

# FNIL

## FRIENDS OF NASH ISLAND LIGHT



### SPECIAL NEWSLETTER - FALL 2023

#### Board of Directors

**Thank you for your support of Friends of Nash Island Light. If you have not made a gift this year, please do so before the end of the year. The Light's preservation needs your support!**

Ann Casey-Graves

Greetings Friends of Nash Island members!

Les Coleman

Nathan Hendrie

#### MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF NASH ISLAND LIGHT DURING 2023

Gray Miles

Richard Miles

This past summer maintenance and repair of Nash Island Light continued. Gray Miles, a member of the FNIL's board of directors who supervised the work, has reported on the work performed this past summer and the condition of the Lighthouse.

Gail Moorehouse

John Page

Elyse Rudner

Alf Wakeman

Gray reports that the overall condition of the tower is the best in the 25 years of FNIL's ownership of the Lighthouse. He said everyone involved in the preservation of the historic structure should be congratulated, as working conditions on Nash Island, and the original level of deterioration of the lighthouse, have been high barriers to success.

Wren Wakeman

Gray told FNIL's board that the cumulative effect of successive applications of the special Keim brand coating, which Dick Miles (FNIL's President) selected after several different product trial coatings, has sealed and protected the Lighthouse's brick exterior much better than expected. Spalling (when brick flakes off as a result of temperature differential expansion and contraction), has been significantly reduced. Major cracks caused by lightning, settling, and water incursion have been sealed and are holding. The Keim coating is now visibly acting as a structural element of the tower's integrity, protecting it through widespread dynamic surface tension.

The interior of the lighthouse remains a work in progress, although significant advances were made from work done during 2022. Two floor joist beams that support the wooden floorboards below the interior of the cupola have rotted out, likely due to water incursion from when the upper cupola window was broken and open to the elements. The window is original to the lighthouse, and so put in good service. One of the beams fell into the stairwell while work was in progress, which was alarming, but fortunately harmless. Next summer the beams will be replaced with white oak lumber.

Gray further reported that work during August included:

- Scraping and wire brushing the exterior and interior of the deck and roof of the cupola, removing a thick coating of yellow lichen.

- Pressure washing the brick interior with fresh water from a well on the island.
- Spraying the interior with mold removal, wire brushing and scraping to remove a heavy coating of green mold.
- Tuckpointing gaps in the brick exterior where mortar has fallen out.
- Painting the spire and roof of the cupola, the deck, and the cupola interior and ladder with black anti-rust paint.
- Coating the brick walls of the room below the cupola, the brick stairwell and walls, the wooden window frames, interior door, trim, and cabinets, and the brick walls of the entryway with Keim coating on the brick, and moisture resistant white paint on the wood.
- Painting the interior stairs with anti-rust black paint.
- Spot coating the exterior of the lighthouse with Keim as needed.

See photos of the work at [www.nashislandlight.org](http://www.nashislandlight.org)

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During the last 25 years more that \$82,000 has been spent by FNIL to preserve the lighthouse, not including many hundreds of hours of volunteer labor by members of the local community. Gifts to FNIL make this this work possible. Your continued support is important! Thank you.

### **FNIL Board of Directors**