

The Ultimate Southern Lake Michigan Excursion

Sunday June 27 through Thursday July 1, 2010

The base for this “once in a lifetime” excursion will be the Haworth Inn and Convention Center in Holland, Michigan where we will stay both Saturday night and Wednesday night on our return. The Inn is located at 225 College Avenue in downtown Holland, and is part of the campus of Hope College. Located on the college campus, we have been able to make special arrangements to leave our vehicles in an adjacent college parking lot for the four days we will be out cruising on Lake Michigan.

Please note that for this excursion, the ticket price includes both nights in the Haworth Inn, but does not include your dinner on your arrival in Holland on Saturday June 26. However, there are many fine restaurants within walking distance of the Haworth Inn, so you should have no problem finding a great place to eat.

Sunday June 27

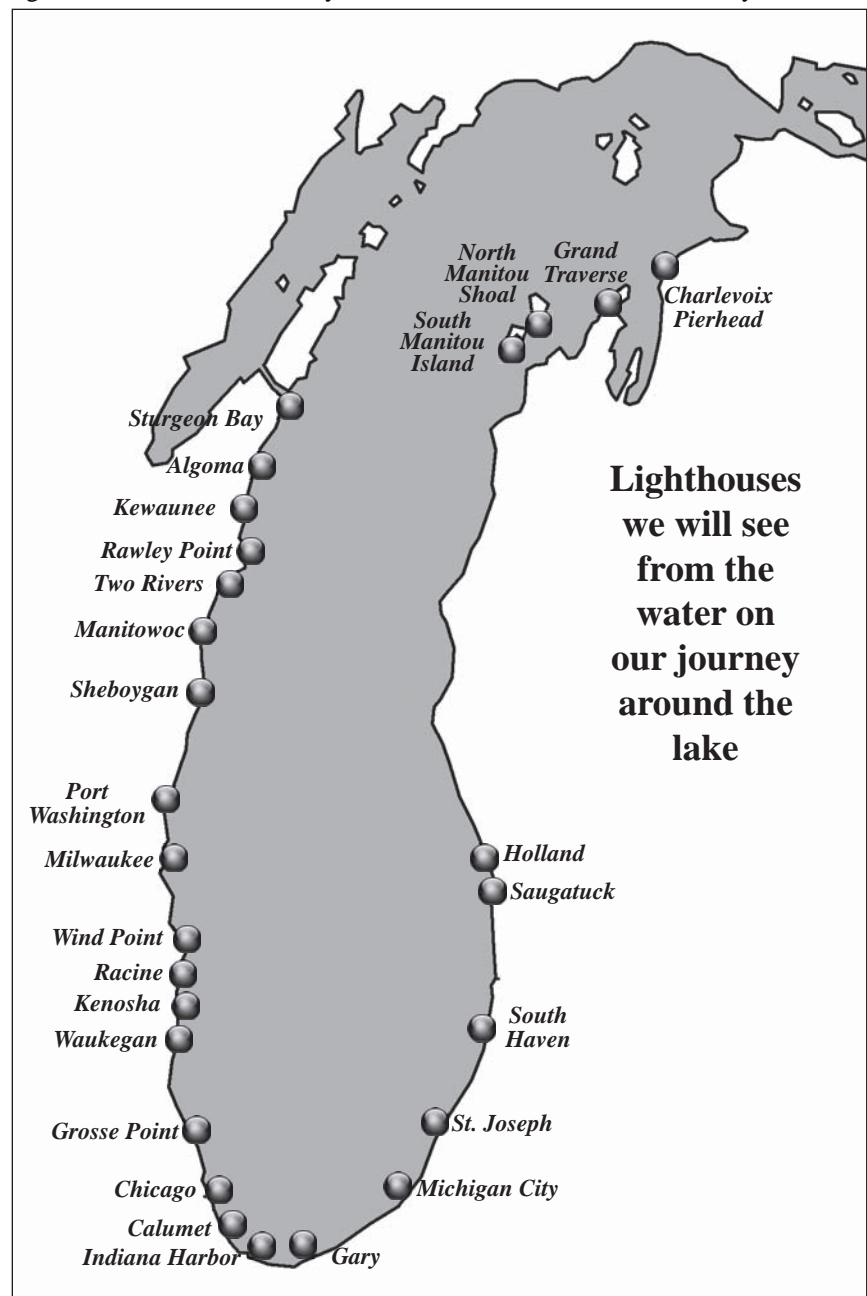
We will meet at 7:00 Sunday morning in the front lobby of the Haworth Inn where a motor coach will take us and our luggage out to the marina at the lakeward end of Lake Macatawa where the Keweenaw Star will be awaiting our arrival. Once our baggage is stowed, we will make our way between the piers to get a close-up view of “Big Red” before turning toward the south end of Lake Michigan. As we eat a continental breakfast on board, we will make our way south past the Saugatuck lights, to obtain close-up views of the South Haven pierhead and both St. Joseph North pier lights.

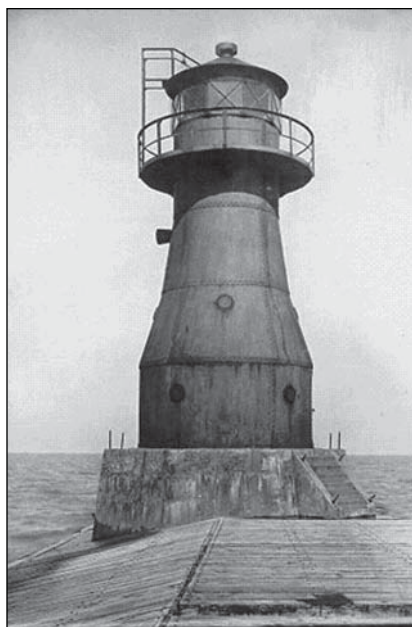
As we enter Indiana waters, we will eat our lunch onboard as we make our way to the Michigan City Pierhead light and then make our way into Trail Creek to view the old Michigan City lighthouse. Heading back into the lake, we pass the Michigan City Breakwater light and then along some of the most

beautiful dune lined shores on the lake. We will then see the shoreline undergo a dramatic change as we enter the area that once served as the steel making capital of the world. We will pass by the Gary Breakwater light which guides vessels into the US Steel Works, the 1926 Buffington Breakwater light, and then make our way around

the man made peninsula that is Inland Steel to obtain a close up view of the Indiana Harbor light, a twin of the Port Washington Breakwater light we will see later in our trip.

After viewing the lighthouse, we head northwest past the Hammond Water Intake Crib with its old acetylene tower





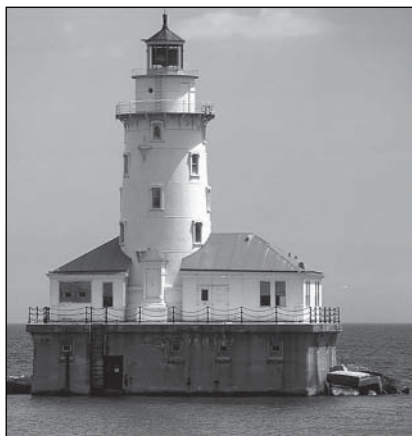
US Coast Guard Historian's Office

Gary Breakwater light - one of the difficult to see Steel Mill lights on this cruise

still intact, and make our way into the Hammond Marina where we plan to arrive at approximately 5:00 PM to meet waiting transportation which will take us on a short 2 ½ mile drive to dinner and our rooms at the Hammond Ramada Inn.

Monday June 28

This will be an amazing day, with many lights to see over a long stretch of water, during which we will pass through the waters of three states. As such, we will be making an early start, meeting in the hotel lobby at 6:00 AM so we can be loaded and underway from the



Jerry Pepper

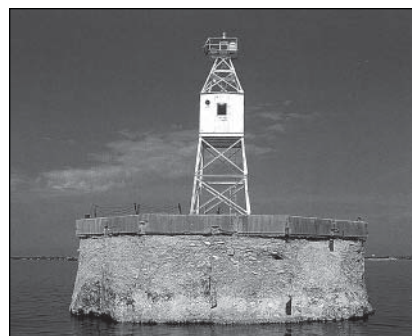
*Who can pass up the the opportunity to get close to the Chicago Harbor light
The Beacon, Winter 2009*

marina by 7:00. After heading out of the marina, we take a short trip north to turn around the Calumet Harbor light, and then eat our breakfast as we make our way to the conjoined 68th Street and Dunne Intake Cribbs.

We then pass close to the Four Mile Intake Crib before making our way past the iconic Chicago Harbor light on our way to view the Chicago Southeast Guide-wall light – a twin of the Calumet Harbor light seen earlier this day. We then get another close-up look at the Chicago Harbor light as we head back into the lake to pass the conjoined Carter H Harrison and William E Dever intake cribbs and the Wilson Avenue intake crib on our way to Evanston, where we should be able to obtain a limited view of the magnificent Grosse Point light station through the trees. We will then enjoy our onboard lunch as we make our way to the Waukegan Breakwater light, and then on to Kenosha to gain water views of both the Kenosha Pierhead and Southport lights.

Further north we will see the ignominious Racine Reef light which replaced one of the most beautiful lighthouses on the Great Lakes in 1961. We will then pass the relocated Racine Breakwater light and head into the harbor to view the old Racine Pierhead light, a former classic schoolhouse light until its tower was shortened when the light was converted into a Coast Guard station. From Racine, we pass the majestic Wind Point light station, and set a course for Milwaukee. On arriving in Milwaukee, we will obtain a close-up view of the difficult to photograph Milwaukee Breakwater light before heading into the harbor to see the Milwaukee Pierhead light.

Then it's back into the lake for an offshore view of the North Point light through the trees of Lake Park. As we continue north, we hope to gain a glimpse of the Kevich light through the trees before passing the Port Washington Breakwater Light on our way into Port Washington marina, where we plan



Ken & Barb Warden

While a shadow of the former structure, the Racine Reef light is one of a number of "life lights" we will see on this excursion

on arriving at approximately 7:30 PM. After unloading our baggage, we will take a short 1 ½ block walk to the Holiday Harborview Hotel. After checking-in and getting a quick freshen-up, we will take the short walk back toward the marina to the Newport Shores restaurant for one of their locally famous fish fries. After a long and lighthouse-filled day followed by a great meal, the short walk back to the hotel will be an enjoyable prelude to a great night's sleep.

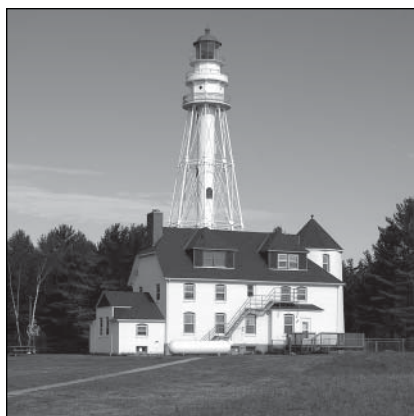
Tuesday June 29

After a 7:00 AM breakfast buffet in the hotel, we will meet in the hotel lobby at 8:00 AM to board buses for a ride up the steep hill for a tour of the 1860 Port Washington lighthouse, which the Port Washington Historical Society has



John Enright

While in Port Washington, we will have the opportunity to tour the lighthouse



Terry Pepper

Rawley Point light station - the tallest land-based tower on the Great Lakes

graciously offered to open up early for our group. After touring the lighthouse, we will again board the buses for the ride back down the hill to the marina to the awaiting Keweenaw Star.

We will again pass the Port Washington pierhead light, and enjoy an onboard lunch as we make our way north along the coast to Sheboygan where we will view the headless Pierhead light. From here we set a course for Manitowoc to obtain the close-up view of the Manitowoc Breakwater light. After a short trip, we will pass the new Two Rivers pierhead light before pausing to view the majestic Rawley Point lighthouse - the tallest land-based tower on the Great Lakes. Then it's on to view the pierhead lights at Kewaunee and Algoma, where large fishing fleets once pulled millions of pounds of fish from the lake.

The final leg of this days' journey will take us through the Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal to downtown Sturgeon Bay, where we plan on mooring at 7:00 PM between the city's bridges for a two block walk with our luggage to the beautiful Stone Harbor Resort for a wonderful supper and our rooms for the night..

Wednesday June 30

Today, we meet in the lobby of the hotel at 7:00 AM, after which we will retrace our steps back to the waiting boat. After loading our luggage, we will enjoy a

continental breakfast onboard as we head out into Lake Michigan past the Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal and pierhead lighthouses, and chart a sixty mile course directly across Lake Michigan to the Manitou Islands.

After viewing the South Manitou light station, we will enjoy our final onboard lunch as we make our way through the Manitou Passage for a close-up view of the North Manitou Shoal light, known locally as "The Crib." From here, we set a course for Cat Head Point for a unique offshore view of the Grand Traverse lighthouse before our final leg to Charlevoix, past the South Pierhead light, under the lift bridge, and to the Keweenaw Star's dock in Round Lake.



Terry Pepper

Grand Traverse lighthouse is one that is not too often seen from the water

After unloading our luggage, a pair of waiting motor coaches will take us back to Holland to our waiting cars and our second night in the Haworth Inn, where we expect to arrive at approximately 8:00 PM. We will stop at a fast food restaurant along the journey to Holland, where everyone will be responsible for the cost of their own meals.

But wait – it's not over yet!

Thursday July 1

After breakfast on your own this morning at one of the many restaurants in the area, we will meet in the lobby of the Haworth Inn at 9:00 AM. As frosting on this 38 lighthouse, and five water intake crib cake, a motor coach which will take us out to the south pier at the entrance to Lake

Macatawa. Here, we will walk out the pier for a full tour of the newly restored Holland Harbor Lighthouse as guests of the Holland Harbor Lighthouse Preservation Society. After touring of Big Red, the motor coach will take us back to our cars at the Inn, where expect to arrive at approximately 11:30 to bid our farewells and to head off on our own personal adventures.

The price for this once in a lifetime excursion is \$1,195.00 per person double occupancy, and \$1,475.00 per person single occupancy. This price includes all hotels, meals, transportation, gratuities and donations to the two lighthouses we will tour. The only exceptions being our meal on the coach trip from Charlevoix to Holland on Wednesday evening, and breakfast on Thursday morning, for which guests will be responsible themselves.

Because it offers such a unique opportunity to see some really elusive lighthouses, and to obtain offshore views of lights which are otherwise virtually impossible to obtain, we expect this excursion to fill up very quickly. So please contact the GLLKA office at 231-436-5580 to make your reservations early.



Terry Pepper

Thursday morning we will have the unique opportunity to tour "Big Red"

The Beacon, Winter 2009