
Crisp Point Light Historical Society

P.O. Box 229, Paradise, MI 49768

Phone (906) 492-3206 or 492-3496

Newsletter # 19

Editors: Rick & Terri Brockway



December 2006

Service Building Update

100 years after it was originally built, September 5, 2006 marked the date that reconstruction of the Crisp Point Lighthouse service building began.

Trevor and Dave from Belanger Masonry of Newberry Michigan were awarded the contract to re-build the service building after they supplied a favorable bid to the C.P.L.H.S.

Trevor and Dave will be doing all the cement, block and brick work. The roof, windows and door construction / installation will be handled by a yet to be selected contractor. If you are interested in bidding on this work please contact Don Ross at 1-906-492-3206.



Construction begins as sand is removed for the foundation



Foundation Forms Being Constructed

More pictures on page 3

Save The Boardwalk Program

The program started to save the boardwalk turned out to be a huge success because of all the friends of Crisp Point. To date \$3,285.00 has been raised to repair the stone wall east of the lighthouse.

However, raising the money to get the work done turned out to be a lot easier than getting the work done.

The local contractor that was going to do the work had to back out at the last minute due to equipment problems.

Temporary work was done by Lee Donaldson from Newberry, but a more permanent repair will have to be done when a contractor with the capability to haul large stone from the quarry can be found.

For a list of the friends of Crisp Point that donated to the Save The Boardwalk Fund please see page 5.

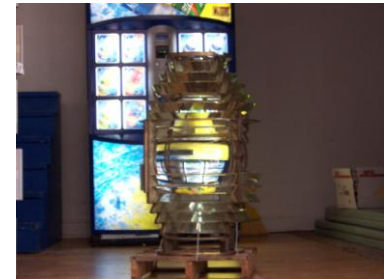


Temporary repair work to sand bank east of the lighthouse

C.P.L.H.S. Needs Your Help

Next summer after the roof is built on the new service building, we will need volunteers to paint the building. If you are willing to help paint, please let Don know by calling 1-906-492-3206.

C.P.L.H.S. Gets a Fourth Order Lens



After nearly five years of negotiating, the Crisp Point Light Historical Society has secured a multi year loan of a fourth order Fresnel lens.

Inge and Chuck Spaulding have spent the last five years making countless phone calls and visits to the Valley Camp Museum in Sault Saint Marie, Michigan in order to secure the loan.

On July 13, 2006 Don Ross, Chuck & Inge Spaulding, Mike Warren, Matt Cameron and Rick Brockway made the trip from Paradise to the Valley Camp to pick up the lens. After carefully documenting the condition of the lens, it was packaged and readied for the trip to Paradise. The lens was the star attraction at the summer conference and once a proper location is ready, it will be on display to the public.



Don & Inge pack bubble wrap between the lenses getting it ready for transport to Paradise. Read more information on the lens on page 6.



Eleventh Annual C.P.L.H.S. Summer Conference - 2007

The Eleventh Annual Crisp Point Lighthouse Conference will be held Saturday, July 21, 2007 in Paradise at the Whitefish Township Community School. The Conference will begin at 10:00a.m. with coffee, juice, and baked goods available at 9:30am.

We will be reviewing past projects and upcoming projects as well as having guest speaker(s) and our fifth annual Crisp Point auction. Additionally, a box lunch will be provided.

After the day's events at the school, we will be venturing to the lighthouse to enjoy hotdogs with all the fixings. With the weather permitting, a beautiful evening sunset is a sure bet.

The cost of the conference is \$10.00 per person (there will be no charge for children under 12). You can register by mail, using the order form that is in this newsletter or by calling:

(906) 492-3206 or 492-3496



Carmen Paris from the Army Dept. of Corp. of Engineers, St. Mary's Falls Canal was the quest speaker at the 2006 CPLHS summer conference in July.

Lighthouse Keepers Program - 2007

The 2006 Keepers Program was a huge success. At least 16 families

took the opportunity to serve as keepers last year.

If you are interested in participating in the Keepers program in 2007, please contact Dee Smith at 1-906-492-3496. The only requirement is being a C.P.L.H.S. member in good standing.

You will get the key for the lighthouse so you can keep it open and greet visitors to Crisp Point Lighthouse. You can get involved with a work project or just hunt the beach for agates.

There will be only one family or couple at a time so that you can spend the evening alone. You can bring a camper or set up a tent. Some members even stay in a motel and drive out each day.

Please remember that due to liability issues, only members in good standing will be given the key. The member who takes possession of the key must remain in possession of the key until it is returned.

Crisp Point Web Site

The C.P.L.H.S. Web Site visitor's logbook has been experiencing some problems. If you can not access the log or enter your comments, please send Cameron an e-mail to advise him of the problems you are having.

webmaster@crisppointlight.org

Cameron has added some security to the web site making it safer for your children to view the site without adult supervision. Thank you Cameron.

www.crisppointlight.org

LOST AND FOUND

If you have lost an item while visiting Crisp Point Lighthouse you can call or e-mail Don Ross to see if your item has been found. Don has collected a large variety

of items over the past couple of years.

Don can be contacted at
1-906-492-3206 or by e-mail at
donross@lighthouse.net

Mark Your Calendars

* June 23, 24 2007 Michigan Magazine Expo

*July 21, 2007 11th C.P.L.H.S. Summer Conference.

Great Lakes Lighthouse Festival

Again in 2007 Crisp Point Light Historical Society will be at the G.L.L.F. in Alpena Michigan. All members of CPLHS are encouraged to attend this Festival and help with the festival in anyway you can. All hours worked by CPLHS volunteers adds to the money Crisp Point receives from the sharing program. Please make sure you register at the front desk as a volunteer for Crisp Point so your time is credited to CPLHS.



Crisp Point Light Historical Society Booth at the Great Lakes Lighthouse Festival in Alpena October 2006

Special Thank You to Dianne Sweeter, Matt Cameron, Dee Smith, Chuck & Inge Spaulding, Don Ross and Terri & Rick Brockway for all your help in Alpena.

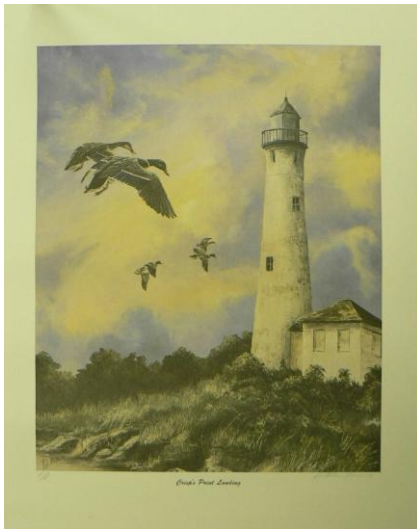
We also want to thank everyone who visited the CPLHS booth.



New Lower Price For Crisp Point Prints

Artist Ruth Ann Mersino donated several copies of her lithograph prints of Crisp Point Lighthouse, titled Crisp's Point Landing. The prints are 18x24 and are numbered and signed by Ruth. If you would like to order one or more of the prints please contact either Don Ross (1-906492-3206) or Dee Smith (1906-492-3496).

The cost of prints has been lowered to \$10.00 each with 100% of the proceeds going to help save and restore Crisp Point. A small shipping charge will be added to each order.



Print donated by Ruth Ann Mersino

Nellie Ross

Receives a special tribute
See page 4 for more details



THANK YOU'S

To: Dianne, Larry & Elaine, Stan & Mary, Carl & Marcia, Mike & Margaret, Terri and Lee's for preparing all the food for the 2006 summer conference. Our conferences would not be the success they are with out you.

To: Whitefish Township School for allowing CPLHS to use their facility for our conferences.

To: Matt, Don, Dianne, Mike, Margaret, Lindsey, Marissa, Stan, Mary Terri, Dee and Rick for setting up the school for the conference.

To: Chef Mike for doing the cooking while at the lighthouse.

To: The Warren's for planting the flowers at the lighthouse again this year.

To: Paul Freedman for arranging our guest speaker and for paying the first months rent on the porta-potty at the lighthouse.

To: Inge, Kay & Bob, John & Diana, Don, Matt, Terri & Rick, Dianne and Dee for all your help tearing down after the conference.

To: Luce County Road Commission for keeping County Road 412 in good shape to the lighthouse. If only 500 could be so good.

To: Carmen Paris for being the guest speaker at conference 2006.

To: Cameron Lovett- for maintaining the CPLHS web sight.

Service Building Update Cont. from page 1



In order to prevent damage to the boardwalk, two sections had to be temporarily removed.



Three of the trees that were planted in 2000 also had to be transplanted. They were moved to the south side of the boardwalk.



Trevor Belanger from Belanger Masonry fills blocks with mortar.



View of new service building foundation from top of tower.



Once all the blocks are laid, bricks will be laid on the outside of the building.

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Membership List: We cannot thank all of you enough for supporting **Crisp Point Light Historical Society**. Your memberships and membership renewals are so encouraging. Listed below are the new members to Crisp Point Light Historical Society since the last newsletter. **Thank you to all who have joined or renewed their memberships. We could not achieve what we do without you!**

Tony & Pam Ramazzotto
Bill & Janet Suomi
Diana Reardon
Diane Mitchell
Randy & Judee Tutor
George & Cheryl Horsman
Mary Ellen Lange & Family
Chris & Andy Pasternak

Steve & Carolyn Rice
Paul G. Warrick
Jo Stratman
Robert & Sandra Rezendes
Mary Beth Janke
Newton Siever & Family
Mr. Mrs Robert W. Crisp
Jerry & Barb Roach

Ken & Mary Wright
David & Sirpa Bishop
Mr. Gale Jansen
Duane & Tiffany Carr
William P. Bekkala
Melvin & Colleen Kamps
Carl & Renee Copple

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Congratulations to new lifetime members Chuck and Inge Spaulding. Chuck and Inge have been very dedicated CPLHS members for several years and have always been right there to lend a helping hand wherever it was needed.

Listed below are the current lifetime members

Bob & Becky Anderson Family
Vernon & Judy Becker
Patrick & Delores Blohm Family
Cynthia M. Boyd
Eric L. Boyd
Gary D. Boyd
Rick & Terri Brockway Family
Dave & Julie Buckmaster Family
Paul & Melissa Burns Family
Jamie Lynn Clark
Al & Marge Colagross
Bay Mills Indian Community
Ryan & Miriam Conner Family
Frank & Carol Crisp
Doug & Stacie Crouch
Michael & Diana Dalton
Craig & Kari David
Bob & Kay Dubois
Sally Edwards
Smokey Mountain Flame Keepers
Lynn Forrest
Paul Freedman
Marilyn J. Frietag
Jane Gertz
Jean Gertz
Bob & Margaret Goldthorpe
Dennis & Pamela Hale Family
Tim Harrison
Bernie Hellstrom Family
Ken & Karen Holleman
John & Elizabeth Hyde
Richard S. Jackson Jr.
Cal Karr Family
Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers

Newberry Lions Club
Cameron Lovett
Mark Mather
Paul & Barbra Mason
John Allen & Edith Maynard
John M. McCleary
Jim & Carolyn Michael Family
Al & Rosella Mickus
Dick & Margaret Moehl
Spencer L. Murfey, Jr.
Gregg Nanson
Chuck & Cindie Nearhood
Mike & Jan Odenweller
Sault Tribe of the Chippewa
Rob & Jeannie Robbins
John & Diane Rath
Richard & Kathy Robinson Family
Charles & Sharon Ross Family
Craig & Kim Ross
Don Ross
Mark & Lynne Ross Family
Steve Ross Family
Todd & Melissa Ross Family
Virble & Edith Ross
Harvey & Kathy Sherman Family
Stella Shisler
Steve & Karen Smith Family
Dee Smith & Bill Apel
Chuck & Inge Spaulding & Mary Cowles
Bruce & Yvonne Summey Sr.
Gerard & Lynette Szydowski Family
Tony & Melanie Tatarowicz
Bucko Teeple
Marvin & Joy Theut
W. Bruce & Phyllis Thomas Family
Edward G. Voss
Mike & Margaret Warren Family
Stewart & Noreen Warren
Kevin White

Nellie Ross added to GLLHF Special Tribute Plaque

The plaque is a Special Tribute Plaque for people who are no longer with us and who have contributed to the lighthouses

and the Lighthouse Festival to great extent. Nellie Ross had been a speaker, a vendor, and of course, a great supporter of the Lighthouse Festival and preservation of lighthouses in general, in addition to her passion for saving Crisp Point. Her name is only the third one on the plaque. It bears her name and the year she died. The pictures on top of the plaque are both of the same man, Lynn Marvin. He was an area photographer and was the first vendor at the Great Lakes Lighthouse Festival and basically was there from the get go. His name appears first on the plaque. The second person, Mary Stone, was an artist who was also very involved in the GLLHF Festival.



Marcia and Carl Jahn gave the special Tribute to Nellie and did a very nice job. The plaque will be placed in the Great Lakes Lighthouse Festival Museum, north of Alpena for all to see by next summer. Marcia and Carl are working towards bringing the plaque to the Crisp Point Conference, July 2007.

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SAVE THE BOARDWALK FUND PARTICIPANTS

Florida

Nancy & Michael McDougall
David Paton

Illinois

Brenda & Ron Hershberger
Judy & John Schwolow

INDIANA

James & Charlotte DeBroka
Kenneth Harris
Jon C. Markley, M.D.

MICHIGAN

Bethany Makidon
Bill Martin
Carl Copple
Craig & Judy Taggart
Deanne & David Shaffer
Dianne Sweeter
Doris & Richard Troll
Dorothy Evans
Eleanor Hastie
Frank Novak & Mary Tithof
Gail Zimmerman
Georg Omelianoff
Jane Hardwicke
Jean Baker
Jeremy & Phyllis Rogel
Joan Edson
Katherine Hoffmaster
Kathleen & Don Deniston
Kim & Kenneth Jodoin
Linda DeYoung
Linda Keller
Lois Klein
Lois Mace & Lois Beach
Marjorie & Darl Pochert
Mike & Margaret Warren
Neal & Carolyn Scheffler
Patrick & Dolores Blohm
Paul Freedman, N.P.
Quinton Kuebler
Richard Jackson Sr.
T. Talcott Purnell
Richard Pitre
Robert & Bonnie Bassett
Ronald & Connie Waelti

Ronald & Robin Kobel
Seth & Dawn Whitmarsh
Sherman & Ruby Bennett
Stewart & Noreen Warren
Tom & Nancy Osenbaugh

MINNESOTA

Thomas & Deanne Romaine
Wesley & Cherryl Gerber

MISSOURI

Harry & Carolyn Blanchard
William Leary

MONTANA

Lynn Roberts

OHIO

Cleston Hurst
David & Beth Hansen
Dennis Rumble
Dorothy Litsinberger
Jim & Carolyn Michael

WISCONSIN

Al, Peggy & Melissa Jones
Albert & Rosella Mickus
Kent & Sarah Voll
William Lane



After three years of negotiating with Porta-Potty rental companies, Dee Smith was able to get a porta-potty at Crisp Point.

The first months rent was donated by Paul Freedman.



Paul Freedman addressing the friends of Crisp Point at the 2006 conference



2006 summer conference at the Whitefish Township School in Paradise Michigan.



From left, Terri, Elaine, Marcia and Diane prepare to dish up lunch at the 2006 summer conference.



Crisp Point Fresnel Lens

James S. Woodward provided the following information to Inge Spaulding.

The lens was built by Sautter & Lemonnier Cie, Paris. It was a 4th Order fixed, beehive style lens with 4 symmetrical panels circumscribing 360 degrees that was rated at 870 candlepower. Each panel had 6 prisms in the top tier, 5 elements in the center and 4 in the lower tier. In 1922 the panels that were aimed toward the lake had ruby red shades hung from the outside of the lens to produce the red color. The landward panels showed the white light. Unfortunately, the records shows that the lens was not marked with a serial number or a manufacturing date which means that this lens falls into that nebulous group of "Model T" type lenses. Quite often with the lower order non-flashing lenses, the LHS would order a box full of standard pattern and then distribute them to where they were needed. They were all identical and completely interchangeable. With no distinguishing marks or serial numbers, any fixed 4th order made by Sautter & Lemonnier could be the lens used at Crisp Point. The records indicate that the red color shades were removed for the 1924 season and the white light was shown thereafter. The light was produced by an Incandescent Oil Vapor (IOV) lamp until it was electrified in 1942. The light was a fixed white light from 1924 and by 1950 was changed to a flashing white. In 1960 the candle was reduced to a mere 1,700 which would indicate that that was when the lens was removed and replaced with a much smaller optic. Since I have no records to show what happened when the lens was removed the following is only supposition. In the late 1950's and early 60's lenses were not thought to have any value and many that were removed from service during that period were simply thrown off the tower and the brass salvaged for scrap. Some that were taken back to base, the Soo in this

case, were broken up at the base for scrap recovery. Of the ones that did survive during this period, many went out the "back door" and ended up as coffee tables or were donated to a local museum and its heritage was usually lost. Museums such as the Valley Camp in the Soo have numerous lenses in their collection and have no idea where they came from, nor the proper loan documents to show how they came into their possession in the first place. The upside of this is that the lenses would probably been scrapped had someone not taken it.



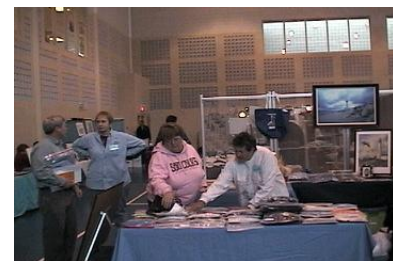
Inge Spaulding standing by the lens that she helped secure the loan for.



Mike, Matt and Don load the lens into Terri's van as Inge and Marc Svatora from the Valley Camp keep an eye on the progress.



Rick Brockway presenting the history of the Crisps Life Saving Station and Crisp Point Lighthouse at the Great Lakes Lighthouse Festival in Alpena.



Dee Smith and Dianne Sweeter assisting guest at the CPLHS booth at the GLLHF in Alpena.

Visitor Statistics

Visitor statistics are compiled from the visitor logbook posted at the lighthouse. When visiting the lighthouse please sign the logbook and be counted.

2000 – 25,032
2001 – 27,608
2002 – 28,412
2003 – 22,644
2004 - 22,828
2005 – 20,528
2006 to date – 21,500



*I Like My
Beacon
Crisp*



U. S. Coast Guard A Historical Overview

The United States Coast Guard is this nation's oldest and its premier maritime agency. The history of the Service is very complicated because it is the amalgamation of five Federal agencies. These agencies, the Revenue Cutter Service, the Lighthouse Service, the Steamboat Inspection Service, the Bureau of Navigation, and the Lifesaving Service, were originally independent, but had overlapping authorities and were shuffled around the government. They sometimes received new names, and they were all finally united under the umbrella of the Coast Guard. The multiple missions and responsibilities of the modern Service are directly tied to this diverse heritage and the magnificent achievements of all of these agencies.

Aids to Navigation

One of the first acts of the young federal government was to provide for aids to navigation. On 7 August 1789, the First Congress federalized the existing lighthouses built by the colonies and appropriated funds for lighthouses, beacons, and buoys. Lighthouses generally reflect the existing technology of the time they were built. Each is also unique because their specific sites required special considerations. The earliest Colonial and Federal lighthouses were built of stone and had walls up to seven feet thick. Later advances allowed even taller structures made of brick. Screw-pile structures, reinforced concrete towers, steel towers, and caisson structures all added to the rich and unique architecture.

There have been more than 1,000 lighthouses built and they provided the main guidance to mariners into the main harbors of the United States. For the first five decades there existed little bureaucracy, no tenders, only the lone keepers who kept the lights burning.

The administration of the lighthouses bounced from the Treasury Department to the Commerce

Department and was transferred to the Coast Guard in 1939. While many of the lighthouses have changed little since their completion, the light sources have continually evolved to provide mariners with better guidance. Some of the earliest optics were multiple-wicked oil lamps with reflectors to concentrate the light. The French physicist Augustin Fresnel revolutionized the optics of lighthouses by inventing a lens with annular rings, reflectors and reflecting prisms that all surrounded a single lamp. These lenses proved to be so effective that many are still in use today providing safe roads for maritime travelers

Sound has also been used to guide ships. In colonial times cannons fired on shore warned ships away from land during fog. Improvements to the sound of gunfire followed. A fog bell first went into use in 1852, followed by a mechanical striking bell in 1869, a fog trumpet in 1872, and an air siren in 1887.

The men and women of the Lighthouse Service were among the most dedicated in government service. They frequently performed their duty in extreme hardship.

With the emergence of new technologies, like the Global Positioning System (GPS), in the latter part of the 20th century, lighthouses became obsolete and many light stations were decommissioned and transferred to other agencies or private individuals. As a result there is only one Coast Guard-manned light station remaining in the United States, Boston Harbor.

Though lighthouses are being decommissioned and transferred, the Coast Guard still must tend to other short-range aids to navigation like buoys and markers.

The information on this page was obtained from the U.S. Coast Guard Web page: www.uscg.org



Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw WLBB 30 - Ice Breaker