

Great Lakes Lighthouses

By Bruce Roberts and Ray Jones.

This "hot off the press" book by Roberts and Jones is the 4th in a series and probably their best effort to date. Earlier lighthouse books by Roberts and Jones covered Southern, Northern and Western Lighthouses. Although the format and size of this edition is basically the same, with gorgeous photos by Roberts and historical text by Jones, it is perhaps more poetic than the earlier works and provides a real 'flavor of the bean' about the treacherous inland seas (Great Lakes) and the need for lighthouses along the shores of those waterways.

Unlike most lighthouse books, which tend to chronicle every lighthouse in an area: from A to Z, or oldest to newest, or east to west, Roberts and Jones have selected a significant few from each of the Lakes to tell the story. Each Lake is treated as a chapter and laced among the lighthouses is some fascinating history: tales of significant shipwrecks, naval battles, reasons for the development of the Great Lakes as inland waterways and the subsequent development of our American heartland.

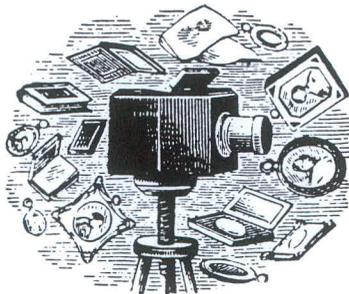
Great Lakes Lighthouses starts at the western end of Lake Superior, at the beautiful Split Rock Lighthouse and the saga of the Great Lakes carrier Edmund Fitzgerald. The reader is then transported back to the Gateway Lake, Ontario, where a journey of the Great Lakes begins, heading west. Along the way the reader is treated to a smattering of history particular to each

Lake, human interest tales and shipwrecks. The book is filled with wonderful and dramatic photographs by Bruce Roberts. A brief history of each lighthouse is accompanied by directions to reach the station and particulars about hours and days open to the public.

There are a few gremlins, which always seem to find their way into lighthouse books, but overall a smooth and accurate effort.

This is not a "shopping list" of Great Lakes lighthouses, but rather an overview of those dramatic, historically important bodies of water, their importance to the developing nation and representative lighthouses from each lake which have faithfully lighted the way since 1818. *Great Lakes Lighthouses* is an outstanding work and a must for your Keeper's Library.

Soft cover, 8 1/2 x 11, 120 pages, 61 color and numerous historical black and white photos, and location maps. Available through the Keeper's Library for \$19.95 plus shipping and handling.



Video Review

The South Carolina Lighthouse Tour

Southern Lights Productions is back on the lighthouse trail, this time touring the lighthouses of South Carolina. This new 34 minute video tour of lighthouses is a nice complement to the earlier North Carolina Lighthouse Tour, a best seller in the Keeper's Locker.

The video provides an interesting tour of each lighthouse in South Carolina, including the faux lighthouse at Harbour Town (on Hilton Head Island).

Contemporary film and historic photos are included along with a brief history of each station. The viewer also gains entrance into the lighthouses, some ordinarily off limits to the public. Location maps are interspersed throughout the video and directions provided on how to reach or best view each lighthouse.

If you enjoyed the North Carolina Lighthouse Tour, you'll want to add this beautiful and informative video to your collection.

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