



STAMP FLASHES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE USLHS PASSPORT CLUB



Number 40 - June, 2021

Website: www.uslhs.org/fun/passport-club

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Love at the Lighthouse

This sounds like one of those Hallmark movies, where the girl returns to her small home town rekindles her feelings for her high school boy friend in the moonlight at a lighthouse. As we all know, this doesn't happen in real life. However, many couples have gotten hitched at a lighthouse and a lot of proposals have taken place with a Fresnel lens in the background.



However, how many men proposed to their sweetheart at a lighthouse with the proposal question flying overhead. Okay, maybe a few, but no one every topped it off with an official USLHS passport stamp declaring: "She said Yes!" Well, this is exactly what the Passport Program's top

stamp collector, James Hill, recently did when he proposed to Dawn Weaver at Florida's Ponce Inlet Lighthouse. Now that would make a great Hallmark movie! James has been a major supporter of the stamp program for a long time and has personally donated stamps to a

number of lighthouses. Dawn has adopted the stamp collecting hobby and already has filled one and a half passports. She has a ways to go in order to catch up to James and his 21 passports and 1,260 stamps! He did say that this will be his most cherished stamp. Good answer, James! Congratulations to the happy couple. We can hardly wait to see what he does for the wedding!



New Stamps

Huron Island, Michigan

When the Soo Locks opened in 1855, maritime traffic around Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula greatly increased with loads of copper being shipped to industrial cities in the Midwest. The Huron Island Lighthouse, first lit in 1868, helped guide ships around the often fog enshrouded Huron Islands chain. Today, part of the Huron Islands Wilderness Area, the Huron Island Lighthouse Preservation Association (HILPA) is working to preserve the structure. They now have a stamp for the lighthouse available at four different locations, making it easy for you to obtain a copy. For more information check out their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/HuronIslands/>



North Manitou Shoal Light Station

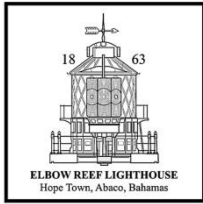
Built in 1935, the North Manitou Shoal Light marks a shallow area off the southern tip of Manitou Island for ships using the Manitou Passage in upper Lake Michigan. An active aid to navigation, it is owned by the North Manitou Light Keepers who are currently working to restore this



lighthouse which is often referred to as “The Crib.” Learn more about their efforts on their website: <https://northmanitoulighthouse.org/>

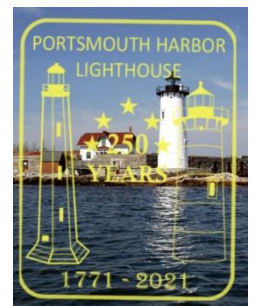
Elbow Reef Light Station, Bahamas

Elbow Reef Light station in Hope Town, Elbow Cay, Abaco, Bahamas, is the only manned light station in the world which has not been electrified. Its lens is hand wound and fueled by kerosene. It remains a time capsule of 1800s British engineering. All of the light station’s outbuildings were badly damaged by Hurricane Dorian in 2019. After extensive renovations, the station reopened on April 15, 2021. If you want this stamp, you will have to travel to the Bahamas, making it a rare jewel in your passport book. Visit their Facebook page or website to learn more about this unique lighthouse and for an opportunity to donate to their restoration efforts.



Portsmouth Harbor Lighthouse

The first Portsmouth Lighthouse, the tenth of eleven lighthouses built prior to the American Revolution, was first lit on June 8, 1771. This wooden structure was replaced by a new tower in 1804 while Fort Constitution was under construction. The current lighthouse with a cast-iron tower was built in 1878. Thus, a light has been shining here for 250 years. To commemorate this anniversary, a special stamp has been created that will be available on tours of the lighthouse as well as by mail. The Friends of Portsmouth Harbor Lighthouses, a chapter of the American Lighthouse Foundation, work towards the preservation of the light in addition to the nearby Whaleback Lighthouse. For more information, see their website <http://www.portsmouthharborlighthouse.org/>



Oakland Harbor Lighthouse (Quinn’s Restaurant), California



The Oakland Harbor Lighthouse has a stamp with a brand new design (on right). Long time collectors will want to add this newest version of the stamp to their collection. The lighthouse was automated in 1966 and was eventually sold for \$1 and moved to Embarcadero Cove where it took on a new life as Quinn’s Lighthouse Restaurant and Pub.

Stony Point Lighthouse

Located at the Stony Point Battlefield in Stony Point, NY, this is the oldest lighthouse on the Hudson River (1826). It was constructed to warn ships away from the rocks of the Stony Point peninsula. The Battlefield is the site of the 1779 storming of Stony Point when General Anthony Wayne and his forces seized the fort in a daring midnight raid. This lighthouse is not to be confused with the Stony Point Lighthouse near Henderson, NY nearly 300 miles away on Lake Ontario. There is no stamp for that privately owned lighthouse. The new Hudson River Stony Point stamp replaces an earlier version which combined the battlefield and lighthouse into one stamp.



Keep the Lights Shining

There are many ways for us to help support the efforts of organizations dedicated to preserving lighthouses and their history. Donating dollars for stamps, becoming a member of a lighthouse association, donating money to fundraisers and



volunteering to assist with restoration efforts are a few of the ways you can help. Maybe one of the best ways is to encourage young people to get involved by starting their own lighthouse stamp collection. One of our avid stamp collectors, Airdrie Kincaid, recently sent a copy of the Anacapa Island lighthouse stamp to her great nephew,

Ernie. He loved the stamp, so Airdrie sent him a passport to put it in. This is a small seed that may someday grow into a love for lighthouses. We will look forward to seeing Ernie's name some day in the Hall of Fame!



Passport Stamp Stories

We would really like to feature younger stamp collectors in a future newsletter. If you have a story or a photo involving a youngster and their stamps or passport, please forward it to: passportclub@uslhs.org.



Join the U.S. Lighthouse Society Today!

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

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