



2018 LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Keep the Momentum Going Forward

It was another banner year for the Harbor Beach Lighthouse Preservation Society! The number of guests touring the Lighthouse continues to be strong. The financial backing of our preservation efforts remains steady. Our new gift shop has increased sales since opening. The fog signal building is nearing completion and the increased museum space will be a great addition for guest experience. Last but not least, our organization has been recognized statewide and nationally for our preservation and organizational work.

Yes, things are going well for the Harbor Beach Lighthouse; however, we need to keep the momentum going forward. We need to find ways to increase the amount of guests touring the Lighthouse while reducing the cost of transporting them there. We need to continue finding unique items for the gift shop and we need to develop displays in the Lighthouse

tower and fog signal building that are pertinent to the maritime history of the Great Lakes and specifically to Harbor Beach.

One area that could become a hindrance to our continued success is the volatility of volunteerism. Don't get me wrong, our dedicated volunteers are who make the Harbor Beach Lighthouse so successful, but we need to continually bring more people into the fold.



**Skip Kadar,
President**

We are in need of more people in the following areas: maintenance and restoration, docent tour guides, ticket and gift shop personnel, and other areas of lighthouse stewardship.

We all need to talk to perspective volunteers about what we like about volunteering at the lighthouse, tell them the history of the Lighthouse,

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relay the importance of the Lighthouse to the identity of Harbor Beach. Most importantly, get them out to the lighthouse so they can fall in love with it like we have.

This is not an issue solely with the Harbor Beach Lighthouse. It is a problem for all lighthouse preservation groups. But here in Harbor Beach we need to be proactive and look for people to share in our love of the Lighthouse, to keep the momentum going forward and to keep preserving: *Yesterday, Today for Tomorrow.*

“2068 - 2093”

BY BUZZ HOERR, BOARD CHAIR

Greetings to all our supporters!

I begin my message to you with thanks and sincere appreciation to those of you who've been helping in any way with our 33-year lighthouse project. These include our amazing maintenance and restoration volunteers, our wonderful docents who provide such a great experience for our tour guests, the City for its continued support, our



**Buzz Hoerr,
Board Chair**

dedicated board of directors and of course our generous donors who make all of the improvements you see out there possible.

Why “2068-2093?” for a title to my comments? Everything we are doing to the lighthouse is investing for a long future. We convinced the Coast Guard to devote their entire Great Lakes \$685,000

annual maintenance budget to the sheet pile and concrete reinforcement of our crib with a projected 50-75 year life several years ago. We rebuilt the fog signal building with powder coated surfaces to last that same length of time. And now we are using 2-coat epoxy Imron on the surface restoration project with a 50-75 year projected life. Our goal is to spend more time on interior educational programming to improve our guest experience and less time keeping up with major maintenance.

2019 MICHIGAN LIGHTHOUSE FESTIVAL COMING TO THE THUMB AUG 2ND-4TH

The Michigan Lighthouse Festival is produced by the Michigan Lighthouse Guide and held every year over a weekend in part of the state with a group of lighthouses that will attract enthusiasts from

near and far to come visit. This next festival will begin on Friday August 2nd in Port Huron at the Ft. Gratiot Lighthouse and Port Huron Museum and will feature a dinner and lighthouse themed

entertainment. The following Saturday and Sunday will see those enthusiasts heading up M 25 to visit the Port Sanilac, Harbor Beach, Pointe Aux Barques, Port Austin and Charity Island

Lighthouses. We hope to capitalize on an expanded tour schedule to get these larger numbers of people out to see our new fog signal building exhibit space!

2018 PRESERVATION/RESTORATION REPORT

BY RON KLEBBA, PRESERVATION/RESTORATION DIRECTOR

We began the summer of 2018 with all of the prep work required to install the wood in the new fog shed. That project first required the removal of the old concrete pressure pads that were used to hold some of the original equipment in place on the floor of the old fog shed.

We had to use a jack hammer (which was very heavy and loud!) as well as a concrete cutting gas powered floor saw (also loud, heavy, awkward dusty and wet at the same time!) After about 10 hours of “not so much fun” work the old concrete pressure pads became a pile of concrete rubble out on the break wall. The next step required us to fasten pressure treated 2x4 “sleepers” down to the old concrete floor which were shimmed level and flat. We would need these “sleepers” to fasten our new wood floor as well. After 2 work sessions our new wooden flooring, which is 1x6, tongue and groove yellow pine boards was nailed in place. This phase of the project was followed by installing our ceiling panels and partitions for our bathroom and storage room and then the



**Ron Klebba,
Preservation/
Restoration Director**

interior wallboards. The wallboards consist of rough sawn pine boards, which will be painted in a shade of

white. In addition we will paint the ceiling. The flooring will be left natural pine color with a clear varnish as a finish. The rough interior electrical wiring is installed to provide lighting and receptacles. The venting for our new composting toilet is also in place. An essential concrete step has been poured at each of the

three fog shed entrances and has been a great aesthetic addition.

We purchased 12” diameter stove piping to be installed through the roof in two locations to “mimic” what was originally there to vent steam equipment. One of our volunteers fabricated cone shaped sheet metal rain caps for the 12” stovepipes. The pipes will extend about 10 feet above the ridge of the

fog shed roof. This project is planned for summer of 2019.

We contracted paintwork for a portion of the lighthouse tower as well as the brick crib this summer. The red lantern room, roof, walls and deck were painted as well as the gallery deck floor and walls. The paint used is a two-part epoxy paint (Emron). Al Brandow and his crew did a fantastic job! The actual tower of the lighthouse and the bottom of the gallery deck is scheduled to be painted during the summer of 2019.

A new entry door into the tower will be built this winter and installed summer of 2019. Unfortunately the existing door, which was built about 15 years ago, has succumbed to brown rot and is beyond repair. Next summer we intend to catch up on much needed maintenance of our lighthouse. We have fallen temporarily behind in that department due to the Fog Shed Project. It will be great to get back to a “normal” work schedule.

Thanks again to our unbelievably dedicated work crew, volunteers and to all of our generous financial contributors! Without your dedication we could not complete this project. It is pretty overwhelming when I think back what has been accomplished in the last two short summers!



2018 MAINTENANCE/PROJECTS REPORT

BY RON KOCIBA, MAINTENANCE/PROJECT DIRECTOR

The season started early this year when the Sheriff Department, Marine Division, agreed to take me out to the Lighthouse on February 24, 2018. This was necessitated by the security cameras and the Beacon being knocked out by a probable lightning strike. The charge controllers were reset and have continued to function but will have to be replaced next year. The boats were brought out of storage on May 7th and launched on May 9th after being serviced. The floating dock was towed out on May 17th, which marked the beginning of our work season.



**Ron Kociba,
Maintenance/Project
Director**

We began wiring of the fog signal building. We have selected the appropriate track lighting system. We have the electrical inverter, to provide power for the lighting system, in place but nothing is connected yet. The rest of the lighting system parts will be ordered in the spring. We will need to add two more solar panels and another 3 batteries to provide the electrical power for the new fog signal building.

We have begun the installation of the vent and power system for the new composting toilet which we

hope to have completed during next season.

The Lighthouse was closed for the season and the floating dock was towed back into the harbor on October 25th. October weather was such that it was difficult to find a calm day to get the job done. Finally we got a relatively calm, albeit quite cold day to get the job done. We recruited several new helpers because so much of our normal crew has departed for warmer climates.

The boats have been pulled out of the water and are being prepared for winter storage. It is more fun to get ready in the spring than to close up and put everything away for the winter.

2018 TOUR PROGRAM UPDATE

BY ANNETTE SWEET, TOUR DIRECTOR

This past year the Harbor Beach Lighthouse has been memorable in so many ways. As the docents arrived at the lighthouse we witnessed the continued reconstruction of the fog signal building. Each week we were in awe of the progress. We are so anxious to have a grand opening of this wonderful structure. It returns the Lighthouse to how it appeared in the early 1900's. 459 guests enjoyed a tour of the lighthouse this season. They arrived on the comfortable J-Lyn charter. A far cry from the row boats the lighthouse keepers used. But the talented docents took our guests back in time by sharing

how the keepers lived and worked in the lighthouse. Sharing the social times in the galley, the resting in the sleeping quarters, the responsibilities in the work room and of course the beautiful view from the gallery deck.

This year some guests had the opportunity to be there in the less than perfect weather. We had more than the usual amount of rain and wind, the hoods tied tight and guests continued to enjoy the tour.



**Annette Sweet,
Tour Director**

They realized that the keepers didn't always have perfect weather. Mother Nature did not cooperate this year. Due to inclement weather we had to cancel three tour days. Between excessively hind winds and storms, we felt it unsafe and too uncomfortable for our guests to enjoy their tour. Through it all, the wonderful docents continued to share the beauty and their love of the Lighthouse.

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It's impossible to express how grateful we are to their dedication. Hopefully, Mother Nature will be on our side next season.

We look forward to sharing the Harbor Beach Lighthouse with everyone. Please join us in 2019. We will be starting tours every Saturday from June 29th – September 28th. If you would like to join this great crew, we are always looking for new docents. Please contact me at sweetannette6829@yahoo.com.



NEW GIFTS AND NEW GIFT SHOP FOR 2018

BY PAM SEMP, MARKETING DIRECTOR

Wind, rain and fog may have interrupted the 2018 Harbor Beach Lighthouse tour season with more cancellations than all the previous years put together, but the NEW Gift Shop did just fine! In our sleek and compact (8'X12') new trailer that debuted this year, we were able to remain comfy and dry and still sell merchandise. After deciding early in 2018 that we needed to make a change, the trailer was purchased, outfitted (thanks to Skip Kadar's handiwork) and stocked for the opening day of tours on June 23rd. It was an immediate hit, especially with room for several guests at once, and new stock to everyone's delight.

With the addition of the fog signal building, new artwork was needed to customize much of our inventory. A digitized design was created to use on apparel. We

worked to create a nice photo image for magnets, mugs and shot glasses, signs, banners, coasters, tote bags, Christmas ornaments and several other unique gift and souvenir items. Our sales were excellent!

The 2019 season will open with new apparel and additional items to please our visitors and local residents. We encourage everyone to come and visit the shop on Saturday mornings. Online shopping will be available soon so be sure to check the *Gift Shop* section at harborbeachlighthouse.org. All of our selections will make wonderful Christmas or special occasion gifts.

I would like to thank all the volunteers that worked the Gift



Shop this season. I know that it was a much nicer atmosphere and also a comfortable spot when the weather was challenging. We hope you will join us again in making the Harbor Beach Lighthouse a great experience. We are always looking for more volunteers and I personally invite you to join our team. Email me at pamsemp@gmail.com if I can answer any questions or sign you up!

2018 Scrapbook Memories



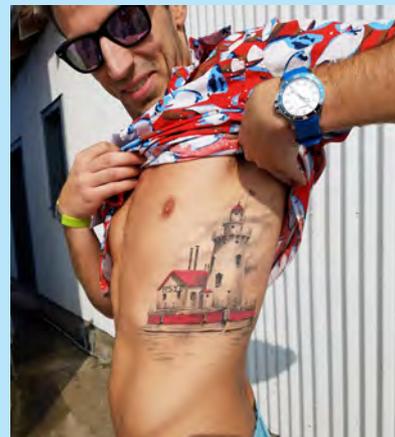
Pam & Buzz.



New gift shop.



Pam receiving the grant to paint the lighthouse.



Visitor showing his lighthouse tattoo.



Loading the boat.

THE FOG SIGNAL BUILDING RISES AGAIN DONATION FORM

Thanks to hundreds of donors as you can see we've been able to raise enough funding to rebuild the fog signal building and hosted 500 tour guests this summer who were able to watch it come together! We can now turn our attention to finishing the interior and program the space with Harbor Beach and Great Lakes maritime heritage exhibits to enhance the tour experience. There will even be a composting toilet in an enclosed bathroom



right where it was when the building was active. (Without the straight pipe into the water below of course!)

We invite you to participate with us in any amount you are able to donate. If your gift is \$50 or more please provide your name or someone you would like to honor and that will appear on a donor list that will be installed in the building. A donation form and receipt are found below. The Society is a 501 c 3 and thus your gift is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK OR FILL OUT AND MAKE YOUR DONATION ON LINE AT: harborbeachlighthouse.org/fog

Harbor Beach Lighthouse Preservation Society, Inc. is a registered Michigan 501 c 3 corporation.

- \$500 \$250
 \$100 \$50



Please enclose your check made payable to **HBLPS, Inc.**

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

TELEPHONE

EMAIL

NAME ON DONATION LIST:

Mail to: HBLPS, c/o The Harbor Beach Agency, 128 State Street, Harbor Beach MI 48441

RECEIPT FOR YOUR RECORDS

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2019 TOUR DATES

Saturdays -
June 29 through
September 28

First tour departs at
9:20 a.m.
and last tour
departs at noon.

HBLPS
c/o The Harbor Beach Agency
128 State Street
Harbor Beach, MI 48441



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