

Lake Ontario Excursion

Thursday October 1st through Saturday October 3rd, 2009

The Great Lakes finally give way to the majestic St. Lawrence River, winding it's way through and around the beautiful Thousand Islands region of up-state New York. Add to that the ever-changing pallet of fall colors, a visit to two previously off-limits lighthouses and a never-before-done boat tour to some very elusive lighthouses and you have the ingredients of a spectacular 2009 Lake Ontario GLLKA Excursion.



The 2009 Lake Ontario excursion will include a tour of the privately owned Ogdensburg Harbor lighthouse

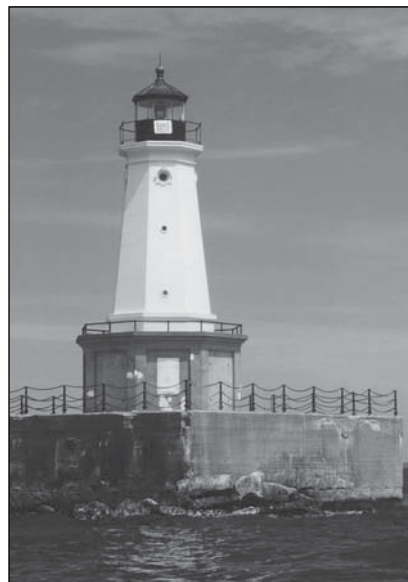
The 2009 Lake Ontario Conference will begin on Thursday, October 1st., where we will meet at the Riveredge Resort & Conference Center, 17 Holland St., Alexandria Bay, NY at 8:00 am. Please make your own arrangements for over-night accommodations on Wednesday September 30th. It could be at the same hotel (the Riveredge), or one of your choice. Information, including a map, planned itinerary, and meal vouchers will be available at the hotel desk. For anyone choosing not to stay at the hotel the previous night,

The Beacon, Winter 2008/2009

we will make arrangements to get our "Check-in" Packages at our 8:00 a.m. departure time.

We will board a bus and travel to Ogdensburg where we will enjoy a special treat. We'll meet with Blair Roethel, keeper, owner, historian, and the son of former keepers, Thomas G. and Laurel B. Roethel, who has graciously invited us to visit his private residence, the **Ogdensburg Harbor Lighthouse**, which is normally closed to the public. Blair will review the history of the lighthouse and bring us up-to-date on his preservation efforts. A short walk will take us to the site of the major restoration of **Fort de la Presentation**, pivotal during the French and Indian War. It will host the 250th anniversary, in 2010, of that war.

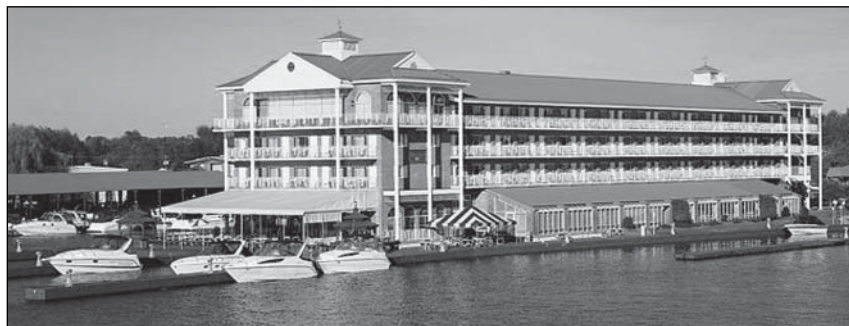
Next, we'll travel to **Tibbetts Point**, a special place where "the River meets the Lake" We will tour this complete light-station with its' Fourth Order Fresnel lens and fog-signal building still intact. We continue on our "land circle tour" to the compelling **Seaway Trail Discovery Center** in Sackets Harbor, where we will immerse ourselves in the maritime lore and fascinating history of this vital link to history and the Great Lakes Seaway Trail. Completing this phase of our tour, we'll journey back to Alexandria



The tower of the 1935 East Charity Shoal light formerly served as the pierhead light at Vermilion, Ohio

Bay, to settle in at the hotel and meet again for dinner.

Friday, at 6:30 am sharp, we'll board a bus and travel across the U.S./ Canada border to Kingston, Ontario, a UNESCO World Heritage Destination, where we'll board the "ISLAND STAR" with Captain Lee Warner and his crew. A continental breakfast will be served on board as we head for a rare offshore photo opportunities of the following lighthouses in Canadian and USA waters: Tibbetts Point, **East Charity Shoal, Main Duck Island**

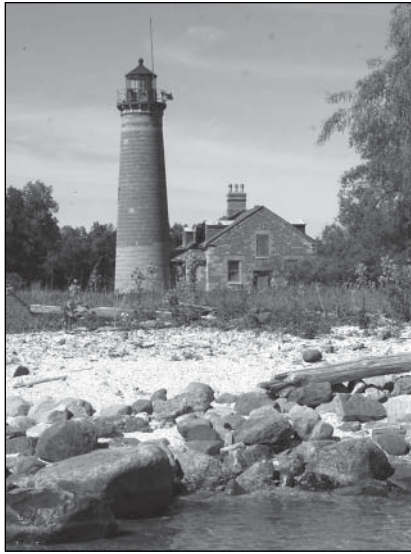


The Riveredge Resort & Conference Center - our base of operations for the 3 day event

GLLKA collection - uncredited

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Riveredge Resort & Conference Center



Coldwell Banker Prime Properties

The Galloo Island lighthouse is one of the many offshore lights we will see. The lighthouse is for sale if anyone is interested

and Galloo Island. The exact order will be determined by weather and wind conditions of the day. The journey will take six to eight hours and will include lunch served on-board. We will endeavor to have a local historian on board to elaborate on the history and mysteries of these remote, but vital lighthouses.

Depending on the time-of-arrival back in Kingston, we'll determine if there is time to visit another Canadian Lighthouse - **False Duck**. This Cruise will be a first for the "Kingston 1000 Islands Cruises" Company, and they are very excited about this new adventure. Dinner will follow as we head back to Alexandria Bay for a well-deserved nights rest. Another exciting and epic day awaits



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As we pass by, it will be easy to see where Sunken Island lighthouse got its name

us on Saturday. An "Uncle Sam Boat Tours" vessel with Captain Bryan Gedbaw and his crew, will meet us at the dock at the Riveredge for the day's journey. We will do a "circle tour" in the St. Lawrence River to view and photograph **Sunken Rock, Sister's Island, Crossover Island, Ogdensburg Harbor and Rock Island.**

We will have breakfast on-board and, as a special treat, disembark at Crossover Island for lunch and a tour of the lighthouse. Our host and tour guide will be Lighthouse Owner, John Urtis who will share the lore and history of this lighthouse.

A gala banquet at the hotel on Saturday



US Coast Guard Archives

We will tour Tibbetts Point light station, one of few on the Great Lakes which still has its diaphone resonators in place.

evening will include exciting door prizes, guest speakers and surprises. Once again, we'll engage local artists to provide us with some of their original works of art to bring a satisfying end to this years Lake Ontario Conference. See you all there!

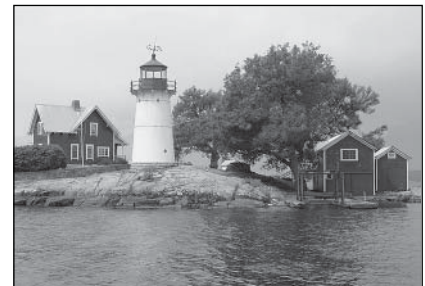
Please be aware that since part of this excursion will take place in Canada, **EVERYONE MUST HAVE A VALID PASSPORT TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS CRUISE.** There can be no exception to this requirement, and passports will be checked as we board the bus bound for Kingston on Thursday

morning.

We must also make everyone aware that the Canadian Government has taken a strong stand against driving while under the influence of alcohol and drugs. To this end, they are refusing entry to anyone into Canada who has served any type of sentence for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the past 10 years. So if you should happen to fit such a description, we ask that you please not plan on joining us so as not to imperil our entry into Canada.

Fran Jehrio, the coordinator and leader of our highly successful Lake Erie excursions the past two years will serve as your host for this event. Ticket prices for members will be \$740 per person for double occupancy and \$890 per person for single occupancy. This price covers all expenses from our departure from Alexandria Bay Thursday morning through check-out from the Riveredge Resort & Conference Center on Sunday morning. Non GLLKA members will need to add the cost of a membership in the Association to be eligible to participate.

To pay for your reservation by check, please complete and mail the registration form on the inner removable cover of this Beacon along with your check. We will be happy to accept your reservation using a major credit card by calling the GLLKA office at 231-436-5580 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.



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Our boat will dock at Crossover Island for a rare opportunity to tour the lighthouse The Beacon, Winter 2008/2009