



PASSAGES



DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society

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

A Nonprofit 501c3 Organization Established in 1998 to Restore and Preserve the Lighthouse • Donations are tax deductible • EIN 38-3387252 • MICS 27001
DeTour Reef Light is one mile offshore in Northern Lake Huron at the eastern end of Michigan's Upper Peninsula between DeTour Village and Drummond Island

Issue 7

We'll Keep the Light on for You!

Spring 2005

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Dave Bardsley

As we celebrate the completion of the two major grants that provided for significant exterior and interior restoration of DeTour Reef Light (DRL), we must focus on very major tasks ahead. The restoration just completed required the intense efforts of a few Society members (particularly Jeri Feltner and Clif Haley in grant acquisition and Chuck Feltner in managing the grant process and financing and supervising the general contractor), and over a two-year effort by U.P. Engineers & Architects and the almost two-year contribution by our restoration general contractor Mihm Enterprises. Now we need more members to step forward and accept both leadership and contributing positions.

Opportunities to help exist for the following activities:

- Father's Day River Cruise Sunday, June 19.
- Evening Under the Stars lighthouse benefit event at Bayside Dining - Saturday, July 2.
- Public Tours – Check out www.DRLPS.com for our plans.
- Catered Overnights – A first class stay at DRL, fully catered and special treatment for those willing to make a significant donation to DRLPS.
- Lighthouse Keeper Program – An opportunity to serve and live at DRL.
- Grand Opening Event – A celebration at DRL with invitations to VIPs.
- Treasurer – Chuck Feltner needs to be relieved of this task
- The *Alfred Lemieux* – Our donated barge needs to be repaired and outfitted as a landing platform.
- Interior Furnishings – DRL needs to be furnished and the kitchen and bath fully equipped.
- Maintenance – Keep what we have from deteriorating.
- Interpretative Displays, signs, models, historical artifacts, to make DRL come to life.
- *Passages* – Our newsletter that keeps all informed of our activities.
- Shore Facility – A long-term project to provide a base for tours and a lighthouse interpretative center.
- Second Crane – The northwest deck crane still needs to be built and installed to provide a higher speed lift of equipment from the water level to the deck of DRL.

(Continued on Page 11)

LIGHTHOUSE RESTORATION

With her American and State of Michigan flags proudly flying, the newly restored DeTour Reef Light entertained several people on the restoration project's final inspection day by grant officials on September 15, 2004.



Participating in the final inspection of the restoration grant work at the DeTour Reef Light on 9/15/04 are (left to right) front row: Frank Mihm (restoration contractor Mihm Enterprises), Dave Bardsley (DRLPS), Blaine Tischer (Drummond Island Township), Phil Granfors (Mihm Enterprises), Jeri Baron Feltner (DRLPS), Chuck Feltner (DRLPS), Dick Moehl (lying down, DRLPS), Clif Haley (DRLPS), Susan Vincent (National Park Service); (standing in back row, left to right) Bryan Lijewski (State Historic Preservation Office), Russ Norris (DRLPS), Jeff Barsch (Michigan Department of Transportation), Ken Czapski (U.P. Engineers & Architects), Brian Conway (State Historic Preservation Officer), Pete Paramski (Michigan Department of Transportation).

Photo by Ric Mixter

The DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society (DRLPS) is very grateful to all of the agencies and people who contributed their time and funding to the successful major restoration program, including: the committed DRLPS Board of Directors, devoted volunteers, loyal membership and donors; to the State and Federal government officials for supporting our cause, to the grant providers that include the State Historic Preservation Office, Coastal Management Program and Clean Michigan Initiative of the Department of Environmental Quality, and the Michigan Department of Transportation – for believing in the DRLPS mission.

(Continued on Page 5)

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. A copy of the DRLPS financial statements can be obtained by written request from DRLPS, PO Box 307, Drummond Island MI 49726, or by email to drlps@starband.net.

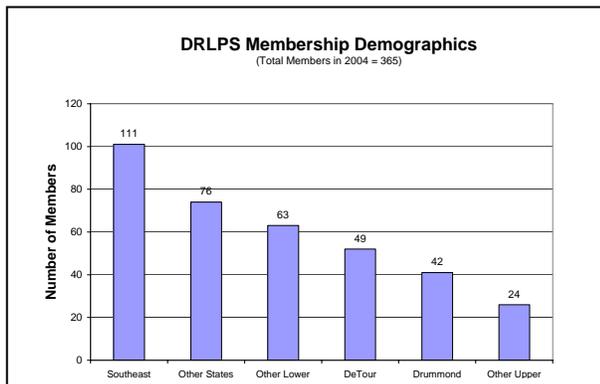
The DRLPS has been awarded over one million dollars in grant funds from various state, federal and private agencies which can only be used for the restoration and education program. A copy of the grant summary can also be obtained from the above address.

Continued funding from membership dues, donations and fundraisers is required for the operation of the Society, lighthouse maintenance, and matching funds for continued restoration projects.

Your support is needed. Please consider a tax-deductible donation to help us preserve the DeTour Reef Light, a magnificent monument to Michigan's maritime history.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As of December 2004, DRLPS has 325 members in good standing coast-to-coast! Thank you members for your valued dedicated support of the DRLPS. For those who would like to renew or join the Society, please contact Mary Rogers 906-297-5704, drlps@starband.net, www.DRLPS.com.



The above chart shows that DRLPS membership comes from many areas in Michigan, including 21 other states.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



DRLPS Team at their January 2005 Board Meeting (l to r) Denny Bailey, Dick Moehl, Cliff Haley, Jim Charles, Dave Bardsley, Chuck Feltner, Jeri Baron Feltner, (seated) Dawn Gibbons, Glenn Lahti, and Paula Bardsley.
Photo by Carol Martin

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. Situated on a reef in 24' of water, the lighthouse rises 83' above the water with its 63' tall Classical Revival-style architect structure sitting on a 60'x60' square by 20' tall concrete and steel pier atop a unique 60'x60' square by 22' tall box-like wooden crib. The 1861 DeTour Point tower, steps, lens and lantern were transferred to the new light station in 1931.

PASSAGES

Newsletter of the
DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society (DRLPS)
PO Box 307
Drummond Island MI 49726
906-493-6609
drlps@starband.net
www.DRLPS.com



DRLPS is a volunteer, nonprofit, 501c3 organization established in 1998. Donations are tax-deductible • EIN 38-3387252 • MICS 27001

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.

Newsletter Editor: Jeri Baron Feltner

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

David J. Bardsley, President
James M. Charles, Vice-President
Glenn Lahti, Secretary
G. Dennis Bailey
Paula P. Bardsley
Charles E. Feltner
Jeri Baron Feltner
Clifton E. Haley
Richard L. Moehl
James S. Woodward, Honorary Director

OTHER TEAM MEMBERS

Sheryl LaMotte, Webmaster
Leland McGonigal, Tours
Russ Norris, Youth Program
Mary Rogers, Membership
Anne Stafford, River Cruise
Dotty Witten, Ornament

CONTRACTORS

Dawn Gibbons, Accounting

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 307, Drummond Island MI 49726
www.DRLPS.com, drlps@starband.net, 906-493-6609

Please submit material for the newsletter to:

DRLPS PASSAGES, PO Box 307, Drummond Island MI 49726
drlps@starband.net, www.DRLPS.com, 906-493-6609

DRLPS 2005 EVENTS

Please mark your calendars!

DRLPS ANNUAL MEETING will be held on **Thursday, June 16** at 3:00 p.m. at the Drummond Island Town Hall. Everyone is invited to attend the eighth annual meeting to learn about the lighthouse restoration and education programs, along with the lighthouse tours, lighthouse keepers, and overnight stay programs.

CRUISE UP THE RIVER on the eighth annual DRLPS Father's Day Cruise **Sunday, June 19**. Cost is \$90. Enjoy the historic St. Mary's River, the DeTour Reef Light, other lighthouses, freighter sightings, and cruise through the famous Soo Locks. Includes donuts, lunch, snacks, prizes and informative narration.

EVENING UNDER THE STARS sixth annual elegant lighthouse benefit event at the waterfront at Bayside Dining on Drummond Island on **Saturday, July 2** at 6:00 p.m. \$100 per person includes gourmet dinner, music, art, and great ambience. Talented artist Christopher Myers will have his exquisite pen and ink drawings of the DeTour Reef Light and other lighthouses on display. Music will be provided by Debbie Fogell and Robert Johnson, a unique combination of guitar, vibraphone and vocals.

FOR RESERVATIONS or more information on the above events, please contact DRLPS, PO Box 307, Drummond Island MI 49726, drlps@starband.net, www.DRLPS.com, 906-493-6609. A portion of your ticket cost is tax deductible as allowed by law.



Thank you to the lighthouse benefit 2004 events' volunteers: (left to right): CRUISE: Jennifer Tregembo, Merry Hoffmeyer, Paula Bardsley, and Anne O'Connell; STARS: Carolyn Haley, Jackie Schatz, Carol Melvin, Nancy Kleiner, and Joyce Buckley.

Photos by Jeri Baron Feltner 2004

NAME-THAT-BARGE CONTEST WINNER

A 50x24-foot steel barge was donated to the DRLPS by members Fred and Linda May in 2003 to be used as a floating dock facility at the lighthouse, and a contest was held to *Name-That-Barge*.

Forty entries were submitted, and the winner was Kaye Birkmeier of DeTour Village, who won a framed print of the DeTour Reef Light, with the winning name *Alfred Lemieux*. Thirteen people submitted this name after a popular DeTour Village resident who was the last known survivor of the team who built the lighthouse in 1931. Alfred died in 2003 at the age of 94. He was very supportive of the DRLPS, and participated in several oral history interviews of his work at the DeTour Reef Light.

DRLPS GRANT PROJECTS UPDATE

The DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society (DRLPS) has gratefully received \$1,067,287 in grant funding from state, federal and private agencies since 1998 for restoration, education, and preservation programs of the DeTour Reef Light. DRLPS volunteers have worked hard to match these grants with in-kind services, equipment, and monetary donations totaling \$176,249. DRLPS current grant activities include:

SEE THE DETOUR REEF LIGHT ON DVD

A Michigan Coastal Management Program grant of \$15,000 (matched by DRLPS volunteer services) to produce a film of the DeTour Reef Light was completed in September 2004. The DVD, *Gateway to Superior: Saving the DeTour Reef Light*, is an excellent historical, educational, and entertaining account of the lighthouse, and includes fantastic footage of the lighthouse before, during and after restoration, along with oral history interviews of those who worked on the lighthouse. Dave Bardsley managed this grant that was produced by Ric Mixer of Airworthy Productions of Saginaw. Thank you to all those who volunteered services to help make this an outstanding film. To order this popular DVD, use order form on Page 11.

DRLPS HISTORICAL DATA TO BE ON CDs & DVDs

Michigan Coastal Management Program grant of \$9,000 (matched by DRLPS volunteer services) was awarded in October 2003 to create a five-module collection of historical material entitled "*Lighthouses of DeTour Passage: A Collection of Historical Material*." This project will include producing CDs and DVDs of logbooks, government correspondence, architectural and engineering drawings, historical photographs, and oral history videos of interviews with former keepers. Chuck Feltner, grant coordinator, and DRLPS members Mike Spears and Chris Pemberton, are working on this project to be completed in July 2005.

MICHIGAN LIGHTHOUSE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANTS AWARDED TO DRLPS

Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program (MLAP)/State Historic Preservation Office grant of \$32,387 (matched by DRLPS cash of \$16,193) was awarded in 2004 to the DRLPS for lighthouse cabinetry and molding rehabilitation. Project period is June 2004 to September 2005. Chuck Feltner is grant coordinator on this project.

In February 2005, MLAP awarded DRLPS a grant of \$4,200 (matched by DRLPS cash of \$2,100) for deck skylight installation. Chuck Feltner is grant coordinator on this project.

DRLPS is very grateful to MLAP for their support of our restoration program since 1999. To help the MLAP lighthouse restoration program, please purchase a specialty lighthouse license plate from www.michigan.gov/sos.

LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER APPLICATIONS SOUGHT

A few adventurous and fortunate people will have the opportunity this summer to experience living on DeTour Reef Light as a host Lighthouse Keeper. This pilot program will be modeled after successful programs at other lighthouses on the Great Lakes, and the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

Keepers will reside at the lighthouse for a few days (tentatively Friday through Sunday), perform cleaning and maintenance tasks, greet visitors and give tours of the lighthouse, keep a log and prepare their own meals. Keepers must be in good physical condition and capable of making multiple trips up and down the vertical 20-foot pier ladder and to the top of the lighthouse via a 32-step stairway.

The DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society's Keeper's Program is a wonderful unique opportunity to experience life as a lighthouse keeper on a 1931 offshore historic lighthouse, enjoy the magnificent views of beautiful scenery and freighters coming to and from Lake Huron at the mouth of the St. Mary's River, and to contribute to the preservation of one of Michigan's magnificent maritime monuments.

The charge per person is tentatively set at \$150 for the two nights. Keepers will be responsible for their own linens and food. The lighthouse includes a small kitchen which will be provided with refrigeration, stove and microwave, and a full bath. Orientation and training prior to start of the keeper duties will be required.

Individuals desiring an application to become a Lighthouse Keeper on the DeTour Reef Light should send an email to drlps@starband.net with such a request, call 906-493-6609, or mail a self-addressed-stamped envelope to DRLPS, PO Box 307, Drummond Island MI 49726.

DRLPS APPLYS FOR LIGHTHOUSE OWNERSHIP

The DRLPS submitted an application to the National Park Service for transfer of ownership of the DeTour Reef Light from the U.S. Coast Guard to the DRLPS. The DRLPS currently has a 20-year lease on the lighthouse obtained from the USCG in 2000. Under the provisions of the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act, nonprofits can obtain ownership at no charge to preserve and maintain the lighthouse as an historic attraction. The Act stipulates that the Coast Guard would retain access to the Light so it can continue to be used as an aid to navigation. DRLPS Directors who worked on the 250-page application package were Clif Haley, Chuck Feltner, Dave Bardsley, and Jeri Feltner. Once the transfer is approved, a ceremony will take place to transfer the key from the USCG to the DRLPS.

TOURS OF THE LIGHTHOUSE PLANNED

After a two-year, major exterior and interior restoration program, the lighthouse is ready for public tours. Sign up now to visit this unique offshore historic structure for a memorable, guided, narrated tour. Tour days have been scheduled for July 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, and 24. Departure times are 8:30, 10:30, 1:30 and 3:30. Weather conditions may require a change in departure times or cancellation of the tours. Cost, including the boat charter, is \$75 per person for DRLPS members or \$95 for non-members (you can join for \$20 for an individual or \$30 for a family – contact www.DRLPS.com, drlps@starband.net, 906-493-6609 for a membership application). Tour duration is about two hours including the 15-minute ride on a Coast Guard licensed charter boat from DeTour Village. Four tours per day are planned with six individuals per tour. Light refreshments will be provided at the lighthouse.

Visitors must be physically fit and capable of climbing and descending the 20-foot ladder to reach the lighthouse deck. During ascent and descent of the ladder, each visitor will wear a safety harness which requires them to be at least 50 inches tall and weigh less than 300 pounds. Please note, for safety reasons, children under 12 are not allowed on the tour.

For information and reservations for the tour program, please contact drlps@starband.net, www.DRLPS.com, 906-493-6609, DRLPS, PO Box 307, Drummond Island MI 49726.

Celebrate you, your family and friends, or something special, including corporate gatherings, and learn and appreciate what it was like to be a keeper on an offshore Great Lakes' lighthouse. Make your reservation today to enjoy seeing the lighthouse inside and out and the spectacular scenery from the deck as you walk in the footsteps of the past keepers of the Light.

We look forward to sharing with you the first-ever in the 74-year history of the DeTour Reef Light public tours of the lighthouse!

NEW DRLPS OFFICERS APPOINTED

At the DRLPS January 2005 Board of Directors' Meeting, new Officers were appointed: President Dave Bardsley, Vice-President Jim Charles, and Secretary Glenn Lahti (who also became a Director filling the vacancy of Paula Bardsley who resigned as Director). Paula remains as Assistant Secretary. Chuck Feltner remains as acting-Treasurer. Other Directors include Denny Bailey, Jeri Baron Feltner, Clif Haley, Dick Moehl, and Jim Woodward who is an honorary Director.

SEE THE LIGHT PROGRAMS

Exciting opportunities for lighthouse enthusiasts being offered at the DeTour Reef Light by DRLPS include:

◆ Guided Public Tours ◆ Lighthouse Keeper Program ◆ Overnight Stay Program ◆ Private Tours
Contact DRLPS at drlps@starband.net · www.DRLPS.com · 906-493-6609 · PO Box 307 · Drummond Island MI 49726

LIGHTHOUSE MEMORIES



The year was 1971. Nixon was President and the Vietnam War was almost over. My husband Charles Hawkins and I were on our way to the U.S. Coast Guard base in Sault Ste. Marie. We were newlyweds and Charlie was assigned lighthouse duty on the DeTour Reef Light.

As Charlie started his duty on the lighthouse, I set about finding a place to live in DeTour Village. Being a 23-year-old bride from Denver, Colorado, in an area so foreign to me was scary. Charlie's military duty required him to be two weeks away and one week at home, so even though I settled into life in DeTour, I was often lonesome for my home and husband. The two weeks he was on the lighthouse seemed more like a month. I got a job bartending at Fred's Bar (now the Fogcutter Restaurant) where I became fairly good at the game of pool, as Fred's wasn't always busy.

The phone calls from Charlie while out at the lighthouse were often so scratchy that it was hard to hear what he said and often were interrupted or disconnected. He would shout to me that he loved me and then the phone would go dead. After several months of this, I was getting pretty weepy.

Eventually, I met someone with a motorboat and asked (pleaded more likely) if he would take me to the lighthouse. Reluctantly, he agreed. We must have looked like a thimble bobbing around in the water as the swells almost overtook the small boat. We reached the lighthouse in one piece and I managed to scale up the side of the lighthouse with a backpack filled with my overnight things.

In recalling these next few days, Charlie and I count them among the most memorable of our marriage. The view of the Great Lakes from the lighthouse was awesome and the ships passing by were spectacular.

Charlie proceeded to show me the light in the tower and how it worked, explaining all his duties, and introduced me to his "Coastie" workmates. He showed me the huge freezer where they kept their two weeks' supply of food (I had never heard of freezing milk!), the kitchen, bedrooms, and radio room.

At night, we pulled Charlie's mattress up to the lighthouse tower on the half way level and slept there. I still remember how beautiful the moon looked shining through the lighthouse windows so high up in the tower.

Memories like these are precious and significant to all who lived them. The experience of Charlie being a lighthouse keeper for a year is something neither of us will forget. We both hope the marvelous historical monument remains a part of the landscape forever. We look forward to its restoration so we can re-visit with our children and granddaughter.

---- Diana Hawkins, Mesa, Arizona, 2000

Send your special memory of the DeTour Reef Light to:
Passages, PO Box 307, Drummond Island MI 49726.

SPONSOR-A-STEP PROGRAM

DRLPS is seeking sponsors for the newly-restored steps on the spiral staircase at the DeTour Reef Light for \$1,500 each. Here's a unique opportunity to step into the future by protecting the past and help preserve, restore and maintain the lighthouse by sponsoring a step that leads to the Light. Donors can obtain a permanent legacy on one of Michigan's historical maritime monuments. Step sponsor's name, step number, and other desired data will be engraved on a brass plaque mounted on an oak board placed at the entrance to the spiral staircase. Additionally, each sponsor will receive a personalized plaque and certificate commemorating the step sponsor. Steps are limited, as there are only 32, and thus far four have been sponsored. If desired, you can designate the sponsorship in honor or memory of someone special, a business, or special occasion. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law. Please contact drlps@starband.net, www.DRLPS.com, or call 906-493-6079 for additional information on this unique legacy opportunity to contribute to the preservation of the lighthouse.

LIGHTHOUSE RESTORATION *(Continued from Page 1)*

DRLPS is also thankful for the support of the government officials of the local communities of DeTour Village and Drummond Island, U.S. Coast Guard, Michigan Lighthouse Project, Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association, National Trust for Historic Preservation, and to the newspapers and publications who generously print the DRLPS happenings. Lighthouse restoration contractor Mihm Enterprises, and architect firm U.P. Engineers & Architects have performed an outstanding job on the restoration project which began in 2002.

Built in 1931 on a 60-foot square, 20-foot high concrete pier (atop a unique box-like wooden crib) in 24 feet of water, the DeTour Reef Light majestically rises 83' above the water as a monument to Michigan's maritime history. After the DRLPS volunteer team worked diligently since 1998 to form the solid infrastructure of the membership-based organization, acquire funding for the education and restoration programs, and complete the major exterior and interior restoration of the lighthouse, we feel enormously proud and grateful to have the opportunity to contribute to the people the historical and cultural resource of the DeTour Reef Light for all to enjoy.

As past DRLPS President and Restoration Chairman recently stated: *"We believe that the worth of a society will be measured, in part, by the extent to which they value their history. On the Great Lakes, lighthouses are a key piece of the maritime history and development of the Great Lakes basin; in Michigan, they are our greatest maritime historical monuments. They must be preserved for future generations to enjoy. This has been our mission."*

There's more restoration work to do, along with ongoing maintenance of the lighthouse and operation of the Society; but, with your help – *We'll Keep the Light on for You!* ★

MICHIGAN LIGHTHOUSE PROJECT

An update from Dr. Steve Belko, MLP Manager
(belkos@michigan.gov)

This is one of those update articles you really enjoy writing, because something is finally being accomplished. In the last edition of the DRLPS newsletter I mentioned that Notices of Availability (NOA) were being *drafted* for three Michigan light stations: DeTour Reef, Harbor Beach, and Fort Gratiot (Port Huron). Well, I am elated to report -- and to no surprise to the members of the DRLPS -- that not only have the NOAs been drafted, they have already been approved, disseminated, and answered! The DRLPS is, I am again very proud to announce, the sole applicant for the DeTour Reef Light. Currently, the Society is completing the required (and I might add, meticulous) NHLPA *Application to Obtain Light Station Property*, to be turned in to the National Park Service by the end of 2004. The members of the Michigan Lighthouse Project (MLP) are confident that the DRLPS application will be more than top-notch. So I would like to congratulate the Society for all its outstanding work (and its patience) on not only preserving the DeTour Reef Light, but for directly helping the cause of lighthouse preservation throughout the State of Michigan!

Now, the MLP is preparing the next round of lighthouse transfers, and we intend to follow the model established by the current situations at DeTour Reef, Harbor Beach, and Fort Gratiot. Recent NOAs issued are for Charlevoix South Pierhead Light, Holland Harbor South Pierhead Light, Ludington North Breakwater Light, and Menominee North Pierhead Light. We are still working on ironing out minor issues that arise from or accompany the transfer process, concerns ranging from insurance to lead abatement to Fresnel lens ownership. We are also confident that the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act (NHLPA) process will evolve gradually into a much smoother and painless procedure, thanks to the current transfers in Michigan. The next time you here from me, I hope to be congratulating you on the official transfer of the DeTour Reef Light Station.

(Ed. note: For more information on the Michigan Lighthouse Project see www.michigan.gov/SHPO; for the NHLPA, see www.cr.nps.gov/maritime/nhlpa/nhlpa.htm).

MICHIGAN LIGHTHOUSE ALLIANCE

Established in 2003 and made up of nonprofit lighthouse organization stewards and interested stakeholders, the purpose of the Michigan Lighthouse Alliance (MLA) is to support nonprofit lighthouse preservation organizations through technical, financial and managerial assistance in the endeavor to maintain and publicly exhibit historic lighthouses in the State of Michigan. MLA will also support efforts in the lighthouse ownership transfer process, and establish education programs and foster public awareness of the lighthouses. DRLPS Directors Chuck Feltner and Dick Moehl are members of the MLA Board of Directors.

SHINE ON

★
Tribute to the DeTour Reef Light
Words and Music by Scott McLeod

★
It was the summer of 1930
Times were tough and work was hard to find
The St. Marys it looked dirty
From the steamer ships the bottom they did grind
When the water got rough
Some ended up in pieces aground on those rocks.

For three straight months they poured concrete by hand
They began with 29 they sadly lost one man
They built her walls and sunk them 26 feet
And by barge they hauled them on to the reef
By the summer of 31 the reef lighthouse was done
In place where it proudly stands today.

Chorus:
For so many years you've been the guiding light
Your beacon glows day and night
And for the generations that come in the new millennium
You'll shine on like the morning sun.

Such a treasure and a monument so rare
Built with honor by men like Lemieux
With respect, tradition and pride we all stand side by side
To preserve its legacy for years to come.

Chorus:
For so many years you've been the guiding light
Your beacon glows day and night
And for the generations that come in the new millennium
You'll shine on like the morning sun.

© DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society 1999

DRLPS 2005 HOLIDAY ORNAMENT

*Eighth in a series ★ Limited Edition
Diamond-shaped beveled glass • \$13
Please use Memorabilia Order Form on Page 11.*

THANK YOU!

DRLPS sincerely thanks all of the dedicated volunteers, members, donors, grant agencies, and other supporters for their loyal valued support of the restoration and preservation of the DeTour Reef Light. We appreciate YOU, and

We'll Keep the Light on for You!

"It's the action, not the fruit of the action, that's important. You have to do the right thing. It may not be in your power, may not be in your time, that there'll be any fruit. But that doesn't mean you stop doing the right thing. You may never know what results come from your action. But if you do nothing, there will be no result." -- Mahatma Gandhi



To

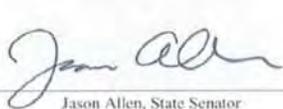
DETOUR REEF LIGHT PRESERVATION SOCIETY

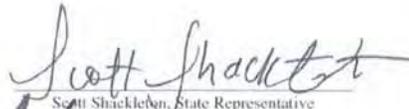
LET IT BE KNOWN that it is with great pleasure we honor the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society for their hard work and success in restoring the DeTour Reef Light. This volunteer, non-profit organization has given numerous hours to preserving the lighthouse so that it may be enjoyed for generations to come. We are grateful to them and offer our best wishes for continued success.

For over six years, the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society has pursued all possible means of achieving their goal of preserving and restoring the lighthouse. The founders work relentlessly to increase membership and raise awareness in the community for their cause. Not only has the society received support from their community and financial donations from local businesses, they also have members from twenty-five other states. The preservation society has become a "poster-child" for Michigan lighthouse preservation groups due to their success as a strong, volunteer based organization. This success is based on the unfailing dedication and determination of the volunteers, as well as the loyal support of lighthouse preservation groups due to their success as a strong, volunteer based organization. This success is based on the unfailing dedication and determination of the volunteers, as well as the loyal support of lighthouse enthusiasts.

The DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society has high hopes for the future. They will continue to restore the lighthouse both inside and out as well as create an educational facility onshore for community use. Their ongoing mission to enhance public awareness of the history of the lighthouse and appreciation for our maritime heritage in the region will leave its mark on the people of DeTour Village and the light itself far into the future.

IN SPECIAL TRIBUTE, therefore, we give our deepest appreciation to the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society for working to preserve one of Michigan's important maritime landmarks. We commend everyone who has contributed to its success and thank them for the manner in which their members have strengthened the community.


Jason Allen, State Senator
The Thirty-Seventh District


Scott Shackleton, State Representative
The One Hundred-Seventh District


Jennifer Granholm
Governor



The Ninety-Second Legislature
At Lansing
November 2, 2004



The DRLPS is extremely honored to have received this **Special Tribute** from the State of Michigan, and are very grateful to all those who made it possible, including the devoted volunteers, loyal members, donors, State and Federal grant fund agencies, and to Senator **Jason Allen**, Representative **Scott Shackleton**, and Governor **Jennifer Granholm**.

Thank you ♥,
The DRLPS TEAM

And remember...

We'll Keep the Light on for You! –

With YOUR help!

DETOUR REEF LIGHT PHOTOS BEFORE AND AFTER RESTORATION

(Photos taken by Dave Bardsley, Ken Czapski, Dick Moehl, and Jeri Baron Feltner, edited by Chuck Feltner)

If you would like to receive a color copy of the photo pages, please contact Jeri Feltner 906-493-6079, jeribaron@starband.net.



#1



#2



#3



#4



#5



#6



#7



#8



#9



#10



#11



#12



#13



#14



#15



#16



#17



#18

Photos

- (1) DeTour Reef Light in 1931,
 (2) Excessed by USCG 1997,
 (3) Restored 2004, (4) Lantern 1998,
 (5) 2004, (6) Entrance Door 2004,
 (7) Spiral Staircase 1997, (8) 2004,
 (9) Dining Room 2004, (10) Office
 1997, (11) 2004, (12) Bathroom
 1997, (13) 2004, (14) Keepers'
 Quarters' Steps 1997, (15) 2004,
 (16) Basement 2004, (17) Cullen
 Chambers at entrance level gallery
 2000, (18) Chuck Feltner 2004.

DeTour Reef Light Seeking Donation of Furniture

By Dave Bardsley

Immediate Needs

Major restoration of DeTour Reef Light was completed in 2004. The DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society's (DRLPS) next challenge is to prepare the Light Station for public tours and overnight visits beginning in the summer of 2005. A significant need is furniture typical of the period that the station was manned – 1931 until 1974. While the Society's long-term objective is to furnish the Light to closely reflect the original 1931 conditions (see information below), the near term requirements are "as close as we can come to the furnishings representative of the period it was manned." Particularly important are a working period refrigerator, kitchen cabinet, with porcelain top, white enamel, size about 25"x38", cooking and serving ware, and an office desk. A dining room table, six chairs, two dressers, a microwave, a double bed, mattresses and foundations, and a stove have so far been donated to the DRLPS for the Light Station. However, all but the stove are not 1930s vintage.

Past keepers of DeTour Reef Light, during interviews with DRLPS, have noted that the furniture in the 1960s was "Ranch Oak". The "Ranch Oak" style used in the lighthouse was that produced between 1942 and 1961 by the A. Brandt Company of Forth Worth, Texas. The factory ceased operations in the 1980s. While 1930s vintage, as described below, is desired, the Society would be very happy to have the Ranch Oak furniture that was used in the last decade of the manned period of DeTour Reef Light.

DRLPS also seeks any artifacts that may have been used in lighthouses that individuals may wish to have displayed at DeTour Reef Light. The DRLPS is a 501c3 organization and material donations are tax deductible. Please contact Dave Bardsley (906-493-6609 or drlps@starband.net) if you would like to donate furniture or artifacts.

Historically Accurate 1930s Furnishings

In August 1931, the Superintendent of Lighthouses of the U.S. Lighthouse Service issued the invitations to bid on the following items for furnishing DeTour Reef Light Station. The descriptions below are verbatim from original Lighthouse Service documents obtained from the National Archives in 2000 by Chuck and Jeri Feltner of DRLPS:

"For furnishing solid oak furniture of plain design and substantial construction in accordance with the attached schedule...

1. Chiffonier with mirror, top about 20"x30", mirror about 16"x20". Two small drawers side by side, near top, not less than three large drawers height about 4'6". Quantity 3.
2. Rockers with heavy flat armrests, leather upholstered seat, heavy reinforced braced back. Quantity 2.

3. Table, dining room type, plain pattern, with two extension boards, about 48" square. Quantity 1. (Note: DRLPS has been donated a non-period dining room table.)
4. Chairs, dining room type, heavy reinforced braced back, saddle seat. Quantity 6. (Note: DRLPS has been donated non-period dining room chairs.)

A rare 1931 General Electric Hotpoint stove was donated to the DRLPS by John & Dotty Witten of DeTour Village. Ric Sawtelle of Drummond Island will restore it to working order, and it will be placed in the kitchen at the lighthouse.

Photo by Dave Bardsley 2004



5. Chairs, bedroom type, as above except leather upholstered seats. Quantity 3.
6. Kitchen cabinet, similar and equal to Matsckler Brother Co. Model 35, complete with flour bin, cake and bread drawers, spice containers, sugar container and pan racks, with porcelain top, white enamel, size about 25"x38". Quantity 1.
7. Office desk, roll top, pigeon holes and drawers above and drawers with extension writing boards one each side, size about 36"x54". Quantity 1.
8. Alternate to Item #7. Desk as above except flattop. Quantity 1.
9. Office swivel chairs with plain seat, heavy one-piece back and armrests, and with extra large casters not less than 3/4" face. Quantity 2.
10. Book case, about 14" square x 4'6" high, with glazed door, four shelves. Quantity 1.
11. Medal beds with 2" round pillars, 3'3" wide, standard length, white enamel similar and equal to Simmons Bed Design 1303. Quantity 3. (Note: DRLPS would prefer a double bed and bunk beds which would be consistent with later furnishing of the DeTour Reef Light, and would be the preferred arrangement for anticipated catered overnight visitor stays at the Light Station.)
12. Spring for above bed, flat steel ribbon, rust proof, similar and equal to Simmons Spring Design 3430. Quantity 3. (Note: Box spring is acceptable to DRLPS.)
13. Mattress for above, filled with high grade clean, new felted cotton lintens, 5' 1/2" box, extra heavy ticking. Quantity 3. (Note: A modern mattress is acceptable to DRLPS.)
14. Aluminum (cooking) ware ... of heavy weight sheet aluminum... of a quality equal to, and in shape similar to Aluminum Cooking Utensils Company wares."★

DRLPS MEMORABILIA FOR SALE

OUR 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, navy blue	\$15		
Denim Shirt S/M/L/XL/2x/3x, indigo blue	\$35		
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		
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 restored lighthouse	\$10		
Flag (nylon banner 27"x 41")	\$15		
DVD Gateway to Superior: Saving the DRL	\$20		
2005 Ornament (diamond-shaped glass)	\$13		

Merchandise Total	
Shipping (Please see chart below)	
Total Enclosed	

Value Of Order	Shipping Priority Mail
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 · PO Box 307 · Drummond Island MI 49726
 906-297-2609 · 906-493-6609
 www.DRLPS.com · drlps@starband.net
Thank you!

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT *(Continued from Page 1)*

I assure you that this list is just a starting point of tasks for which leadership is required. Clearly, the small core group supporting DRL needs to be expanded into a large core group. Please email bardsley@stanfordalumni.org or call me (906-493-6609) if you want to help with these or other projects.

I must also thank those who have already accepted significant responsibilities including:

- Jim Charles – Vice-President, Founding Director and Memorabilia Chairman.
- Glenn Lahti – Director and Society Secretary.
- Russ Norris – Youth Chairman, and video documentation.
- Sheryl LaMotte – Webmaster.
- Paula Bardsley – Database Management and Assistant Secretary.
- Mary Rogers – Membership (Mary could use help with this significant task).
- Dotty Witten – Ornaments, special projects and events.
- Clif Haley – Director, legal consultant and grant program assistance, provider of office and storage space.
- Chuck Feltner – Past President, Director, interim Treasurer, Restoration Chairman, Chief Historian, and provider of many boat runs to work on DRL.
- Jeri Baron Feltner – Founding Director, past Secretary, Sponsor-A-Step Chairperson, Public Relations Chairperson, and driving force for DRLPS for eight years.
- Denny Bailey – Director since 1998 and help with barge movement and equipment storage.
- Dawn Gibbons – Accounting contractor.
- Gib Aikey – Barge storage and heavy equipment support at Drummond Quarry.
- Dick Moehl – Founding Director and source of significant lighthouse experience.
- Jim Woodward – Honorary Director and advisor.
- Brian Kasper -- Helicopter services for "Gateway to Superior: Saving the DeTour Reef Light" video.
- Ric Mixer – Video production and contributor to DRLPS.
- Bruce Glupker – Fork lift, labor, and storage of material.
- Mike Spears and Chris Pemberton – significant contributions of time, talent and resources to several DRLPS grant projects.
- Anne Stafford – River Cruise Chairperson.
- Leland McGonigal – Lighthouse Tours Chairman.

There is always a risk with a thank you list, for I am sure that I have failed to acknowledge significant contributions. For those I have omitted a special thank you. ★

Dave Bardsley

CHUCK & JERI FELTNER RETIRE AS DRLPS OFFICERS

Chuck Feltner (President of DRLPS since 2001), and Jeri Baron Feltner (Secretary and founding Director since 1998), decided to retire from their Officer positions when their terms expired on January 1, 2005, to allow for new blood and ideas for DRLPS, and time for them to pursue other activities. They currently remain as members of the Board of Directors.

U.S. Lighthouse Service Uniforms

(Reprinted from www.uscg.mil/hq/g-cp/history/uniforms.html)



The United States Lighthouse Establishment was formed in 1789 by Congress and placed under the Treasury Department. It was transferred to the Commerce and Labor Department in 1910 and finally was transferred to the Coast Guard in 1939. Uniforms were prescribed for lighthouse keepers, their assistants, lightship personnel, lighthouse tender crewmen and the supply depot personnel, though the date of the first uniform regulation is not known.

Regulations of 1912 prescribed similar uniforms for lighthouse keepers and officers of lighthouse tender vessels. This was a single breasted, fly-front coat, fitted closely to the body and similar to the Revenue Service uniform coat authorized in 1891. Collar ornaments for lighthouse tender officers and engineers were embroidered anchors and three-bladed propellers, respectively. Light station personnel wore embroidered loops on the collars, enclosing either the letter K for the keeper, or the numbers one to four, depending on their ranks as assistants. Lighthouse personnel did not wear sleeve ornaments.

Tender officers wore black mohair braid stripes, similar to naval officer stripes. Captains had two wide outer stripes and two narrow inner stripes. Second officers wore two stripes and third officers, one stripe. Chief engineers wore three stripes; assistant engineers wore two stripes and second assistants, one stripe. A standard Navy-type cap was worn, with a silver lighthouse ornament and a surrounding wreath. Regulation buttons also portrayed a lighthouse.

A double-breasted coat was prescribed for quartermasters and machinists. This had five gilt buttons on each breast. Their caps carried the silver lighthouse, with U.S.L.S.

beneath its base. Officers of light vessels also wore this uniform coat. In the enlisted ranks, stokers wore a Navy-type white duck uniform. Oiled canvas rain suits were authorized, as well as dark blue watch caps and sweaters for winter wear.

At the supply depots, the keepers wore the same uniform as the lighthouse keepers. Watchmen wore a uniform typical of policemen of the period, reminiscent of the Keystone cops which was a single-breasted Army-style coat with five gilt buttons and high collar. Within the standard embroidered loop on the collar was a W. The high police-style helmet was black for winter and tan for summer and had the lighthouse ornament on front. Captains of the watch added a wreath around the lighthouse. Watchmen wore police badges on their breast, lettered with L.H.S., police, and U.S.

Regulations for the lighthouse establishment as part of the Coast Guard were promulgated in 1941, including uniforms for civilian employees. By this date, the cap device for officers was changed to a lighthouse and crossed anchors for lighthouse tender officers. Lightship officers retained the old lighthouse surrounded by the wreath device. Their uniforms were of standard navy blue cloth, double-breasted, with four buttons on each breast. Lighthouse keepers also wore the double-breasted uniform coat, with the old-style billed cap.

To indicate longevity, lighthouse personnel wore gold service stars and bars on the lower sleeve. Each five years up to 20 years was represented by one embroidered bar. A star designated 25 years and bars were added beyond that for each five years. Lighthouse Service personnel could remain as civilians after the service was integrated into the Coast Guard. They retained their Lighthouse Service uniforms until they were worn out or discarded.★

BE SURE TO SEE THE LIGHT INSIDE AND OUT ★ SIGN UP FOR A GUIDED TOUR! (See Page 4)

PASSAGES

Newsletter of the

DETOUR REEF LIGHT PRESERVATION SOCIETY

PO Box 307

Drummond Island MI 49726

drlps@starband.net

www.DRLPS.com

906-493-6609

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

DRLPS is a volunteer nonprofit tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization established in 1998 to restore and preserve the DeTour Reef Light for all to enjoy.

Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

EIN 38-33872252 · MICS 27001

We'll Keep the Light on for You!



Flags are flying at the newly restored DeTour Reef Light.

Photo by Dave Bardsley 2004

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