



# PASSAGES

## DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society

PO Box 519 • DeTour Village MI 49725 • 906-493-6711 • www.DRLPS.com

A Nonprofit 501c3 Organization Established in 1998 to Restore and Preserve the Lighthouse • Donations are tax deductible • EIN 38-3387252 • www.DRLPS.com  
DeTour Reef Lighthouse is one mile offshore in Northern Lake Huron at the eastern end of Michigan's Upper Peninsula between DeTour Village and Drummond Island

Issue 5

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

Fall 2003

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO THE MEMBERSHIP *by Chuck Feltner*

#### The Four Phases of Lighthouse Preservation

Many religions have at the center of their beliefs the concept of the four phases of life (the Hindus, for example, have their four Ashramas!). In secular terms, these four phases translate roughly to childhood, young adulthood, midlife and elderhood.

To some in the lighthouse community, *the preservation of lighthouses is a religion*. This line of thinking has caused me to look at the stages of evolution of the preservation of the DeTour Reef Lighthouse. I have concluded that lighthouse preservation does have four stages of life. They are:

- Building the preservation organization infrastructure (defining value).
- Assembling the restoration funding war chest (acquiring value).
- Executing the restoration program (applying value).
- Sharing the result with people through public access (transferring value).

From my perspective, what we are doing as volunteers is creating long term value for the society we live in. More about this later, particularly with respect to your role as a member.

Although the DRLPS is less than six years old, it is in the third stage of its preservation life, i.e., executing the restoration program. The DRLPS has been fortunate to have some talented and experienced people on the Board of Directors who provided leadership for the first two phases of the preservation life of the DeTour Reef Lighthouse. Notably, Jeri Baron Feltner played the key role in building the organizational infrastructure, while Clif Haley provided the leadership in assembling the restoration funding war chest.

In a recent meeting with Bryan Lijewski, the architect for the State Historic Preservation Office, he noted that the DRLPS restoration program is unusual in that it is the largest single lighthouse restoration project ever undertaken in the State of Michigan and possibly even in the U.S. The fact that it is an offshore lighthouse makes

the restoration program effort even more remarkable.

The total amount being spent on this single restoration project is \$1,022,827, all of which has come from grant money with the exception of \$36,321 that has come from private funds raised by DRLPS (memberships, donations, memorabilia, fund raisers, etc.). At present we have spent \$349,126 which means the program is about 34% complete. Our contract with Mihm Enterprises which began on May 31, 2003, calls for a completion date of August 31, 2004, at which time the DeTour Reef Lighthouse will be in a condition to receive public tours. There remains some additional fitting out and finishing work to be done which could cost around \$200,000, but this work is not yet funded.

Most other lighthouse preservation groups have chosen to carry out restoration programs of this dollar magnitude by splitting the work into many smaller projects that are carried out over a longer period of time, say 15 to 20 years, which in many respects is a sensible and more achievable approach.



Exterior restoration of the DeTour Reef Light began this summer and is nearly complete. Interior restoration has begun and is expected to be completed by August 2004. Al Pemberton of Mihm Enterprises is standing in front of the deck crane restored in 2001 which has been used extensively to transport materials.

Note worker at the very top scraping the dome.

*Photo by Jeri Feltner July 2003*

In our case, we chose to compress the program into a shorter time frame because all of the right things came together at the same time. Three years ago, significant grant funds were made available by both the State of Michigan and the Federal government for lighthouse restoration. The State of Michigan, for example, made \$3,000,000 available

*(Continued on Page 7)*

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The DRLPS is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization established in 1998 and files a yearly Form 990 with the IRS. The 990 can be viewed online at [www.Guidestar.org](http://www.Guidestar.org). A copy of the DRLPS financial statements can be obtained by written request from the DRLPS, PO Box 519, DeTour Village MI 49725.

The DRLPS has been awarded over one million dollars in grant funds from various state, federal and private agencies which can only be used for the restoration and education program. A copy of the grant summary can also be obtained from the above address.

Continued funding from membership dues, donations and fundraisers is required for the operation of the Society and for lighthouse maintenance.

Please consider a tax-deductible donation to help us preserve the DeTour Reef Light – a magnificent monument to Michigan's maritime history.

## Lighthouses of DeTour Passage



DeTour Point Light c. 1861  
Established 1847



DeTour Reef Light 1931

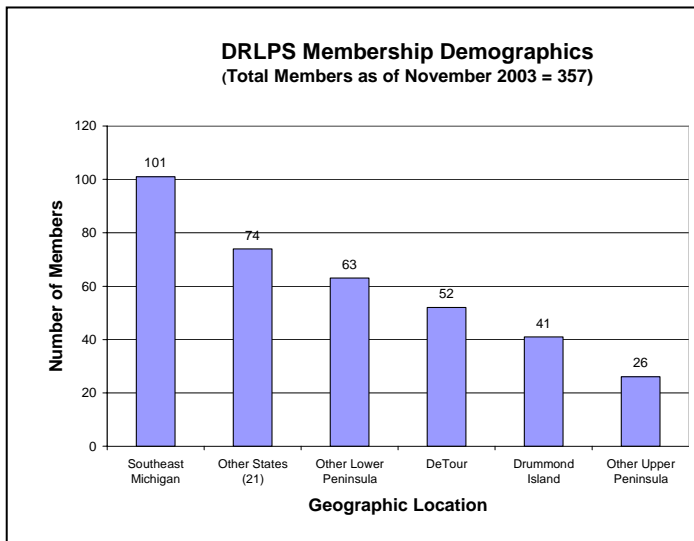
Photos courtesy Woodward  
Lighthouse History Collection

The first lighthouse at DeTour Passage was the DeTour Point Light established onshore in 1847 and rebuilt in 1861. It was replaced by the DeTour Reef Light built a mile offshore in 1931 at a cost of \$140,000 and 327 working days. It was automated in 1974. The 63-foot tower rests on a 20-foot high 60-foot square concrete and steel crib pier in 24 feet of water. The 1861 DeTour Point tower, steps, lens and lantern room were transferred to the new light station in 1931.

## Membership Report

As of November 2003, DRLPS has 357 members in good standing coast-to-coast! Thank you members for your valued loyal support of the DRLPS. For those who would like to renew or join the Society, please contact Mary Rogers 906-297-5704 (or [www.DRLPS.com](http://www.DRLPS.com)).

The chart below shows that our memberships come from many areas in Michigan, including 21 other states.



DRLPS Board of Directors  
(l to r) Jim Charles, Dick Moehl, Dave Bardsley, Cliff Haley, Jeri Baron Feltner, and Chuck Feltner.

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

Photo by Mela Geyer 2003

## PASSAGES

Newsletter of the  
**DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society**

P. O. Box 519  
DeTour Village MI 49725-0519  
906-493-6711, 906-493-6079, Fax 906-493-6496  
[www.DRLPS.com](http://www.DRLPS.com)



**PURPOSE OF THE DRLPS:** 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 its history; to take visitors safely to the lighthouse; and to raise awareness about the importance of volunteers in maintaining and protecting the lighthouse for generations to come.

A tax-exempt, nonprofit, 501c3 organization established in 1998  
Donations are tax-deductible • EIN 38-3387252 • MICS 27001

Newsletter Editor: Jeri Baron Feltner

### OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Charles E. Feltner, President  
James M. Charles, Vice-president  
Jeri Baron Feltner, Secretary  
David J. Bardsley, Director  
G. Dennis Bailey, Director  
Clifton E. Haley, Director  
Richard L. Moehl, Director

### OTHER TEAM MEMBERS

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Sheryl LaMotte, Webmaster  
Mary Rogers, Membership Chairman  
Dotty Witten, Ornament Sales  
Jim Woodward, Honorary Director

**ACCOUNTING CONTRACTOR**  
Dawn Gibbons

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

\$20 Individual, \$30 Family, \$50 Patron, \$100 Keeper,  
\$500 Lifetime, \$1,000 Grand Keeper

For a membership application, please contact DRLPS  
PO Box 519, DeTour Village MI 49725, 906-297-5704, [www.DRLPS.com](http://www.DRLPS.com)

Please submit material for the newsletter to:

Jeri Baron Feltner  
38456 S. Seajay Row  
Drummond Island MI 49726  
906-493-6079, Fax 906-493-6496, e-mail: [jeribaron@aol.com](mailto:jeribaron@aol.com)

## DRLPS FUN EVENTS IN 2004

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING will be held on Saturday, May 22 at 3pm at the Drummond Island Town Hall. Please call 906-493-6079 for more information.

CRUISE UP THE RIVER on the 7<sup>th</sup> annual DRLPS Father's Day Cruise Sunday, June 13. Cost is \$80. Enjoy the historic St. Marys River, the DeTour Reef Light, other lighthouses, and cruise through the famous Soo Locks. Includes lunch, snacks, prizes and informative narration. Call 906-493-6079 (or [www.DRLPS.com](http://www.DRLPS.com)).

EVENING UNDER THE STARS 5th annual elegant lighthouse benefit event at the waterfront at Bayside on Drummond Island on Saturday, July 3. \$100 per person includes gourmet dinner, music, art and great ambience. John Wagner, renowned aerial lighthouse photographer and author, will present his innovative creations.



Stars event volunteers Carolyn and Clif Haley (Stars MC and DRLPS Director) handling the successful raffle at the Stars 2003 event.

*Photo by Jeri Feltner 2003*

For reservations or more information on the above events, please contact DRLPS, PO Box 519, DeTour Village MI 49725, 906-493-6079 ([www.DRLPS.com](http://www.DRLPS.com)). A portion of your ticket cost is tax deductible as allowed by law.

## DICK MOEHL WINS PRESERVATION AWARD

At their annual meeting in October, the Association for Great Lakes Maritime History presented Dick Moehl, President of the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association (and a DRLPS founding Director), an award for *Historic Preservation and Historic Interpretation* for his twenty years of contribution to the preservation of Great Lakes maritime history through his work with lighthouses, in particular for his leadership in the restoration of the St. Helena Lighthouse in the Straits of Mackinac.

## DRESSER USED AT LIGHTHOUSE DONATED TO DRLPS

A "Ranch Oak" dresser used at the lighthouse in the 1960's was donated to the DRLPS by previous lighthouse keeper Floyd Colvin and delivered by volunteer Dave Mills.



Pictured (l to r) are Chuck Feltner, Corey Sutter, Dave Mills, and Dave Bardsley. The dresser will receive some minor repairs and be put back on the lighthouse as part of the restoration program.

*Photo by Jeri Feltner 2003*

## GREAT LAKES LIGHTHOUSE FESTIVAL (GLLF)

DRLPS had a vendor booth at the 10<sup>th</sup> annual GLLF held in Alpena October 10-13 with nearly 10,000 people attending. DRLPS sixth year at the event was represented by volunteers Jim Charles, Dave and Paula Bardsley, and Jeri Feltner. Congratulations to Janet Reber of Milford, the winner of the free drawing framed photo of the DeTour Reef Light by Darryl Beers.



Attending the DRLPS 6<sup>th</sup> annual booth at the Great Lakes Lighthouse Festival in Alpena are (l to r) Jeri Feltner, Jim Charles, Paula Bardsley, and Dave Bardsley.

*Photo by Chris Pemberton 2003*

## GREAT LAKER MAGAZINE

The DeTour Reef Light was featured on the cover of the *Great Laker Magazine* summer issue with a great article by Dave Wobser. To subscribe to this excellent publication, contact Great Laker, PO Box 244, Troy MI 48099, 734-358-5570, ([www.greatlaker.com](http://www.greatlaker.com)).

## DETOUR REEF LIGHT FEATURED ON TV 9&10

Corey Adkins of TV 9&10 *Michigan This Morning* program filmed the DeTour Reef Light this summer with Chuck & Jeri Feltner and it aired around the state on August 22 showing lighthouse restoration in action.

## INTERIOR RESTORATION MEETINGS

The mandatory contractor's pre-bid meeting for the lighthouse interior restoration (Bid Package #2) was held on June 20 at the DeTour High School. The meeting was conducted by Ken Czapski of U.P. Engineers & Architects and DRLPS President Chuck Feltner. DRLPS member Russ Norris videotaped the session. General contractors present were: Mihm Enterprises (Hamilton MI), Henry J. Ware, Inc. (Sault Ste. Marie), JB Custom Home, Inc. (DeTour Village), and Drummond Island Yacht Haven Construction (Drummond Island). Subcontractors present were: S&T Electrical (Sault Ste. Marie) and Les Cheneaux Systems (Cedarville). The bid opening meeting was held on July 3 with Mihm Enterprises submitting the only bid.

Previous lighthouse keepers were interviewed this summer for a DRLPS video grant from Michigan Coastal Management Program. Pictured (l to r) Ron Freels, producer Ric Mixer of Airworthy Productions, DRLPS video grant chairman Dave Bardsley, Jim Williams, and Alfred Lemieux (seated) who built the lighthouse in 1931. Also interviewed were Floyd Colvin and Bob Soldenski.

*Photo by Jeri Feltner 2003*





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## MICHIGAN LIGHTHOUSE PROJECT

by Steve Belko

For years, the potential transfer of offshore lighthouses in Michigan was held up by the fact that these historic structures were situated on state bottomlands. Until bottomlands restrictions were amended by the state legislature, the Department of Environmental Quality could not issue bottomlands conveyances to entities desiring to own and preserve offshore lights. Numerous nonprofit organizations around the state, such as the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society, could not take ownership of historic lighthouses, despite the massive efforts undertaken by these dedicated groups to rescue the historic structures. We were quite relieved, to say the least, when the Michigan legislature finally passed such legislation in December 2002. As a result, the Michigan Lighthouse Project (an organization set up to effect the transfer of lighthouse ownership) initiated a pilot program for the transfer of historic offshore light stations throughout the state -- light stations sitting on cribs, shoals, breakwaters, or piers.

Under this pilot, five light stations were selected as test cases: DeTour Reef, Port Austin Reef, Harbor Beach, St. Joseph North Pier Inner and Outer, and Charlevoix South Pier. These lights were selected based on the nature of the potential stewards involved with the preservation of the structures. The first three lights, for example, have long been associated with exceptional nonprofit preservation groups, and have extensive restoration work in process or have already been restored. It is due time that those who have put their blood, sweat, and tears into their lights receive their just rewards: ownership under the guidelines and spirit of the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act.

Draft *Notices of Availability* have already been prepared for DeTour Reef, Port Austin, and Harbor Beach. All that remains is the elimination of some last minute bureaucratic wrangling, and the transfer process could begin this fall, culminating in the official transfer of the light stations in the spring of 2004. As for the pilot transfers of the St. Joseph and Charlevoix lights, a pending decision from the Michigan Attorney General about whether lights situated on U. S. Army Corps of Engineers structures are actually on state bottomlands or on federal navigational servitude structures (and thus exempt from bottomlands restrictions in the first place) is keeping the transfer of these lights several months behind the lights sitting directly offshore. Once the kinks have been worked out for the five pilot offshore transfers, about a dozen more offshore lights will begin transfer over the next two years.

Of equally important news for the future preservation of Michigan's historic lighthouses -- offshore and

onshore -- is the very recent creation of the Michigan Lighthouse Alliance (MLA)\*. The MLA is a network of lighthouse stewards and stakeholders joined together to help each other in the preservation process and to help other organizations as they begin the arduous task of taking ownership and preserving their particular lights. As power in numbers attests, there is so much the MLA can do to promote the preservation of the state's historic lighthouses that could not easily be done by nonprofit stewards acting alone. The DRLPS has been instrumental in the formative process of this much-needed organization. Bylaws have been written, the first Board of Directors has been nominated (pending approval by the vote of the member organizations), and the first annual meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 10, 2003. The Michigan Lighthouse Alliance will eventually replace the Michigan Lighthouse Project, as the latter organization gradually dissolves over the next decade.

\*The purpose of the MLA shall be to:

- Work with the Michigan Lighthouse Project in the transfer of historic lighthouses in the State of Michigan.
- Assist current and potential lighthouse stewards in the endeavor to preserve, maintain, and publicly exhibit historic lighthouses in the State of Michigan.
- Establish educational and outreach projects and programs that foster public awareness of the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act and the cause of preserving historic lighthouses, emphasize the important role of lighthouses to the economic vitality of local communities and the State of Michigan, and advocate and promote the preservation of historic lighthouses.
- Support nonprofit lighthouse preservation organizations through technical, financial, and managerial assistance.

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Steve Belko is Manager of the Michigan Lighthouse Project (MLP), PO Box 720, Clarkston MI 48347, 248-625-3607, (belko.mlp@voyager.net). MLP is administered by the Michigan Lighthouse Fund and the State Historic Preservation Office.

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*Editor's Note: Michigan has over 120 lighthouses, with 77 of them currently under federal U.S. Coast Guard ownership scheduled for transfer to eligible entities within the next ten years. Advances in technology have rendered these structures obsolete for navigational purposes, and budget limitations have reduced the federal government's capacity to provide long-term care and maintenance for the lighthouses. The DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society is actively working with the Michigan Lighthouse Project and the federal government for transfer of the DeTour Reef Light to the DRLPS. The DRLPS currently has a 20-year lease on the lighthouse. Meetings of the Michigan Lighthouse Alliance have been attended by DRLPS volunteers Chuck Feltner, Jeri Feltner, Dick Moehl, and Dave Bardsley.*

## DRLPS MDOT TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT (TEA-21) LIGHTHOUSE RESTORATION GRANT

by Dave Bardsley

*Ed. Note: This article was written by DRLPS Director Dave Bardsley in response to a request from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) on the impact and value of the DRLPS MDOT administered grant on both the total restoration project and the value of the project to the local community.*

The restoration of DeTour Reef Light is a multi-year project which is funded by several grants and private monies raised by the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society (DRLPS). The Federal TEA-21 funding through the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is \$241,500. The DRLPS also has funding of \$705,000 from the Clean Michigan initiative (CMI) administered by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), and \$20,000 from the Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program (MLAP). Additionally, DRLPS has raised, through local fund raising and cash and material donations (not including volunteer hours), well over \$100,000 to support the DeTour Reef Light restoration project. A historically accurate replication of one of the Lighthouse deck cranes was completed in 2001 with a MLAP grant and is being used extensively for material movement during the current restoration.

The MDOT administered grant is essential to the restoration of DeTour Reef Light, funding about 60% of the cost of the exterior restoration and providing essential program resources that were required to obtain the CMI grant that is funding the architectural and engineering services, a portion of the exterior restoration and majority amount of the costs for the interior restoration. Both the MDOT and CMI grant work will be completed next summer. The DeTour Reef Light restoration, like a three-legged stool, could not stand without the combined support of MDOT, CMI, and DRLPS.

Coordinating resources and directing both the architectural and engineering and construction efforts with MDOT, DEQ, the United States Coast Guard and the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has been challenging and rewarding. DRLPS has developed what we believe are strong and supportive relationships with responsible and dedicated public servants in Lansing who have added value to the restoration effort and help steer us through a sometimes difficult maze of grant requirements, government regulations and important considerations in historic preservation. Jacqueline Shinn, Administrator of Transportation Economic Development and Enhancement at MDOT, was particularly helpful last winter in facilitating agreements necessary to move forward with the restoration program.

All of our contracts (and all sub-contracts to our knowledge) are with Michigan companies and not an insignificant amount of spending is in Chippewa County. DRLPS has established a quarter million dollar line of credit with a local bank to meet our cash flow needs (as our contractors must be paid before we can apply to MDOT {and others} for reimbursement under grant regulations). DRLPS has met with local community and business leaders to discuss and develop ways in which the restored DeTour Reef Light can enhance tourism in the Drummond Island and DeTour area, and how local business opportunities can be enhanced by the lighthouse (e.g., concessions to run tourists out to DeTour Reef Light). While the DeTour Reef Light project is small compared to highway construction programs, communities which count their year round residents in the hundreds do and will see positive impact from the restoration of DeTour Reef Light.

### STATE GRANT COORDINATORS VISIT LIGHTHOUSE

Jami Harrington, CMI grant coordinator from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, visited the restoration progress on the lighthouse in July.



At a MDEQ inspection of the lighthouse are (l to r) Jeri Feltner, Steve, Jami Harrington (CMI), Chuck Feltner, Frank Mihm (contractor), Ken Czapski (UPEA), and Dave Bardsley.

*Photo by Al Pemberton 2003*

Bryan Lijewski, the architect for the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), conducted an onsite inspection on October 30 to review progress on the DRLPS window restoration project. In attendance were Ken Czapski (U.P. Engineers & Architects), Al Pemberton (Mihm Enterprises), and DRLPS directors Dave Bardsley, Dick Moehl and Chuck Feltner.

Bryan Lijewski (on left), architect from the State Historic Preservation Office, conducted an onsite inspection of lighthouse restoration work with contractor Al Pemberton of Mihm.

*Photo by Dave Bardsley October 2003*



### LIGHTHOUSE INFORMATION WEBSITES

[www.worldlighthouses.org](http://www.worldlighthouses.org)  
[www.cr.nps.gov/maritime/lightinf.html](http://www.cr.nps.gov/maritime/lightinf.html)  
[www.uscg.mil](http://www.uscg.mil)  
[www.uslhs.org](http://www.uslhs.org)  
[www.lighthousefoundation.org](http://www.lighthousefoundation.org)  
[www.lighthousemuseum.org](http://www.lighthousemuseum.org)  
[www.terrypepper.com/lights](http://www.terrypepper.com/lights)  
[www.gllka.com](http://www.gllka.com)



## Safe Access to DeTour Reef Light Presents Challenges

By Dave Bardsley

The DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society Restoration Committee and U.P. Engineers and Architects have been considering a number of alternatives to permit safe public access to the offshore DeTour Reef Light. With a deck 20 feet above the water and significant wave action (both wind created and freighter wakes) against vertical sides, transfer from a boat to the lighthouse requires agility and the strength to climb the 20-foot recessed ladder steps. Past keepers of the lighthouse have advised the committee that they did not climb the ladder, but remained aboard a 26-foot launch as it was lifted to and from the water and the deck boat cradle by the massive lighthouse cranes. They were careful to use the lee side of the lighthouse – the downwind side that provided shelter from the wind created waves.

Alternatives considered by the DRLPS Restoration Committee were a dock platform attached to the side of the lighthouse with a lowered gangway, a multi-passenger basket hoisted by one of the restored cranes, a floating dock and gangway, a large boat with a 20-foot high “tuna tower” platform, and variations of these ideas. The “tuna tower” concept allowed the boat to locate on the protected side of the lighthouse structure with changes in the wind. However, boat stability and access to the top of the tower was problematical. Almost as a whim, Chuck Feltner (DRLPS President) suggested that the best solution would be a huge pontoon boat supporting a gangway could be moved around the lighthouse according to wave conditions and serve as a floating dock for the boat that would ferry tourists from DeTour Village or Drummond Island.

I was aware that such a self-propelled pontoon style barge existed, and in fact was offered for sale by DRLPS Charter Grand Keeper member Fred May. With the concurrence of other DRLPS board members, I met with Fred and Linda May, explained the need for a large self-propelled barge and how it could be modified to solve a difficult problem, and requested that they consider donating their barge to DRLPS.

With significant generosity, Fred and Linda May have gifted the barge to the DRLPS. Both in monetary value and in physical size – this gift is the largest donation the Society has received. The DRLPS board and members are most appreciative of this gift.

The barge is 49 by 24 feet and is powered by a single 85 horsepower Evinrude outboard. The barge deck is 41 inches above the waterline. Plans are in progress to overhaul the barge and design and build an aircraft style boarding ladder that will reach the lighthouse deck. A second outboard is required to provide the maneuverability necessary to handle and dock the barge in the wind conditions experienced at the lighthouse.



DRLPS Charter Grand Keeper Member Fred May has donated this 49 by 24 foot steel pontoon style self-propelled barge to DRLPS. This barge will be modified to serve as a floating dock and access platform to allow public tours of the offshore DeTour Reef Lighthouse.

Photo by Dave Bardsley 2003

## THANK YOU

DRLPS expresses gratitude to the following people for their help since the last issue of this newsletter:

**General Fund donors:** Nick Noyes, Paula Adams, Beth Faricy, Gus & Virginia Balanda, Judith Hoffman; **Endowment Fund donors** for lighthouse maintenance (from Jeri's 60<sup>th</sup>): Clif & Carolyn Haley, Art Amos, Fred & Dorothy Baron, Bob Beard, Joanne & Tom Cetnar, Garey & Mary Eilertson, Susan Eilertson, Doug & Shauna Feltner, John & Linda Halsey, Susie & John Higgins, David Koto, Norbert Liss, Ron & Joyce Merta, Chuck & Erica Muller, Bob & Mary Rogers, Corinne & Marv Stempien, Blaine & Karen Tischer, Dave & Mickey Trotter. **Property donors:** Fred & Linda May; **Father's Day Cruise donors:** Clif & Carolyn Haley, Vern & Jackie Schatz, Denny & Sis Bailey, Gert Bailey, Mike Spears, Kathy Benua, Millie & Bill Devos, James & Barbara Dailey, James Bailey, Charlene MacDonald, Richard Shoquist was winner of the \$1,000 cash prize and he generously donated half of it back to the DRLPS! **Cruise volunteers:** Bonni Macintosh, Carol Melvin, Ken & Bette Walker, Norm & Sharon Muench, Anne O'Connell, Dave & Paula Bardsley, Jim Charles, Wayne Sapulski, Chuck & Jeri Feltner; **Evening Under the Stars donors:** Mary & Dave McCrorey; Jim, Sue & Dawn Kelley, Kathy Benua, Sis & Denny Bailey, Alan Robertson, Fred & Linda May, Ken & Sherri Schoenberg, Dick Moehl GLLKA, Carl Forslund, Roy & Judi Martin; **Stars volunteers:** Clif & Carolyn Haley, Chuck & Jeri Feltner, Jackie Schatz, Joyce Buckley, Dave & Paula Bardsley, Jim Charles, Mary Rogers, Jim & Barb Gusfa; **DeTour Fourth of July volunteers:** Mary & Bob Rogers, John Dawe, Bonnie Macintosh; **Newspapers:** Carol Martin (Drummond Island Digest); Meta Geyer, Barb & Jim MacLaren (Community Voice); **Lighthouse restoration photographers:** Dave Bardsley, Ken Czapski, Dick Moehl, Russ Norris, Chuck & Jeri Feltner; **Mailings:** Mary Rogers, Dave & Paula Bardsley, Arlene Lyons, Larry Baron, Anne O'Connell, Valerie Damian, Jeri Feltner. **Grants:** MCMP Christy Fox, Maureen Houghton; MDOT TEA21 Bryan Armstrong, Margaret Barondess, Jackie Shinn, Larry Strazalka; MDEQ CMI Jamie Harrington; SHPO Bryan Lijewski, Teresa Goforth, Denise Sachau, Brian Conway, Mark Hoffman, Todd Walsh; **Drummond Island Township:** Frank Sasso, Georgiana Potter, Kathy Coulter; **DeTour Village Council:** Terry Nelson, Linda Fisher, Ruth Ann Hudak; **Restoration contractors:** U.P. Engineers & Architects Ken Czapski, Peggy DeWitt; **Mihm Enterprises** Frank & Sharon Mihm, Al Pemberton, John Borgeau, Jeremy Wilson, Gary Eklund, Jose Fernandez, Victor Silguero; **Other contributors:** Mike Spears, Chris Pemberton, Bruce & Nancy Glupker, Karl & Halina Hildenbrand, Tom Evasheski, Spencer Stuart, Jim North, Terry Pepper, Bob Trapani, Roger LaLievre, Neil Schultheiss, Dave Wobser, Blaine Tischer, Tim Wagner, Chuck Moser, Daryl Beers; **the DRLPS Team for their unflinching dedication and commitment:** Denny Bailey, Dave Bardsley, Paula Bardsley, Jim Charles, Candis Collick, Chuck Feltner, Jeri Baron Feltner, Dawn Gibbons, Clif Haley, Sheryl LaMotte, Dick Moehl, Mary Rogers, Dotty Witten, Jim Woodward; and thank you to *each and every DRLPS member for their vital, valued, and loyal support* ♥.

☺ We can't smile without you! ☺

*May you live all the days of your life.*

-- Jonathan Swift



**DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society**  
**MEMORABILIA FOR SALE**  
**LOGO ITEMS MAKE GREAT GIFTS!**

ITEM DESCRIPTION (please circle size and color)	Price Each	Qty	Total Price
Decal	\$1		
Bumper Sticker	\$1		
Cup	\$3		
Hat	\$15		
Child's T-Shirt (white S/M/L)	\$10		
T-Shirt (wine/blue - M/L/XL/2X/3X-blue only)	\$15		
Golf Shirt (yellow /white - M/L/XL/2x)	\$25		
Sweatshirt (green/ wine/blue -L/XL/2X/3X-wine)	\$25		
Denim Longsleeve Shirt - (S/M/L/XL/2X/3X)	\$35		
10k Gold Charm of Lighthouse	\$70		
Sterling Silver Charm of Lighthouse	\$20		
Note Cards (pack of 10 with envelopes)	\$5		
Note Pads (pack of 3 - 50 sheets per pad)	\$2		
8x10 Color Photo of Lighthouse	\$14		
Flag (nylon banner 27"x 41")	\$15		
2002 Ornament (star-shaped glass - Fresnel lens)	\$12		
2004 Ornament (heart-shaped glass - Lighthouse)	\$13		

Merchandise Total	
Shipping (Please see chart below)	
Total Enclosed	

Value Of Order	Shipping & Handling
Up to \$10	\$4
\$10.01 - \$25	\$5
\$25.01 - \$45	\$7
\$45.01 - \$65	\$9
\$65.01 - \$85	\$11
\$85.01 and up	\$13

METHOD OF PAYMENT: Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

Check or Money Order Payable to DRLPS Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

VISA     MasterCard     Discover

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send to:**

DRLPS Mail Order Gifts  
 PO Box 307, Drummond Island MI 49726  
 906-493-6711

**Thank you! [www.DRLPS.com](http://www.DRLPS.com)**



**PRESIDENT'S LETTER** *(continued from Page 1)*

through the Clean Michigan Initiative Act (CMI), while the Federal Department of Transportation made a large amount of grant money available through the Transportation Enhancement Act of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (TEA21). This was a once in a lifetime opportunity.

By the time this money became available, DRLPS had reached the point of having established a very strong and widely recognized membership-based preservation organization. Moreover, we had assembled a leadership team that had a broad skill set with deep experience, particularly in the management of large organizational programs. We decided to roll the dice and shoot for the moon in grant money. Somewhat to our surprise we succeeded. Now we had to execute a million dollar restoration program.

For me, as chairman of the restoration program, this has become virtually a full time volunteer job. There have been some major challenges. The development of legal agreements with the Village of DeTour and the contractual negotiations with both them and MDOT were daunting tasks. Establishing a \$250,000 bank line of credit to cover cash flow to pay the bills stretched my negotiating skills. Getting the restoration plans and engineering specifications approved by the State Historic Preservation Office and the U. S. Coast Guard drew heavily upon my 32 years of engineering experience at Ford Motor Company. Bidding the contracts and selecting the best contractor was an arduous process. Overseeing the actual restoration work has strained the limits of my managerial ability.

Throughout these events, I was strongly supported by my teammates who brought special skills to the problems at hand. Moreover, the people I have worked with in local, state and federal government and in the banking and legal communities of the eastern U.P., have been very cooperative and helpful. Likewise we got a lot of help from the lighthouse preservation community from around the U. S. Finally, I want to thank our membership for their steadfast moral support and unwavering belief in the Vision we are pursuing.

You, as members, have also played a strong supporting role through your financial support and volunteer efforts. You are making a contribution to our community and to the people of the State of Michigan at large by preserving this historic structure for now and for all future generations.

Soon we will be entering the fourth phase of lighthouse preservation life, i.e., sharing the result with people through public access. This will require new leadership skills and will provide the broader membership base the opportunity to personally participate as docents, tour guides, maintenance and cleanup workers and the like. I look forward to being there and working side by side with you when this day arrives.

--- Chuck Feltner, DRLPS President, November 8, 2003

## HISTORIC DOCUMENT REPRINTS

### The Lighthouse Service Bulletin

The U. S. Lighthouse Service issued a Lighthouse Service Bulletin monthly from January 1912 until June 1939 when the Lighthouse Service was transferred to the U. S. Coast Guard. The Bulletin contained items of interest to the personnel of the Service. The January 1931 article is reprinted below.

U. S. Department of Commerce  
Lighthouse Service Bulletin  
DeTour Light Station In Lake Huron  
50 Per Cent Complete.  
January 1931  
❖

Cold weather and the possibility of violent storms have halted work on the new Detour Light Station in Lake Huron, but when the working party left the site the structure was about 50 per cent completed. The timber crib had been towed to the site, stone and cement placed in it, and the concrete deck poured. With the opening of navigation in the spring of 1931, the erection of the superstructure will begin and it is expected that the station will be in operation by summer.

The new Detour Light Station is one of the outstanding engineering projects which the Lighthouse Service is now engaged upon, and when completed will cost about \$140,000. The station is being erected about a mile offshore and in 24 feet of water, replacing the present Detour Light Station on the shore, which has a dangerous shoal between it and the track of passing vessels. The design of the new station and the construction problems involved are similar to those of the Poe Reef and Fourteen Foot Shoal stations constructed in the Straits of Mackinac two years ago.

A wooden crib 60 feet square and 20 feet high was constructed on shore, within a few miles of the station site, towed to the site, and sunk upon a carefully leveled bed of crushed rock. The outer compartments of the crib

were filled with cement placed by the tremie method, the inner compartments being filled with rock. Half-inch steel plating extending about 2 feet above and below the water line encircles the crib and protects it from the grinding effects of the ice.

Toppling the crib is a solid concrete deck about 7 feet thick, extending out on all sides to prevent so far as possible the breaking of waves against the tower. Quarters for the keepers and machinery space will be constructed of structural steel covered with a steel-plating suitably insulated, this construction having been found most satisfactory for the intense cold which obtains on the Great Lakes in winter. The tower will rise about 75 feet above the water, and in it will be placed the lens now used at the present Detour Light Station. There will be an air-operated fog signal and radiobeacon.

#### LIONS INSTALL ICE BARRIER AROUND POWER LINE TO DETOUR REEF LIGHTHOUSE

Drummond Island Lions club members came to the assistance of the DeTour Reef Lighthouse in November and installed 100 feet of steel tubing around the power line to the lighthouse where it enters Lake Huron at DeTour Point replacing the existing damaged ice barrier. After several hours of hard work in two to three feet of near freezing water and cold winds, volunteer Lions Dave Bardsley, Norm Muench and Ken Walker completed this important task. DRLPS and the USCG are very thankful!



Lions Ken Walker (left) and Norm Muench installing a protective tube around the power line to the lighthouse where it enters Lake Huron at DeTour Point.

*Photo by Dave Bardsley*

DETOUR REEF LIGHT  
PRESERVATION SOCIETY  
PO Box 519  
DeTour Village MI 49725-0519  
906-493-6711  
www.DRLPS.com

DRLPS is a volunteer nonprofit 501c3 organization established in 1998 to restore and preserve the DeTour Reef Lighthouse for all to enjoy.

Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

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



Exterior restoration completed on the upper part of the lighthouse shown in this photo by Dave Bardsley October 2003.

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