

JANUARY 31, 2024

2023

PRESQUE ISLE LIGHT STATION ANNUAL REPORT

MORE INFO :

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presqueislelighthouse.org

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Mission



To shine a light on Erie's maritime history by providing engaging and inclusive public access and educational programming to the Presque Isle, North Pier and Land lighthouses for today's visitors and preserving the historic structures and their stories for future generations.



Board of Directors 2023

OFFICERS

Tom Sebald, President

Eric Dahlstrand, Vice President

Greg Henning, Secretary

Joe Maloney, Treasurer

BOARD MEMBERS

Holly Best, ex-officio

Mike Geiger

Melinda Meyer

Tom New

Joe Pfadt

Greg Sesler

Amanda Spaeder

Steve Srnka

Jack Watts

Becky Weiser

Hannah Moran



Staff Members

Averie Shaughnessy-Comfort
Executive Director

Deborah Lohr
Gift Shop & Events Manager

Dom DelGreco
Education Manager

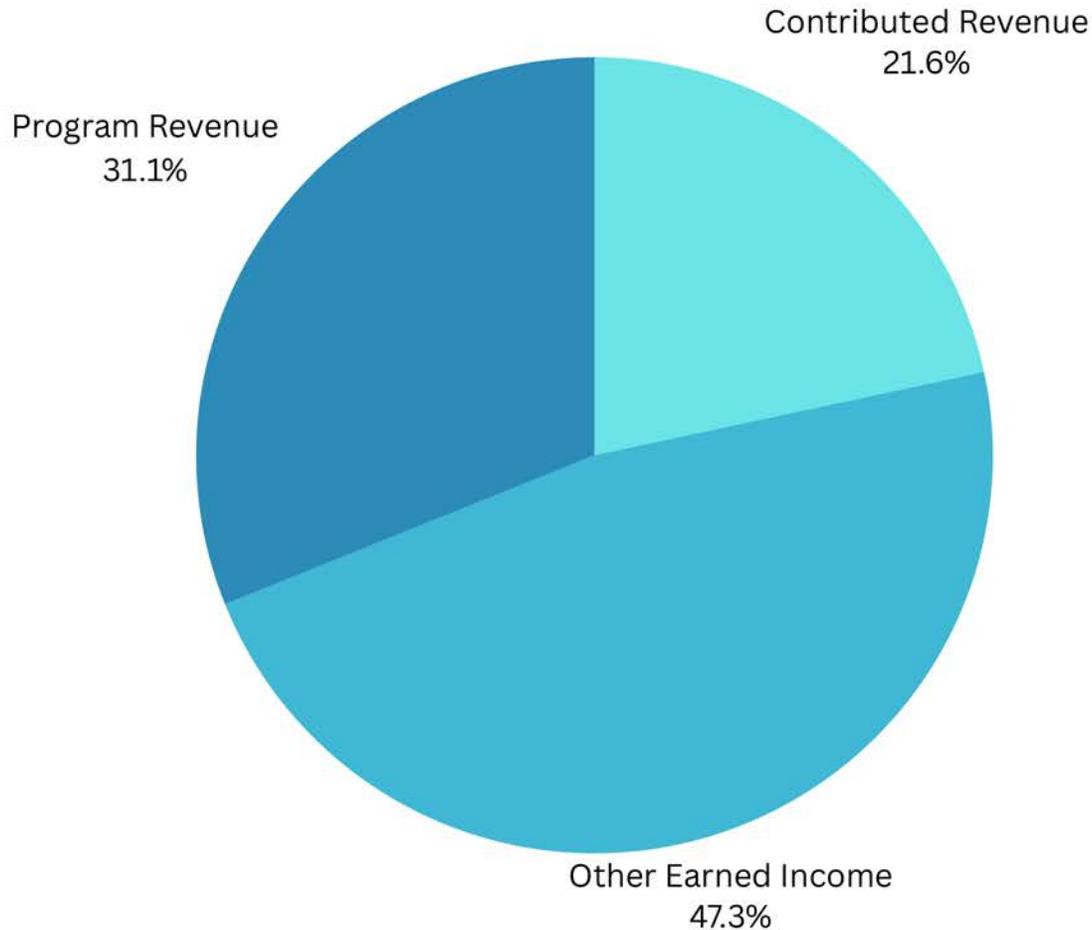
Kim McMahan-Smith
Interpretation Assistant

Rosie Pregler Hitt
Interpretation Assistant



Year At A Glance

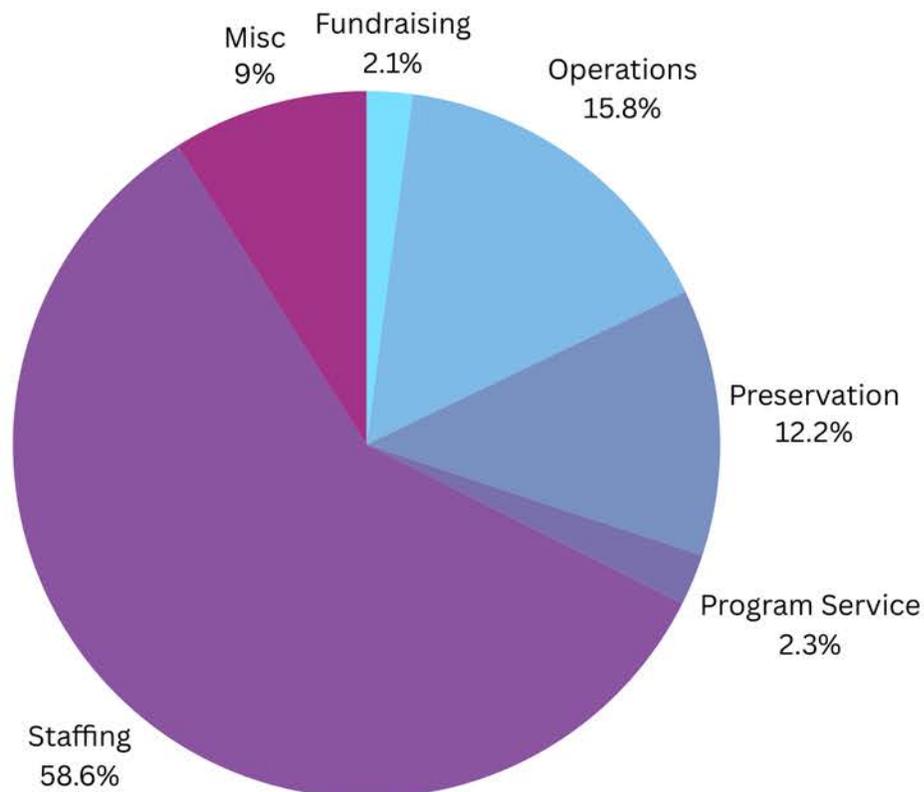
2023: Income \$400,025



- Contributed Revenue (donations, sponsorships, memberships, grants, events)
- Program Revenue (tours, community programs)
- Other Earned Revenue (rentals, gift shop)

Year At A Glance

2023 Expenses \$394,327.37



- Staffing - 2 FT, 3 PT
- Fundraising - Event expenses, appeal
- Operations - overhead
- Preservation - Maintenance of Presque Isle and Land Lighthouse
- Program Service and Misc. - Community Programs, retail items

Fast Facts

- Free Event Attendance: 372
- Youth and Groups - Individuals Served: 399
- Special Events Income: \$10,111
- Membership Income: \$14,832
- Donation Income: \$32,856
- Direct Public Grants: \$19,230
- Government Grants: \$11,094
- Erie Gives 2023 Total: \$15,787

Background photo by Brian Berchtold

Brian Berchtold

Corporate Support

Erie Insurance

Zurn Elkay

Marquette Savings Bank

Event Sponsors

- Mighty Fine Donuts
- Humes Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Ram
- LGA Partners
- Lavery Brewing
- Outlaw Barbecue Revolution
- Sara's Restaurant
- Scott Enterprises
- Erie Otters
- Wegmans



Individual and Foundation Support

Anonymous

Erie Community Foundation

Janice and Tom Showler

Patrick and Candyce Delaney

Jerry and Emily Longo

Susan Daigle

Carol Hymiak and Marc Bryant

Thomas Hagen

Joao and Delores Tavares

American Legion Post

Wesleyville American Legion #571

Lawrence Park Athletic Club

North East Athletic Club

Society of the Holy Trinity

Grantors



Pennsylvania
Historical & Museum
Commission

**Historic Preservation Planning and
Construction Grants**



Erie
Insurance®

**First Aid and Safety Equipment
Upgrades + Two AEDs**



E·C·G·R·A
ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

Tower Tuesdays

Grantors



**Ronald McDonald
House Charities***

RMHC Erie

Educational Bins for Visitors

Partners

PA DCNR, Presque Isle State Park

Erie-Western PA Port Authority

Presque Isle Partnership

Erie Center for Arts and Technology

Erie County Public Library - Iroquois Branch

Hagen History Center

Erie Maritime Museum

VisitErie

ILP Snack Shack

Smiley's Ice Cream

Erie Unknown Paranormal Investigations

Brian Payne

Marcia Hatton

Season Review



Trends

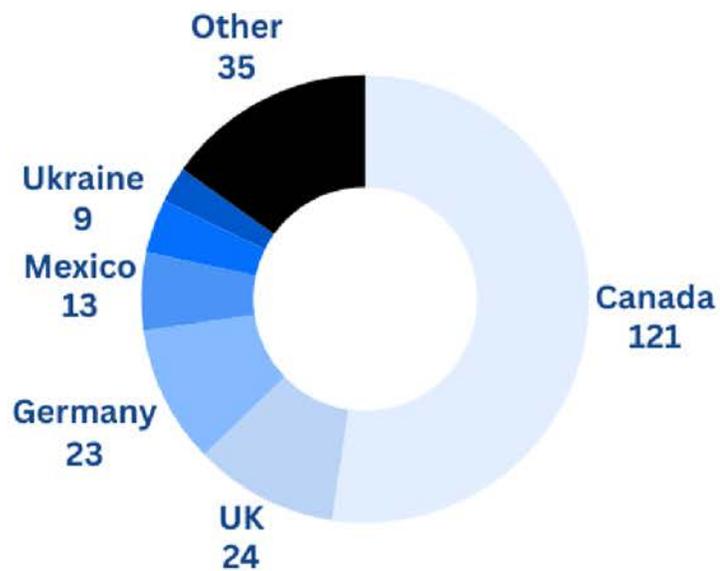
- Visitors came from all 50 states, DC, and Puerto Rico + 21 countries
- Most PA visitors were from Allegheny and Erie Counties
- Most International Visitors from Canada: 121
- July was the busiest month for the Land, August was the busiest month for Presque Isle in terms of visitation.

Season Review

TOP STATES

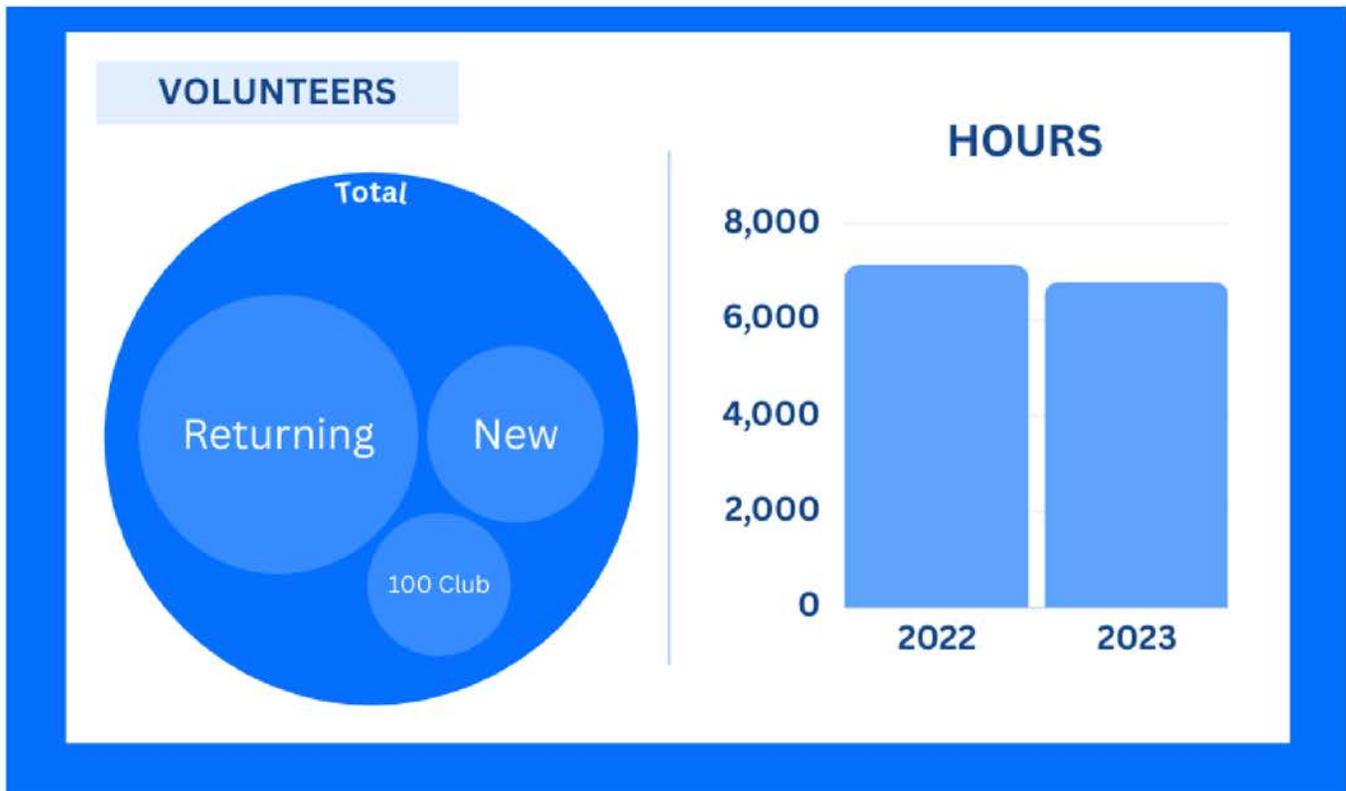


INTERNATIONAL VISITORS



COMBO PASSES

Season Review



Volunteers at a Glance

Total in 2023: 121

100 Hours or More: 11

New Volunteers: 23

Returning Volunteers: 87

2023 Volunteer Hours: 6,786*

- 2023 Federal Estimate (\$31.80): \$215,795.00
- 2023 State Estimate (\$29.78): \$202,087.00
- *Values calculated by 2023 Value of Volunteer Time Report by Independent Sector

2023 Projects Completed

- Completion of Cultural Resource Management Plan for all 3 Lighthouses with a key focus on the Use Plan, Maintenance Plan, and Cost Estimation for North Pier Light.
- Revised permit for Presque Isle Light Station
- Railing Installation at Erie Land Lighthouse
- Submitted application to GSA and National Park Service to acquire Erie Harbor North Pierhead Light



Strategic Plan

In 2022, the Board of Directors approved a 3-year strategic plan serving through 2025 focusing on these goals:

1. Preserve, maintain, and restore Erie's historic lighthouses
2. Engage the community, region, and tourists in Erie's historic lighthouses
3. Develop organizational capacity for management of all 3 lighthouses
4. Ensure financial sustainability

We will constantly evaluate our progress.

On the next page, you'll see highly anticipated projects for 2024.



Presque Isle Light

Kitchen restoration to be completed in 2024.

Tower resurfacing.

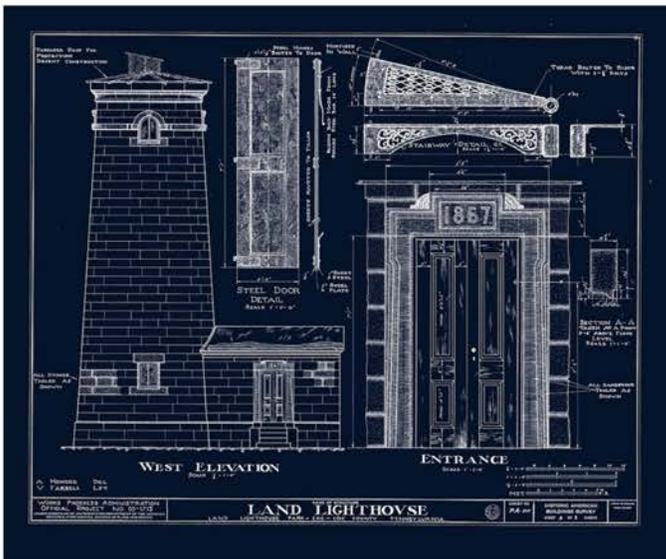
New Exhibit 1st Floor Bedroom.



North Pier

Aiming to acquire through GSA by Spring 2024.

Digital “access” of interior.



Land Lighthouse

Increase free and discounted programming.

Repointing and masonry cleaning - funded by a Keystone Historic Preservation Construction Grant through PHMC

The Future

The Light Station plans to expand its mission and become the steward of all three historic lights in Erie, PA. The North Pier Light is being divested by the Coast Guard and our organization has submitted our Letter of Intent to secure ownership, make the site accessible to the public, and undertake its significant restoration.

This site, in combination with the other two, have the potential to be nationally significant and a source of great local pride. We plan to introduce self-guided audio tours for the site and offer educational programming, similar to our current work at the Presque Isle and Erie Land Lighthouses.

Our staff and board work diligently to preserve and interpret these important sites to inspire community pride, drive economic growth in the region, and welcome tourists and lighthouse enthusiasts.

