

# THE CRISPY BEACON

PÓ Box 28, Newberry, MI 49868 Email: <u>info@crisppointlighthouse.org</u> Website: <u>www.crisppointlighthouse.org</u> CPLHS Facebook group page:

Crisp Point Light Historical Society

https://www.facebook.com/groups/crisppointlighthouse/

#### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR: GINA MOORE**



Due to the heavy snowfall, frigid temperatures, and significant rainfall, there was considerable uncertainty about our ability to carry out the prep week projects needed for a May 17th opening. Additionally, several washouts occurred on County Roads 500 and 412, making it impossible for us to travel back to the lighthouse. A heartfelt thank you goes to Mike McTiver and his team at the Luce County Road Commission for their swift work in repairing the damaged roads.

With the roads repaired and the weather trending in the right direction, a small team consisting of Cameron Lovett, Jack Messer and myself made it out to the lighthouse to assess the work that needed to be completed prior to opening.

This year was no different, there were significant amounts of sand on the boardwalk that needed shoveled off and plenty of routine maintenance work that needed to be completed.

In this newsletter you can expect:

Prep Week pg 1 & 2

Adopt-a-Highway pg 3

Crew Con pg 4 & 5

Meet the Keepers pg 6

Exclusive Merchandise pg 7

Hands in the Sand pg 8

New Members pg 8

Initially, we had a small team, but we successfully managed to clear some sand from the boardwalk, remove debris from the grounds, and sweep the tower.

While we were there, we observed that Crisp Point had suffered some vandalism during the winter months. One of the boardwalk posts sustained considerable damage, chains were torn from the posts, and the flagpole light and post were also affected. It saddens us to see such behavior, but our focus was to move forward and make the necessary repairs.

Jack Messer took the initiative to tackle numerous projects, including:

- Replacing 15 boards in the boardwalk leading to the visitor center
- Constructing a handrail in the attic of the visitor center
- Painting the tower handrail ball
- Fabricating a stand for the cement and stone artwork
- Repairing a plumbing vent
- Sealing picnic tables
- Replacing the boardwalk corner post, flagpole light, and post

His contributions did not go unnoticed.

On Tuesday, May 13th, Bill Beasley arrived along with Linda and Rick McKinney. Linda took charge of thoroughly cleaning the visitor center and restocking it with merchandise. A huge thank you goes out to Bill Beasley, Rick McKinney, Elizabeth Reuter, Jo Winkler-Bley, Cathy Chenard, Judy Haupt, Cameron Lovett, and Bonnie & Ron Tiedt for their assistance.

While Linda focused on cleaning and restocking the visitor center with merchandise, there was still a considerable amount of work that needed attention. Bill Beasley, Jack Messer, and Rick McKinney diligently worked to clear the remainder of the sand off the boardwalk, repaired the restroom, and replaced the water pump and gauges for the captive air tank. Additionally, the well pump pressure switch was replaced due to a leak. A heartfelt thanks goes out to Cathy Chenard and Cameron Lovett for quickly procuring the necessary replacement supplies. These tasks were accomplished alongside the repairs that were made to the boardwalk chain.

We were also fortunate enough to receive assistance from visitors prior to opening weekend. Jeff & Mary Ann McChesney and Cindy Hawley (featured on page 1) generously volunteered to help shovel sand off the boardwalk. Their contributions are truly appreciated!

Although it was uncertain whether we could open on schedule, the combined efforts of our volunteers and the road commission made it possible.

The lighthouse is open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and is expected to remain open until October 18, 2025. Please visit our Facebook page for further updates. We look forward to seeing you and thank you for your continued support!

Bottom Left: Fully stocked visitors center Middle Left: Damaged chains Middle Right: Cameron Lovett & Jack Messer Right: Rick McKinney, Bill Beasley & Jack Messer



Photo Courtesy of: Linda McKinney



Photo Courtesy of: Linda McKinney



Photo Courtesy of: Gina Moore



Photo Courtesy of: Linda McKinney

## **ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY**

With the challenging Michigan winter, there On July 20th, we held our second Adopt-awas considerable uncertainty about whether we could carry out our first Adopta-Highway cleanup on May 10th, given the heavy snow on the roads and significant rainfall throughout the Upper Peninsula. Fortunately, the odds turned in our favor; the snow melted, and the rain ceased. Ultimately, we had 11 volunteers who came together to collect litter along our 3-mile stretch of M-123, resulting in a total of 4 bags for the year is scheduled for Saturday, of garbage being picked up.

The summer months bring an influx of visitors to the Tahquamenon Falls area, leading to an increase in litter along the roads.

Highway event of the season, with the support of 11 volunteers who helped collect an additional four bags of trash from the roadside. These events wouldn't be able to take place without our volunteers and we can't thank them enough.

Our next and final Adopt-a-Highway event September 20th. For more details, please contact Duke Guy at <u>dukeguy55@gmail.com</u>. We look forward to seeing you there!



Photo Courtesy of: Cameron Lovett

#### MAY 10<sup>th</sup> VOLUNTEERS

Cameron Lovett, Duke Guy, Shelley Guy, Bear Braun, Gina Moore, Jack Messer, Judy Umlor, Amanda & John Monroe, Judy Haupt and Cathy Chenard

#### JULY 20TH VOLUNTEERS

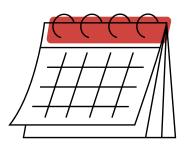
Cameron Lovett, Bear Braun, Bill Beasley, Shelley Guy, Duke Guy, Rob Lederer, Clark Kendall, Cathy Chenard, Judy Haupt, Jack Messer and Judy Umlor



Photo Courtesy of: Cameron Lovett



Adopt-a-Highway: Crisp Point Closed for Season: Sign up for 2026 Keeper Season: September 20 October 18 November 1



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

## Crew Con 2025

The Crisp Light Historical Society hosted its annual conference on Saturday, July 19, 2025, at the Whitefish Township Community Center in Paradise, MI.

The event featured opening speakers including Linda McKinney, Cameron Lovett, Bill Beasley, Shelley Guy, and Duke Guy. They took the opportunity to discuss:

- Current and future developments at Crisp Point
- A brief recap of the previous season
- An extensive expression of gratitude to our board members, volunteer keepers, and guests

The spotlight then shifted to Peggy O'Connell, who delivered an engaging presentation about the notorious Great Lakes pirate, Dan Seavey. She detailed Seavey's background and the demonstrated the passion that they various crimes he committed on the Great Lakes.

**Photos Courtesy** of: Gina Moore

Left: Book of Dan Seavey

Right: Captain Norris Seward (left) and Captain Ray Sheldon (right)



Peggy then transitioned from her role as a speaker to that of the moderator for Crew Con.

This year's Crew Con panel featured two distinguished captains. Captain Raymond Sheldon (retired) of the MV Joseph L. Block, which is a 728-footlong bulk carrier navigating the Great Lakes. Our other panelist, Captain Norris Seward, boasts a wealth of talents, including operating boats for the Original Soo Locks Boat Tours and pursuing his passion for photography. Many of his works are available for purchase at the Crisp Point visitors center.

Peggy had prepared an engaging series of questions for both captains, covering topics from their educational journeys to their lives on the Great Lakes. Their captivating and informative stories clearly had for their work.



Between the presentations, Kim Bean once again charmed everyone with an assortment of food items beautifully arranged on Grazing Tables. There was a delightful selection to cater to all tastes, ensuring that no one left feeling hungry.

As always, the conference was further enhanced by the presence of raffles, a silent auction, and door prizes. There were so many items that nobody left empty handed.

Judy Haupt and Cathy Chenard generously took the initiative to gather donations for the silent auction and door prizes. Judy even crafted a stunning quilt of Crisp Point, which was raffled off.

Additionally, both Judy and Cathy took the time to ensure that the conference venue was beautifully decorated. They also distributed flyers throughout the neighboring communities to promote the

Photos Courtesy of: Gina Moore Silent auction items from Oswalds Bear Ranch & Diane Blackwell of Farmington Hills. Grazing tables by Kim Bean





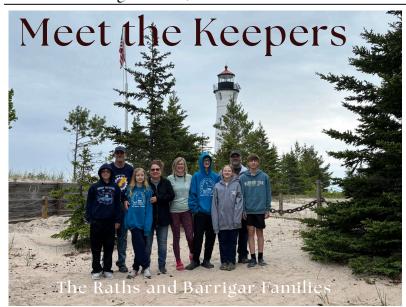
the event. Their dedication and effort have truly been valued.

Organizing a conference of this magnitude requires months of planning and hard work to guarantee its success. This event would not have been possible without our conference committee members: Linda McKinney (chairperson), Rick McKinney, Jim Achtenberg, Judy Haupt, Cathy Chenard, Jack Messer, Shelley Guy, and Duke Guy. In the lead-up to this occasion, this group held numerous meetings where they collaborated and delegated roles and responsibilities.

A final round of applause goes out to the guests of the conference. We had many returning guests and some who came for the very first time. Everybody came with the purpose to help preserve and maintain Crisp Point.









Written by: Diane Raths

My family has been going to Crisp Point Lighthouse for many years. We've helped out at times when our niece has been the keeper, but I always swore I'd never be a keeper myself—I prefer to be rockhounding on the beach and didn't want the commitment.

That all changed a few months ago when we were planning to be at the lighthouse to do some work, and the scheduled keepers canceled. I spoke to my family and our friends who were coming up with us, and we agreed to take over the keeper duties to cover the opening.

We were keepers for four days and loved every minute of it. I truly enjoyed working in the gift shop and meeting people—some who were visiting for the first time and others for probably the 100th time. Each visitor had a story to tell. Some of my favorites were the little boy who walked in to show me the Yooperlite he found on the beach. Later, his Grandpa came up and whispered to me that he had 'planted' it on the beach for him to find. We had a massive, 180-lb Irish wolfhound come into the gift shop—he was a beast but such a love bug and so well-mannered. An older gentleman came in with four very rambunctious young children who weren't prepared for the cooler Lake Superior temps. He bought them all sweatshirts, hats, socks, souvenirs—anything they picked out he got for them, and they picked out a lot. They later ran back into the gift shop after climbing the tower to give us a generous donation and tell us how much they loved their visit. Our entire group played a role in being keepers, and we all very much enjoyed our time there.

Photos Courtesy of: Diane Raths Top Left: JJ, John, Maggie & Diane Raths, Kristy, Travis, Lily, Jim and Chase Barrigar

Top Right: Lily & Maggie pricing postcards

Bottom Left: Diane with the 180-lb Irish wolfhound

Bottom Right: Maggie found a yooperlite





### **EXCLUSIVE MERCHANDISE**

Don't miss your chance to grab exclusive Crisp Point merchandise!

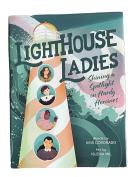
There's a wide selection available, including but not limited to: stoneware, playing cards, shirts, hats, books, and much more!

You can explore all Crisp Point merchandise online at:

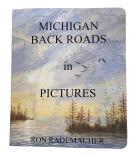
https://crisppointlight.square.site

\*\*All sales are final!\*\*























## Show Your SUPPORT









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

## Leave No TRACE

A Friendly Reminder About Trash at Crisp Point

We would like to kindly remind everyone that Crisp Point does not provide trash service. This means that any trash brought in must be taken out by the individual who brought it. Recently, we've noticed an increase in garbage and debris being left behind, which adds extra work for our volunteers.

Please remember to take all trash with you and leave no trace!

Welcome New Members
Jamie Banks - Muncie, IN
Lanie Manning- Muncie, IN
The Barrigar Family - Hemlock, MI
Paul & Deb Bush - Newberry, MI
Matthew & Stephanie Cussans - Trenton, MI
Russ & Dawn Cuthbert - Monticello, IN
Tom Farnquist Jr & Karen Cook - Sault Ste
Marie, MI
Andrew Haupt - Sterling Heights, MI
Danny & Joni Hodge - Mooresville, IN

Andrew Haupt - Sterling Heights, MI Danny & Joni Hodge - Mooresville, IN Gerald & Donna Kleinfelter - Kewadin, MI Allyson Locey - Bear Lake, MI Carol Locey - Manistee, MI Elaine Madsen - Pittsburgh, PA Larry Patrick - Lockport, IL



Want to share your favorite Crisp Point stories or memories?

Email: <u>newsletter@crisppointlighthouse.org</u>

SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER: NOVEMBER 30, 2025



To prevent further erosion and stabilize the sand along the shoreline at Crisp Point, we ordered 98 plugs of beach grass to be planted on the north side of the boardwalk.

Kalyb, Henry, and Owynn Martin were already assisting their parents with keeper duties at Crisp Point, so they offered Cameron Lovett valuable help in planting the beach grass. We are sincerely appreciative of their dedication and hard work!

Photos Courtesy of: Cameron Lovett







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

(Please include all names for fami	ly memberships above. Family members a	are defined in our policy as an adult or adult couple and any o	f their dependents living in the same household.)
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.			
Membership Type:	New Renewal	1 Year Individual \$25 1 Year Family \$35 Lifetime Family \$500	2 Year Individual \$40 2 Year Family \$55
Please circle your newsletter delivery preference: US Mail ● E-Mail ● Both			
Donation:	I would like to make a donation in the amount of \$		

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