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Joan Slater, Brian Bailey Elected to Mackinac Associates Board of Trustees

MACKINAC ISLAND, MICH. — Joan Slater, of St. Ignace, and Brian Bailey, of Mackinac Island, were unanimously voted to the Mackinac Associates Board of Trustees at its annual meeting August 14.

Slater grew up in Minneapolis and first visited Mackinac Island with family in 1965. After graduating from Utah State University with a degree in history and geography, Slater came to Mackinac for a summer job which turned into living and working on the Island for forty years. Slater now lives in St Ignace with her wife, Mary Wojcik.

“It is an honor to be on the board of Mackinac Associates and I approach my term with a willingness to listen, learn and assist in any way possible,” Slater said.

Bailey has been the general manager of the Chippewa Hotel for more than 25 years, first from 1986-1992 and since 2003. Also since 2003 he has served as general manager of the Lilac Tree Suites & Spa. He originally hails from Ann Arbor and attended Albion College. Bailey has been married to his wife Jeri-Lynn since 1991 (whom he met at the Chippewa Hotel) and has three children – Kyle, a project manager for Emcor Corp., Mary, a student at Hope College, and Nora, a junior at Gaylord High School.

“I am honored to be a member of this prestigious board whose purpose is to support the Mackinac State Park and the history of the Straits area,” Bailey said.

Slater and Bailey replace Jack Barnwell and Wes Maurer, who were term-limited off the board.

“We’re thrilled to see Joan Slater and Brian Bailey added to the Mackinac Associates Board of Trustees,” said Steve Brisson, Mackinac State Historic Parks Director. “Joan has always been an engaged and committed member of the Mackinac Island and St. Ignace communities, and Brian offers a quarter-century’s worth of experience as a business and community leader on Mackinac Island.

“We thank Wes Maurer and Jack Barnwell for their dedication to the Mackinac Associates board,” Brisson continued. “We look forward to their continued involvement with Mackinac Associates in the future.”

Additionally, at Mackinac Associates’ regular meeting August 27, the board of trustees re-elected Harriet McGraw of Petoskey president, Jeb Burns of Cheboygan vice president, Nancy Porter of Mackinac Island secretary, and Tom Lockwood of Mackinac Island treasurer. Other members of the Board of Trustees include Todd Callewaert, Kathy Lieder, Steven Murray, Todd Petersen, Sheldon Smith, Natalia Wohletz, and Skip Young.

More information on Mackinac Associates can be found on its website, mackinacassociates.com, or at (231) 436-4100. A downloadable version of this release can be found [here](#).

Mackinac Associates, founded as a 501(c)(3) in 1982, was created to support the mission of Mackinac State Historic Parks by providing funding to do projects and implement programs the park would otherwise not be able to afford. Mackinac Associates has supported needed projects in every area of museum operation and make possible interpretive programs, publications, exhibits, natural history education, park improvements and more. Since its inception, Mackinac Associates has provided \$1,590,470.00 in funding for projects throughout Mackinac State Historic Parks sites. Mackinac Associates has provided support to the education outreach program since its inception in 1987 providing over \$700,000 in funding to support staff and interpreters to visit area schools throughout the region during the winter months with the Historic Mackinac on Tour and Water, Woods, and Wildlife programs. Included in these funds are scholarships given to local schools to help defray the cost of visits to Mackinac State Historic Parks sites. More information is available at (231) 436-4100 or online at mackinacassociates.com.

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