



1931

# PASSAGES

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Today!

Issue 31

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

Spring, 2014

## A picture is worth a thousand words!

*Photos by Richard Borth*

\*\*\*\*\* IMPORTANT \*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\* ANNOUNCEMENT \*\*\*\*\*

See page 7 for information  
on receiving future  
issues of Passages!



## Lighthouse Keeper Program Notes

*by Dave Bardsley*

A **BIG THANK YOU** to all who have been Keepers of DeTour Reef Light. While a significant part of the lighthouse keeper fee covers the direct cost of the program (charter boat, insurance, utilities, etc.), over half of what we collect is used for maintenance – the most expensive part of keeping the lighthouse open for keepers and tours.

As of this writing, we still have a good number of keeper spaces available for the summer. Keepers are asked to be available on Drummond Island by noon on Friday of their weekend. The lighthouse experience continues until Sunday afternoon. Keepers are transported to and from DeTour Reef Light by Sturgeon Bay Charters ([sturgeonbaycharters.com/](http://sturgeonbaycharters.com/)). Up to six keepers per weekend can be accommodated. As of writing, thirty keepers have already signed up for this summer. The following keeper openings are available:

June 27-29	2 spaces
July 4-6	6 spaces
July 11-13	6 spaces

July 25-27	4 spaces
Aug 1-3	4 spaces
Aug 8-10	6 spaces
Aug 15-17	4 spaces



*Debbie Hanson in the tower*



*Jim and Kathy Forster,  
Debbie and Mark Hanson  
Photos by Mark Hanson*

A great deal of information about the keeper program is available at [www.DRLPS.com](http://www.DRLPS.com) (The Keepers application, Keepers Handbook, excerpts from logbook, etc.). However, the DRLPS two DVD video, “Gateway to Superior,” is the best way to learn about the keeper program. We have reduced the price of this video to \$8.00 (plus \$4.00 shipping and \$0.48 tax) – A great value. I would add that the video describes the formerly unpleasant work of power washing the lighthouse deck of seagull droppings. This task has been all but eliminated by the use of an electronic bird repeller (<http://www.bird-x.com/>). A repeat keeper who experienced the task of cleaning the deck from seagull droppings wrote this in the DeTour Reef Light Logbook:

“The Seagull repeller WORKS! Those who have never been before will never know the miracle of it. Those who have been here before – Rejoice! & never forget our fight against seagulls, The battle is won! The seagull repeller is a beautiful thing. In so many ways it has decreased work & increased the quality of the lighthouse stay.” (Angela Partlo – 4-time keeper).

This year DeTour Reef Light will undergo significant repairs to eliminate the damage caused by leaks and condensation. The roof will be completely covered with a heavy-duty roofing membrane to eliminate water intrusion. Additionally, the south opening window in the tower room will be made watertight and the deck at the watch room level will be sealed at the joints of the castings. Finally, the ceiling in the dining room, which suffered major damage from the leaks in the watch room window, will be replaced/re-plastered. All other damaged plaster will be repaired and re-painted. Because of the extent of these repairs, the lighthouse will not be available for tours and keepers from Sunday night until noon on Friday. Contractors will be required to clean up all construction debris, tools and material and store them in the basement of the light. Accordingly, until the construction work is completed (completion is scheduled by August 1<sup>st</sup>) keepers will not be able to reserve the lighthouse for extended stays or mid-week programs.



*Wow! What a meal!*



2014 DRLPS Collector's Postcard

## Are You a Member?

You took one of the DRLPS Father's Day Cruises, or you made a donation to DRLPS, or you're a regular at the "Evening Under the Stars" fund-raiser event, or you remember becoming a member years ago – and you're receiving the newsletter regularly, so you must be a member. Right? Not necessarily. Once you indicate an interest in the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society, we put you in our database, and we continue to keep you informed about the Light, the Society, and our activities through our newsletter. However, becoming a member brings you **into** the Society. It makes you part of the group of people who actually own the DeTour Reef Light. It also enables you to tour the Light or stay on it as a weekend keeper at a \$20 per person discount. From time to time, we have offered other special

"members only" benefits, and we are looking at providing more in the future with our new website.

So, how do you become a member? For now, we're still limited to the "old" technology of downloading a membership application and mailing it in with your payment. You can find the membership application form and instructions for mailing it to us at [www.drtps.com/get-involved/become-a-member/](http://www.drtps.com/get-involved/become-a-member/). Annual memberships start at \$30 per family. Each year current members receive a free DeTour Reef Light collector's postcard. This year's card is an historical photo of the DeTour Reef Light and the US Coast Guard Cutter "Buckthorn," taken by Roger LeLievre in August 1975. I hope you will decide that this is the year you will become a member!

Paula Bardsley, Membership Chairperson  
membership@drtps.com

## Enjoy an *Evening Under the Stars* And Help Preserve a Lighthouse!

Every year since its founding in 1998, the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society has sponsored a benefit dinner to raise funds to help with the preservation of the DeTour Reef Lighthouse. In 2000, the dinner was moved outdoors on the shore of picturesque Potagannissing Bay on the north side of Drummond Island adjacent to the Bayside Restaurant at the Drummond Island Resort and Conference Center when it became *Evening Under the Stars*.

The 15th annual *Evening Under the Stars* benefit event will be held on Friday, July 11, 2014 at the Bayside Restaurant waterfront beginning at 6:00pm. The full program includes cocktails, fabulous hors d'oeuvres, delicious dinner, talented live music and some unique auction items. The dress is dressy resort wear (business casual) and reservations are requested by June 30. The cost for this elegant, popular fundraiser is \$125 per person and a portion of the ticket cost is tax deductible as allowed by law. For reservations or additional information, please contact Sandy Wytiaz by email at [star-sevent@drtps.com](mailto:star-sevent@drtps.com) or by phone at 906-297-6801.



On the shore.....



## Renown Lighthouse Preservationist Cullen Chambers Leaves a Legacy of Lighthouse Preservation

by Jeri Baron Feltner



Cullen Chambers and Jeri Baron Feltner on the DeTour Reef Light Station in 1999  
Photo by Chuck Feltner

Cullen Chambers, of the Tybee Historical Preservation Society in Georgia, Keeper of the Tybee Island Light Station, and renown lighthouse preservationist, passed away of an apparent heart attack on January 20.

I had the great pleasure of meeting Cullen, a man of tremendous integrity and talent, when he donated his services for an onsite DeTour Reef Light Station existing conditions report of the DRLPS in 1999. He prepared a significant document from this visit that became the foundation of our major restoration grant applications. His ongoing support over the years of the Society's efforts to preserve the lighthouse, and the friendship we developed, are deeply appreciated. Thank you Cullen for all your heart and soul work with saving the DeTour Reef Light where your memory will live on forever.

Comments on Facebook from Bob Trapani (Executive Director of The American Lighthouse Foundation) sums up Cullen's passion for preservation well:

### **Remembering lighthouse preservationist Cullen Chambers, who passed away on 1/20/14.**

*Cullen was as dedicated as he was talented – and was always there to help others in the lighthouse community whenever he was called upon. During his many ...years of service to preservation, he set the bar of excellence at lofty heights, all the while mentoring a number of people along the way and inspiring many other lighthouse preservationists throughout the country.*

*When we see the lighthouses that he touched at Key West, St. Augustine and Tybee Island and admire the gleam, dignity, vigilance steadfast endurance and friendliness that embody these sentinels – well, that pretty much sums up Cullen Chambers the person. May this “light” shine on in all of us.”*

Cullen will be missed by every lighthouse preservation organization in America, but his work and inspiration will live on - especially at the DeTour Reef Light Station!



## New Tour Coordinator

Donna Burden has stepped up to the challenge and will be scheduling tours of the DeTour Reef Light. Guided tours will be conducted on Saturdays from mid-June to Labor Day Weekend by various members of the DRLPS team. Donna can be contacted at [Tours@DRLPS.com](mailto:Tours@DRLPS.com) or by phone at 906-430-8169 to schedule a trip or a tour. Thank you Donna for your willingness to help out!



Donna and Tim Burden at Evening Under the Stars



Mary Wescott up the ladder



Rich and Anne Mrakitsch safely on deck with the help of Dave Bardsley.

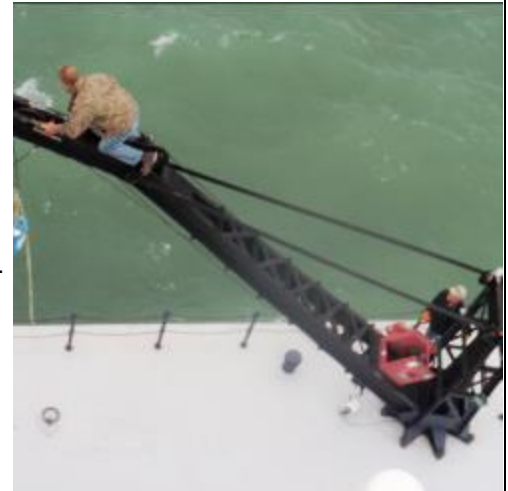
## “Guys on Light” Close up DeTour Reef Light for Winter

*by Dave Bardsley*



*Marked up work list*

Early each June “Ladies of the Light” spend two days cleaning De-Tour Reef Light in preparation for the tour and keeper season. The male counterpart is that every fall a group of men spends two days and one night on DeTour Reef Light performing maintenance and preparing the light for the long cold winter. Last October 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Gerald Ellis, Dick Bennett, Joe Henne, Hugh Covert, and Dave Bardsley made up the team. Charter boat captain Meade Gable also assisted but did not spend the night. The list of maintenance and winterizing items was long, but most of it was accomplished in spite of challenging weather conditions. Work proceeded smoothly with maintenance on both cranes, repair of windows, repair of the front door latch, removal of items to Drummond Island for the winter, etc. etc. Because of the large seas, it was not possible to remove the eight mooring lines from the rings on each



*Gerald Ellis on top of crane with grease gun*

face of the light from the water. Dave volunteered to go over the side in a safety harness held by other team members. Unfortunately, he had not been keeping to the diet his wife Paula recommended and he was too heavy for the team to support. The result was an October swim (fully dressed) for Dave and a very bad rope burn for Gerald. Dave’s sprits were not dampened, but he was quite chilled. Gerald shrugged off the injury with a little doctoring by veterinarian Dick. Saturday evening all enjoyed a lasagna dinner accompanied by their choice of wine or beer and storytelling.



*Dr. Richard Bennett administers first aid to Gerald Ellis*



*Hugh Covert, Joe Henne, Gerald Ellis, and Dick Bennett (Dave Bardsley taking photo)*

Sunday’s weather brought six to eight foot seas and the team hurried to finish draining all the water from the plumbing systems and packing all paper and fabric items for storage on Drummond. Meade arrived on schedule to remove us from the light but the seas made it impossible to secure to the light. After the first mooring line exploded, all quickly scurried down the face of the light and jumped on Luk Dragon leaving most items on the deck of the lighthouse to be hopefully retrieved later. Fortunately, no one was injured and Luk Dragon escaped major damage. Late Sunday night after the winds calmed down, Dave and Meade returned to DeTour Reef Light, turned off lights left on, and loaded the items that were abandoned on the lighthouse deck during the hasty departure earlier in the day.

All was closed up for the long, hard winter and ready for the “Ladies of the Light” to reopen in June once again.

## INVITATION TO BID

The DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society (DRLPS), Drummond Island (Chippewa County), Michigan invites bids for interior and exterior rehabilitation work at the DeTour Reef Light Station. This light station is an off-shore structure located at the mouth of the St. Mary's River in northern Lake Huron between Drummond Island and DeTour Village, Chippewa County, Michigan. This project is titled **“DeTour Reef Light Station – Water Ingress Repair and Remediation Project”**.

The work includes the following: a) re-roofing of the main roof above the second floor level with a new single-ply roof membrane including related flashing and trim work; b) inspect and repair copper gutters and downspouts; c) install exterior sealant material in metal plate wall joints and cast iron metal floor joints at the watchdeck; d) install new ventilation grilles in walls and ceilings for attic space venting; e) removal and repair of damaged interior plaster wall and ceiling surfaces; f) interior painting; and g) repair of one metal window.

The DeTour Reef Light Station is an historic structure; all work shall comply with the Secretary of the Interior's “Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties”. Prime bidders must have a minimum of five years verifiable experience in rehabilitation work on historic buildings and structures.

Firm fixed price sealed bids will be received from General Contractors on behalf of the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society at the office of **Sanders & Czapski Associates, PLLC**, 109 S. Front St., Suite #210, Marquette, Michigan 49855 no later than **2:00 p.m. (ET) on Tuesday, May 13, 2014**. Firm fixed price bids shall be submitted in a plain envelope marked “DETOUR REEF LIGHT STATION – WATER INGRESS REPAIR AND REMEDIATION PROJECT”. Bidders must submit a signed copy of both the **“Certification Regarding Debarment”** form and the **“Certificate Verifying Key Persons of the Contractor / Subgrantee”** form with their Bid. Bids will be opened publicly on the due date, read aloud and recorded. A 100% Performance Bond and Payment Bond will be required and shall be executed on AIA Document #A312 Performance Bond and Payment Bond. A 5% Bid Bond is required. Faxed copies of bid proposal are acceptable and may be faxed to 906-273-1208. E-mail copies of the bid proposal are also acceptable and may be e-mailed to [ken@sanders-czapski.com](mailto:ken@sanders-czapski.com).

As part of the Bid submittal, bidders **must** submit **roofing details** that are specific to their roof system being bid. Specific details shall include, but not be limited to, roof membrane termination at vertical walls and parapets, roof membrane termination at built-in gutters, and flashing details at guardrail posts. Because the roof details are critical to maintaining the historic material and character of the new structure, these details will be evaluated along with the bidder's cost proposals. It is the intent that new roofing details conform to the historic character of the structure as closely as possible.

Contract documents will be available on March 28, 2014 and may be secured at the office of Sanders & Czapski Associates, PLLC, 109 S. Front St., Suite 210, Marquette, Michigan. Phone: 906-273-1207. A \$30.00 non-refundable handling fee will be charged. Make checks payable to Sanders & Czapski Associates, PLLC. Documents are also available for viewing at the following Builder's Exchanges: Marquette, Delta County, Dickinson County, Traverse City and Grand Rapids.

A **MANDATORY** pre-bid conference and site visit is scheduled for **10:00 am (ET) on TUESDAY, April 29, 2014**. A **back-up, weather date** is scheduled for **Thursday, May 1, 2014**. All general contractors and roofing contractors / roofing suppliers are **required** to attend. Other sub-contractors are encouraged to attend. Everyone shall initially meet at the Fort Drummond Marina on Drummond Island at the above noted time. Boat transportation will be provided by the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society for all attendees to travel from the harbor to the light station for the site inspection and meeting. All attendees will then be transported

*Continued on page 7*





## 17th Annual Father's Day St. Mary's River Cruise June 15, 2014

The DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society is proud to present the 17th annual Father's Day River Cruise on the St. Mary's 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. Your trip will include a fully narrated tour, doughnuts and breakfast snacks, lunch, and door prizes. 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 restoration and preservation efforts of the DeTour Reef Lighthouse.

Boarding begins at 9:45am at the DeTour Ferry Dock with departure at 10:00am. The boat tour concludes at Soo Locks Boat Tours Dock #2 at approximately 4:30pm.

Treat your Dad with a trip on the historic St. Mary's River, the Soo Locks and the DeTour Reef Lighthouse! For questions and more details, please phone 906-297-6051 or email [RiverCruise@drlps.com](mailto:RiverCruise@drlps.com). The Father's Day Cruise is sponsored by DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society

### Leave from Sault Ste. Marie

Leave BEFORE the cruise from the Soo Locks Boat Tours Dock #2 in Sault Ste. Marie at 8:15 am to DeTour Village on a DRLPS provided bus

**OR**

### Leave from DeTour Village

Return AFTER the cruise from Soo Locks Boat Tours Dock #2 to DeTour Village at approximately 6:00 pm on a DRLPS provided bus



## HISTORIC DOCUMENT REPRINTS

*First reprinted in Passages 6, Spring 2005  
Instructions to the Keepers of Light Houses  
Within the United States, 1835*

1. You are to light the lamps every evening at sun-setting, and keep them continually burning, bright and clear, till sun-rising.
2. You are to be careful that the lamps, reflectors, and lanterns, are constantly kept clean, and in order; and particularly to be careful that no lamps, wood, or candles, be left burning anywhere as to endanger fire.
3. In order to maintain the greatest degree of light during the night, the wicks are to be trimmed every four hours, taking care that they are exactly even on the top.
4. You are to keep an exact amount of the quantity of oil received from time to time; the number of gallons, quarts, gills, &c., consumed each night; and deliver a copy of the same to the Superintendent every three months, ending 31 March, 30 June, 30 September, and 31 December, in each year; with an account of the quantity on hand at the time.
5. You are not to sell, or permit to be sold, any spirituous liquors on the premises of the United States; but will treat with civility and attention, such strangers as may visit the Lighthouse under your charge, and may conduct themselves in an orderly manner.
6. You will receive no tube-glasses, wicks, or any other article which the contractors, Messrs. Morgan & Co., at New Bedford, are bound to supply, which shall not be of suitable kind; and if the oil they supply, should, on trial, prove bad, you will immediately acquaint the Superintendent therewith, in order that he may exact from them a compliance with this contract.

*Continued on page 9*





## Mark Your Calendars

### 2014 Events at the DeTour Reef Light

#### 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Father's Day Cruise

**\$105 per person**

**Sunday June 15, 2014**

Contact: Anne Stafford 906-297-6051

Email: [RiverCruise@drlps.com](mailto:RiverCruise@drlps.com)

#### 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Evening Under the Stars

**\$125 per person**

**Friday July 11, 2014**

Contact: Sandy Wytiaz 906-297-6801

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

#### Lighthouse Tours

**\$75/person for members**

**\$95/person for nonmembers**

Saturday June 14

Saturday June 21

Saturday June 28

Saturday July 5

Saturday July 12

Saturday July 19

Saturday July 26

Saturday August 2

Saturday August 9

Saturday August 16

Saturday August 23

Saturday August 30

Contact: Donna Burden 906-430-8169

Email: [Tours@drlps.com](mailto:Tours@drlps.com)

#### Light Keeper Weekends

**\$200/person for members**

**\$220/person for nonmembers**

Friday June 13 –Sunday June 15 (full)

Friday June 20 –Sunday June 22 (full)

Friday June 27 –Sunday June 29 (2 spaces)

Friday July 4 –Sunday July 6 (6 spaces)

Friday July 11 –Sunday July 13 (6 spaces)

Friday July 18 –Sunday July 20 (full)

Friday July 25 –Sunday July 27 (4 spaces)

Friday August 1 –Sunday August 3 (4 spaces)

Friday August 8 –Sunday August 10 (6 spaces)

Friday August 15 –Sunday August 17 (4 spaces)

Friday August 22 –Sunday August 24 (full)

Friday August 29 –Sunday August 31 (full)

Contact: Dave Bardsley 906-493-6609

Email: [Keepers@drlps.com](mailto:Keepers@drlps.com)



### One Time Opportunity

The DRLPS thought about selling this pictured jewelry as a fund raiser. However, the decision was made to not carry these items at this time. They were designed by local Drummond Island jewelry artist, Bonnie Sokoloski. There are two pair of earrings available for sale at \$32 per pair (includes shipping and handling). They are set in silver and are Swarovski Crystal on the crib base, upper tower, and lantern level and Howlite Stone (textured white) on the mid-level.



The earrings and matching necklace set are \$52 (includes shipping and handling). They are set in gold and are 100% Swarovski Crystal.

This is another wonderful opportunity for you or a special someone for a gift – hint - hint. If you are interested in either, please contact Ann Method Green at ([PR@drlps.com](mailto:PR@drlps.com)). These will sell on a first come, first served basis.

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 (Price reduced)	\$15				
19	DVD of Lighthouse before/during/after restoration/keeper experience, 2 disc set (Price reduced)	\$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				
22	Custom Framing for item #21	\$150				



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

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**DETOUR REEF LIGHT PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

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All memberships include the family.

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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!**