A Sanctuary for Wildlife, Thacher Island is Truly for the Birds

Thacher Island benefits from a partnership between the town of Rockport, which manages 30 acres of the island, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, which oversees the other 22. By mutual agreement, Rockport volunteers protect and maintain Thacher as a national heritage site that can be accessed and enjoyed by visitors, while the entire island also serves as a refuge in accordance with Fish and Wildlife conservation goals. One of those goals is the establishment of nesting areas for several species of terns that once bred on the island.

Every spring, Fish and Wildlife conducts census and conservation management visits with the intention of reducing the number of nesting gulls. Since the gull population control program began in 2001 the population of both herring and great black-backed gulls has declined. The first census conducted by refuge staff recorded 1,456 herring gull and 279 black back gull nests. In 2015, 618 and 213 nests, respectively, were counted. That is a 58% decline in herring gulls and a 24% decline in great black-backed gulls. Also counted were 5 common eider nest/broods and 17cormorant nests.

While the 15-year tern restoration plan has yet to introduce terns, the reduction of the gull population has caused a boom in other avian species. Though birds occupy Thacher year-round, June is an especially lively month to observe them with their young.

Continued on pages 4 & 5

Landing Ramp Proposed for Straitsmouth Island

Visitor and work crew access to Straitsmouth Island is limited by the lack of a safe landing area. After considering a number of solutions, island association and town committee members have looked to the past to plan the future. They’ve decided to build a ramp at the Gap on Straitsmouth’s western end, much like those pictured in photos from the early 1900s. Plans call for a 75-foot-long, 12-foot-wide wood ramp, with a small crane for lifting heavy materials. Continued on page 6

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service team from left to right, Bill Peterson, Refuge Manager, Nancy Pau, Refuge Biologist, Kaytee Hojnacki, Biological Technician, Jean Adams, Outdoor Recreation Planner.
Dick MacPherson has been in scarier situations than the day a panicked Canada goose nearly bowled him over in the Thacher Island boathouse. Like the time he found himself in the middle of a military coup, in Nigeria, with an expired visa. It was late July 1975, and MacPherson had been in Ughelli for six months, working on a gas turbine substation installation to establish reliable energy after a civil war. Knowing he had to get out of the country, he persuaded a driver to take him to the Lagos airport, a challenging trip through the Delta jungle on unfinished roads made worse by the rainy season. They made it, but air travel had been halted, and MacPherson’s expired visa drew the attention of an official. Facing the payment of bribes to stay out of jail, MacPherson gave the last of his money to an eavesdropping teenager, who claimed he could procure a plane ticket and then disappeared into the crowd. “I don’t know where he got that ticket,” MacPherson says. “I didn’t want to know. But I was the last person on the only plane to London after the military rebellion.”

MacPherson’s work for General Electric, which took him to Nigeria and around the globe, goes back more than 40 years. He was still in high school in his hometown of Lynn when his future employer sponsored him for a Northeastern University scholarship. After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering, he was involved in a variety of startup power installations that included electric controls in power plants and steel and paper mills, but his work focused on marine propulsion and dockside container crane controls. In 1983, he lived in San Diego, where he worked on the cable-laying equipment for a new naval ship. He later provided engineering support at a variety of US ports.

A visit to friends in Gloucester introduced him to Sandy Parks, whom he married in 1984 and with whom he had sons Michael and Sean. After his retirement from General Electric, MacPherson visited Thacher Island in 2008 with a fellow member of the Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association (MacPherson earned his ham radio license at the age of 12). A man with knowledge of startup power installations was bound to be noticed on an island that has perennial power issues. “Be at T-Wharf on Wednesday,” Thacher association president Paul St. Germain had suggested, and MacPherson has been a member of the weekly volunteer work crew ever since.

In the beginning, MacPherson worked with the island’s contracted electrician to connect the new generator to a network that would provide electricity to the keepers’ houses and power the equipment used by the work crew. He replaced the light and solar battery in the North Tower after the lighthouse was struck by lightning in 2012 and later installed solar-powered lighting in the tower’s stairwell. The motion-detection light in the composting privy and the solar panels that power it are also his work. He introduced Wi-Fi to the island in 2010 and made possible the presentation of a movie about Thacher in the island’s museum.

One piece of technology introduced by MacPherson to both Thacher and Straitsmouth islands has turned out to be both practical and especially fascinating to a certain group of people. The island webcams were intended to address safety and maintenance issues (they were designed to detect both vandalism and weather damage in the off-season) but quickly became a form of reality show for the Thacher-obsessed. There are those who monitor the island’s weather, change of seasons, and wildlife activity from far-flung locations and make a phone call when something on the islands seems amiss.

MacPherson’s technological role includes difficult maintenance. After the 2015 blizzards disabled the webcams, he and an intrepid crew took a boat to Thacher, snow shoed across the drifts, and shoveled snow off the solar panels that powered the cameras. MacPherson’s next major project will be the development of a self-contained power grid for Straitsmouth, which will lead to viable shelter for a summer keeper and, eventually, greater public access.

Web Cam addresses
Thacher third-floor camera: http://dmacp.info/thacher1/
Thacher boat ramp camera: http://dmacp.info/thacher2/
Thacher South Tower camera: http://dmacp.info/thacher3/
Thacher back of boathouse camera: http://dmacp.info/thacher4/
Straitsmouth camera: http://dmacp.info/straitsmouth1/
Thacher live weather station: http://thacher-island-weather.keneli.org
Restoring the Light

In 2014, when Thacher Island’s first-order Fresnel lens was restored for permanent exhibit at the Cape Ann Museum in Gloucester, it was missing two crystal prisms. The Thacher Island Association has had replacements made, along with a replica of the original five-wick Funck hydraulic kerosene lamp that provided its illumination. Both were built by lampist and metallurgist Kurt Fosberg, who was a member of the team that restored and assembled the Fresnel for the exhibit’s opening. In December, Fosberg traveled from his home in Michigan to install the lamp and mount the prisms, which he had created from a clear optical acrylic tinted to match the greenish cast of the original flint glass prisms.

Remembering the Light

“Late one sunny afternoon, Mr. Seavey invited Idella and me to go with him to uncover the light. After the climb up the 150 or so stairs, we were excited to look out the windows and see Rockport in the distance. We particularly liked looking down at the gulls flying around below us. (A first for me though Idella had done it before.) The light was surrounded by a heavy curtain and Mr. Seavey told [me] to step very gently down inside it — then he pulled the curtain back all the way around and the sun hit the facets of the glass light. I thought I was in fairyland, or in the middle of a rainbow. What a thrill!”

So wrote Marjorie Norton Arlington about a summer vacation on Thacher Island in the early 1930s. The 9-year-old and her best friend, Idella Seavey, daughter of assistant keeper George W. Seavey, roamed the island catching crabs, visiting the Coast Guardsmen who manned the radio station on the island’s south end, and fishing with Idella’s older brother. Marjorie recalled those events from a life that spanned 82 years. Idella was not as lucky. While George Seavey, who became principal keeper, and his wife, Annie, remained on Thacher through the ’30s, their four children settled on the mainland. On December 17, 1941, 18-year-old Idella married merchant marine Roy Nickerson, but her marriage was tragically short-lived. The following April, Roy was returning from Trinidad when the freighter Robin Hood was torpedoed by a German U-boat off the coast of Nantucket. Roy was one of 14 crewmen whose bodies disappeared into the sea. Eleven months later, the young widow was rushed to Addison Gilbert Hospital with acute gastritis and enteritis. Idella died a few months short of her 20th birthday and a year before mass production of the penicillin that might have saved her life.
Thacher’s most common birds deserve more respect than they get.
(1,2,3) Gulls are social creatures whose ability to survive, much like man’s, depends on their being generalists rather than specialists. Other species of birds walk, fly, dive, or swim more skillfully, but gulls do all those things reasonably well. Their diets are flexible enough to allow a wide range of foraging and scavenging behaviors, from visiting garbage dumps to cannibalizing eggs and chicks of their own species. They have gullets big enough to swallow prey as large as rats, and are fiercely protective parents of their own young. Thacher in June can be a walk on the wild side for anyone venturing close to the chicks.

Both herring and greater black-backed gulls nest on Thacher. They mate for life and usually return to the same nest locations every year, where they build bowls of grass along the trails or among the rocks. Both parents defend the nests through a month of incubation and three months of chick-raising.

Gulls, of course, are not the only birds on Thacher.

Canada geese walk the island trails in distinctive formations: a parent in front, another parent behind, the chicks arrayed between. Sometimes “gang broods” form, with several family groups traveling together.

Multiple eider broods raft up into creches that can contain more than a hundred ducklings under the protection of multiple mothers and nonbreeding hens. The creches can often be observed in the more turbulent water on the east side of the island, where the chicks learn to dive for sea urchins and mollusks.

Sandpipers are among the shorebirds that seek both food and shelter on the island.

The female mallard lays the equivalent of half her body weight in eggs, and then is left to incubate and protect her brood alone.

Double-crested cormorants build nests of sticks into which are woven ropes, balloons, plastic debris, and even parts of dead birds. Their roosts on the northern end of the island are rendered
Tips for observing birds during the breeding season:

Bring binoculars and a camera (ideally with a telephoto lens).

Ask the keepers what they know of bird locations and activity. We have a list of birds observed since 2008.

Carry a big stick (some are kept beside the boathouse for visitor use). These serve as targets for the gulls, which attack the highest point.

Respect the less aggressive birds. If your actions separate a chick from its parents or scare a parent bird off a nest, the chicks are at risk of being devoured by the more aggressive gulls.

Have a sense of humor. Beaks aren't gulls' only weapon. They have another end.

inaccessible by steep rocks and lush growths of poison ivy, but their roosting colony can be viewed from the top of the North Tower.

(9) Barn swallows build cup-shaped nests in the boathouse rafters, and tree swallows are always seeking a convenient fascia opening.

(10) Cedar waxwings arrive in midsummer when the choke cherries start to ripen, and goldfinches make an appearance in the keepers' garden. Racing pigeons sometimes pause on the island to catch a breath, and songbirds come and go. Where songbirds gather, hawks, owls, and other raptors often follow.

(11) Its position on the Atlantic Flyway makes Thacher an important resting spot for migrating species.

(12) Red-winged blackbirds are the first songbirds to arrive in spring.

(13) Tree swallows swarm the island in early September. Even nonavian flyers, like monarch butterflies, stop on their journey.

(14) Where songbirds gather, hawks, owls, and other raptors often follow.

(15) Even nonavian flyers, like monarch butterflies, stop on their journey.

(16) Its position on the Atlantic Flyway makes Thacher an important resting spot for migrating species.

(17) Red-winged blackbirds are the first songbirds to arrive in spring.

(18) Tree swallows swarm the island in early September. Even nonavian flyers, like monarch butterflies, stop on their journey.
Landing Ramp Proposed for Straitsmouth Island

Continued from Cover
The addition of a winch engine and capstan in a shed at the top of the ramp would allow the launch to be pulled ashore as it is on Thacher. The estimated cost is approximately $150,000 to $200,000, for which a fund-raising campaign has been initiated. Site visits will start in May, permitting process started and a contractor to be selected by year’s end. The goal is to build the ramp in 2017.

We need your Thacher Memories!
Idella Nickerson is just one of the lives that have floated like fog across the island, and Marjorie Arlington’s memories created just one of the windows through which to view a moment in those lives. We would like to keep more of those memories alive. If you have genealogical information about Thacher descendants, light keepers and their families, Coast Guardsmen, visitors and volunteers, old photos of the people or the island, letters and remembrances, please send your information to thacherpast@gmail.com. We also welcome photos and memories from the recent past and present day.

Current landing spot at northeast inlet challenges to both vessels and volunteers.

Proposed location of the ramp facility on the same footprint as the original ramp and boathouse.

Four New Books from the Thacher Community

It was a productive year for literary members of the Thacher Island family.

Suellen Wedmore, keeper and poet laureate emerita of Rockport, has given individual voices to five lighthouse women in her book of poems “Mind the Light.” One of those women, Maria Bray, kept Thacher’s lights burning during her husband’s absence in 1864. The chapbook includes photos of four of the women and a cover painting of the North Tower by the author.

Keeper and launch crew member David Murphy, writing under the pseudonym E. P. Walker, based “Walker’s Cove: A Romance” on stories of his own ancestors during the American Revolution.

“Cape Ann Granite” is the third book Thacher Island Association President Paul St. Germain has written in the “Images of America” series. It follows the history-through-photographs format of “Twin Lights of Thacher Island, Cape Ann” (2009) and “Lighthouses and Lifesaving Stations on Cape Ann” (2013).

While her husband was producing nonfiction, Betty Ann St. Germain turned her hand to fiction, drawing on her family heritage for “Sabbatical,” a novel about a woman while on a trip to Ireland to handle her late mother’s estate. Boston college professor Kate Wintle discovers unexpected adventures- and a family secret that could change her life forever.

Each of these books may be purchased on the Thacher Island web site at: www.thacherisland.org
Radio Compass Station once manned by submariner.

In 1931, Jack (John) Schmutz was the lead U.S. Navy radioman and lighthouse keeper on Thacher. He had been a crewman on a WWI submarine. Schmutz lived on Thacher with his wife Ellen until 1935. They lived in the barracks next to the Radio Compass station located at the southern end of the island.

Jack first joined the Navy in 1919 as a 16 year old. He served in China as a radioman aboard a naval gunboat out of Shanghai and patrolled along the Yangtze River evacuating American citizens during the revolts of 1925. He was often assigned to patrols that went ashore under arms and escorted civilians to safety. Upon his return he was sent to Thacher Island radio compass station in 1931.

Jack was later assigned to lighthouse duties in South Carolina and Florida and from there sent to St. Thomas USVI as the Navy Senior Chief on the Marine Base there until the start of WWII. He was placed back into submarine service because of his WWI experience. Jack had just retired on St. Thomas USVI on December 6th 1941. He was recalled to active duty the following Sunday, the Japanese had just bombed Pearl Harbor on December 7th. He was promoted to Warrant Officer and placed on an old leaky S-Boat submarine, S26 left over from WWII. That January he went to the bottom in 400 feet of water within site of the San Juan Lighthouse off the coast of Costa Rica.

The radio compass station he manned was established by the U.S. Navy on Thacher as DF station (Direction Finder) on September 15, 1924, its call letters were NESV. This station was established for defensive and communications purposes and was one of 17 located along the New England coast. Construction of living quarters for the Officer in Charge of the Radio Compass Station were approved by the Acting Secretary of Commerce according to a letter to the Secretary of the Navy dated July 25, 1928. These buildings were burned down in the late 1940’s as they became surplus facilities no longer needed with the advent of radar and other positioning equipment. Their foundations can still be seen today.

Thanks to Fred Little of Peyton, Colorado, Jack’s grandson who provided this information and photographs.

Antony Thacher Memorial stone is located.

A recent conversation with the administrator of the Historical Society of Old Yarmouth, Amy Heller, led to a discussion of the location Anthony Thacher’s grave. We knew he and his wife, Elizabeth, never lived on Thacher Island but after being awarded the island for his losses in 1636 they moved to Yarmouth in 1639 where he eventually became a member of the Council of War, was appointed town treasurer and town clerk, and was given many of the powers of a court justice. He served two years as a selectman until his death in 1667 at age seventy-eight. He and Elizabeth had two more children there, a son Judah and a daughter Bethia.

This memorial plaque still exists in Yarmouth located just past the last house on the right at #38 Church Street (Green Hill Farm). His actual grave has been lost to time but this plaque was erected to mark the vicinity in which he lived and was believed to be buried. Thacher owned some 156 acres of land in addition to Thacher Island. Thacher Island stayed in the family for 80 years until it was sold by a Thacher heir, Col. John Appleton of Ipswich, to a Gloucester settler, the Reverend John White for 100 pounds, who used it as pasturage for his oxen. Note that his name is spelled “Antony” on the stone. It is well here to note that Antony Thacher always in signing his name spelled Antony without the “h.” This was probably due to the fact that as a curate in the English Church he was in the habit of writing in Latin, as the church records in those days were in the majority of instances written in that language, they going so far even as to use the Latin forms of English baptismal names; and hence from writing his name Antonius (in Latin) he acquired the custom of writing it Antony in English, instead of Anthony, the more commonly accepted English form of the name.
Launch for a Future Presidential Candidate

In July 2011, life member and major donor, Wilber James of Rockport, reserved launch seats to Thacher for his house guests, one of whom was John Kasich, the governor of Ohio. On the dock at Pigeon Cove are (from left) Syd Wedmore, chairman of the Thacher Island Town Committee; boat captain Tom Eldridge; Gov. Kasich with daughters Emma and Reese and wife Karen; Luke and Hunter Nascimento and their grandfather, island association president Paul St. Germain; and Wilber James. Kasich was told by the crew that he and his family were the only Republicans on the boat. The presidential candidate has not mentioned a campaign visit to the island to convert the volunteers.

New Solar Batteries for South Tower

Thanks to Thacher's webcams, keeper John Fulton was watching from his home in Smyrna, Ga., last October when US Coast Guardsmen arrived by helicopter to install new solar batteries for the South Tower’s beacon. Fulton received these photos from Coast Guardsman Otis O’Neal.

Cape Ann TV Wins Award for Thacher Video

Cape Ann TV has received a silver Telly Award for “Thacher Island,” a video created in conjunction with the 2014 opening of the Cape Ann Museum’s exhibit on Thacher’s Fresnel lens. The Telly Awards, cable and local television’s equivalent of production-oriented Emmys, are chosen from approximately 12,000 entries, according to Erich Archer, CATV’s executive director. The Thacher video, which won the highest honor in the professional division for cinematography, features drone footage taken by CATV studio manager Jim Capillo. The video is on display at the Cape Ann Museum and on YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nkyrv6Fm3M).

IN MEMORIAM

Lois Schafer Cameron (1927-2015)
Lois Schafer Cameron, 88, died in Windermere, Fla., on December 14. Her husband, George Edward “Ned” Cameron, who was chairman of Rockport’s Thacher Island Town Committee and the Thacher Island Association from 1980 until his death in 1992, was instrumental in early restoration efforts on the island. While Lois did not join her husband’s work crews clearing paths and mucking gull excrement from the North Tower, she was the prototype of Thacher’s shore spouses, serving coffee and sitting in on the first planning meetings when they were held in the Cameron household. She was a Rockport fixture in her own right — a surgical nurse and private pilot who, for many years, owned and managed the Dancing Bear toy store on Bearskin Neck.

John F. Walsh Jr. (1930-2016)
When he passed away on February 18, at the age of 85, John Walsh had spent half of his 30 years in Rockport as a Thacher Island work crew volunteer. A quiet, religious man, he was an active member of St. Joachim’s and Holy Family Parish, for which he served as a lector and altar server. In his last decade, John made multiple trips with Holy Family Parish Mission to the Dominican Republic to aid the people of Cevicos. He also was a volunteer for St. Vincent de Paul and Meals on Wheels. Among Thacher volunteers John is remembered as a man who did what was needed without complaint. He is survived by his wife, Joan (Murphy) Walsh, six children — Elaine, Lucy, Mary, Johanna, John, and Elizabeth — and six grandchildren.
Membership: Protecting New Life amid Old History

Most people who visit Thacher head for the North Tower, where they climb to the parapet and survey a vista of shore and sea. Perhaps they follow Wedmore Walk to the Whistle House and the museum, where they peruse the collected artifacts and watch a film about the history of the island. If they’re ambitious, they might head off along Bennett’s Trace or down Anne’s Way to view the southern bluffs. Some have camped on the island, experiencing its quiet descent into night and clamorous gull-announced return to day. Any time on Thacher is well spent. But there is a special joy in lingering and revisiting, in understanding the island, not in moments but in rhythms created by the life that springs up and settles down on this rocky outcrop that gives small things refuge from the sea.

Your membership allows the Thacher Island Association to continue to combine managed human access with wildlife protection on both Thacher and Straitsmouth islands. Gulls can seem as common as winter snowflakes, but few people ever see them as they are on Thacher — fully and fiercely engaged in parenting. The same is true of Canada geese, eiders, mallards, swallows, cormorants, and the seals that sun themselves beyond the North Tower. You may have seen all these creatures before, but the islands provide a place to observe their behaviors in ways that are not normally accessible on the mainland. Benefits of membership include the waiver of the $5 island user fee and free transportation via the island’s launch (for details, visit www.thacherisland.org). Bring your binoculars and your camera, walk the island, and observe the birds.

Those who cannot visit Thacher but renew their memberships anyway have a special place in the association’s heart. We hope that two newsletters a year and the satisfaction of supporting a combined National Historic Landmark and wildlife refuge reward you, in some small part, for the gift you give to others.

Please be a part of the organization that promotes public access to Thacher (and someday Straitsmouth) Island. Renew your membership — or become a member now — by sending a check in the enclosed envelope or going to www.thacherisland.org.

How to Get to Thacher Island

**BY LAUNCH**
From June 18 to September 3, the island association launch will carry visitors from T-Wharf to Thacher on Wednesday and Saturday mornings. Each round trip allows passengers two hours to explore the island. Seats cost $20 per adult and $10 per child under 14. The trip is not recommended for children younger than 3, and, because the island is a wildlife refuge, it’s off-limits to pets. Starting May 23, reservations can be made by calling 617-599-2590 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

**BY OCEAN REPORTER WATER TAXI**
Contact Captain Bill Lee at 978-502-5994 or oceanreporter@comcast.net.

**BY KAYAK OR OTHER PORTABLE CRAFT**
After landing on the ramp, all vessels must be carried past the boathouse.

**BY SAIL OR POWER BOAT**
There are three guest moorings available on a first-come basis. For further information, call the keeper at 508-284-0144. Except for launch passengers, a $5 user fee is charged to anyone over the age of 14 who comes ashore on Thacher. The fee is waived for Rockport residents, members of the Thacher Island Association, and holders of National Park Service America the Beautiful passes or Federal Duck Stamps. You will be asked to provide proof in the form of a driver’s license or membership card.
Cape Ann Granite Book by Paul St.Germain
Book contains over 200 vintage images of the quarries, people, tools, vessels and harbors of the 60 plus quarries located on Cape Ann for over 100 years. It also chronicles many of the buildings, memorials, monuments, bridges and lighthouses where Cape Ann granite was used. Personally signed by the author.
$20.00 plus shipping and handling. ($3.00)

$20.00 plus shipping and handling. ($3.00)

“Lighthouses and Lifesaving Stations on Cape Ann” traces in vintage photographs the history of the six lighthouses and lifesaving stations scattered across Cape Ann.
$20.00 plus shipping and handling. ($3.00)

“Thachers.... island of the twin lights.”
149 pages with many b/w photos. Book by Eleanor Parsons. The definitive book on the history of Thacher Island.
$20.00 plus shipping and handling. ($3.00)

Mind the Light by Suellen Wedmore
A book of poetry written by Suellen Wedmore, who herself has been a lighthouse keeper on Thacher Island. She presents an emotional series of poems about women lighthouse keepers that reads like a novel. She uses the voices of five historical women keepers to tell their stories of strength and dedication in adverse conditions.
$15.00 plus shipping and handling. ($2.50) V-101

Thacher Island Twin Lights Pewter Ornament
This Thacher Island twin Lighthouse ornament is made of pewter. Comes with a red ribbon and is highly detailed on both sides. It measures 2 3/4”x 2 1/2”wide. Packaged in a gift box and includes a card explaining its history. Made by Hampshire Pewter.
$15.95 plus shipping and handling. ($3.50) V-101

Go to www.thacherisland.org to order on-line for additional merchandise. Or send checks to Thacher Island Association, Box73, Rockport, MA 01966.

$21.99

Thacher Merchandise

Mind the Light by Suellen Wedmore
A book of poetry written by Suellen Wedmore, who herself has been a lighthouse keeper on Thacher Island. She presents an emotional series of poems about women lighthouse keepers that reads like a novel. She uses the voices of five historical women keepers to tell their stories of strength and dedication in adverse conditions.
$15.00 plus shipping and handling. ($2.50) V-101

Thacher Island Twin Lights Pewter Ornament
This Thacher Island twin Lighthouse ornament is made of pewter. Comes with a red ribbon and is highly detailed on both sides. It measures 2 3/4”x 2 1/2”wide. Packaged in a gift box and includes a card explaining its history. Made by Hampshire Pewter.
$15.95 plus shipping and handling. ($3.50) V-101

Go to www.thacherisland.org to order on-line for additional merchandise. Or send checks to Thacher Island Association, Box73, Rockport, MA 01966.

T-shirts now available in Youth’s sizes S=6-8, M=10-12, L=14-16

“Sunburst” on Sea Foam Blue
100% cotton.
Sizes S,M,L,XL. $22.00

“Kayak Paddle” on Putty
100% cotton.
Sizes S,M,L,XL. $22.00

Red, White and Blue Flag on White
100% cotton. Sizes S,M,L,XL. $22.00

$20.00 plus shipping and handling. ($3.00)

“Lighthouses and Lifesaving Stations on Cape Ann” traces in vintage photographs the history of the six lighthouses and lifesaving stations scattered across Cape Ann.
$20.00 plus shipping and handling. ($3.00)

“Thachers.... island of the twin lights.”
149 pages with many b/w photos. Book by Eleanor Parsons. The definitive book on the history of Thacher Island.
$20.00 plus shipping and handling. ($3.00)

Denim Keeper Shirt.
This 100% cotton soft denim shirt is a key item to own. It proudly shows off the Thacher Island twin lights embroidered.
Comes in S,M,L,XL, was $40.00 now $35.00
Thacher Island Sand Dollars.

Thacher Island Sand Dollar Ornament is 3 ¾” in diameter. Has decorative sea shell and hanging ribbon. Created by hand in the U.S. using natural sand dollars and shells specially preserved. $12.00 plus shipping and handling. ($2.50)

New Fleece Vest —heavy weight polar fleece, nylon zipper and 2 zippered pockets and elastic waist ties.

Sizes S, M, L, XL $32.00 plus shipping and handling. ($3.50)

New Thacher Island Polo Shirts.

100% Pima Cotton. Luxurious & silky. Honeycomb pique texture results in a lofty fabric with a silky feel. Made by Port Authority.

Sizes: Sm., Med., Lg., XL
Available in Navy (PS-1) or White (PS-2).
$32.00 plus shipping and handling. ($3.50)

Thacher Belt

One inch wide web/cotton with Twin Lights and schooner design, full grain leather tabs, brass buckle.

Sizes: 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42
Order one size up from pant size.
Item # B-100
$28.00 plus shipping and handling. ($3.50)

Twin Lights of Thacher Island- Navy Hooded Sweatshirt

Rugged full metal zipper, heavy weight 9oz., 50/50 Cotton/Poly Lycra elastic sleeves and waist band. Twin hand warmer front pocket and draw string neck.

Sizes S, M, L, XL $40.00 plus shipping and handling. ($5.00)

“Thacher Island-A Video History of the Twin Lights” DVD video.

This 20 minute video is divided into five parts that includes the story behind the wreck of Anthony Thacher in 1635, the building of the first towers in 1771, a review of the various lighting arrangements used over the past 240 years including how the Fresnel lens works, the construction of the second set of towers in 1861 and stories of some of the lighthouse keepers.

$15.00 plus shipping and handling. ($2.50) V-101

Colorful Hats. Shows off the Thacher Island Twin Lights logo. Yellow, Faded Blue, Khaki, Nautical Red, Charcoal. Adjustable, 100% cotton, washable. $22.00

Thacher Island Sand Dollars.

Thacher Island Sand Dollar Ornament is 3 ¾” in diameter. Has decorative sea shell and hanging ribbon. Created by hand in the U.S. using natural sand dollars and shells specially preserved. $12.00 plus shipping and handling. ($2.50)
Thacher Island Association Board of Directors

President  Paul St.Germain  
Vice President  Peter Bergholtz  
Treasurer  Bill Whiting  
Secretary  Judy Leach

Directors:  
Dave Arnold  Lee Marr  
Bill Braunlich  Dick MacPherson  
Cyndi Carroll  David Murphy  
Phil Goldsmith  Jeff Taylor

Dates to Remember:

MONDAY, MAY 23  
Launch reservations accepted.

MONDAY, JUNE 20:  
Thacher Island Association Annual Meeting  
at Rockport Community House.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13:  
Annual Lighthouse Cruise around Cape Ann.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Rockport Police Station  
Third Thursday of the Month at 7:30pm.  
Public invited

CHECK THE WEB SITE FOR DETAILS www.thacherisland.org

www.thacherisland.org

CREDITS:
Written and Edited by:  
Sharron and David Cohen and Paul St.Germain

GRAPHIC DESIGN:  
Mark Drury, Percolator Design

PHOTOS BY:  
Sharron Cohen Donna, Paul St Germain

COVER ART:  
An “Impressionistic sunrise on Thacher Island” is an oil painting by artist, Stefan Mierz of the Art Nook Gallery on Bearskin Neck in Rockport.