



STAMP FLASHES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE USLHS PASSPORT CLUB



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USLHS Passport Club Newsletter

Number 11 – August, 2013

lighthousepassportclub.org

Stamps Galore!

Summer is the best time to find lighthouses open for collecting more Passport Stamps. We know you have been busy because of the emails we have received helping us to keep our list of participating locations up to date. In addition to the hundreds of Lighthouse Society created stamps, many of you are uncovering additional lighthouse stamps we didn't even know existed. Keep up the good work!

Stamp Questions

We have received a number of questions about what does and what does not count as a stamp for the passport program. Here are some answers to those questions:

- Stickers provided for climbing a lighthouse do not count as stamps.
- Range lights count as two separate lighthouses (Craighill Channel Range Lights). However, most of the stamps available for range lights are for one of the lights (Grosse Ile North Channel Range Light) or a single stamp for both (St. Clair Flats, Old South Channel Range Lights)



- Twin lights (Navesink, Cape Ann, and Cape Elizabeth) count as one, unless there are separate stamps for each. Most of these have a single stamp.
- For stamps that are only an image of the lighthouse, you need to write the name of the lighthouse underneath the image in your book.
- There are 3 National Park Service Cancellation stamps that depict lighthouses: Bodie Island, Cape Hatteras and Ocracoke. These are the only cancellation stamps that can be used in your Lighthouse Passport.
- The new Lighthouse stamps created by the US Post Office are not part of the Passport Program.
- Foreign lighthouses can be included only if they have some type of stamp.

New Stamps

Cape Elizabeth Two Lights

South Portland Historical Society, (aka Cushing's Point Museum). 55 Bug Light Park, South Portland, ME 04106. (207) 767-7299. Website: www.sphistory.org

Email: sphistoricalsociety@maine.rr.com

Note: This location now also has a duplicate stamp for the **Spring Point Ledge Lighthouse**



Mission Point Lighthouse, Michigan

Now has a new Society created stamp. They also have an oversized stamp they have been using that can be included in your Passport. The museum at the lighthouse is open 10-6, April-October and on weekends in November & December.

Grice House Museum, Michigan

868 Huron Ave., Harbor Beach, MI48441. Houses the 4th order Fresnel lens from the Harbor Beach Lighthouse. Stamp is located at the Museum June through August. September thru May it is located at Harbor Beach City Hall, 766 State St., Harbor Beach, MI 48441
www.harborbeachmi.org (under Parks and Recreation). Email: tntoneil@speednetllc.com

Beaver Island Harbor (St. James) and Beaver (Head) Island Lighthouses, Michigan

St. James Township, PO Box 426, Beaver Island, MI. Both stamps are located at 26195 Main Street, Beaver Island, MI 49782. (231) 448-3049. Open: 9am -5pm.
Email: bitaboat@tds.net

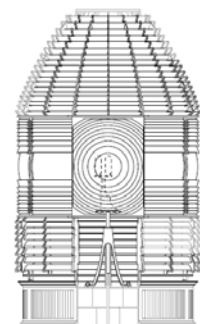


Updates & Stamp Hunting Tips

- Bar Harbor Whale Watch Company now has a second set of stamps for the following lighthouses: **Bear Island, Egg Rock, Great Duck, Winter Harbor, Baker Island and Bass Harbor**. These are available in the company office. You will need to provide a photo of the light(s) you saw and a \$1 donation to obtain the stamp.
- The stamp for the **Grassy Island Range Lights** (Wisconsin) is located at the Green Bay Yacht Club 100 Bay Beach Rd, Green Bay, WI 54302 (920) 432-0168. Be advised that the Yacht Club provides access to the grounds by advance appointment only.
- If you send a SASE to a lighthouse to obtain a stamp, it might be a good idea to write "Passport Stamp Request" on the envelope. Very often different volunteers pick up the mail and this helps to get the request to the proper person.
- Isle au Haut Boat Services, Stonington, Maine now has duplicates of the stamps for **Goose Rocks, Brown's Head, Heron Neck and Saddleback Lighthouses**. These stamps are also available at several other locations. See the Deer Island Lighthouse Trail information at: <http://www.deerisle.com/the-deer-isle-lighthouse-trail/>

Where is the Lens?

Lighthouse lovers are well aware that many of the beautiful Fresnel lenses that once lit U.S. lighthouses have been removed from their lantern rooms. Some are still at the lighthouse (e.g. Pigeon Point & Fire Island) while others have been moved to a museum (e.g. Point Sur & Cape Charles). If you are going to be visiting a lighthouse and would like to know where the lens is located, check out one of the many **free resources** provided by the U.S. Lighthouse Society. The Society maintains two lists: One provides the location of all *Classical Fresnel Lenses* in the United States and the other is a list of all *Operational Lenses*. This information can also be used to identify a museum where you might view one or more lenses. For example, if you are going to be near Fort Morgan, Alabama, you might want to visit the Fort Morgan Museum where you can view the lenses from Sand Island, Mobile Point and Mobile



Point Rear Range Lighthouses. To find these lists, go to the Society website at: www.uslhs.org and click on *Resources* → *Classical Fresnel Lens List*. The lighthouses are listed alphabetically by state.

Thanks!

- Thanks go out to Yvonne Bennett, Caroline Huse, Alex Kim, Tedd Van Buskirk, Mindy Margaritis, Steve Bruning and, of course Al, Mac and James for being our spies in the field.
- We appreciate the suggestions for places to have a passport stamp. In addition, it is very helpful if you can identify a visitor's bureau, tourism information center, chamber of commerce or other local organization that might be willing to house the stamp. If you provide us the contact information, we will take it from there. Send your suggestions to passportclub@uslhs.org.

Hall of Fame

Here are the newest Hall of Fame awardees (Asterisks indicate number of all stamp books)

I've Seen the Light

- James Swain*
- Amy Mattoccia*
- Dave & Carol Cary
- Al Smith*
- Palmer Kane
- Glenn & Jeanine Swanson*
- Wanda Mayo

Silver Level

- Linda Gleason**
- Bob Gleason**
- Hendrick E.A. Schilpzand*

Gold Level

Van Dyke Family

Platinum Level

Carol Nettleton*

300 Level

Judi Baldwin
Rita Lazo**

600 Level

Al King*****

Upcoming Lighthouse Tours

As we noted in a previous *Flashes*, U.S. Lighthouse Society tours are a great way to add to your passport stamp collection. Not only do you get stamps from some difficult to access lighthouses, special tour stamps are created for those locations that do not currently have a stamp. In 2014, we will be conducting domestic tours to the Outer Banks, Massachusetts, St. Lawrence River, Long Island and Maine. Check out the lighthouses that will be visited on the Society website or call the office for more information. The excursions are educational, adventurous and just plain fun.

Coming Soon

In addition to some more new lighthouse stamps, we will be creating new stamps for a number of Fresnel lenses, Maritime Museums and Life Saving Stations. This expansion will allow you to fill up those passports even faster.

In the meantime - Happy Stamp Hunting!

Join the U.S. Lighthouse Society Today!
Help us to continue our important work of
preserving lighthouses and
their history

Thomas Point Shoal Lighthouse Restoration

Society Members Tour Cape Arago Lighthouse, Oregon

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