

## **Wolf Trap Lighthouse Timeline**

(Located three miles offshore, between the York & entrance to Rappahannock Rivers, Mathews County, VA)

- 1821** Lightship stationed on Wolf Trap Shoal.
- 1861** Confederate troops destroy lightship.
- 1864** Lightship station re-established.
- 1870** Screwpile lighthouse built on shoal.
- 1893** Lighthouse destroyed by ice floes and swept 20 miles down the bay, settling near Thimble Shoal. Temporary lightship on duty.
- 1894** Present 52-foot tall caisson tower built. Equipped with 4<sup>th</sup> order Fresnel lens.
- 1904** Schooner *Dorothy Palmer* runs aground at lighthouse.
- 1909** Schooner *Cary Ann Bell* sinks near lighthouse.
- 1918** Ass't Keeper John Morgan rescues crew of disabled plane.
- 1919** Keeper and assistant aid family of six stranded by storm.
- Late 1920s** Exterior brick painted red for protection from salt spray.
- 1971** Automation.
- 2004/2005** Lighthouse becomes available for ownership under the provisions of the NHLPA. Sold at auction to James Korstad of Seattle for \$75,000.
- 2006** Korstad sells lighthouse to veterinarian James Southard, Jr. for \$119,000. Lighthouse remains active.

Source: *Bay Beacons* by Linda Turbyville and *Lighthouses of Maryland/Virginia-History, Mystery, Legends & Lore* by Bob Trapani, Jr.