

## Joe's Corner

As we wait for our long cold winter to turn into warmer weather, the list of things we would like to accomplish grows and will require everyone to chip in and help whittle away at the tasks before us. One of the first things on the list will be to complete our new boat. Although much has been accomplished, there are still many things to do to make it seaworthy. Thanks to the help of John Carpenter, and a day of muscle from Nick Santiana, our new 90 hp Johnson motor has been mounted and all the controls and wiring have been completed. We still have battery isolators to install and batteries to purchase. More safety items, including life vests will be required to pass inspection by the ODNR. Once the boat has been inspected and has had its maiden voyage, we will begin to plan for the divers to find the chains that currently rest in the water next to the lighthouse and prepare to bring the floatation dock out to the light. As soon as the weather warms up we will resume work. We also need to get our old workboat cleaned and repaired in order to sell. I am hoping we have some younger blood to pitch in and help with the chipping and painting on the outside walls of the lighthouse. I realize not all our members are able to physically help with the restoration; however there are other ways of assisting on shore with our fund raising activities. Please help however you can!

Joe Santiana



## Note from our V.P.

As I write this, tomorrow is April 1st and we are a week and a half into spring (as the calendar tells us anyway). If the farmers' almanac is right, we still have one more snow storm to go before spring arrives. But after spring does get here ALRPS will be turning its attention to getting the dock out to the lighthouse. Then our work on the lighthouse can commence again. I hope that this year ALRPS can count on more of our membership to volunteer their time to help at the lighthouse or at our fund raising events. Without this help, progress will be slow again. The same handful of members will back at it again trying their best but your assistance would be most appreciated.  
Mark Patterson

# The Beacon

Ashtabula Lighthouse  
Preservation and Restoration Society

April 2015



## April Membership Campaign

Our yearly membership campaign is now in full swing. Your continued support would be most appreciated. As costs keep rising, we remain on the lookout for new funding opportunities. However, your membership dues help with the cost of insurance, communication and maintenance of our workboat and floatation docking system as well as funding needed repairs out at the light. Our membership levels have not changed. We also request that you invite your family and friends to join us as we work to restore this historic landmark. Please return your dues in the envelope provided at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your support!



## Gift Basket Winners

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Wes Breedlove of Ashtabula. He was the winner of our Wine basket raffle which included a one night's stay at the Geneva State Park Lodge.



## Message from Our Treasurer

Hello Spring! Good Bye Winter! Have you heard that song by Bruno Mars, "I Want to be a Billionaire?" That's the Ashtabula Lighthouse song! We need funding to finish the restoration to simply enjoy giving tours and only worry about general maintenance. We have set up "Save the Ashtabula Lighthouse" on [gofundme.com](http://gofundme.com) where we currently have raised over \$300. Please visit our Facebook page and "share" the post concerning gofundme with your Facebook friends. Donating is quick and easy!

I submitted a letter of intent to the Conneaut Foundation for funds to paint the exterior of the lighthouse. However, it was not accepted. We are still waiting to hear if our grant application was accepted by the Ashtabula CDC for monies to replace 14 windows. Please start gathering items for our basket raffle for the Fish Fry in July. Gift cards, restaurant certificates, bottles of wine, gardening items, as well as lighthouse décor items, are all popular. Last year we served 274 dinners at this event!

Debbie Santiana



## All Hands On Deck!

We will need LOTS of help at the following events:

- Beach Glass Festival June 27-28 (10-5 PM)
- Annual Society Fish Fry July 18 (2-7 PM)
- Wine and Walleye Festival-August 22-23

*If the dock is in place and weather permitting, we plan on conducting tours out to the light.*



*Ashtabula Lighthouse in a Gale*

**First Lighthouse Society Meeting of 2015 will be held Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the ODNR Building (east of the lift bridge). Your attendance would be most appreciated! Please join us!**



## Thank you to.....

**Bev Newbold for providing hours of entertainment at our annual fish fry last summer**

**Carol Cunningham for the use of her trailer and organizing another wonderful society Christmas party.**

**VFW on Main St. here in Ashtabula for allowing us to use their facilities for our December get-together.**

**John King, retired history teacher, who graced us all at the Fish Fry last summer with his portrayal of Abraham Lincoln. John won first place in a Lincoln Lookalike contest in Gettysburg Pa. in 2013.**



## Odds and Ends

- If you have an email address and are currently NOT receiving email notices, please contact Lorna at [lornagreicius@gmail.com](mailto:lornagreicius@gmail.com)
- Additional newsletters, brochures and membership envelopes are always available upon request.
- Be sure to check out our website ([www.ashtabulalighthouse.com](http://www.ashtabulalighthouse.com)) as our new webmaster, Janet Grout has been working on it!
- Ryan Helms, of Gazette Newspapers, wrote a wonderful front page article about our organization and the lighthouse in the January supplement entitled Ashtabula County History 2015. Hope you all got a chance to check it out!
- Did you know that if you shop with Amazon you can click over to AmazonSmile and they will donate .5% of your purchase price to the non-profit of your choice? That would be the Ashtabula Lighthouse Restoration and Preservation Society, of course!
- Our oldest member, Dixon Greenwood continues at Serenity Suites, 620 W. 44<sup>th</sup> St., in Ashtabula Ohio 44004. If you get a chance, drop in for a visit or send a card.
- Please keep Bob Schwarz, Bob and Sandy Hewitt, George Finnerty, and Dianna Patterson long time members of the society, in your thoughts and prayers.

