



STAMP FLASHES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE USLHS PASSPORT CLUB



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USLHS Passport Club Newsletter

Number 2 – March 2012

The Web Site is Here!

The Passport Club website is up and running. Visit www.lhpassportclub.org for information about participating locations, guidelines, levels of achievement, lighthouse tours, the USLHS lighthouse community and the Passport Hall of Fame. In the future, members of the club will be the first to receive updated information via the *Stamp Flashes*. Previous *Flashes* will be archived for newer members on the website.

Recognition of Award Recipients – Passport Hall of Fame

Passport Club members achieving a program award level will receive recognition on the Passport Club website's Hall of Fame page. Since we do not want to leave anyone out of the Hall who has reached one of the award levels in the past, please let us know the highest level you have achieved to this point in time. Just send us an email with the level and we will add you to the honor roll. From this point forward, your name will be added when your latest book is verified by the Society office. We have also created a new award category – Stamp Only Achievement Award. A description of this award can be found on the "Levels of Achievement" page of the passport club website.

Official Passport Club Stamp

The official Passport Club Stamp is now available. If you have yet to receive your welcome letter, a copy of that stamp will be included. For those of you who have joined previously, attached is a copy of the image which you can cut out and paste in your book.

Don't Forget to Donate

On your journey to reaching the various Passport Program awards level, please remember that a main objective of the program is to generate lighthouse preservation donations. So, make sure to donate at least a \$1.00 when you get a stamp. On the Society's 2011 trip to Hawaii, the new stamps we told you about in the last *Flash* generated over \$300 in donations! The Society has sold over 10,000 Passport books in the last four years. If everyone who bought a book got just 20 stamps and donated a dollar, that would add up to \$200,000 for lighthouse preservation!

Another 2 Stamp Location

At the 30 Mile Point Lighthouse in New York's Golden Hill State Park, you can find one stamp at the lighthouse and a second stamp at the ranger station at the entrance to the park. Note: There are two entrances to the Park – The stamp is located at the west entrance where you would register for the campgrounds. Passport award policies allow you to count multiple stamps for the same location as long as the stamps are different and the second stamp also depicts the lighthouse.

Stamp Locations for Cedar Key Lighthouse

A stamp for the Cedar Key Lighthouse will now be available at: Cedar Key Historical Society Museum, 7070 D Street, Cedar Key, FL, 352-543-5549. Website: /www.cedarkeymuseum.org Email: cedarcedar@bellsouth.net. There is also a second location for the same stamp at the Cedar Keys National Wildlife Refuge, Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge, 16450 NW 31st Place, Chiefland, FL 32626. 352-493-0238 Website: www.fws.gov/cedarkeys/ Email: lowersuwannee@fws.gov

Concord Point (Maryland) Stamp

The folks at Concord Point in Havre De Grace want to make sure you get a copy of their stamp. They have three identical stamps the first of which is located at the lighthouse itself. The second is located in the Keeper's Dwelling (in the gift shop) across the street from the lighthouse and the third is available at the Maritime Museum at 100 Lafayette Street (across the street from the Keeper's Dwelling). Check the Museum website (www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org) or the lighthouse website (www.concordpointlighthouse.org) for days and hours they are open. Note: Since all three stamps are identical, only one can be counted toward award levels.

Texas Lighthouse Stamps

Currently, the only two stamps available in the state of Texas are at Port Isabel and Half Moon Reef in Port Lavaca. In recognition of the Society's first ever tour of the Texas lighthouses, new stamps have been created for Aransas Pass (Lydia Ann), Matagorda Island, Point Bolivar and the Texas Maritime Museum (which has a working light). In addition, a new stamp for the Sabine Pass lighthouse in Louisiana will be added to the Passport stamp sites. Initially, these stamps will be provided to the tour participants. Final locations for the stamps will be provided in a future newsletter.

Does Your Favorite Lighthouse Have a Stamp?

While the Passport Program is approaching 350 locations, we are always looking to add new stamps and sites. You can help us by checking the list of participating lighthouses to see if one of your favorites is not part of the program. There is a one page list of sites is available at: http://uslhs.org/assets/full_page_mini_list.pdf

You might consider purchasing a stamp for that lighthouse and helping us to find a permanent home for it. This would be a great way to encourage more people to visit and generate some donation dollars. And, if your lighthouse becomes a participant, we will reward you with an U.S. Lighthouse Service Efficiency Star. If you would like more information about how to pursue this way to support a lighthouse, call the office at 415-362-7255 and talk to Rich.

Feedback, Comments, Questions?

As a member of the Passport Club we want to share your ideas, experiences and stamp hunting suggestions with other members of the Club. We will include these in future *Flashes* so that everyone can benefit from your knowledge.

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