



# STAMP FLASHES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE USLHS PASSPORT CLUB

Number 15 – July, 2014

*lighthousepassportclub.org*



## Summer Time at Lighthouses

Summer is prime time for visiting, climbing and photographing lighthouses. It is also the time of the year when the chances of getting your Lighthouse Passport stamped are the greatest. To maximize the fun of your visit, it is a good idea to check the days and hours they are open before you go. Most lighthouses in the passport program have a website that provides information about open times, but these can vary. – so, if possible, give them a call ahead of time. Our information about times and stamp locations is only as good as the data that is provided to us by the lighthouses. Summer is also the busiest time of the year at Society headquarters. Multiple tours are being operated and 2015 tours in development. Passport demand is high and many people are submitting their completed books in order to receive their patches and recognition. Please allow us a little extra time to process your orders and awards.

## Some Stamp Collecting Clarifications

Many of you have joined the Passport Club recently and may have missed the answers to some of the most common questions we receive about collecting stamps. Hopefully, the following will clear up some of the issues that you have emailed us about and act as a reminder to our more veteran collectors.

### Obtaining Stamps through the Mail

If you wish to obtain a stamp that you were unable to obtain at a lighthouse:

1. **Contact the lighthouse** via email or call them **prior to sending anything** to make sure they are willing to provide this service. They are not required to do this and are only doing it as a courtesy, so please don't be disappointed if they do not respond.
2. Send your request **with proof** that you visited the lighthouse. This normally takes the form of a photo. Participating sites have been advised not to provide the stamps without this confirmation.
3. Enclose a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope (**SASE**) and a **minimum of a dollar donation**.
4. Be patient! Sometimes it takes a while for your request to reach the right person.

### Second Stamps

From time to time we have provided information about multiple stamps for the same lighthouse housed at one or several locations. These stamps can prove to be elusive and sometimes lighthouse staff or volunteers are unaware of what you are asking for. In some cases the stamp has been discarded and replaced with a new one. In other situations they have simply been misplaced. We are trying to include on our list of locations only those that we have recent confirmation regarding the stamp's availability.

## **Donations**

While the primary purpose of the Passport Program is to generate donations for lighthouses, not all stamp locations are able to accept them. This is not normally an issue at lighthouses, but some stamps are held at local area visitor's centers, retail stores, chambers of commerce or National Park sites. While some may have a donation container, some are just not equipped to handle them. In these cases, just leave an extra dollar at the next lighthouse you visit. That way you are still contributing to lighthouse preservation!

## **Commercial Cruise Companies**

Some commercial cruise companies have lighthouse stamps which they make available to you when you take their cruise. They may or may not provide you with a copy of the stamp if you do not. However, we will only include them in our list of participating stamp sites if they are willing to provide the stamp as long as you provide proof that you have visited the lighthouse on your own.

## **Foreign Lighthouse**

Only foreign lighthouses with a stamp can be used toward the various stamp achievement levels. We have several listed in Canada and, from time to time, we have found stamps of various types at lighthouses in other countries. We can accept those, as long as they have an image of the lighthouse and identify it or its location.

## **Submitting Your Passport for Achievement Patches**

There are several ways you can obtain your awards:

1. Mail the book to: USLHS Passport Program, 9005 Point No Point Rd, NE, Hansville, WA 98340 (You need to include \$3 for returning postage)
  2. Make a photocopy of the book and send that in.
  3. You can scan the images and email them to: [passportclub@uslhs.org](mailto:passportclub@uslhs.org).
- These last two do not require any return postage and you do not run the risk of having it get lost in the mail.

## **New Stamps**

### **Michigan City East Pierhead Lighthouse (Indiana)**

Stamp available at the Old Lighthouse Museum, April – October. Check their website for hours or call the Michigan City Historical Society at 219-872-6133. Website: [www.oldlighthousemuseum.org](http://www.oldlighthousemuseum.org)



### **Thunder Bay Lighthouse (Michigan)**

Stamp is located at the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center, 500 West Fletcher St., Alpena, MI 49707; (989) 356-8805. Open all year. Check website for hours Website: [www.thunderbay.noaa.gov/maritime/glmhc.html](http://www.thunderbay.noaa.gov/maritime/glmhc.html)

### **St. George Reef Lighthouse (California)**

There is a new stamp available from Tidewind Sportfishing, 16368 Lower Harbor Rd. Harbor, OR 97415, 541-469-0337. There is another stamp available at the Battery Point Lighthouse Museum in Crescent City, CA.

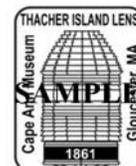
## Grand Island Harbor Rear Range Lighthouse & Munising Range Lights (Michigan)

There is a stamp for each. The Munising Range Lights are both depicted on one stamp. Stamps are available at the Alger County Historical Society Museum, 1496 Washington Street, Munising, 906-387-4308. Current hours: Open: Mon, Tues & Wed: 12:30-4:30 PM. Thurs: 1:30 to 8:00 PM Fri: 2:30 to 8:00 PM, Sat: 9:00-5:00 PM.



## Cape Ann Museum/Thacher Island Lens (Massachusetts)

The Cape Ann Museum has a new stamp for the museum that depicts the first order lens from Cape Ann's Twin lights south tower. The museum is located at 27 Pleasant Street, Gloucester, MA 01930. 978-283-0455.



## Coast Guard Heritage Museum (Massachusetts)

We welcome this Cape Cod museum as a participating site. The museum is dedicated to the preservation of the history of the United States Coast Guard and its predecessor organizations. The stamp is available at the museum, 3353 Main St, Barnstable, MA 02630. (508) 362-8521. Open May through October, Tues-Sat 10-3. <http://www.coastguardheritagemuseum.org/>



## Selkirk (Salmon River) Lighthouse (New York)

We welcome back to our list of participating sites, the Selkirk Lighthouse with its unique bird cage lantern. New owners have a new stamp and the Lighthouse Residence (3 bedrooms) is once again available as a vacation rental. Details are available on their website:

<http://www.salmonriverlighthousemarina.com/lighthouse.html>



## Two Stamp Location

### Ludington Pier Lighthouse (Michigan)

There are 2 stamps available for the Ludington Pier Lighthouse – One is an image of the lighthouse only, the other has the name of the lighthouse and date established. Both are housed at the lighthouse.

### Mini-List

The two page mini-list or summary of the 500 stamps currently available has been updated. You can access it at the following webpage:

[http://www.uslhs.org/assets/full\\_page\\_mini\\_list.pdf](http://www.uslhs.org/assets/full_page_mini_list.pdf)

## Upcoming Festivals & Challenges

Festivals and challenges are a great way to obtain lots of stamps. It is also a great opportunity to meet other lighthouse lovers!

- 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Lakes Lighthouse Festival – October 9-12, 2014 – Alpena, Michigan. <http://lighthousefestival.org/>
- Lighthouse Challenge of New Jersey – October 18-19, 2014. 11 land based lighthouses, one museum and two life saving stations. <http://www.njlhs.org/challenge/ChallengeofNJ.html>

## Hall of Fame Additions

Congratulations to our newest Hall of Fame awardees (Asterisks indicate number of "all stamp" books).

### I've Seen the Light (60)

Carol Childress  
Robert Grodzicki\*  
Linda McKinney\*  
Rick McKinney\*

### Silver Level (120)

Nancy McDorman\*

### Gold Level (180)

Al & Betty Smith\*\*\*  
Mary Lou Fourtane\*  
Glenn & Jeanine Swanson\*\*\*  
Palmer Kane\*\*

### Platinum Level (240)

Marge Czop\*

### 1<sup>st</sup> Wing (300)

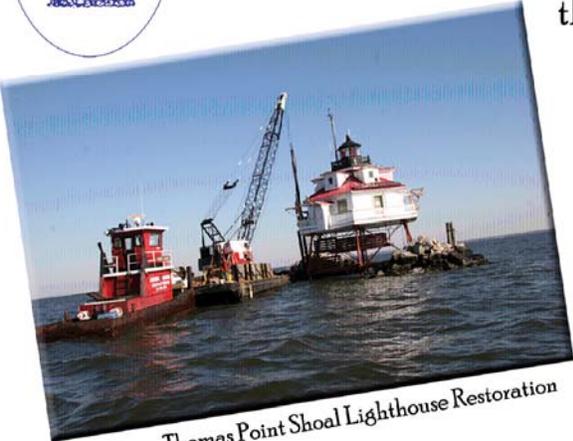
Holly Hinrichs-Dahms\*



UNITED STATES LIGHTHOUSE SOCIETY

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Thomas Point Shoal Lighthouse Restoration



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