



Charity Island Excursions Newsletter

Updates on Charity Island's
History – Wildlife – Lighthouse Restoration Efforts



Captain Charles C. Mc Donald

Charity Island Lightkeeper

Re-discovered

I want to thank everyone who responded to my request for help in tracking down information on Captain Charles C. McDonald, the longest serving Lightkeeper on Charity Island.

Several of you sent me a link to a website; ["Lighthouse Friends.com"](http://LighthouseFriends.com) that I have actually been to before, on a few occasions.

Apparently I simply missed the stories there about Capt. McDonald.

One story recounts how he nearly drowned on July 6th 1900 rowing out to the Island with four workers who were building the oil storage house which is now nothing more than a pile of rubble under a old metal, bullet riddled roof.

Another story poignantly relates how lonely it must of have been for him after his family moved back to the mainland. He shares that he would sometimes fix dinner sitting at the table all alone, missing them terribly and break into tears.

These very personal stories are the ones I find so valuable as they touch us in a profound way while giving us insight into the lives of light -keepers and their families.

Now, if I can get a photo of this man I will have a face to go with the story. Anyone? No?,

I will keep trying.

Tower Restoration Update

The Nature Conservancy is ready to execute paper work that will allow us to trade a parcel of land on the island for the light tower.

Once this process is complete we are thinking It would be best to convey the tower property to a non profit Entity and seek out people To serve on a Board of Directors and assist in launching an effort to get the tower restored.

We are hopeful there are people on both Sides of the bay that would consider working with us in this effort to restore the tower.

Bringing the tower back into its original Condition and preserving this remnant of our Maritime History would be an exciting ,worthwhile, and rewarding endeavor.

If anyone out there feels they could contribute time and effort to this cause we Would love to hear from you.

Birdwatching, Spring Flowers, Mothers Day
On following page.

A Quick Birdwatchers Update

Once again we are running birdwatching trips to Charity Island as part of the Tawasbird Festival Weekend in mid May. The May 15th boat is full. You can get on a waiting list for that day or reserve for Saturday's Departure May 17th which will be from Caseville.

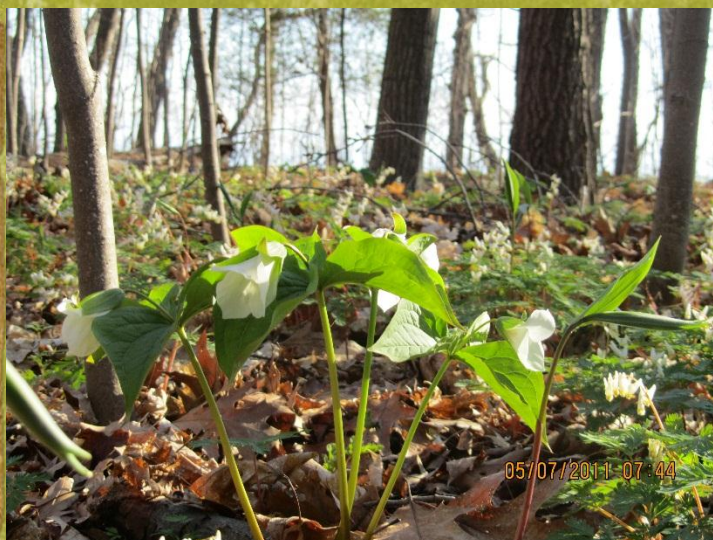
The Island really comes alive with songbirds this Month.

The trip includes coffee and donuts on the way to the island (7:00 am departure). Hot homemade Corn Chowder made with smoked bacon, cheddar cheese, and crusty baguette bread is served at the lighthouse prior to departing back to the mainland (approx. 12:30 am).

A more complete description of the trip can be found [on our birding page at Charityisland.net](http://onourbirdingpageatCharityisland.net)



Birdwatchers get a bonus walking through the Charity Island forest this time of year as the forest floor has beautiful displays of spring wildflowers with very little other foliage to conceal them, and no bugs.



Mothers Day Gift Certificates Special Sale New- Gift Boxes



I know everyone has noticed food going up and now they are saying we can expect fuel to rise again over the coming weeks.

For this reason we are giving our newsletter readers an opportunity to save 15% on the purchase of Dinner Cruise Gift Certificates now through Mothers Day.

We now offer Dinner Cruise Gift Certificates in a Gift Box with Charity Island engraved coffee cups or wine glasses that include a small box of chocolates.

Our newsletter subscribers can purchase tickets with their choice of coffee cups or wine glasses for just \$165 now through May 11th by calling Karen directly at 989 254 7710.

Lighthouse Rental



If you want a unique getaway experience consider renting the lightkeepers home on Charity Island this summer.

Karen and I have spent the past ten summers living on Charity Island and have loved every minute of it.

This summer our daughter is going back to college and we will be needed on the mainland helping her with the three grandchildren.

For that reason we decided to rent the house out for part of the year. We will run out to the island on days we have dinner cruises but will be spending most nights on the mainland.

Details on pricing and how to book can be found on our website at

<http://www.charityisland.net/rental/light-house-rental-info.html>

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October 2013



A Dining Adventure...

CharityIsland.com

Holiday Gift Certificates 989 254 7710

The advertisement features a central rectangular frame with a decorative border. Inside the frame, on the left, are two glasses of red wine on a wooden surface. To the right of the glasses is a silhouette of a lighthouse on a rocky shore against a sunset sky. The text "A Dining Adventure..." is in a script font above the website name "CharityIsland.com" in a large, bold, serif font. Below the website name, "Holiday Gift Certificates" is in a smaller script font, and the phone number "989 254 7710" is in a small sans-serif font.

VOL. # ISSUE #



Charity Island Excursions
Island Lighthouse Dining Adventure Cruises
Au Gres - Tawas - Caseville
WWW.CharityIsland.com
989 737 4078

**Call Karen for
Gift Certificates**

989 254 7710