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NLPS Newsletter - June 2020

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Newsletter

NOTTAWASAGA LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

HERITAGE GIVES US A SENSE OF PLACE

“The Nottawasaga Lighthouse has been an iconic local landmark for over 150 years and has played an integral role in Canada’s maritime history and in particular, Collingwood’s Shipbuilding past. ACO Collingwood supports the Nottawasaga Lighthouse Preservation Society (NLPS) in its efforts as a registered charity to restore and to protect the Lighthouse.”

From ACO Collingwood presentation to Council Feb. 2020

BOARD NEWS

Over the previous year, we became aware that Nottawasaga Island is part of an Indigenous land claim which is currently before the courts. From continued discussions with the parties involved, it is our understanding that no decision regarding the transfer of the island will be made immediately. Rather, this will likely have to wait until a decision is issued by the Superior Court of Justice (anticipated by year end). We are continuing to work alongside the parties and stakeholders involved. We remain optimistic that these relationships will help us move towards our goal. In the interim, we are continuing to explore every available option of maintaining and restoring the lighthouse. We continue to fundraise towards this end and we thank you for your continued support.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Jan Wrigley has been an important part of our fundraising committee for several years. She is kind, thoughtful and very easy to work with. The NLPS is fortunate to have Jan on our committee.

“My Family had been coming to Collingwood since the fifties to visit our grandparents. We skied in the winter and enjoyed boating and fishing in the summer. In 1990, I moved here with my two sons so they could enjoy the community and all it has to offer.

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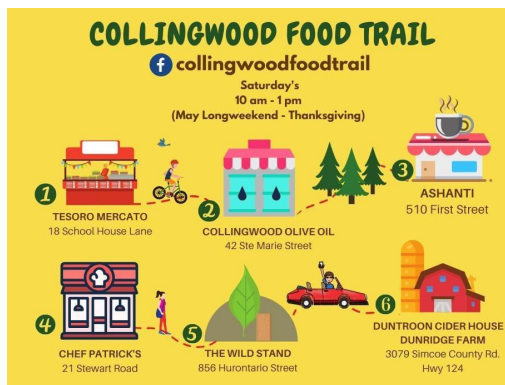
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this area and to meet many fine people. Several years ago, my sister, Nancy Leno and I heard of a group of people who were interested in restoring the Nottawasaga Lighthouse. Our brother, Jim Kilgour was an early advocate of this historic landmark. He had been able to persuade the government to install bands around the tower after an exterior rockfall. This was to be a temporary fix until a restoration could be done. Time marches on.



We became involved with a group of like-minded people with the same drive to restore this iconic tower. It is an important part of the Collingwood's history. I would love to see my brother's dream realized. It is one shared by my sister and myself. If you have this vision, you are most welcome to join the NLPS and "get r done!"

NLPS THANKS



The Farmers' Market is opening with a limited number of vendors, only food producers and so we will not be a part of the event this summer. We are grateful to [Collingwood Olive Oil Co.](#) for inviting the NLPS to set up our tent on their front lawn and be part of the Collingwood Cider Food Trail Saturday mornings. Last week, many folks who ordered items through our website

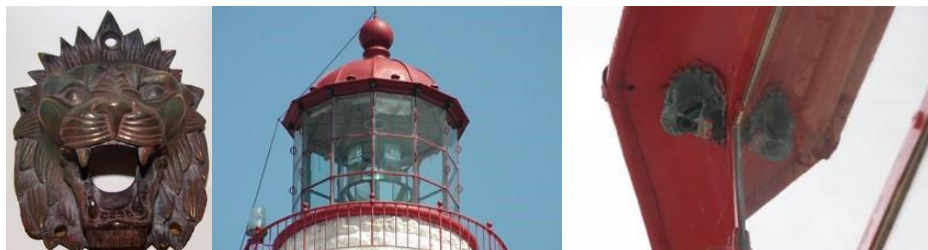
were able to pick them up Saturday morning. Very handy! Thanks Cheryl and Alex. We appreciate your support.

We thank the many members who did their Father's Day shopping with us. We hope all the Dads enjoyed their Lighthouse gifts.

We are still receiving a few calls in reply to our call for empties during our bottle drive. Please know, we'd be happy to help if you can't get to the Beer Store. However, if you take your empties in and ask staff to put the money into the Lighthouse jar, we will receive your donation. The jar gets emptied weekly by one of our volunteers. Thank you in advance.



Some lighthouse lanterns have one very unusual element in their design - Gargoyles. The French decided to use gargoyles around the lantern roof to collect the rainwater and literally spit it from just under the edge of the lantern roof corners. The heads of Eagles and Lions were used as the shapes of the Gargoyles.



Builder, John Brown used decorative gargoyles to ring the top of the lantern rooms of the six Imperial Towers around Georgian Bay and Lake Huron. Cove Island, the lighthouse at Tobermory is the only Imperial Tower with all of the original lion head gargoyles. The gargoyles have disappeared from our Lady of the Lake. However, Robert Square, while visiting the Canadian Coast Guard station in Parry Sound was delighted to find a gargoyle from our Light that had been found in a pile of rubble on the island. This gargoyle was on display with other marine artifacts in the front lobby. Robert got permission to reproduce it and there are now 10 solid bronze duplicates in his possession.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our By-laws call for an AGM within 15 months of the previous AGM (which is in line with the Statutory guidelines). The Province has provided that any not-for-profit AGM required to take place during the State of Emergency can be delayed up to 90 days. Alternatively, if the AGM is required to be held within 30 days of the termination of the State of Emergency, then the AGM can be delayed up to 120 days.

As of now, we are well within our 15-month time frame. We can comfortably delay the AGM until we receive more guidance from the province regarding the State of Emergency and group gatherings.

DESCENDANTS OF THE KEEPERS OF THE LIGHT

Recently a descendant of Captain George Collins was in touch with us. She is interested in tracking down some of her relatives. We have put her in touch with one of our volunteers who is also a descendant of Captain Collins. Interestingly, our volunteer has a cousin who is in possession of the tea set presented to Captain Collins for his bravery.

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Local supporter, James Mirrlees has supplied us with interviews he has done with a relative of Keeper Foley and a relative of Keeper Hogg.

If you are a relative of one of our Keepers, please email lightkeeper@nlps.info

OUR LIGHTKEEPERS

Archibald McDougall* (1857)

Robert Mills* (1858)

David McBeath (1858 – 1859)

George F. Collins (1859 – 1890)

Arthur George Clark (1890 – 1903)

Sarah Clark (1903 – 1904)

John F. Burmister (1904 – 1911)

James McNabb (1912 – 1913)

Anne McNabb (1913 – 1915)

Thomas W. Bowie (1915 – 1924)

Thomas Edward Foley (1924 – 1932)

Samuel Neally Hillen (1933 – 1942)

William “Scotty” Hogg (1943 – 1952)

James A. Keith (1953 – 1956)

James F. Dineen (1957 – 1959)

Ross White (1960 – 1961)

Harry Ward (1962 – 1963)

Wilfred Neil Johnston (1964 – 1983)

*Maintained a lantern atop the tower

We miss the dollars we always count on. It’s tough going for charities these days due to Covid-19.

If you would like to make a **DONATION** to support the work of the NLPS, you can do so through our account at [Canada Helps](#), our web site www.nlps.info , or get in touch with any Board member.

We have great merchandise available on our website for purchase to support our cause.

See our [Selection of Apparel](#) & our [Selection of Merchandise](#)

Thank you for your continued support!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

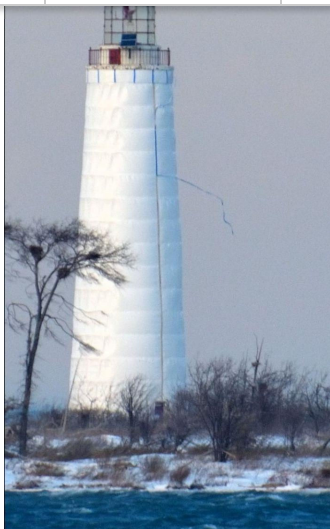
Stephen Emo - **Chairman**

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

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Gary Norman - **Community Liaison**

Lucas Kokot - **Director**

Contact us: 1-855-445-NLPS (6577)

or email: lightkeeper@nlps.info



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