

Joe's Corner

Hello Members,

Well we are hoping the weather breaks from our long cold winter... This spring and summer we hope to get a little more done on the lighthouse than last year. The weather, wind and rain prevented us from getting out to the lighthouse as much as we would have liked to last year... We will be trying to get some estimates on putting the original stud walls on both floors and getting the restroom completed before fall. There is a lot of chipping and touch up work we can do to make the lighthouse look better. If you can join us out at the light for a days work, it would be appreciated. However, if you are not able to go out to the light there are always things you can help with in the organization. We appreciate Mike Adley's contribution as he continues to record the current history of the lighthouse through his photographs.

Hope to see you this coming year and have a nice summer.....Joe Santiana

Note from our V.P.

Greetings all,

Spring has arrived (although you wouldn't know by the weather). And it is time for ALRPS to start thinking about holding its monthly meetings. These meetings will let the membership know what is going on this year concerning our fund raising and restoration efforts. Our group has over 100 members. However, less than 20 usually attend meetings and volunteer to help with the work of helping to restore the lighthouse or fundraising. Our organization would be a stronger one if more of our membership would attend meetings. Also, fresh ideas for these projects are always welcome. So, as the 2014 season gets going, we hope to see more members participating in this year's events (some of us travel 75 to 90 miles to help). The annual fish fry and the tours we conduct are always in need of more help. Have a great 2014 and we hope to see more of you this year.

Mark Patterson VP

From the Secretary

With the help of a grant from the Morrison Foundation we were able to purchase a new work boat. This craft will make it much easier to transport a few visitors, workers, or material out to the light. However, we currently are looking for a 85-125 hp motor with controls, 1995 or newer. Please contact Joe directly if you know of one. Hopefully all will be in place by June.

If you have not been receiving notices via email concerning meeting dates, please let me know (lornagreicius@gmail.com). Also, if you are currently getting them but no longer are interested, please contact me as well. Brochures, newsletters and donation envelopes are available upon request. Spread the good news! Our oldest member, Dixon Greenwood now resides at Serenity Suites, 620 W. 44th St., in Ashtabula. If you get a chance, drop in for a visit or send him a card!

The Beacon

Ashtabula Lighthouse
Preservation and Restoration Society

April 2014



April Membership Campaign

Spring is in the air (?) and once again we are asking for your financial support. The restoration of our lighthouse will require many hands and much funding. Membership levels have remained the same and we encourage you to find new individuals that will join in our efforts.



Gift Basket Winners

Gary Cox was our Basket winner which included a night's stay at Buccia Bed and Breakfast, wine and a gift certificate to Biscotti's Restaurant in Conneaut. A night's stay at the Geneva State Lodge and two bottles of Ferrante wine was won by **Rosemary Fuller**. Congratulations to both! **A new basket raffle is being planned for this summer.**



Note from Our Historian

Hello to all,

Over the winter I have been nosing around for any tidbits of information that I could find. My continuing thanks to Bob Frisbie and Amy Edixon who have provided me with quite a bit of information.

Tidbit #1- According to recently gained knowledge of the Ashtabula Light the first Head Keeper of the Ashtabula Light was not Captain Saxton Bigelow (1853 - 1857), but instead was Samuel Miniger (1837 - 1838). For whatever reason we had their dates of service reversed.

Tidbit #2- According to a report done Captain Winslow Lewis in 1816 for the Federal Government the average yearly salary of a light keeper was \$334.19.

Tidbit #3- I have found a couple of articles pertaining to Women as Light Keepers.

http://www.uscg.mil/history/uscghist/Women_Keepers.asp

<http://www.uscg.mil/history/articles/ThomasVNWomansWork.pdf>

<http://greatlakes.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2014/03/illuminating-the-way-women-lighthouse-keepers-of-the-great-lakes/>

As always I am continually looking for information about lighthouses, light keepers and anything pertaining to the Ashtabula Lighthouse. Please keep the information flowing.

Earl Tucker

Save the Dates!

We will need lots of help for the following events:

Beach Glass Festival-June 28-29

Society Annual Fish Fry-July 19

Wine and Walleye Festival-August 23-24

We hope to be conducting tours out to the lighthouse during all of these events! Last year, over 70 tourists visited our lighthouse during the Wine & Walleye Festival!

Next Lighthouse Meeting

Wednesday, April 23rd - 7pm

ODNR Building (east of lift bridge)

Please join us!



Lighthouse Fish Fry

At last year's Fish Fry at Lake Shore Park we served 268 dinners. On July 19th we will once again be offering our wonderful fish/ shrimp dinners at the Main Pavilion at Lake Shore Park. Along with the dinner, we conducted a large gift basket Chinese auction that is always well received. Please plan on helping this year with this most important fund raising event.



In Memoriam

The lighthouse society wishes to extend our sympathies to the Grippi family for the loss of both Russ and Maxine who were long time members.

Many Thanks to.....

Carol Cunningham- for the use of her trailer during last year's fish fry and for organizing another wonderful Christmas party.

Bev Newbold-for entertaining us all at last year's event with her music.

VFW- for the use of their facilities for our annual Society Christmas Party.

