



**PO Box 97**  
**Houghton, MI 49931**  
**www.isleroyale.org**

## Newsletter

### June 2008

- In Remembrance of Friends Departed
- IRBA Teaming with NPS to Provide Bait for Isle Royale Fishermen
- Sixth Annual IRBA Fishing Tournament
- IRBA Apparel Available
- IRBA Scheduled Events

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*A newsletter to inform the members of ongoing activities within the Isle Royale Boater's Association, promote discussion among its members on various IRBA issues and share members' experiences related to boating, sport fishing, hiking, canoeing, and kayaking.*

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#### **In remembrance of friends departed** - Mark Rude & Dave Hand

##### **Enar Strom**

In August 2007, Enar passed away suddenly at his summer home on Barnum Island in Washington Harbor. A veteran of both World War II and the Korean conflict, Enar married Betty Sivertson in 1948 and together raised a family of three boys and two girls. With seemingly endless energy he participated in fishing the Sivertson commercial fishery, and worked to maintain and restore historic infrastructure in Washington Harbor. His talents, friendly smile, and warm personality will fondly live on in the memories of all.

##### **Joe Golden**

Joe succumbed to his battle with cancer on March 5, 2008. He is survived by his wife Diane, eight children and thirty-two grandchildren. His devotion to community and church service was second to none and earned him widespread and well-deserved respect. Joe managed to find some time to relax and fish aboard his boat "Celebration," making many trips to Isle Royale. A long-time member of IRBA, his tireless

efforts in promoting our annual banquet and supporting our organization will ever be missed and appreciated.

##### **Karen Notenberg**

A recurrence of cancer took Karen's life on April 8 2008. She and her husband Jack spent time enjoying Lake Superior and Isle Royale aboard their boat "Jackfish." Even when faced with the problems of the almost inevitable mechanical breakdown every boat owner knows so well, her upbeat and cheerful personality prevailed. Always eager to lend a hand, Karen's participation at our annual banquet is greatly appreciated. We will miss her help and much more her friendly smile.

##### **Lee Waara**

Lee passed away last year after a bout with cancer. He is survived by his wife Toni who is still a member of IRBA. Lee and his wife enjoyed 23 years of Island vacations in their boat "Final Lee III." Lee was an avid fisherman, had a great love for the Island and found it a very restful place. We will all miss him.

## **IRBA Teaming with NPS to Provide Bait for Isle Royale Fishermen - Dave Hand**

In April of this year the NPS instituted a ban on bringing cut bait (smelt, sucker, herring, etc) to the island. According to the NPS the ban is to slow the potential spread of the VHS virus in the Lake Superior and especially Isle Royale waters to protect the fishery. In May, I discussed this issue with IR park superintendant Phyllis Green and voiced concerns on behalf of fishermen who use cut bait for sport fishing. Phyllis had already realized this would be a problem with many fishermen and had begun to mobilize some park resources towards getting clean certified cut bait to IR for fishermen. Just after Memorial weekend, I received some phone calls from concerned fishermen that there was no cut bait available on the Island. I contacted Phyllis to see if IRBA could help the NPS provide cut bait to fishermen. At that time, Phyllis had already ordered two freezers, had installed electrical outlets in Rock Harbor and Windigo near the docks. In addition, she had already located a fishery in Duluth to supply smelt after they have been virus-free tested in Lansing MI. I suggested to Phyllis that IRBA could get involved by donating the freezers, and help maintain them. In addition, I suggested that we also have sucker and herring available as well. Phyllis agreed as long as the bait is certified as virus free and the NPS will pay for the bait testing. The virus testing may take a few weeks to complete.

Presently, we are purchasing sucker from Superior Fisheries in Duluth MN. Our present plan is to try to have bait on IR by June 21, (2008 ☺). Tentatively, the NPS will have bait available in freezers during regular park hours and the freezers will be locked during off hours to prevent vandalism. When the fishery receives herring we will work on getting some

purchased, VHS-free certified and available for use. We apologize to some fishermen for not getting this project underway sooner but at least it is happening. I would like to give the NPS credit for getting this process started. This ban is an inconvenience for many fishermen, but I also know that we do need to take steps to protect our IR fishery for generations to come.

## **Sixth Annual Fishing Tournament**

By Dave Hand

For you fishermen, we will be holding the 6th Annual IRBA Fishing Tournament on Saturday morning (July 19) from sunrise to 2:00 PM. The tournament is a fundraiser with a cash prize for the boat that catches the three largest lake trout by weight. The cash prize will be one half of the tournament proceeds. Plaques will be awarded to the first and second place teams, with the three largest fish and a trolling plaque for the three largest fish (Plaques courtesy of John Evans). A plaque will also be given for the largest fish caught. This year the entry fee will be \$10.00 per person.

This year the "Wooden Herring Award," will also be up for grabs. This award is given to either the Minnesota or Yooper (Michigan) fishermen for the three largest fish by weight. The Yoopers presently have the bragging rights from last year's stunning upset on the West end.

We would like entry requests be made by 7 PM on Friday, July 18. Dave Hand (Dr. Trout) will be at Caribou Dock to take the entry request by marine radio or in person. The entry fee can be paid before the day of the tournament or at the time of weigh-in as long as you have made the entry request. If you have questions please contact Dave Hand (906) 370 - 7354. Again this year, Buck LeVasseur from TV6 News in

Marquette Michigan will be on hand to capture all the fishing excitement.

### **IRBA Apparel Available**

We have IRBA apparel available including: hats, sweatshirts, and polo shirts. We also have nice jackets available by special order. You can order them by contacting Carol Drew at 906 - 482 - 9342. We will also have apparel available at the July Meeting.

### **IRBA Scheduled Events**

6<sup>th</sup> Annual IRBA Isle Royale Fishing Tournament  
Saturday sunrise to 2 PM, July 19, 2008

IRBA Annual Island Meeting, Saturday 3:00 PM,  
July 19, 2008, Rock Harbor Lodge on Isle Royale

**Articles for Newsletter consideration are  
welcome. ----**

*Please support your IRBA  
PO Box 97  
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