

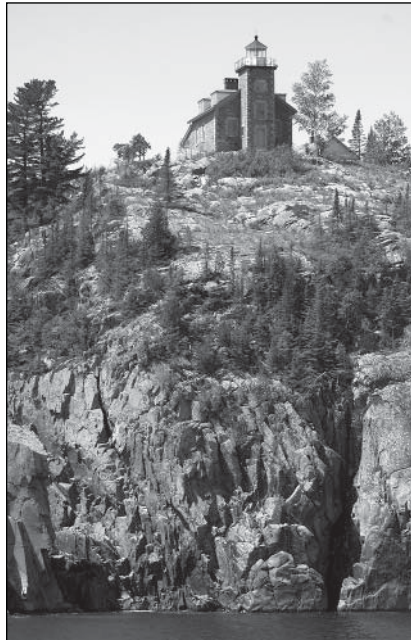
The Ultimate Western Great Lakes Adventure

Sunday September 6 through Wednesday September 9, 2009

We are pleased to announce that for 2009, we will be offering a truly unique “three lake” excursion beginning in Hancock in Michigan’s beautiful Upper Peninsula, traveling across the south shore of Lake Superior, down the St. Marys River, across the northern end of Lake Huron and down Lake Michigan’s east shore to Charlevoix, with a motor coach trip back to Hancock – undoubtedly “The Ultimate Western Great Lakes Adventure.”

Sunday

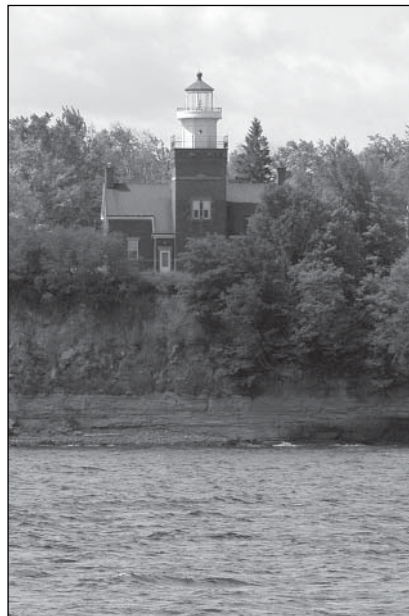
We will depart on the 110 foot Keweenaw Star from the dock in front of the Ramada Inn in Hancock at 8.00 and enjoy an on-board continental breakfast as we make our way south through the Portage Lake Ship Canal and into Lake Superior. As we enter the big lake, we will pass the **Keweenaw Lower entry** light which guards the canal entrance, and then pass the **Portage River lighthouse**, which sits atop a cliff of Jacobsville sandstone which serves as the source



Seeing the lighthouse on the Huron Islands will be a memory you will carry forever

Terry Pepper

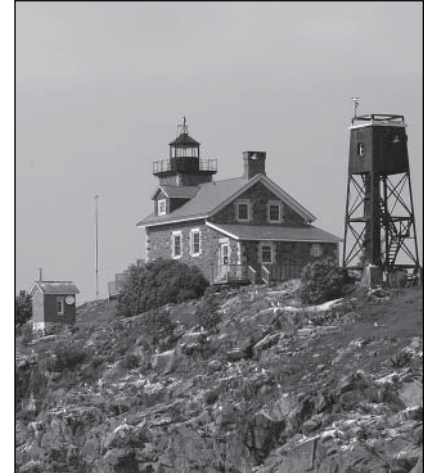
of the name by which this lighthouse is commonly known today. We will then head northeast to the **Huron Islands** as we enjoy an on board continental breakfast. While small in size, this group of rugged granite islands are arguably some of the most beautiful to be found anywhere in the Great Lakes, and the setting of the lighthouse high atop the craggy cliff is an experience you will likely never forget. After circling the island, we will head for **Big**



Seeing Big Bay lighthouse from the water gives insight into the reason for its being that cannot be gained from the land

Terry Pepper

Bay Point, where we pause in front of the lighthouse to ensure that everyone gets their best photos before continuing east as we enjoy a fine onboard lunch on our way to Marquette. As we approach Marquette, we will circle tiny **Granite Island** and its privately owned restored and modernized lighthouse. We will pause at the **Presque Isle Upper** light and get a close view of any freighter which may be in port taking on taconite at the ore dock, pass the close to the



Terry Pepper

You have to see the lighthouse for yourself in order to appreciate the work that has been undertaken at Granite Island

Marquette Harbor light, make the turn round the breakwater, and make our way into our berth in the marina. After off-loading our luggage, waiting vans will transport us to our hotel for a first-class dinner and a good night’s rest.

Monday

After a short trip on the awaiting vans for the ride back to the harbor, we will re-board the Keweenaw Star and enjoy a continental breakfast as we make our way east to Grand Island to obtain a view of the **Grand Island North**



Terry Pepper

Situated atop a 175 foot cliff, the Grand Island North light boasts the highest focal plane of any lighthouse on the lakes



Terry Pepper

Ontario's Gros Cap light was established to replace a lightship which marked the reef

lighthouse. Situated high atop the 175 foot high cliffs at the northern point of the island, this light boasts the highest focal plane of any U.S. lighthouse on the Great Lakes. We then make our way east along the Pictured Rocks to obtain rare offshore views of the lighthouses at **Au Sable Point**, **Crisp Point** and **Whitefish Point** lighthouses, before heading across Whitefish Bay into Canadian waters to obtain close-up views of the **Ile Parisienne** and **Gros Cap** lighthouses. After returning to US waters to obtain an offshore view of the Point Iroquois lighthouse, we make our way into the



Terry Pepper

Seeing the Point Iroquois lighthouse from the mariners perspective on the water lends understanding of the reason the lighthouse was located where it is

The Beacon, Winter 2008/2009

St Marys River where we will follow an exhaustive series of range lights and day marks, and through the Soo Locks. After dropping 21 feet in the lock, we will proceed to our dockage, where awaiting vehicles will transport us to the Kewadin Casino for a great dinner and our rooms for the night.

Tuesday

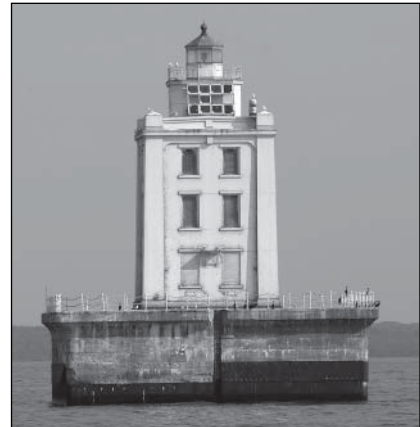
After a van ride back to the docks, we re-board The Star and continue to follow the ranges down the St. Marys River, past Sugar Island and through the amazing Rock Cut. After enjoying a close-up view of the **Round Island** and



Terry Pepper

The owner of Round Island lighthouse in the St. Marys River has taken the structure through an amazing transformation

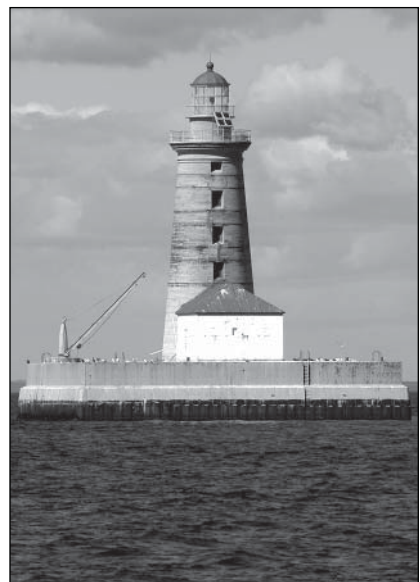
Pipe Island lighthouses, we will circle the magnificently restored **Detour Reef** light as we leave the river and enter Lake Huron. We then take an easterly course to view the **Martin Reef** light before heading south to **Spectacle Reef** lighthouse, a monolithic limestone structure that was heralded as one of the country's most impressive engineering works at the time of its construction. Heading back north, we will get as close as possible to the **Bois Blanc Island** light, the site of the second lighthouse to be established in the U.S. waters of Lake Huron in 1829. We then pass between Mackinac Island and Round Island to view both the **Round Island** lighthouse



Terry Pepper

Martin Reef light marks a dangerous shallow on the northern side of the shipping lane between Detour and the Straits

and the **Round Island Passage** light which rendered the prior station obsolete in 1948. We then swing round the southwestern end of Mackinac Island and pass the **Wawatam** light, which was erected at the end of the old Chief Wawatam dock and illuminated for the first time on the night of August 20, 2005, making it one of the newest lighthouses on the lakes. After docking in St. Ignace, we take a short van ride to the Kewadin Casino for a wonderful dinner and the final night of our excursion.

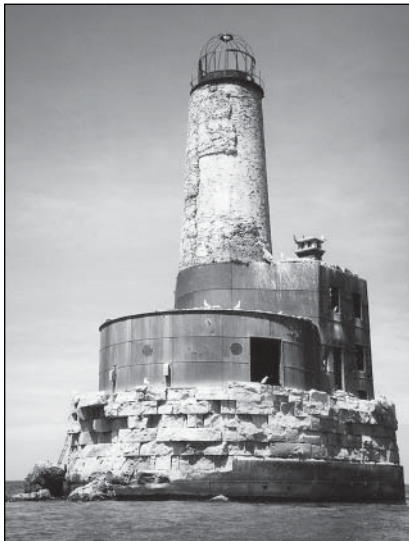


Terry Pepper

Because of its location 14 miles southwest of Bois Blanc Island and being surrounded by hazardous shallows, Spectacle Reef is one of the most difficult to photograph lights on the lakes.

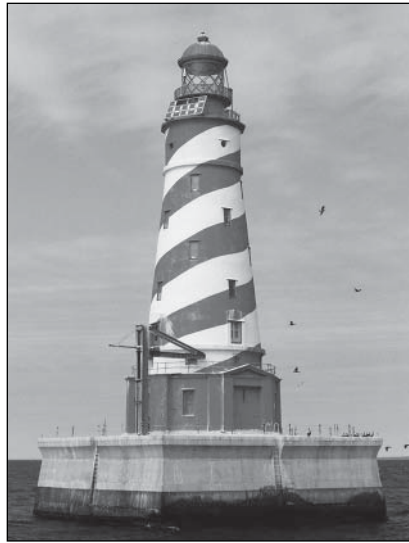
Wednesday

For the final day of this amazing event, we will again board vans for the tip back to The Star and enjoy a continental breakfast as we make our way west through the historic Straights of Mackinac towards Grays Reef Passage. After passing **Old Mackinac Point** lighthouse, we will pause beneath the mighty Mackinac Bridge to obtain an up-close view of what has been called the engineering feat of the 20th century. We then pass **McGulpin Point** lighthouse. With plans in place to remove trees on the light's lakeward side, the lighthouse should be visible from the Straits for the first time in over 100 years. We then pass the **St. Helena Island** light and set a course due west for **White Shoal** light, with its familiar red and white candy stripe daymark. The historic **Waugoshance** lighthouse is next on our itinerary. This light marks a number of Great Lakes firsts, including being the location of the first lightship placed on the Great Lakes in 1832. After circling the Art Deco style **Grays Reef** light, we head south through the passage for which the light is named to see the **Ile Aux Galets**, or Skiligallee light house, as it is now more commonly known. On the final leg of our journey, we will swing eastward into Little Traverse Bay to view the



Chris West

The effects of almost a century of northern Lake Michigan winters since the station's abandonment are clear at Waugoshance



Terry Pepper

With its unique red and white candy stripe daymark, White Shoal is one of the most recognizable lights on all the lakes

Little Traverse lighthouse. Located in an exclusive gated community, this lighthouse is normally closed to the public and very difficult to see. However, with deep water close to the shore, we will be able to obtain an excellent view of the station. After a brief view of the **Petoskey Pierhead** light, we will make our way along the coast to the Pine River entrance, where we will pass the **Charlevoix South Pierhead** light, as we make our way beneath the lift bridge and to our dock in Round Lake. We will then board an awaiting motor coach for the ride back to Hancock, and our awaiting cars.

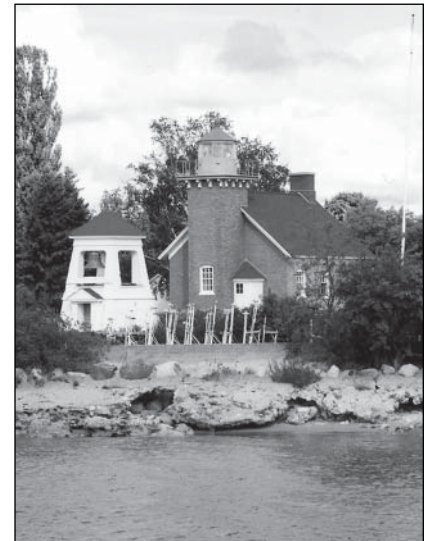
This excursion will be hosted and narrated by Terry Pepper, Great Lakes lighthouse historian and GLLKA Executive Director. Ticket prices for members will be \$850.00 per person for double occupancy and \$970.00 per person for single occupancy. This price covers all expenses from our departure from Hancock on Sunday morning through our return to Hancock late Wednesday afternoon. Non GLLKA members will need to add the cost of a membership in the Association to be eligible to participate.

Because we will be starting out early on Sunday and returning late on

Wednesday, we highly recommend that you make reservations at the Ramada Inn in Hancock for Saturday September 5 and Wednesday September 9 since the dock from which we depart and return to is located on the Ramada property, and the folks at the Ramada have been kind enough to allow us to leave our vehicles in their parking lot for the three days that we will be cruising. We have reserved a block of rooms for both nights at the Ramada at the rate of \$100.00 per night per room. When you call the hotel's toll-free number at 877-482-8400 to reserve your rooms, please let the hotel know that you are taking one of the block of rooms reserved in the name of Terry Pepper.

Since this excursion offers the unique opportunity to view 31 lighthouses on three lakes and their connecting waters, along with views of some of the most beautiful coastline anywhere on the Great Lakes, it is sure to be popular, so we strongly suggest that you make your reservations as soon as possible by calling the GLLKA office at 231-436-5580 from 9.00 AM to 4.00 PM Monday through Friday.

We hope you will join us on this Ultimate Western Great Lakes Adventure in 2009.



Terry Pepper

With deep water close to shore, we will be able to get a close view of the elusive Little Traverse light on the tip of Harbor Point

The Beacon, Winter 2008/2009