



"I Like My Beacon Crisp"

CRISP POINT LIGHT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter 58

September 2019

1119 Parmelee Ave NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504

Jamie (517) 230-6294 or email: cplhs@sbcglobal.net Website: www.crisppointlighthouse.org

Editor: Jamie Rolfe cplhs1944@gmail.com (616) 204-1729

CPLHS Facebook group page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/crisppointlighthouse/>

Friendly Reminder: Please let us know when there is an address change. We do resend to new addresses when we can find them but this process takes time and requires additional funds. Your attention to this is greatly appreciated.

Rick Brockway Steps Down as President



After much consideration Rick has made the decision to step down as the President and Treasurer of the Crisp Point Light Historical Society. In a recent Facebook post Rick stated: "This was not an easy decision but one I felt needed to be made at this time. Thank you for your support over the past ten years that I was the President." Words cannot express the thanks to Rick for all the years of his dedication, time, and love for Crisp Point Lighthouse. We wish him well on all his future adventures and hope to see him on future visits out to Crisp Point.



Effective September 3, 2019 the new Officers are as follows:

President: Jamie Rolfe

Vice President: Mike McMeans

Secretary to the Board: William (Bill) Beasley

Treasurer: Jamie Rolfe

Secretary to the President: Teri Beasley

Other Board Members include:

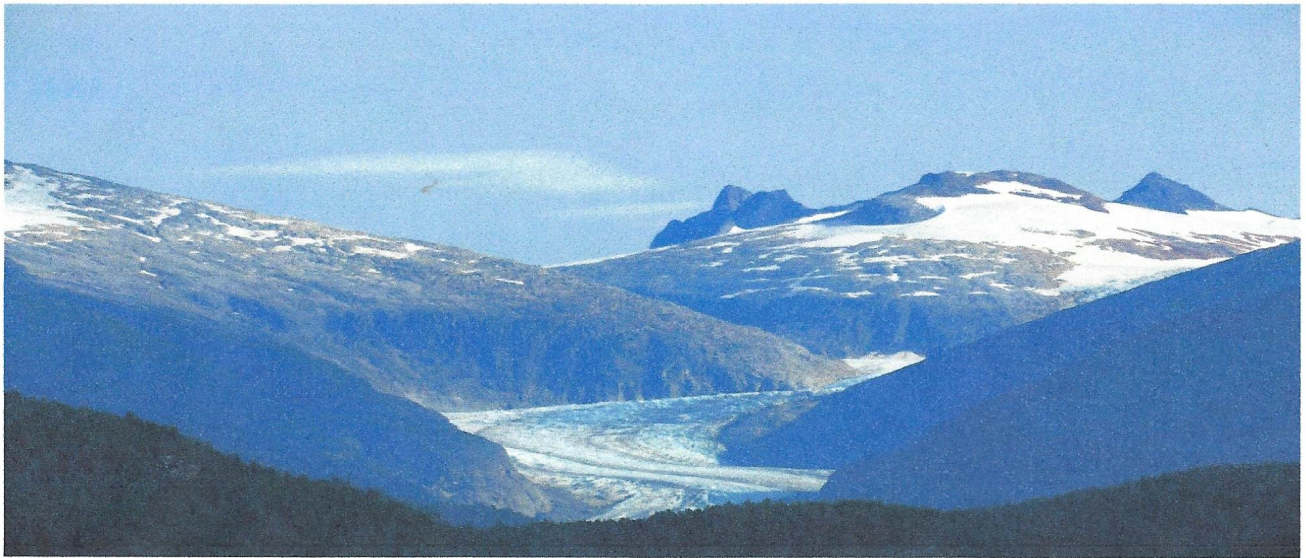
Shelley Guy

Cameron Lovett

John Rath

Elaine Watson





North To Alaska

Crisp Point Lighthouse Fundraising Cruise 2020

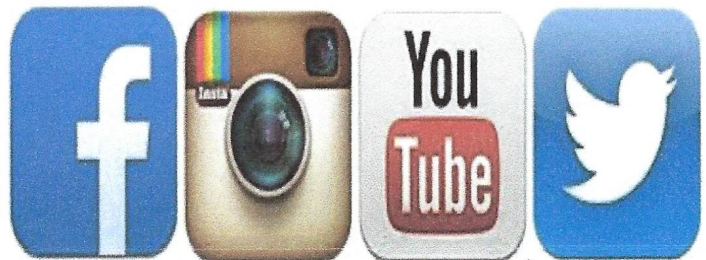
We will be flying in to Seattle, on August 3, 2020. The cruise aboard the Carnival Spirit, begins August 4, 2020 and ends back in Seattle August 11, 2020.

We have elected to choose from 4 different categories of staterooms at group pricing. Others are available on request at rate published at the time of booking. We will visit Tracy Arm Fjord, Skagway, AK, Juneau, AK, Ketchikan, AK, and Victoria, BC, Canada.

- 8C category balcony, Deck 5 or 6, \$1998.52 per person
 - 8B category balcony, deck 4 or 5, \$1,988.52 per person
 - 8A category balcony, deck 4, \$1,978.52 per person
 - 4K category interior with floor to ceiling window, mid ship deck 4, \$1,323.52 per person, window has obstructions
 - Ocean View staterooms available upon request and at current internet pricing
- Most balcony staterooms are capable of accommodating 3 people, but that inventory is limited, so reserve promptly!! Currently 3rd person rates are \$756.52 but are subject to change without notice. Prices are per person, include all taxes, port fees, stateroom cost and donation to Crisp Point. Deposits are \$475p.p., which includes a \$75 p.p., non-refundable donation to Crisp Point Lighthouse Historical Society. Air, pre-cruise hotel, transfers and excursions not included

Contact:

Jerry Roach
810-793-2468, 810-938-3800, 800-582-0793
www.4funinthesun.com
gerald.roach@cruiseplanners.com
www.facebook.com/cruise.planners.jbr



Synopsis of CPLHS Special Board Meeting

By: Bill Beasley

A Special Board of Directors Meeting for Crisp Light Historical Society was held 10:00 AM August 24, 2019 at Veterans Memorial Library in Mt. Pleasant Michigan, Vice President Jamie Rolfe presided. In attendance were Board Members Jamie Rolfe, Bill Beasley, Cameron Lovett, Shelley Guy, Elaine Watson and Mike McMeans. Also in attendance were Larry Watson, Jan Shafer, and Derek Rolfe. The first order of business was to honor the resignation of Rick Brockway as President, Treasurer and Board Member effective September 3, 2019. The Board Members elected Jamie Rolfe as President and Treasurer and Mike McMeans as Vice President to fill the remainder of Rick's term and the remainder of the vacated term of Vice President by Jamie Rolfe. Cameron Lovett reported that he had been in contact with former Board Member and Vice President John Rath who stated he would fill the open Board Member seat. The Board nominated and appointed John Rath as Board Member.

Vice President Rolfe then brought up the need for a Deputy Treasurer and Deputy Secretary in the event she is unable to fulfill the Treasurers duties or Secretary Beasley is unable to fulfill his duties. Jamie reported that Rick Brockway has agreed to stay on as Deputy Treasurer for the remainder of the term. Through the election process, the Board selected Rick Brockway as Deputy Treasurer and Shelley Guy as Deputy Secretary.

With the Board reorganization complete, Vice President Rolfe then started going through a list of items Rick normally handled on this own. These items were then discussed and Board members volunteered to perform these duties so no one person had to do it all. The Board also decided to keep the CPLHS cell phone and post office box in Paradise.

Vice President Rolfe then asked the Board Members whether the Keepers Guidebook needed updated with a Wi-Fi policy. Bill Beasley asked how many times we had gone over on Wi-Fi data and what the penalty was. Derek Rolfe responded it appears the system slows down enough that we have very limited access with added cost. He stated we would need a different router and it would be great to have a system that separated the business side from Keepers use. This way an individual Keeper may pay to use data. He is to investigate that further. It was decided to table this item until January pending further investigation.

Mike McMeans reported that the parking lot has more visitors than parking lot space; the area closest to the Keepers area has collected all the sand and will need to get cleared out and re-graveled. We need also need gravel in the newly cleared area of parking lot. Mike has been attempting to get bids for gravel and hauling, even approaching the Luce County Road Commission stating we'd pay for it. He will keep looking, Jamie Rolfe will approach the Luce County Commissioners with the idea of paying them to regrade and fill the lot.

Vice President Rolfe opened up discussion about the 2020 CPLHS Summer Conference. She appointed Shelley Guy as Chairperson of the Conference. The Board of Directors discussed the location and unanimously decided the Whitefish Township Community Center was better suited for our needs.

Cameron Lovett has provided instructions found online for the proper maintenance and cleaning of our LED marine lantern in the lighthouse. He stated that many products such as common window cleaner will damage the lens. Jamie Rolfe will add these instructions to the Keepers Guidelines. While discussing the light, Jamie Rolfe asked about seasonal status of light and whether we want to consider switching our permit from Coast Guard to all year so we don't have to turn it on and off. Cameron Lovett stated the life of the LED flasher would be affected by the change. Due to mandated maintenance issues the board decided to leave the permit from May 1 – Nov. 1.

Vice President Rolfe brought up Dusk to Dawn Visitors stating she has received many complaints from Keepers and landowners regarding people coming at all hours of the night looking for "Yoopers lites." Jamie stated we had talked to Erik Rintamaki and asked him to not bring tour groups out to search for them. Erik has agreed to our request. Cameron Lovett suggested we post signs stating when the grounds are open. The Board discussed various hours and determined 8:00 AM to 11:00 PM was the least intrusive to our Keepers. The Board decided posting reflective signs at the parking lot entrance would be the best approach. Jamie Rolfe will look into the cost of having signs made stating Crisp Point Lighthouse Grounds Open 8:00 AM – 11:00 PM.

Jamie then introduced the subject of what Nellie and Don's vision for the lighthouse was. Bill Beasley stated he has been attempting to find any documentation of such. The brochure states our purpose is to restore and preserve Crisp Point Lighthouse for future generations. This is a bold statement as it further states the "solitude and tranquility felt at the light are irreplaceable". Bill posed the questions to the rest of the Board, "are we there yet? Have we fulfilled or exceeded Nellie and Don's vision?" and suggested we create a vision statement that clearly explains the vision for generations to come.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held 11:00 AM January 11, 2020 in Howell at the Livingston County EMS Building. All members are welcome to attend.

Crisp Point Light Historical Society Holds Marker Ceremony in Oscoda for Former Keepers

Story By : Cameron Lovett

The Crisp Point Light Historical Society held a marker ceremony at Pinecrest Cemetery on Adams Road in Oscoda on July 14, 2019 at 1 PM. The ceremony was for Crisp Point Life Saving Station Keeper James Burton Hunter and Crisp Point Lighthouse First Assistant Lighthouse Keeper Philip F. Eby. Eby's gravesite received a US Lighthouse Service marker with a Keeper insignia below it. Captain Hunter's gravesite received a US Life-Saving Service marker with Keeper and Surfman insignias below it. (Eby's plot is D271C (west end) and Hunter's Plot is D415.) The CPLHS is attempting to place at least one gravesite marker at former Crisp Point Keepers or Surfmen each year. Video taken of the ceremony can be viewed on YouTube at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xdV7cOgKPUg>.

CPLHS Members Carl & Marcia Jahn contacted Adam Castonia of the US Coast Guard prior to the ceremony and were able to arrange for Petty Officer Jesse Laurio to say some words on behalf of the USCG. CPLHS was very appreciative of everybody at USCG Station Tawas that helped make the day special by inviting all attendees to tour the 45 foot USCG Rescue Boat that was docked along the Au Sable River.

The Ceremony was attended by Rick & Terri Brockway, Carl & Marcia Jahn, Cameron Lovett, Elaine & Larry Watson, Petty Officer Jesse Laurio, Dr. Mark Davis, Dr. Linda Kraus, Dr. Steve, and Ethan Kraus. The ceremony started with CPLHS Member Larry Watson saying some words on behalf of CPLHS. Carl Jahn talked about the typical daily lives of life saving station and lighthouse keepers. Petty Officer Jesse Laurio told the biographies of the two men. Dr. Linda Kraus then thanked the group on behalf of the family and Rick Brockway placed the markers at the gravesites. The group was invited to the Au Sable River after the ceremony and they toured the Coast Guard's 45 foot rescue boat and spoke with USCG members.

James Burton Hunter, was the Life Saving Station Keeper at Crisp Point from November 17, 1897 until his resignation on June 8, 1904. He was the father-in-law of Crisp Point Lighthouse First Assistant Keeper Philip F. Eby. Philip married Keeper Hunter's daughter, Mary B. Hunter. We also found a US Treasury Department document from July 1, 1897 that showed he served as a Surfman at Middle Island, Michigan at the Life Saving Station located there.

James was born April 7, 1856 in Blackburn, England. He married Annie Laurie Vroman and he had one son named John that was born in 1888 but passed away June 23, 1889. James passed away on January 28, 1933 in Au Sable, Michigan. James, Annie, and John were buried in their family's plot at Pinecrest Cemetery.



Philip F. Eby was a First Assistant Lighthouse Keeper at Crisp Point Lighthouse from 1915 or 1916 until his death or shortly before. He also was a Second Assistant Lighthouse Keeper at LaPointe Lighthouse (Wisconsin) from 1913-1915. He was the son-in-law of past Crisp Point Lifesaving Station Keeper James Burton Hunter. Philip married Keeper Hunter's daughter, Mary B. Hunter. Together they had a daughter named Margaret Jean Eby (1913-1998). Margaret's mother, Mary, would not let her swim much of the year because the water was too cold at Crisp Point. Margaret told her daughter, April, that one time she went down early in the morning and dipped water out of Lake Superior and put it in a bucket. She set it in the sun and later in the day, when it had warmed, she took it inside and said "I dipped this water this morning mother and it's warm enough to swim, feel it". Then her mother let her go swimming.



Philip was born on April 17, 1866 in Sheboygan, Wisconsin (although his grave marker says he was born in 1870) and died May 16, 1919 in Oscoda, Michigan. Philip was buried in his family's plot at Pinecrest Cemetery.

Keeper Requests - November 1

By: Jamie Rolfe



Please mark your calendars on November 1st to get your keeper requests in for 2020. All requests will be taken in the order they are received. Please send in a few different time frames that work for you. Every effort is made to schedule you in your first choice, however this is not always possible. To be a keeper you also need to make sure you have a current membership.

Please email all requests to Jamie @ cplhs1944@gmail.com with "keeper request" in the subject line. Please do not send requests before November 1st as they will not be accepted beforehand. Also, let Jamie know if you would like to be added to the back up keeper list in the event there is a cancellation.

Thank you to all the volunteers, helpers, and keepers who help take care of this precious light!

Membership Questions?

Please contact Teri Beasley
at crisppoint@gmail.com.

If your kiddos or the kiddo inside you would like to share a memory, please send a typed story to Jamie Rolfe at cplhs1944@gmail.com



Summer Conference 2019

By: Jamie Rolfe



Photo by: Jan Shaffer

Kick off for the conference was on Friday Night with a painting class led by Jacqueline Richardson of Newberry. There was a total of 8 “students” who all did a fantastic job on their paintings! Thank you to Jacqueline for leading this class! The annual Crisp Point Lighthouse Historical Society Conference was held on Saturday July 20, 2019 at the Pentland Township Hall.



Photos by Rick Brockway



Neal Lockwood

The two amazing speakers this year were Neal Lockwood and Erik Rintamaki.

Neal gave an excellent presentation of what life looked like at Crisp Point life saving station and beyond. Neal also had some very interesting artifacts with him.

Erik spoke on his discovery of “Yooperlites” and had some of his fascinating rock collection on display.



Erik Rintamaki with JJ and Maggie Rath
Photo by: Diane Rath

Other events that took place were a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction. There were also delicious breakfast treats and a good hot dog lunch.

We would like to thank everyone who came and to all the volunteers that helped out at the conference.

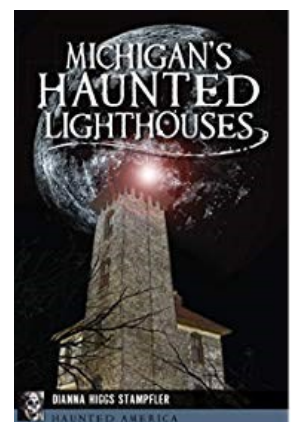
Our next conference will be July 18th, 2020 at the Whitefish Township Community Center in Paradise. The guest speaker will be Dianna Stampfler, a professional writer, broadcaster, and public speaker since high school. Her talk will be titled “Michigan's Ghostly Beacons”.

Hope to see you all next year!

Do you need to renew your membership or would you like to make a donation? If so, please use the insert included with the newsletter. Thank you.



Dianna Stampfler



Meet the board members

Story by: Bill Beasley Pictures by: Teri Beasley

Moving to Michigan in 1989, Teri and I set forth to learn more about the state. We quickly learned that Michigan has a large quantity of lighthouses. Taking an interest in lighthouses, Teri and I made it a mission to see as many as we could. By 1994, we had seen most of the Lower Peninsula lights that one could access. In 1998, we were following our Michigan map in search of lighthouse treasures. Guided by the map and the few “white picket fence” lighthouse signs nailed to the trees, we set out in search of Crisp Point. We weren’t very far down what we have now learned is CR500 when we determined this would not be a quick trip. By the time we got to CR412 our two year old had enough of the car seat and took over the steering duties sitting on my lap. Our speed on this trek took us close to 10 MPH. Close to two hours after leaving



M123 we arrived at the “parking area” ¼ mile west of the lighthouse and started walking east on the beach to it. It was not long into the hike that we could see the top of the tower. Once at the light, Teri and I were saddened by what we saw. The shoreline had eroded so much the entry building had collapsed. Unbeknownst to us, Crisp Point Light was one of the most endangered lighthouses in the United States. We vowed that we would help in any way we could. We had fallen in love with the peace and tranquility of the

area. In 2009, we visited Crisp Point again and noted that there had been numerous changes. We grabbed a brochure at the tower noting we could become members. In 2013, we attended our first Family Work Weekend chipping in on the projects. Fast forward another few years we were finally able to afford a Lifetime Membership to the Crisp Point Light Historical Society. In 2016, the newsletter asked for a volunteer to step up to become the Secretary to the President, primarily taking care of the membership list. This was right in Teri’s skill set as her job is a membership secretary. She volunteered for the position and was appointed to it. In January 2017, Teri asked me to drive her to the Board of Directors meeting. The Board Secretary was absent so they asked if anyone could take the meeting minutes. Being a Fire Department Association Secretary and knowing enough of Roberts Rules to be dangerous, I volunteered. Apparently I did well, as in March 2017 there was a second Board of Directors meeting and the board members elected me as the new Board Secretary to fill the remainder of the term. In 2018 I was re-elected to the Board. It is an honor to serve you the members and have the confidence of the remaining board members.



From Left to Right: Cameron Lovett, Bill Beasley, Shelley Guy, Mike McMeans, Rick Brockway, Jamie Rolfe, Elaine Watson, Teri Beasley

Welcome New Members

Michael & Mary Cattani - Menominee, MI
EAK Endeavors (Emily Kimball)- Spring Lake, MI
Richard Fletcher - Webberville, MI
Chet & Kristina Putek - Lincoln Park, MI
Renee Sangsland - Grand Rapids, MI
Steve & Tina Smith - Sandusky, MI
Betty Laur-Varner - Midland, MI
Susan Wade-Essexville, MI

New Lifetime Members

Shawn Hoover-Aspen, CO
Janice Shaffer-Bay City, MI

**Support Opportunities for
Crisp Point Lighthouse**

In addition to the support Crisp Point has been receiving through the E-Bay Giving Fund program, we can now receive support from Amazon.com and the Kroger Company, Kroger.com.

Whenever you shop at Amazon.com just log into the site using this new web address:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-3332080>
You will need to select the **Crisp Point Light Historical Society** as the Non-profit Group you support and shop as you normally would. For each qualifying purchase a small portion will be directed to the Crisp Point Light Historical Society to help with the restoration projects at Crisp Point.

All the **Michigan Kroger Stores** with the exception of the Lambertville and Sturgis stores are participating in the Kroger Community Rewards Program. If you have and use a Kroger Rewards Card, you can now support Crisp Point Lighthouse every time you use your card. Please note Kroger Community Rewards starts fresh every May 1st, so you may have to re-sign up each April 1st to support the program. If you already have a Kroger Card, simply register your card online at **krogercommunityrewards.com**. The Crisp Point Light Historical Society Non-Profit Number is: **MS733**

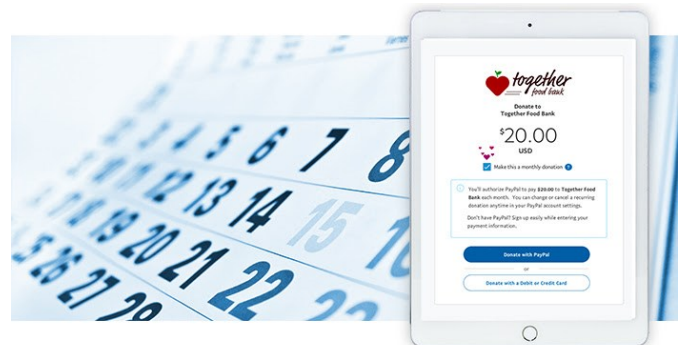
If you do not have a Rewards Card please consider getting one when you shop at Kroger's and then register CPLHS as the Non-Profit you would like to support.

Ink Cartridge Recycling

If you have empty printer ink cartridges, please think of donating them to CPLHS. We can save up to \$400 a year by turning them in to be recycled. The money is used to purchase office supplies, along with paper towels, toilet paper and cleaning supplies for the Visitor Center. Mail them to Jamie at the address on the front page, or drop them off at the Visitor Center in warmer weather.



Estate Planning? Please consider including CPLHS.



If you are not already participating in the PayPal Giving Fund when you are selling items on E-Bay please consider doing so. Please visit: <http://charity.ebay.com/charity-auctions/charity/crisp-point-light-historical-society/42940/> to get started selling and supporting Crisp Point Lighthouse.