

2009 South Manitou Excursion

Saturday June 6, 2009

Again for 2009, **Jean and Jane Gertz** have put together a wonderful excursion on Lake Michigan to open up the season. The Lake Michigan event will take place on 6 June, 2009, and will consist of a boat trip to South Manitou Island with a stop at the North Manitou Crib Light for pictures.

The headquarters for the conference will be in the beautiful resort town of Leland, Michigan at the Leland Lodge and Conference Center. Weather can cause the route to change or impact the entire boat trip. If this happens, the conference will still take place and everyone will receive a map so that the area land lights can be visited.

Once we dock on South Manitou Island, there will be a quarter mile walk to the lighthouse. Of special interest for this



South Manitou Island light station as it appeared circa 1890

Kari Gordon, family collection

excursion will be the opportunity to get a close-up view of the light station's new Third Order Fresnel lens. Designed by Artworks Florida and machined in brass and acrylic by Knappenberger Tool, the components of the lens were carried piece-by-piece up the tower stairs for reassembly in the lantern. The light was established as a private aid to navigation and re-lighted in 2008, 50 years after the station's original light was extinguished in 1958.

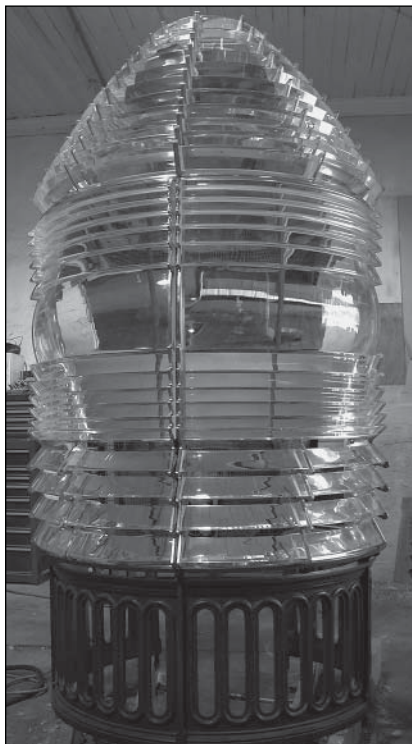
For those who may have a difficult time walking, as we approach the island, there will be a good view of the lighthouse. We are also trying to make arrangements for transportation on the island, but at this time, it is not guaranteed. After visiting the lighthouse, you will have time to hike, tour, and enjoy the beauties of this island gem.

The cost for the excursion is \$140.00 for members, \$175.00 for non-members, and \$115.00 for children 12 and under. This price includes a continental breakfast, box lunch, snacks, dinner, boat trip, registration fee, tax, and gratuities.

The excursion is limited to the first 120 people and the deadline for registration is 25 May 2009. A special rate for rooms has been arranged at the Leland Lodge. Specific details will be mailed upon receipt of the reservation fee. See the removable cover of this Beacon for the registration form.

Please join us to celebrate the beginning of the 2009 lighthouse season.

For more information, contact the GLLKA office at info@gllka.com or at 231-436-5580.



Artworks Florida

The completed lens at Knappenberger Tool prior to disassembly and shipment to South Manitou Island light station

The Beacon, Winter 2008/2009

Did you know?

On the southwest corner of South Manitou Island is a grove of virgin white cedar trees. One of the fallen trees showed 528 growth rings, dating its existence to before Columbus set foot in the Americas.