

# Lighthouse Flash

## Fall 2017



### Upcoming Events

November 13<sup>th</sup> – Beth Helterbran from DCNR will be at Presque Isle to tour the Lighthouse.

November 16<sup>th</sup> – 2018 Annual Membership/Appeal to kickoff.

December 8<sup>th</sup> – Volunteer Christmas Party at the Lighthouse 5:30-7:30.

February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 – Completion of Operations Center and Gift Shop.

May 12<sup>th</sup> – Annual Lighthouse spring cleanup.



### Greetings!!

The 2017 summer season is behind us and what a season it was!! We had over 45,000 guests visit the Lighthouse from over 39 countries and each of the 50 states. The exciting number is that over 16,100 visitors safely climbed to the top of the tower to enjoy magnificent views and learn about the rich history of our Lighthouse.

A shout out to the volunteers who worked in the gift shop this season to make it such a success. We cannot wait to get into our newly constructed gift shop which will allow for even more inventory.

How did all this happen? In one word, **VOLUNTEERS**

The Lighthouse had over 100 dedicated volunteers this past summer. Without these volunteers the lighthouse could not have been open seven days a week.

The hours spent manning the front desk, the gift shop, being a docent or welcoming visitors to the top of the tower were well in excess of 1210 hours.

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## Erie County Historical Society

This past summer Presque Isle Lighthouse was awarded the prestigious Preservation Stewardship Award by the Erie County Historical Society. The award, presented by Executive Director George Deutsch is additional acknowledgment of the efforts of our Board of Directors, volunteers, our members and all who support the Lighthouse restoration efforts.

## Lighthouse Keeper Honored – A Very Special Day

In observance of National Lighthouse Day, August 7, 2017, Presque Isle Light Station Corporation held a memorial service honoring **Frank Huntington**, the last official keeper of the Presque Isle Lighthouse who retired in 1944.

Thirty-five relatives and acquaintances attended the ceremony at the gravesite of **Frank** and **Ruth Huntington** in Laurel Hill Cemetery Millcreek Township which was followed by a reception at the lighthouse sponsored by the Delta Kappa Gamma Chapter.

A commemorative marker, identifying the *US Lighthouse Service*, was placed at the gravesite by members from the US Coast Guard, Presque Isle Station followed by a brief presentation of Frank's seventeen years of service at the lighthouse given by **Jackie Tamaro**, Secretary of the Light Station Board. Frank received five Gold Stars from the US Lighthouse Service for his work.

In order to preserve the life story of the keepers and share it with today's visitors and future generations, **Michael Sullivan**, Executive Director of the Presque Isle Lighthouse, spoke about the restoration efforts presently taking place at the lighthouse.



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