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NLPS Newsletter - November 2019

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Newsletter

NOTTAWASAGA LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

“The Nottawasaga Lighthouse is a symbol and a reminder of our beginning.”

Jim Kilgour

MEET THE BOARD

GARY NORMAN - Community Liaison / Fundraising Chair

"I have lived, worked and played in beautiful Collingwood for 50 years. Volunteerism has always been important to me. Over the years I have been involved with several community projects and organizations and have met and worked with many extraordinary people. Jim Kilgour and I taught together for many years at CCI. Jim was an early advocate for restoration of our Lighthouse. From him, I learned how important our Tower is to Collingwood and the marine history of Georgian Bay. I was an early member of the Lighthouse committee and after a hiatus, have returned to work with our incredible team of dedicated Lighthouse enthusiasts."



Gary is one of our hardest working members. He is a teacher, leader, diplomat, listener and values other's opinions. He is always willing to help, where no is not an option. He takes on projects with an ability to inspire and bring people together, plan every detail and follow through with execution. He is just plain able to get things done! We are so fortunate to have Gary on our team!!

BOARD NEWS

The Board received a very long, detailed report from the Chippewa of Nawash. We anticipate sitting down with them for discussions on several topics in the

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NEW Year.

The NLPS was represented in the Collingwood Santa Claus Parade. Thanks to **Henry Haiduk, Jan Wrigley and Nancy Leno** for organizing our entry. **Brad**



Lashley helped to decorate his truck and then drove it in the Santa Claus Parade. Thanks Brad. Without your time and truck, we could not have participated in this popular community event.

Howie Outerbridge has been out to the island and reports that the wrap held up well during the recent storms, however, he noted the disappearance of the whole east side of the chain link fence at the shoreline. The rock wall showed no evidence of damage, although wave action was well inland from the shoreline. The shoreline, pebble berms, trees and shrubbery have been drastically altered. Thank you to Howie for his vigilance.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Eleanor Burke retired to Collingwood 24 years ago and has been a busy volunteer involved with the Lawn Bowling Club, Gaslight Tour Productions and the Leisure Time Club. She is an award-winning woodcarver who has been sharing her skills with others weekly for several years at the Leisure Time Club. When she first moved to her home at Lighthouse Point, the Lighthouse was lit every evening. That ended in 2003 when it was decommissioned. Eleanor volunteered with the NLPS five years ago because she would like to see the structure restored and relit. She is a member of the fundraising committee, attends meetings, helps at event and designs posters. She organized an evening of entertainment at Lighthouse Point and raised significant dollars for our Lighthouse. Most notably, Eleanor has raised to date **\$12,257.35** through her bottle drive at Lighthouse Point. Thank you, Eleanor, for your nonstop efforts for our Light.



NLPS COMMUNITY HELPERS



Artist **Caitlin Heggie** crafted and sold several lovely lighthouse sculptures. They sold out quickly and Caitlin donated the proceeds to the restoration of the Light. We

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appreciate your support, Caitlin.

George Powell generously handcrafted a beautiful model of our Tower and presented it to the NLPS. It was used in the parade and will appear at many future events.



FUN FACT



In 2004, a large portion of face of the lighthouse fell to the ground as a result of what we believe was a lightning storm. The late Jim Kilgour,, supported by then Mayor Terry Geddes, campaigned on the Tower's behalf and in August 2005 the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans announced \$230,000 in federal funds for improved lightning protection and

stabilization of the lighthouse. The banding was completed and expected to be effective for 5 years, giving organizers time to raise money for a complete restoration.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

When you talk about the contamination that needs remediation, to what are you referring?

ANSWER - written by Stephen Emo and Gary Norman

One of the stumbling blocks to obtaining ownership is the contamination both inside the tower and the land immediately surrounding it. Inside, the contamination is mainly the lead paint used on the limestone walls, wood railings and stairs. Another contamination is the presence of mold. Both are solvable and the cleanup is necessary to provide a safe working environment when restoration of the lighthouse occurs.

The restoration company that will complete this part of the cleanup will take all steps necessary to ensure that there will not be any contaminated material flowing into Georgian Bay.

Outside the tower contaminants exist in small, localized spots around the light. Cadmium, copper, zinc, barium are found in small amounts while lead and mercury deposits are in more substantive amounts but isolated to a few areas. The most challenging are the lead and mercury. These areas around the base

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of the Light were caused by the dumping of old batteries that powered the light and the mercury on which the light rotated. These materials were simply tossed over the side of the lantern room.

Two options are available to the NLPS:

- One is to remove the soil completely and transport it off the island.
- The other is to cap the problem areas and then place new soil on top, creating a safe environment. Both options are acceptable to the Chippewas of Nawash and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

We continue to work with all concerned parties to ensure that we protect the wildlife and aquatic species that live on and around Nottawasaga Island.

EVENTS

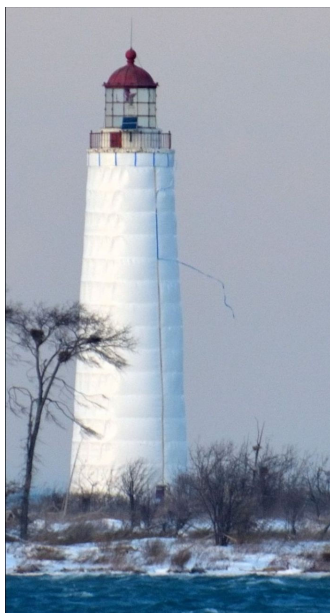
GIVING TUESDAY™

December 3 - [CLICK HERE](#) to give back!!

Join the movement dedicated to giving back to your favourite cause for GivingTuesday and get your friends involved.

December 25 - Merry Christmas

Our Lighthouse [Merchandise](#) and [Apparel](#) make perfect Christmas gifts. Visit our website for some ideas.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Stephen Emo - **Chairman**

Robert Square - **Vice Chairman/Government Liaison**

Pat Anstett - **Secretary**

Nancy Leno - **Treasurer**

Gary Norman - **Community Liaison**

Lucas Kokot - **Director**

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