



1931

# PASSAGES

\* PO Box 307 \* Drummond Island MI 49726 \* [drlps@drlps.com](mailto:drlps@drlps.com) \* [www.DRLPS.com](http://www.DRLPS.com) \* 906-493-6609 \*



Today!

Issue 40

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

Fall 2018

## DeTour Reef Light Station – 2018 Exterior Rehabilitation

*By Dave Bardsley*

The Spring 2018 issue of Passages (issue 39) included information on DRLPS being awarded a \$60,000 grant from the Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program. This program is funded through the sale of Michigan lighthouse license plates. Background and a status update follows.

In November 2017 DRLPS applied for a grant from the Michigan Lighthouse Assistance program to remove and replace the flexible membrane covering the pier deck, repair the seals around the deck (sidewalk) lights, install robust closing and latching hardware on the windows and patch spalling on the vertical pier surface. The grant application estimated cost of the project (excluding architectural fees) at \$90,000, \$60,000 of which would be covered by the grant and \$30,000 which would come from DRLPS fundraising efforts.

The grant was approved in February 2018 and DRLPS hired



*Failure of deck flexible coating*



*Failure of sealing at perimeter of deck lights*

architect Ken Czapski to prepare bid documents for approval by Michigan State Historic Preservation Office and subsequent advertising. Four potential bidders inspected the lighthouse on May 30<sup>th</sup> and three submitted bids on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Mihm Enterprises, the lowest bidder, was awarded the contract. Mihm has extensive history on Detour Reef, being the contractor who did both the exterior and interior restoration in 2003 and 2004. An on-site review with Mihm, architect Czapski and Dave Bardsley was held on August 6<sup>th</sup> and Mihm crews started work on September 5<sup>th</sup>, just three days after completion of the 2018 lighthouse keeper program. At the time of writing, Mihm anticipates completion of the project by October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Most important in the rehabilitation is prevention of water infiltration (and consequent damage to the pier concrete and deck lights) and providing a fail safe way to assure secure

window closure. The current window opening, closure and locking mechanism makes closure difficult and provides no visual confirmation that the windows are securely latched. Consequently, windows thought to be latched were not and blew open after closure of the Lighthouse and removal of the keepers. This has resulted in significant water intrusion and damage to the plaster. Outright failure of the locking mechanism has occurred on a number of windows, which has required repair with bolts on the pivot cam handle and even drilling holes in the window sash and bolting the window closed.

DRLPS looks forward to completion of the project and a lasting solution to the window closure and latching issues.

## Terry Pepper Receives Two Awards for Lighthouse Preservation Work

*By Stephanie Fortino*  
**Reprinted from *The St. Ignace News***



*Michigan Lighthouse Alliance  
 presented Terry Pepper the 2018  
 Beacon Award,*

Brutus resident Terry Pepper, author of books and articles about lighthouses and creator of a website cataloging western Great Lakes lighthouses, received two major awards when enthusiasts who treasure the beacons and their history gathered Sunday, May 20 through Tuesday, May 22 at Grand Hotel for the first International Lighthouse Conference.

The Michigan Lighthouse Alliance gave him the Beacon Award, which included a miniature Fresnel lens, and the U.S. Lighthouse Society presented him the Francis Ross Holland Distinguished Service Award. Each recognizes his efforts to foster lighthouse preservation, restoration, and research.

“I’m a student of lighthouse history and research,” Mr. Pepper told the Town Crier, confessing he was a little embarrassed to receive both awards.

Lighthouse preservationists and admirers from all over the world attended the conference, about 18 months in the making and hosted by the Michigan Lighthouse Alliance, which has held conferences every two years since the early 2000s. This was the first year it was held on Mackinac Island and the first year it was expanded to include lighthouse enthusiasts from around the world.

The three-day conference, Sunday through Tuesday, May 20-22, was packed with informative and lively talks from a variety of speakers, including representatives from the U.S. Coast Guard, Travel Michigan’s Pure Michigan advertising campaign, the National Park Service, and other lighthouse researchers and experts like Mr. Pepper, a scholar and historian, who has studied lighthouses since he first became interested in 1990.

As an “early adopter of the Internet,” Mr. Pepper created the “Seeing the Light” Web site, on which he catalogues all his research on lighthouses in the western Great Lakes.

“Seeing the Light started as I traveled to go and see lighthouses,” he said, “but grew into so much more, into finding out histories.”

Mr. Pepper has become one of the most knowledgeable western Great Lakes lighthouse scholars. For many years, he served as the director of the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association in Mackinaw City, which stewards the St. Helena Island Light Station, west of the Mackinac Bridge, and the Cheboygan River Front Range Light. He served on the Michigan Lighthouse Alliance board for 10 years.

His interest in lighthouses was piqued nearly 30 years ago, when he noticed a beautiful lighthouse on one of his frequent trips from his then home in Indiana to northern Michigan. The lighthouse made him incredibly curious, he said, about everything from why lighthouses were built to what life was like for the people who kept them.

Since then, Mr. Pepper has learned as much as he can about lighthouses, scouring libraries and archives for information. He finds great joy in sharing his work with others and helping lighthouse preservationists as they develop and grow management strategies.

The conference included a presentation by Joseph Smith of Mont Clair, New Jersey, a “performance artist of living history” who channeled the late Augustin Fresnel and shared his personal history and inventions. In 1822, the French physicist invented a lighthouse lens, now called the Fresnel lens, which revolutionized optics, increasing lighthouse brightness and waterway safety. His design is still used in lighthouses and other lights today.

A lighthouse cruise, narrated by Mr. Pepper, opened the conference on Sunday afternoon. The three-hour cruise visited two lighthouses in the Round Island Passage, the St. Helena Island Light Station, the White Shoal Lighthouse, and others.

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*continued from page 2*

Mr. Pepper said the sold-out conference provided a good platform for engaging discussion and discourse. As a self-described “forthright” person, he took every opportunity to challenge his fellow lighthouse preservationists. The conferences are worthwhile experiences, he said, offering a venue to share ideas and address pressing preservation and restoration successes and challenges.

One such discussion entailed whether groups should charge visitors to climb the towers of lighthouses. Event organizer and alliance board president Buzz Hoerr encouraged the attendees to think like business owners as they raise money to do preservation and restoration work on the facilities. Mr. Pepper agreed that lighthouse non-profit groups should charge admission.

“Why the hell not?” he asked. “We need to raise money and not be ashamed.”

At the wrap-up visioning session Tuesday afternoon, the attendees strategized about how to form regional partnerships with other nearby lighthouses. Pooling advertising resources, combining promotional efforts, and promoting other lighthouse preservation groups could help spur more travel, the group said. Four lighthouses could partner to offer visitors incentives for visiting each lighthouse in a weekend, such as free merchandise or growlers of beer from local craft breweries to attract more young people. Such innovative strategies and ideas will be compiled and shared with participants soon, Mr. Hoerr said. Alliance treasurer Ann Method Green served on the planning team for the event, which attracted a good cross section of the lighthouse preservation industry, she said. People from all over Michigan attended, as did lighthouse enthusiasts from Florida, North Carolina, the East Coast, the Bahamas, and Canada. The conference also featured several vendors, including a company that does three-dimensional modeling that is essential for restoration projects. “It was a successful conference,” she said.



*The U.S. Lighthouse Society presented Terry Pepper the Francis Ross Holland Distinguished Service Award.*

For future years, organizers also learned how to improve the conference, which previously had been held in Traverse City. The 2020 event is scheduled to return to Mackinac Island and Grand Hotel. One of the biggest lessons, Ms. Method Green said, was to reduce the number of sessions, add more flexibility to the schedule, and add more free time for attendees to explore the Island.

Ms. Method Green is a former president and current board member of the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society. Coupled with about \$40,000 that was raised locally, the group recently received about \$60,000 from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) to repair the deck and leaking windows at the lighthouse this summer. Saturday tours to the lighthouse are held from Father’s Day to Labor Day during the summer, including a light keepers program and two-day long jewelry workshop.

### ***Huron Jewel Visits the DeTour Reef Light***

On August 8th, 2018 Drummond Island Tall Ship Company’s *Schooner Huron Jewel* said “Hello” for the first time to DRL.

For more info about *Schooner Huron Jewel* see [www.ditallship.com](http://www.ditallship.com)

Photo by Julie Covert





## Silver Comes to the Light

By Hallie Wilson

This summer, DeTour Reef hosted its third pure silver jewelry workshop June 24-26. Four gals participated and had a great time creating some unique pieces to enjoy. The first evening was spent enjoying the Light and learning what the technique would be when they each received their piece of silver clay. They first had to make their own molds from items they brought with them. One participant carved her own design into the mold material. Each piece of silver clay was then pressed into a mold, removed, and dried on a candle warmer. The pieces were lightly sanded to smooth the edges and then fired with a small butane torch. After cooling in cold water, the pieces were tumbled to bring out a bright shiny surface. The jewelry items could also be dipped into a sulfur solution to oxidize the indentations of the design.

The group enjoyed good fellowship, good food, which was provided by each participant, and picnics on the Lighthouse deck as the freighters passed by. Other perks were the ability to enjoy the entire Lighthouse, the beautiful sunsets, and watch the freighters sail past lighted up at night.

If you are interested in participating in next year's Silver Workshop, watch for details on the DeTour Reef web site. We are tentatively planning to offer it June 23-25, 2019. Please check the web site closer to the time next season.



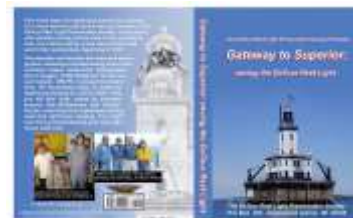
*One-of-a-kind, pure silver jewelry made in the workshop. The lady creators were very pleased with the outcome and will give some of them as gifts to their friends and families.*



*Hallie Wilson (jewelry instructor), Karen Boswell, Lori Ogden, Joan Meyer and Rebecca Fitzpatrick.*

## DeTour Reef Light 2 DVD Video Available

The best way to learn about DeTour Reef Light, short of visiting the light in person, is to view the "Gateway to Superior" video set. Conditions prior to restoration, the restoration effort, interviews with those who built the light in 1931 and operated it when it was manned by the Coast Guard, and the recent experiences of volunteer keepers of DeTour Reef Light are documented. It is a must see. The set is available from DRLPS for \$8 plus \$0.64 tax. Shipping is available (priority mail) for \$7.20. Mail your order to DRLPS Video, P.O. Box 307, Drummond Island, MI 49726 or Email [DRLPS@DRLPS.com](mailto:DRLPS@DRLPS.com). Charge cards are accepted.



## Light House Keepers Needed

*By Dave Bardsley*

Weekend Lighthouse Keeper positions are available on DeTour Reef Light from Father's Day Weekend through Labor Day. The DeTour Reef Light Keeper Program provides an opportunity only available in a few off-shore lighthouses in the entire world. It is a vacation that all never forget and that many repeat year after year. Duties are minimal: housekeeping and hosting a two hour tour on Saturday is the most usually asked of keepers. Tours are conducted by a lighthouse docent who accompanies the tours.

Participants describe the experience as “magical,” “one in a life time,” “best vacation ever,” “soul healing,” “quiet,” “restful,” .... Boat watching is fantastic as every ship (and yacht) that passes between Lake Superior and Lake Huron must pass close to DeTour Reef Light. Sunrises and sunsets are remarkable. On clear days, Martins Reef Light (14 miles), Spectacle Reef Light (19 miles) and the Lower Peninsula are visible. On clear nights, the top on the Mackinaw Bridge Towers (40 miles) are visible. Staying on DeTour Reef Light is a “dark skies” experience and many keepers get to enjoy the Northern Lights.



*Rudi Edel, Sandi Edel, James Edel, Inara (10 yrs), Constance Marie Messina, Zack Edel (June 22-24, 2018).*

Cost for the keeper program is \$200 (\$220 for non-DRLPS members) per person for Friday afternoon to Sunday afternoon. Children under 18 are half price. Extensions beyond Sunday are available at half price. Keepers who extend to Friday (7 nights) are given the last day completely without charge. DRLPS memberships start at \$30 and include all in the family. For more information go to [www.DRLPS.com](http://www.DRLPS.com) and click on Light Keeper Program, email [Keepers@DRLPS.com](mailto:Keepers@DRLPS.com) or call 906-493-6609.



*2018 Vernors Lighthouse Limited Edition*

### ***Vernors Ginger Ale and Michigan Lighthouses***

In 2017 and 2018 limited edition Vernors Ginger Ale cans showing Michigan lighthouses began showing up in stores as part of a partnership between Vernors maker Dr. Pepper Snapple Group (DPSG) and Pure Michigan.

Michigan Lighthouses and Vernors are truly Michigan icons and belong together.

Now is time for lovers of DeTour Reef Light to nominate the Light for the 2019 ad campaign. The decision of which Lighthouse will be on the Vernors can is made by Pure Michigan. Send an email to Kelly Wolgamott, Director of Travel Marketing, Michigan Economic Development Corporation at [wolgamottk@michigan.org](mailto:wolgamottk@michigan.org)

Let's get DeTour Reef Light on the Vernors can for 2019!



## Two Different Visits, Two Different Lighthouses

*By Dave McWilliam*

### North Manitou Light Keeper

The weekend of August 23, 2018 I had the privilege to tour the Detour Reef Lighthouse (DRL) with my family. My wife, two kids, my nephew and Dad all came along (see photo). This was my second time visiting and also my Dad's second time - he's 83 and still climbing the ladder at the DRL!



This second trip was particularly meaningful and useful to me. I am one of the founding members of the North Manitou Light Keepers. Two years ago, our organization purchased the North Manitou Shoal Lighthouse (locally known as "The Crib") located off Sleeping Bear Dunes near Leland, Michigan. Our lighthouse, built from 1933 to 1935 is considered the "sister" lighthouse to the Detour Reef Light. Over the last two years, I have spent several days at the National Archives in Washington D.C. researching information about our lighthouse and have found numerous documents that tie the two lighthouses together, and have also learned a lot of fun and interesting information. All of that detailed information is perhaps the subject of another article, but in summary, the DRL and the Crib were planned to be identical copies, but ended up very different lighthouses. A number of factors - the timing, the Great Depression, a stubborn architect and a new President all played a role in shaping the design. They ultimately ended up somewhat similar lighthouses, but also very different.

My first visit to the DRL was two years ago, I was not a lighthouse owner, so I was able to simply enjoy the tour, the amazing views, and the history of the light (as well as the chocolate chip cookies baked by the weekend light keepers!) This visit was different – it was a business trip (at least for me). While my family was taking the normal tour, my interest was in the various interior systems and the restoration of the lighthouse. The waste and sanitation system, the electrical system, and the kitchen and bedrooms were all part of my focus. These are issues and systems our lighthouse has yet to work out, so it was interesting to see how the DRL addressed and solved these problems. Because of the difficult marine location of all lighthouses, Detour Reef is chronically fighting moisture and water intrusion issues. I was looking at the DRL to see how they had addressed these issues, and how we might apply these methods to our renovation. We are two years into our restoration, and are using many of the same practices and procedures that DRL pioneered 18 years ago. We have been using the same contractors (Mihm Enterprises) that Detour Reef used 15 years ago, so it has been fairly easy to see what has worked, and what didn't work over the past decade.

I was able to sneak away from all the work for a few minutes to photograph the DRL from the air. I purchased a drone two years ago to help document our lighthouse restoration, and had brought it with me to the tour. I am just a hobbyist, but have gotten fairly proficient at flying around and photographing lighthouses. Despite some windy conditions, I was able to take some great photographs and video of the DRL. Two of the photographs are below, and they show some of the similarities and differences of the two lighthouses.

I also have to express my appreciation to the Detour Reef Light Preservation Society and its members. The DRLPS has chartered a path for all lighthouse organizations for the last 15 to 20 years. They pioneered the transfer of ownership of these lights from the federal government to private and public non-profit organizations, so that these historic structures can be preserved and restored. They faced many challenges early on, which ultimately resulted in a simpler and more streamlined process for the rest of the lighthouse organizations. The transfer of ownership of these lighthouses, while still not easy, is a much more well-defined and streamlined process due to the hard work of the DRLPS organization in those early days. Over the last two years, I have met with,



*North Manitou Shoal Lighthouse in restoration*



*DeTour Reef Lighthouse*

spoken to, or emailed with numerous people at the DRLPS. All have been extremely helpful and encouraging, and all have provided valuable information. The DRLPS has also made all of their research and restoration documents available to the public. Some is available online, and all is archived at the Clarke Historical Library at Central

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Michigan University in Mount Pleasant. These documents are a tremendous resource to any lighthouse groups attempting a restoration and are generously cataloged and archived by the DRLPS so that others may learn.

Without a doubt, the best part of restoring a lighthouse has been the people and the personalities. EVERYONE loves a lighthouse. I now notice that just about everyone is connected to a lighthouse in some way. Some have pictures or small models in their home, some have miniature lighthouses in their driveway or garden, and it seems just about everyone has a vacation photo in front of a lighthouse or a story about visiting a lighthouse during a coastal visit. Lighthouses bring people together. They are a symbol of light in the darkness, calm during the storm, and a beacon of hope. I have met the most amazing people during this endeavor - people who have become lifelong friends. These are people and organizations that want to help preserve these important maritime relics. They are an important part of Michigan's history and our nation's history. Lighthouses have saved countless lives and have a fascinating history and human story to tell. They are worthy of the time, money and effort to preserve and restore. Most of these lighthouses are no longer maintained by the government - it is hard-working non-profit groups that need volunteers and resources. Please help in any way you can. It doesn't take much - become a member of a lighthouse group, volunteer your time and talents to help (I guarantee you will make some great friends and be involved in a fun and challenging project!), donate materials, labor or money. Buy a Michigan lighthouse license plate (the money goes directly to grants for lighthouse preservation - it is a great program). Also encourage your children or grandchildren to help. One of the big challenges of most of the lighthouse groups has been finding the next generation of lighthouse keepers. Help us keep the lights shining!



### Would you be interested?

The DeTour Reef Light Keeper Program has been extremely successful. Each weekend, from Father's Day to Labor Day, up to six individuals stay on the Light from Friday afternoon until Sunday afternoon. Many of the keepers extend their stay for as much as a week. The fee is \$220 (\$200 for DRLPS members) per person. Children and extra nights are half price. In 2017 and 2018 the weekend on the light was an opportunity for two men to propose to their girl friends (both said YES!).

The volunteer effort to support the Keeper Program includes loading the keepers and their "stuff" from the charter boat to the Light, powering up the mechanical and electrical systems and giving an orientation to the Lighthouse features, equipment and protocols. On departure the volunteer assures the lighthouse is securely locked and shut down in accordance with instructions and loads the keepers and their "stuff" back on the charter boat for the return trip to Drummond Island.



*Fitting safety harness on keepers to assure safe descent to charter boat.*

At a recent meeting, the DRLPS Board discussed creating a Head Keeper opportunity for those that want an in-depth experience closer to what the Coast Guard lighthouse keepers had when the light station was manned. Simply put, the Head Keeper would reside on the lighthouse during the week when the lighthouse keepers were not on the Light. He/she would be responsible for loading the keepers and their gear from the charter boat and conducting the orientation. They would return to Drummond Island with the charter boat on Friday and return to the Light on Sunday (or the last day of an extended weekend) to load the keepers and their stuff on the charter boat and then remain on the Lighthouse until the next group of keepers arrive. DRLPS would consider a couple being "Head Keepers".

The DRLPS Board would waive the normal Keeper Program fee for an individual(s) seeking the Head Lighthouse Keeper position. The commitment would be only for the 2019 Keeper season.

For those interested in being a keeper of DeTour Reef Light or in the Head Lighthouse Keeper position are encouraged to go to [DRLPS.com](http://DRLPS.com), click on "Light Keeper Program" and review all the information about the Keeper Program. Questions can be directed to [Keepers@DRLPS.com](mailto:Keepers@DRLPS.com) or call 906-493-6609.



## Evening Under the Stars 2018

The Silent Auction at the 2018 Evening Under the Stars was a huge success! Thank you to everyone that donated an auction item and thanks to everyone that participated!

- Guided trip to Fourth Lake led by Conor Egan
- Airplane Ride donated by Vince Klamerus
- Local Group Birding Tour donated by renown ornithologist and artist Paul Rossi
- Bulldozer Driving Lesson provided and instructed by Denny Bailey
- An early evening sail with Paul & Kathy Johnson
- Fishing with master angler Ed Zeerip
- Great Fishing Charter or Boat Tour with Ivan Meade Gable
- North Carolina Tarheel Pleasure Basket donated by Dix & Betty Gerber
- Two original maple bowls by Doug Almoney.
- Exquisite meal for four. Donated/Purchased/Prepared by Chef Ross Kaplan
- Kayaking lesson and tour with Candis Collick
- Stream Fishing excursion on the Two Hearted River led by Bill Wallace
- Artisan Scrimshaw donated by Carol Martin.
- Native crushed Carmeuse Dolomite - 10 yds
- Team Registration & Fees for 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual DRLPS Nordic Lobbit Bocce Tournament
- Boating Lesson by Gay Egan
- Wall Painting / Prints / Frames. Donated by Joe & Bonnie Fennell
- Classic Wall Print and wall clock donated by Bob & Tess Wellsted
- Many wonderful and unique donations by Jeri Baron Feltner
- SSM Superior Coffee
- Summer Spirits from the Les Cheneaux Distillery



*Evening Under the Stars  
Photos by  
Jeri Baron Feltner and  
Hallie Wilson*



*Guests at the 2019 Evening Under the Stars (LtoR)  
Top Row: Hallie Wilson and Mary Jo Daggitt, Barb Gusfa, Paula Bardsley and Jim Gusfa, Stars Chairs Joe and Chris Henne Bottom Row: Some of the auction items on display, Chef Frank Jones and Son Eric Jones, Nella Gries, Jeff Cooksey, and Amy Bernhard, Arlene Lyons and Jeri Baron Feltner*





*continued from page 8***More Photos of the 2019 Evening Under the Stars at the Drummond Island Township Golf Course***More Stars (L to R)***Top:** Bonnie Fennell and Betty Gerber, Mike and Sally Farnsworth and Beth Wallace, Wendy Cory, Sandy Staley, and Candis Collick**Middle:** Vaughn McGraw, Mark and Joanna Beecki, Vince Klamerus and Jeff Kilponen,**Bottom:** Bill and Deb Schrontz, Jon and Carol Rahman, Darlene and Mike Skinner*Photos by:  
Jeri Baron Feltner  
and Hallie Wilson***Another Thank You from Joe Henne, President, DRLPS  
Drummond Island, Michigan 49726**

So- -I do not mind sending out appropriate notes to patrons and benefactors of DRLPS. The fact is: I kind of enjoy it as I generally manage to insert an addendum of some sort or an anecdote (sometimes related - - but not always). I do it best near Thanksgiving (sometimes I can slip a fib in....though mind you not a lie...). What I need to do better is keep track....thus is the reason for the drivel. I am always afraid of leaving someone out or of forgetting to thank everyone for what they have done.

If you haven't received a timely note for the generous donation of money or volunteering to set up/take down/show up early/stay after etc.... The note is in the mail. Thanksgiving is coming....Please bear with me and know that I truly accept all that you do for DRLPS. WITHOUT YOUR PATRONAGE we would not be able to keep the light on....T H A N K Y O U & thank you.

PS...if you have an idea, or a thought of how you would 'like to see things done'...or maybe an auction item in your closet.... Call me or drop me a line... I will get back to you!!! Promise!

DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society's logo apparel now on sale at the Islander Shoppe Clothing and Gifts.



29699 E Channel Road  
Drummond Island, MI 49726  
906-493-5092

### Mark Your Calendars 2019

#### Light Keeper Weekends

(Maximum 6 people per weekend)

Friday thru Sunday

Weekends - June 14 thru Weekend of September 1

For more information contact:

Dave Bardsley 906-493-6609

Email: [keepers@drpls.com](mailto:keepers@drpls.com)

<http://drpls.com/stay-or-visit/stay-at-the-lighthouse/>

#### Light Keeper and Jewelry Workshop

Sunday, June 23- Tuesday, June 25

For more information contact:

Hallie Wilson 989-430-5266

Email: [HWilson@drpls.com](mailto:HWilson@drpls.com)

<http://drpls.com/stay-or-visit/jewelry-workshop/>

#### Lighthouse Tours

(Maximum 6 people per tour)

Saturdays - June 15 thru August 31

For more information contact:

Ann Method Green 906-430-8169

Email: [tours@drpls.com](mailto:tours@drpls.com)

<http://drpls.com/stay-or-visit/tour-the-lighthouse/>

#### Evening Under the Stars

Drummond Island Township Golf Course

Saturday, July 6

For more information contact:

Darlene Skinner 906-493-6812

Email: [StarsEvent@drpls.com](mailto:StarsEvent@drpls.com)

<http://drpls.com/news-events/evening-under-the-stars/>

#### Nordic Bocce

Drummond Island Township Golf Course

Sunday, August 4

For more information contact:

Joe Henne 906 630-5093

Email: [DRLPS@drpls.com](mailto:DRLPS@drpls.com)

<http://drpls.com/news-events/1447-2/>





## PRESIDENTIAL MUSINGS

*By Joe Henne*



MEMBERS, PATRONS, and PEOPLE OF INTEREST:

CAN IT BE (that I have held the helm of DRLPS now for two years)? I would be more than pleased to hand the 'tiller' to a younger responsible person/advocate. We (the executive board) are looking forward to you stepping in/up to replace us. We will be more than happy to do some committee work and follow your lead. Yes, we will give you some occasional 'advice' on what we have done in the past and of past accomplishments - - - but yes step up - - volunteer! I promise you will have FUN! Call us or drop a line-WE NEED YOU!!!!

The summer season has sped by at several knots a day (much too fast). We did have a very successful EVENING UNDER THE STARS event. We have secured the Drummond Island Township Golf Course for the event next year (Join the planning committee and add your touch - - even on line). We are combining the outing with 4th of July holiday festivities.

Evening Under the Star will be held on Saturday July 6th—put it on your calendar today. Violins and a cello are on order (as is wonderful weather and gustatory delights). And Bocce..... August 4th (the rumors about this event are true... ask Jay or Derek if you have doubt). The two of them came on a whim last year and are anxious to return.. Bocce does that- - the Bocce Committee can also use some new members. Ask Esther, she loves Bocce and the event.

We are looking for a special person or three.... call it an internship, externship, locus, 'chapter' but call (906) 630-5093) or any board member about the opportunity. We are calling it a "Grand Lightkeeper" of sorts. This position will include an extended weekday 'stay' out at the DeTour Reef Light and this person will be involved in public relations, keeping the light, extending a welcome and rules of the Light to oncoming weekend light keepers, and other watch responsibilities. There will be time to monitor the river traffic, the platform, and northern skies as well. If you have interest or know someone that may, or want additional information, call us. It could be the chance of a lifetime for interested people.

To ALL of you, who have donated in so many different ways YOU KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE DONE..... T H A N K Y O U ..... let the light shine upon you !!! See you soon, check your membership renewals and, and remember July 6th and August 4th!

Last August about 48 people met at Drummond Island Township Golf Course for the **2nd Annual DRLPS BOCCE LOBBIT**. DRLPS bought the brats & buns. Attendees brought their own refreshments. First timers: Phil, Thelia, Gary, and Barb (we will not call them rookies) won a four-tiered playoff and took home trophies. Their winning cash prize was donated back to the DRLPS treasury. A good time was had by all. Plans are in the making to make the **THIRD ANNUAL DRLPS LOBBIT ON Sunday August 4, 2019** even better! Sponsorships are currently available. There is room on the committee. Contact Robb/Joyce Anderson or Marion Burton at your leisure....

*Winners of the 2nd Annual Bocce Lobbit surrounding their trophies: Barb Cloudman, Theila Gagliardi, Phil Perry, and Gary Cloudman with Jo Zeerip joining the victors*

### Bocce Will Be Back



**DETOUR REEF LIGHT PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

PO Box 307

Drummond Island MI 49726

www.DRLPS.com

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

All memberships include the family.

[www.DRLPS.com](http://www.DRLPS.com) \* [Membership@drpls.com](mailto:Membership@drpls.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.

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