 23rd, 9am–2pm at Keweenaw NHP or Saturday August 2, 9am–12pm at the Painesdale Mine & Shaft Heritage Site. Please bring plenty of water in a reusable water bottle. Sunscreen and a hat are always recommended. Tools, gloves, and appropriate PPE are provided. More information can be found at <https://www.volunteer.gov/s/global-search/keweenaw>
- **Become a Junior Ranger:** Keweenaw NHP has two options to participate in the Junior Ranger program for the young or young at heart! The Junior Ranger activity book is for ages 7 and up; the Explorer Ranger activity book is for ages 4–6. Anyone of any age can become a Junior Ranger, as long as you're willing to have a little fun along the way! You can pick up a Junior Ranger book in-person from the Calumet Visitor Center or download it from the park's website. Books can be returned in-person to the Visitor Center to earn the official Keweenaw Junior Ranger badge. You can also mail or email photos of the book to the park and they will send you the Junior Ranger badge.



Family & Youth Fishing Programs

Family and Youth Fishing programs in partnership with the Keweenaw–Calumet Sportsman's Club continue this summer. Keweenaw NHP and park partners host a series of fun and interactive Junior Angler events:

- Annual Kid's Fishing Derby (July 19, 2025)
- Fishing discovery education programs (various)
- Junior Angler fishing day camps (July 25 & 26)

Check the park calendar and the junior angler program for more information on date and locations:

- Park Calendar: <https://www.nps.gov/kewe/plan-yourvisit/calendar.htm>
- KEWE Junior Angler: <https://www.nps.gov/kewe/learn/kidsyouth/junior-angler-program.htm>
- National Junior Angler fishing programs: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/fishing/junior-ranger-fishing.htm>

These Junior Angler programs give junior rangers from our diverse communities a chance to learn new fishing skills, explore the mining history and natural resources of the area, and protect these sites for future generations.

Copper TRACES Online by Amber Kraft

Virtual education resources have significantly expanded in the past few years and teachers and students are more savvy than ever in bringing these digital resources into their classrooms! To that end, Keweenaw National Historical Park worked with partners over the past year to re-imagine and adapt the successful 4th grade Copper TRACES program to an online environment, enabling it to reach classrooms around the world.

TRACES stands for Technology, Research, Art, Community, Environment, and Service and connects students to Keweenaw stories using multiple learning styles and aligns with Michigan education standards. Educators are able to choose from five initial units that have lesson plans and extension activities they can use in their classroom.

We want to thank our participating Heritage Site Partners, interns, and Michigan Tech Professor Stefka Hristova and her digital humanities class for their work on this to date. We are now in the testing phase for the first set of lessons. This program continues into 2025 with a new set of Heritage Sites, topics and stories all related to park themes and Copper TRACES.



Are you a classroom or homeschool educator? We would love for you to try this new resource and give us your feedback! Please send an email to kewe_information@nps.gov with Copper TRACES in the subject line and share what you think works well and how we can make the resource even better.

A look back to February: Rozsa Center debuted an original symphony to celebrate the 85th Anniversary of Isle Royale NP

On February 15, 2025, the Rozsa Center for the Performing Arts, in partnership with Michigan Technological University, Rozsa Art Galleries, and the Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra hosted an evening of music and art to celebrate the 85th anniversary of Isle Royale. Past Isle Royale Artist-in-Residence, Libby Meyer premiered her symphony, *The land that speaks when we've ears to listen*, inspired by Isle Royale. There was also an exhibition of Isle Royale Artist-in-Residence artworks. Take a moment to go on an aural journey to Isle Royale through this unique composition, available for streaming on YouTube.



photo credit: L. Meyer

Link to Performance:

https://www.youtube.com/live/govlI8nxSXU?si=LO9MQFG_UJ0YdvjU



photo credit: S. Trynoski

Thank you, Steve, for your years of service as a Board member, and we look forward to your continued support!

Meet our Board: Steve Trynoski

Steve Trynoski has served on the IRKPA Board of Directors for three terms, and has been a Life Member since 1978.

Steve grew up in Ishpeming and is a graduate of Michigan Tech University. With a background in both environmental and medical sciences, he worked as a scientific director in the pharmaceutical industry until his retirement in 2008.

Steve resides in St. Paul, MN, with his wife, Karen, and has two grown sons. Steve has a summer home in the Keweenaw, and he is an avid canoeist and winter sports enthusiast. In his retirement, he turned his attention to his life-long interests in environmental biology and natural history, especially that of Lake Superior.

Meet our Staff: Sydni Hietala

We are excited to welcome Sydni as our intern for the second year! Her help this year is invaluable!

“I’m a fourth year Wildlife Ecology and Conservation student at Michigan Tech who’s lived in Chassell, MI all my life. My favorite thing to do around the area is to go hiking, swimming, disc golfing, and pretty much anything outdoors with friends. I have a strong passion for our environment and making sure our future generations have access to it the way we do now, which is what originally piqued my interest in this job after seeing IRKPA’s support for the parks. I’m very excited to be working here for the second year and getting to work with a lot of the same people and meeting all of the new ones every day. The work environment is my favorite because of how positive and fun it is, making the job not even feel like work at all.”



photo credit: S. Hietala

ISRO New Food Storage Requirements

by Adrienne Detanico

As you likely have heard, Isle Royale National Park has implemented new Food Storage Requirements for 2025.

Hikers and boaters are required to place food, garbage, and scented items in a food storage container, which then must be placed in a food storage locker, secured in a shelter, or properly hung.

Throughout the 2025 season, park staff will be installing food storage lockers at all campgrounds, but they may not be installed in time for your particular visit or itinerary. So be prepared! Storage solutions are available for rent or purchase at various outfitters in Houghton, Copper Harbor, and at the Rock Harbor or Windigo concession stores (subject to availability).

In order to protect visitors, and the wolves and any of our other curious critters, all food and food items must be secured according to these important requirements.



photo credit: NPS



photo credit: NPS

Example of food locker (top) and food storage container (bottom)

For full or updated details or if you have questions, please visit:

<https://www.nps.gov/isro/plan-yourvisit/food-storage.htm>

The Wolf's Eye needs a new name! We would love your input! While the Wolf's Eye name has served us well for many years, we would like a name for the newsletter that incorporates our dual support of the Keweenaw National Historical Park and the history of the Copper Country!

Please send your submissions to executivedirector@irkpa.org with "Rename" in the subject line.

Suggestions will be accepted until August 31. A new name will be voted on at our October Board meeting and announced in early November 2025.



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IRKPA is the membership-based non-profit partner of Isle Royale National Park and Keweenaw National Historical Park. Gifts, bequests, memorials, and membership are U.S. tax deductible.

Membership Categories

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



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Adrienne Detanico (Executive Director)
Sharon Kisiel (Retail Sales Manager)
Sydni Hietala (Intern)

