

"I Like My Beacon Crisp"

# THE CRISPY BEACON

Crisp Point Light Historical Society  
PO Box 28, Newberry, MI 49868  
Email: [info@crisppointlighthouse.org](mailto:info@crisppointlighthouse.org)  
Website: [www.crisppointlighthouse.org](http://www.crisppointlighthouse.org)  
CPLHS Facebook group page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/crisppointlighthouse/>

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: GINA MOORE



*Photo Courtesy of Linda McKinney*

2024 was another successful year for Crisp Point. That success wouldn't have been possible without our volunteer keepers who keep the visitors center and lighthouse open during the season from May to October. Throughout the season we had many visitors... a whopping 17,345 checked

in on our guest books!

That is almost a 6% increase from 2023. We had visitors from the following countries: Switzerland, China, Germany, England, Chile, Costa Rica, Australia, Canada, Mexico, Poland, Philippines, Austria, France, and the United Kingdom.

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Friendly Reminder: Please inform us of any address changes; resending to new addresses takes time and requires additional funds. Your attention to this is greatly appreciated! Please email updates to Teri Beasley at [crisppoint@gmail.com](mailto:crisppoint@gmail.com).

*Photo Courtesy of Linda McKinney**Photo Courtesy of Mike Simon**Photo Courtesy of Diane Rathis*

## Year in Review Con't

From the continental United States, Michigan was the most represented state in regards to visitors. A huge thank you goes out to each, and everyone who has visited Crisp Point and got to witness the beauty that it offers!

2024 marked the fourth year of the MDOT Adopt a Highway clean up. Last year there were 10 bags of trash picked up. The efforts of our volunteers help make our 3 mile stretch of M-123 look beautiful and favorable for the environment. Please consider volunteering for our 2025 MDOT Adopt a Highway clean ups on May 10, July 20 and September 20. If interested or if you would like further information, please reach out to Duke Guy at: [dukeguy55@gmail.com](mailto:dukeguy55@gmail.com).

May 11th marked the beginning of prep week to prepare for opening weekend. A huge thank you goes out to the Scouts BSA Troop #337 from Hemlock, MI. The troop assisted with many tasks, including taking loads and loads of sand off the boardwalk.

In addition, benches were repaired, several boardwalk boards were replaced and picnic tables were waterproofed.

One addition to the grounds was the installation of the interpretive sign. The sign highlights a brief history of Crisp Point. More information on Crisp Point history can be found at: [www.crisppointlighthouse.org](http://www.crisppointlighthouse.org).

Over the past couple years, several sections of rope along the boardwalk were replaced with chain to improve longevity. That project concluded this past season. Other installations include handrails on the east beach stairs and gutters and eave spouts on the Visitors Center. Stay tuned to upcoming newsletters for more maintenance, preservation and restoration updates!

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR  
NEXT NEWSLETTER:  
MARCH 15, 2025**



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# Meet the Newest Board Members

Gina Moore

Hello! I am originally from Hemlock, MI but currently reside in Auburn, MI. I was introduced to Crisp Point by my Uncle John Rath; who is also a former member of the board. I made my first trip to the lighthouse in 2017 and was in awe of how beautiful the lighthouse was. During my first visit at the lighthouse, I got to talk to keepers and I thought how cool would it be to do this.

Fast forward to 2019, I had my first stint as a lighthouse keeper along with my boyfriend (now husband). From that point on, we have always referred to Crisp Point as our home away from home. Later that year, we went back to the lighthouse for closing weekend and during that time, my husband proposed to me at the top of the tower. I've had so many wonderful memories at the lighthouse and because of that; Crisp Point has always had a special place in my heart. Since that time in 2019, my husband and I have been keepers every year.

I am very excited to be a new member of the board and also newsletter editor!

Jack Messer

OUR FIRST VISIT TO CRISP POINT by Jack Messer

It's fall of 2018, and colors will be peak in the U.P. So we load up the camper and head to Tahquamenon. We are all set up and nestled in when mother nature sends the thunderstorm of the century. Rain on the roof to put you to sleep? No, more like a herd of buffalo running across the roof.

We get up the next morning to limbs down, puddles everywhere, shower rooms closed, and no power in the campground. The Ranger corrects this to no power in the Eastern U.P.

What to do? Let's take a drive. We head West on M-123, and drive past a small white sign with a lighthouse on it. Stop, reverse, back up. What do you think? Let's give it a try. We turn on CR-500 and with in 5 miles have crawled through 3 puddles that completely cover the road. Shouldn't we turn back? No dear, we have 4 wheel drive. We follow the hodge podge of signs pointing us towards the lighthouse. The road gets worse. Shouldn't we turn back? Well dear, we have come this far, how much farther can it be?

Next sign, "Crisp Point Light House 7 Miles." We press on. We can make it. Chuck holes, puddles, limbs down. It's now a matter of pride. At least the sun has come out and the sky a brilliant blue. We round the final turn and through the trees, our first glimpse of the Tower. Amazing. Absolutely amazing. Superior welcomes us with a big wave, spray flung into the air. The Visitors Center is open. The couple from Indiana. Cheerful, friendly, and yes, the tower is open. Go on up, it's free.

We climb the 64 steps and look out, awestruck. The view. The solitude. The azure sky. The voice of Gitche Gumee calling. Captivating. We vow to return. And we do.

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# SHE SAID YES!



A few years ago, Jessica Le had never been to Michigan, or even given it a second thought. She was born in Pennsylvania and spent most of her life there. She wasn't even aware that Michigan had an Upper Peninsula. She was living in Canonsburg, a small community just south of Pittsburgh. During her time there was when she met Brian Oakley, a Lansing native. Brian has always had a love for Lake Superior.

Jessica will admit that most of their dating was hearing of his dreams and the desire to be close to Lake Superior because of its beautiful shoreline. After hearing his stories, she was intrigued and eager to explore the part of Michigan that Brian loves so much. Each trip she took to Michigan typically resulted in a trip to the Upper Peninsula. The first trip was in October of 2023, which also included a trip to Crisp Point. Brian had always wanted to visit the lighthouse and figured he would love to share his first Crisp Point experience with the woman he loved. As many do, they fell in love with the lighthouse and grounds upon their arrival.

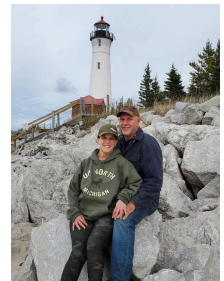
The following year consisted of many trips to the lighthouse. One trip with her 10-year-old daughter, then again in late summer when her mother, Donna traveled to Michigan for the annual Mackinac Bridge Walk. There were high winds that weekend during their visit. They got to witness the beauty of the lake with its very large waves, which was a big change from their previous trips. Jessica said that the water on the earlier trip was so unusually warm that it felt like bath water.

Brian and Jessica love Lake Superior and Crisp Point so much that became a necessary visit. 2024 was starting to wrap up and they both agreed that one more trip was in order before the end of the year. Jessica made it a point to schedule a trip to Michigan in October with the hopes to see the beauty of the Upper Peninsulas autumn colors, Lake Superior and the joy of Crisp Point. Little did she know that Brian had a special treat planned for this trip that he had already cleared through her mother and her sister.

At the top of the tower on the lake side of the light on October 12, 2024, Jessica was admiring the beauty of the lake, looking to the northwest. As she was taking a picture of Lake Superior, she heard Brian say "HEY!". She then turned to find Brian on one knee, holding a beautiful diamond ring as he asked, "Will you marry me?". The answer was an excited YES! The beauty and peacefulness of Crisp Point made this an experience they will never forget, cementing the fact that trips to this amazing area will forever be a part of their summers and lives together. The wedding is in August 2025 in Marquette, MI and Crisp Point is on the honeymoon agenda.

Congratulations to Brian & Jessica!

*Photos Courtesy of Jessica Le*



Want to share your favorite Crisp Point stories or memories?

Email: [newsletter@crisppointlighthouse.org](mailto:newsletter@crisppointlighthouse.org)



**COMING  
SOON**  
*Stay Tuned*

## CPLHS Annual Summer Conference Saturday July 19, 2025

Where: Whitefish Community Center  
7052 N M123  
Paradise MI 49768

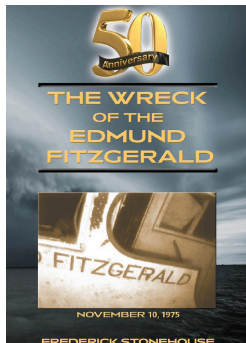
Time: 9am - Light Breakfast  
10am - Conference begins  
Noon - Lunch

What to expect: Raffle, silent auction, great food and a soon to be announced guest speaker(s)!

Contact: Linda McKinney; phone: 317.446.1280  
email: [linda@crisppointlighthouse.org](mailto:linda@crisppointlighthouse.org)



**NEW  
MERCHANDISE!**



Don't miss out on exclusive  
Crisp Point merchandise!

Many items to choose from  
which include but not limited  
to: books, hoodies, shirts, hats,  
socks, puzzles, stickers and  
more!



All Crisp Point merchandise can be found online at:  
<https://crisppointlight.square.site>

All sales  
are  
final!

## ***CRISP KEEPERS: THE NEXT GENERATION***

Long time CPLHS Keeper and Board Member Shelley Guy shares this photo of herself along with her granddaughters: Ansley, Harper and Lennon.

In total, Shelley has 6 grandchildren and they are all lifetime members. Her granddaughter Ansley has assisted Shelley several times during her keeper stays. She hopes that one day all of her grandchildren will follow in her footsteps of becoming a lighthouse keeper. Shelley believes that it is so important that the younger generation gets involved because they are the future of Crisp Point.



## CAPTURING MOMENTS

# Crafting Stories



## Owen's Lighthouse and Waterfall Adventures

@owenslighthouseandwaterfal8940 · 246 subscribers · 117 videos

Adventures to lighthouses and waterfalls throughout Michigan, including chapters read b...more

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There is no doubt that Crisp Point captivates individuals from all walks of life. Crisp Point recently grabbed the attention of Brian Anderson and his young son Owen.

Together, they have the talent of making videos of lighthouses and waterfalls located in Michigan. Often sharing aerial footage of locations while Owen narrates by providing a rich history of the location.

The video they made of Crisp Point was a first for them. It includes some layovers which highlights the “then” vs “now” of Crisp Point. It really puts into perspective how much erosion has taken place on the shoreline in recent decades. The video also highlights why it is important to not follow your GPS while going out to Crisp Point!

Owen has several videos on his YouTube channel, including nearby attractions such

as Tahquamenon Falls, Whitefish Point Lighthouse and the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum.

Please consider subscribing to Owen's YouTube channel:  
@owenslighthouseandwaterfal8940

Crisp Point Lighthouse:  
<https://youtu.be/LlNoJqBgPXU>

Tahquamenon Falls:  
[https://youtu.be/6fs2\\_5ghVjQ](https://youtu.be/6fs2_5ghVjQ)

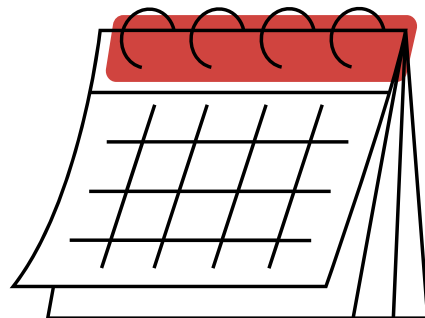
Shipwreck Museum:  
[https://youtu.be/n478aN\\_5k2Y](https://youtu.be/n478aN_5k2Y)

Whitefish Point Lighthouse:  
<https://youtu.be/uUXBj3-t-k4>



## Upcoming EVENTS

Adopt a Highway Clean Up:	May 10
Member Work Week:	May 10-18
Lighthouse Open for Season:	May 17
CPLHS Annual Conference:	July 19
Adopt a Highway Clean Up:	July 20
Adopt a Highway Clean Up:	September 20
Lighthouse Closed for Season:	October 18



For more details, please visit our website at:  
<https://www.crisppointlighthouse.org/calendar.html>

2025 CPLHS Officers, Board Members and Appointments			
President	Cameron Lovett	<a href="mailto:crisppointlighthouse@yahoo.com">crisppointlighthouse@yahoo.com</a>	
Vice President	Linda McKinney	<a href="mailto:linda@crisppointlighthouse.org">linda@crisppointlighthouse.org</a>	317.446.1280
Secretary	William (Bill) Beasley	<a href="mailto:cplhsrecsec@crisppointlighthouse.org">cplhsrecsec@crisppointlighthouse.org</a>	989.859.1407
Treasurer	Diane Skop	<a href="mailto:diane@crisppointlighthouse.org">diane@crisppointlighthouse.org</a>	
Board Member	Gina Moore	<a href="mailto:gina@crisppointlighthouse.org">gina@crisppointlighthouse.org</a>	810.964.4236
Board Member	James Achtenberg	<a href="mailto:jacht@umich.edu">jacht@umich.edu</a>	
Board Member	Duke Guy	<a href="mailto:dukeguy55@gmail.com">dukeguy55@gmail.com</a>	
Board Member	Shelley Guy	<a href="mailto:hdbluedevil@chartermi.net">hdbluedevil@chartermi.net</a>	616.994.3144
Board Member	Jack Messer		
Secretary to the President	Teri Beasley	<a href="mailto:crisppoint@gmail.com">crisppoint@gmail.com</a>	

Show Your  
**SUPPORT**

Find out more ways at:  
<https://www.crisppointlighthouse.org/how.html>



Welcome New Members

William & Jeanne Altmiller-Columbus, OH  
 Stephen Gilbert-Ft Wayne, IN  
 Jim Tierman-New Hudson, MI  
 Bruce & Lora Carlson-Kentwood, MI  
 Karen Eckstine-Wadsworth, OH  
 Matthew Francis-Stockbridge, MI  
 Jake Hosey-Houghton, MI  
 Jessica Le-Bethel Park, PA  
 Elizabeth Lewis-Dayton, OH  
 Peter T Prouty-Traverse City, MI  
 Glen Nicol-Marysville, OH  
 Micheal Herrey-Stanfield, NC  
 Steven Fortriede-Huntertown, IN  
 Roger & Becky Tuuk-Fremont, MI  
 Gina Olson-Gwinn, MI  
 James Mort-Bloomington, MI  
 Mary Duran-Detroit, MI  
 Ellie, Archer, Eddy, Audrey Adams-Troy, OH  
 Martin Belynda-Lanse, MI  
 Heather Isley-Muskegon, MI  
 Linda Deyoung-Kalamazoo, MI  
 Annette Bonogofsky-Delton, MI  
 Deborah Clark-Manistee, MI  
 Thomas, Gina, Simon, Grace, Henry Nagle-  
 Grand Rapids, MI  
 Mary Sovis-Strefling-Manistee, MI  
 Laura Schurman-Grand Rapids, MI  
 Beth Lasky-Saginaw, MI  
 Faye Johnston-Cheboygan, MI  
 Francis Mertes-Jersey Shore, PA

Welcome Lifetime Members

Greg Johnson-Fredric, MI  
 Gina Moore & Robert Lederer-Auburn, MI  
 Jack & Margaret Messer-Traverse City, MI



The last 7 mile stretch to the lighthouse (County Road 412) is a seasonal unplowed road. From November to April 30th the road is not maintained by the Luce County Road Commission.

## Thank You

We would like to give so much gratitude and thanks to the individuals who helped in our projects with the ultimate goal to preserve, restore and maintain Crisp Point in 2024. Those individuals include but aren't limited to: Donna & Steve Mitchell, Jon Luikart, Mark Rousseau, Cathy Chenard, Judy Haupt, Lyra Empie, Mike Simon, Rick McKinney, John Rath and all of the volunteer keepers that performed any unreported maintenance.

Another round of thanks goes out to our volunteer keepers for dedicating their time, so Crisp Point can run smoothly during the season. To our visitors, and to anyone who made donations, purchased a membership, made purchases or left us positive reviews-- Thank you!

### Crisp Point Light Historical Society Membership / Donation Form

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

(Please include all names for family memberships above)

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check or money order payable to Crisp Point Light Historical Society & mail this completed form to: Crisp Point Light Historical Society, 1337 Highland St, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.**

By sending in this form, you are giving consent to CPLHS for the handling, collecting, and storing of your information.

<b>Membership Type:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year Individual \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Year Individual \$40
	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year Family \$35	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Year Family \$55
	<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime Family \$500		
<b>Please circle your newsletter delivery preference: US Mail • E-Mail • Both</b>			
<b>Donation:</b>	I would like to make a donation in the amount of \$ _____		

If you would prefer to pay online, please visit <https://www.crisppointlighthouse.org/member.html> instead of using this form.