



# PASSAGES



\* PO Box 307 \* Drummond Island MI 49726 \* [drlps@drlps.com](mailto:drlps@drlps.com) \* [www.DRLPS.com](http://www.DRLPS.com) \* 906-493-6609 \*

Issue 16

*We'll Keep the Light on for You!*

November 2008

## An Eventful Year for DRLPS

This issue of *Passages* is dedicated to the 2008 events of the DRLPS. It was a busy year for the Society and many fantastic events were held in support and recognition of the work of the DeTour Reef Preservation Society. Read on for a recap of the years' events.....

### Gala Weekend Marks the Tenth Anniversary DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society

At the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society (DRLPS) celebration marking ten years of preserving and restoring the DeTour Reef Light over 120 local citizens, retired United States Coast Guard Lighthouse Keepers, lighthouse supporters, their friends and family joined together for an evening of recognition, food, and camaraderie.

Jeri Baron Feltner and Sandy Wytiaz co-chaired the event at the Eastern Upper Peninsula Fine Arts Cultural Center with imagination and enthusiasm. Their planning was meticulous and the attendees enjoyed the successful evening.

The Gala included many unique activities including the hand stamping of first day cover postal envelopes by Sue Schultz, Postmaster at DeTour Village, marking the successful ten year effort. Everyone also received 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary embossed pens.

The dinner was donated by Sandy Wytiaz, owner of Complete Benefit Designs. Sandy, Stan Todd, Mary Jo Daggitt, Dianne Karsh, Linda Suida, and Dotty Witten prepared the delicious food. The dinner's menu included hors d'oeuvres of assorted cheeses, pecan and blue cheese bites, and bruschetta. The spinach and raspberry salad was followed by a main course of stuffed chicken breast with cream cheese, mushrooms, and spinach and orzo with peas. Dessert was a sheet cake decorated in red white and blue with the DRLPS tenth anniversary logo.



*Meta Geyer, Barb and Jim MacLaren enjoy the evening*

DRLPS received a "Certificate of Congressional Recognition" from US Senator Debbie Stabenow which read: "Presented on August 30, 2008 to DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society Tenth Anniversary for 10 years of dedicated efforts to restore and preserve the historic DeTour Reef Light."

Awards were presented by Russ Norris, President of the DRLPS to Dave Bardsley for his continuing contribution to the success of the Keeper Program. Chuck Feltner was recognized for his Restoration and History work and Jeri Baron Feltner for all her efforts for the DRLPS. Don Gries was recognized for his role as Preservation and Restoration Chair.

Dick Moehl received a "Special Tribute" as DRLPS Founding Director Emeritus signed by Governor Jennifer Granholm, State Representative Gary McDowell, and State Senator Jason Allen. The DRLPS presented Dick with a framed and etched DeTour Reef Light 1931 window pane. In accepting the gift for his support in forming the DRLPS and his knowledge of lighthouse preservation, Dick Moehl spoke of the 1997 trip to the DeTour Reef Light with DRLPS Founding President Bob Jones, and Founding Vice President Jim Charles. The information they gathered and the photos they shot directly resulted in the establishment of the DRLPS.

*(Continued on page 2)*

*(Continued from page 1)*

Chuck Feltner introduced lighthouse restoration contractors Ken Czapski of UP Engineers and Architects and Frank & Sharon Mihm of Mihm Enterprises.

A "Certificate of Recognition" was sent to nationally-recognized lighthouse preservation consultant Cullen Chambers, of Tybee Island, Georgia, for his significant volunteer service in conducting an onsite two-day existing conditions survey of the DeTour Reef Light in 2000. He prepared an extensive 185-page "Assessment Survey and Recommendations Report" that became the foundation of the DRLPS restoration plan for grant applications.

Judy Jones, her children and grandchildren attended and represented her husband Bob who passed away in 2002. Jeri Baron Feltner described Bob's inspiration and passion for preservation of the Light. Jim Charles who passed away in 2007 and who contributed so much to the beginning of the DRLPS restoration effort was recognized. Barb Snider was also recognized for being a founding Director.

Door prize drawing winners included Joan Meyer who won a tour of the DeTour Reef Light for two; Carl Roggow won a mouse pad embossed with the 10th anniversary logo; and Linda Lillibridge won playing cards with the logo. The raffle of a blanket throw with the DRLPS logo was won by Alyssa Grace.

In 1998 a group of local citizens joined together to restore the Light and formed the 501c3 organization. The DeTour Reef Light was built in 1931, and stands a mile offshore in northern Lake Huron at the far eastern end of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The DeTour Reef Light rises 83 feet above the water and marks a dangerous reef to help guide ship traffic from and to Lake Huron and Lake Superior via the strategic St. Mary's River.

The Light was automated in 1974. In 1997, the lighthouse was declared surplus property by the U. S. Coast Guard due to sophisticated navigational systems aboard ships, and the Coast Guard's not having the funding to care for the structure in accordance with historic preservation guidelines. The following year the DRLPS was formed to save the Light.

The DRLPS received the 2005 Governor's Award for excellence in historic preservation, and the Superior Award in 2006 from the Historical Society of Michigan. The DeTour Reef Light is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Information on the DRLPS 10th Anniversary Celebration event and photos can be seen at [www.DRLPS.com](http://www.DRLPS.com) under *Events*.

## Eleventh Annual DRLPS Father's Day Cruise

In spite of a fog delayed departure, the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society's Eleventh Annual Father's Day Cruise was a great success. The cruisers that waited out the fog were rewarded with beautiful weather for the trip up the St. Mary's River. This was the first delay in the eleven year history of the DRLPS Father's Day Cruise according to Captain Jack Cork of Soo Locks Boat Tours (SLBT).

The ever inventive group of organizers, with the help of caterer Stan Todd and his assistant Carol Martin, started the morning with a buffet of fruit, bagels, and donuts served outside at the DeTour Village Museum.

When the fog lifted, and the sun came out, the SLBT vessel "Le Voyageur", piloted by Senior Captain Jack Cork and Captain Charlie Lampman, left DeTour Village and headed out to DeTour Reef Light. John Covell, dressed in his lighthouse keeper uniform, narrated a vivid description of the interior of the Light. His wife, Sunny, provided additional interesting and unique information to the group. "Le Voyageur" circled the Light and provided many picture opportunities for the cruisers.

The Cruise then proceeded up river and through the Soo Locks with narration by Captain Jack and Ann Method Green. The trip through the Soo Locks was a first time experience for many of the passengers. Keith and Pauline Gillette were surprised by their daughter, Mary Scherzer at the Locks' viewing area. Lots of waving, laughing, and shouting and picture taking followed.



*Sunny and John Covell, narrators on the cruise*

The buffet luncheon included selections of cold meats, cheeses, and home made salads, followed by an afternoon snack of cheeses, crackers, fruit, and cookies. Again, this year, Stan and Carol did a fantastic job putting together the food for the cruise.

*(Continued on page 6)*

## **Eight Former USCG Keepers of the DeTour Reef Light Attend the Anniversary Gala**

Chuck Feltner, Historian of the DRLPS, has spent many hours “rounding up” the past keepers on the DeTour Reef Light. He has talked with many of them, either doing a phone interview or in a video taping session. Chuck invited the past keepers to attend the Tenth Anniversary Gala and eight of them accepted the invitation.

As part of the celebration the men came to share their experiences on the Light during a two hour video taping session at the DeTour School auditorium. Russ Norris and Donnie Stefanski worked the camera equipment and Chuck Feltner moderated the interview.

Former United States Coast Guard Keepers attending the Gala events were:

- Gene “Andy” Anderson served on the Light at the rank of Fireman (FN) between May 1958 and May 1959. He and his wife Mary traveled from Biscoe, NC.
- Floyd “Boats” Colvin was a Boatswain’s Mate 1<sup>st</sup> class (BSN) when he was on the Light in 1968-1969. He and his wife, Lois, live in Sault Ste Marie, MI.
- John “JP” Gretka, from Farwell, MI was an Engineman 2<sup>nd</sup> Class (EN2) in 1961.
- Marvin “Blackie” Kurkierewicz, of Drummond Island, was Fireman (EN3) in 1963-1964 and was reassigned to the Light in 1969. He attended the Gala with his wife, Barbara.
- Gerard “Jerry the Owl” Livingston, of Bay Village, OH, was a Seaman (SN) in 1960. His wife, Karen, was with him at the celebration.
- Eric “Ole” Olsen was a Boatswain’s Mate 2<sup>nd</sup> Class (BM2) at the Light from September 1962 thru the 1964 season. He visited from Charlotte, MI, with his wife Nina.
- Robert “Ski” Soldenski from Rudyard was an Engineman 1<sup>st</sup> Class (EN1) on the Light between May 1967 and Dec 1968.
- James P. “Willy” Williams of DeTour Village served as an Engineman 1<sup>st</sup> Class (EN1) from May 1960-May 1962

The keepers shared many interesting perspectives, humorous and thought provoking, of their duty at the Light. A lot of the stories included their trips to town some of them for the mail and some made quite hazardous because of the weather.

Stories of the meals also took center stage. Charlie Jones who worked on the Light from 1940 to 1962, was mentioned as one of the poorer cooks. He had the ability to make biscuits bounce. Later, meatless Friday night soup was delicious and sometimes people from DeTour Village would show up just to enjoy it.

One event was remembered by more than one of the Keepers and was met with chuckles from all of them. It seems that one of the young “Coasties” was quite a ladies man and on his return from shore for the mail brought a couple of young ladies back with him. The party was just getting started when they were greeted by the Commander’s boat coming for a surprise inspection. The inspection, of course, included all areas of the Light, and they knew the commander would not appreciate the young ladies’ visit. One of the young men had the bright idea to hide them in the attic at the base of the tower. That attic was quite small and filled with dust and spider webs, but the girls went inside to wait out the inspection. Their presence was not discovered during the inspection and, when the Commander left, they climbed out of the confined area, covered in spider webs, dusty, and ready to go home.



*L to R Chuck Feltner, Historian of the DRLPS with USCG members Robert “Ski” Soldenski, Marvin “Blackie” Kurkierewicz, Floyd “Boats” Colvin, Eric “Ole” Olsen, Gene “Andy” Anderson, John “JP” Gretka, Gerard “Jerry the Owl” Livingston*

At the dinner that evening Chuck presented the past keepers and their wives with Honorary Lifetime Memberships to the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society. The DRLPS was very fortunate to have them in attendance.



## DeTour Reef Light 2008 Photo Contest Winners

The results are in and it's official! The winners of the first photo contest sponsored by the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society (DRLPS) were announced at their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala.

Grand Prize was awarded to Judy Mills, Coopersville, MI, with her unique photo showing the deck of the Detour Reef Light, the DRLPS information, and a freighter passing by. The Grand Prize is a framed etched DeTour Reef Light 1931 window pane.

Hallie Wilson of Midland, MI with her shot of the Light from a distance with the clouds trailing off to the side won second place honors and a tour for two at the Light. Third place prize, a 2009 etched ornament, was won by David Meyer of Grand Rapids, MI. He caught the detail of the Light in shadow reflecting on the water of the DeTour Reef.

In a tie for 4<sup>th</sup> place Hallie Wilson captured an interesting angle of the Light tower taken from the deck, and Thomas Sprader of Richmond, MI, used the clouds to frame the Light. They were both presented with a DeTour Reef Light banner.

For next year's photo contest photographers have an opportunity to capture the DeTour Reef Light in a pose that has not been available since 1972. Because of the restoration efforts of the DRLPS, the Detour Reef Light now has both cranes on deck, just waiting for the contest.

To see the winning entries, visit our website at [www.drlps.com/events](http://www.drlps.com/events).

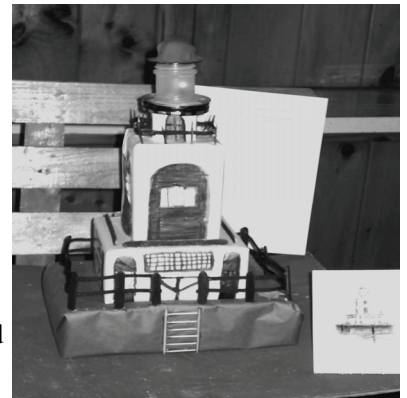
## Lighthouse Model by Dawson Cooper

Grandson of DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society Founding President Bob Jones who passed away in 2002

My name is Dawson Cooper. I am 10 years old and proud to share the birth year of DRLPS. I live in Byron Center, Michigan. Last year in 4<sup>th</sup> grade I had a school assignment to research and construct a model of a Great Lakes Lighthouse.

For me it was an easy choice. My grandfather was Bob Jones and he was the founding president of the Detour Reef Light. I felt fortunate that I was able to learn about the DeTour Reef Light and construct this mini version. It is just one way that I am keeping a light burning for my grandpa. I know how proud he would be.

My family and I would also like to thanks and recognize Mr. Moehl and helpers from the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association. I was fortunate to receive their help with my research and for having a guest speaker come do a presentation at my school.



## 1907 DeTour Reef Light Fresnel Lens History Narrated by Jim Woodward

An important part of the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala on August 30th was the showings of the 1907 3-1/2 order Fresnel Lens at the DeTour Passage Historical Museum with an informative narrative provided by Jim Woodward. The interesting presentations on Saturday and Sunday drew a large number of residents and area visitors. Judy Jones arranged for the special opening of the Museum

Jim, who made a special trip from his home in Cleveland, OH, for the presentations, is a well-known and respected Fresnel Lens expert. He has over 40 years experience in the restoration, repair and maintenance of Fresnel lighthouse lenses and clockworks. He retired from the USCG in 2004 after a 40-year career, and stays very active in the lighthouse field. Jim has been a devoted supporter of the DRLPS since 1998, and has served as an honorary director since 2003.

As a side note: It is because of Jim's foresight that the DRLPS has access to the original collection of pictures from the 1930 construction of the Detour Reef Light. When the Coast Guard released the pictures from their archives, Jim took responsibility for the photos and placed them into a historical collection. John Covell is currently digitally reconstructing these pictures as well as period photos from Curtis Anderson, DeTour Dockside Café, and Chuck and Jeri Feltner. The DRLPS is formulating plans to show selected pictures in businesses in the area.

More information about Jim is available on his website  
[www.lighthouseconsultant.com](http://www.lighthouseconsultant.com).



*Jim Woodward at the DeTour Reef Passage Museum*

## The DeTour Reef Light Now Has A Second Crane

When the DeTour Reef Light opened to tours and keepers in 2005, the first phase of the massive six year renovation by the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society (DRLPS) was completed. However, as with all projects, especially one of this magnitude, phase one wasn't the end. Now, with the help of many companies, many dedicated volunteers, and the State of Michigan "Save our Lighthouses" license plate program, the exterior of the Light now is comparable to the DeTour Reef Light of 1931.

In the last few months many people have noticed that the black pillar on the north western corner of the Light was missing. Last winter that pillar was used to help manufacture a second replica crane for the Light.

The effort to replicate the second crane started in the summer of 2006 when Clif Haley of the DRLPS put together a grant application to replace the crane on the Light's northwest corner. The Michigan Lighthouse Alliance Program (MLAP) grants come from the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) and are funded by the profit the State makes on selling Lighthouse license plates. These are matching fund grants; for every \$1.00 the DRLPS raises the State adds \$2.00.

In late 2006 DRLPS was notified that the grant application for the crane had been selected. The next step was to negotiate and sign a grant agreement defining the cost, schedule and scope of the restoration effort. Ads were placed in local papers requesting bids on the project. All the preliminary steps were completed in late March 2007. The same day our grant was signed, the Governor placed all grant money on hold pending the resolution of the State's financial problems.

Hoping that the moratorium on funds would be lifted in the fall, DRLPS, with the assistance of Vince Klamerus Excavating and Island Rental, removed the existing crane pillar from the Light in July, 2007. With the pillar available, the new crane fabricated over the winter.

When the moratorium was lifted in October 2007, Bunker Manufacturing was selected to manufacture the replica crane and the existing pillar was delivered to them. Bunker finished the crane in July 2008.

DRLPS members brought the crane to Drummond Island. Yacht Haven Construction moved the pillar and boom to the Light with the help of equipment from the Drummond Island Quarry. It was a significant job because of the size of the crane and all of its components. The total cranes weighs 8506 pounds, the pillar and frame 5703 pounds, boom and winch motor 2535 pounds, and miscellaneous pulleys, cable, and bolts 268 pounds.

In early August, Ed Clark, Dave Bardsley, Meade Gable, and Don Gries with Nella Gries on camera were on the Light to install the crane. Chuck Feltner performed the photo duties from the water. The final trip to install the boom on the crane's hoist mechanism was finished on August 26<sup>th</sup> by Ken Walker, Dave Bardsley, Meade Gable, and Don Gries. DRLPS members completed the assembly of the crane and tested it on August 28<sup>th</sup>. At the same time, Arndt Enterprises installed the special electrical system necessary to operate the new crane.

The total cost of the crane was \$52,000. The DRLPS raised \$17,300 and the State will reimburse the society \$34,600.



*How many DRLPS members does it take to tighten a nut*

## Janelle Dudeck Elected To DRLPS Board of Directors Fills Vacancy Created by the Death of Glenn Lahti

In a unanimous vote by the Board of Directors of the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society (DRLPS) Janelle Dudeck was elected to fill Glenn Lahti's term of Secretary and Board member.

Janelle grew up in DeTour Village and is a graduate of DeTour High School. She attended Lake Superior State University as a business major and, after graduation, accepted a position in California. While in California, Janelle volunteered for a non-profit dog rescue group for several years. She designed and built one of the first websites that utilized the Internet for the placement of homeless pets. She worked for 15 years as a Senior Business Analyst where she managed large Information Technology projects and traveled the country doing training on new IT products. She moved back to DeTour Village in 1999 where she and her husband own their own businesses. Janelle is also an artist that works in watercolor, pastels and jewelry design. She is the Vice President of the Eastern Upper Peninsula Fine Arts Council and has been a board member since 2000.



Russ Norris, President of the DRLPS, stated, "we are fortunate to have Janelle's enthusiasm and experience. She is a great addition to the Board!"

## DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society's 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Evening Under the Stars

It was a perfect summer evening on Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup> when supporters of the DeTour Reef Light and the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society (DRLPS) gathered at the water's edge of Drummond Island's Bayside Dining.

Joyce Buckley, Stars chair, stated that the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Evening Under the Stars was "a great success, the food was fabulous, and everyone had a great time."

James and Barbara Gusfa greeted each guest and presented them a wine-glass etched with the image of the DeTour Reef Light. The image was created by local artist, Sandy Ledy and Joyce Buckley etched each glass.

The menu included appetizers of spanokopita, risotto arinchini, venison sausage stuffed mushrooms, seared Ahi tuna with wakimi and rice crackers, and vegetable spring rolls. Salads included baby spinach salad with cherry balsamic vinaigrette, candied walnuts, blueberries, red onion and Point Reyes blue cheese, a classic Caesar salad with homemade dressing, shaved parmesan cheese and croutons, and an antipasto salad. Items served buffet style were carved herb crusted beef tenderloin, miso glazed sablefish with warm soba noodle salad, fettuccini carbonara, buttermilk smashed potatoes and roasted summer vegetables. A molten chocolate cake was the dessert.



*Barb and Jim Gusfa greet guests*

Corporate table sponsors included G. Dennis Bailey, Drummond Island Yacht Haven, Inc., Drummond Island, MI; Barry L. Collick, Plumbing, Heating and Mechanical, Kalamazoo, MI; Claudio Kaempf, Foreign Car Services, Inc., Kalamazoo, MI; Roy C. Martin, Triangle Electric Company, Madison Heights, MI; William Winters, The WINTERS Group, Winnetka, IL; and Dr. Stephen Zucker, Plastic Surgery Center PC, South Bend IN.

Robert Johnson and Debbie Fogell of "The Generations" were back by popular request with their guitar, vocals, drums/vibes playing a variety of jazz standards and light pop during the evening.

The Silent Auction offered up a number of unique items. A retired, numbered, lighted and signed Harbour Lights Third Order Beehive Fresnel Lens modeled after Michigan's Big Bay Point Lighthouse was the most bid after offering. Other items for auction include a framed panel of Great Lakes Lighthouse stamps, a framed panel of Pacific Lighthouse stamps, hand embroidered items from our own Dotty Witten, a Lighthouse themed hand-hooked wool rug, a quilt pattern of the DeTour Reef Light produced by Carol Melvin, individually personalized golf shirts designed by Ann Method Green and a US flag that was flown over the Michigan state capitol provided by Senator Jason Allen.

Dave and Paula Bardsley won the gourmet dinner raffle for six at their home presented by Chef Mike Lutz, Executive Chef at Bayside Dining.

The DRLPS is a 501(c)(3) organization and all profits from Stars will be used to continue the work on the Light and to "Keep the Light on for You."

*(Continued from page 2)*

In honor of Father's Day, prizes were presented to special fathers. Bernard Senske from Grand Rapids, MI with six children had the most children and Tony Elve of Brighton, MI 91 years young, was honored as the oldest father on the cruise. They proudly accepted their gift of an official DRLPS embroidered tee-shirt.

Door prizes were awarded. Theresia Van Der Heijen of Grand Rapids, MI, won two rounds of golf donated by the Drummond Island Resort and Conference Center. Michelle Whittaker of Paradise, MI, won a pair of tours to the DeTour Reef Light.

Anne Stafford, the Father's Day Cruise chairperson, stated that plans are in process for next year's 12th annual DRLPS River Cruise, scheduled for Father's Day, June 21, 2009. She also thanked the volunteers, Paula Bardsley, John and Sunny Covell, Danielle Leazier, and Ann Method Green, for helping make this year's cruise a success.



## Memorabilia Order Form—DeTour Reef Preservation Society

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email (very important) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	Price Each	Color	Size	Quantity	Total
1	Decal with Society Logo	\$1				
2	Bumper Sticker with Society Logo	\$1				
3	Cup with Society Logo	\$3				
4	Embroidered patch of DeTour Reef Light— 2 3/4 inch square	\$6				
5	DeTour Reef Light Collectors Pin— 1 1/8 inch	\$6				
6	Hat (khaki, khaki/blue, or wheat/pine) with Lighthouse Crest	\$15				
7	Visor with Lighthouse Crest (navy)	\$10				
8	T-Shirt w/Lighthouse Crest (stone blue or light green — S, M, L, XL, 2XL)	\$20				
9	White Golf Shirt w/Lighthouse Crest (unisex — S, M, L, XL, 2XL)	\$32				
10	Denim Shirt with Lighthouse Crest (unisex — S, M, L, XL, 2XL)	\$39				
11	Crew Neck Sweatshirt with Lighthouse Crest (stone — S, M, L, XL, 2XL)	\$28				
12	Full Zip Hooded Sweatshirt with Lighthouse Crest (birch — S, M, L, XL, 2XL)	\$35				
13	Sterling Silver Charm of Lighthouse	\$20				
14	Tote Bag with Lighthouse Crest (natural/red trim or natural/navy trim)	\$28				
15	Note Pads w/Lighthouse Logo (pack of 3 — 50 sheets per pad)	\$2				
16	Note cards, ivory, showing Lighthouse in 1931 (10 cards & envelopes)	\$8				
17	8x10 Color Photo of 2004 Lighthouse	\$10				
18	8x10 Color Photo of 2008 Lighthouse (NEW!)	\$10				
19	DVD video of the Lighthouse before/during/after restoration	\$20				
20	2008 Ornament (octagon-shaped 3x5 inch glass etched with Lighthouse image)	\$16				
21	1931 Limited Edition Lighthouse Window Pane (9 1/4 x 11 x 1/4 inch) w/Etching of Lighthouse	\$300				
22	Custom Framing for item #20	\$150				
23	Lighthouse Model 3" Little Light of Mine by Harbour Lights	\$17.50				



*Thank You  
for your  
Support!*

*We'll Keep the  
Light on  
for You!*

Value of Order	S&H
Up to \$10	\$4
\$10.01—\$25	\$5
\$25.01—\$45	\$7
\$45.01—\$65	\$9
\$65.01—\$85	\$11
\$85.01—\$150	\$13
Over \$150	\$15

Merchandise Total	
<b>Tax 6%</b> (Michigan Residents Only)	
<b>S &amp; H (see chart)</b>	
<b>Total Enclosed</b>	

*Please allow up to 21 days for delivery.*

**Mail order form & payment to:**

DRLPS, PO Box 307  
Drummond Island MI 49726  
906-297-6801  
www.DRLPS.com  
memorabilia@drlps.com

Method of Payment: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

 Check or Money Order Payable to DRLPS  
 VISA  MasterCard  Discover  American Express  
 Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



**DETOUR REEF LIGHT  
PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

PO Box 307  
Drummond Island MI 49726

drlps@drlps.com  
www.DRLPS.com  
906-493-6609

Nonprofit Organization  
**US Postage Paid**  
Drummond Island, MI  
49726  
**Permit No. 11**

**President:** Russ Norris, [russnorris@drlps.com](mailto:russnorris@drlps.com)  
**Vice President:** David Bardsley, [bardsley@stanfordalumni.org](mailto:bardsley@stanfordalumni.org)  
**Treasurer:** Charles E. Feltner, [chuckfeltner@gmail.com](mailto:chuckfeltner@gmail.com)  
**Secretary:** Janelle Dudeck, [secretary@drlps.com](mailto:secretary@drlps.com)  
**Directors:** G. Dennis Bailey, Clifton E. Haley, Donald A. Gries, Sandy Wytiaz  
**Founding Directors Emeriti:** Dick Moehl, Jeri-Baron Feltner  
**Honorary Director:** James S. Woodward  
**Sponsor A Step:** Jeri-Baron Feltner, [jeribaron@aol.com](mailto:jeribaron@aol.com)  
**Membership:** Paula P. Bardsley, [membership@drlps.com](mailto:membership@drlps.com)  
**Stars Event:** Joyce Buckley, [starsevent@drlps.com](mailto:starsevent@drlps.com)  
**Passages Editor:** Sheila Sawyer, [newsletter@drlps.com](mailto:newsletter@drlps.com)  
**Webmaster:** Matt Sawyer, [msawyer91@drlps.com](mailto:msawyer91@drlps.com)  
**Tours:** John & Sunny Covell, [tours@drlps.com](mailto:tours@drlps.com)  
**Preservation:** Don Gries, [dgries@alphacomm.net](mailto:dgries@alphacomm.net)  
**River Cruise:** Anne Stafford, [rivercruise@drlps.com](mailto:rivercruise@drlps.com)  
**Ornaments/Special Projects:** Dotty Witten, [upwitten@lighthouse.net](mailto:upwitten@lighthouse.net)  
**Accounting:** Dawn Gibbons, [dgibbons@alphacomm.net](mailto:dgibbons@alphacomm.net)  
**Public Relations:** Ann Green, [PR@drlps.com](mailto:PR@drlps.com)  
**Keeper Program:** David Bardsley, [keepers@drlps.com](mailto:keepers@drlps.com)  
**Memorabilia:** Dotty Witten & Sandy Wytiaz, [memorabilia@drlps.com](mailto:memorabilia@drlps.com)

**MEMBERSHIP:**

\$30 Basic (includes family members), \$50 Patron, \$100 Keeper, \$500 Lifetime, \$1000 Grand Keeper. Memberships include family.

[www.DRLPS.com](http://www.DRLPS.com) \* [membership@drlps.com](mailto:membership@drlps.com) \* 906-493-6609

or by writing: DRLPS, PO Box 307, Drummond Island MI 49726

**DeTour Reef Lighthouse Preservation Society**

DRLPS is a volunteer nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization established in 1998 to restore and preserve the DeTour Reef Light. Donations are welcomed and are tax-deductible (EIN 38-3387252, MICS 27001).

The Light was automated in 1974. In 1997, the lighthouse was declared surplus property by the U. S. Coast Guard due to sophisticated navigational systems aboard ships, and the Coast Guard's not having the funding to care for the structure in accordance with historic preservation guidelines. In January 1998, local citizens joined together to save the Light.

The lighthouse was built in 1931, and proudly stands guard a mile offshore in northern Lake Huron at the far eastern end of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The structure rises 83 feet above the water and marks a dangerous reef to help guide ship traffic from and to Lake Huron and Lake Superior via the strategic St. Mary's River.

The DRLPS received the 2005 Governor's Award for excellence in historic preservation, and the Superior Award in 2006 from the Historical Society of Michigan. The DeTour Reef Light is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**PURPOSE:** the purpose of DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society (DRLPS) is to establish, support and promote efforts in the preservation and restoration of the DeTour Reef Light; to achieve the safe keeping of the building, artifacts and records; to educate and inform the public on lighthouse history; to enhance public awareness of the value this lighthouse and its keepers brought to our nation's development; to make the DeTour Reef Light a premier tourist attraction in Michigan's Upper Peninsula as the best example of a faithfully restored offshore lighthouse in the Nation; to provide the public safe access to the lighthouse; to raise awareness about the importance of volunteers in maintaining and preserving the DeTour Reef Light and the DRLPS for generations to come.

**PASSAGES** is the official publication of the DRLPS and is published quarterly. Statements and opinions appearing herein are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position of DRLPS, its officers or members. The editor reserves the right to edit all material for publication and to publish material which is felt to be in the best interest of the DRLPS. Permission is granted to reprint, providing credit will be given to the author, DRLPS, and provided that copyright is not involved, return copy of the article when published would be appreciated.

To submit comments and/or articles to the Editor, email [newsletter@drlps.com](mailto:newsletter@drlps.com) or send by mail to: Sheila Sawyer, 49434 Tarrytown Ct., Shelby Township, MI 48315

Your input for the future issues of *Passages* would be appreciated. Thank you!