



"I Like My Beacon Crisp"

# Crisp Point Light Historical Society

**Newsletter #30  
February 2011**

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## Camping Weekend 2011

Once again, member families will be allowed to camp at the light on Memorial Day weekend, May 27-30. There will be a small amount of work to do, but mostly it will be visiting with other members and relaxing. There is plenty of room for tents, and a few campers. For more information, please call Rick Brockway at (517) 230-6294 or email [cplhs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cplhs@sbcglobal.net).



## CPLHS Annual Conference

The 15th Crisp Point Annual Conference will take place on Saturday, July 16, 2011 at the Whitefish Township School in Paradise at 10:00 a.m. Coffee will be available at 9:00 a.m. for those who want to arrive early. Your admission price includes breakfast and lunch at the school and a hot dog dinner out at the lighthouse. During the morning, we will hear of all the latest news regarding the lighthouse. There will be Crisp Point merchandise available and we will hold our annual auction. This year we are pleased to welcome a special guest speaker, Paul Sabourin. Paul is the curator of the Sault Historic Sites, which includes the Museum Ship Valley Camp.

The conference pricing has been changed this year. Individuals are now \$12 per person, and we have a new family price of \$30. Children 12 and under are still free. All are welcome, you do not need to be a CPLHS member to attend. Sign up using the form on page 4 of this newsletter, pay at the door, or visit our website and print out the form. If you would like to help, or have other questions, please call Rick at (517) 230-6294.



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## Return to Crisp Point

By Lee Hackbarth

It is good to see that some things stand the test of time – even things that are done by young Coast Guardsmen in the course of their days work.

A recent trip back to Crisp Point gave me the chance to see again some of the projects I was part of while stationed with the Aids to Navigation Team in Sault Ste. Marie, (ANT SOO) from 1981 to 1984.

This trip back started with an appeal from the Crisp Point Lighthouse Association for anyone with artifacts, pictures, or stories of Crisp Point for their new visitor's center. As luck would have it, I had all three. With a quick e-mail to Rick Brockway at the Association and a nice long phone conversation one weekend the arrangements were made to visit and bring a little of the light's history home.

I would just like to comment briefly on the fantastic job that all involved did on the restoration of the service building and on the new visitor's center. What a vast difference in the whole area from when I was involved in the erosion survey in 1984 when the decision was being made whether to fix the lighthouse or knock it down to replace it with a steel pole. How lucky we are that the forces of budgets and nature have left the tower standing for all to enjoy. My wife was somewhat skeptical of the "improved road" leading in to the light but I assured her that compared to bumping along seven miles of two track road in our station's old Dodge Power Wagon and then about a half mile walk down the beach, this was in fact an improvement.

Crisp Point was nearly the western most reach of our area of operations with only the break wall lights at Little Lake Harbor being further west. A simple service visit was almost a day's work in itself and a re-charge of the battery rack was an adventure in the making. At the time Crisp Point's 300mm lantern was powered by a 3,000 amp. battery rack consisting of 10 Edison ST3 batteries. Rather than carry the batteries the half mile down the beach by hand (No 3 or 4-wheelers yet), recharges were done in the winter when snowmobiles could bring you and the batteries right to the door. Of course this meant that you also had to snowmobile the seven miles from where organized snow plowing stopped. Quite a little ride on sleds behind our old Ski Doo Alpines. It was in part due to this that Crisp Point got one of the first solar power arrays that we installed.

In 1982 or 83, the Coast Guard started using solar power panels on navigation lights, and it was my understanding that ANT SOO installed some of the first ones in the Ninth District. Although the solar panels are gone, the brackets remain where we fabricated and welded them in place so many years ago. Perhaps not the prettiest feats of engineering – but it did the job.



Lee Hackbarth, in the 1980's

Some of our other projects were in response to the stupidity of vandalism. (Twelve years a corrections officer and I still believe that vandalism is one of the most senseless of crimes.) If you stand on the shore side and look at the base of the tower you can still

see an area that I patched after someone decided to try to pound their way in to the tower through the bricks. They had gotten through about three layers of the thickest part of the tower before giving up. I carried in a bag of mortar mix and a bucket and using bricks picked up from the beach, (probably from the old keepers quarters) and patched the hole.

The doors to the service building and tower took more effort and engineering. At some point vandals had bent the steel door loose from the service building, probably using some type of vehicle. In response we fabricated a new heavy steel door to replace the old wooden door at the base of the tower. The only problem was how to get the new heavy steel door down the beach and to the light – did I mention the new door was heavy?

With our usual flair for ingenuity we made a trailer from an old snowmobile sled, wheels from an air compressor, some galvanized water pipe for a hitch, and several Coast Guardsmen for power. We pushed, pulled, and dragged our new door and tools out to the lighthouse and installed it where it remains today although Rick Brockway tells me that there are plans to replace it with a copy of the original wooden door. (Good thing I took a picture of the original door before we replaced it.) The vandalized door to the service building was also fixed and



If you look closely, you can see the bent door.

reinforced at that time and remained in place even when erosion caused the rest of the building to fall away from it.



The original wooden door at the base of the tower.

It was good to see these things again and remember some of the good times at Crisp Point and ANT SOO. I enjoyed spending a perfect June day seeing the light and climbing the tower for the first time since 1984. It was even better exchanging information and theories about the light's history. I had been lucky to have been with Mr. Hubert Rodgers on the erosion survey when he told stories about projects he had done at Crisp Point and I passed these along as best as I could remember. Once again I have to commend everyone that had a hand in establishing and maintaining the visitor center at Crisp Point. I recommend it to everyone to make the trip up and see it.

*Lee Hackbarth is a member of CPLHS.*

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Welcome!

We would like to thank all of the members who have recently renewed their memberships, and welcome the following new members:

## eBay Giving Works Program

Now you can support Crisp Point Light while you are buying or selling on eBay. Crisp Point Light Historical Society is now an official eBay Giving Works non-profit organization. If you are selling an item, you can set a percentage of your sale to go directly to Crisp Point. If you are buying, you can search for those listings that are donating money to Crisp Point. For all the details, please visit our web site: <http://crisppointlighthouse.org/ebaygiving.html>.

## Thank You!

A huge thank you to Rick Brockway's granddaughter, Kalei and her cousin, Kywren. Kalei and Kywren stamped the CPLHS address on over 8,000 brochures that were delivered to the MDOT warehouse for distribution to Michigan Welcome Centers.

Susan & Tony Baynard—Thompsonville, MI  
 Bruce & Char Bollinger—Oscoda, MI  
 John Briggs—Whitmore Lake, MI  
 Claude Butcher—Lansing, MI  
 Pamela Cook—Janesville, WI  
 Bill & Patty Dettmer Jr.—Millersburg, OH  
 Paula Renker & John Grambau—Midland, MI  
 Dave, Niki & Thomas Haddix—Dundee, MI  
 Randy Kursinsky—Midland, MI  
 Ellen & Al Lasky—Sterling Heights, MI  
 Dennis & Carol McClure—Scotts, MI  
 Don & Jane Miller—Albuquerque, NM  
 Danette M Narregan—Niles, MI  
 Donna Payne—Winder, GA  
 Richard Peters—Wixom, MI  
 Steve & Lucy Schiller—Clarksville, IN  
 Gary Wright—Rochester Hills, MI

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### CPLHS MEMBERSHIP, DONATION & CONFERENCE FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Membership</b>	New _____	1 year Single \$20.00 _____	2 year single \$35.00 _____
	Renewal _____	1 year Family \$30.00 _____	2 year Family \$50.00 _____
<b>Donation</b>		I would like to make a donation in the amount of \$ _____	
<small>A lifetime family membership comes with a donation of \$500 (may be tax deductible, consult your tax adviser)</small>			
<b>Conference July 16, 2011</b>		\$12 per person, \$30 per family, children 12 & under are free	
Number of Adults= _____	Number of Children under 12= _____	total \$ _____	

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CPLHS

Mail to: CPLHS, Rick Brockway, 450 W. Marr Rd., Howell, MI 48855

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## Rock Fundraiser Update

**THANK YOU** to all of the following people who have donated money to help pay for rocks. So far we have raised a total of \$2,196!

James & Barbara Achtenberg

Richard & Barbara Boerger

Charles & Diane Brandstetter

Lynne Carmody

Tom & Darlene Chisholm

Roger Eberhardt

Mark Gundersen

Ron & Brenda Hershberger

Greg & Kittie Johnson

William & Tina Joy

William H. Lane

Judith Markley

Cynthia Motzenbecker

James & Barbara Nicholson

Derwood & Laurie Novak

Thomas & Nancy Osenbaugh

Paul Pakula

Richard Wagner & Judy Schlottman

Geoff & Lauda Sisung

Thomas H. Smith

Judy & Craig Taggart

Ann Thorne

Richard & Doris Troll

Larry & Elaine Watson

Gary Wright

## New Merchandise Items

We now have souvenir shot glasses for \$3.00 and we also have new, larger coffee mugs for \$10.00. See the order form on the back page, or order online.

## Volunteer Keeper Program

We have had a fantastic response to our volunteer keeper program! Last season, we had only 3 days that a volunteer keeper was not available. This coming season, almost every day has been reserved. Having the tower and visitor center open to as many visitors as possible will make each visit as enjoyable as possible. As a result, merchandise sales, donations and new memberships will increase.

Thank you to all the volunteer keepers who helped last year, and those who plan to help this year. We couldn't do it without you!

Visit the online calendar volunteer keepers at: [www.localendar.com/public/crisppointlighthouse](http://www.localendar.com/public/crisppointlighthouse).

For more details about being a keeper, visit [crisppointlighthouse.org/volunteerkeepers.html](http://crisppointlighthouse.org/volunteerkeepers.html).

## Electronic Newsletter

CPLHS members can get the Crisp Point newsletter sent directly to their email. The electronic version is in color, and you can print any or all of the pages. You can also have it sent to all the email addresses in your household. Over 175 members have chosen the electronic newsletter, saving CPLHS approximately \$700 each year! Your address will be used only for Crisp Point business and will NEVER be shared. To switch to email, just send a message to Margaret at [crisppoint1904@yahoo.com](mailto:crisppoint1904@yahoo.com).

## Visitor Center Fundraiser

The following people have contributed to the fundraiser for the visitor center building, bringing our total to almost \$18,000! **Thank you** to all who have helped!

### **\$50 or \$100 Donation**

Susan & Tony Baynard

Patrick & Dolores Blohm

Sig & Barb Johnson

Jane & Jeff Puvogel

### **Sponsor a Board**

Rich Fitzsimmons

Ann Markley

# Crisp Point Rocks!

The large rocks along the bank have protected the lighthouse for many years. The first ones were placed in 1999, and additional rocks were added in 2003 and 2007. These have served us well, but more are needed. The rocks are being undermined by the waves, and the bank on the east end collapsed during a storm in 2009. New rock has been delivered by Lechner Construction, and they have generously allowed us to make partial payments. At this time, we are asking for your help, in the form of a donation that will help pay for the rocks. As a bonus, donors may receive a silhouette similar to the new sign on the visitor center. These are exclusively available to those who contribute to this fundraiser and will not be sold separately. Those who donate \$60 will receive a round silhouette, 10 inches in diameter, while donors of \$100 will receive a 14 inch silhouette.



The silhouettes, at right, are made of laser cut stainless steel and are similar to the new sign on the Visitor Center shown at left.

These silhouettes will only be available until the end of 2011.



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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Donation (receive 14" silhouette)  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$60 Donation (receive 10" silhouette)  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$\_\_\_\_\_ Donation to rock fundraiser

Make checks out to: **Crisp Point Light Historical Society**

Please mail check & form to: Margaret Warren, 11030 Brookfield, Livonia, MI 48150  
Questions, please call (734) 421-7512 or email [crisppoint1904@yahoo.com](mailto:crisppoint1904@yahoo.com). All contributions will be recognized in an upcoming newsletter. Donations may be tax deductible, consult your tax adviser.

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Ice on the lantern room windows



## Crisp Point in Winter

All of the pictures on page 1 and on this page were taken by Rick Brockway

December 2010 and January 2011

**CPLHS MERCHANDISE ORDER FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Item	Size	Color	Quantity	Price Ea.	Total
<b>Crisp Point T-Shirt</b> "I Like My Beacon Crisp" on back, silk-screen lighthouse artwork on front					
S-M-L-XL		gray-white-navy-stone blue-dk orange-sage green		\$15.00	
XXL		gray-white-navy-stone blue-dk orange-sage green		\$17.50	
XXXL		gray-white-orange		\$19.50	

<b>Crisp Point Sweatshirt</b> Heavy duty 50/50 Lee top quality, embroidered letters plus silkscreened artwork of lighthouse					
S-M-L-XL		navy		\$42.00	
XXL		navy		\$45.00	
XXXL		navy		\$48.00	

<b>Crisp Point Long Sleeve T-Shirt</b> Heavy duty, silk screen of lighthouse, with embroidered lettering					
S-M-L-XL		brick red-gray-bright orange		\$29.00	
XXL		brick red-gray-bright orange		\$32.50	

<b>Crisp Point Denim Long Sleeve Shirt</b> Top quality, embroidery at front pocket					
S-M-L-XL		denim		\$37.50	
XXL		denim		\$39.50	
XXXL		denim		\$45.00	

<b>CPLHS Jacket</b> Crisp Point Light Historical Society and lighthouse logo embroidered on front <b>*SPECIAL ORDER*</b>					
S-M-L-XL-XXL		red-green-black-khaki-royal blue-navy blue		\$75.00	
Tall L-XL		red-forest green-black-khaki-royal blue-navy blue		\$75.00	

<b>Crisp Point Hoodie</b> Screen print CRISP POINT on front in white					
S-M-L-XL		oxford (light gray) - maroon		\$24.00	
XXL		oxford (light gray) - maroon		\$26.00	
XXXL		oxford (light gray) - maroon		\$28.00	

<b>Crisp Point Embroidered Bucket Hat</b>					
S/M or L/XL		khaki		\$14.00	

<b>Crisp Point Denim Cap</b> embroidered, made of stonewashed denim					
one size		blue- green- burgundy		\$12.00	

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CPLHS**

MAIL TO: CPLHS  
 Rick Brockway  
 450 W. Marr Rd  
 Howell, MI 48855

	Crisp Point Light Hat Pin	\$3.50
	Crisp Point Lighthouse Ink Pen (black ink)	\$1.00
	Napkin Holder	\$10.00
	Architectural Survey Book	\$22.00
	Coffee Mug 14 oz.	\$10.00
	Black Metal Silhouette 15" x 20"	\$25.00
	Black Metal Silhouette 21" x 28.5"	\$35.00
	Souvenir Shot Glass	\$3.00

Shipping/Handling to U.S.	
Merchandise	Shipping
0-\$5.00	\$2.95
\$5.01-\$25.00	\$7.95
\$25.01-\$50.00	\$10.95
\$50.01-\$75.00	\$14.95
\$75.01 and up	\$17.95

**MERCHANDISE TOTAL**  
**SHIPPING (SEE CHART AT LEFT)**

**SUBTOTAL**

**MI RESIDENTS, ADD 6% SALES TAX (X .06)**

**TOTAL**

Questions?  
 email: cplhs@sbcglobal.net  
 call: 517-230-6294 or 517-546-5283