

## A TRAVELER'S GUIDE TO 100 EASTERN GREAT LAKES LIGHTHOUSES

By the Penrose family.

The Penrose family has issued a second in what apparently will be an ongoing series of travel guides to the Great Lakes Lighthouses. Their first guide was *A Traveler's Guide to 116 Michigan Lighthouses*.

The latest effort covers those of Lakes Erie and Ontario, and the St. Lawrence River. Each existing lighthouse is provided a short "quick and dirty" historical blurb, a black and white photo, and a small chartlet of how to get to each lighthouse. The historical notes are sketchy and many of the photos leave a lot to be desired, but the important elements of this book are the chartlets and listings at the back. These inform the reader of lighthouses which may be entered and climbed, those still active, and lighthouse museums along the two lakes.

Like many books on Great Lakes lighthouses, this guide includes many that were never lighthouses in the classical sense. Minor aids, facsimile and memorial towers, and small pierhead towers are listed among 'real' lighthouses, thus padding the numbers to come up with 100.

The script headings of each lighthouse section are difficult to read. The Penroses might consider obtaining the services of a graphic designer for their next guide. Still it's a valuable guide if you are on the lighthouse trail along the eastern Great Lakes.

Soft cover, 8 1/2 by 11, 126 pages, color cover, black and white photos and interesting appendices. Available through the Keeper's Locker at \$14.95 plus shipping and handling.

## A TRAVELER'S GUIDE TO 116 WESTERN GREAT LAKES LIGHTHOUSES

By the Penrose family

The latest in the Penrose guide series follows the same format as their earlier books: *A Traveler's Guide to 110 Eastern Great Lakes Lighthouses* (see previous review) and *A Traveler's Guide to 166 Michigan Lighthouses*. The book contains a short description (often grainy), a black and white photo of the lighthouse, and a map providing directions to each lighthouse and those listed which are not true lighthouses (faux and pier head minor aid towers). As in the previous books the Penroses have provided a valuable listing of vessels and even aircraft which may be chartered to give a 'close up and personal' look at those lighthouses off the beaten path.

Soft color cover, 8 1/2 x 11, 163 pages, numerous black and white photos, location maps and a list of charter services. Available through the Keeper's Library at \$14.95 plus S & H.



Book Review  
By Lisa Truesdale

## UMBRELLA GUIDE TO OREGON LIGHTHOUSES

By Sharlene and Ted Nelson

From Cape Blanco all the way up the coast to Cape Disappointment, and then

down the Columbia River, Sharlene and Ted Nelson take readers on a fascinating journey in the *Umbrella Guide to Oregon Lighthouses*.

As in the first two books of the series, which covered the lighthouses of California and Washington, the Nelsons provide a well-researched history of each lighthouse, peppered with excerpts from the keepers' logs and stories of the keepers and their families.

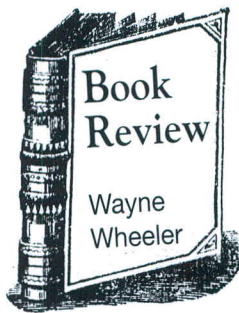
The interesting facts that the Nelsons have uncovered about each lighthouse will enhance any visit. On a trip to Cape Mearnes, for instance, one might recall reading about the drama that unfolded at the station in 1890, when ten-year-old Mabel York was flipped over by gale winds while walking to the tower. She bravely clung to a wooden stake at the edge of the cliff until her father, the 2nd assistant, could rescue her.

Once again, the summaries at the end of each chapter prove especially useful. These recaps provide easy-to-reference information regarding the current conditions of the lighthouses, directions to the sites, visiting hours, and more.

The Nelsons don't stop there, however. Chapters 15 through 18 cover general information about lighthouses, such as the history of the Fresnel lens, fog signals and bells, and the lighthouse tenders who brought much-needed supplies to the keepers and their families.

With all the photos (both historical and current) and vivid descriptions of each site, this book is also an excellent "armchair" guide for those who aren't able to journey to Oregon.

Soft cover, 118 pages, black and white photos throughout. Available through the Keeper's Library for \$10.95 plus \$4.00 shipping and handling.



## THAT OTHERS MIGHT LIVE

The U.S. Life Saving Service 1878-1915  
By Dennis Noble

Dennis Noble, a retired Coast Guard officer, has written an outstanding book on the history of the U.S. Life Saving Service. This book is long overdue and is an excellent effort.

The curtain rises in 1880, two years after the federal U.S. Life Saving Service (USLSS) was founded, on a dramatic shipwreck and rescue. The account of the rescue is riveting and appears to have been very well researched.

Mr. Noble then steps back in history and outlines the events leading up to the formation of the service. He tells of earlier wrecks and the establishment of volunteer and state-formed life saving units which dotted the northeast coast. Eventually, the scattered and varied local units lead up to the appointment of Sumner Kimball as head of the Treasury Department's Revenue Marine Bureau. When he was appointed General Superintendent, Kimball laid the ground work for the USLSS. He was the only leader the service would ever have.

Other chapters detail the men who served, the special vessels used by the service, evolution of the stations' architecture, equipment, life on the stations, and the final demise when the service became part of the Coast Guard in 1915.

Nicely woven into the history of the short-lived service are dramatic shipwrecks and rescues. Dennis Noble knows his stuff and has obviously done his research in putting together this fine volume. It reads quickly and cleanly, leaving the reader to wish there were more, or perhaps, that a part II will eventually come rolling out of his typewriter or computer.

*That Others Might Live* opens with a glossary of nautical terms (a big help to land-lubbers) and is laced with historic photos and drawings.

If there is one book we would strongly suggest a lighthouse enthusiast add to his or her library, it would be this excellent tale of a noble service. A service of hearty men and pulling boats, braving the worst of elements so that . . . Others Might Live.

Hardcover 6 1/2 by 9 1/4, black and white photos, 178 pages. Published by the Naval Institute and available through the Keeper's Locker at \$14.95 plus shipping and handling.

THE UNITED STATES LIGHTHOUSE SOCIETY

## PRESERVING AMERICA'S LIGHTHOUSES *through Education and Research*



The U.S. Lighthouse Society is a national non-profit historical and educational organization dedicated to restoration and preservation of lighthouses lightships, and lighthouse lore. The society maintains a research library and photo archives, organizes regional tours, takes on related preservation projects (using volunteer members) and publishes a quarterly Bulletin. If interested call: (415) 362-7255

*or write:*

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WELCOME ABOARD! The Society's goal is to strongly support the preservation of these important symbols of our maritime heritage. If interested in joining, (\$25 per year), telephone 415/362-7255.