



PASSAGES



* PO Box 307 * Drummond Island MI 49726 * drlps@drlps.com * www.DRLPS.com * 906-493-6609 *

Issue 19

We'll Keep the Light on for You!

December 2009

DRLPS Announces Winner of 2009 Photo Contest

It's official! The winner of the DeTour Reef Light Preservation (DRLPS) Photo Contest for 2009 has been selected by the Directors and Chairs. This year the DRLPS was looking for entries to celebrate the installation of the second crane on the southwest corner of the Light.

The winning picture, named "Special Sunrise", was taken and submitted by Hallie Wilson of Midland, Michigan. She and her family spend a lot of time on Drummond Island and love the area. They made a special trip out to the Light at 6:15 in the morning to see the new hoist and to enjoy the beauty of the Light and the DeTour Passage. Hallie feels that the St Mary's River is a beautiful place and it was a very enchanting time watching the sun rise creating a pink glow all around the Light. She was very pleased to be able to capture the vibrant colors with her camera. As the winner of this year's contest, Hallie was presented with a DeTour Reef Light sweatshirt and her winning entry will be used in publications by the DRLPS. DRLPS members have been sent a collector post card with Hallie's photo.



The DRLPS would like to thank everyone that submitted photos to the contest.

THE DRLPS is beginning its twelfth year of restoring and preserving the DeTour Reef Light.

Foghorn News at the DeTour Reef Light

What are your thoughts about the foghorn at the DeTour Reef Light?

"In bad weather it's necessary for safe marine traffic. But when the weather is good and that horn sounds across the water, it invades my living space. It's noise pollution!"

or

"I love to hear its plaintive sound, the bass echo that reminds me of the ships that have safely passed through the area guided by the foghorn. It's history and nostalgia."

In a perfect world how can both sides be happy? The Coast Guard and the Detour Reef Light Preservation Society (DRLPS) are working to accomplish that goal.

DETOUR REEF AID TO NAVIGATION

Residents within the sound of the foghorn agree that the current technology at the Detour Reef Light is not working. Although it activates during the fog, the foghorn also will blast for hours during clear weather and continues sounding until the Coast Guard comes to shut it off.

The current foghorn is a visibility detecting device using back-scatter technology. When the fog rolls in, the micro processor

(Continued on page 8)

Twelfth Annual DRLPS Father's Day Cruise A Beautiful and Scenic Trip To the DeTour Reef Light and Up the St. Mary's River

Passengers on the annual DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society's (DRLPS) Father's Day Cruise enjoyed a perfect summer day cruising up the St. Mary's River and "locking through" the Soo Locks.

The "Le Voyageur", a Soo Locks Boat Tour vessel, piloted by Senior Captain Jack Cork and Captain Charlie Lampman, left DeTour Village Ferry Dock and headed out to DeTour Reef Light. At the Light Dave Bardsley, using a marine radio, provided the cruisers with a level by level narration of the inside of the Light. The weekend Light keepers were on deck and there was an opportunity for a lot of waving and picture taking.

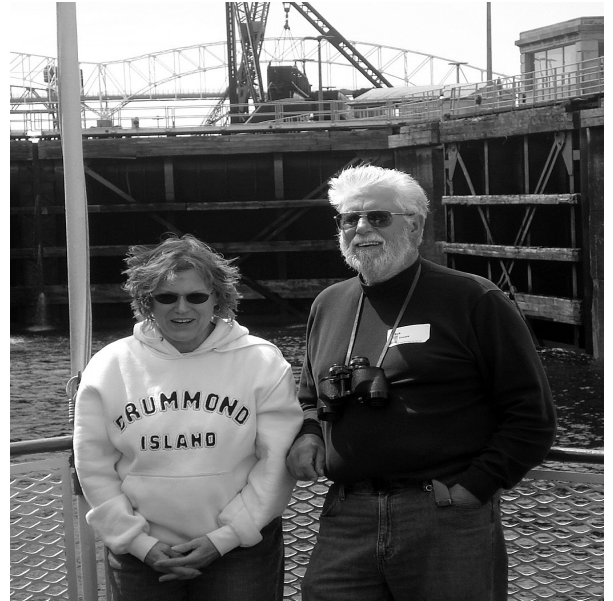
After circling the Light, the Cruise then proceeded up the St. Mary's River. Narration of points of interest and historical information was provided by Captain Jack, Captain Charlie, John Covell, and Ann Method Green.

The breakfast buffet started before the boat left the dock. The coffee, fruit and rolls were only the beginning of a great food fest. The buffet luncheon included selections of cold meats, cheeses, and home made salads, followed by an afternoon snack of meats, cheeses, crackers, fruit, and cookies. Again, this year, Stan Todd and Carol Martin did a fantastic job putting together the food for the cruise.

The Drummond Island Resort and Conference center donated a golf package at the Rock. Sune's Dry Goods on Drummond Island and the Mainsail Restaurant, North Country Sports, Fishers Restaurant, and the Timberdoodle in DeTour Village donated additional door prizes.

Locking through the Soo Locks was the highlight of the cruise for many of the passengers. The 22 foot rise to the Upper St. Mary's River was an amazing experience.

Anne Stafford, the Father's Day Cruise chairperson, stated that plans are in process for next year's 13th annual DRLPS River Cruise scheduled for Father's Day June 20, 2009. She also thanked the volunteers Dave and Paula Bardsley, Jeri Feltner, John and Sunny Covell, and Ann Method Green for helping make this years cruise a success.

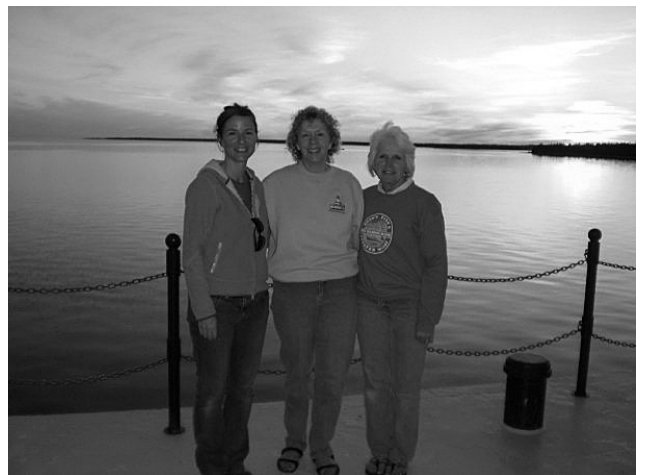


Gretchen and Bob Conard going through the Soo Locks

Ladies Open the Light for the Summer Season

The DeTour Reef Light was officially opened for the summer thanks to the efforts of the Ladies of the Light. Earlier this spring, the peeling and flaking in the living quarters that occurred because of the extreme weather conditions received much needed attention. As a result of the patching and painting by Drummond Island Yacht Haven Construction the interior looks great. These efforts were followed by a complete spraying by Steve Gilbert of End of the Trail Pest Control. Thanks to Steve the spiders are a thing of the past.

The Ladies of the Light led by Nella Gries came in after all that work and finished readying the Light for the first visitors of the summer season. Nella was capably assisted by Paula Bardsley, Janelle Dudeck, Dotty Witten, and Sandy Wytiaz. It was a lot of work, and a lot of fun. The sea gulls had Detour Light to themselves for almost 10 months and were very messy during their stay on the deck. Thanks to the Ladies of the Light the sea gulls visits are no longer evident and the living quarters are ready for the keepers and tours.



At the end of the day the Detour Ladies of the Light, Janelle Dudeck, Dotty Witten, and Sandy Wytiaz are framed by a glorious sunset

DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society's 10th Annual Evening Under the STARS! Dedicated to Sis Bailey

Evening Under the Stars was held on July 18 and was dedicated to the memory of Sis Bailey and honoring her long time support of the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society (DRLPS). The Society is indebted to Sis, who as the first Evening Under the Stars Chairperson, helped promote and launch the Society's most successful annual fund-raising event.

For the first time in the ten year history of STARS, the weather did not cooperate and the event was moved indoors at Bayside Dining. Twinkle lights replaced the stars on Lake Huron when the winds started blowing and Chairperson Joyce Buckley and her helpers worked quickly to set up the event indoors. Guests of DRLPS enjoyed the indoor venue and the evening's elegant dining helped to raise funds to continue preservation and maintenance of the De-Tour Reef Light for current and future generations.

The beautiful gourmet meal prepared by the Bayside Executive Chef Frank Jones and his staff began with appetizers including a seafood bar with fresh oysters and shrimp; prosciutto, spinach and risotto stuffed mushroom caps; and lamb lollipops with dijon and garlic rosemary crumbs. Two salads were offered: a classic Caesar salad with grated Asiago and Parmesan Cheeses, Garlic Croutons and topped with a house-made dressing or Pasta Milano with penne pasta, cherry tomatoes, celery, red peppers, provolone cheese, diced kalamata olives, smoked turkey and ham, topped with lemon garlic dressing. Entrees included carved beef tenderloin with truffle compote, crab stuffed filet of sole with lobster mornay sauce, three cheese rigatoni with white cheddar, provolone and Asiago cheeses. Sautéed summer vegetables including roasted corn, pea pods, French beans, and baby carrots and roasted Yukon potatoes in garlic herb butter completed the entrees. A variety of cheesecakes were served for dessert.



Sandy Staley, Steve Shepler, and Carol Martin

Robert Johnson and Debbie Fogell of "The Generations" were back playing a variety of jazz standards and light pop during the evening.

Jim Kelley was the winner of the gourmet dinner for six. Eric Ondrus, son of Sis Bailey, and Clif Haley presented Jim with the winning certificate. The food for the dinner was donated by Barb and Jim Gusfa, the wine by Carolyn and Clif Haley, and the food prepared by Chef Frank Jones.

The lively bidding on the silent auction items donated by Chuck and Jeri Feltner, Candis and Barry Collick, James Kelley, and the DRLPS added to the fun and camaraderie of the event.

Clif Haley, the emcee, presented Joyce Buckley with an original engraved window pane from the DeTour Reef Light in recognition of her 5 years as chair of the Evening Under the Stars event. Joyce was commended for her efforts and imagination in planning the event.

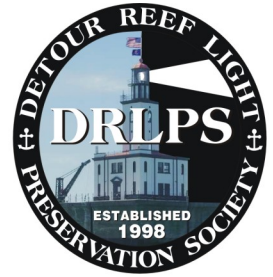
Judi Bailey Martin has graciously volunteered to chair next year's event. She has attended every Stars event and her talents and enthusiasm will be an asset to the DRLPS. Plans are under way for the 11th Evening Under the Stars on Friday, July 9, 2010.



*Kelli Bailey Ouimet, Judi Bailey Martin (Stars Chair for 2010)
and Mark Ouimet III*

Mark your calendars with the 2010 DRLPS Activities!

Early June	Ladies of the Light
Sunday, June 20 st	13 th Annual Father's Day Cruise
Friday, July 9 th	11 th Annual Stars
June 19 th through August 28 th	11 Tour Weekends
June 18 th -20 th through August 27 th -29 th	11 Keeper Weekends
September	Men on the Light



Tours:

Saturday June 19
 Saturday June 26
 Saturday July 3
 Saturday July 10
 Saturday July 17
 Saturday July 24
 Saturday July 31
 Saturday August 7
 Sunday August 15 (Note Sunday Tour)
 Saturday August 21
 Saturday August 28

Keepers Weekends:

Friday June 18 –Sunday June 20
 Friday June 25 –Sunday June 27
 Friday July 2 –Sunday July 4
 Friday July 9 –Sunday July 11
 Friday July 16 –Sunday July 18
 Friday July 23 –Sunday July 25
 Friday July 30 –Sunday August 1
 Friday August 6 –Sunday August 8
 Friday August 13 –Sunday August 15
 Friday August 20 –Sunday August 22
 Friday August 27 –Sunday August 29

Notes from a lighthouse tour guide

By Sunny Covell

Another summer season of conducting tours out to and onto and into the DeTour Reef Lighthouse is history. Did I say summer? September gave us the weather we were looking for in June, July, and August. Mother Nature does indeed call the shots. Mankind and his so called "carbon footprint" doesn't mean diddly-squat in the overall scheme of things. DO NOT LITTER was the beginning of this folly. Seems to me if we would just adhere to that one common sense rule-DO NOT LITTER- the rest would all fall into place. But that's fodder for somebody else's story. Not this one.

In contrast to the glorious weather we enjoyed the first year of our lighthouse tour guide gig, (for us this was 2006) the summer of '09 forgot to arrive in June. We had cool temps, high winds, rain, pea-soup fog, not to mention boat break downs. In spite of all this, we only had one tour cancellation, and they are looking forward to coming back next summer. Luckily for the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society and our tour participants as well, we could count on captain Ivan "Meade" Gable. His knowledge of the river and upper Lake Huron is unmatched. When he says there should be a "no-go", we respect his judgment above all others. Airplane pilots would say we did IFR to the lighthouse. We decided our captain had radar in his nose.

When you think about the logistics of getting up close and personal to the DeTour Reef Lighthouse, there is a lot to consider. It's the exceptional tourist to want to take the time and make the extra effort to explore this offshore lighthouse. It's not as if you can drive right up and buy an admission ticket on a whim. You have to book in advance. There are no handicap parking places at the base of this lighthouse. Lake Huron can pack some pretty powerful waves. Trying to ascend a 20' vertical ladder to access the DRL from a "parked" boat can be a challenge. What other tourist destination would have to take into account a forecast of high winds coming out of the southeast in his/her travel plans?

Then there was the gentleman from Ohio who asked "Do you have to take a boat to Drummond?" "Yes" I say. "It's an island." In spite of the low numbers of tour participants, I have to say all were delighted at the experience. Their boat arrives at the light and are greeted by keepers on the pier deck. "WOW! How do you get to spend the night?" they ask. Then I explain that the keepers are dropped off Friday afternoon, and are picked up sometime late Sunday afternoon. The seed has been planted. The 2 to 2 1/2 hour tour is a tease to the ultimate lighthouse experience. This year's weekend guests were treated to light displays not only from man-made fireworks in July, but Mother Nature's thunder and lightning shows in June, July and August! Their accounts were awesome. Our lighthouse keeper program is one folks have repeated 2 and 3 years in a row. Been there, done that, can't wait to do it again! That goes for us too. Doing our bit to keep the light on for you,
 Sunny and John Covell

What Has Been Going On About Bottomlands?

Comments from DRLPS President Dave Bardsley

The DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society and the State of Michigan on November 9, 2009, finalized words for a bottomlands use agreement. I expect that this agreement will be fully executed in a few months. A copy of the joint press release by the Michigan Lighthouse Alliance and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is included below. More than four years of meetings, many hours of telephone conferences, legal research and analysis, written and face-to-face appeals to our elected officials and written proposals, counter-proposals and literal arguments preceded this achievement. DRLPS Director Clif Haley has led the effort for the Society during this entire period. By involving the Michigan Lighthouse Alliance (MLA) early in this effort and establishing De-Tour Reef Light as the lead lighthouse group for reaching an agreement, two significant achievements took place. First, the full support of the MLA provided bargaining strength to the DRLPS position. Second, once agreement is reached with DRLPS, other pier, breakwater and offshore lighthouse groups in Michigan would be relieved of the burden of negotiating a unique agreement with the State. Equally important for Michigan is that a model agreement for all lighthouse groups would be created. MLA President, Buzz Hoer, has not only been supportive of our efforts, he was personally involved with our negotiations, not only as a representative of MLA but also for the Harbor Beach Lighthouse Society.

While Clif and Buzz have been working on achieving a successful resolution for years, Carol Linteau, DEQ Maritime Culture Advisor and DEQ Legislative Director, took ownership within the DEQ of achieving resolution last summer. With her leadership within DEQ, she achieved in about four months, what others failed to do in four years. It would be an understatement to say that Clif, Buzz and I were frustrated last summer and were not happy campers. And that frustration was evident in our first two-hour phone conference with Carol. However, with patience she took the time to understand our concerns and glossed over my poorly concealed anger. In later telephone conferences, she included DEQ attorney Frank Ruswick, who could understand the subtle legal nature of Clif's comments. After several markups of drafts by both the DEQ and DRLPS and more telephone conferences, we achieved an agreement that last July I would have said was impossible. Frankly, last July I saw litigation or direction in the form of a law change by the Michigan Legislature as the most likely path to resolution. I am grateful for the hard work by Clif, Carol and Buzz that allowed us to avoid taking these other paths to addressing Michigan's former position on a bottomlands agreement.

Now progress toward transfer of ownership of DeTour Reef Light to DRLPS, stalled for over four years, can proceed. Next steps are obtaining an acceptable survey for the bottomlands agreement, finalizing our agreement with Michigan and assuring that the deed to the lighthouse is properly drafted and executed by the General Services Administration. I am optimistic that these challenges will be met without difficulty.

In other states, bottomlands issues with transfer of lighthouses are a problem. Bottomlands issues with Penfield Reef Lighthouse near Fairfield, Connecticut may end up in court. The high bidder on Ohio's Conneaut Harbor lighthouse walked away from his purchase after failure to obtain a satisfactory bottomlands lease and Conneaut Harbor lighthouse has been placed back on auction by the GSA.

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and Michigan Lighthouse Alliance Announce Breakthrough Bottomlands Use Agreement for Offshore Lighthouses

(for release November 12, 2009)

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the Michigan Lighthouse Alliance (MLA) announced today they had finalized a landmark bottomlands use agreement to facilitate the transfer of offshore lighthouses to private groups and local government entities dedicated to preserving the lighthouses and ensuring public access to them.

Two prominent offshore lighthouse groups, Detour Reef Lighthouse Preservation Society and Harbor Beach Lighthouse Preservation Society, participated in the months of negotiations as potential direct beneficiaries of the agreement.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

"I am prepared to recommend to our DRLPS Board that the agreement we have successfully negotiated is one we sign so we can finally receive the lighthouse we have worked many years to restore and maintain." said Clif Haley of Drummond Island, DRLPS Board member and a key participant in the talks.

"We have reached agreement on all points and I will be recommending that the City of Harbor Beach sign this so the Society can achieve its ultimate goal of turning over our lighthouse to the residents of the area after 27 years of stewardship." said Buzz Hoerr, President of the Michigan Lighthouse Alliance and the Harbor Beach Society.

"These were challenging talks that culminated in a template that will serve as a basis for all other offshore lights in Michigan waters. Because this involves bottomlands owned by the people of Michigan it was important to get it right. It was the number one priority of the Alliance and it is great to see it completed!"

Both Hoerr and Haley praised DEQ Maritime Culture Advisor Carol Linteau and the staff of the DEQ for their work to craft this agreement. "Carol kept things moving internally and brought a fresh perspective to a very complex issue" said Haley. "She and her colleagues wanted this to work to help save Michigan's offshore lights and she helped us while protecting the interests of the people of Michigan" said Hoerr.

"Together we negotiated an agreement that protects the bottomlands held in trust by Michigan citizens while making it as simple as possible for dedicated preservation groups to continue their critical work of protecting our lighthouses as precious symbols of Michigan's maritime heritage," said Linteau. "We wish the MLA and these two local groups every success and look forward to providing assistance in the transfer process!"

The MLA represents lighthouse groups working on most of the more than 100 lighthouses found throughout the Great Lakes in Michigan. Under the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act, the federal government is able to transfer ownership of lighthouse structures from the US Coast Guard by the General Services Administration to interested parties whose restoration and operational plans are approved by the National Park Service. The bottomlands use agreement was required because offshore lighthouses sit on state owned and managed bottomlands. The execution of this agreement will allow lighthouse stewards to continue their work after the federal government completes the transfers.

According to Hoerr, "The Alliance will now increase its focus on helping existing lighthouse stewardship groups find resources, increase membership, align with other lighthouses to jointly promote public access through tours, and provide exchanges of technical information between members. We will host our third state conference in Traverse City in June 2010 when we hope to see DeTour and Harbor Beach lighthouses finally transferred to their new owners!"

"This agreement could not have been reached without the hard work and leadership provided by MLA's Buzz Hoerr and DeTour's Clif Haley and Dave Bardsley," said Linteau. "I also want to recognize the assistance provided by the State Historic Preservation Office, key DEQ staff, and several assistant Attorneys General who advise our agencies. I truly look forward to the June MLA conference. We have much to celebrate, and much to accomplish in the future. We move forward as effective partners for lighthouse preservation in the State of Michigan."

DeTour Reef Light For Sale (Miniature version only)

Because so many friends of the DeTour Reef Light have asked, the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society has responded. From Harbour Lights and the "This Little Light of Mine" series, the DeTour Reef Light in miniature. To order the 3 inch Light model priced at \$17.50, use the order form on page 11.

The Light can also be ordered online at www.DRLPS.com, click on Store.



Apply now for Weekends on DeTour Reef Light

The DeTour Reef Lighthouse Keeper program is accepting applications for the 2010 season. Priority for choice of weekend is based on the receipt of application that is available on line at www.drlps.com. Just click on the tab "Visit the lighthouse" and follow the links to the keeper program.

The keeper program starts its sixth year in 2010 and involves two or more nights at the lighthouse. Typically, keepers are transported to DeTour Reef Light (DRL) early Friday afternoon and remain on the lighthouse until late afternoon on Sunday. The cost of charter boat transportation is included in the fee of \$220 per person for two nights. Additional nights are \$50. DRLPS members receive a \$20 discount. Priority for choice of weekends between June 15th and August 27th is based on the date of application. We currently have applications for six weekends next summer.

Keeper activities include welcoming tour guests and keeping the lighthouse clean. Trained DRLPS tour guides conduct the tours. In response to lighthouse keeper suggestions DRLPS is addressing the task of power washing the lighthouse deck to remove gull droppings. An electronic bird repeller will be installed to keep the gulls at bay (so to speak). The system uses recorded sounds of gulls in distress and the sounds of gull predators to discourage birds from landing on the lighthouse. This system was used over the last summer by one of the DRLPS directors to keep the gulls off of his boat and dock and he reports excellent success.



Kathy DeHaan, Marlene Basinger, Nancy Craven, Sherry Egner, Sue Hoyt and Kelsey Egner Photo by Dave Bardsley



Keepers in the dining room with John & Sunny 8-22-09. Photo by Jeri Baron Feltner



This summer was a first for the DRLPS keeper program. We had three generations of women serve at the same time as lighthouse keepers. Nancy Craven of Ocean View, N.J. was joined by daughter Sherry Egner and granddaughter Kelsey Egner, both of Grand Rapids, MI as lighthouse keepers in August.

Tour guest Bonnie Liljequist gets strapped in harness on DRL 8-22-09. Photo by Jeri Baron Feltner

(Continued from page 1)

senses the diminished visibility and begins the cycle of two blasts every 60 seconds. However, the experience at the DeTour Reef Light is that the technology has been enabled by cold, moisture and even the errant seagull sitting too close to the sensor.

The Coast Guard, who is responsible for the aid to navigation, has rewired, repaired and replaced the equipment many times. Like the local citizens along the St. Mary's River, they are frustrated at the useless blaring. To resolve this problem they are looking at a new solution for the foghorn equipment.

According to BM1 Ben L'Allier who has responsibility for the Aids to Navigation at the Detour Reef Light, the proposed technology isn't new. It's currently being used successfully at small airports, including the airport at Drummond Island to turn on landing lights. When a ship needs help finding its way through the fog, the ship can request to actuate the fog horn by using their marine radio. Following the request the foghorn will sound for a short time and then shut off.

Approval for this system is anticipated soon. When it is activated, information for requesting the foghorn signal will be published on the marine charts and broadcast on Channel 16 in the daily marine broadcasts.



Original foghorns on the DeTour Reef Light will be sounding again. Photo by Adam Marti

THE FOGHORN RESTORATION PROJECT BY THE DETOUR REEF LIGHT PRESERVATION SOCIETY (DRLPS)

The DRLPS has received a matching fund grant to rehabilitate the DeTour Reef Light's original diaphone foghorn system, to its 1931 configuration. The grant includes refurbishment of the original diaphone horn and the procurement of tanks, valves, non-functional diaphone, housing and piping to the original design, and a small modern compressor.

The restored foghorn will be used for educational and historical demonstrations and is not an aid to navigation. The DRLPS will sound the horn for tour groups, and any celebration requests by the Village of DeTour.

Don Gries, DRLPS Restoration Chair, said "...because the original horns are pointed to the south, away from the mainland and the air supply is only adequate for a couple of sequences, the 1931 foghorn can't become a nuisance."

This is the sixth matching fund award received by the DRLPS from the Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program (MLAP) administered by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

MLAP is funded by proceeds from the sale of the State's "Save our Lights" specialty license plates. Lighthouse grants are given to state and local governments or nonprofit organizations that are maintaining or restoring lighthouses. Recipients must provide 50 percent of the grant award as matching funds. Since the establishment of the program by the Michigan Legislature in 1999 to assist local groups in preserving and protecting lighthouses, more than \$985,000 has been awarded. The grant program arose from a concern about the disposal of over two-thirds of the lighthouses in Michigan by the U.S. Coast Guard and was established to assist in the preservation, rehabilitation and protection of these lighthouses.

THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

With the new technology proposed by the Coast Guard and the historic 1931 foghorn from the DRLPS, a solution to the foghorn dilemma is in sight. The unnecessary blasting of the foghorn during good weather will be a thing of the past and, when the fog rolls in, the foghorn will sound to keep the ships safe. The original sound of the foghorn will be available for educational and historical purposes. It's a two-sided solution that can meet everyone's needs.

This is the second of a four part series that will be published in Passages.

Keepers of the DeTour Reef Light

Stories shared by members of the U. S. Coast Guard that Served on the Light to Dr. Charles Feltner, Historian DRLPS
Compiled and written by Ann Method Green, PR Chair for DRLPS

Acknowledgment

Most of the information in this article came from a video recording of an interview conducted by DRLPS members Chuck Feltner, Russ Norris, and student Donnie Stefanski on August 31, 2008. Participating in this interview were several former US Coast Guard people who either served on the Lighthouse or supported its activities. Actual participants were Gene Anderson, Floyd Colvin, John Gretka, Jerry Livingston, Eric Olsen, Bob Soldenski, John DeAngelis, John Massey, and Jim Woodward. Marvin Kurkierewicz and James P. Williams also contributed to the article in separate interviews. Some of the material from the video recording of the interview has been placed on the DRLPS website (www.drpls.com).

Duties

The four hour work assignments entailed lots of scraping and painting inside and out. According to the men, it was a never ending job. The engineers assigned to the Light spent their duty hours in the basement keeping the machinery running including the stand-by generator and the compressor. Cleaning the lens was the responsibility of the Officer in Charge.

Their daily uniform dress was dungarees and t-shirts. They only wore the US Coast Guard uniform once a year when the Northern inspectors out of Cleveland showed up. Some inspectors were more thorough than others. One Captain is remembered for checking the waist band of the men's underwear and the neck piece of the t-shirt for any signs of dirt or wear.

When they were not on watch or on duty, they were on the Light, sleeping, eating, and relaxing.

Sleeping

Sleeping in shifts was the norm since someone was always on watch and with group quarters the men had to deal with a lot of snoring.

Eric Olsen laughed, "One of the fellows I was assigned with was a real snorer, and if you got to sleep before he did you had a chance. If you were awake when he came in, you were in trouble. We would keep a stack of tin pie plates in the bedroom just to toss at him. Then we'd try to get to sleep before he started up again. If that didn't work we'd have to fling another one."

Meals

Charlie Jones was a civilian light keeper who had originally hired into the US Lighthouse Service in 1922. He came to the Light in 1940 and did all the cooking until he retired in 1962. When one of the new guys cooked dinner as a favor to Charlie who was ashore, he was in a lot of trouble with Charlie. The meals were Charlie's responsibility! Although Charlie took his cooking seriously, as a cook Charlie had the reputation of making "heavy" biscuits and pancakes that even the sea gulls wouldn't touch.

After Charlie retired, the men took turns with the meals. John DeCenzo (1962-63) was a fabulous Italian cook and still observed the Catholic tradition of meatless Friday. His Friday night pasta fazole brought people all the way from Soo just to eat that soup.

Comforts

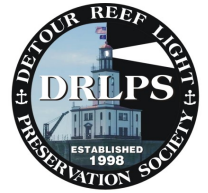
Originally a diesel powered generator provided the Keepers with power. Shore power was brought out to Light in May 1957 by stringing cable over the rocks on the DeTour shore, into the water and out to the Light. The phone worked about half of the time and the power cable was taken out by the ice multiple times during the manning of the Light. (As part of the restoration of the Light, the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society (DRLPS) refurbished an existing ice shield to protect the cable.)

The original half sized cast iron bath tub with feet was made for a midget according to Jerry Livingston. The sink in the head (bathroom) was very small too, but, Jerry laughed, "it had to be or the sink would overhang the tub!"

Stay tuned for more stories of Keeper's of the DeTour Reef Light in future issues of Passages



DETOUR REEF LIGHT PRESERVATION SOCIETY



presents the popular & pleasurable 13th Annual

ST. MARY'S RIVER CRUISE

On the Great Lakes in Northern Lake Huron & Lake Superior
And **THROUGH THE SOO LOCKS**
Also see the DeTour Reef Lighthouse up close!

All day excursion departing/returning at DeTour Village, Michigan

Father's Day Fun ★ Sunday, June 20, 2010 ★ \$95 per person

PLEASE RESERVE YOUR SEAT NOW ~ TICKETS ARE LIMITED ON THIS POPULAR CRUISE!

INCLUDES: • Donuts • Lunch • Snacks • Tour Narration • SLBT Cash Bar
• and a chance to win special door prizes

Relax on the Soo Locks Boat Tours 65-foot double-decker boat and --

★ Cruise to the DeTour Reef Lighthouse

★ Cruise and enjoy the historical narration and sites of the rich history along the St. Mary's River

★ Delight in the unique experience of going through the Soo Locks with the big Lake freighters.

Boarding begins at 9:45 a.m. at the Ferry Dock in DeTour Village, and leaves the Dock at 10:05 a.m.
Return via bus from Soo Locks Boat Tours Dock #2 in Sault Ste Marie to DeTour Village about 6:00 p.m.

ALL PROFITS BENEFIT THE LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION AND EDUCATION EFFORT.

DRLPS is a nonprofit 501c3 organization established in 1998 to preserve the lighthouse located one mile offshore in northern Lake Huron at the eastern end of Michigan's Upper Peninsula between DeTour Village and Drummond Island.

Your donation is tax-deductible as allowed by law • EIN 38-3387252 • MICS 27001 ♦ Visa, MasterCard, Discover, AmEx accepted
Tickets are limited ♦ Please make your reservations early ♦ Thank you for your support of the DRLPS!

We'll Keep the Light on for You! ★ DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society ★ www.DRLPS.com

Please send to: DRLPS ♦ PO Box 307 ♦ Drummond Island MI 49726 ♦ Anne Stafford, Chair ♦ RiverCruise@DRLPS.com ♦ 906-297-6051

13TH ANNIVERSARY DRLPS RIVER CRUISE JUNE 20, 2010 DEPARTS FROM DETOUR VILLAGE MI

Name*: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____

I can't go on the Cruise but want to make a tax-deductible donation to the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society in the amount of \$_____.

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Number of Cruise Tickets: _____ \$95 each x _____ = \$ _____ (Refundable up to 7 days prior to Cruise)

"Names of other in party (*Pre-printed name tags will be provided upon boarding and are required to board the boat*): _____

Enclosed is my payment of \$ _____ Check or Money Order Payable to DRLPS

Visa MasterCard Discover Account No: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____ Today's Date: _____

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	2009 Ornament (oval-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 #21	\$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	
Tax 6% (Michigan Residents Only)	
S & H (see chart)	
Total Enclosed	

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

MEMBERSHIP:

\$30 Basic, \$50 Patron, \$100 Keeper, \$500 Lifetime, \$1000 Grand Keeper. All memberships include family.

www.DRLPS.com * 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 irregularly. 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* 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!