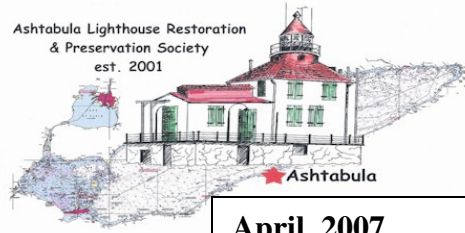


The Beacon

Ashtabula Lighthouse Restoration and Preservation Society



April 2007

A Message from Our President

We finally have a lighthouse! The amount of time and energy the board members have contributed to this acquisition cannot be measured! After submitting and revising, three times, a very lengthy application the society was approved for ownership. However, more snags ensued as the GSA needed verification of a lease on the breakwall abutting the light from the Corps of Engineers and a lease on the bottomlands on which the lighthouse sits. We also had to provide proof of insurance for the light. I have spent many hours on the phone or emailing many government officials to secure this deed, and I can safely say that it has all been worth it. George Distel has been most supportive of our efforts, and we are so pleased that he will be able to join us on May 6th at our celebration. Now, more than ever, we need the support of everyone to restore this beautiful and important landmark.

On our website you will find our "Wish List." These items we will need immediately as we begin the restoration process. Donations of tools and other materials will go a long way to realizing our goals. This will be a very expensive endeavor and will require considerable monies and much time and effort. Also, we are looking for corporate sponsors. If you have any ideas and suggestions, please contact me.

Joe Santiana, President

Society Raffle Winners

At our annual Christmas dinner, three lucky tickets were drawn as winners of our quilt raffle. Jackie Moisio won the beautiful quilt sewn by the members of the Senior Center. This quilt featured several pictures pertaining to our lighthouse and society. Debbie Santiana won the second place prize of an original stain glass window. The third place winner of a lighthouse rug was Dixon Greenwood. Congratulations to all.

April Membership Campaign

Enclosed with this newsletter you will also find a shortened membership form for our 2007-08 membership campaign. Now, more than ever, we need your support as we begin, this summer, to restore the light. We are in the process of applying for grants to help in this very costly endeavor. However, your membership dues, along with any other support of time and energy are most definitely needed. Please return your membership form along with your dues contribution as soon as possible. Please remember that the society is a 501C3 organization, and therefore all contributions are tax deductible. We continue to ask you to spread the word about the society and our mission. We always welcome more members. A membership form is available on our website.

www.ashtabulalighthouse.com

Grant Seminar

Bob Frisbie, Lorna Greicius and Lloyd Bogue recently attended a grant writing workshop, sponsored by the Ohio Humanities Council in Columbus, Ohio. They were able to meet personally with a representative of the National Endowment for the Humanities from Washington D.C. who was very interested in our project.

Message from Our Vice-President

I have been in contact with three companies concerning the construction of a dock at the lighthouse. A floating dock or a permanent dock will be necessary as we begin to restore the lighthouse and then invite visitors to explore the light and its history. I have also contacted Lynn Stright, a local diver, to inspect the crib and look into the possibility of reconnecting the power supply cable. We are earnestly exploring any possibility of acquiring a power craft, preferably a 32' or longer steel boat. We will also need to have a Detailed Condition Assessment Report completed as well as make the necessary repairs to secure the lighthouse this summer. Lloyd Bogue, Vice-President

A Word from Our Historian

Now after all these many years of struggling to receive a "DEED" and a "KEY" it is finally about to happen. Members please be proud of your officers and plan now how **"YOU"** can take a personal hand in restoring the old and somewhat decayed "ASHTABULA LIGHTHOUSE" back to its rightful place as one of Great Lakes "SHINNING" lighthouses!

Bob Frisbie, Historian

Thank-You

Society members would like to extend a big thank-you to Carol Cunningham and Father Phil Miller for making our annual Christmas party such a success. Everyone had a wonderful time and appreciates all the time and effort both of these individuals donated to this event.

Let's Celebrate!

Included in this newsletter you will find your personal invitation to our celebration of ownership! We hope all will be able to attend. We have invited many local and state government officials as well as our loyal members, to come together and share in this special occasion. George Distel, our State Representative, who has been instrumental in helping us acquire the light, will be in attendance as well as past lightkeeper, Neil Barton. Please join us!

Next Lighthouse Meeting

April 18th, 2007

7:00 P.M.

old Coast Guard Station
(east side of lift bridge)