



The Range Lights



Publication of Save Our South Channel Lights

Lake St. Clair Save Our South Channel Lights

Winter 2008/2009 Volume 17 Number 1

President's Message

OUR LIGHTS ARE 150 YEARS OLD THIS YEAR



We've all heard the saying, "If these walls could talk." Well, our lighthouse walls can talk, because of the excellent research that has been done by first, Jon Ottman and then Arthur Woodford, our historians.

These lights have seen: the election of Abraham Lincoln as President of the United States, the revolution, the depression, prohibition, two World Wars, vandalism, neglect and a host of other degradation's. Yet, they still stand today, defying all the wind, ice and waves nature could throw at them.

They opened up commerce in the upper lakes that muddy toads on the mainland could not do. The walls are between two and three feet thick which I'm sure helped keep them standing. The front light is still leaning and we must get to the foundation work immediately after securing a match grant.

Our historian's have put together some very interesting facts and conclusions during the 150 years of the lights existence. My favorite is the Prohibition era when some very prestigious gentlemen procured a lease of the keepers dwelling and formed a group called the "Prosit" Club. Another great find was a "Kling" Brewery bottle that had inscribed and molded right into the glass, "Pure and without drugs or poisons." We are investigating the possibility of publishing the works of these historians and if we can have them printed for a reasonable sum or donated to us, we will make them available to our members first, then to others.



(Continued on page 2 - President's Message)



The new Luna Kai
37400 Jefferson Avenue
Harrison Township, MI
48045
 Phone: **586.468.2611**
www.lunakai.com

ANNUAL ELECTION MEETING
Membership Celebration Drive
SATURDAY MAY 16TH AT 7:00

150 YEAR ANNIVERSARY
20 YEAR SOSCL ANNIVERSARY

7:00 - Directors Meeting
 7:30 - Presentation
 8:00 - Celebration
 8:30 - Auction

Membership Drive
 50/50 Raffle - FREE Appetizers
 Following Entertainment

Vice President's Message

Celebration Time Countdown!



Come out and join us for this once of a life time celebration. May 16th at Gino's Surf's Luna Kai on Jefferson in Harrison Township.

The Lights will be 150 years old this year and the SOSCL organization will be our 20th anniversary.

Gino's Surf has added a new 4500 square foot restaurant addition facing Lake St. Clair, boat docks may be out pending weather and conditions in May.

(Continued on page 2 - Vice President's Message)

(President's Message continued from page 1)

The keepers dwelling and tower were decommissioned in 1907 and the structure was demolished in the early 1930s reportedly after a fierce storm which did heavy damage to the keepers dwelling. If you like history, especially local history, this will be a gem for you to read.

Our lights 150th anniversary will be full of activities and events, including limited visits to the rear light island and tower. During the past season we accomplished building the historically correct fence around the seawall. We put in a safety railing and welded on a heavy duty 'climb-out' steel ladder to the seawall, designed in a way so it fits into the indentation of the z-sheeting of the steel seawall, hopefully the ice won't break it off.

We hope to have a few surprises along the way too, so stay tuned and don't be surprised if you hear the wedding march being played on the rear light island.

Our group is also 20 years old this year and has to show our perseverance to get the job done. We are inching our way toward completion at the rear light and now we must secure a match grant for the front light. The keepers dwelling would be the last goal, but that may be a tough one to accomplish, with a large infusion in financing, it would entail complete construction, which brings up a host of permit problems and discovery of plans yet to be found.

I believe we can see a glimmer of light at the end of the tunnel and it's because the lights have been given a new lease on life by the SOSCL officers and members. They cared enough, and worked hard enough to bring these lighthouse icons back to life. My salute to the best team ever to give the word "volunteers" a new appreciation for dedication.

Chuck Brockman
President SOSCL

SOSCL DUES RENEWAL TIME

its dues renewal time for SOSCL. Your continuing membership keeps our effort alive and we have shown excellent progress in the last two years. Please set aside your membership dues during these tough economic times if you can.

We've been doing this for 20 years, so you know we won't give up the struggle. This year, if we are able to secure a match grant, our focus will be on the front light and its foundation.

If you have already renewed, please give the membership envelope inserted in this Range Lights newsletter to someone that would like to join our team in this home stretch to restore these historic lighthouses. Thank you for all the support you've given our team and we hope you will continue.

Chuck Brockman

(Vice President's Message continued from page 1)

Here is your chance for a real time update and talk to the people steering the restoration process. I encourage you to come out, try a new place on Lake St. Clair and enjoy our presentation. Join as a member or better yet, become a volunteer.

Becoming a member at any level is great and we appreciate your donation. Becoming a volunteer and help in the process.

Through out the year we throw several events that benefit the SOSCL, mark these dates on your calendar, we are always looking for participants and volunteers.

Personal group tours of the rear light now possible but in limited numbers, contact Chuck or I for more information.

We are looking forward to your support and participation.

Rob Schoenmann
Vice President SOSCL

BUSINESSES AND Clubs LIMITED TIME TO BE A PART OF HISTORY, ONLY \$800.

We have a few steps left, donate \$800 for a brass engraved plaque with your club or company name on it, or memorialize a loved family member. Any step purchase will include a tour of the rear light. For more information contact myself or Chuck Brockman.

Rob Schoenmann

S.O.S.C.L. WINS GOVERNORS AWARD

As this Range Lights newsletter went to press we were informed that our organization has won a Governor's Award for 2009 for our historical accomplishments at the Old South Channel Range Lights.

This honor will be presented to our group at the State Capital Rotunda in Lansing on May 5. Nothing could be more fitting than to honor the officers and membership that have worked so hard and persevered for the last 20 years. Our team of officers has turned into an unbeatable combination in so many different ways and the membership have continued to renew their memberships year after year. The officers and directors of SOSCL are truly a "Dream Team."

There have been large financial contributors to this cause and we must remember that they too have had a major roll to play in this very expensive project. All in all, the restoration of the Range Lights seemed impossible, but through the efforts of all these people, the work is getting done and the lights will be saved.

The State Historic Preservation Office who provided us their expertise and a large financial grant support has been invaluable in this huge undertaking.

Chuck Brockman

A NOTE ABOUT PRESERVATION

The South Channel Range Lights are beginning to take on their former splendor. Due to the efforts of many dedicated people, the rear light looks beautiful. Her bricks are again solid, her lantern room is intact, and she is surrounded by a new cedar white-washed fence just like in the old days. It is truly an amazing sight!

However, we need to make sure that we do not forget her little sister out front. The front light is in need of the same sort of care and attention. She was open to the elements and became the "Grand Hotel" for pigeons, seagulls and other visitors. This exposure has taken a toll. She has a list due to settling, and has become our own "Leaning Tower of Pisa". Furthermore, her lantern room was removed years ago to accommodate a much less romantic solar light.

Last season we began the process of cleaning up the interior of the front light, and we have plans to continue the project as soon as the ice leaves Lake St. Clair in the spring. Some of the tasks on our "to do list" for 2009 include the following:

- Evaluate options to straighten the light
- Complete clean-up of the interior
- Seal out the elements to prevent further deterioration
- Remove weeds and install weed-block material
- Install cleats and a ladder to improve access for maintenance activities
- Underwater search for lantern room components

We will be asking for volunteers to support these activities as the weather improves. I look forward to the new season, and the opportunity to continue our efforts to save these great historical treasures.

Dave Bollinger
SOSCL Director



NAUTICAL MILE CAR CRUISE WAS A SUCCESS

The NMMA 2008 Car Cruise Nites was a huge success, please join the Save our South Channel Lights at the 2009 Nautical Mile Car Cruise Nites on June 11 and July 23 from 6pm – 9pm at Mastro's Ice Cream on Jefferson just south of 10 mile rd.

Visit www.nauticalmile.org for details!

Rob Schoenmann

SAVE OUR SOUTH CHANNEL WEB SITE

Save Our South Channel Lights

PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE



Visit www.soschannellights.org for the latest on news and information

- ⊕ History
- ⊕ Monthly Message
- ⊕ SOCL Forums
- ⊕ Gallery
- ⊕ SOSCL Video
- ⊕ Merchandise
- ⊕ License Plates Information
- ⊕ Membership Information

STAY INFORMED. SAVE THE LIGHTS

With the Lights turning 150 years old, it is bound to be an exciting year! You want to be informed about events and news on the Lights?

Then send an e mail to:

soschannellights@yahoo.com.

Include your first and last name, and you will receive periodical emails of current events, up and coming merchandise, and special information regarding SOSCL and Lake St. Clair.

Another alternative is that SOSCL is now on www.facebook.com. If you have an account or would like an account it is a simple safe registration process. You will find latest info about the Lights and current events. You will find us under Save Our South Channel Lights, or Save Our Channel Lights.

You can also find the latest status of the lights on www.lakestclair.net under the South Channel Lights section of the Bulletin Boards.

Gary E. Strobel

SOSCL RECEIVES NEW SIGN



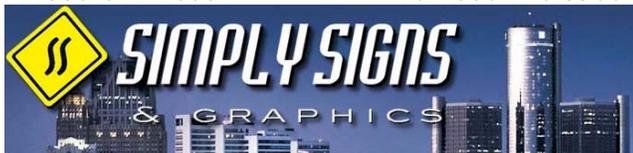
With the completion of the Fence project, the opportunity arose allowing for a more visible sign to be constructed. Simply Signs of Mt. Clemens (www.simplysignsonline.com) was commissioned to handle the task, and that they did. Constructing an aluminum base sign, sized at 4x6' with reflective tape, there is no mistaking who is to be on the island.

The new signs were affixed to the 'point' sides by Todd Brady and Jeramy Crissman just as the last sections of the fence were being placed. Don Puchalski was contacted under short notice and even agreed to split the cost of the new signs with SOSCL.

Gary E. Strobel

Ph:586-871-1600

Fax:586.776.5966



SOSCL Needs You! VOLUNTEERS

Save Our South Channel Lights realizes that times are tough in this state, but efforts must go on to fundraise for the completion of the Front Light.

SOSCL has had many great new volunteers. We are in debt to their time and efforts. I would like to thank Dave Bollinger for stepping up throughout the recent years. Dave has given his time and often recruiting close friends of his, many of times with out being asked, taking tasks upon himself. He has been clearing the weeds off of both lights, cleaning the glass and trying to keep the spiders at bay in the new Lantern Room in the rear light, and attempted to clean out the front light. A task that is a job for an episode of Dirty Jobs, (a show idea that has been submitted). Thanks Dave, his son Alex and friends! I guess you can say he is a modern day Light House Keeper.

Most of our shows and events take place during the summer months and we always appreciate people who donate their time to SOSCL. At the events, it is good to see our supporter's faces. We share good conversations about the happenings of the Historical Lights! Come on out, there is often a lot to see.

Listed below are our major events throughout the year. If you find it in your heart to spare a couple of hours, please contact 810-748-1888 (Chuck Brockman) or 586-716-4993 is my contact info.

If volunteering is not your thing, donations are always accepted. We have taken various items such as nautical items that are auctioned off at our events to Memorial Dedications in name of a loved one.

Items/or donations can be arranged by contacting us at: sosclsales@comcast.net or 586-716-4993.

SOSCL PLANNED EVENTS:

"Ladies of the Lights" Port Huron Museum 2/21 - 3/15/2009 11am- 5pm Historical display

Annual Meeting 05/16/09 7:00pm Gino's Luna Kai

Nautical Mile Car Cruise Nites 1 & 2 along Jefferson between 9 and 10 mile roads. 6/11/09 and 7/23/09 6 - 9pm

Antique Boat Show 6/27/09 8am-close Algonac Harbour Club

Harsens Island Field Day 8/8/09 10 am-5pm Harsens Is Pavilion

Algonac Art Fair 8/29 - 8/30/09 10am to 6pm Algonac Boardwalk

Metro Boat Show 9/16 - 9/20/09 Metro Beach

Maritime Marine Mart 12/12/08 at GP War Memorial

Thanks to all who support Save Our South Channel Lights,

Gary E. Strobel
Director

An Eagle Project For Save Our South Channel Lights

By: Jeramy Crissman

"I'm glad it's over! It was hard and took all of my summer but, it's a very big accomplishment and I'm glad that I carried through with it to the end.

To become an Eagle Scout is a great goal that few achieve. It takes a lot of hard work, determination and not to mention all of the people & events that help you become ready before that point. This project was definitely a joint effort by many people. I just led the way. We met many business owners, told the lighthouse history to anyone who wanted to hear about it, pounded a few pavements and drove my parents crazy. The Macomb Daily Newspaper, The Voice Newspaper, WJR Radio Station and LakeStClair.net website all helped promote the fundraising events by advertising. The word got out to thousands of people. We had strangers calling to volunteer. How great is that! This also gave some very generous people a way to help out financially. We had a lot of donations sent in through the mail. Thanks to each of you.

We started the fundraising process the end of April with a car show held June 5th. Rob Schoenmann and the St. Clair Shores Nautical Mile Merchants Association helped me with that. Troop 371 came out for community service time to help pass out flyers for the lighthouse and collect over \$300. Donations for the project. This led to a second car show held in July.

We began building the fence the end of May. Chuck Brockman and Lynn Grime helped me decide the design so that it was historically correct. It dated back to the mid 1800's. We had to figure out a material list & go after price quotes. The first step was to build a template so that all the sections were the same. Todd Brady and his "Egg" (Egg Harbor boat) took us out on the water to the lighthouse island with a spec section to measure how many I would need and any odd sizes due to the islands arrowhead shape.



(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

It called for 46 sections and 2 gates for entry. We ran across two huge stone blocks that caused a problem because they were in the way. The nesting birds had just moved off the island but now the weeds were growing taller. My mom helped me pick up the lumber. We decided to go with John's Lumber. They helped us load up for 3 trips. We stored it all at the American Lutheran Church in Mt. Clemens where I did the construction. It too 5-6 days each week, all summer long, Memorial Day thru Labor Day. I rode my bike there and back most days. A couple of the other Boy Scouts came to help. Mr. Greg from the church, Philip & Thomas were my biggest helpers. Once the sections were built we stored them at the Jefferson Beach Marina for a few weeks.

The first trip out to the island to put up the fence was in July. It was awesome! We got tons of work done. The weather was great. Dave Blaz (The Boat Mechanic) helped us load all the tools & most of the sections on his WWII landing craft. We had a crew of 16 hard working friends on the island, some with experience. About 23 sections later, we worked till sunset and left with a great feeling of accomplishment.

The second trip was in mid August. I had 10 people, we got less accomplished. I left a little disappointed. I was hoping it would have been finished on this trip. However, we had problems. There were some supplies that were unable to make it out there the first round. Without the help of Dave Blaz & his landing craft, we borrowed a flatbed trailer from my friend Joe Simasko. Mom & I loaded it up then drove to the turnaround on Harsens Island. From there I floated the supplies out into Muscamoot Bay where my buddy Kevin Stackpoole met me with his boat. We moved it to the lighthouse that way with some help. This took most of the day. We only put up about 8 sections that day before the mosquitoes began to attack.

My mom & Todd Brady helped me get in touch with a lot of business people to help me plan a golf outing for our big fundraiser. This also took a long time. They were very helpful to me, but my plans had to change. We received a very generous grand prize of a vacation for 2 weeks worldwide through Flying Irish Travel Agency. This meant we needed to get a permit with the state to have SOSCL give it away at the golf outing. We didn't have enough time before the event date. We moved it to Sycamore Hills a few weeks later. They were able to help accommodate us for a weekend date and a great time. We raised over \$1,300.00 there towards the project. Some of the Scout families showed up. A navy representative; Janina Jacobs came out to congratulate me. People even came from Canada.

The third & final trip was in Mid October. I worried about the weather and if I could get this finished. On a Wednesday we checked the weather for the weekend. It was good. We made some phone calls and gathered a team of 11 people. We were motivated. With two teams going, we finished by 4:30pm. The last three sections were made onsite due to odd sizes. We were even able to move the big stone blocks with a come-along. There were two pallets of the original Milwaukee cream bricks there. We moved them in the lighthouse for safe keeping. I will go back out there the beginning of this season to re-stain it. Kush Paint was kind enough to donate the white pigmented stain and a paint gun for the whole project. What a fantastic gift!

Now I have a bunch of paperwork to finish along with 3 required merit badges. The Boy Scout council will review the whole project. Then I may become an Eagle Scout. The organization would like to offer limited tours beginning with their 150th anniversary in 2009 to get more awareness for the South Channel Lights. Generations to come will be able to enjoy these lights up close. For that, I am happy to help!

Sincerely, Jeramy Crissman

If you would like to help in any way, we still need help finishing this project. Please call Chuck Brockman at 810-748-1888.



Donated items are welcome for our Silent Auction at the Annual Meeting 05/16/09 7:00pm Gino's Luna Kai.





2009 BOAT/US COOPERATING GROUP RENEWED

We have again joined the Boat/US cooperating group that allows our members to join for half price. Their willingness to fight for the recreational boater in Washington is definitely worth the membership.

Be sure to mention our co-op **group 82854B** when renewing.

Our thanks to Boat/US.

2008 OFFICERS

Chuck Brockman, President
Rob Schoenmann, Vice President
Treasurer, Deb. Strobel
Secretary, Kathy Brady

2008 DIRECTORS

Directors nominated by the board for three year directorships are:

Rob Schoenmann, Kathy Brady and Deb. Strobel.

Nominations may also be made from the floor at the regular general membership meeting.

Directors currently serving are:

Dave Bollinger and Chuck Brockman for two year directorships.

Gary Strobel and Linda Thieloldt for a one year directorship.

During the current year Mark McKee was declared Director Emeritus and life member William Bailey resigned his directorship.

President and CEO Chuck Brockman filled these two regular voting directorship vacancies with Dave Bollinger and Kathy Brady until the regular elections are held.

Officers for the year 2009 will be elected by the directors immediately after the membership meeting.



Our Work is far from done

Videos Now Available **Only \$10**



Newly re-mastered copies of the History Channel program: Back to the Blueprint are now available. It also has the original promo video from 1989 on it.
810-748-1888

TREASURERS REPORTS

11/1/2007 through 10/31/2009	
INCOME	
Donations	\$ 12,539.50
Gross Sales	\$ 2,430.00
Refund	\$ 50.00
Memberships	\$ 3,535.00
TOTAL INFLOWS	\$ 18,554.50
Expenses	
Bad Debt	\$ 100.00
Bank Charge	\$ 546.69
Construction	\$ 5,480.79
Fundraising	\$ 2,550.00
Insurance Bus	
Other Insurance	\$ 2,406.48
Insurance Bus	\$ 757.00
Legal-Prof Fees	\$ 600.00
Licenses and Permits	\$ 180.00
Maintenance	
Website Management	\$ 119.95
TOTAL Maintenance	\$ 119.95
Merchandise for Resale	\$ 420.00
Postage and Delivery	\$ 355.00
Printing and Reproduction	\$ 882.74
Rent	
Marina Lease	\$ 50.00
Space Rental	\$ 80.00
Other Rent	\$ 36.00
TOTAL Rent	\$ 166.00
Supplies	\$ 670.00
Tax - Business State	\$ 340.08
Total Tax	\$ 340.08
Utilities	
Telephone	\$ 687.53
Total Utilities	\$ 687.53
TOTAL Expenses	\$ 16,262.26
OVERALL TOTAL	\$ 2,292.24
Balance of 1/28/2009	
Certificate - 3 to 5 months	\$ 74,734.09
Balance of 1/28/2009	
Certificate - 7 to 11 months	\$ 55,249.73
4/26/2009	
Checking account balance	\$ 17,496.72

Deb Strobel - Treasurer



Old Club Thanks for the Generous Donation!

Joseph L. Simasko ACCOUNTING WELCOME SOSCL MEMBERS!



Fundraiser to benefit the old South Channel Range Lights Save Our South Channel Lighthouses

**Sycamore Hills
Golf & Country Club**

48787 North Avenue, Macomb
(West of I-94, North of 21 Mile Rd.)

**Saturday, June 27, 2009
12:30 - shotgun @1:45pm**

**FOR MORE INFO, CALL KATHY
586-242-6047**

**\$100.00 Includes: Lunch,
18 Holes w/Cart,
and Dinner to follow.**

**GOLFERS AND
SPONSORS NEEDED**

**HAVE FUN
WHILE YOU HELP
RESTORE HISTORY
ON LAKE ST. CLAIR**

From The Archives ~ Minutes From The First Meeting

FIRST SOSCL MEETING: NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE: TWENTY-TWO (22)
PLACE: GINO'S SURF LOUNGE 37400 JEFFERSON AVE., MT. CLEMENS, MI., PHONE 468-2611
DATE: JANUARY 8, 1989 TIME: 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

GUEST SPEAKER: MR. DICK MOEHL, PRES. OF THE GREAT LAKES LIGHTHOUSE KEEPERS ASSOC.
HIS PRESENT PROJECT IS THE ST. HELENA LIGHTHOUSE ON ST. HELENA ISLAND IN THE WESTERN STRAITS OF MACKINAC.

ORGANIZER OF MEETING: CHARLES BROCKMAN & WILLIAM MARKLEY
PURPOSE OF MEETING: TO ORGANIZE A GROUP OF PEOPLE FOR THE PURPOSE OF SAVING THE LAKE ST. CLAIR OLD SOUTH CHANNEL RANGE LIGHTS

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: LAKE ST. CLAIR
SAVE OUR SOUTH CHANNEL LIGHTS (S.O.S. CHANNEL LIGHTS)

STEPS THAT HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY CHUCK BROCKMAN IN ORDER TO ORGANIZE THE LAKE ST. CLAIR SAVE OUR SOUTH CHANNEL LIGHTS PROJECT:

- 1) REGISTERED WITH THE STATE OF MICHIGAN AS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION.
- 2) REGISTERED WITH THE MACOMB COUNTY OFFICE FOR ASSUMED NAME REGISTRATION.

MEETING NUMBER II: NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE: TWENTY-SIX (26)
PLACE: GINO'S SURF LOUNGE 37400 JEFFERSON AVE., MT. CLEMENS, MI., PHONE 468-2611
DATE: JANUARY 15, 1989 TIME: 6:00 P.M. - 7:45 P.M.

- ~ ORGANIZER OF MEETING: CHUCK BROCKMAN
- ~ GUEST SPEAKER: PETER THEUT, ATTORNEY
- ~ SPECIALIST FOR 25 YEARS IN MARITIME LAW, BELONGS TO TWO LIGHTHOUSE SOCIETIES. HAS BEEN ON THE GENERAL COUNCIL FOR THE MICHIGAN BOATING ASSOC. FOR 15 YEARS.
- ~ PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: TO ELECT A BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In Attendance:

TOM & LAVERNE BECKER
MARK BENINATI
CHARLES BROCKMAN
JULIE & ROGER DUCOFFRE
DON GUNNING
MARY HOOKER
JIM KRAUSE
JOANNE HARRELSON
MARK McKEE
WILLIAM J. MARKLEY
AL MARTIN
CAPT. C. MELDRUM
DICK MOEHL
JOYCE NEHLS
BUTCH SAPP
KRIS WELLS
BERNIE SCHENK
DON SCHREIBER
MAX STOLL
JACK CALDWELL

Our first meeting minutes from 20 years ago.

SOSCL CONTACT INFORMATION

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Rob Schoenmann (Vice Pres.)
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586-206-6580

Linda Thielholdt (Director)
lindat@devlingroup.com
248-740-8867

David Bollinger (Director)
dave.bollinger@eds.com
586-530-7626

Gary Strobel (Director)
sosclsales@comcast.net
586-698-8957

Deb Strobel (Treasurer)
soscltreas@comcast.net
586-698-8957

Kathy Brady (Secretary)
kathy@kydatech.net
586-242-6047

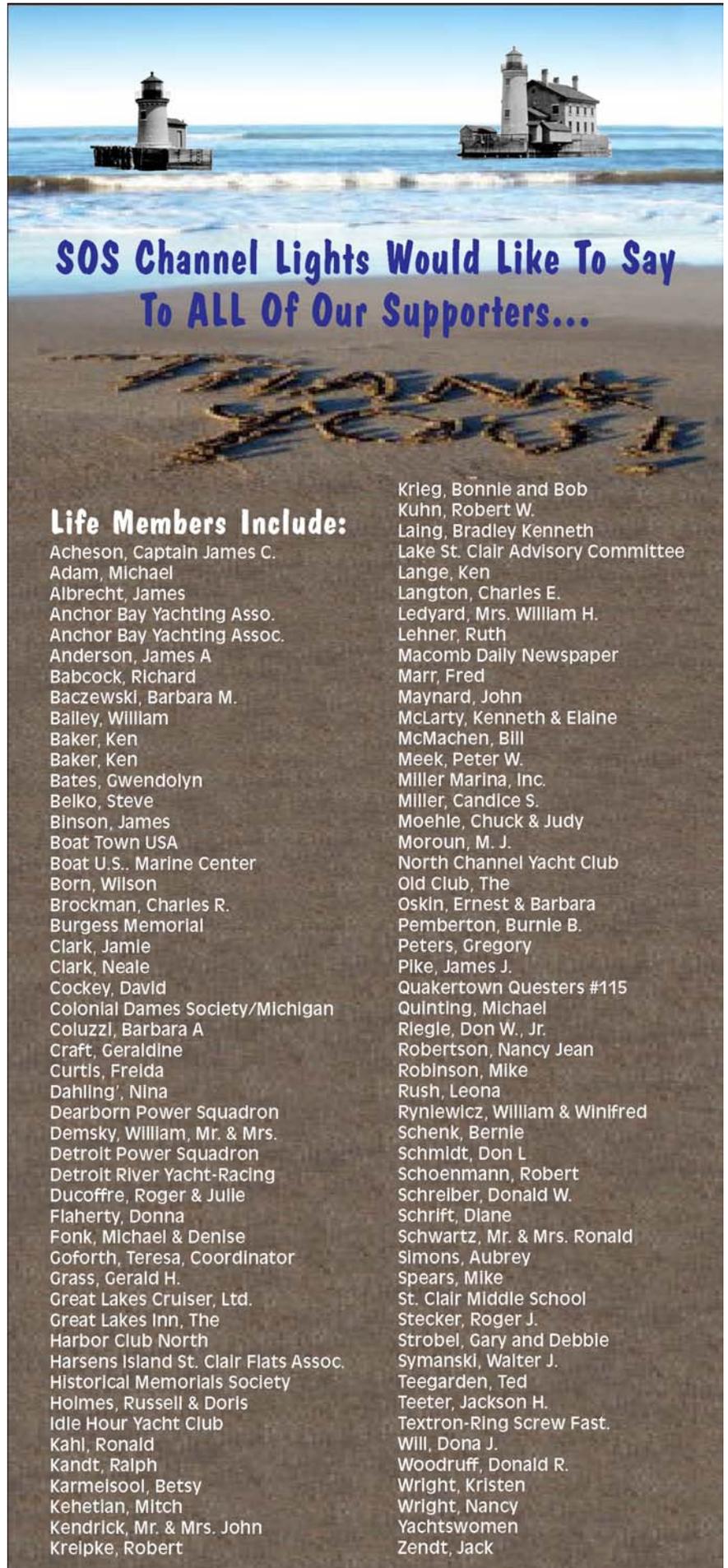
Memberships and Donations
Please Send to:
S.O.S. Channel Lights
P.O. Box 15
Harsens Island, MI 48028



Planning A Wedding?
How about having it at the lighthouse?
Call SOS Channel Lights

Renewing your vows? We can help with the arrangements. Experience the romance of this beautiful view for a champagne toast at sunset. Let us help make your special moment an unforgettable one!
Call SOS Channel Lights 810-748-1888

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SOS Channel Lights Would Like To Say To ALL Of Our Supporters...

Life Members Include:

Acheson, Captain James C.
Adam, Michael
Albrecht, James
Anchor Bay Yachting Asso.
Anchor Bay Yachting Assoc.
Anderson, James A
Babcock, Richard
Baczewski, Barbara M.
Bailey, William
Baker, Ken
Baker, Ken
Bates, Gwendolyn
Belko, Steve
Binson, James
Boat Town USA
Boat U.S.. Marine Center
Born, Wilson
Brockman, Charles R.
Burgess Memorial
Clark, Jamle
Clark, Neale
Cockey, David
Colonial Dames Society/Michigan
Coluzzi, Barbara A
Craft, Geraldine
Curtis, Freida
Dahling, Nina
Dearborn Power Squadron
Demsky, William, Mr. & Mrs.
Detroit Power Squadron
Detroit River Yacht-Racing
Ducoffre, Roger & Julie
Flaherty, Donna
Fonk, Michael & Denise
Goforth, Teresa, Coordinator
Grass, Gerald H.
Great Lakes Cruiser, Ltd.
Great Lakes Inn, The
Harbor Club North
Harsens Island St. Clair Flats Assoc.
Historical Memorials Society
Holmes, Russell & Doris
Idle Hour Yacht Club
Kahl, Ronald
Kandt, Ralph
Karmelsool, Betsy
Kehetian, Mitch
Kendrick, Mr. & Mrs. John
Krelpke, Robert
Krieg, Bonnie and Bob
Kuhn, Robert W.
Laing, Bradley Kenneth
Lake St. Clair Advisory Committee
Lange, Ken
Langton, Charles E.
Ledyard, Mrs. William H.
Lehner, Ruth
Macomb Daily Newspaper
Marr, Fred
Maynard, John
McLarty, Kenneth & Elaine
McMachen, Bill
Meek, Peter W.
Miller Marina, Inc.
Miller, Candice S.
Moehle, Chuck & Judy
Moroun, M. J.
North Channel Yacht Club
Old Club, The
Oskin, Ernest & Barbara
Pemberton, Burnle B.
Peters, Gregory
Pike, James J.
Quakertown Questers #115
Quinting, Michael
Riegler, Don W., Jr.
Robertson, Nancy Jean
Robinson, Mike
Rush, Leona
Ryniewicz, William & Winifred
Schenk, Bernle
Schmidt, Don L
Schoenmann, Robert
Schrelber, Donald W.
Schrift, Diane
Schwartz, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald
Simons, Aubrey
Spears, Mike
St. Clair Middle School
Stecker, Roger J.
Strobel, Gary and Debbie
Symanski, Walter J.
Teegarden, Ted
Teeter, Jackson H.
Textron-Ring Screw Fast.
Will, Dona J.
Woodruff, Donald R.
Wright, Kristen
Wright, Nancy
Yachtswomen
Zendt, Jack

Chuck's Wish List

While attempting to secure a grant, there are other smaller jobs that can be accomplished with smaller expenditures of funds.

* Carpenters and welders to help put together a historically correct out house for emergencies, with the exception being, there will be a small modern potty inside, instead of a "hole" over the water. We have photos that were taken while it still there.

* It would be a great if we could secure a small pontoon boat and motor as both a work boat for transporting people and workers out to the lights. We would also need a place to dock it fairly close to the lights. This would also give us a platform to get a generator on board for running various pieces of equipment like power washers, welders and chargers, etc.

* Divers to clear debris from the bottom near the seawall on both lights. There are already certified divers volunteering for this job but, we can always use more of everything.

* We've been working on a method to keep the weeds from over growing the islands. There have been suggestions, but no real answers yet. Keeping the weeds cut is hard work and a real waste of time and we hope we can find some type of cover that will work. (No liquid killer)

* The possibility of a flower garden. The sand on the rear island would require the plants to be in some sort of pots or?



Lake St. Clair Save Our South Channel Lights

P.O. Box 15
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810.748.1888
email us: SOSLights1@aol.com
www.soschannellights.org

YES! I would like to join the
S.O.S. Channel Lights Association.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Individual \$15 Family \$25 Keeper \$50 Sustaining \$75 Patron \$100 Life \$1000

Lake St. Clair has two lighthouse structures built before Abraham Lincoln was President. They still stand today just off the southeastern tip of Harsens Island. Construction of the Old South Channel Range Lights started in 1855 and finished in 1859. These lights guided ships into the fresh water delta once known as the Venice of America. The front light began to lean in 1875 and was dismantled and rebuilt on its same original stone and timber crib. It has remained but is again leaning and in very bad condition from erosion of the base. We replaced a temporary seawall around the base in 1990 and filled it with limestone for reinforcement. In 1996 a permanent seawall was completed around the front light. The rear light was built on the same type of crib. It held a large keeper's house that was taken down in the early 1930's. Vandalism has played a part in the overall deterioration, combined with age and the elements it too was in major need of repairs. The foundation has been fully updated and we have been able to tackle most of what was needed to the complete this lights restoration process. If this maritime heritage on Lake St. Clair is to be saved, restoration efforts must continue. Save Our South Channel Lights is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization that was formed 20 years ago to accomplish this. The lights have been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. With your help, we will pursue our efforts to preserve these remarkable pieces of history. Membership includes the Range Lights newsletter, decal and special mailings.