

"I Like My Beacon Crisp"

# THE CRISPY BEACON

Crisp Point Light Historical Society  
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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



October 18th marked the conclusion of another operating season at Crisp Point. We had 49 groups of dedicated keepers this year, and their commitment was essential to our success. Throughout the season, the keepers welcomed 20,631 visitors (data collected on October 18th) from 48 states and 13 countries. This reflects an approximate 16% increase compared to 2024. The only states not represented were Vermont and Rhode Island. We had the pleasure of welcoming visitors from New Zealand, Italy, Canada, the United Kingdom, the United Arab

Emirates, Mongolia, Spain, Brazil, Ecuador, and Mexico.

This season, the lighthouse underwent significant restoration and maintenance. National Restoration successfully finished phase one of a two-phase project, which is expected to be completed in 2026. We are also very grateful to Dane McClelland from Camp 8 Services for his assistance with various projects this year.

We can't thank everybody enough for their volunteerism and support!

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Photo Courtesy of:  
Gina Moore

Another very productive season is now behind us. Thank you to everyone who came out to see Crisp Point this year and to all the volunteers that helped keep Crisp Point operating. We would not be able to do what we do without our volunteers, members, donors, and visitors. This year we completed an interior restoration of the lighthouse. The loose railing going up the stairs was refastened securely to the wall by Dane McClelland from Camp 8 Services. After that, a crew from National Restoration came out and repaired the plaster that was damaged or missing, removed latex paint from the interior tower, and then repainted the interior. A limewash paint was used on the walls of the tower, just like what was done on the exterior. We are very happy to keep the lighthouse looking fresh!

Potential larger projects for the 2026 season include replacing and/or repairing some of the wooden windows in the lighthouse, work on the exterior of the lantern room of the lighthouse, replacing some sections of the boardwalk that are deteriorating, and replacing some spalled brick on the Visitor Center, mainly on the south and east sides of the building. To see how you can help Crisp Point, please visit <https://www.crisppointlighthouse.org/how.html>.

The Lake Superior water level at the end of November 2025 was just 0.40 feet below normal. However, this is 0.19 feet higher than November 2024. Our erosion control stone is still looking good, but as always, we will continue to keep on eye on things. The US Army Corps of Engineers is forecasting the lake level to be below normal through May 2026, so if this holds out to be true, we may have another season with some beach in front of the lighthouse. However, this all depends on where storms and currents deposit and erode sand, and is not tied entirely to the lake level.

We completed our 5<sup>th</sup> year of Adopt-A-Highway this season, along our three-mile stretch of M-123 between Luce County Road 500 and Newberry. Since May 2021, CPLHS has picked up approximately 97 bags worth of trash. If you are interested in helping with this work next year, see our web site Calendar of Events page or our Facebook Events listings for more details. Our first litter pick-up for 2026 is set for May 9.

We hope that everyone has a good holiday season and stays safe. We look forward to seeing you again next year!

# ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

On Saturday, September 20, 2025, we held our final Adopt-a-Highway event of the season, supported by 11 dedicated volunteers. Together, we successfully collected 8 bags of garbage along our 3-mile stretch of M-123. Throughout the year, we gathered a total of 16 bags of waste.

We're excited about the upcoming Adopt-a-Highway events scheduled for 2026. Tentative dates include May 9, July 19, and a soon to be announced date in September. For further information, please reach out to [dukeguy55@gmail.com](mailto:dukeguy55@gmail.com). We hope to see you there!



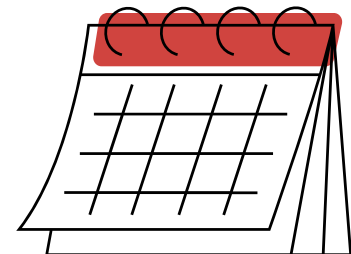
Photo Courtesy of: Cameron Lovett



Cameron Lovett, Duke Guy, Shelley Guy, Cathy Chenard, Judy Haupt, Wayne & Angela Lutz, Amanda & John Monroe, Jack Messer, Gavin Smith and Mary Mertz-Smith

## Upcoming EVENTS

Member Work Week:	May 9-17
Spring Adopt-a-Highway:	May 9
Visitor Center Opens (Approx):	May 16
CPLHS Annual Conference:	July 18
Summer Adopt-a-Highway:	July 19
Fall Adopt-a-Highway:	TBD
Visitor Center Closes:	October 17



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



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

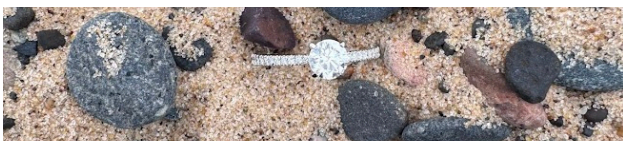


Story & Photos Courtesy of:  
Rhonda Denny

Our story... July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025

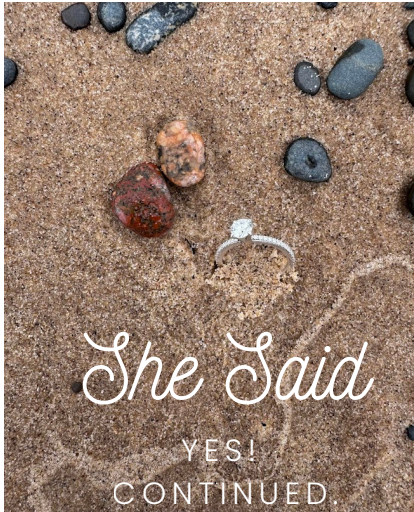
There were 6 of us (3 couples) that planned a Jeep trip around the U.P. to sightsee and explore in our Jeeps. Places we discussed/visited are Pictured Rocks, Oswalds Bear Ranch, Benny The Beard Fisher Troll, Whitefish Point/Shipwreck Museum, Castle Rock, Clyde's and Crisp Point Lighthouse.

Prior to going on this specific trip, Bob asked my oldest daughter Taylor for her blessing. Then he bought the ring and sent a picture of it to my youngest daughter Cheyenne. Both of them gave their blessing. Bob told his group of friends he was going to ask during this trip to the U.P. No one gave me any idea what was being planned.



One of his friends asked what he'd do if we all got back there and I said no to his proposal. He said "Well I'll take the tires off her Jeep I just bought and I'd be riding back with one of you". While travelling around the U.P., I recommended a change in plans to work around the weather. Go to the Lighthouse on Friday and go to Shipwreck Museum on Saturday, that way we'd be inside if the rain moved in. We would also be more likely to make the trek to the lighthouse as we've heard the road can be treacherous. Those with us suspected I knew. While at the Lighthouse, we went to the gift shop first in case they closed while we were out on the beach. Adam signed the guest book as the "Holm's, Gorsuch's & Trammell's". I looked at it and turned back to Christine and Jenni and stated, of course, he didn't include Denny. It's like I don't exist. They said then add it. I said nope, all good and walked out. They ended up telling the volunteers that it was perfect, as we were there for Bob to propose. That's when the volunteers got involved. The gentleman and his son followed us. His wife stayed back to run the gift shop.





Bob was getting a little concerned that I might start asking questions with everyone being so close and the volunteers nearby. It never crossed my mind. Sometimes, we stick together. Other times, we go separate ways. The volunteers were sharing stories and looking for rocks, giving guidance for Yooper rocks. The son even shared his flashlight so that we could see the difference in lighting. I was looking for rocks myself. Completely oblivious to what was about to happen.

I was walking on the beach; just ahead of Bob, and he said “hey”. I turned and saw he was on the ground. At first, I thought he fell. Then I realized he was on one knee. I started to tear up. He said, “Will you marry me?” I said “Of course”. I bent down to hug him. He goes “umm can you let me up? The rocks hurt my knee.” Haha! Not having cell service was a little hard as I wanted my daughters to know and make sure they were okay with this. He said they were, but my Momma heart needed to know from them. It was perfect. Lake, beach, friends, lighthouse! Along with the blessing from my daughters.

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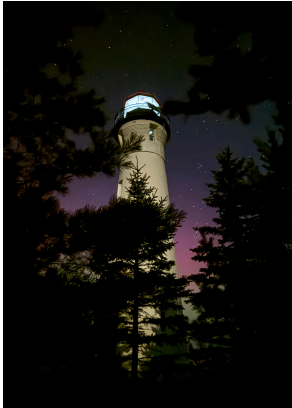
Story & Photo Courtesy of:  
Amanda Beck

On October 3, 2025 my son proposed to his high school, sweetheart. It was such a blessed and special occasion. The staff at the lighthouse were wonderful, even helping me to hide my vehicle.

I was there to surprise my soon to be daughter-in-law as she and my son and several other family members were on a riding trip. We may have told a few white lies, but we managed to keep it a secret from her. She had told me several times she knew he wouldn't propose if I wasn't there ... So we made her think just that. My husband was able to capture this beautiful moment at the top of the tower.



# MEMORABLE MOMENTS



Story and Photo Courtesy of: Kelly Hippensteel

“Since we moved to Bay Co in 2021, I have been so fortunate to be able to see the northern lights many times from my home. However, in all our trips to the UP, I have never been at the right place at the right time...until September 1, 2025! We have been so lucky to have visited Crisp Point in the winter via snowmobile and summer via truck and SXS. The trek out there is always interesting and it never gets old visiting! We have spent the last few summers camping in Trout Lake and when I heard there was a great chance to see the northern lights on the night of 9/1, it was a no brainer...I wanted to see them at Crisp Point! It was so fun wandering around in the dark getting views from all angles.”

Story and Photos Courtesy of: Douglas Adams

“My first Crisp Point Lighthouse experience was pretty much by accident, and I'm sure others have similar stories. In the last week of September 2024 I took a voluntary 1 week layoff from my job and decided to take my first actual small vacation in many years, I booked 3 nights in Munising and spent most of the time around Pictured Rocks National Lake Shore until it was time to start the 7 hour journey home to Tecumseh, Michigan. I decided to head east and see Tahquamenon Falls before heading south towards home, I photographed the falls and then had to face reality and reluctantly head back home. As I was enjoying the fall colors on M123 I noticed a small sign with a picture of a lighthouse and an arrow pointing to the right down a dirt road..... I figured I could spare a few minutes and check out some lighthouse I'd never heard of (No cell service so I couldn't just google the details).



So after about 10 minutes I start wondering if I missed a turn or something, then after another few miles I see a sign reassuring me I'm on the right path and I figure after this far I'm going all the way no matter how far. The scenery and isolation was something special, I only passed 1 other vehicle and 2 side by sides the entire time and the curiosity in me kept growing. After getting on to 412 and driving through some sandy and muddy stretches I finally see Lake Superior through the trees on my left and realize I have made it! What I thought



was going to be a little 20 minute detour turned out to be a 2 hour(round trip) adventure to hit the jackpot with what I think is one of the most peaceful, beautiful, and surreal places I have ever been, I'm glad it's not easy to get to, that's what makes it a little more special. I made it home very late that night and all I could think of was getting back to Crisp Point in 2025. I made it back twice in October of this year and was never disappointed and took lots of photos. I am absolutely going back in 2026, there's just something special about the entire experience of going to Crisp Point Lighthouse.”

## EXCLUSIVE MERCHANDISE

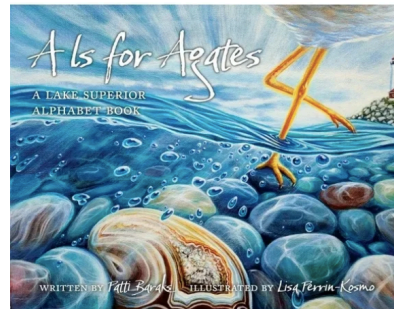
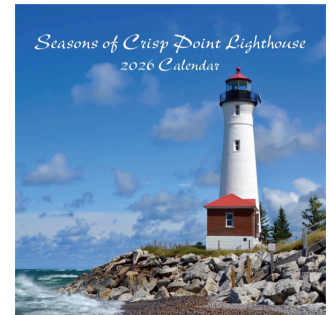
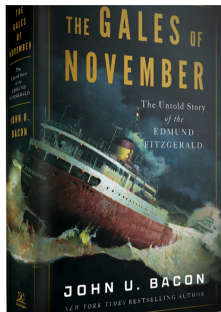
Don't miss your chance to grab exclusive Crisp Point merchandise!

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://crisppointlighthouse.org>

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



## SAVE THE DATE

### CPLHS Annual Summer Conference

DATE: JULY 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2026

LOCATION: WHITEFISH COMMUNITY  
CENTER  
7052 N M123  
PARADISE, MI 49768

CONTACT: LINDA MCKINNEY  
317.446.1280

OR

[LINDA@CRISPPOINTLIGHTHOUSE.ORG](mailto:LINDA@CRISPPOINTLIGHTHOUSE.ORG)

WHAT TO EXPECT:  
CRISP POINT UPDATES

RAFFLE

SILENT AUCTION

GREAT FOOD

SOON TO BE ANNOUNCED GUEST  
SPEAKER(S)

MORE INFORMATION TO COME IN THE  
APRIL 2026 NEWSLETTER!

Welcome New Members

- Frances Banka - Grosse Point, MI
- Tom & Cindy Boge - Wisconsin Dells, WI
- Elizabeth Calhoun - Ann Arbor, MI
- Janna Falicki - Grand Rapids, MI
- The Fields Family - Union City, MI
- Sarah Foster - Ishpeming, MI
- Wesley Gerber - Apple Valley, MN
- Kimberly Gilbreath-Barndollar - Grosse Point, MI
- The Glazier Family - Troy, MI
- Edward Hodgins - Hale, MI
- Anne Landgraf - Saginaw, MI
- Jonathan Neitzke - Dayton, OH
- Brandi Page - Monticello, IN
- Roger Sager - Munith, MI
- Janis & Donald Mitts - Owosso, MI
- Bonnie Spencer - Sherwood, OH
- Roger & Rebecca Tuuk - Fremont, MI
- Sarajo Valenzuela - Grosse Point, MI
- Vicki Vela - Allegan, MI
- Sonya Wentzel - Holland, MI
- Ellen Wolkenberg - Louisville, KY
- Jared Yax - Grand Rapids, MI

Want to share your favorite Crisp Point stories or memories?

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

SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER: MARCH 31, 2026

The Next Generation of Keepers

At Crisp Point, we strongly encourage keepers to engage their children in the activities of lighthouse keeping. This involvement not only excites them but also fosters a sense of belonging, as they are indeed our future with the preservation and restoration of Crisp Point.

This past summer, Judy Haupt brought her granddaughter, Madelyn, to help with the keeping duties. This marked Madelyn's third year of participation. Most of her time was spent at the visitors center, where she is seen in the photo assisting Tim Case with a purchase.

Thank you, Madelyn, for all of your hard work!

Photo Courtesy of: Cathy Chenard



Crisp Point Light Historical Society Membership / Donation Form

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please include all names for family memberships above. Family members are defined in our policy as an adult or adult couple and any of 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.

<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.