

PASSAGES



1931

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

Today!

Issue 22

We'll Keep the Light on for You!

Spring, 2011

Old Foghorn from DeTour Reef Light Made Operational By Chuck Feltner



The fog horn trumpets on DeTour Reef Light

In 1956, the U. S. Coast Guard placed an F2T Diaphone foghorn on the DeTour Reef Light replacing an earlier type G Diaphone horn. The F2T horn operated until 1974 when the Light was automated. Jeanne Yorty, a resident of Drummond Island in the 1950s and 1960s, noted that, "We often welcomed foggy days for the great, sonorous BEEOOOOH sound of the DeTour Reef Light foghorn."

The 1974 automation of the DeTour Reef Light required a foghorn that could be operated electrically instead of being driven by air as was the case for the F2T Diaphone. Consequently, the F2T was removed and replaced by an electric fog signal (an Automatic Power, Inc. Model FA 232) which is still in use today. At this point, the F2T was placed in storage at the Great Lakes Historical Society – Inland Seas Museum in Vermilion, Ohio where it resided in obscurity until 1997.

In May 1997, Jeff Laser volunteered to help William O'Brien, Executive Director of the Great Lakes Historical Society, inventory some artifacts that were in storage. Jeff, a foghorn expert, had heard by the grapevine that the DeTour Reef Light foghorn was in storage at the Museum. The rumor was true and Jeff found the foghorn all covered in a layer of dried mud and severely rusted in a condition that looked beyond the pos-

sibility of being restored. Nevertheless, in February 1998, Jeff made an offer to try and restore the foghorn to operating condition. By chance, in April of 1998, he received a membership application brochure from

the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society (DRLPS) and decided to join the Society. Along with his membership fee, he informed us of the existence of our 1956 foghorn and sent us some historical and technical information on the foghorn.

Jeff told us that if we could obtain the foghorn from the Inland Seas Museum he would be more than glad to try to restore it to operating condition. By August of 1998 we had convinced the Museum to sign the foghorn over to the DRLPS whereupon Jeff picked it up and began the restoration. On October 9, 1998, he tested the foghorn on the shore of Lake Erie at a private residence in Ripley, NY. It worked perfectly. He delivered the finished unit to the DRLPS at the Drummond Island Museum on June 6, 1999, where it was set up as a static display.

Notes from a lighthouse tour guide......GOLD STARS AND PROMISES

Look what the Detour Reef Light Preservation Society has gone and done now! The 20 year lease acquired from the Coastguard in 2000 was just not enough. It was better than renting with the option to buy, but still not enough. The dream of ownership was always at the core. On June 17, 2010, it became a reality. The hard-earned deed and a plaque depicting the ceremonial key to the DeTour Reef Light was presented to the DRLPS. The sign recently affixed to the front door of the lighthouse states that this property was donated by the Federal Government. To me, a donation implies a gift. I dare say because of this transfer to the society, it now allows them, meaning the society, the right and privilege to forever keep this lighthouse alive and open for all to see and appreciate. More than

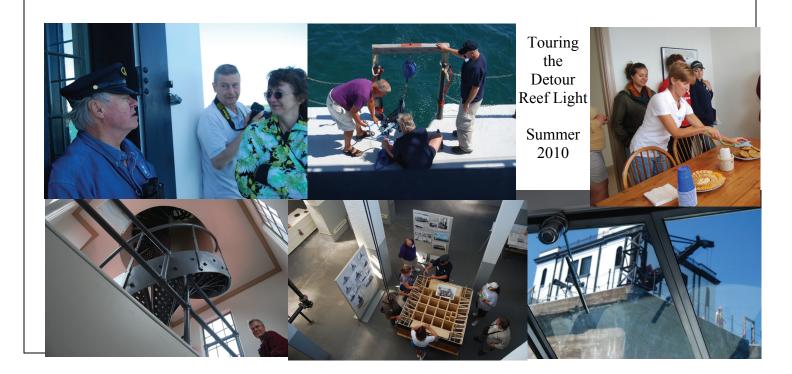


a gift, it is the reward for making a dream come true. In the words of Norman Vaughn, "dare to dream, prepare to fail". Sort of like hoping for the best, but expect the worse.

As the new official owner of this lighthouse, the DeTour Light Preservation Society (DRLPS) has a huge responsibility. They, (we) must carry the preservation forward to keep this piece of maritime history alive. It was literally dead-in-the water when the society was formed. The intent was to breathe new life into this piece of forgotten history. The intent now is to never let it die again. A date that makes this fact more obvious is 1998. That was the year the DeTour Reef Light made the list of America's Most Endangered Historical Places. This was the first time a lighthouse was ever on this list. By 2005 the DRL received the Governor's Award for Historic Preservation. A monumental task for such a short time.

Now that this lighthouse has been "born again," the promise has been made to "provide the most satisfying and enriching lighthouse experience in the country". My husband and I witness that this promise is already happening with every tour we conduct.

Gold Stars and Promises—Cont'd on page 8



History of the Diaphone Foghorn

By Chuck Feltner



Robert Hope-Jones patented the tone generator for a foghorn in 1897.

The tone generator used in diaphone foghorns has its origin in a tone generator invented by Robert Hope-Jones for pipe organs and it was patented in 1894. This tone generator was later used in the famous Wurlitzer organ. The first patent for the use of this type of tone generator for a foghorn was also issued to Hope-Jones in 1897.

Professor John Pell Northey of the University of Toronto in Canada developed an improved design of this tone generator in 1903 and promptly formed the Diaphone Signal Company of Toronto to manufacture and sell these diaphone foghorns.

The Diaphone is a tone generator which consists of a slotted cylinder fitted with a similarly slotted piston. Air fed to the casing holding this "slide valve" moves the piston back and forth rapidly. As the piston moves back and forth it alternately opens and closes ports (formed by the slots) and discharges compressed air in puffs. This regularly chopped stream of air is in effect a vibration that produces a sound with a tone determined by the frequency of puffs. This

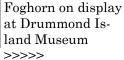
chopped air wave is discharged through a long conical tube called a resonator or trumpet creating the distinctive mournful sound of the diaphone foghorn. A very informative animated drawing of an operating diaphone fog horn can be found at this web site: www.airraidsirens.com/posts/diaphone_animation.gif.

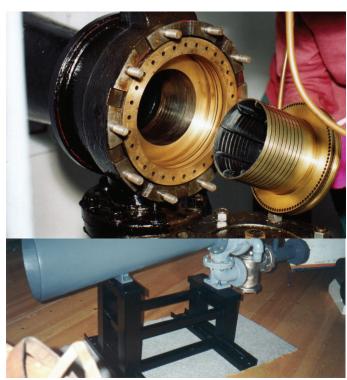
History of the Diaphone Foghorn—Cont'd on page 8



Type F Diaphone Piston >>>>

Chuck Feltner and part of the installation of the air delivery system. Note the large air receiving tanks and air pipes.





DeTour Reef Lightkeeper Doesn't Lead Lonely Life

By John T. Nevill The Evening News, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich, December 10, 1951

DETOUR, Mich. – Charles R. Jones, head keeper on DeTour Reef Lighthouse stopped stirring a huge pot of stew long enough to answer our query.

Lonesome? Not particularly. As you can see a man has to do quite a few chores out here and that keeps him busy. Of course we naturally miss our families and friends, but we're lucky out here. We manage to get ashore once or twice a week.

Just a few minutes before Mr. Jones having spotted our small Coast Guard boat coming out from the village waterfront, had managed the powerful crane which hooked our boat and raised it twenty feet above the bouncing water to the main level of the sixty by sixty crib. Now one floor above, in the lighthouse living quarters, he was preparing a tasty lunch for his three assistants, two Coast Guard radio technicians from the Sault and me.

29 Years

Charles Jones, a veteran of twenty-nine years in the U. S. Lighthouse Service – long before it was taken over by the Coast Guard – is proud of DeTour Reef Light because of its importance to Great Lakes shipping. Moreover, it is one of the most modernly equipped

Charles R. Jones in the kitchen at the DeTour Reef Light. Charlie was assigned to the Light as a Keeper and Officer in Charge from 1940 until his retirement on October 31, 1962

navigational aids to be found on the Great Lakes. Some of its equipment is so new and experimental we were requested to refrain from describing it at all.

DeTour Reef Light rests atop solid rock about twenty-seven feet below the surface at the end of a shallow boulder strewn reef extending menacingly from Detour Point on the mainland. Above the surface the light-house towers to more than seventy feet the huge 1600,000 candlepower light being more than sixty-nine feet above the normal water level

When originally installed back in 1872[sic], DeTour Light was located at the end of the point on the mainland and was called DeTour Point Light. In 1931, however, the present crib-based light was erected at the end of the reef shoal three quarters of a mile off shore and is known as Detour Reef Light.. The wisdom of moving the light to the reef's end is written in the record of boats which got into trouble trying to cross the reef.

Dangerous Spot

About three-quarters of a mile southeast of the present light, the ship lanes from every area of the Great Lakes converge. Those entering or leaving the St. Mary's River are moving almost due north or due South, and therein lies the importance of DeTour Reef Light. Safe enough in clear weather. It is reported as one of the most dangerous spots on the Lakes in thick fog or snow.

DeTour's main light which revolves and flashes for one-second every ten seconds originates in one 500 watt bulb. Just behind it – between the light and the mainland – there is a red sector which spells danger to any ship master able to see it. The rule, says Mr. Jones is this: If they can see the red flash, they're too close to shore.

DeTour Reef Lightkeeper—Cont'd from previous page

Besides the flashing light, the stations' equipment includes a radio beacon sending four dashes through the ether for a distance of 100 miles in all directions, and an air operated diaphone or fog horn which can be heard for many miles. Frequency of the beacon depends upon the weather, thick weather calling for constant operation.

Jones joined the lighthouse service in 1922, his first assignment being at Thunder Bay Island. He remained at Thunder Bay until the spring of 1926 when he was transferred to the Portage Ship Canal ten miles northwest of Houghton. Ten years later he was moved to Big Bay Point thirty miles northwest of Marquette. Four years later in 1940 he was transferred to DeTour when the Big Bay station was discontinued.

At DeTour Reef Light, Jones is assisted by John J. Short, David S. Barkley, and Richard C. Parks each of the four being on duty for three weeks and off for one.

Duplicators

Every piece of equipment on the crib – including the radio beacon, but excluding the light itself and the experimental equipment – is duplicated. Thereby assuring constant operation.

Broke Every Window

A man with 29 years in the light house service is certain to have a storm or two to remember and Charley Jones is no exception. The storm he remembers best is the big blow of November 11, 12, and 13, 1940.

Known as the Armistice Day storm, this disturbance swallowed up a lot of boats, including the freighters William C. Davock and Anna C. Minch along with their entire crews of thirty-three, and twenty-four respectively. It was centered in Lake Michigan but DeTour Reef Light got a healthy taste of it.

"The suddenness of the storm caught us unprepared" said Mr. Jones. "The heavy steel shutters which usually are closed to protect our thick plate glass windows were open and once the storm burst, we didn't dare send men out to close them.

"The windows are more than twenty feet above normal water level, but the waves, like somersaulting mountains rose up and crashed against them, breaking every window in the place. The two inch steel posts supporting the chain rail around the crib platform were bent over as though they were made of putty.

"That storm began with a wind coming out of the south. Later the wind switched to southwest, and for a time averaged eighty miles an hour. When, after three days, it subsided, we counted the damage.

"In addition to the broken windows and the bent over posts, we lost one row boat, and very nearly lost our power boat. But the crew gained something. They gained a great respect for Great Lakes storms."

Note: According to Chuck Feltner Historian for the DRLPS most of this article appears in a book that the reporter John T. Nevill wrote in 1956 entitled "Wanderings – Sketches of Northern Michigan Yesterday and Today". Felter cautions that there are some errors in article, but it is reprinted as it originally appeared in the Soo Evening News on December 10, 1951

2011 DRLPS Activities

Father's Day Cruise

Sunday June 19th Anne Stafford 906-297-6051 email rivercruise@drlps.com

Lighthouse Tours

Saturday June 18
Saturday June 25
Saturday July 2
Saturday July 9
Saturday July 16
Saturday July 23
Saturday July 30
Saturday August 6
Sunday August 14
(Note Sunday Tour)
Saturday August 20
Saturday August 27

Tour information call John and Sunny Covell 616-874-9458 (winter) 906-493-5648

(June thru September) Email tours@drlps.com

Evening Under the Stars

Friday July 8th Judi Bailey Martin 906-493-6581 email starsevent@drlps.com

Light Keeper Weekends

Friday PM thru Sunday PM
June 17 – June 19
June 24 – June 26
July 1 – July 3
July 8 – July 10
July 15 – July 17
July 22 – July 24
July 29 – July 31
August 5 – August 7
August 12 – August 14

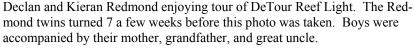
August 3 – August 7 August 12 – August 14 August 19 – August 21 August 26 – August 28

For keeper information Dave Bardsley at 906-493-6609 Email keepers@drlps.com

Special Tour Discount for families

In order to make tours more affordable to families, the DRLPS Board has approved a 50% discount policy for children accompanied by their parents. Since the tour price includes the cost of the charter boat and captain the lighthouse tour program has typically been run at a loss (unless the boat is filled to its limit of five tourists and two tour guides). By offering this family discount DRLPS anticipates a win – win situation of making the lighthouse more accessible to families and increasing the average number of tour visitors per boat trip. For tour information go to www.drlps.com and click on "Visit the Lighthouse", "Tour the Lighthouse" or email tours@drlps.com.







Clockwise St Mary's Fathers Day Cruise at the Soo Locks, Georgeanne Wisniewski and Dawn Evans relaxing on the deck of the Light, Angie Leonard and Janelle Dudeck enjoying their time at the Light, LEFT TO RIGHT...Win Stebbins, Lille Foster, Vern Storm and Tina Ostash, coming back from a great weekend Light Keeper experience.

Call for Pictures

If you'd like to share pictures from your visit to the DeTour Reef Light, the DRLPS would enjoy using them in various publications. Please identify the people in the picture and if possible a little about the picture. You will be given credit for your photo.

For additional information contact Ann Method Green, <u>PR@DRLPS.com</u> of 906-493-6303

14th Annual Father's Day St. Mary's River Cruise June 19, 2011

The DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society is proud to present the 14th annual Father's Day River Cruise on the St. Mary's River. The cruise is operated by Soo Locks Boat Tours from Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan and provides a comprehensive, narrated tour of the St. Mary's River. Along the tour you'll get to see the DeTour Reef Lighthouse up close and end the tour with a trip through the historic Soo Locks.



The cost of the trip is \$95 per person and will include the narrated tour, doughnuts and snacks, lunch, and a chance to win door prizes. Soo Locks Boat Tours will also be providing a cash bar. A portion of your ticket price is tax deductible, and all profits will be used for restoration and preservation efforts of the DeTour Reef Lighthouse.

Boarding begins at 9:45am at the DeTour Ferry Dock with departure at 10:00am. The boat tour concludes at Soo Locks Boat Tours Dock #2.

Note: This year for the first time, you have the option of boarding a bus at the Soo Locks Boat Tours Dock #2 at 8:30AM to be bussed to the DeTour Ferry Dock. This is a great opportunity for any of you that will be enjoying the Sault Sainte Marie area. At the end of the cruise, if you prefer to return to DeTour Village, buses will transport you back there, arriving at approximately 6:00pm.

Treat your Dad with a trip on the historic St. Mary's River, the Soo Locks and the DeTour Reef Lighthouse! For questions and more details, please call Anne Stafford at 906-297-6051 or email Rivercruise@drlps.com.



Pictures from Sunny Covell:

Clockwise: Matt Sawyer taking a picture of Jeri and Chuck Feltner proudly showing him the plaque designating DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society ownership of the DeTour Reef Light; the hard earned plaque given to DRLPS by the U.S. Coast Guard; John Covell, Lighthouse Tour Co-chair and general handy man, attaching the sign designating the donation of the DeTour Reef Light by the U.S. Coast Guard to the DRLPS.



Old Foghorn—Cont'd from page 1

As part of a major restoration of the DeTour Reef Light in 2003 and 2004, the trumpet (or megaphone) from the restored foghorn was installed on the lighthouse (as well as a duplicate trumpet) which gave the DeTour Reef Light an authentic appearance. The F2T tone generator (the sound producing hardware bolted on the back of the trumpet) was not installed at that time.

In 2008, DRLPS was awarded a Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program (MLAP) grant to make the foghorn operational. This grant was originally managed by Don Gries but, when he passed away in December 2009, this responsibility was taken over by Chuck Feltner. The project required that an air delivery and control system be designed and built to supply the air to blow the foghorn. The design of the air delivery system was a bigger problem and more complicated than the DRLPS had anticipated. However, using information from USCG Aid to Navigation training manuals published in 1941, 1945, and 1953, we were able to determine how the F2T Diaphone functioned, and how to install, operate and maintain this foghorn. These manuals were provided by Jeff Laser. Given this information, we were able to design the appropriate air delivery system. The project was completed in August 2010 by our contractors UP Engineers and Architects of Marquette, Michigan, and Mihm Enterprises of Hamilton, Michigan. The MLAP grant required \$12,000 in DRLPS matching funds.

The foghorn was first sounded on August 27, 2010 (the sound was awesome and deafening), and, in the future, it will be used for demonstration and ceremonial purposes.

More information on the invention, development and operation of the Diaphone foghorn can be found in the informative and interesting article "The Diaphone Fog Signal" by Jeff Laser of Bellville, Ohio at http://www.terrypepper.com/lights/.

Gold Stars and Promises—Cont'd from page 2

One Saturday tour consisted of a couple from Ada, Michigan, with their two delightful daughters. I believe the large paper gold star presented to Dave Bardsley, president of the DRLPS, from these young ladies was every bit as rewarding as the Governor's Award of 2005. Not only were these kids happy with their first ever off-shore lighthouse experience, they were delighted with the adventure of the three-mile boat ride out to the light! For his part in making this happen, Ivan (Meade) Gable received a reward as well. Sturgeon Bay Charters is now the only Gold Star rated charter service on Lake Huron!

Gold stars and promises. The level of "passion and perseverance for preservation" needed to keep the society AND the lighthouse alive, is high. The bar has been set. The challenge is on going. The success is obvious with every person, young and old, who has taken the time and effort to go out to and onto and into this light.

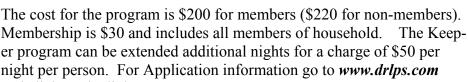
They all come away in awe of the magic they have just experienced. In fact, conducting tours through the lighthouse is one of the stipulations that goes along with ownership. I knew about all the blood, sweat, and tears the society shed in order to achieve their goal. Now I wonder about the hoops we may have to jump through to keep that ownership!

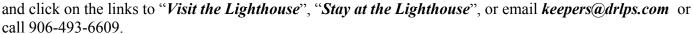
The restoration, preservation, and maintenance of the lighthouse must be continued. The RPMs has to go on. It also must be kept open to the public through the Keeper and tour programs. I believe those gold stars will keep coming as long as these promises are kept.

Lighthouse Keeper Reservations Requested

The popular DeTour Reef Light Keeper program has a number of confirmed reservations and applications for next year. Weekends run from midday Friday through late afternoon on Sunday, June 17 through August 28th and a midweek program Wednesday August 24 through Friday August 26th. A minimum of four keepers and a maximum of six keepers are placed on the lighthouse each weekend. The keeper program is now open to minors accompanied by their parents or legal guardians. In order to allow keepers to make long-term plans DRLPS has and will "lock in" a weekend for applicants at the time of their payment. The following weekends have not been locked in with payment and at the time of writing are available for assignment. Applications pending indicates application received but payment not received.

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Days</u>	Positions Available	Applications pending
June 17-18	Friday-Sunday	6	2
June 24-26	Friday-Sunday	2	2
July 1-3	Friday-Sunday	6	
July 8-10	Friday-Sunday	6	
August 24-26	Wednesday-Friday	6	
August 26-28	Friday-Sunday	6	





History of the Diaphone Foghorn—Cont'd from page 3

The first diaphone employed as a foghorn in the United States was at the Buffalo Breakwater North End Light Station in August 1914. By this time there were several in use on lighthouses in Canada and England. From this point forward the diaphone foghorn was the standard compressed air fog signal used by the U. S. Coast Guard. They were made in various sizes with the type B being the smallest (2.5 cubic feet per second/cfs air consumption) and the type K being the largest (36 cfs air consumption). Other models included the CC (4 cfs), F (13 cfs), F2T (15 cfs) and G (24 cfs). The type F and F2T were the most commonly used. The loudness of the horn is determined by the amplitude of the sound wave generated which generally got larger as the air consumption got larger. The tone of the horn is determined by the frequency at which the piston oscillates. The type F horn has a tone frequency of about 250 Hz which is about middle C on a piano.

On December 12, 1932, the U. S. Lighthouse Service acquired from Professor Northey all the patents, drawings and rights to manufacture diaphones for fog signal purposes in the United States. The actual manufacturing was contracted to Deck Brothers Machining Co. in Buffalo. There were probably several hundred of these foghorns produced as virtually all U. S. lighthouses were fitted with the diaphone type foghorn. Most of these were deactivated and replaced with electrically driven horns as the lighthouses were automated in the 1960 to 1970 period.

Calling All Cross-Stitchers

DRLPS has recently added a DeTour Reef Light cross-stitch kit to its memorabilia offering. It was sold on the lighthouse last summer and was a big hit, so we are now offering it through our general memorabilia sales. This kit, designed by member Hallie Wilson, makes up into a 5" x 7" picture of the restored lighthouse. It includes all of the materials to make the picture: 14-count light blue aida cloth, floss, needle, and pattern and sells for \$10. You can purchase it by mail, and it will again be sold on the lighthouse during this summer's tours.



Soon to be available!

You too will be able to build your own copy of the DeTour Reef Lighthouse puzzle! A 12 by 18, 360 piece jig-saw puzzle! Reasonably priced at \$16 plus shipping.



Letter from the President

DeTour Reef Light and the DRLPS by the numbers

The DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society has celebrated a lot of firsts: first off shore lighthouse to offer an overnight keepers program; first organization in Michigan to be designated a Preserve America Steward; one and only lighthouse to have a **working** F2T Diaphone foghorn.

Continuing with the numbers, this summer DRLPS will be offering the 14th annual St Mary's Father's Day Cruise (June 19th), the 12th annual Evening Under the Stars (July 9th), and the 7th year of the Light keeper Program and Lighthouse Tours (see the dates on page 6).

With every new accomplishment comes a sense of community and purpose. Why am I posting all these numbers? I'm leading up to the next number which is 80. Can you guess?

On November 7, 2011, the light on the DeTour Reef Light will have been shining for 80 years! Since 1931 the DeTour Reef Light has been on guard at the mouth of the St. Mary's River. It is through the efforts of the DRLPS that this historical lighthouse now, 80 years later, is open to the public and has been brought back to the original dignity and splendor of this unique Light.

I am constantly amazed at the energy and passion that you all bring to the lighthouse experience, whether as a keeper, a volunteer or financial supporter. (Many of you are all 3). Here is a challenge for you. Please share with the DRLPS the reasons you're a supporter of the DeTour Reef Light and the DRLPS. (PR@DRLPS.com or DRLPS, PO Box 307, Drummond Island, MI 49726). We'll be sharing your responses in future issues of Passages.

Hope to see you this summer at the Light!

Ann Method Green

PS With the installation of the restored foghorn, I'm wondering if the coffee cup races invented by the USCG light keepers will be recreated by any of the weekend keepers.

Name						
Address						
City		State			Zip	
Email (ve	mail (very important) Phone					
ITEM	DESCRIPTION	Price Each	Color	Size	Quantity	Total
1	Decal or Bumper Sticker with Society Logo (circle choice)	\$1				
2	DeTour Reef Light Cross-Stitch Kit	\$10			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		1	1	
6	Hat (khaki, khaki/blue, or wheat/pine) with Lighthouse Crest	\$15		1	1	
7	Visor with Lighthouse Crest (navy)	\$10		1	1	
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		1	1	
13	Prior Year Ornaments '01, '04, '06, '07, '08, '09. Indicate year(s) desired.	\$10 each		1	1	
14	Tote Bag with Lighthouse Crest (natural/red trim or natural/navy trim)	\$28		1	1	
15	Note Pads w/Lighthouse Logo (pack of 3 — 50 sheets per pad)	\$2			1	
16	Note cards, ivory, showing Lighthouse in 1931 (10 cards & envelopes)	\$8			1	
17	8x10 Color Photo of 2004 Lighthouse	\$10			1	
18	8x10 Color Photo of 2008 Lighthouse (NEW!)	\$10			1	
19	DVD of the Lighthouse before/during/after restoration/keeper experience 2 disc set	¢ 15				



Custom Framing for item #21

20

21

22

Thank You for your Support!

2010 Ornament (4 inch round glass etched with Lighthouse image)

1931 Limited Edition Lighthouse Window Pane (9 $_{\rm 1/4}$ x 11 x $_{\rm 1/4}$ inch) w/Etching of Lighthouse

We'll Keep the Light on for You!

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\$25.01—\$45	\$7
\$45.01—\$65	\$9
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\$85.01—\$150	\$13
Over \$150	\$15

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President: Ann Method Green, PR@drlps.com

Vice President: Sandy Wytiaz, swytiaz@centurytel.net Treasurer: Charles E. Feltner. chuckfeltner@gmail.com

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Membership: Paula P. Bardsley, membership@drlps.com

Stars Event: Judi 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: Brian Nettleton, briannettleton@hotmail.com

 ${\bf River\ Cruise:}\ Anne\ Stafford,\ rivercruise@drlps.com$

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

Boat Captain: Ivan Meade Gable, Sturgeon Bay Charters, fishingivan@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP:

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

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).

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

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, and in 2010 the DRLPS obtained ownership of 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. In 2010 the DRLPS was designated a Preserve America Steward by First Lady Michelle Obama.

PURPOSE: the purpose of DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society 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.

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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!