



STAMP FLASHES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE USLHS PASSPORT CLUB



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US Lighthouse Society's Passport Club Newsletter

Number 13 – February, 2014

lighthousepassportclub.org

A New Year for Lighthouse Passport Stamp Hunting

2014 is the beginning of our third year of the Passport Club. Starting with just a few members, we have now grown to over 1,100 passionate passport stamp hunters. The sale of passports has increased dramatically and the number of locations continues to expand. We are pleased to see more families becoming involved in the program and the younger generation taking an interest in lighthouses. Without them the future of these historical structures would be in jeopardy. We are also delighted with the number of locations that are now contacting us and asking to become part of the program. This is in large part due to your encouraging sites to join the more than 450 locations currently part of the program. We are also receiving requests from new locations to create a second stamp for a lighthouse. Keep those emails coming in with updated information - it helps all of us to keep up with an ever evolving program (passportclub@uslhs.org).

New Stamps

St. Joseph North Pier, Michigan

A second, different stamp, has been created for the St. Joseph North Pier Lighthouse in Michigan. It will be available at Purely Michigan, 406 State Street, Saint Joseph, MI 49085. 269-983-3300. Donations will be forwarded to the City of St. Joseph, which has taken ownership of the lighthouse and is raising money for its restoration and preservation. This is one of the lighthouses on Lake Michigan whose winter icy photos have gone viral this year.



Vermilion Lighthouse, Ohio

Two different stamps have been created for the Vermilion Lighthouse located in Vermilion, Ohio. One is located at the Shore Thing kiosk on the beach by the lighthouse and the other is located at Main Street Vermilion, 685 Main Street. 440-963-0772. See the listing on the Passport Club website for availability information.



Round Island Lighthouse, Mississippi



The City of Pascagoula has completed the initial restoration of the Round Island Lighthouse, which was moved from offshore to the city. The USLHS Gulf Coast tour in 2011 visited the base of the light from which the tower rose again, using bricks from the original structure. They continue to raise funds for further work and now have a Society stamp. We

heartily congratulate them on their efforts to preserve their lighthouse! The

new stamp is located at: Arts on the Avenue, 618 Delmas Avenue,

Pascagoula, MS 39567. 228-938-6789. <http://cityofpascagoula.com/arts-on-the-avenue>



Second Stamps

Tchefuncte River Lighthouse, Louisiana

The Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum in Madisonville, Louisiana, currently has two stamps. One is a Society stamp and one is for the Museum, which depicts the lighthouse.

Website: <http://www.lpbmaritimemuseum.org>

Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse & Museum, Florida

In addition to a Society stamp, there is a second stamp depicting the lighthouse at the museum gift shop. <http://www.jupiterlighthouse.org>

Stamp Collection FAQ's

Obtaining a Stamp via Mail

We have received a number of inquiries regarding issues with obtaining a stamp image from a lighthouse or boat tour company via mail. Whether or not any organization responds to a written request for a copy of the stamp is entirely up to them. Their participation in the program is entirely voluntary. We do encourage them to provide the stamp if you send them at least a \$1 donation, a self addressed stamped envelop and a photo you took when you visited the light. The best thing to do to insure that you are not disappointed is to call the lighthouse, organization or company to find out what their policy is before stopping by an office or sending a donation and photo.

Availability of Second Stamps

A number of participating locations possess an official Society stamp and one or more locally created stamps. Some lighthouse related stamps are also located at non-lighthouse locations (commercial businesses, chambers of commerce or visitor's centers). We rely on club members to let us know when and where these stamps are available. Unfortunately, circumstances change and workers, staff or volunteers are often not aware of the existence of these stamps or are simply unwilling to go out of their way to help you locate them. While this can be frustrating, this occurs with similar stamp programs. The best thing to do when you are at a lighthouse is to simply ask them if they have more than one stamp or if they know if another stamp is available elsewhere. We will continue to post information in the Stamp Flashes from club members who find multiple stamps with the caveat that they may be

available one day and then disappear the next. Only if we are sure about the location and availability of multiple stamps will we include them on the website. Finally, remember that if you receive multiple stamps, you should make multiple donations!

Donations for Stamps

A major purpose of the Lighthouse Passport Program is to help raise funds for participating locations to support their maintenance, restorations and preservation efforts. However, a number of club members have encountered a situation where a location is not equipped to accept donations. This normally occurs when the stamp is not housed at the lighthouse and is often the case with multiple stamps. It also can occur when the stamp is housed with a commercial company that provides trips to view the lighthouse but there is no preservation organization to take donations. When this happens, you might consider sending donations for these stamps to the Society where the money is earmarked for larger donations to individual lighthouses. It may not be the same lighthouse, but it will go to lighthouse preservation. You can send cash or checks made out to: USLHS Passport Program, 9005 Point No Point Rd, NE, Hansville, WA 98340.

Hall of Fame Additions

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

I've Seen the Light

Bonnie Brown
Gloria Marrone
Richard Royce*
Dawn Smith*

Silver Level

Palmer Kane*
Glenn & Jeannie Swanson**
Jason Yao**
Bob & Diane Eugley

Gold Level

Beth Hofman

Platinum Level

Vladimir Hurych*

300 Level

Hobie & Winnie Statzer*
Jeannette O'Neal

360 Level

Machelle Dumaine*****

Tour of Eastern Michigan Lighthouses

The Society tour of the lighthouses of Eastern Michigan (Lake Huron, Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River) will provide another great opportunity to fill up a passport book. Between the tour stamps, especially created for participants, and the ones available at the many lighthouses visited, you could accumulate as many as 37 stamps. The tour includes five different boat trips which will get you to some little seen off shore lighthouses. For a complete description of the tour and a list of lighthouses, visit:

http://uslhs.org/tours_2014_04_eastern_michigan.php

Boat Cruise to Cape Charles and Chesapeake Tower Lighthouses

Two lighthouses that are very difficult to view up close will be highlighted on a boat trip out of Virginia Beach, Virginia on May 4, 2014. We have a limited number of spaces to join the Society's Outer Banks Tour for a one day cruise past the Cape Charles Lighthouse and then venturing 14 miles out to sea to view the "Texas Tower" Chesapeake Lighthouse. We will also pass both the Old and New Cape Henry Lighthouses along the way. Cost of the trip is \$70 per person without lunch and \$82.50

with a box lunch. The trip will depart from Virginia Beach Fishing Center in Rudy Inlet at 9:00 a.m. on May 4 and return around 2:00 p.m. Passport stamps for both lighthouses will be available on the cruise courtesy of the Chesapeake Chapter of the USLHS. For more information or to obtain a registration form, call Skip Sherwood at 415-362-7255 or send an email to skip@uslhs.org.



Holiday Stamp Image Fundraiser Success

Hopefully, you purchased your special 2013 holiday stamp featuring the twin lights of Cape Ann. Each year we share our holiday fund raiser donations with the lighthouse depicted on the Christmas ornament. As a result of the sales of the stamp image, ornaments and passports the Society will be forwarding a donation of \$1,285 to the Thacher Island Association, in recognition of their efforts to preserve the Cape Ann Lighthouses.



Updated Mini List of Locations

We have updated the mini list of lighthouse stamp locations. You can print it out from the following web page: http://www.uslhs.org/assets/full_page_mini_list.pdf

Questions? Comments? Updates? Photos?

If you have any questions about the Passport program or have anything you would like to share with other stamp hunters, just send an email to passportclub@uslhs.org. We will pass it along in a future Passport Flashes. Another way to share information is to go to the USLHS Facebook page and post your photos or updates: <https://www.facebook.com/USLHS>.

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

USLHS
The Keeper's Log
Magazine

To Join the U.S. Lighthouse Society and begin your
subscription to *The Keeper's Log Magazine*...
Call - 415-362-7255
or visit our website at www.uslhs.org

Thomas Point Shoal Lighthouse Restoration

Society Members Tour Cape Arago Lighthouse, Oregon