



# STAMP FLASHES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE USLHS PASSPORT CLUB



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*lighthousepassportclub.org*

## Here Comes Summer!

As we enter the summer months, lighthouse passport stamp collecting kicks into high gear. Passport orders from retail outlets indicate a growing interest in this hobby. We now have 1,300 Passport Club members and over 500 stamp locations. All of this is encouraging as your dollar donations continue to mount up and help preserve lighthouses and their history. Everywhere the U.S. Lighthouse Society tours, we find great enthusiasm for the program on the part of participating locations. The latest issue of *Lighthouse Digest* contains a nice article, called “A Passport to Lighthouse Fun & Preservation,” describing the program and its role in lighthouse preservation. We certainly hope that your summer travel plans include visits to lighthouses in pursuit of new stamps and award levels.

## Featured Multiple Stamp Location

In past Stamp Flashes we have highlighted some locations that have more than one stamp for the same lighthouse. Here we highlight an example of a location that has stamps for a lens, a museum and a lightship. The **Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Museum** in Virginia currently has two different stamps for the *Portsmouth* Lightship (one at the lightship and one at the museum), two different stamps for the Museum itself and a brand new stamp for the *Hog Island First Order Fresnel Lens*, making this a five stamp location. The Museum is located on the waterfront at 2 High Street in Portsmouth. Remember that maritime museums with lighthouse exhibits, life saving stations and lenses can all be used to complete your passport book.



## New Stamps

Complete details and additional contact information for these stamps can be found on the Passport Club website.

### **Stingray Point Lighthouse (Replica) - Virginia**

Stamp is available by contacting the Stingray Point Marina, P.O. Box 527, Deltaville, VA 23043; 804-776-7272. Email: [info@stingraypointmarina.com](mailto:info@stingraypointmarina.com)

### **Hog Island Lighthouse First Order Fresnel Lens - Virginia**

Stamp is located at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Museum, #2 High Street, Portsmouth, VA 23704. The lens is located in a pavilion just a short walk from the museum. Walk in the other direction to visit the *Portsmouth* Lightship.

### **Grand Island East Channel and Grand Island North Lighthouses**

Both stamps are available from: Riptide Ride, 1309 Commercial Street, Munising, MI 49862, 906-387-8888. You can view the East Channel light from the shore or on the Pictured Rocks boat tour, but you will need to catch a ride with Riptide or another boat company to view the difficult to reach Grand Island North light. Email: [info@riptideride.com](mailto:info@riptideride.com)



### **Tarrytown Lighthouse – New York**

There are now two stamps (same design) available. One is at the Village Hall, 28 Beekman Avenue, Sleepy Hollow, NY 10591; (914)-366-5109 and the other is at the lighthouse, located in Kingsland Point County Park, 299 Palmer Avenue, Sleepy Hollow, NY 10591.



### **South Buffalo Light Station – New York**

Stamp is available on site during tours and open houses or contact the Buffalo Lighthouse Association, P.O. Box 206, Buffalo NY 14240. Email: [bufkeeper@gmail.com](mailto:bufkeeper@gmail.com)



### **Cape Fear Lighthouse – North Carolina**

The footprint of the Cape Fear Lighthouse, red brick generator room and three renovated keepers cottages are found on the southeast end of Bald Head Island. The stamp, which identifies the date the tower was built as well as the date it was demolished, is located at the Bald Head Lighthouse.

### **Price's Creek Lighthouse – North Carolina**

The lighthouse can be viewed on the ferry to/from Bald Head Island or aboard the Fort Fisher-Southport ferry. This stamp is also located at the Bald Head Island Lighthouse.

### **McGulpin Point Lighthouse – Michigan**

McGulpin Point has been a participant in the Passport Program using their own locally designed stamp. They now have a new Society created stamp to add to your Passport. 500 Headlands Road, Mackinaw City, Mi 49701 231-436-5860.

### **Graves Island Lighthouse - Massachusetts**

The Graves Light and Fog Signal Station stamp location & mailing address: 353 Newbury St, Boston MA 02115. 617-262-3220 Hours of Operation M/F 9-5

### **Upcoming Redesigned and New Stamps**

As stamps wear out, participating locations often ask for new stamps with slightly different designs. Sometimes, both stamps are available, so you may find both the old and new available. If you have visited a lighthouse in the past and received a stamp, make sure you compare it to the current one to see if it has changed. If it has, make sure and get your book stamped with the revised version. Watch for upcoming new locations and new stamp designs for:

- Gravelly Shoals (MI) - Redesigned
- Charity Island (MI) - Redesigned

- Oak Island (NC) - Redesigned
- Lightship Overfalls - Redesigned
- Munising Range Lights (MI) – New
- Grand Island Rear Range (MI) – New
- Old Michigan City (IN) - New Society stamp
- Michigan City East Pierhead (IN) - New
- Sandy Hook (NJ) - New

## Society Tours

On the recently completed Outer Banks tour, stamps were added for Price's Creek and Cape Fear. Stamps now exist for every land based lighthouse (or replica) in the state of North Carolina. The upcoming tours of Eastern Michigan and Long Island will have dozens of stamps available. Most of the remaining tours for 2014 are fully subscribed, but it is not too early to start thinking about 2015 when trips to Lake Superior, Northern California, Georgia/South Carolina, New Jersey, Maine, the Netherlands, Western Scotland and Door County, Wisconsin.

## Upcoming Cruises – Stamp Bonanzas

You can join the Society's **Eastern Michigan Tour** for a one day cruise from Mackinaw City east into Lake Huron.

Lighthouses scheduled for the trip include: Old Mackinac Point, Fourteen Foot Shoal, Bois Blanc Island, Martin Reef, Poe Reef, Round Island, Round Island Passage, Spectacle Reef, Detour Reef, Cheboygan Crib and Cheboygan River Front Range. The date is Thursday, June 19. The cost is \$150. This is a great chance to see a bunch of hard to view lighthouses in one day and gather a lot of stamps. Space is limited. For more information, call the office (415-362-7255) and talk to Rich.



The **National Lighthouse Museum** is sponsoring a Grand Tour of NY Harbor Lighthouses on June 15<sup>th</sup> (Father's Day). Take Dad out to sea and get stamps for most of the following lighthouses including Navesink, Sandy Hook, Fort Wadsworth at Battery Weed, Coney Island Light, West Bank, Old Orchard site, Romer Shoal, Sandy Hook, Twin Lights, Great Beds, Prince's Bay Light, Staten Island Range Light, Elm Tree Light, Robin's Reef, and the Statue of Liberty!

## Passport Club FAQ's – Foreign Lighthouses

A common question we receive relates to whether or not lighthouses outside of the United States can be included in the Passport book. While there are several locations in Canada that are official members of the program, the number of other locations around the world with stamps is limited. We can accept a stamp from a foreign lighthouse if it identifies the lighthouse or has some type of image of the light. However, we will not be able to count pictures of foreign lighthouses toward the various award levels.

## Upcoming Challenges & Festivals

As we have reported before, Lighthouse Challenges & Festivals are great ways to fill up Passports. Here are some for 2014. Find one in your area and join in the fun!

- **June 7-8** Michigan's West Coast Lighthouse Festival, [www.splka.org](http://www.splka.org)
- **June 13-15** Door County Lighthouse Festival, [www.dcm.org](http://www.dcm.org)
- **June 21-22** Lake Ontario Central New York Lighthouse Challenge, [www.hleewhitemarinemuseum.com](http://www.hleewhitemarinemuseum.com)
- **June 28-29** Midcoast Maine Lighthouse Challenge, [www.lighthousefoundation.org](http://www.lighthousefoundation.org)
- **Sept 3-20** Annual Apostle Islands Lighthouse Celebration, [www.lighthousecelebration.com](http://www.lighthousecelebration.com)
- **October 9-12** Annual Great Lakes Lighthouse Festival, [www.lighthousefestival.org](http://www.lighthousefestival.org)
- **October 18-19** Lighthouse Challenge of New Jersey, [www.lighthousechallengej.org](http://www.lighthousechallengej.org)

## Passport Stamp Hunters in Action



On a recent cruise out of Virginia Beach, passport club members received two elusive stamps – one for the second tallest lighthouse in the country (Cape Charles) and the Chesapeake Lighthouse, the only Texas tower type lighthouse that has a stamp. Here Kathryn Woodson gets her book stamped by super collector James “Lighthouse” Hill as the Society’s Passport Inspector, Mary Lee Sherwood, looks on.



A limited number of lighthouses outside of the United States have passport stamps, but when club members do find one, they make sure they get it. Here folks on the Society’s Australia tour take advantage of one they found at the Cape Schanck Lighthouse located on the southernmost tip of the Mornington Peninsula in Victoria.

## Hall of Fame Additions

Congratulations to our newest Hall of Fame awardees (Asterisks indicate number of “all stamp” books).

### I’ve Seen the Light

Mark, Wendy & May Hopkins\*  
Tim Linebaugh\*

### Silver Level

Eva & Larry Boyd

### Platinum Level

Hendrik E A Schilpzand  
Dorothy Jarczyński

### 420 Level

Anita Norris\*\*\*\*  
Machelle Dumaine\*\*\*\*\*

## Final Note

With over 500 participating locations and growing, it is a real challenge to keep up with changes and issues associated with individual passport stamps. Unlike the NPS cancellation stamps, ours normally do not have a dedicated location in a gift shop, museum, visitor’s center or lighthouse. In addition, new stamps are continually being added and sometimes old stamps disappear. We ask you, our 1,300 club members, to be our “field agents” and let us know when things change or our information is out of date. We will do the best we can to deal with the situations that are brought to our attention. With your help, we can increase the enjoyment for all stamp collectors!



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Help us to continue our important work of  
preserving lighthouses and  
their history

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Thomas Point Shoal Lighthouse Restoration

Society Members Tour Cape Arago Lighthouse, Oregon