

The Genesee Beacon

News from the Charlotte Genesee Lighthouse



LIGHTHOUSE MUSEUM • 70 Lighthouse Street • Rochester, New York 14612
(585) 621-6179 • www.geneseelighthouse.org • Email: info@geneseelighthouse.org

Open May 10 - October 26, 2008
Saturday and Sunday 1 pm to 5 pm
* Special tours by appointment

2007 Annual Report

by Fred Amato

OFFICERS

President – Fred Amato
Vice President – Chris Franco
Secretary – Carol Riesenberger
Treasurer – Linda Taylor

TRUSTEES

Patricia Amato	Dee Mastro
Neil Budd	Mike May
Carol Coddling	Doug Moran
Richard Coddling	Sue Mosgrober
Betty Fetter	Marie Poinan
Evelyn Franco	Joe Riesenberger
Joe Genova	Liz Rush
Jack Kemp	

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Lighthouse Curator – Mike May
Curator Marine History- Fr. Jack Lee
Gift Shop – Liz Rush & Evelyn Franco
Buildings and Grounds– Chris Franco
Marine History – Tom Brewer
Membership-Chris Franco
OBPPC Rep.- Carol Riesenberger
Village History – John Kemp
Volunteers –Richard Coddling
Beacon Editor–Marie Poinan

UPCOMING EVENTS

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, February 17th, 2 pm

Marine History meets the 2nd Saturday of the month at 10am. The next meetings are: February 9, March 8, April 12

Village History meets the 3rd Saturday of the month at 10am. The next meetings are February 16, March 15, April 19

LAKESIDE WINTER CELEBRATION

Terminal Bldg., Sunday, Feb. 10, 11am-4pm
Sponsored by the OBPPC
Polar Plunge at the Robach Center-12pm

Lighthouse Board meetings for 2008:

- January 10- 7pm
- February 17- 2pm (Annual meeting)
- March 13- 7pm
- April 10- 7 pm
- May 15- 7pm (not the 2nd Thursday)
- June 12- 7pm
- July 10- 7pm
- August 14- 6:30pm (Semi Annual Meeting)
- September 11- 7pm
- October 9- 7pm
- November 13- 7pm
- December 11- 6:30pm Meeting/Christmas Party



This issue is our 2007 Annual Report and we hope to make it a tradition. I wanted to do something different in this Beacon, so I asked the Chairs of our subcommittees to report

on their wonderful accomplishments this year. This summarizes the hard work of our Board of Directors and many, many volunteers. If you were not able to visit this year we hope this newsletter will encourage you not to miss our 2008 season.

We had a great 2007! We were host to 3,000 visitors, beating the attendance of the past 5 years. We want to give special thanks to the many volunteers who assisted our guests and made their visit enjoyable. Besides visits to the tower, the biggest attraction was the special exhibit "From the Beginning: the Lighthouses of the Port of Rochester". This excellent timeline of the many Charlotte lighthouses was developed and presented by June Coddling, Judy Spring and our museum Curator, Mike May. In addition to this exhibit we hope to have a new exhibit for our 2008 season.

There were many new events in 2007. They included a concert on the lawn by the Irondequoit Concert Band, the First Elected Officials & Special Guest day, an Arts & Crafts Show & Sale and a Garage Sale. We also had the good fortune to bring back a favorite of many- Ghost

Stories. Since all of these events were well received, we hope that they become yearly traditions on our Annual Calendar of events. We made efforts to reach out into the community this year by setting up a booth at the Rochester Harbor and Carousel Festival in June. In September we had a booth and presentation at the Regional History Fair. In October, I went to Olympia High School for a Service Learning Fair where I had the opportunity to talk to students about possible volunteer experiences at the Lighthouse. We will be starting up a student program early this year.

This year we saw our grounds, facilities, and gardens come alive. In May we participated in the annual Day of Caring. Volunteers from Excellus came to the Lighthouse; they cleaned the Tower, museum and helped in the gardens. They did a wonderful job. This was followed by the City of Rochester Clean Sweep in May of 2007 when several volunteers worked on our gardens. One of our tenants has been helping to keep the grounds in shape also.

In the 1 ½ years since its inception, our WEB site has accumulated over 20,000 visits from more than 16,275 sites (individuals). The largest number of visits (1,564) to our Web site was recorded in October. Our partnership with Channel 10 and the Weather Bug has increased our visibility in the community and provided residents with up to date weather information and video of the Charlotte Community.

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The view from the top of the tower.

Photo courtesy Fred Amato



2007 Annual Report

by Fred Amato

(continued from page 1)



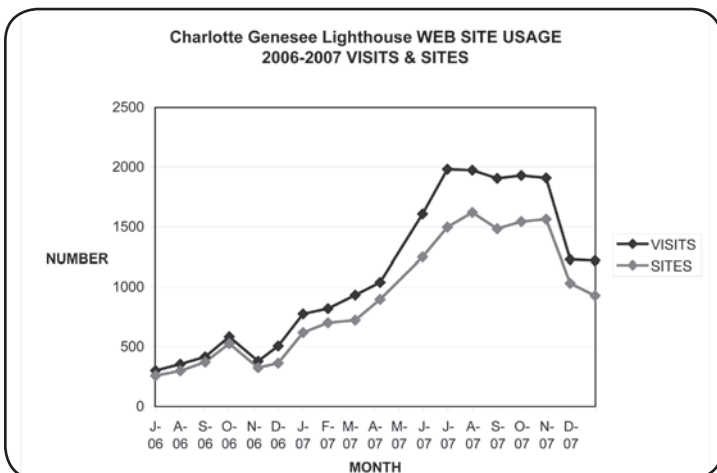
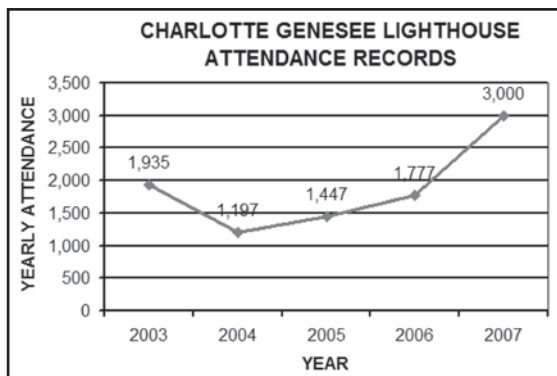
Senator Robach & Fred

I am pleased that we were able to upgrade our computers and presentation equipment with a grant from Senator Joseph Robach. This grant also allowed us to purchase museum software which is helping us inventory and document all of our museum treasures.

We have had support from many local groups. Wegmans provided us with food cards which we used at several events. The Charlotte Community Association donated money on several occasions to help us in support of our internet connection and provide funds to use in support of children's activities at the Lighthouse.

The Ontario Beach Program Committee, Monroe County Parks Department and the City of Rochester helped us with our 25th Re-enactment of the Passing of the Key from the Coast Guard to the Society in 1982. The Harbor Merchants in Charlotte paid for a new sign on our Annex.

Most of all, your generous support has made the Charlotte Genesee Lighthouse a Museum that makes us all PROUD. Thank You!



Strategic Planning Survey Summary Report

In May 2007 the Strategic Planning Committee of the Board of Trustees distributed a questionnaire which included 7 questions, to 250 persons including all of the Lighthouse Society membership and additional interested persons. We realized a 30% response from this distribution with 50% of the respondents including additional comments and opinions. Every questionnaire was carefully read and the answers and comments were categorized and recorded. Many of the responses were similar and they were therefore combined into a single statement. The following is a summary of that survey:

- a. 95% were in favor of increased outreach and educational programs.
- b. 91% considered the Lighthouse a definite asset to the community
- c. 86% considered the Marine History and Charlotte Village History important parts of the Lighthouse infrastructure and that they should be utilized in educational and outreach programs.
- d. 67% indicated that they would support events.
- e. 51% agreed that financial resources should be committed to marketing efforts and 25% completely disagreed that funds should be set aside for marketing.
- f. 50% felt that the historical representation of the grounds was important while 39% considered this to be not as important.
- g. 42% considered that events should be limited to historic or maritime topics.

From the information on this survey and the committee's knowledge of the maintenance and operation of the Lighthouse the Strategic Planning Committee has developed four (4) primary Objectives for defining its Strategic plan for presentation to the Board of Trustees in March 2008. The four Primary Objectives are:

1. Physical Plant
2. Financial Responsibility
3. Viability of the Association
4. Education and Outreach

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, its Officers and the Strategic Planning Committee we extend our thanks to you for your interest and comments.

(Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee Members- Chris Franco, Mike May and Linda Taylor)





Photos by Fred Amato

Membership

by Chris Franco

There are a total of 258 members of the Charlotte Genesee Lighthouse Historical Society. Included in that total are honorary and life memberships and courtesy mailings of the Beacon to libraries, lighthouse societies and government/public officials.

Please consider joining us as a paid member. Check your mailing label to see when your membership is up for renewal. Checks can be mailed to: Charlotte Genesee Lighthouse, 70 Lighthouse Street, Rochester, NY 14612

Marine History

By Tom Brewer

Marine History meets at 10am the 2nd Saturday of the month at the lighthouse except July and August.

At the meetings we have speakers, slide shows or video presentations dealing with the Great Lakes with an emphasis on Lake Ontario and the Port of Rochester.

Recent topics have been: The War of 1812 on Lake Ontario, The car ferry service to Cobourg, Ontario, Ice breaking on the Great Lakes, History of the ships that bring bulk cement to Rochester and videos taken aboard the Stephan B. Roman during a storm.

Each month we try to set time aside for a "round table" where those present can share marine news or tell of marine research or projects that they are working on.

Volunteers

By Rich Coddling

We had a wonderful year at the lighthouse and broke all records for attendance. I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped on the weekends and those who helped out when we had special tours during the week. Special recognition goes to Tom Conner, who not only volunteered twice each month but also stepped in to fill a vacancy when the scheduled volunteer was absent.

I would also like to welcome to our new volunteers: Tom Clayton, who will also be serving as a board member, Rick Esposito and Linda Cushman. Special recognition also goes to Pete Tierney. Pete has helped me on the tower throughout this past year and served as a trainer for new tower volunteers. Thanks Pete!

Again, thank you all. Your participation at the lighthouse makes the lighthouse a very special place.

2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- February 17, Sunday, 2 P.M. *Annual Meeting
 April 22, Tues. Bus Tour – Erie Maritime Museum & Lighthouses
 May 3, Sat., 10 A.M. – noon Volunteer Training @ Coast Guard Aux.
 May 8, Thurs. United Way Day of Caring
 May 10, Sat., 1 P.M. – 5 P.M. Lighthouse Opens for 2008
 June 10, Tues., 7 P.M.-8:30 P.M. Irondequoit Concert Band Rehearsal/concert on the lawn @ Lighthouse
 June 13, 14, 15; Annual Garage Sale (Flag Day)
 June 19-22 – Harbor and Carousel Festival- Thurs.– Sun.
 July 26, Sat., 9:30 A.M. – Noon Elected Officials Day at the Lighthouse
 August 14, Thurs., 6:30 P.M. Semi Annual Meeting
 (location to be determined)
 Sept. 9th Tues. – 12th Fri. 2008 AASLH Annual Meeting in Rochester
 October, 11, Sat., & 12, Sun. 2nd Annual Arts & Crafts Show & Sale
 October, 12, Sun, 10:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. City of Rochester River Romance- all day
 October, 24, Fri., & 25, Sat., 6:30 P.M. Ghost Stories at the Lighthouse
 October, 26, Sunday- Lighthouse Closes for Season

Lighthouse is open to the public Sat. & Sun., 1:00 P.M. – 5:00P.M
 from May 10th –October 26th, 2008

- **Lighthouse Board** meets 2nd Thursday of the month.
- **Marine History Group** meets 2nd Sat. of each month from Sept. through June @ 10:00 A.M.
- **Village History Group** meets 3rd Sat. of each month from Sept. through June @ 10:00 A.M.



Photos by Fred Amato



Freshwater Models

Scale Models - Craftsman Kits
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www.freshwatermodels.net (585)581-2983

Lighthouse Sponsors
 Barbara Kelley
 and Tom Riley

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****PLEASE NOTE THE EXPIRATION DATE THAT APPEARS ON YOUR MAILING LABEL****

PLEASE CHECK THIS MAILING LABEL TO SEE IF YOUR ANNUAL DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE

We do appreciate your membership. Your paid dues will keep you on our mailing list, and you won't miss out on the next issue of THE GENESEE BEACON. Please take a moment to look at the mailing label.

**WHEN YOU ARE DONE ENJOYING THIS ISSUE,
PLEASE PASS IT ALONG TO A FRIEND, SO THAT SOMEONE ELSE CAN ALSO ENJOY THIS COPY**

Membership

The Charlotte-Genesee Lighthouse Historical Society invites you to join its membership.
Your application will be received with sincere appreciation.

Please complete and return to:

Charlotte Genesee Lighthouse
70 Lighthouse Street, Rochester, New York 14612

New member Renewal

NAME: _____

STREET: _____

CITY: _____

HOME PHONE: _____

WORK PHONE: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

- | | | | |
|---|-----------|---|-------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen/Student | \$ 8.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Curator | \$500-999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$15.00 | Receive a FREE framed LH photo | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$25.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Lighthouse Keeper | \$1000 & up |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing | \$30-49 | Receive a FREE framed LH t-shirt, sweatshirt, and framed photo | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting | \$50-99 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business | \$25-49 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$100-499 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business | \$50 & up |
| Receive a FREE LH t-shirt | | Receive written recognition in the Beacon for one year (4 issues) | |
| Receive a FREE LH sweatshirt | | | |

Please feel free to send in this form to volunteer, even if your dues are not payable.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are constantly looking for new volunteers to staff the museum, maintain our buildings and grounds and join our Village History and Marine History Research groups. If you would like to be called to participate in any volunteer activities, please check any of the boxes below. This will give our volunteer coordinators an idea of what your interests are and/or what you might be interested in doing.

- Museum Guide / Tower Guide
- Gift Shop
- Building Maintenance
- Grounds upkeep
- Finance Committee
- Historical research
- School Groups / Tours
- Computer / Audio-Visual
- Public relations
- General Office
- Programs
- Publications

**The Charlotte-Genesee Lighthouse Museum is located off Lake Avenue, directly behind Holy Cross Catholic Church.
For more info call: (585) 621-6179.**