

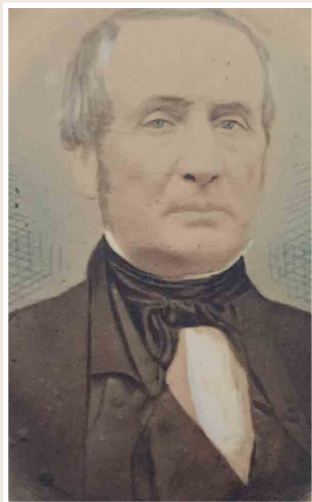
Thacher & Straitsmouth Island News

April 2019 Newsletter
VOL 19 ISSUE 01

Photo by Paul St. Germain "Sea Smoke Across Thacher"



Seven-room, restored residence will house keepers this June.



Charles Wheeler, 1787-1852

CHARLES WHEELER: *Beleaguered Keeper*

Charles was the third member of the extended Wheeler family to walk into the bickering and backbiting that came with the head keeper's job on Thacher Island in the first half of the 1800s. Aaron Wheeler, who was appointed in 1814, served for 20 years despite fierce opposition from prominent

local political figure Rufus Choate. His cousin Austin Wheeler lasted only three years before turning stewardship of the island over to his brother Charles in 1837. Charles endured the situation until 1848, when he took his growing anger, along with a basket of Thacher Island grapes, to the Cape Ann Telegraph and News office.

Not only were accusations of incompetence untrue, he claimed, he had worked hard with no reward for his extra efforts. He had created and fenced a garden, planted trees, planked the cellar and installed a boiler, assisted in several rescues, and housed mariners without accepting monetary rewards from any of them. More important, he had improved the lights. "I have also invented and put to use a good and useful lighthouse lamp, which saves the government not less than \$30 a year," he followed up in a letter to the paper in 1849. "They have now been in use eleven years which has made a savings, in stoves and fuel, of not less than \$300 . . . And the only recompense or thanks I received is the Secretary has been kind enough to notify me that my services are no longer required. . . " **Continued on Page 3**

STRAITSMOUTH ISLAND TO OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 180 YEARS

Straitsmouth Island had been owned by the federal government since the first lighthouse was built in 1835. In 1941, it was sold to a series of private owners until it was donated by the last owner to Mass Audubon in 1967. Through all those years until 2018 the public had been denied access. In 2019, with the cooperation of Mass Audubon and the Town of Rockport (who now owns the lighthouse and 1.8 acres) this National Historic Register site will be open to the public for the first time in over 180 years. The completion of a landing ramp on the Gap Cove side of Straitsmouth is the first step in opening the island to visitors. Syd Wedmore, chairman of the Thacher/Straitsmouth Island Town Committee, has announced a "soft opening" for June. Kayakers are welcome on the island, with the understanding that visitor amenities like a composting toilet, visitor center, and walking trails are works in progress. Further upgrades will be made during the summer by work crew and by keepers, who will be housed on the island for the first time since the 1920s. The island will be open to the public from June 1 to August 31.

Because a winch and hoist engine need to be installed on the ramp, there will be no scheduled launch trips to Straitsmouth until the summer of 2020, but a re-dedication ceremony on the island is planned for August.



The landing ramp was completed by Great Eastern Marine Corp. in November of 2018 and awaits a boat winch and hoist engine that will be installed by volunteers this summer.

The donation of a portrait of Charles Wheeler led the Thacher Island Association to explore the life of the man who served as head keeper on Thacher from 1837 to 1849. The portrait was given to the association by Wheeler's 3rd-great-granddaughter Sharon Carro, who lives in Paso Robles, CA. It will hang in the visitor center in the Thacher Island principal keepers' house.



Rich and Sandy enjoy a laugh while being interviewed by Sharron Cohen.

Work Crew Profile RICH AND SANDY LORIGAN

While Rich Lorigan admits that some of his stories are invented – he worked for the CIA, he was a rock musician – at least one of his stories is true, and it ends with a bang.

After graduation from the University of Bridgeport in Connecticut (where he met his future wife, Sandy, in an art class), Rich built a career in marketing communications (advertising, PR, and sales promotion) for a series of computer hardware and software companies. His first employer, Honeywell Information Systems, sent Rich to Toronto as its marketing communications manager for Canada. The Lorigan family's two-year residency corresponded with the rise of American anti-Vietnam War activism. While others their age were choosing Canadian residency, the Lorigans felt the pull of patriotism and chose to return to the Boston area. Rich was working for Honeywell's North American headquarters in Wellesley when an explosion outside his office window underscored growing pressure on the company to end its involvement in the production of weapons systems.

Most of the Lorigans' life has been more peaceful. He and Sandy built a house in Groton, MA. That house was filled with their own children — Kerri, now a teacher in Watertown, and Keith, a mortgage banker in Jupiter, FL — and a series of honorary children. They once hosted a group of German exchange students who were in the area to see Boston. It was the week the Berlin Wall fell, so hosts and guests alike were glued to the television set. Petra, an exchange student from Munich, was an emergency placement who stayed the entire school year, became their honorary German daughter,

and eventually hosted the Lorigan family in her home country. Manos, the son of a Greek family that started a restaurant in Groton, became such a friend of the Lorigans that they met up with him on a trip to Greece.

For many years they had a lovely house in the woods, in a nice town to raise children and host honorary children, but after their son and daughter left home, Rich and Sandy began to yearn for sea and sky. They found it in a circa 1800 Rockport cottage they have since renovated. Though it is on what Rich calls the “poor side of Granite Street,” it has a view of the sea and Straitsmouth — one of the Rockport islands that now play a part in his retirement.

Rich eased himself into that retirement with a part-time job as a marketing and sales rep for a Boston printing company. His four-mornings-a-week work schedule allowed him to collect his grandsons Max and Charlie from their Somerville daycare center and drive them to Rockport for weekends. Their Florida granddaughter, Alina, has summered with them for the past 10 years, and her stepbrother, Alex, has visited as well.

When their children were older, Sandy became a travel agent for a series of agencies that included Hideaways International, Caboose Travel in Gloucester, and CWT Vacations. In the end she worked from home, having retained a small clientele for whom she designed mostly high-end travel packages. She also worked with the Mission Group from Cape Ann's St Joachim and St. Ann churches that traveled yearly to the Dominican Republic. Sandy volunteers with Open Door and has raised money for the annual Alzheimer's walk.

Even before retirement, Rich volunteered for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and began regular blood donations to the Red Cross that now total nine gallons. After retirement he added Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Rockport's Millbrook Meadow Restoration Committee, and Thacher Island.

This summer will be the third year he and Sandy have served as keepers, but his involvement started about 10 years ago as a hammer-and-paintbrush-wielding member of work crew. One day he was asked to fill in on a short-handed island launch. “That was it,” he said. “I loved it.” He especially likes the bowman position. He enjoys talking to the tourists, and he relishes the sea and sky. Standing at the bow of the Thacher Island launch, he sees an ample amount of both.



Rich waves ahoy to the crew of Thacher I.

Charles Wheeler:

Beleaguered Keeper Continued from Page 1

He had been head keeper on Thacher for a dozen years, during which time his wife, Sally, had died of consumption, leaving him with seven children. He was angry, and now he was done with Thacher Island. “I only wish it was in my power to find words to express my gratitude to my influential Whig friends of Gloucester and Rockport for volunteering their services to retain me on the island, but I have been so shamefully abused for the 12 years past that I do not wish to be retained here any longer. . .” he said in his final letter to the paper. William Hale took over as head keeper in August 1849.

It's hard to know the truth, especially after the passage of so many years. Charles Wheeler felt he had improved the lights — he did hold a patent for a device that prevented oil from freezing in the lamps — but he may not have done it as single-handedly as he claimed. He may have worked with Winslow Lewis, the supplier of Argand lamps to all US lighthouses, and Winslow Lewis was a problematic character.



Lighthouse contractor Winslow Lewis installed his revised version of the Argand lamp in Thacher's towers in 1815.

Lewis came under criticism from, among others, his own nephew, lighthouse engineer I. W. P. Lewis, who charged that his uncle's personal friend, Stephen Pleasonton, the fifth auditor at the US Treasury Department, relied on Winslow to prepare the specifications for the Argand lamps to be purchased by the government. Winslow then bid on and won the contracts to provide those lamps. In addition, while Winslow's reworking of a previous Argand design saved the government 50 percent of the fuel required to illuminate the nation's lighthouses, his lights were so beset with design flaws they decreased the intensity of illumination by up to 400 percent.

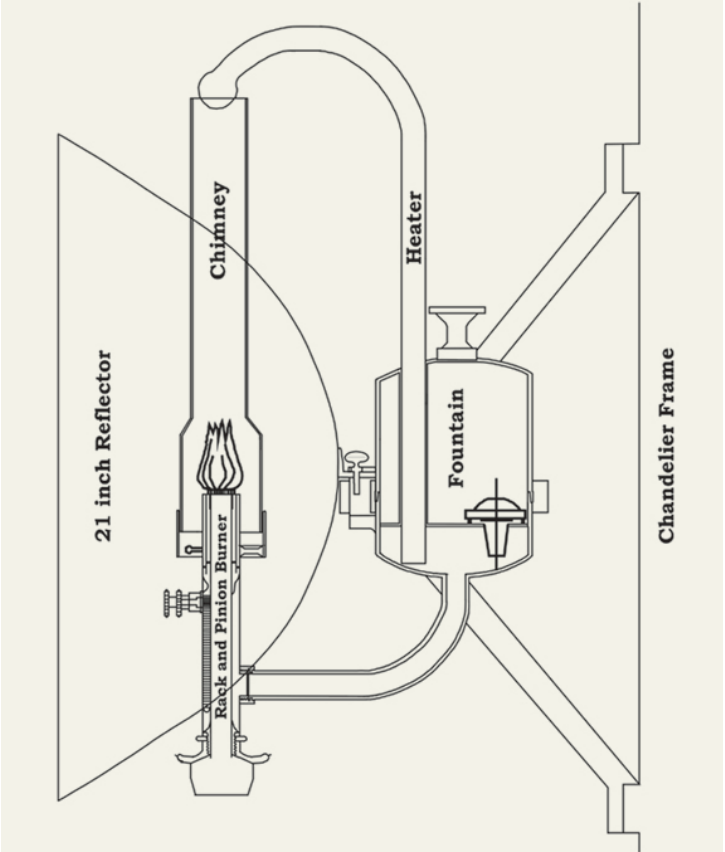
It's possible that the 35-year-old feud that bedeviled three separate members of the Wheeler family was a reflection of a politically contentious time. But, because the retrofitting of lighthouses with Winslow Lewis's “improved” Argand lamps began about the time Aaron Wheeler became keeper, and I. W. P.'s report to Congress came just six years before Charles Wheeler was dismissed, it's also possible that the Wheeler keepers fell victim to charges of incompetence because the lights were dimmer than they had been before.

By the time I. W. P. Lewis's report ushered in a new era of standards in the lighthouse service, Charles Wheeler had moved on to the final chapter in his life. In early 1850, leaving his fourth wife behind, he and his 18-year-old son, Roscoe, traveled to San Francisco via steamers on both sides of a land crossing through Nicaragua. They supported themselves in California by crewing on sloops and building small skiffs before turning to the harvesting of hay. “Roscoe and my health was never better. Our spirits is not failed and if my wife and children were here, I should never wish to return. . .” he wrote to his son Charles Jr. in 1851.

But he did decide to return. In September 1852, aboard the steamship Winfield Scott off Panama, 65-year-old Charles Wheeler succumbed to yellow fever. The former lighthouse keeper's body was consigned to the sea.

Charles Wheeler was born on October 7, 1787, in the Old Castle, in Pigeon Cove, Rockport. This home was built by his father, Jethro Wheeler circa 1712 and remained in the family for six generations.

It is now owned by the Sandy Bay Historical Society and is open to the public in the summer.



Argand Lamp with Wheeler's patented oil heater to prevent oil from congealing in cold weather.

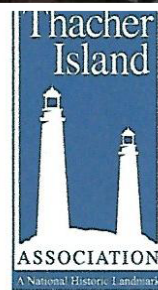
Make your Annual Lighthouse Cruise reservations soon!



Sunset view of the south tower and whistle house.

Thacher Island Association's 15th annual sunset lighthouse cruise is scheduled for Wednesday, July 10.

The fundraiser, narrated by lighthouse expert and author Jeremy D'Entremont, will take place aboard the Miss Cape Ann, which will leave Captain Bill's Whale Watch, 24 Harbor Loop, Gloucester, at 7 p.m. The three-hour cruise will follow the Annisquam River to Ipswich Bay and around Cape Ann, allowing passengers to view all six of Cape Ann's lighthouses: Ten Pound Light in Gloucester Harbor, Annisquam Light, Straitsmouth Light, Thacher Island's twin towers, and Eastern Point Light. Reservations can be made online at www.thacherisland.org (click on the "Shop" page and find LH Cruise Tickets). Tickets are \$30 and usually sell out early.



"Lighthouses of Cape Ann"

Wednesday July 10, 2019 7:00 to 9:30

Leaves from **Captain Bill's Whale Watch**
24 Harbor Loop, Gloucester, MA

Cash bar and sandwiches available.
(No liquor allowed to be brought aboard)
Proceeds to benefit Thacher Island Preservation.
e-mail info@thacherisland.org for rain date.

Ticket # _____

Price: \$30.00

Get your 2019 Lighthouse Cruise Tickets.



A passenger waves as the launch prepares to leave.

In either case, select your desired date and time and number of seats. Pay by credit card and print your tickets from the web site. Thacher volunteer Camille Glick will be available by phone to answer questions but will not take reservations.

Thacher Island launches operate mornings on Wednesdays and Saturdays from June 22 to August 31. Credit goes to volunteer George Langer for introducing the concept and setting up this online ticketing service.

Introducing Online Ticketing for Thacher Launch Trips

eventbrite

This year, for the first time, Thacher Island launch reservations will be made through an on-line web-based system. Starting May 13, launch trips reservations will be scheduled and ticketed through Eventbrite, one of the world's largest event technology platforms. There are two ways to make reservations: Go to the Thacher web site at www.thacherisland.org, click on the "Visit Us" page for details about the trips, then scroll to the Eventbrite link, click on it, and search for keyword "Thacher." Go directly to the Eventbrite web site at www.eventbrite.com. Search for the keyword "Thacher" and follow the prompts.

IN MEMORIAM: TED TARR

(Sept. 20, 1935 - Sept. 25, 2018)

Frederick H. "Ted" Tarr III, 83, died last fall after years of service to the town of Rockport and the Thacher Island Association.

A biologist, cancer researcher, land-use consultant, seven-term Rockport selectman, volunteer firefighter, and local eccentric (he kept a pet alligator named Alger Hiss for 44 years), Ted chose as his avocation the preservation of the local environment.

He worked zealously to persuade Rockport's selectmen to take ownership of Thacher Island when the Coast Guard closed its station there in 1980. He was a hard-working, hands-on member of the island's work crew from the beginning of its volunteer stewardship to the year before his death.



Ted points out more poison ivy that needs eradication.

Ted claimed he had evicted the last pigeon from the long-neglected North Tower's lantern room, but his Thacher Island mark was made most clearly in trail maintenance.

One of the trails he cut from a maze of



New sign which will mark Tarr's Traverse trail on Thacher this summer.

brambles and poison ivy now bears his name. Tarr's Traverse connects the footprint of the 1919 Radio Compass Station to remains of the Radio Compass barracks on the island's South Bluff.



Jeff Weaver painting shows the Straitsmouth keepers' house prior to renovation.



Straitsmouth keepers' house after renovation. The barn, not visible here, was rebuilt by TIA volunteers in 2018.

Painting Shows Straitsmouth Before Renovations

There is irony in Beate Vavak's donation of a Jeff Weaver painting to the town of Rockport in honor of her late husband, Steven. The oil, which will be displayed at the police station in honor of his chairmanship of its building committee, depicts the Straitsmouth Island keepers' house, cistern, and barn at a low point in their maintenance. According to Thacher Island Association president Paul St. Germain, the artist was upset to learn

that several of his favorite subjects – the island's picturesquely dilapidated buildings – were being restored by the association's work crew. Steven Vavak was one of the island's carpenters who worked on that restoration.



This Jeff Weaver painting of the front of the keepers' house was donated by the artist and has hung in the Rockport Town Hall since 2010.



Compare Weaver's view to the front of the newly restored house in 2018..

Summer Plans on the Islands.

STRAITSMOUTH ISLAND



Straitsmouth will be the primary focus of work crew activity in 2019. Although keepers will be in residence and the island will be open to the public, many projects need completion before the island can be considered operational.



A hoist engine and winch for hauling launches up the ramp need to be installed. An enclosure for the hoist engine will be built at the top of the bluff overlooking the ramp while the winch will be mounted at the end of the boat ramp. The area will include benches, a security camera, and a composting toilet.

A new set of stairs and handrails will be constructed on the current granite steps, which are steep and difficult to negotiate. A freight slide will be built adjacent to the stairs to facilitate bringing materials to the top of the bluff.



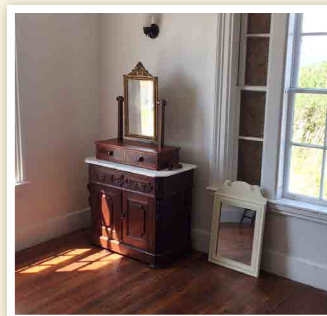
A kayak storage deck will be constructed on the beach adjacent to the ramp to allow the ramp to be kept clear for launches.



Work will continue on a walkway between the keepers' residence and the lighthouse. The lighthouse will be open to the public upon completion of the walkway. Walkway will be built on the original granite posts shown.



This 1850's photo shows the original walkway which will be replicated by the volunteers.



The parlor in the keepers' house will be further equipped as a visitor center, with Victorian-era furniture and maritime artifacts as well as a gift shop.

Straitsmouth Island Visitor Map



A series of web cams will be installed for security purposes. Some of the cameras will be linked to the Thacher Island Association web site for public viewing. This one is mounted in the gable on the oil house.

Directional, interpretive, memorial, and map signage will be installed to identify sites of interest. This is the island map sign which will guide the public around the island.

Ongoing maintenance is the 2019 focus for THACHER ISLAND



The usual trail and lawn cutting, poison ivy control, scraping, painting, and plumbing repairs will continue.



Donna Cusick tends to the island's fleet of tractors.



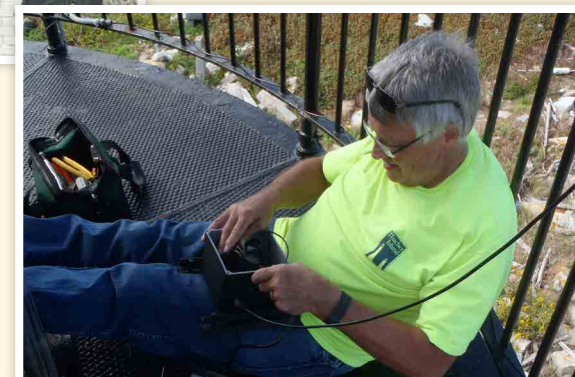
Repair of soffit and fascia returns is needed on the assistant keepers' house.



Reshingling boat house roof and increasing the number of solar panels to supply more power for boat house operations is on the work crew's schedule.



Repair is needed to the North Tower entry cabin roof damaged by a falling piece of stone from the walkway parapet in 2017.



Dick MacPherson will be upgrading all solar power electrical and web cam security systems.



Keepers will be kept busy welcoming the 2000 plus annual visitors, manning the gift shop, working the boat ramp and directing kayakers.



Gilbert steeple clock enjoys a prominent location on the new mantle in the parlor.

MARINE ARTIFACTS DESTINED FOR STRAITSMOUTH VISITOR CENTER

Wilber James, Rockport resident and life member of the association, whose roots run deep in the Cape Ann fishing community, has donated three marine artifacts from his family's collection to the Straitsmouth Island visitor center.

One of these is a Lyle gun, a specialized mortar used by lifesaving stations to hurl a line to a vessel in distress. It was the first step in setting up a hawser line and bosun's chair by which mariners were pulled safely to land from shipwrecked vessels. This mortar was in place at the Massachusetts Humane Society rescue hut based on Bearskin Neck, Rockport. This hut was one of the first 18 established by 1845. By the 1870's the Massachusetts system of rescue huts had grown to 70 stations. Others in the Rockport



Lyle gun could hurl a line about 700 yards to ships in distress.



Signal cannon used to signal fishing dories to return to the fishing schooner.

Sextant is still in working order.



DONATIONS: Antique Steeple Clock

Dina Hamilton, a Thacher Island Association member for more than thirty years and great-granddaughter of Eugene Larsen, who served as a Thacher Island keeper in 1911, has donated a circa 1860 William L. Gilbert Company steeple clock for use in Straitsmouth Island's newly created visitor center.

According to Thacher keeper, antique clock historian and collector David Murphy, the donation represents an especially fine example of a popular period clock because its finials are original and in good condition. This clock was made by the William L. Gilbert Clock Company between 1851

and 1865 according to Murphy. He has been maintaining the antique clocks in fine running condition on Thacher for the past 10 years. He explains this was a very popular clock during the 1850s-1860s, having first appeared around 1845.

Over the winter, Paul St. Germain repaired and refinished the exterior veneer to look as close to the original as possible, and Murphy has promised to work on the clock's timing mechanism. The restored Victorian timepiece will be displayed in the parlor of the Straitsmouth keepers' house, which will also function as the island's visitor center.

Victorian Period Furniture Needed

Thanks to the generosity of donors like Dina Hamilton and Wilber James the Straitsmouth visitor center is beginning to take shape. The Thacher Island Association is still looking for glass display cases and a couch or settee consistent with an 1870s Victorian parlor. *Donated items will be picked up. Call Paul St. Germain at 978-660-1618.*



An example of the Victorian period style of settee couch or glass display cabinet needed.



The Schooner Elsie lost to the Bluenose in the Fishermen's Cup race off Halifax, Nova Scotia, in 1921, the year before the Pearce family bought it.



A Poem Comes Home

When Brenda Whitaker Lane died in Scottsville, KY, last June, her daughter found among her mother's effects an unattributed poem about Thacher Island clipped from an unidentified newspaper. Diane Crowell, granddaughter of Thacher civilian keepers Harold and Sylvia Whitaker and great-great granddaughter of keeper Albert Whitten, enlisted the help of her cousin Elizabeth Sharp, who sent it to the Thacher Island Facebook page with a request for information.

It didn't take long to identify the poet. Suellen Wedmore has been writing about

the island since she and her husband became involved with it nearly four decades ago. She remembers reading the poem in question at a Rockport town meeting, which, she conjectures, is how it made its way into the Gloucester Daily Times. Soon after that, she asked fellow Thacher volunteer Nancy Jaretz to render a revised version of the poem in calligraphy as a 1988 Christmas present for her husband, Syd, who is now chairman of the Thacher Island Town Committee.



Wildflowers own it: buttercups preening, whispering...



Lilies bold as pumpkins.....

Who Owns This Island, Anyway?

Technically, the town of Rockport has shared ownership of Thacher Island with the US Fish & Wildlife Service since the Coast Guard withdrew its guardianship in 1980. But, in a larger sense, the island belongs to everyone who has felt an echo of its life and history. It belongs to those who have written poems about its mists and moods, to those who have photographed its granite towers and painted the island's tumble of tiger lilies in slanting afternoon sunlight. It belongs to those who clip those poems and keep those photographs when they move too far away to hear the fog horn's eerie cry. It belongs, in a special way, to those who declare their ownership through yearly membership in the Thacher Island Association.

Almost all the labor to keep Thacher (and now Straitsmouth) Island accessible to the public comes from volunteers, but annual membership fees and donations pay for materials to maintain and

repair the islands. We invite you to own Rockport's islands. Become a member of the Thacher Island Association or renew your membership today.

How to Help: In addition to membership and donations, you can help maintain Thacher and Straitsmouth islands by: Designating Thacher Island as your charity when you do your online ordering through [amazonsmile.com](https://www.amazon.com/charity)

Volunteering.

A few openings exist for volunteers in the following categories: docents (greeting tourists in the lighthouse on Wednesdays and Saturdays).

Contact Joanne Sullivan at jsull9012@hotmail.com or 978-283-0268;

Boat Crew

(assisting on the launches on Wednesdays and Saturdays). Contact Tom Eldridge at cteldridge@comcast.net

Thacher's Island

Who Owns This Island, Anyway?
You Can by Becoming a Member!

Seagulls own it: Blackbacks big as dogs, herring gulls with dark-tipped wings, soaring, squealing, diving toward my uncovered head as I explore a new-mowed path. A thousand? More, on every granite ledge nests with brown-flecked eggs and a hundred woolly chicks tumble from beneath the wild roses. Gulls plummet like missiles, scolding, taunting, drive me from their home.

Wildflowers own it: buttercups preening, whispering, flirting, beach peas scattered in the ragged, tawny grass, elderberry and water parsnip, morning glories like a blaze of sunrise, prickly thistle, lilies bold as pumpkins, a violet sculpture of wild iris, all beguile me, ensnare me, lure me to this home.

History owns it: Shipwrecks, Thacher's children, Mary, Peter, gone and gone and gone. He keens his desolation: Oh yet I see their cheeks, dear little lambs. In the mist of evening I sense the father's crying, all his dreams diminished. Time cracks and I slip inside it: This island is my home.



Sea gulls own it: Blackbacks big as dogs....

History owns it: Ship wrecks, Thacher's children....

Seasons on Thacher Island



WINTER | SPRING | SUMMER | FALL

2019 Volunteer Keepers Assigned for Both Islands.

Syd Wedmore has announced the keeper lineup for this summer. A total of 46 individuals will watch over both islands from May through the end of August. That number includes 35 experienced keepers who will be teaching 11 interns the day to day duties of the job. While most keepers serve in married pairs, 12 of this year's keepers are serving individually. Eighteen of the keepers are drawn from the ranks of the association's work crew.

Thirty-one keepers will serve on Straitsmouth, spanning the 13 weeks from June 1 until August 31. Most are experienced keepers who have volunteered many summers on Thacher.

Thirty-three keepers will serve on Thacher, over the 14 weeks from May 25 until August 31. While some will serve for a

minimum of five days, most keepers stay on the island for one to two weeks. Two husband and wife teams, Jeanette and Larry Haynes from Maiden, North Carolina, and John and Darlene Fulton from Smyrna, Georgia, will serve eight-week terms (seven weeks on Thacher and one on Straitsmouth). Both couples are long time volunteers, the Fultons serving for the past 15 years and the Haynes for 12 years. Twelve keepers will spend time on both islands.

Keepers will be busy landing the launches and assisting kayakers at the boat ramps.



Thacher Merchandise



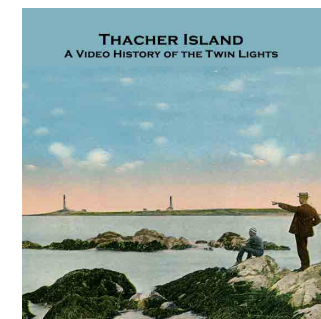
Go to www.thacherisland.org to order on-line for additional merchandise. Or send checks to Thacher Island Association, Box 73, Rockport, MA 01966.



New Thacher Island Panorama T-Shirt
100% cotton. Sizes S,M,L,XL, 2XL. \$22.00



New Straitsmouth Panorama T-shirt
100% cotton. Sizes S,M,L,XL,2XL. \$22.00



"Thacher Island-A Video History of the Twin Lights" DVD video.
This 20 minute video is divided into five parts. \$15.00 plus shipping and handling. (\$2.50) V-101



NEW Long-Sleeve Thacher Island Panorama T-Shirt.
Midnight Navy, 100% cotton.
Comes in S,M,L,XL,2XL. \$25.00 plus shipping and handling. (\$3.50)



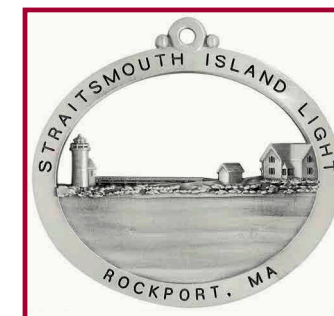
Denim Keeper Shirt.
This 100% cotton soft denim shirt is a key item to own. It proudly shows off the Thacher Island twin lights embroidery. Comes in S,M,L,XL,2XL. \$35.00 plus shipping and handling. (\$3.50)



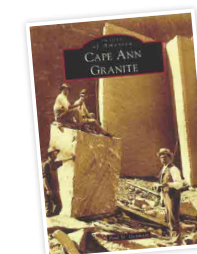
Colorful Hats. Shows off the Thacher Island Twin Lights logo. Yellow, Faded Blue, Khaki, Nautical Red. Adjustable, 100% cotton, washable. \$22.00



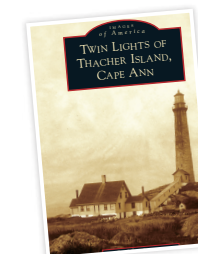
Two-Tone Enameled Steel Campfire Cup Full 16 oz. cup features Thacher Island graphic on one side and Straitsmouth Island graphic on the reverse. Classic two-toned speckled cobalt blue/white of double coated enamel, white interior and stainless-steel rim. Great for the fireside, tailgating, camping, and picnics. Lead-free ink complies with FDA, Prop 65.3 Measures: 3 3/8" H, 3 7/8" Diameter, 5" W.
Price: \$24.00 (includes \$5.00 shipping and handling)



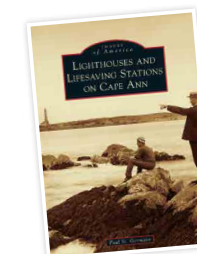
Thacher Island and NEW Straitsmouth Island Pewter Ornaments
Each comes with a red ribbon and is highly detailed on both sides. Measures 2 3/4" high by 2 1/2", packaged in a gift box. Made by Hampshire Pewter. \$15.95 plus shipping and handling (\$3.50). Item #'s P-2015 Thacher or P-2017 Straitsmouth.



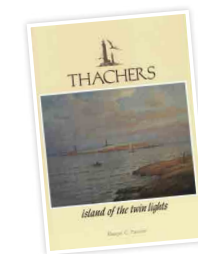
"Cape Ann Granite" Book by Paul St.Germain
\$20.00 plus shipping and handling (\$3.00)



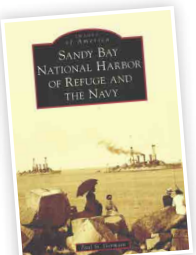
"Twin Lights of Thacher Island, Cape Ann"
\$20.00 plus shipping and handling. (\$3.00)



"Lighthouses and Lifesaving Stations on Cape Ann"
\$20.00 plus shipping and handling. (\$3.00)



"Thachers.... island of the twin lights." Definitive history by Eleanor Parsons.
\$20.00 plus shipping and handling. (\$3.00)



"Sandy Bay National Harbor Of Refuge and The Navy"
New Book recounts history of the Sandy Bay Breakwater and the Navy visits in the 1900s.
\$20.00 plus shipping and handling. (\$3.00)



Thacher Island Association
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EMAIL: info@thacherisland.org

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PERMIT NO. 19

Membership renewal calendar has changed.

Because it seemed to create confusion about when to renew, the Thacher Island Association has done away with the April 30 to May 1 membership year. Starting this year, memberships will run for a full year from renewal anniversary dates. Personal expiration dates and types of membership will be kept on file and noted on your member card, and members will receive a reminder letter a month preceding renewal date.

We still encourage renewing today for 2019 and beyond. Unless your mailing label on the last page has 2019 above your name, you should renew today. Remittance envelopes are included in this newsletter for that purpose.



Ralph G. Sweet of Rockport reminisced during a visit to Thacher Island last summer. His grandfather George Washington Seavey served as a keeper from 1930 to 1945. Ralph's mother, Cora Seavey Sweet, was one of George and Annie Seavey's four children. For a brief period, they, combined with keeper Simeon Orne's five children, outnumbered the eight adults on the island.

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