

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*

OFFICERS

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

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Bill Briggs	Sandi Marino
Neil Budd	Dee Mastro
Tom Clayton	Mike May
Jude Codding	Doug Moran
Richard Codding	Sue Mosgrober
Betty Fetter	Marie Poinan
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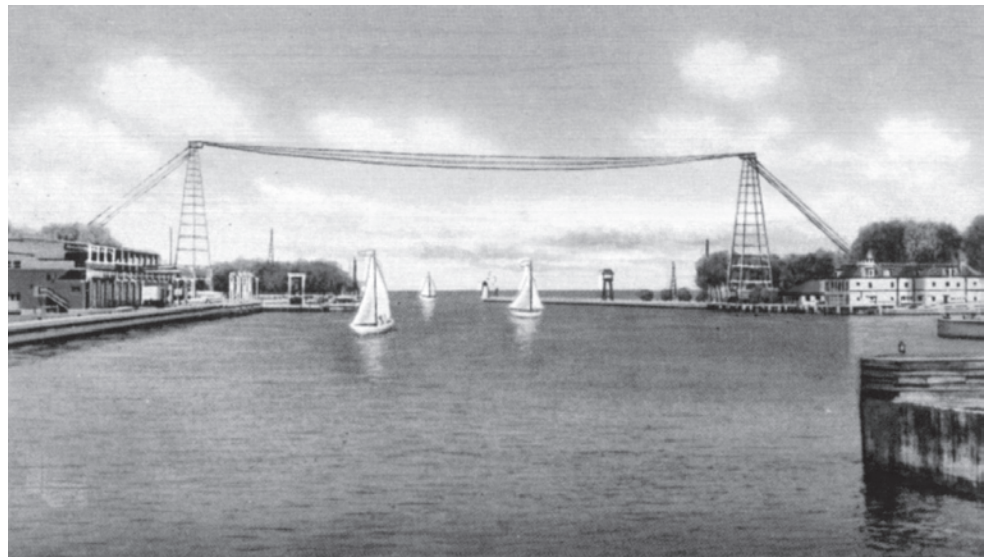
COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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

Village History

by Jack Kemp

Steel Tower in Ontario Beach Park for Carrying Big Electric Light Cables



Two steel towers were erected across the entrance to the harbor at Charlotte. Each of the towers was 167 feet tall, carrying electric light cables across the Genesee River at a height great enough to clear the highest-masted lake craft.

In April of 1909, the Rochester Railway and Light Company made application to the Ontario Beach Hotel and Amusement Company for permission to erect the western tower on the grounds of Ontario Beach Park. The west bank

tower adjoined the tunnel of the Scenic Railway Company. Each tower

A newspaper article in May of 1909 said that the Seneca Falls Engineering Company could not finish the tower until June 1st, because the steel girders had not been finished on time.

In the meantime the light company, in order to supply Ontario Beach Park with electric current, laid a temporary cable under the river.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Arts & Crafts Show

Sat. Oct 11, 9am to 6pm
Sun. Oct 12, 1pm to 5pm

Historic Charlotte Cemetery Tour

Sun. Oct 12, 1pm
(meet at the cemetery on River St.)

River Romance Weekend

Pirates Day at the Terminal
Sat. Oct 11, 11am to 4pm
Ontario Beach Park Entertainment
Sun. Oct 12, 11am to 4 pm

Village History - meets the 3rd Saturday of the month at 10am. The next meetings are:
October 18
November 15

Marine History- meets the 2nd Saturday of the month at 10am. The next meetings are:
October 11
November 8

Ghost Stories at the Lighthouse

Is there really a ghost at the Lighthouse?
Come and find out! Hear other scary tales, too!



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25
6:30 P.M.
The event is
FREE to the Public

Arts & Crafts Show

Sat. Oct 11, 9am to 6pm
Sun. Oct 12, 1pm to 5pm
Tower, Museum & Gift Shop Open



Art Show
2007
courtesy
Fred Amato

President's Message

by Fred Amato



The past several months I have been increasing our outreach efforts in the community. I feel strongly that this effort is an invaluable tool in educating the

community about the Charlotte Genesee Lighthouse. It will help bring in more visitors to see the wonderful history of Charlotte that many volunteers have been preserving for many years.

I have been out in the community with our slide show called "From the Beginning, The Lighthouses of the Port Of Rochester." Presentations have been given to the Greece Historical Society, the Village at Park Ridge, the Irondequoit Historical Society, and the Greece Older Americans. Upcoming are presentations for the Holy Cross Senior Group and to the Greece Baptist Church. We can come to your group. Please contact me for further info on scheduling a presentation for your special group.

This year, our Group Tours have included the Harley School, Hilton Cub Scouts, Genesee Community Charter School, West Irondequoit Girl Scouts, Alendale School, Early Ford V8 Club, Fair-

port School, Troy New York Scout Group, Togetherness in Love Community Group, Rush Henrietta Child Care Program, St. Joseph's Villa, Girl Scouts from Scottsville, Urban League, Wesley Church Group, Info Directions Inc., the monthly City of Rochester Bicycle Group, and the Monroe County 4H Club. If you know of a group that is interested in a special tour of the Lighthouse please contact me.

I will continue our participation at events around the community such as the recent Earth Voyager day and the Smoke, Flames & Courage II at the Rochester Terminal. We hope to have a table at the Harvest Craft Faire at Monroe Community Hospital on Friday, Nov. 21st and Sat., Nov. 22, from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM. Please stop by and see our display.



Table At Earth Voyager Event
Courtesy Doug Moran



Fire Event
Courtesy Fred Amato

Raffle tickets are still on sale for the Lighthouse Quilt, handmade and donated by Board member **June Coddling**. It has 25 different lighthouses that appear on it. **Tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00.** Tickets are ON SALE at the Lighthouse Gift Shop and are also available from our board members. If you would like to sell tickets or purchase them please contact **Bill Briggs**, Raffle Chairperson, at Lakeside Floral & Antique Gallery, 4641 Lake Ave. 663-2990. The drawing will be held at our Arts & Crafts Show and Sale on **Sunday, October 12th.**

We recently received a \$2,500 grant from Assemblyman Joe Morelle and will use the funds to purchase equipment to monitor both temperature / humidity of our facilities and a new security system that will be our 1st phase in securing our collections and the property's buildings. We are also working on Senator Joe Robach's grant of \$9,000 which will be used to replace our broken sidewalks, install a cement pad in front of our Annex and new fencing on our south hill. Our thanks to both of these elected officials for their continued support.

Our WEB site at www.geneseelighthouse.org has just been redesigned by Amy Pschierer. We are thankful for the many hours she spent making improvements to our site. Amy is now working with her sister, Corinne Pschierer, to update our Video Presentation of the Lighthouse Tower.

As always please contact me at info@geneseelighthouse.org or by phone at 621-5605 if you have any comments about the Lighthouse or our programs.

Fred



July 25 - USCG Change of Command

Left to right:
Captain Robert S. Burchell
Commander, Coast Guard Sector Buffalo

CWO2 Stephen L. Engle
Outgoing Officer In Charge, moving to Washington DC

BMC William D. Hollandsworth
Incoming Officer in Charge, USCG Station Rochester

Photos courtesy Fred Amato and Marie Poinan

Marine History

by Marie Poinan

Earth Voyager Returns Home



Photo courtesy Fred Amato

Earth Voyager, a 60-foot trimaran that was built in Rochester returned to Rochester for the final stop of a 13-city "Healthy Lives Healthy Lakes" tour.

The *Earth Voyager* is reputed to be the fastest sailboat on the Great Lakes and her fame will raise awareness about the need to protect and restore them.

Skipper Ray Howe is not only the owner but also the builder of the white hulled *Earth Voyager*. Many remember the severe damage she sustained in the CSX train derailment in Charlotte on December 23, 2001. Ray Howe was en route to Florida when he got the call that a runaway coal car had damaged one hull and the mast. Damage was estimated to be about \$200,000.

After she was repaired, Howe left Rochester and Port Huron, Michigan became the new home port for the *Earth Voyager*. Designed by Nigel Ehrens in the United Kingdom and built by Raymond Howe in Rochester from 1985-1992, the boat is 66 ft. long, 44 ft. wide, with a 3-foot draft. The mast is 97 feet above the water line. According to the tour website: "In an 8 knot wind (about 9 mph) she can do 18 knots (about 21 mph), and has been clocked at over 33 knots (nearly 40 mph)! She is truly a superstar and attracts crowds of admirers wherever she goes."

The first stop on the tour was Buffalo where her send-off included a flotilla of vessels that included another familiar visitor to the Port of Rochester- the *Edward M. Cotter* fireboat. Then, the crew departed Buffalo for stops in Erie, PA, Toledo, Ohio, Detroit and Port Huron Michigan, Sarnia, Ontario, Chicago, Illinois Traverse City, MI, Grand Haven, MI, Milwaukee, Bay City Michigan, Cleveland, Ohio and the final stop in Rochester, NY.

(tour info was obtained from www.healthylakes.org)



Volunteer of the Year

At the Semi-Annual Meeting on August 14th, Fred Amato received the 2008 Dunn "Volunteer of the Year" award from VP Chris Franco. This award was voted by members of the Historical Society.

Photo courtesy Marie Poinan

Lighthouse closes for the season Sunday, October 26

In Memoriam

We extend our sympathy to the family of **Mary Montante**, who died on July 14, 2008. Mary was a member of our Historical Society for many years and also served on the Board of Trustees. Her dedication will always be remembered.



Charlotte Genesee Lighthouse
70 Lighthouse Street
Rochester, New York 14612

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DATED MATERIAL: PLEASE DELIVERY BY SEPTEMBER 26

****Please check the expiration date on this mailing label to see if your annual dues are payable.****

We appreciate your membership. Your paid dues will keep you on our mailing list so that you won't miss out on the next issue of the Beacon. When you are done reading this issue, please pass it along to a friend to enjoy

Lighthouse Sponsors
**Barbara Kelley
and Tom Riley**

*The following
businesses support the
Charlotte-Genesee Lighthouse
Historical Society, Inc.*

Shumway Marine
Herrema's Food Market, Inc.
Turn Key Operations

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 | <input type="checkbox"/> Lighthouse Keeper | \$1000 & up |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$25.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Lighthouse Keeper | Receive a FREE framed LH photo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing | \$30-49 | <input type="checkbox"/> Lighthouse Keeper | 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"/> Supporting | Receive a FREE LH t-shirt | <input type="checkbox"/> Business | \$50 & up |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$100-499 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business | Receive written recognition in
the Beacon for one year (4 issues) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | 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.**