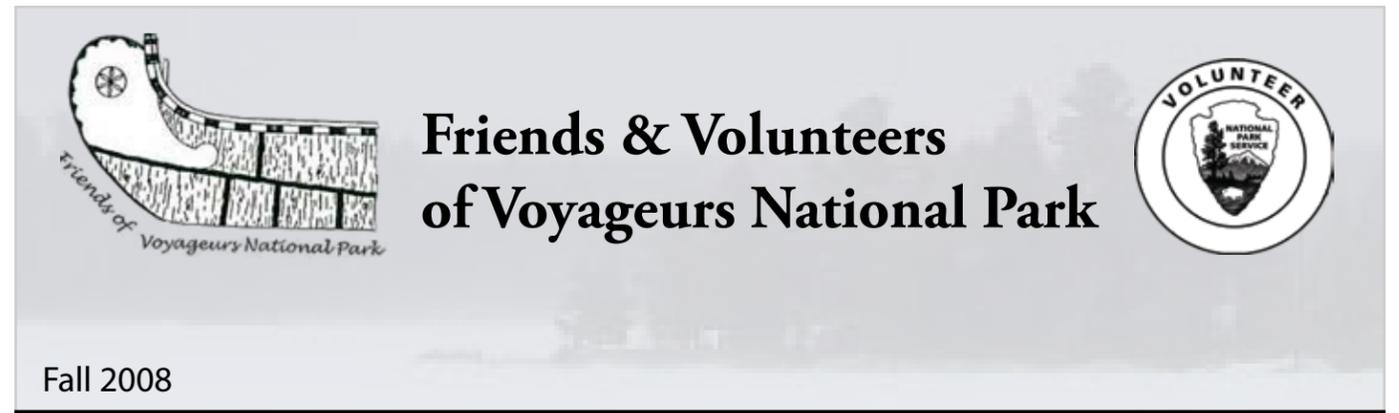


Junior Ranger Program

What is a Junior Ranger? It is any person, young or old, who would like to help park rangers take care of Voyageurs National Park.

If you are from 1 - 99 you may participate in one of the parks' three Junior Ranger booklets. The booklets are divided into appropriate age categories. The Bear Club - ages 9 and up, the Wolf Club - ages 6 to 8 and the Beaver Club - ages 5 & under. Once the booklet is completed bring it into a visitor center and receive a Junior Ranger badge, patch and certificate.

The Friends, along with other park partners, have donated funds towards printing of these booklets. Check one out today!



New Voyageurs Park Superintendent

by Dean Lindstrom

Mike Ward became the Superintendent of Voyageurs National Park on August 17, replacing Kate Miller, who retired earlier this year. Mike's career with the National Park Service began in 1983 at Lincoln Home National Historic Site, where he had worked seasonally with the Youth Conservation Corps. In 1992, he began his first permanent assignment in the park system as a maintenance worker at the Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site. Mike remained at this location until coming to Voyageurs, rising through the ranks to site manager in 2002 and Superintendent in 2005. While at the Grant Historic Site, he was instrumental in the restoration of many structures and in converting Grant's Barn into an interpretive center. The feature that most pleases Mike about Grant's Site is how well it presents information to visitors.

In the Midwest Region, Mike also developed, trained, and led a maintenance/restoration team that worked at Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site, Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve, Nicodemus National Historic Site, Truman National Historic Site and Wilson's Creek National Battlefield. In

2002, he was a co-recipient of the John Wesley Powell Prize for Preservation from the Society for History in Federal Government. Mike, his wife Betsy, and their children Connor (11) and Libby (7) are looking forward to living in northern Minnesota. They enjoy the outdoors, sports, music, culture and the arts. Mike says that he and his family "look forward to becoming new members of the community at International Falls and the surrounding area and look forward to working alongside those communities towards our common goals."

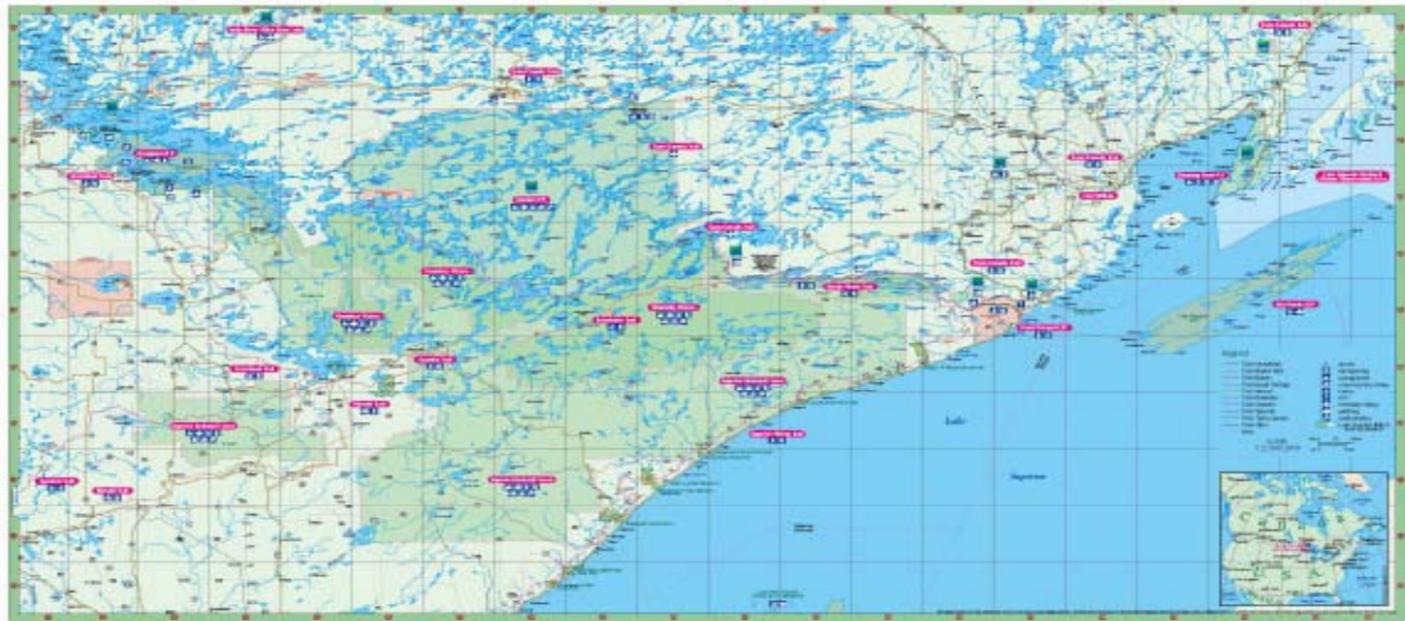
The Friends of Voyageurs National Park welcome Mike and his family to the area, and look forward to helping support him in his new position.



Friends of Voyageurs National Park
3131 Highway 53
International Falls, MN 56649

The Mission of the Friends of Voyageurs National Park is to sponsor outreach that supports natural, historical and educational activities available at Voyageurs National Park.

Heart of the Continent Partnership



Approximately two years ago, Robin Reilly, Quetico Provincial Park's Superintendent, was instrumental in forming the Heart of the Continent Partnership, which presently consists of 21 government and non-governmental groups. The purpose of the partnership is to increase collaboration and coordination between Voyageurs, Quetico, Superior, and numerous other smaller parks, reserves, and historic sites in the Minnesota and Ontario boundary region. According to Reilly, "Essentially what we've got now is about two-and-a-half million hectares of land in some kind or another, managed by some organization or another, all with a cultural, historical, and geographical purpose mostly dedicated to some kind of conservation." Reilly continues, "While each of the pieces are important individually, they collectively provide a far more significant piece of environmental real estate. For example, the area of Voyageurs National Park alone is likely far too small to sustain some wildlife populations into the future, but as a key piece of a larger landscape the prospects are more hopeful."

The partnership recently completed a first edition initial draft of a full color map of the region. According to Reilly, "the Heart of the Continent Map strives to show the areas as they actually are, at a common scale and in relationship to one another. The reverse side of the map describes the areas and their interconnections with text and photos. This double-sided map is printed on high-quality, waterproof paper. Beyond just depicting the geographic situation, the map also provides information helpful to understanding, appreciating and visiting the area." Reilly continues, "The map and the reverse text side thus tries to depict the unity and the diversity of the public lands and situate them in the regional context. It also seeks to provide a source of contact information (mail, web, phone) for the entire area as well as a summary of where some of the best areas are for different kinds of recreation. There are already maps that to some extent provide cross-border information for driving, fishing and snowmobiling so we chose to concentrate on human-powered recreation. We also chose to depict both natural and cultural areas."

If you are interested in ordering one or more copies of the map, they are available for \$9.00 each. Send a check written to Chrismar Mapping Service, Inc. in the amount (number of maps) x \$9 to:
Heart of the Continent Partnership, 126 North Third Street, Suite 400, Minneapolis, MN 55401-1676

What's Going on With Friends of Voyageurs

This summer, Friends of Voyageurs National Park sponsored the Special Speaker Series at Woodenfrog, with more than 250 people attending. Topics covered ranged from edible plants to prescribed fires.

Friends also contributed funds for library work consisting of entering books into the electronic catalog and copying and binding the Kettle Falls Hotel Guest Register.

The Friends sponsored the National Park Week in April. The winner of the Youth Art Contest won a free weekend stay for their family in the park. The purpose for the stay was to introduce a family to Voyageurs National Park. The winning child spent time with a park ranger and park naturalist as well as donating an hour of their time on a volunteer project for the park. Over 100 children participated in the Youth Art Contest.

Donations were also made for the children's activity tables at all three visitor centers. These tables are one of the more popular stops for families when they come into the visitor center.

For the upcoming winter season, Friends has purchased ski equipment for use at the Rainy Lake Visitor Center and is also providing funds for programs at the Rainy Lake Visitor Center.

It is with regret that we say goodbye to Jo and Larry Kallemeyn. They will be leaving the International Falls area for Spearfish, SD on September 15. They will be greatly missed! Their new address is:

Jo and Larry Kellemeyn
1812 Shady Oak Place
Spearfish, SD 57783



New Friends Officers

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Co-President | Jean Reichow |
| Co-President | Dean Lindstrom |
| Vice President | Darlene Stoiber |
| Secretary | Vicki Peterson |
| Treasurer | Jean Reichow |

Join the Friends of Voyageurs National Park

Annual Membership Levels
Free bandana at \$60 or above – supply limited

- \$10 Canoeman
- \$20 Gouvernail (steersman)
- \$35 Avant (bowman)
- \$60 Guide
- \$100 - \$499 Commis (clerk)
- \$500+ Bourgeois (partner)
- Other _____(amount)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Mail donation checks payable to:
Friends of Voyageurs National Park,
3131 Highway 53
International Falls, MN 56649.

National Parks Foundation Fund
This fund is another way to support projects at Voyageurs National Park. This investment fund is designated, managed by the National Parks Foundation for larger one-time projects selected by the Friends of VNP on an as needed basis.

Yes, I'd like to make a separate donation to the National Parks Foundation Friends of Voyageurs National Park Fund.

NPF Friends of VNP Fund Donation Amount
\$ _____