



1931

PASSAGES

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



Today!

Issue 33

We'll Keep the Light on for You!

Spring, 2015

A Bird's View of DeTour Reef Lighthouse



I know we have all seen various views of the DeTour Reef Lighthouse including the one we shared last year with all the ice, cold and snow surrounding the Light. She is a glorious lighthouse in rain, snow, fog, sunshine and any and all other weather scenarios. The lighthouse is especially beautiful at sunrise and sunset and from a boat circling it at close range. Anyone who has stayed there or toured the Light, remembers the tug at your heartstrings as you watch the lighthouse fade from view as Captain Gable pilots you away from the lighthouse at the end of your tour. However, very few of us have been able to observe the view from the sky. Thanks to Hallie Wilson, now we can! I think I now know why the seagulls found this such a pleasant place to rest and relax. I know when my husband and I were keepers for a weekend in 2007 and my daughter and I in 2008, the main job for lighthouse keepers was to clean the deck of seagull droppings. We grumbled and complained and cursed the seagulls as we tried to prevent them from landing. But after seeing the bird's eye view of the DeTour Reef Lighthouse, I know why they came to rest. It is a beautiful and perfect setting in the midst of the St. Marys River for both man and bird to rest, relax and well.....you know! The seagulls no longer stop, however, because of the sound alarm but I'm sure they look with fond longing at their former resting place.

By Joan Meyer

Thanks, Hallie Wilson, for giving us a bird's eye view of the DeTour Reef Lighthouse!

Do Something Wild this Summer – Become a Lighthouse Keeper of DeTour Reef Light

By Dave Bardsley

“Last year at this time I was in Hawaii, I find this much more relaxing... we all have memories we will keep forever.” “Today is departure day! It’s come all too soon!! We’ve had a great weekend and all will hate to leave. We’re already talking about doing this again. What an experience, great location, historic and interesting (and one of a kind) accommodations, real good food and best of all, sharing it with good friends and new friends!” “Wow –This is fabulous!...We are totally enjoying the experience.” “We truly are impressed and delighted to be entrusted with this house.” “It is like waking up on a cruise ship when you have the best room on the ship.”



Tyrne family leaving the light

The above quotes are just a few of the comments that keepers wrote in the DeTour Reef Logbook. One couple, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on DeTour Reef Light, signed up to celebrate their 51st. Over the past ten summers, more than 400 volunteer keepers have spent three days and two nights on what they inevitably call “our lighthouse”. The experience of living on an offshore lighthouse can only be experienced at DeTour Reef Light. No other offshore lighthouse, anywhere, has a volunteer resident keeper program. (And very very few offshore lights are open for public tours). DeTour Reef Light is an active Coast Guard aid to navigation, with a rotating beacon, racon beacon and a foghorn. It has an operating historical F2T foghorn, one of only two or three in the country and the only operational one on the Great Lakes. When that experience is coupled with a high volume of freighter and pleasure boat traffic, staying at DeTour Reef Light is extraordinary.

While DRLPS has strived to place furnishings in the DeTour Reef Light consistent with the manned period of the lighthouse and to the extent possible with 1931 era items, the lighthouse is very comfortable and environmentally friendly. The freshwater system draws from Lake Huron, filters the water through a coarse filter and then a 5-micron charcoal filter and finally the water is sterilized by a modern ultra-violet purification system. Black water is sent to a Coast Guard Approved marine sanitation system identical to that used on many commercial Great Lakes ships. Other mechanicals include a shower and tub, electric baseboard heat and full window screens.

A fully functional 1931 G.E. range with oven has provided past keepers with meals as exotic as broiled lobster tails, lasagna, rice pilaf and peach cobbler. Other kitchen appliances include a refrigerator with freezer, microwave, toaster, coffee maker and blender. A small stainless steel covered charcoal bar-b-que is provided for those who prefer to grill their steaks. 1940’s porcelain topped cabinets, almost identical to the original lighthouse furnishings, provide storage and work surface in the galley.

Consistent with World War II furnishings, the lighthouse accommodates six individuals at a time. The head keeper’s room has a vintage double bed similar to that specified for the original furnishings. The assistant keepers’ room has two military style bunk beds dating from the 1950’s. Each bedroom has a chest of drawers; the one in the keeper’s room actually saw service at DeTour Reef Light during its manned period. Keepers have enjoyed the six folding canvas deck chairs for relaxation both on the pier deck and at the top of the light on the watch room deck.



The lighthouse office is also furnished to the 1931 Lighthouse Service Specifications for DeTour Reef Light, which includes a restored 1930’s roll top desk, chair, and glass front bookcase. A modern marine radio allows communication with passing pleasure boats, the DRLPS keeper program chairman, and if necessary, the U.S. Coast Guard and passing freighters. Keepers have enjoyed monitoring the Coast Guard emergency traffic as well as the freighter traffic.

Unlike volunteer keeper programs at onshore lighthouses, there are only a few housekeeping work tasks for the keepers of DeTour

(continued on page 3)

(continued from page 2)

Reef Light. Keepers have enjoyed lots of free time for ship watching, cocktail hour(s), reading, flying kites, and doing jigsaw puzzles. As with tradition, keepers prepare their own meals and make their own beds. The most significant housekeeping task is power washing the pier deck in preparation for the one or two public tours that will occur during one day of the weekend. Keepers also keep the lighthouse clean, bake chocolate chip cookies (from frozen cookie dough) for the tour guests and sell lighthouse memorabilia. Keepers will also assist the trained DRLPS tour guides in assuring the safe boarding and departure of tour guests.

Lighthouse keepers will meet and be given a short orientation at the Drummond Island Historical Museum before making the 3-mile boat trip from Fort Drummond Marine to the Light on a state inspected charter boat piloted by a U.S. Coast Guard licensed captain, Ivan Gable www.sturgeonbaycharters.com. Once on DeTour Reef Light, keepers are instructed in the operation of the lighthouse mechanicals, safety procedures, tour plans and emergency communications.

Keepers will typically reside at the lighthouse from Friday through late Sunday, although longer stays can be arranged. Keepers must be in good physical condition capable of climbing up and down the vertical 20-foot pier ladders and to the top of the lighthouse.

The charge per person is set at \$200 (\$220 for non-DRLPS members) for the three-day, two-night program. Children under 18 are half price. This fee includes the cost of the charter boat to transport keepers to the lighthouse and to pick them up two days later. Keepers will be responsible for their own linens and food. DRLPS membership is available for \$30 and includes all family members.

Individuals desiring an application to become a Lighthouse Keeper should go to www.DRLPS.com and click on "Stay or Visit" and then "Keepers Weekend" to get to the lighthouse keeper page. A great deal of information is provided at this web site. Keepers will be scheduled from mid-June to Labor Day. Singles and couples are encouraged to apply and will be matched with other applicants to fill the weekend.

Priority for assignment to weekend of choice is based on the date of the application and payment. For additional information, please email: Keepers@DRLPS.com or call Dave Bardsley at 906-493-6609.



Passings of Two Former Keepers of the DeTour Reef Light Station in the Mid 1960s: Ron Freels and Marv Kurkierewicz

By Jeri Baron Felton

It is with sadness we announce the passing of Ron Freels and Marv Kurkierewicz, two former lighthouse keepers who worked on the DeTour Reef Light Station for the U.S. Coast Guard in the mid-1960s. They were very enthusiastic of the DRLPS efforts to restore and preserve the lighthouse, and their personalities will be missed but never forgotten.

Ronald E. Freels (8/20/1936-6/6/2014): I first met Ron in 1999 when I interviewed him as part of an oral history grant project for DRLPS in DeTour Village. He enthusiastically recounted his experiences on the lighthouse for our videotaped interview. He was a warm and colorful character who was very proud of his 26 years of service in the U.S. Coast Guard, and, in particular, his time spent on the DeTour Reef Light in 1965-1966 as a Boatswain's Mate.

Marvin F. Kurkierewicz (1/25/1941-10/21/2014): Marv was a career Coast Guardsman and worked at the DeTour Reef Light Station in 1963 as a Fireman and Machinery Technician. He attended the DRLPS 10th Anniversary Celebration in DeTour Village in 2008 where he shared stories of his work on the lighthouse.



Ron Freels with his wife Mary and mom Elizabeth and Jeri Baron Felton in 1999



Marvin Kurkierewicz

18th Annual Father's Day St. Marys River Cruise - June 21, 2015



Into the Locks

The DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society (DRLPS) is proud to present the 18th annual Father's Day River Cruise on the St. Marys River. During the tour you'll get to see the DeTour Reef Lighthouse up close and end the tour locking through the historic Soo Locks.

The cost of the trip is \$105 per person and includes a fully narrated tour, door prizes and food. Esther's Catering from Drummond Island will be back this year bringing breakfast buffet, lunch and an afternoon treat. Soo Locks Boat Tours will be providing a cash bar. A portion of your ticket price is tax deductible, and all profits will be used for continuing restoration and preservation efforts at the DeTour Reef Light.

Boarding begins at 9:45am at the DeTour Ferry Dock with departure at 10:00am. The DeTour Reef Light will be viewed up close with many photo opportunities. After circling the Light, the boat will continue up the St. Marys River. Cruisers will be able to enjoy the wildlife on the river and freighters passing by. Points of interest and history of the area will be shared. The boat tour concludes at Soo Locks Boat Tours Dock #2 at approximately 4:30pm.



Along the river



Food on the cruise

Cruisers have the option to leave from the Soo Locks Boat Tour at 8:00am and ride a DRLPS provided bus to the DeTour Ferry Dock or board the boat at the DeTour Ferry Dock and ride a bus back to DeTour arriving there at approximately 6:00pm.

Plan on a fun trip to the DeTour Reef Light and up the historic St. Mary's River to the Soo Locks! For questions and more details, please phone Anne Stafford at 906-297-6051 or email RiverCruise@drmps.com. The Father's Day Cruise is sponsored by DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society.

Thank You to Two Retiring Valued Board Members: Clif Haley and Denny Bailey

By Jeri Baron Feltner and Dave Bardsley

I would like to express a sincere thank you to two retiring long-term DRLPS Board Members – Clif Haley and Denny Bailey for their many years of exemplary dedicated volunteer service to the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society for the restoration and preservation of the DeTour Reef Light Station.

Clif Haley

Thank you Clif for your outstanding volunteer service to DRLPS since January 2000. I am particularly immensely proud of your accomplishments as I remember so well meeting with you in your office at the Hangar in the early fall of 1999 to recruit you to be a member of the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society team. I had heard of your abilities and knew that we needed you to help our fledgling Society born in January 1998 go forward in their quest to restore the DeTour Reef Light Station in particular with major restoration grant applications. I courted you for four months and you finally said yes!

That “yes” led to sharing your wisdom, talents, expertise, and penchant for excellence that has led the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society to become a highly accomplished and respected lighthouse preservation organization and a symbol of excellence to the nation's lighthouse community.

I have deep heartfelt appreciation and respect for your invaluable volunteer service in many arenas including

(continued on page 10)



Jeri Baron Feltner and Clif Haley on the DeTour Reef Light Station Restoration Inspection Day – 9/15/2004

New DRLPS Board Members

Hallie Wilson

I am a retired Family Physician whose love of Lighthouses spilled over into my exam rooms. In each of the two rooms, were 48 different lighthouse pictures. DeTour Reef Light had a special place at the weight scale where everyone could see a collage of DeTour Reef Light pictures, as they weighed in.



I have been married for 50 years, and Ed and I have two grown children and 7 grandchildren. My love of lighthouses began in earnest in the 1990's, but med school and residency kept me from participating in any activities. My family started coming to Drummond in 1953, and Ed and I, with help from the kids, built a house on Drummond in 1983.

I turned into a real Lighthouse enthusiast for DRLPS, after taking a Father's Day Cruise and going on both the East and West extended lighthouse cruises put on by GLLKA and Shepler's. I have worked with several great Ladies of the Light work crews, helped with Stars, and have and will be volunteering to give some of the Lighthouse tours this coming summer. Since I love photography, I have photographed the Light from all angles, from sunset to sunrise and in fog and mist, and from an airplane. My Lighthouse affiliations are with DRLPS and GLLKA. This summer, I hope we can get 5 people to participate in our first DRLPS Jewelry Workshop, which will be great fun. I will continue to support DRLPS activities in any way I can in the coming years.

My interests are photography, travel, outdoor activities such as biking, kayaking, cross country skiing, and snowshoeing. I am a USFSA Figure Skating judge.

Sheila Powell



Being on the Board of Directors for the De Tour Light Preservation Society is like "owning a piece of the rock." The responsibility is enormous and to date the membership has preformed miracles with the maintenance of the structure. Thanks to a small but diligent group of volunteers, the lighthouse is also instrumental in its care with being open for tours, hosting the lighthouse keeper program and by being a destination for the annual Father's Day Cruise. The history of the structure illustrates how a group of volunteers purchased and maintained a previous government facility that was declared surplus and defunct into a sparkling gem in the pristine waters at the mouth of the St. Marys River.

As a board member, I hope to encourage continued support and attendance at the Stars Dinner/ Silent Auction event which is on Friday, July 10, for this year of 2015. Other fund raising events will also be presented for the board to consider. When you attend the dinner be prepared to leave with an auction item or two (or more). Carry-out assistance will be available.

Like any aging structure or facility, maintenance is constant and when immediate action is required, due to the elements of time and nature, I will be a proactive board member to handle these situations with the lighthouse. As a six year resident of Drummond Island I have a deep respect for the lighthouse and admire the positive influence it brings to the community. Having lived on Long Island, New York and Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada, I also realize "island life" is unique and nothing is more unique than a community with its own lighthouse.

Since becoming an American citizen on October 28, 1976, I have a great appreciation of American values and am honored to serve as a board member on the Board of Directors for DRLPS. What could be more rewarding than to help continue to preserve a local icon that has a functional purpose as well as aesthetical and historical value. Thank you for this opportunity.

6 Day Jewelry Workshop on the DeTour Reef Light

Design and Make Bronze Jewelry on DeTour Reef Light

Sunday, August 16 thru Friday, August 21

The De Tour Reef Preservation Society is excited to offer an opportunity to design and make bronze jewelry, while enjoying a stay on the DeTour Reef Light. Our instructor will be Rosemary E. Gould, who is a Certified PMC (Precious Metal Clay) instructor. She has her Master of Fine Arts degree from Michigan State University, and is an Adjunct Professor at North Central Michigan College.



The jewelry material is Precious Metal Clay (PMC). It is not clay, but is made up of tiny molecules of bronze, a beautiful golden metal, which accepts an antique look using a patina, which will be available at the workshop. In its wet state, it has the texture of soft clay and is easily manipulated. While other metal clays, like silver, can be fired using a small butane torch, the bronze clay requires a longer drying time and firing in a small electric kiln. The kiln will also be provided, along with all tools and the material to make molds.

Various natural materials such as driftwood, textured rocks, pine cones, and cedar are just a few of the materials that can be used to create molds for the PMC material. Each participant can bring some items that they think will make interesting mold imprints. When the pieces have been fired, various polishing techniques will be used to finish our creations.

The workshop will be limited to 5 participants plus the instructor. The group will go out to the Light on Sunday afternoon, August 16th and return on Friday, August 21st, weather permitting. Each participant will be asked to join in the planning of the food, and we will be enjoying our meals together.

The cost for the entire week is \$410. This includes the materials for the workshop, the instructor fees, the cost of staying on the Light, and our boat trips out and back from the Light. There will be time for participants to enjoy the beautiful views from the Light, watch sunrises and sunsets, count freighters, take pictures of the sites and activities along the water and have a good time meeting and working with new friends.

Download the workshop application at: [2015 Jewelry Workshop and Lighthouse Keeper application](#) – The file is in PDF format and opens in a new page.

Tour Guides Needed for DeTour Reef Lighthouse Tours

Would you like to be a tour guide on the Light? The DRLPS is looking for people to work with current guides to prepare to lead their own tours (what a fun opportunity!) You will be given all needed information to share while giving the tour.



David & Diane Strand, John & Barb Prusak and Tom Borutz and Dan Tigie

Tours consist of up to 6 people (some of them children accompanied by their parents). All areas of the Light are explored and explained. Stories are shared about life on the Light when it was manned from its opening in 1931 until it was fully automated in 1974. Time is also allocated for visitors to spend extra time in areas that are of special interest to them. Weekend keepers help with the tour and prepare a light snack for the tour groups.



Katie Henderson up the ladder

If you are interested and would like more information, call Donna Burden at 906-430-8169 or email her at Tours@DRLPS.com

Silent Auction Coordinator “Shouts Out” to Membership

By Sheila Powell

What could be more pleasurable than a gourmet dinner and a shopping night out? The Evening Under the Stars annual dinner at the Drummond Island Resort and Conference Center sponsored by the DRLPS is just the ticket. Thanks to Chef Frank Jones, the dinner and its presentation is a Five-Star event.

To make it a Ten-Star event, a silent auction is held. All profits benefit the DeTour Reef Light to continue the restoration and to maintain its immaculate appearance as a premiere lighthouse destination.

Unique items are the key to entice fantastic and out-of-control bidding. If someone else has bid on an item you would like to have, you have no choice but to outbid them and make it yours. Four local gifted residents have kindly offered their crafted items: an original beaded necklace; a “cast” gold cedar cone and small cedar branch that would look beautiful on a brooch, chain or necklace pendant; a wooden-themed piggy bank for the thrifty; and a novel window box. (Check out the auction items on July 10th to see who the artisans are!)

Other items have been specifically “acquired,” donated or purchased for your bidding pleasure. This article is a “shout out” to every member to consider donating an item, large or small, new or “gently used” but not abused as in an antique. Two “overstuffed with items” tote bags are being assembled so no item is too small. All items are given a reasonable starting price but there may even be a table of price-reduced items from the DRLPS cupboard.



Jon Rahman, Kelli Ouiment and Marsha Tiesinga checking on the auction items



Everyone is cordially invited to attend this year’s event on Friday, July 10 at 6:00pm. Tickets are \$125 per person and include appetizers, cocktails and wine, a gourmet dinner, music, and, of course, the auction fun as well.

Please contact Sheila Powell, Silent Auction Coordinator by phone at 517-667-6628 or email humminghaven9309@yahoo.com to make your silent auction donation. A tax donation document for the retail value of the item is mailed after the event to acknowledge your generous gift.

For more information on Evening Under the Stars go to the DRLPS website (www.DRLPS.com) and click on the Events tab). For questions email StarsEvent@DRLPS.com or phone 906-440-9155.

Where’s the Billboard?

DRLPS will be placing two new 4’ x 8’ billboards somewhere in DeTour and on Drummond Island. Can you find them? The first two people (one winner for each location) to email the editor of Passages at Newsletter@drlps.com with the correct location, will win a Limited Edition DeTour Reef Ornament. So now that the weather has moderated, the snow has disappeared and the ice gone out, take some time to drive around and spot the two new billboards and email us.

(With your email, please remember to include your name, telephone number, email address and snail mail address so we can send you the ornament — happy hunting!)



Great Lakes Freighter Article—Lee A. Tregurtha

By Joan Meyer

Great Lakes Freighters, big ships, ore boats, Old Salties, there are a lot of different names for the ships that sail our Great Lakes. There is such a mystique and romance about these ships. Who, of us, can't sing part if not all of the ballad *The Edmund Fitzgerald*? When my husband and I were keepers on the DeTour Reef Lighthouse one of the biggest thrills was watching and waiting for the ships that passed by. What was unexpected was the fact that you could feel them before you saw or heard them. It was a deep vibration inside that you felt and when you checked, sure enough, there coming on the horizon was a big ship. Each and every one of these ships has a history worth exploring. I plan on writing an article for each of the *Passages* highlighting one of our big ships. I, of course, will start with the ones that my husband and I were lucky enough to observe during our stay at the Light. I know that there are far, far more expert "ship watchers" than I, but I hope you enjoy the result of my research.



The Lee A. Tregurtha was the first big ship we saw in 2007 and what a history she has! She has had a long life, in many trades and under many different names. She was originally laid down in the early stages of World War II at the Bethlehem Shipbuilding and Drydock Company out of Sparrows Point, Maryland. She was a commercial ocean tanker called Mobiloil and shortly thereafter, construction was taken over under contract by the U.S. Maritime Commission and the vessel was renamed Samoset at her launch on June 25, 1942. The Samoset was acquired by the U.S. Navy on December 24, 1942 and commissioned the same day joining the Atlantic Fleet as the USS Chiwawa. (She was one of a fleet of 5 class of auxiliary oilers. These five tankers were initially to be built by private companies and were named by them but when the U.S. Navy took possession of them, they were named after Native American rivers and lakes).

The Chiwawa had a cargo capacity of 10,278 tons or approximately 134,000 barrels. Following her shakedown cruise and post-shakedown overhaul, the USS Chiwawa departed Norfolk, Virginia on February 13, 1943 bound for Aruba, Netherlands West Indies to load oil and returned to New York on February 25th. Her prime duties were to provide fuel as needed for transfer at sea to the destroyers escorting convoys and to the merchant ships as needed. In early March of 1943 a convoy consisting of 45 ships plus escorts was intercepted by 3 wolf-packs totaling 17 German U-boats that had gathered to attack the convoy while east of the Azores. A total of 4 ships were sunk before the convoy arrived at Casablanca on March 21st. The USS Chiwawa was awarded a Battle Star for her services as part of this convoy. The USS Chiwawa continued providing service up and down the North American east coast into the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea by herself and crossing the Atlantic Ocean in convoy service without incident for the remainder of 1943 and well into 1944. She was awarded a second Battle Star for her participation in a campaign in July of 1944. Following a refit she was transferred to the Pacific Fleet in July of 1945 and remained in active service in the Pacific theatre until she was decommissioned on May 6, 1946. In her service in World War II, she journeyed approximately 164,000 miles or the equivalent of close to 6.5 times around the world.

In 1947 the tanker was sold to Cities Service Oil Company in New York retaining the U.S. Navy name of Chiwawa. She was used to shuttle home-heating oil, gasoline and other petroleum products from the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean refineries to U.S. eastern seaboard ports. On February 12, 1960 Cleveland-Cliffs Steamship Company out of Cleveland, Ohio announced the purchase of the Chiwawa for lengthening and conversion to a Great Lakes ore carrier. The vessel's changes result in a "new" Seaway-sized Great Lakes ore carrier. This carrier was christened Walter A. Sterling in May of 1961. The Walter A. Sterling departed on her Great Lakes maiden voyage sailing as the flagship of the Cleveland-Cliffs Steamship Company fleet. Improvements continued to be made to the Walter A. Sterling including, in 1967/68, lengthening to make her cargo capacity 30,592 tons and making her the largest steam-powered vessel on the Great Lakes at that time. (In 1978 she was converted to a self-unloader reducing her cargo capacity).

(continued on page 9)

(continued from page 8)

The Walter A. Sterling's tenure on the Great Lakes had been marred only with a couple of minor incidences until April 6, 1983 when she collided with an unidentified underwater obstruction while downbound on the St. Marys River. She was intentionally beached to prevent sinking and safely reached port at Loraine, Ohio where a 280' gash was repaired. The Walter A. Sterling was sold to the Ford Motor Company in 1984 and renamed William Clay Ford. Improvements continued to be made to the vessel under the Ford ownership but her tenure with the "Ford Fleet" was short-lived. In April 1989 she was sold to Lakes Shipping Company, a newly formed affiliate of Interlake Steamship Company. On May 13, 1989, the William Clay Ford was renamed Lee A. Tregurtha in honor of Dorothy Lee Anderson Tregurtha, the wife of the owner of Interlake Steamship Company.

As has been her history, improvements continue to be made to the Lee A. Tregurtha. On January 9, 2006 the classic self-unloader arrived at Bay Shipbuilding, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin for the removal and replacement of her original steam power plant. On September 29, 2006 the diesel-powered Lee A. Tregurtha returned to service sailing to Escanaba, Michigan for a load of taconite pellets for Indiana Harbor, Indiana. Even though the Lee A. Tregurtha has been sailing for over 60 years, improvements made at different stages in her life have kept the vessel and her operating technologies up-to-date, insuring a long future on the Great Lakes.

My husband and I were totally unaware of the Lee A. Tregurtha's outstanding service in World War II and the rest of her history and name changes as she passed by the Light that night. I wish I had brought along a book detailing the history of the freighters so I could have been aware. We were aware, however, of a certain mystery and intrigue as she glided by the DeTour Reef Light. May she successfully sail for many years to come....

Information taken from Great Lakes Vessel Feature—Lee A. Tregurtha by George Whorton.

Mark Your Calendars 2015 Events at the DeTour Reef Light

DRLPS Annual Meeting
Thursday, June 18th 4:00 pm
Drummond Island Township Hall

18th Annual Father's Day Cruise
Sunday June 21, 2015

Contact: Anne Stafford 906-297-6051
Email: RiverCruise@drlps.com



16th Annual Evening Under the Stars
Friday July 10, 2015

Contact: Lorna Heydinger 906-440-9155
Email: StarsEvent@drlps.com



Lighthouse Tours

Saturday June 20
Saturday June 27
Saturday July 4
Saturday July 11
Saturday July 18
Saturday July 25
Saturday August 1
Saturday August 8
Saturday August 15
Saturday August 22
Saturday August 29
Saturday September 5



Contact: Donna Burden 906-430-8169
Email: Tours@drlps.com

Light Keeper Weekends (Maximum 6 people per weekend)

Friday June 19 – Sunday June 21
Friday June 26 – Sunday June 28
Friday July 3 – Sunday July 5
Friday July 10 – Sunday July 12
Friday July 17 – Sunday July 19
Friday July 24 – Sunday July 26
Friday July 31 – Sunday August 2
Friday August 7 – Sunday August 9
Friday August 14 – Sunday August 16
Friday August 21 – Sunday August 23
Friday August 28 – Sunday August 30
Friday September 4 – Sunday September 6

Contact: Dave Bardsley 906-493-6609
Email: Keepers@drlps.com

(continued from page 4)

your enormous contributions as a member of the Board of Directors, your expert advice and guidance as our legal counsel and other matters of the Society, your enthusiasm and ingenuity as Master of Ceremonies of the DRLPS major annual fundraiser *Evening Under the Stars* since its inception in 2000, your being Grant Application Writer Extraordinaire for DRLPS \$1.2 million dollar restoration program, and your judicious legal effort in development of the landmark agreement with the State of Michigan for use of the bottomlands by Michigan's offshore lighthouses which led to the DRLPS acquiring ownership of the lighthouse. Also, thank you for the much appreciated free use of office, storage space, and conference room for DRLPS you provided at the Hangar since 2000.

Thank you Clif for your hard work and dedicated commitment to the DRLPS for the preservation of the lighthouse and for your valued friendship. The DRLPS team will always have a deep debt of gratitude for all you have done to make DRLPS the best in the business! I wish you well in all your future endeavors and look forward to our continued sharing of the lighthouse.

Denny Bailey

Thank you Denny for your valued volunteer service and support of the DRLPS since May 1998. Since the first year of the Society (thanks to DRLPS member Carol Melvin who recruited you), you have served DRLPS in many extraordinary ways including being a key interface with the community of the Drummond Island area and statewide, and your expertise in marine operations and offshore construction (as owner of Drummond Island Yacht Haven) has been invaluable to DRLPS over the years in the restoration and preservation efforts of the DeTour Reef Light Station.



There were many special projects out at the lighthouse for which you could always be counted on to accomplish with your time, talent, material and equipment. You provided the use of your barge, heavy equipment (with operator) and work boat Glen Sally to transport and install large moorings to the four sides of DeTour Reef Light to facilitate securing personal transportation boats to the side of the Light. You were also instrumental in arranging, with the assistance of Osborn Material's heavy crane, the installation of the northwest crane on the lighthouse and the repairs to water-damaged plaster in the keeper's quarters.

Many thanks, Denny, for all that you have done to restore and preserve the DeTour Reef Light Station for all to enjoy for generations. You have been a great asset to the success of the DRLPS, and all of your hard work and efforts are greatly appreciated including your dedicated support of the DRLPS fundraisers. We look forward to sharing the lighthouse with you for a long time to come.



Board picture: 2007 Board of Directors - Left to Right: Clif Haley, Jeri Baron Feltner, David Bardsley, Denny Bailey, Russ Norris, Chuck Feltner, and Glenn Lahti

DRLPS has been honored to have these two remarkable individuals – Clif Haley and Denny Bailey - as members of the team to help lead the Society to excellence in restoration and preservation of the DeTour Reef Light Station. It is because of passionate volunteers like Clif and Denny that DRLPS is a symbol of excellence to the nation's lighthouse community. I thank them for all their hard work and superb performance in the restoration and preservation of the lighthouse. Their efforts will always shine as "We'll Keep the Light On for You."

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Email (very important) _____ Phone _____



ITEM	DESCRIPTION	Each	Color	Size	Quantity	Total
1	2011 ornament celebrating rehab of DeTour Reef Light Foghorn 4" round – limited edition	\$18				
2	Weekend Puzzle – DeTour Reef Light - 360 pieces – 12"x18" photo by Sunny Covell	\$16				
3	Retro Ceramic Coffee Mug with line drawing of DeTour Reef Light circa 1931	\$10				
4	Embroidered patch of DeTour Reef Light— 2 3/4 inch square	\$6				
5	DeTour Reef Light Collectors Pin— 1 1/8 inch	\$6				
6	Hat (khaki, yellow, red, gray) with Lighthouse Crest	\$15				
7	Visor with Lighthouse Crest (navy , tan)	\$10				
8	T-Shirt w/Lighthouse Crest (evergreen, navy— S, M, L, XL, 2XL – not all sizes/colors available)	\$20				
9	Golf Shirt w/Lighthouse Crest (Men's in black, Ladies in red — S, M, L, XL, 2XL)	\$32				
10	Denim Shirt with Lighthouse Crest (unisex — S, M, L, XL, 2XL)	\$39				
11	Crew Neck Sweatshirt w/Lighthouse Crest (stone, evergreen, navy — S, M, L, XL, 2XL)	\$28				
12	Full Zip Hooded Sweatshirt with Lighthouse Crest (navy — S, M, L, XL, 2XL)	\$35				
13	DeTour Reef Light Counted Cross Stitch Kit 5"x7" designed by Hallie Wilson	\$10				
14	Plastic To-Go Mug with Society Logo	\$3				
15	Note Pads w/Lighthouse Logo (pack of 3 — 50 sheets per pad)	\$2				
16	Crystal Cube w/ internal 3D etching of DeTour Reef Light - small	\$17				
17	Crystal Cube w/ internal 3D etching of DeTour Reef Light - large	\$22				
18	Lighthouse Model 3" Little Light of Mine by Harbour Lights	\$15				
19	DVD of the Lighthouse before/during/after restoration/keeper experience, 2 disc set	\$8				
20	Polar Fleece Zippered Vest (burnt orange– S, M, L, XL, XXL)	\$38				
21	1931 Limited Edition Lighthouse Window Pane (9 1/4 x 11 x 1/4 inch) w/Etching of Lighthouse	\$300				



*Thank You
for your
Support!*

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

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

Merchandise Total	
Tax 6% (Michigan Residents Only)	
S & H (see chart)	
Total Enclosed	

Method of Payment: Today's Date _____
 Check or Money Order Payable to DRLPS
 VISA MasterCard Discover American Express
 Account # _____ Expires _____
 Signature _____

Please allow up to 21 days for delivery.
Mail order form & payment to:
 DRLPS, PO Box 307
 Drummond Island MI 49726
 www.DRLPS.com
 memorabilia@drlps.com
 Questions? Call 906-297-6801

DETOUR REEF LIGHT PRESERVATION SOCIETY

PO Box 307

Drummond Island MI 49726

www.DRLPS.com

Email: DRLPS@drmps.com

President: Ann Method Green, DRLPS@drmps.com

Vice President: Russ Norris VP@drmps.com

Treasurer: David Bardsley, Treasurer@drmps.com

Secretary: Janelle Dudeck, Secretary@drmps.com

Directors: Charles Feltner, Brian Nettleton, Sheila Powell,
Hallie Wilson

Founding Directors Emeriti: Dick Moehl, Jeri-Baron Feltner

Honorary Director: James S. Woodward

Public Relations: Ann Method Green, PR@drmps.com

Keeper Program: David Bardsley and Mike Horton, Keepers@drmps.com

Tours: Donna Burden,, Tours@drmps.com

Membership: Paula P. Bardsley, Membership@drmps.com

Stars Event: Lorna Heydinger, Candace Reynolds StarsEvent@drmps.com

Stars Event Silent Auction: Sheila Powell

River Cruise: Anne Stafford, RiverCruise@drmps.com

Passages Editor: Joan Meyer, Newsletter@drmps.com

Preservation: Brian Nettleton, Preservation@drmps.com

Memorabilia: Nella Gries and Dotty Witten, Memorabilia@drmps.com

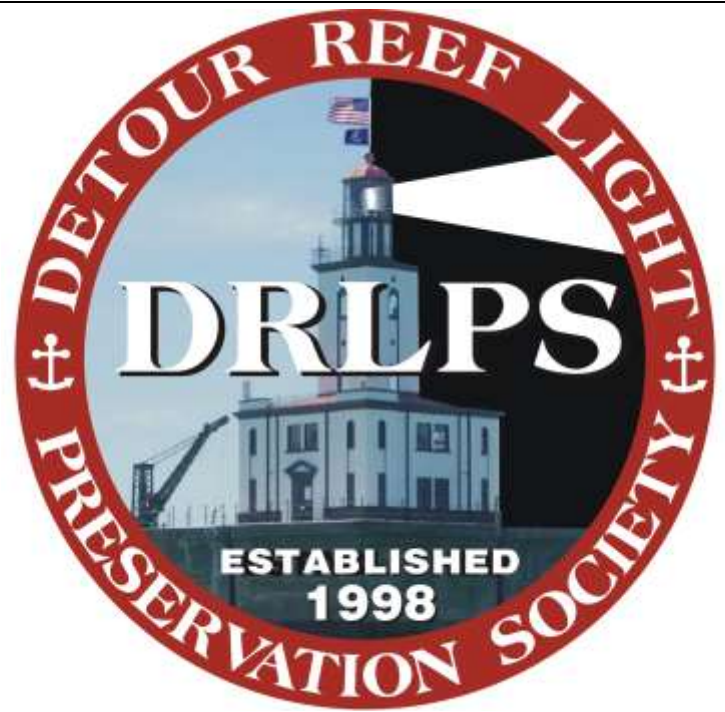
Sponsor A Step: Jeri-Baron Feltner, JeriBaron@drmps.com

Webmaster: Matt Sawyer, Webmaster@drmps.com

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

Legal Matters: Clifton E. Hailey, LegalMatters@drmps.com

Accounting: Dawn Gibbons, dgibbons@alphacomm.net



DRLPS MEMBERSHIP:

\$30 Basic, \$50 Patron, \$100 Keeper, \$500 Lifetime, \$1000 Grand Keeper.

All memberships include the family.

www.DRLPS.com * Membership@drmps.com * 906-493-6609
or write DRLPS, PO Box 307, Drummond Island MI 49726

DeTour Reef Lighthouse Preservation Society

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

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

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

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

PASSAGES is the official publication of the DRLPS. Statements and opinions appearing herein are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position of DRLPS, its officers or members. The editor reserves the right to edit all material for publication and to publish material which is felt to be in the best interest of the DRLPS. Permission is granted to reprint, providing credit will be given to the author, DRLPS, and provided that copyright is not involved, return copy of the article when published would be appreciated. To submit comments and/or articles to the Editor, email newsletter@drmps.com or send by mail to: DRLPS, PO Box 307, Drummond Island, MI 49726

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