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



Today!

PASSAGES

Issue 32

We'll Keep the Light on for You!

Fall, 2014

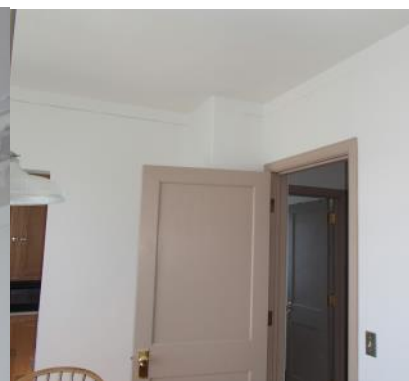
DeTour Reef Light Repaired and More Beautiful Than Ever Seventh Grant from the "Save our Lights" License Plate Program

We have all been working through the long and thorough process of meeting the requirements of the Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program (MLAP) Grant administered by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

The long winter of 2013-2014 delayed the pre-bid site trip for over a month with 40 plus inches of ice in the harbor on the date originally scheduled for the inspection. Once the bidders were able to get to the Light and scope out the work to be done, the process moved smoothly forward. The heavy rains during the summer helped to ensure that the roof was well repaired.

Based on recommendation by both Bryan Lijewski of the State Historic Preservation Office and Ken Czapski of Sanders and Czapski Architects of Marquette, Michigan, venting was installed in the second floor living area to help with circulation within the structure. The approval by SHPO to put a membrane material over the original copper roofing resulted in a significant cost savings and all wall and ceiling areas of the Light were repaired. (The original budget did not include repair of the walls and plaster at the Gallery Level.)

(DeTour Reef Light Station Water Ingress and Remediation Project *continued on page 6*)



Final Inspection Team -September 25, 2014 (Left to Right):
Ken Czapski- Sanders and Czapski Associates PLLC, Bobby Olivarez-Mihm Enterprises, Bryan Lijewski – Michigan State Historic Preservation Office, Dave Bardsley-DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society, Jeff Velderman, Owner Quality Drywall of West Michigan LLC, Frank Mihm -

Mihm Enterprises.

Interior—Second Floor Dining Room—before and after repairs, note vent in ceiling

Roof—before the faded, red copper material and after with the red membrane over the original copper.





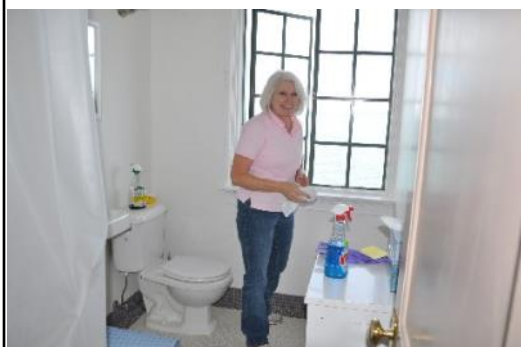
Sandy Harsin Wytiaz

Remembering Sandy Wytiaz

By Ann Method Green

Last spring the DRLPS lost one of our Directors. Sandy Wytiaz served as Vice President for five years, as the Memorabilia chair, chaired Evening Under the Stars in 2011, was a Lady of the Light for 3 years, chaired the DRLPS 10 year celebration, and co-chaired the transfer celebration.

Sandy was my sounding board, a voice of well-considered ideas and opinions. I was fortunate to share the stage with her in the Dixie Swim Club at the Eastern Upper Peninsula Fine Arts Center (now renamed in her honor the Sandy Harsin Wytiaz Fine Arts Center), to get beaten by her in Mah Jongg (she was a fierce competitor) and share the joys of



Sandy getting the Light ready for Keepers and Tours

working on the RPMs (restoration, preservation, and maintenance) of the DeTour Reef Light.

At this year's Evening Under the Stars, I had the honor of presenting a certificate of appreciation to her husband, Bob, as a small token, a thank you, from the DRLPS for sharing her talents, energy, and joy in the accomplishments of the DRLPS.



Bob and Sandy Wytiaz coming back from a tour of the Light

In Memory of a Past Lighthouse Keeper

By Mike Selling (Charlie Jones' nephew)

Charlie Jones was in the US Lighthouse Service beginning in 1922. He served as the last civilian Keeper on the DeTour Reef Lighthouse from 1940—1963. Dave Bardsley took Charlie's nephew, Mike Selling on a private tour of the lighthouse (coordinated with the Keeper's trip to the Light) and here are some thoughts shared by Mike.

"I enjoyed the trip to the Light very much. It was very informative. I hadn't been to DeTour since I was a child and didn't realize that the light was as close to DeTour and Drummond Island as it is. In my mind I thought it was a long boat trip.



Charlie Jones

My memories of Uncle Charlie are very vague as I was only about 10 or 11 years old when I saw him. But I do remember seeing the boat taking him to the Light on one of our trips to visit. Being the only kid there at his house was quite boring as there were no other children to play with. So when the time came to go back to Manistique I was a pretty happy kid. I don't remember if Uncle Charlie had any children or not, if he did they must have moved away. I asked my other relatives if they knew of any and none did either.

It seems to me that either the *Milwaukee Sentinel* or the *Milwaukee Journal* had a back page story and history of him and his career and retirement but I could never find it, wish now I could have and would have saved it. Again, I'm sorry I don't have a lot of memories to share, but I really enjoyed the visit and would someday like to do the weekend keepers program. Thanks so much for giving me the opportunity to see the Light, my road trip from Arizona was not in vain."



Mike Selling

Memories of a Lighthouse Tour

Franklin and Mary Billerbeck of Racine, Wisconsin toured the DeTour Reef Light with daughter Amanda and Joe Henne late June of 2014. Their thank you explains it all—they had a memorable time and plan to come again sometime soon! Thank you Donna Burden, the DRLPS Tour Chair for sharing with us. Come tour the Light, Tours are \$75 for members, \$95 for non-members. (A family membership is \$30). Group rates are available and children, accompanied by their parents or guardians, receive a 50% discount on the cost of the tour.

July 6, 2014

Dear Donna,

Thank you so much for mailing the lighthouse brochure to us. It's a wonderful memento (along with our photos which turned out beautifully!) + Amanda got a real kick out of having it addressed to her. :)

We loved our tour. It was truly the highlight of our trip. (And I still can't believe it all came together so serendipitously!)

We definitely plan to maintain our membership. It feels good supporting lighthouses, something we love, in such a personal way.

You + Joe are both so sweet + friendly. The acting keepers were amazing too -- + the cheese + cracker + WARM chocolate chip cookie spread awaiting us were incredibly thoughtful.

Enclosed is a photo of us + a picture drawn by Amanda (dragon lover extraordinaire) of a dragon "manning" a lighthouse. Perhaps we'll see you again on another trip!

Mary,
Franklin
+ Amanda



Franklin and Mary Billerbeck with daughter, Amanda on the Light.
(Photo by Tour Guide, Joe Henne)

Preservation Magazine

The Summer 2014 issue of *Preservation* magazine had a very impressive article about the DeTour Reef Lighthouse. For any collectors out there, this would be a great article to add to your collection!



17th Annual Father's Day Cruise



*Harry James, age 15,
steering the course with
guidance by Captain John
Lowes*

DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society held their seventeenth annual Father's Day Cruise on June 15, 2014.

The Soo Locks Boat Tour (SLBT) vessel "Le Voyageur", piloted by Captain John Lowes with Senior Captain Jack Cork, Engineer Mike Worth and Crewman Kevin Mills, left DeTour Village at 10 AM and headed out to DeTour Reef Light. Weekend Light keepers, Gary and Janelle Dudeck and their sons, Jake and Leo were on the Light to blow the 1958 F2T foghorn and wave from the Lantern Level. After the boat circled the Light and provided many picture opportunities for the cruisers, the weekend light keepers waved and shouted encouragement from the pier deck and sent them on their way up the St. Marys River.

The Cruise then proceeded up river and through the Soo Locks with narration by Ann Method Green and Kevin Mills. Esther Parris of Esther's Catering with her helpers, Jorn Asztalos and Doris Harrington treated the cruisers to a brunch, a buffet luncheon, and an afternoon snack. They did a fantastic job putting together the food for the cruise and no one left the cruise hungry.

Door prizes were awarded to several cruisers. The prizes were donated by the Sune's Dry Goods and Grocery, the Timberdoodle, North Country Sports and Shipwreck Grill (formerly Fisher's Restaurant). Soo Locks Boat Tours donated tickets for their cruises on the St. Marys River.

Anne Stafford, the Father's Day Cruise chairperson, announced that next year's 18th annual DRLPS River Cruise is scheduled for Father's Day, June 21, 2015. She also thanked the volunteers, Paula Bardsley, Nick and Julia Meyer, and Ann Method Green, for helping make this year's cruise a success.

(Photos by Nick Meier and Janelle Dudeck)



*Luncheon Buffet presented by Esther's
Catering*



Cruisers at the DeTour Reef Light



Cruisers entering the Soo Locks



*Ann Method Green with
frequent cruiser Doug Webb*



*Anne Stafford and Paula Bardsley
at the Memorabilia table*



*Carl Roggow and his son John Roggow
enjoying the St. Marys River*

15th Annual Evening Under the Stars on the Waterfront at Bayside Dining

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*.



It was another beautiful evening on the shore for the 15th Annual *Evening Under the Stars*. Lise White and Friends provided upbeat background music for the guests and Clif Haley was Emcee par excellence! Chef Frank Jones and his staff presented an elegant 4 course dinner that was enjoyed by all.

Co-Chairs of the event were Lorna Heydinger (food and decorations), Candace Reynolds (invitations, menus, program and all things computer), Paula Bardsley (data base coordinator), Jeri Baron Feltner (set-up and cheerleader), and Ann Method Green (meeting coordinator).

Sheila Powell was the Silent Auction Chair; and what a Silent Auction! There were 35 items up for bid—all donated by friends of the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society. The bidding was hot and heavy and lots of fun – especially for the winners of the item.

Other help came from Matt and Sheila Sawyer, Bob and Tess Wellstead, and Lois Bryant. Tickets and response cards were designed by Janelle Dudeck. Ushers Jake and Nick Asztalos escorted guests from the shore to the main building. It was a group effort and a successful event.

Ann Method Green presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Bob Wytiaz in memory of his wife, Sandy for her dedicated and valued service to DRLPS since 2007 including chairing the 2011 Evening Under the Stars.

The 16th annual Evening Under the Stars is planned for Friday July 10, 2015. Be sure to save the date and join the supporters of the Detour Reef Light for friendship and fun.

Left to Right: Anne and Doug Almoney enjoying the appetizers, Dave and Paula Bardsley and Jeri Feltner setting up, the Silent Auction table was filled with a large variety of items. (Photos by Ann Method Green and Jeri Baron Feltner)



History of the DRLPS Logo



Bill Boyd
And
Larry Baron
ACS Relay for
Life 2008



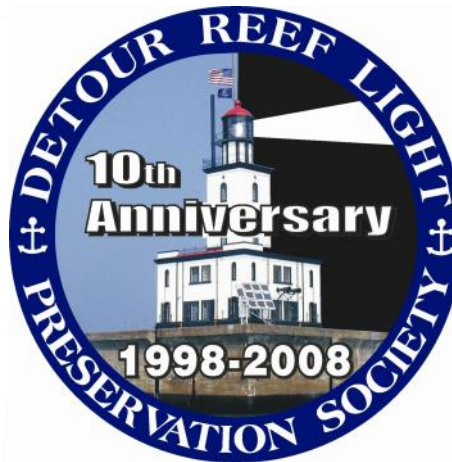
At DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society's first Board of Director's meeting in January 1998 it was decided to develop a "branding" and to create a logo for the Society. At a subsequent meeting, Chuck Tanner the newly appointed Public Relations chair, took the very rough drawing by Jeri Baron Feltner and commissioned a company to formalize the logo with DRLPS paying for the work.

When DRLPS celebrated 10 years in 2008 Jeri asked Bill Boyd, a friend of her brother, Larry Baron, to do a special logo for the event. Jeri continues, "Since

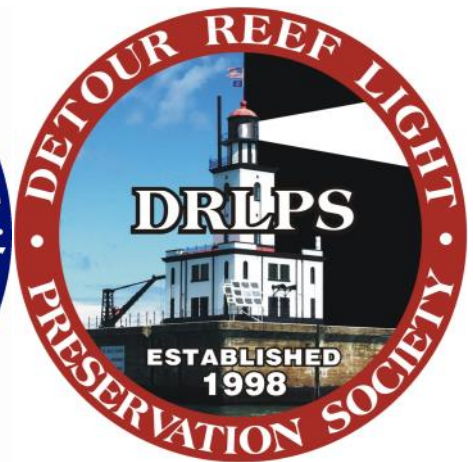
that 10th logo looked really cool, I asked him to do a general logo for DRLPS. Bill is a talented illustrator and logo designer. And, although he's been retired for quite some time, he still enjoys dabbling in this business. He did the DRLPS logos for us for free."



First logo designed in 1998



10th Anniversary logo



New general logo

DeTour Reef Light Station Water Ingress and Remediation Project *(continued from page 1)*

The \$90,000 grant is the seventh MLAP grant received by the DRLPS since 2001. The DeTour Reef Light Station Water Ingress and Remediation Project was completed at the cost of \$89,782. MLAP will reimburse DRLPS \$59,855 and the DRLPS will pay the remaining \$29,927.

The Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program is funded by proceeds from the sale of the "Save our Lights" license plate.

DRLPS matching monies come from the annual fund raisers and private donations from the following supporters: Bill and Lois Bryant, John and Sunny Covell, Linda Gyorkey, Dorothy Inhelder, Bryan Lijewski, John W. MacFarland, Robb and Mary Marshall, Bob and Mary Rogers, Richard and Jean Shoquist, Gordon Snyder, Debra Sumpter, Ann Thorne, and Douglas Webb.



Thank you to everyone involved in making the Lady once again a shining jewel in the DeTour passage of the St. Marys River.

Thank You to the Historical Marker Supporters

On behalf of the DeTour Reef Light Preservation Society Marker Program Chairperson, Jeri Baron Feltner, would like to thank those who supported her with the marker project. Personnel from the State of Michigan included Laura Ashley, John Batchedler, Pat Casey, Bryan Lijewski, Mary Patrick, Ron Rushton, Denise Sachau, and Matt Siegfried. People from our DRLPS team included Dave Bardsley (leader of the installation team), Paula Bardsley, John and Sunny Covell, Chuck Feltner, and Ann Method Green. X-Factor Construction personnel who donated their services to install the markers were Matt Shultz and Duane Barbeaux. Ron Hill of DeTour-Drummond Building Center took delivery of the marker, and Carol Martin (*Drummond Island Digest* publisher) donated advertising space. Thanks also to those who assisted at the event: Janelle Dudeck, Marge Ellenberger, Judy Jones, Ann Herr, Dick Moehl, Chuck Muller, Anne O'Connell, Joyce Truscott, and Ted Sledz. Also, thank you to those who contributed funds to the Marker Project: Dave and Paula Bardsley, former keeper Floyd Colvin (in honor of former keeper Don Ashley), former keeper John Decenzo, Chuck and Jeri Baron Feltner, and Dick Moehl. Finally, a special thank you to all those people who came to the dedication event to experience and support the unveiling of the DeTour Reef Light Station Michigan Historical Marker.



Newly installed green marker sign before historical marker located in the background

Lighthouse Keepers -- Make your reservation early

Don't miss an opportunity of a lifetime. An application to be a keeper at the DeTour Reef light can be downloaded from www.DRLPS.com. Your contribution is \$200 per person for DRLPS members (\$220 for non-members – a family membership is \$30). \$30 is the DRLPS cost and the rest of the contribution is tax deductible as permitted by law. Keeper positions are available every weekend from Father's Day to Labor Day. Extra nights are available at half price. In order to make the experience affordable for families, minors are accommodated at a 50% discount. The Lighthouse can accommodate six. Singles and couples will be paired with other applicants. It is a magical family experience. In the words of Emily Olender "Not many people get to say they actually stayed a few days on a lighthouse but I'm so glad my family and I got to do this truly amazing thing. ... This was one of the best vacation experiences I've ever had. I hope someday my family and I can experience, once again, this truly amazing thing! This is a place I will never forget." (DRLPS Keepers Log Book entry). See "In Their Own Words, excerpts from the 2014 DeTour Reef Light Keepers Log", on page 10. It will provide a better understanding of the experience of being a lighthouse keeper on DeTour Reef Light Station.



Left to Right: Ann Brenner climbing up the ladder, The Tyren Family—Keepers on Labor Day Weekend: Sharon Batten, Ann Brenner, Liz Rowse, Joyce Rodriguez—Keepers in July. This year keepers came from Nevada, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Minnesota as well as Michigan.

Introducing the DRLPS 2015 Collector Postcard

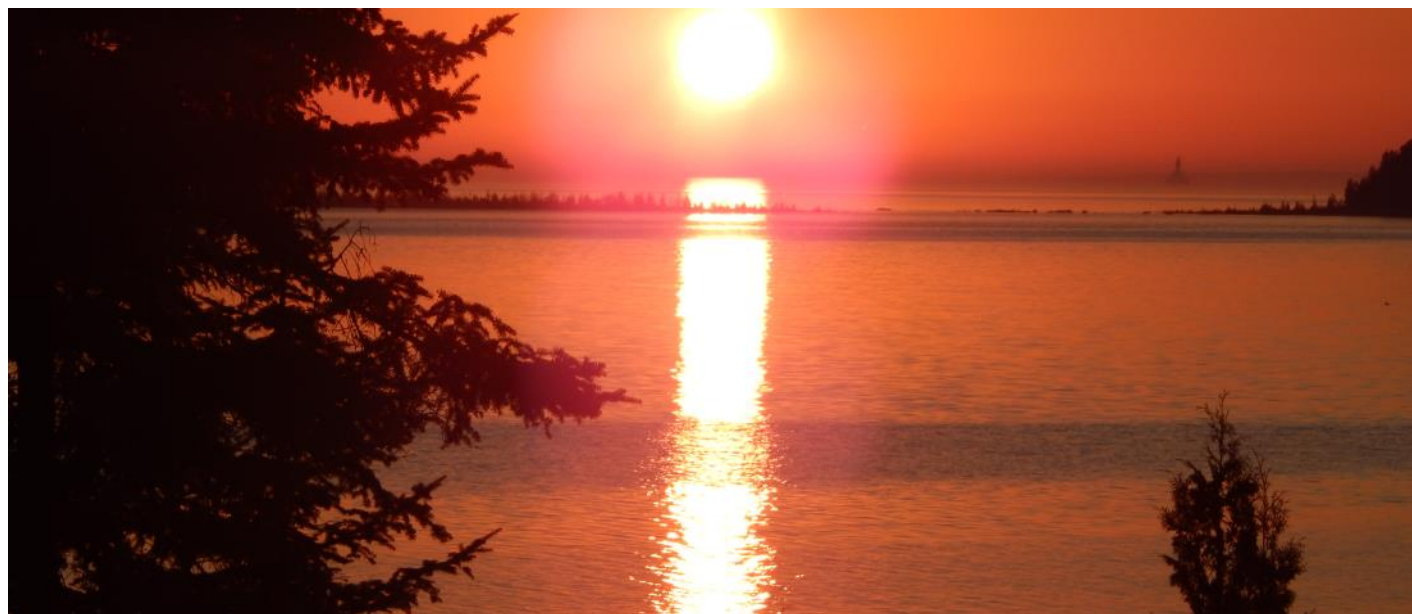
By Paula Bardsley, Membership Chair

The latest DRLPS Collector Postcard is at the printer and I think that you will really like it. As you probably know, this past winter was the longest and coldest that we've seen in the Upper Peninsula in a long time, and the St. Marys River and Lake Huron were pretty much all iced over. In fact, the opening of the shipping season had to be delayed because the freighters couldn't get up and down the river. This picture was taken by DRLPS member, Dr. Richard (Dock) Borth on March 24, 2014. Though the lake wasn't frozen solid right up to the Light, the water immediately surrounding it was filled with large ice shards, with solid ice leading up to it. You can see in the picture how the ice built up on the sides of the crib.

Dock said "This picture was taken on March 24, 2014. I drove out Lighthouse Point Road in DeTour Village the shore to the point. I carried my camera on my chest and I carried my tripod in my hands. Where the point turns, I set up my tripod and took pictures. This is the one I chose. The picture was taken with a Nikon D800 E and a 600mm Lens. It took about 4 hours to complete." He checked on the chart and noted that he was still 0.6 nautical miles from the Light.

This picture is one of 18 that Dock has included in a calendar with pictures of and from DeTour Reef Light. All 2015 members of the Society will receive one of the postcards free. After the membership year is over the remaining cards will be available for purchase for 50 cents each. If you are not a current member of the Society, you can join or renew your membership by downloading, completing, and mailing in the membership form found on our website at: www.drlps.com/get-involved/become-a-member/.

Annual family memberships start at \$30 and entitle you to a \$20 per person discount on tours and Keeper weekends, as well as the postcard.



There was a spectacular sunset from our deck last night - with the DeTour Reef Light standing so peacefully on the horizon.

Photo by Jeri Feltner

“Guys and Dolls” Take Care of the Light



Top left to right:

The sunset was a great perk for the Guys on the Light.

Ron Barkley, Jake Baker, Terry Breiler, Nick Meier, Brian Nettleton, and Dave Bardsley heading back from the Light after making her ready for the winter.



Middle left to right: Ron and Nick on kitchen duty

Ron brought a cake to share and it was declared “dee-licious!”

(Photos by Dave Bardsley and Ivan Gable)



Left: Anna Baker, Candis Collick, Lisa MacDonald, Connie Rose Steinhauser-Hahne, Cindy Hammer, and Nella Gries relaxing at the end of the day. *(Selfie plus 5 by Anna Baker)*

Right: It’s all fun and games until someone loses a puzzle piece—Lisa, Cindy and Anna.

(Photo by Candis Collick)

Mark Your Calendars

2015 Events at the DeTour Reef Light

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

\$105/person
or \$95/person if booked before March 1

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

Lighthouse Tours

Saturday
from Father's Day Weekend (June 20)
thru Labor Day Weekend (Sept 5)

\$75/person for members
\$95/person for nonmembers
(Minimum 2 people)

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

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

\$125/person

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

Light Keeper Weekends

Friday thru Sunday
from Father's Day Weekend (June 19-21)
thru Labor Day Weekend (Sept 4-6)

\$200/person for members,
\$220/person nonmembers
(Maximum 6 people per weekend)

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

In Their Own Words --- 2014 Excerpts from the DeTour Reef Light Keeper's Log

"The experience of a life time! Great Food, great people, great fun." (*Anna Baker*)

"Oh Holy wah! I never, ever tire of coming to the Light. What a wonderful experience." (*Candis Collick*)

"We are having fun looking up the info on each freighter that passes. We grilled dinner and enjoyed a beautiful sunset. Woke up at 10:30pm to the sound of foghorns as two big ships passed -- looked like two moving cities they were so lit up." (*Mary Everts*)

"There is nothing like sleeping with the whistling wind and waves ..." (*Jody Scott*)

"We had a wonderful time on the lighthouse! Fantastic views! It was most memorable experience and would like to experience it again sometime." (*Ann Brenner, Sharon Batten, Joyce Rodriguez, Liz Rowse*)

"Great weekend! Recommend for anyone." (*Clair Welborn*)

"It was an amazing experience. Watching the freighters pass was the highlight – especially when it was foggy and they had to use their foghorns to navigate. The kitchen has everything one would need." (*Joyce Welborn*)

"A great weekend. Our co-workers/guests were wonderful companions. ...The views are marvelous and the solitude impressing or thought provoking. Lots of freighters. We have sounded the foghorn...and ended up one for seven in getting freighters to return our foghorn blast." (*Jerry Nechal, Rick Vanker*)

"Our time is up, sad to go. We had a wonderful time, a unique and amazing experience. Thank you, and everyone who was instrumental in saving this light and continues the preservation. Magnificent job! ...Good bye DeTour Light – may you stand many more years." (*Tom & Julie Moylan*)

"A perfect weekend! Our fourth visit and we will continue..." (*Todd and Sheri Stepien*)

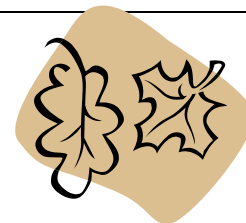
"This was our first time as keepers and it won't be our last.... We enjoyed watching the freighters go by; we saw a total of 16 today. The highlight of all the freighters was seeing the Paul R. Tregurtha (the largest freighter on the Great Lakes at 1,013 feet) go by at nighttime all lite up like a Christmas tree. Enjoyed a great dinner. ...As we settled in for our first night on the light it was so peaceful listening to the waves. It was a bit eerie this morning hearing the boats but not being able to see them. There were lots of boat horns going!! ...Another great day on the lighthouse ...ended with a beautiful sunset. The stars at night are awesome—had a great time viewing them. ...A big thanks to all at the DRLPS that have volunteered many man-hours to help preserve such an important part of our history for generations to come. And thanks for leaving the light on for us to come and enjoy this lifelong dream – something to cross of my bucket list. Until next time – may the light continue to shine for years to come." (*Ron and Ronda LaGrois*)

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				
22	Custom Framing for item #21	\$150				



*Thank You
for your
Support!*

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

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\$10.01—\$25	\$5
\$25.01—\$45	\$7
\$45.01—\$65	\$9
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DETOUR REEF LIGHT PRESERVATION SOCIETY

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Secretary: Janelle Dudeck, Secretary@drlps.com

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Brian Nettleton, Russ Norris

Founding Directors Emeriti: Dick Moehl, Jeri-Baron Feltner

Honorary Director: James S. Woodward

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River Cruise: Anne Stafford, RiverCruise@drlps.com

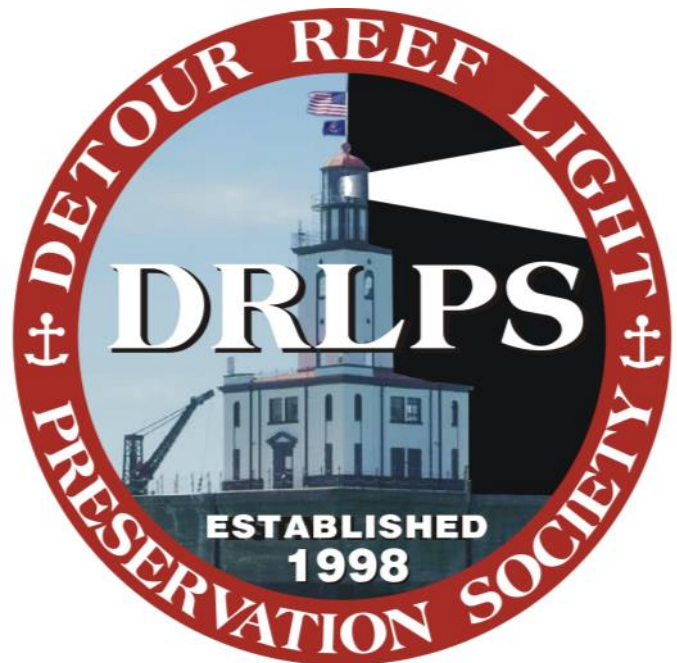
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Memorabilia: Nella Gries and Dotty Witten, Memorabilia@drlps.com

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



DRLPS MEMBERSHIP:

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

All memberships include the family.

www.DRLPS.com * Membership@drlps.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!