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## Message from Our President

In May of last year, the society received ownership of the lighthouse from the Department of the Interior. A watercraft was purchased to allow members to travel out to the structure and begin assessing and securing the building. Some minor repairs and cleaning were completed during the eight trips out to the light. Divers were also engaged to assess the condition of the existing power cable which is situated on the floor of the lake. We have been in contact with a Canadian company that designs and installs floating dock systems. The funds we have been awarded from the Lake Erie Protection Grant will provide half of the cost of this project. Board members have met regularly during the winter to discuss projects and complete grant applications. The society is in need of volunteers who would be willing to work out at the lighthouse this summer, help with grant writing, and assist with fund raising. Your help will ensure that our goals will be realized.

Joe Santiana



## Membership Campaign

Our annual membership campaign is currently underway. Your financial support is most important as we begin restoring the light. We are pursuing state, local and federal grant monies. However, your membership shows the commitment this community has to restore this treasured landmark. Our goal is to create a museum for all to visit, that will preserve the history of our harbor and lighthouse. Please enclose the membership form, with your donation, at your earliest convenience.

## July Fish Fry

Once again, members in the southern portion of our county have organized a Fish Fry to be held at Lake Shore Park on July 26<sup>th</sup>. Menu will include Dennis's delicious breaded fish, baked potato/ French fries, cole slaw, roll, beverage, and dessert. The possibility of offering shrimp baskets is also being explored. Cost of a meal will be \$8.00 / \$5.00 child. The committee is planning entertainment. Serving will begin in the afternoon and continue until early evening. A raffle and lighthouse items will be available. We are looking for volunteers to help during the afternoon and to sell tickets. Your participation would be most appreciated. Please contact Lorna at 440-964-5009 if you are able to help.

## Email Addresses

Because of the cost of mailing, we would like to be able to contact members via email about upcoming events and meetings. Please forward your address to Joe at [straitliner@windstream.net](mailto:straitliner@windstream.net). Joe requests that all members, including those that have previously sent him their addresses, do so again. Thank-you.

VISIT US AT  
[www.ashtabulalighthouse.com](http://www.ashtabulalighthouse.com)

# The Beacon

Ashtabula Lighthouse  
Restoration and Preservation Society

April 2008

## Grant Awarded

The board has recently been notified that our grant application to the Lake Erie Protection Fund has been approved for \$15,000.00. This grant will be utilized for the floatation dock system that will be installed adjacent to the lighthouse, this summer. The dock will be a U shape with a multilevel gangway that floats with the rising waves. The dock will be put on the sheltered side of the lighthouse which will be the west side. This system will provide easy access to those working on the restoration of the building as well as future visitors. Board members recently met with graduate students from Cleveland State University who will be conducting a search of available grants that would be applicable to our society. Their enthusiasm for our project as well as their expertise is most welcomed.

## Message from Our V.P.

During our visits to the lighthouse last summer we were able to work on several doors and windows as many of the hinges were frozen or broken. The roof and walls of the structure were evaluated and found to be in stable condition but will need attention this summer. Signs were installed on the exterior of the building, as instructed by the National Park Service. We are inquiring about the purchase of a portable toilet for the lighthouse and are also in contact with an engineering firm to conduct a Condition Assessment Report to help us prioritize the most urgent stabilization needs. We will continue to assess the possibility of connecting the power cable but are also actively pursuing funds for a generator.

Lloyd Bogue

## Still Looking!!

The society is continuing to search for artifacts from our lighthouse along with any old photographs. If you are in possession of any, please contact Bob Frisbie, our historian. We are also looking for any information concerning any of our lighthouse keepers. Amy Winger is coordinating that search.



*Now, more than ever, your contributions are most important. Please join in our mission and spread the word about the society. A restored lighthouse, open to the public with guided tours will bring tourists and much needed revenue to our area. That's a cause we all can get behind! Remember, board members are available to speak to your organization.*

Next Lighthouse Society Meeting  
Wed. April 9, 2008  
Old Coast Guard Station  
(East side of Lift Bridge) 7:00 P.M.  
Please Attend  
*(Please be advised that the bridge is not operational)*