New Jersey Historical Commission
Awards NJLHS for Outstanding Public Service
Tom Laverty

On November 19, 2005, the New Jersey Historical Commission presented an award to the New Jersey Lighthouse Society for outstanding service in promoting awareness and preserving the history of New Jersey. The awards ceremony was held in Trenton, New Jersey. The Commission award stated that “the New Jersey Lighthouse Society has over the last 15 years devoted itself to supporting the restoration and interpretation of New Jersey's historic lighthouses and raising awareness of these invaluable historic resources. Through a variety of fundraising efforts, NJLHS has donated thousands of dollars to several New Jersey lighthouses to aid in their restoration. Among the historic beacons that have benefited from the Society’s contributions are Absecon Lighthouse, Sandy Hook Lighthouse, and the reconstructed Tucker’s Island Lights at Tuckerton Seaport. In addition to dollars, the Society has worked tirelessly to provide volunteers to many of the state’s lighthouses, an activity that has enabled many sites to increase public hours and offer new programs. NJLHS is also dedicated to supporting research into lighthouse history. New research is regularly reported in their newsletter, The Beam, and featured at their quarterly membership meetings. The Society’s most visible achievement, however, is the New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge. Begun in 1999, this annual event draws thousands of visitors to visit 11 of New Jersey lighthouses one weekend in October. Run entirely by volunteers from NJLHS, the event brings much-needed visitors, media attention and increased public interest to New Jersey lighthouses.”

NJLHS President Tom Laverty, First Vice President Yvonne Miller, and NJLHS Board member and chair of the Lighthouse Challenge Committee, Doreen Lagattuta, were on hand to accept the award. President Laverty thanked the Commission for the award during the luncheon break at the annual symposium held in Trenton.
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**The President's Column**

Tom Laverty

The 2005 Year in Review

President's Report to the Membership

The past year was one of change for the New Jersey Lighthouse Society. Several beloved and devoted Society members crossed the bar. Other members took a step back from leadership roles in the organization. Thankfully, other members stepped in and took their places. Change can be unsettling, but it can also be invigorating for an organization like ours. We will miss old friends like Harry Megonigal, Fred Thies, John Mazza, Al Burgess, and one of NJLHS' co-founders Jack Granger. They each brought something special to our organization for which we are all very grateful. But as 2005 marched on, we were also thankful for the new faces sitting around the table at board meetings, membership meetings, and committee meetings, as well as organizing trips and generally keeping NJLHS going and on track. One of the new faces that filled a vacancy this year was Laura Portee. Laura, who has been Assistant Chair of the Lighthouse Challenge Committee, is now Corresponding Secretary for the Board of Directors. Her duties include keeping track of all the correspondence coming and going from NJLHS, and handling all the email received through the web site. She will continue to work on the Challenge as well.

Another new face at our Board table is Brett Franks who agreed to chair the Preservation and Raffle Committees. The Preservation Committee will get underway in 2006, but the Raffle Committee ran a successful fundraiser in December and raised more than $7,000 for NJLHS projects.

Other names and faces you might recognize. Second Vice President Mary Beth Doherty still coordinates the Membership Committee, and now also chairs the Web Site Committee and Newsletter Committee. Kim Ruth, Joe and Carol Guchek, who all had done such outstanding past work on those activities, had to give up their involvement as new chapters in their lives began.

B.J. Smith, who stepped down from the Board of Directors this year, is still very active. She is chair of the Publicity Committee that Rich and Elinor Viet vacated a year ago. The Publicity Chair handles news releases about the organization and our meetings. B.J. will also work with the Activities Committee as Trips Coordinator. Many of you were on the Maine trip that B.J. organized last summer and know how much time she puts into making every detail of the trip work. Renard Petronzio is assisting B.J. with the planning of future trips. He organized the New York Harbor trip in 2005, and is working on the Little Red Lighthouse trip for this coming spring.

Jim Cope took over as Finance Chair from Bill Volpe. Jim's Budget Committee will present its first report to the membership at the March meeting.

Cindy Mitzen took over the photography contest from Al Smith who is still working very hard coordinating our efforts at Sandy Hook. Cindy did a fantastic job at last March's meeting, running the contest. She will continue chairing that committee this year as well.

There are many others, of course, who continue to work very hard handling two, three, and four committees in order to make the organization work. You can find their names in The Beam and listed on the masthead.

This November, NJLHS received a special honor. Our efforts to preserve and promote New Jersey lighthouses did not go unnoticed. On November 19, 2005, the New Jersey Historical Commission presented us with an Award of Recognition for our work. First VP, Yvonne Miller, Challenge Committee Chair, Doreen Lagattuta and I were on hand to accept the award before a packed house at the Commission's Annual Conference at the Marriott Hotel and the War Memorial in Trenton. It was an honor to be in a room with so many other individuals and organizations that also work so diligently to preserve and promote New Jersey history.

Finally, a few words about NJLHS co-founder Jack Granger. Jack died suddenly at his home in Toms River last August. He was one of the organizers of the New Jersey Lighthouse Society and served four years as its first President. I met him for the first time at Twin Lights, on a quiet winter day. I was closing up the building to go get some lunch. As I came out the back door, this gentleman with a big smile on his face was standing in front of me. He apologized...
The 2005 Year in Review
Continued from Page 2

and said he did not want to bother me, he just had always been fascinated by the Navesink Twin Lights and was curious about what it looked like inside. I apologized to him for having to close down for lunch and explained how we relied very heavily on volunteers to cover the building, but on that particular day the volunteer was not there.

To make a long story short, we chatted for a while and not only did he get to tour the building as I delayed lunch, but I recruited him as a Twin Lights volunteer. During his volunteer assignments at Twin Lights, Jack and I spent many hours talking about efforts to establish a lighthouse society for New Jersey. Within a year Jack, along with Jim Gowdy and Kim Ruth, was leading meetings to form the organization. Later he asked me to become involved and I enthusiastically signed up. Little did I know that he would talk me into being a board member, then Vice President of the organization. While other NJLHS members and officers talked me into running for the President’s position, Jack was instrumental in me being here in the first place. I know there are many of you who had similar contacts with Jack and are NJLHS members because of him.

Over the years, his interests in the Society waned, though never completely. He became involved in other non-profit boards that took up his time. We will never forget Jack, his interest in lighthouses and determination that is much of which we may be proud. I hope to see you on Long Beach Island in March.

Just a Few Things: Congratulations go out to our Challenge Chair, Doreen Lagattuta!!! Steve Berson proposed to her in late January, and a Fall 2006 wedding is planned!

Wedding bells will also ring for Susie Mack and Steve Mooney…congratulations to you, too!!!

Meeting Attendees: There were 144 members and guests that signed-in at our December meeting at Sandy Hook Light. (Reminder: Please sign the book. We like to keep track of how many people are coming to the meetings to ensure a facility large enough and plenty of chairs.)

Membership Numbers: At the deadline for this issue, the membership numbers are as follows:

- Single Memberships = 345
- Family Memberships = 302 x 2 = 604
- Total Members = 949

Reminders: Please direct all membership questions to me. I have all the information and will be able to answer you immediately. Please feel free to email or call me.

Society Nametags: Stop by the Membership Table to order the nametags. They are $4.00 each, paid for when ordering, and will be mailed to you. (Orders will be taken at meetings only.)

Changes: If you’re moving, changing your membership status, phone number, or email address, please let me know so I can have your most current information. I like to keep the database up to date!

Gift Membership: A membership to the New Jersey Lighthouse Society would be the perfect gift for that person who has everything! Please allow enough time for me to process the application!

New Members: Since the deadline of the December issue of The Beam, the following members have joined our Society. (Please note that if you become a member after the deadline for The Beam, you will be listed in the following issue.) If you happen to meet them at a future meeting, please welcome them!

- Andreatch, Jody & Allen
- Armbruster, Bob & Judy
- Baldwin, Wayne & Penny
- Burger, Lisa & Joe
- Buss, George
- Drozdowski, John & Jean
- English, Robert C.
- Foster, Ron & Mary Jane
- Graf, Beatrice Walsh & Frank
- Gratt, Lynn
- Hill, William E.
- Keenan, Nancy
- Kovacs, Charles
- Lindberg, Diane
- McEachin, Jr., Michael
- Metz, Alan & Amy
- Olander, Brooke
- Pikowski, T.J., Denise & Josephine
- Rylick, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph
- Seafoss, Warren W.
- Siegel, Howard
- Slater, Helen
- Swigart, Glenn E.
- Wall, Robert
- Wolfson, Nina & Bob
- Zasadinski, Gene & Lorraine

Middlesex, NJ
Mt. Laurel, NJ
Phila, PA
Wallington, NJ
Edison, NJ
Monroe Twp., NJ
Drums, PA
Grotton, CT
Bensalem, PA
Atco, NJ
Lehihtpon, PA
Fair Lawn, NJ
Bloomfield, NJ
Orlty Beach, NJ
Little Egg Harbor, NJ
Easton, PA
Atlantic Highlands, NJ
Mahwah, NJ
Harrington Park, NJ
Lehihtpon, PA
Mllford, CT
Morrisville, PA
Winter Park, FL
Tinton Fallls, NJ
Guilford, CT
Clifton, NJ

The Recipe Corner
Marty Hudspeth

Recipe for Shrimp Butter*
by Marty Hudspeth

1 1/2 sticks butter, softened
8 oz. cream Cheese, softened
3 to 4 Tablespoons fresh lemon juice
2 Tablespoons mayonnaise
1 Tablespoon minced onion
1/4 - 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
2 cans (6 oz.) deveined shrimp
Crackers

Mix together butter, cream cheese, lemon juice, mayonnaise, minced onion, and garlic powder. Drain & rinse shrimp in cold water then pat dry & fold into butter cream cheese mixture. Serve with crackers.

*from the NJLHS cookbook

The NJLHS cookbook is available from Ways & Means. The cookbook includes 150 recipes from NJLHS members, family & friends. $8.50 ea., S/H $3.00, ea. add. book $1.50.

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Doreen Lagattuta, Challenge Chair

Did you ever have someone say something or do something that made all your hard work seem worthwhile? This happened to me after the Challenge last year. I worked hard, maybe too hard, to make sure it was a success. I received many compliments and thanks from those involved. But there were three instances where people reacted in a way that told me it was worth chairing the event again.

One of those instances was a letter I received after the Challenge, from Rodney Mulligan, a New Jersey Lighthouse Society member, who took the Challenge last year. He wrote: “I am proud to be part of the Lighthouse Community. All those volunteers involved at each lighthouse from various groups all did a splendid, professional deed. Many thanks for your leadership and all those responsible for the great success. Much luck in the future.” Those kind words made all the work seem worth it! Thank you, Rodney.

Another instance was when I was at Barnegat Lighthouse during the weekend of the Challenge and Mary Beth Doherty (NJLHS 2nd Vice President) showed up. I didn’t realize that she was going to take the Challenge. She described her experiences and had nothing but good things to say about taking the Challenge. Her enthusiasm made me realize that people really DO enjoy taking the Challenge. And after seeing how much fun she was having, I may take the Challenge myself this year (if I’m not busy with wedding plans)!

Thank you, Mary Beth.

The third instance was on February 11th during our Challenge 2006 Kickoff meeting. The New Jersey Lighthouse Society’s Challenge Committee is a wonderful group of people – very dedicated and hard-working volunteers. During our meeting, I was inspired by the amount of energy and enthusiasm in the room, and the willingness to make this year’s Challenge, the best yet. I thank all of those who came forward to volunteer in the preparation of this event. Without you there would be no Challenge!

This year we hope to add a new “challenge” to the Challenge – nighttime climbs to some of the lighthouses. Stay tuned for more information. We’ll post details on the web and I’ll be reporting on them in The Beam and at the Society’s general meetings. We look forward to seeing you at the 7th Annual New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge 2006 – October 14th & 15th!

2006 New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge Volunteers
Brett Franks
Challenge Volunteer Coordinator

Once again this year, NJLHS will be conducting the annual Lighthouse Challenge. As always, this great event is only successful because of the efforts of dedicated people to make it run smoothly and keep it the top draw among other area lighthouse challenges. Fortunately, we have a good base of seasoned volunteers who coordinate efforts at each of our eleven land-based lights. However, they can’t handle the job alone! Additional Society volunteers are needed to assist at each location. The 2006 Challenge will be held on the weekend of October 14 & 15 and we’ll be looking to fill about 100 time slots with volunteers. Please consider helping out!

Sign-ups for Challenge volunteers will begin at the March 25th membership meeting, and then will be available online at our web site after that meeting. To avoid any confusion that occurred last year: please remember that all volunteers must fill out a Challenge Volunteer Form. On the form you may indicate your preference of volunteer light location and your availability. NJLHS members who donate 5 or more hours to the Challenge operations that weekend will receive a free 2006 Challenge T-Shirt as our thanks. Slots and locations will be given out on a “first come, first served” basis. I would suggest you sign up as soon as possible!

Again, you must submit the Challenge Volunteer Form to ensure that you are assigned a time and location for your volunteer service. I will return to you a confirmation slip showing you are registered, and will send out completed schedules one month before the Challenge. As always, you can contact me directly with any question about volunteering by phone (856-256-0881) or email jnfbranks@yahoo.com. Thanks…and let’s all make this our best Challenge yet!

Look What’s New!

Calendar of Events
Faith Giamboi
List your New Jersey lighthouse related events here.

Date, Location of Event & Time
Type of Event
Contact Person and Phone Number
Send the necessary information to njlhesevents@netzero.net as an attached “MS Word” document. The Beam is published 4 times a year – March, June, September and December. Information must be received at least 8 weeks prior to publication to be included in the next issue. If you have any questions, call Faith Giamboi (732)730-2480.
2005 - NJLHS Challenge Photos - 2005

Joanna Kolber from Poland and Margaret Sado at Twin Lights

Finishers at Cape May

Made their own T-shirts for all 3 Challenges, L.I., MD, & NJ and completed all three

Pat Fields & Zoe Moore at East Point

Cape May

A little one getting their first LH passport stamp at Cape May

Angelo Rigazio last Keeper at Harbor of Refuge with Carole Reily & Valarie Costanpini

NJ Sec. of State Regena Thomas & Yvonne Miller at Cape May

Carole Reily, at East Point LH

A completed Challenge Booklet at Cape May

Yvonne Miller talking with officials of Cape May

Photos by: Faith Giamboli, Rodney Mulligan, Howard Wright

The Beam
NJLHS Recognition Program

Bill Volpe

In the sixteen years since the inception of the New Jersey Lighthouse Society, hundreds of members have been involved in lighthouse activities that have enabled our organization to experience remarkable growth and to accomplish many of our goals. As a result of these efforts, our Society is recognized throughout the lighthouse community and has been cited by the State of New Jersey for its achievements. The Board of Directors expresses its sincere appreciation to our dedicated volunteers for their generous contributions of time and talent.

The focus of the initial NJLHS Recognition Program period has been to recognize significant contributions since the formation of our Society and throughout the organization’s history through 2004. In June 2005, the program coordinators requested that members nominate individuals who have, in some way, distinguished themselves through certain activities and achievements. Those nominations have resulted in awards to the individuals cited below.

We would be remiss to inaugurate this program without first recognizing the contributions of our Founders and Charter Members. It is these individuals who had the vision and provided the leadership to establish our Society and guide our early efforts.

**Founder’s Award**

Jack Granger, In Memory
Jim Gowdy, In Memory
Kim Ruth
Rebecca Colesar
Louis Colesar
Nancy Craven
George Feirer
Patricia Feirer
Barbara Gowdy, In Memory
Nancy Hackney
Richard Hellenbrecht
Joan Lange
Nancy Matthews
Helen Mountney
Carl Nelson
Barbara Nelson
Elaina Ryan
Johanna Trowbridge

The Society also wishes to recognize the following individuals nominated by the membership for their many outstanding achievements which have assisted in the restoration and preservation of lighthouses and have stimulated lighthouse interest throughout New Jersey and beyond:

**Keeper’s Award**

Annette Colt
Herb Colt, In Memory
Rosemary Dixon
Carol DiNapoli
Debbie Megonigal
Harry Megonigal, In Memory
Ruth Martorano
Steve Martorano
Al Smith
Betty Smith
Elinor Viet
Rich Viet
Joan Walton
Rick Weber

Congratulations to all honorees! Thank you for making NJLHS an extraordinary organization! A ceremony honoring the award recipients and their contributions will be conducted at the March meeting.

In June, we will again seek nominations to recognize individuals for contributions dating back to 1990 as well as those made during 2005.

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LI GHT LI NKS
Mike Boucher

The internet is a wonderful tool in researching lighthouses. One of my favorite sites is “The Lighthouse Directory” by Russ Rowlett: [http://www.unc.edu/~rowlett/lighthouse/](http://www.unc.edu/~rowlett/lighthouse/). He is the Director for the Center for Mathematics and Science Education at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Starting with the North Carolina lighthouses, Russ, with the support of UNC, has constructed a web site listing lighthouse information that has grown to include thirteen regions around the globe and listing 146 countries or areas. The United States section includes information on 767 lighthouses and 17 lightships. Each state has its own page with each listing, including a brief history of the state’s or country’s lighthouses, preservation groups if any, “What’s Hot”, newspaper items about lighthouses, and general sources on the web to find out more information about lighthouses from that region.

Each lighthouse, is given a star (*) or rating key for accessibility and facilities that are open to the public, one star meaning a good photo can be taken and four stars meaning the lighthouse is open year round, may be climbed, and includes a display of historic exhibits. The next item listed is the year the light was built, focal plane height and tower height, type of light and lens size, construction method/materials regarding the tower, and any other information on the lighthouse. Visiting information is given such as when the site and tower is open or closed. The name of the owner of the lighthouse is given along with that of the site owner. The last item given is the Coast Guard’s light list number along with simple directions to the lighthouse. Most of the information in each listing is just the basics with links to web sites to get more in-depth information. Many photos are also provided. His listing for Heceta Head Oregon is given below.

***Heceta Head***

1894. Active (privately maintained); focal plane 205 ft; white flash every 30 s, day and night. 56 ft stucco-clad brick tower attached to workroom; original 1° Fresnel lens still in use. Lighthouse painted white; lantern roof is red. Original 2-story Queen Anne-style frame keeper’s quarters now used as a bed and breakfast inn. Two oil houses and a barn also preserved; one of the oil houses is used as a generator house. Surely one of the most dramatically beautiful light stations of the world, high above the Pacific and surrounded by the Siuslaw National Forest. Britten has a fine collection of photos and LighthouseFriends.com has a good web site for the light station. Sea Lion Caves has a web cam with a live (somewhat distant) view of the lighthouse. In 2000, the Coast Guard proposed to abandon use of the first-order lens after the rotating mechanism broke down. A compromise was worked out to restore the lens, and in February 2001 it was carefully dismantled, restored and cleaned. Lighthouse Digest has an October 2001 article on the project. The light was relit on June 16. As part of the compromise, ownership of the lighthouse was transferred to Oregon State Parks. Note: Heceta is pronounced “ha-see-ta.” Lo-

Continued on Page 10
The Beam

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PHOTO CONTEST 2006
Cindy Mitzen

It’s time once again for our annual members’ photo contest. The categories are as follows:

- NJ lighthouses
- National lighthouses
- International lighthouses
- Lighthouses in Autumn
- Winner’s Circle

Those in the Winner’s Circle may submit 2 entries featuring lighthouse photographs of any type. Those in the Winner’s Circle may also submit one photo in the “Lighthouse in Autumn” category. Postcards were mailed out in February as reminders to all members of the Winner’s Circle. Any other NJLHS member may submit up to 3 photographs in any category or combination of categories.

All pictures must be accompanied by a registration slip. The photographer’s name or business name should not appear anywhere on the picture. The lighthouse in the picture may be identified. Please feel free to make copies of the entry form. More blank forms will be available at the meeting for each contestant to complete if needed. The exciting news is that this year’s winners will be featured on our website! That is why you will notice an area on the entry form to sign giving NJLHS permission to publish your picture on the site.

Thank you to all those who have volunteered to help with the photo contest as registrars, etc. I can still use more help. Please show up early and see me before the meeting and I will get everyone set up.

Any questions, call me at (908) 281-6879. If you get the machine, leave a message and I’ll get back to you.

NJLHS 2006 People’s Choice Photo Contest Entry Blank

Name: _________________________________
Address: ____________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip: ____________________ Phone # ( ) _______________________

CATEGORIES:
New Jersey L/H_____ National L/H_____ International L/H_____ L/H in Autumn _____ Winner’s Circle_____

Writing ‘yes’ here gives permission to the NJLHS to publish my picture on their website. __________

Signature________________________________________________________________________________

NEW JERSEY LIGHTHOUSE SOCIETY 2006 PEOPLE’S CHOICE PHOTO CONTEST ENTRY BLANK
Cindy Mitzen

The Beam

LITTLE RED LIGHTHOUSE TRIP
SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2006
Betty Smith

Did you ever want to visit the Little Red Lighthouse under the George Washington Bridge, but for some reason did not want to go on your own? Well, come and join us on May 13, 2006. We have arranged for mini-limo buses to take us to the base of the lighthouse so that you may climb the Little Red Lighthouse (no climbing down those nasty steps to get there or parking your car wherever you can find a spot).

There will be three pick up points: Audubon Park in South Jersey (1½ miles from Exit 28 of 295 or 2½ miles from Exit 3 of NJ Turnpike); Exit 98 commuter parking lot of the Garden State Parkway (just off I-195 before you get on the GSP); or the Vince Lombardi rest area of the NJ Turnpike.

The cost is $55 per person and we are limited to 48 passengers on 2 buses (or 72 if we get enough interest for 3 buses). This includes bus transportation, admission to the lighthouse, and a picnic lunch at the lighthouse.

If you are interested in joining us, please send your check for $55 per person along with the following coupon to Betty Smith, 7 Goldfinch Rd., Audubon Park, NJ 08106. Checks should be made out to NJLHS.

NJLHS members will have first shot at this trip until March 31, 2006. Reservations are FIRST PAID, FIRST SERVED.

NJLHS member: YES _____ NO _____

Name(s):_______________________________________________________
Address:_______________________________________________________
Phone #:____________________Email address:_______________________

I want to be picked up at:
Audubon Park ___   GSP Exit 98 ___   Vince Lombardi ___

Choice of sandwich
(check 1 item per line, per each person):

Bread: White _____Roll _____Rye _____
Roast Beef _____Ham _____Turkey _____ Veggie _____
Cheese: American _____Provolone_____ Swiss _____
Beverage: Regular Soda _____Diet Soda _____ Bottled water _____

The Beam
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<th>Color/Size</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sm -XL $15.00, 2X $17.00, 3X $19.00</td>
<td>S/H $3.00 ea. add. shirt $1.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>NJLHS Decorative Tile Cork Backing</td>
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<tr>
<td>NJLHS Decorative Plate</td>
<td>w/ stand $8.00 S/H $3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>NJLHS Deluxe Expandable Attache Bag</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$7.00 S/H $3.00 ea. add. $1.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donna Elias Cup</td>
<td>$8.00 S/H $3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>NJLHS Sweatpants</td>
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<td>Black S,M,L,XL,2X,3X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pink XL only</td>
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<td>Lime L,XL</td>
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<td>Daffodil S, L,XL</td>
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<td>Maroon S,L,XL,3X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denim XL, only</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teal S,M,L,XL,2X 3X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purple S,SML,2X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NJLH Bookmarks</td>
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<tr>
<td>#1(top),#2 (Bottom) $2.50 ea., S/H .39¢</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lighthouse Coffee (Left)</td>
<td>12oz. Colombian Medium Roast airtight souvenir canister Regular coffee $14.00. Decaf. Coffee $15.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lighthouse Tea (Right)</td>
<td>(Right) 50 teabags in 2 foil pouches pure Ceylon Tea (Orange Sunshine) $9.00 ea. S/H $3.00 ea. add. $1.50.</td>
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Coffee & Tea are available in the following lighthouses: Cape May, Barnegat, Absecon, Hereford, Sandy Hook, & Tuckerton Please give two choices: S/H $4.00 ea. add. $2.00

**NJLHS ORDER FORM**

<table>
<thead>
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**Total Check**

Make check payable to: NJLHS

FREE SOCIETY PIN WITH EACH ORDER (while supplies last)

**Email:** njlhsways_means@verizon.net

**Phone:** 609-877-1393

Feel free to call or email for color/sizes and availability.

Mail Check & order form to: Marty Hudspeth

15 Petunia Lane

Willingboro, NJ 08046
Preservation Committee Ends Year on a High Point
Brett Franks, Preservation Committee Chair

Thanks to the generous support from our membership and lighthouse enthusiasts around the country, our Annual Preservation Raffle was, once again, a big success. The raffle profits exceeded those from every previous drawing (except 2001, when the handcrafted NJ Lighthouse Quilt was the grand prize). Our grand prize this year, the 6½-foot tall replica of Sandy Hook Lighthouse, was built by Ed Chiasson of Sea-Lites, Inc. and those who saw it in person can certainly attest to the magnificent job he did in its production.

I was lucky enough to find Ed’s work while driving through Woodstown, NJ. I was having no luck convincing my wife it was a shortcut home and not a roundabout way to Richman’s Ice Cream (South West Jersey understands my compulsion in the name of sweet, creamy necessity!) when I saw a beautiful 9-foot tall rendition of Cape Hatteras. You’d be amazed how fast a Ford pickup can come to a full stop from 60 mph, while completing a hard right turn into a parking lot. When my wife climbed back onto the seat from her sudden launch under the dashboard, and saw the model, she too was amazed at how good it looked and forgot about beating me senseless.

The storeowner was very helpful and put me in contact with Ed. He had many versions to choose from, (including Barnegat), but we started talking about creating a new NJ lighthouse replica for our contest. Fortunately for us, Ed was up to the challenge of building Sandy Hook’s octagonal tower. He did a tremendous job, I can’t thank him enough for his effort and artistry. His work really helped make this Raffle the success it was. Anyone who might want to own his or her own lawn size version of a lighthouse, larger or smaller, please look Ed up on the web. He has graciously volunteered to donate a portion of his sales to NJLHS for anyone who mentions finding him through our Society.

I’d also like to thank the Renaissance Hotel in Portsmouth, VA for their generous prize donation to NJLHS. I’ve had the pleasure of staying there several times and I’ve always enjoyed the experience. During my last stay, the room had a view overlooking the Portsmouth Lightship and the Elizabeth River. It’s a nice experience to see the flash from the lightship as you drift off to sleep. Again, thanks to all of the people who donated prizes to our raffle this year and every year. Without them we would not have this event to raise funds for preservation. A listing of this year’s winners is at the end of this article.

I’m sure many of you would like to know how these funds are put to use. Well, first and foremost, we always take care of our NJ lights. One of the things we recently did was donate $1,000 to the Tincum Rear Range Lighthouse Society for being our host during the fall NJLHS membership meeting last year. Our donation will help them maintain the light and possibly pay for some nice accent lighting on their new National Historic Registry plaque. Congratulations, Tincum, on that preservation milestone. This year we have some national lighthouse concerns to consider along with those specific to NJ. The summer hurricane season was devastating to several lights along the Gulf Coast. While we can’t help them all, we will try to provide some support for those in the worst financial condition.

Over the next few months, the Preservation Committee will be discussing this and several new projects to propagate the Society’s role in ‘hand’s on’ efforts as well as other means to help further the NJLHS preservation goals. If you know of any efforts or issues regarding lighthouses you think our committee should be aware of, or just want to discuss an idea, please feel free to email me or just drop by our table at any membership meeting and talk. Remember during each membership meeting to come over and buy your chances for the Door Prizes and “Harry’s 50/50” Drawing, both of which support the preservation budget. Even though Harry Megonigal is no longer sitting there, smiling and greeting us all, it doesn’t mean he has stopped urging you to buy those tickets.

Lightship Overfalls Receives Save America’s Treasures Grant

has been awarded a $275,000 grant to support its restoration. The grant has been provided through the National Park Service’s Save America’s Treasures program and requires a 50/50 match from non-federal government sources. The National Park Service stated, “This ship is one of the country’s few remaining ‘floating lighthouses’, which aided navigation in treacherous waters where lighthouses could not be built. Grant funds will support repair of the vessel’s damaged hull ribs and reinforcement of the hull.

The citizens of Lewes have been committed to saving this nationally significant lightship since it first arrived in Lewes in 1973. Over the past 32 years supporters have formed “Friends” groups, completed ship maintenance, and offered tours to the public. In 1999 a group within the Lewes Historical Society reenergized the community’s effort to “save the ship”. These individuals formed the Overfalls Maritime Museum Foundation (OMMF) which was incorporated in 2001 as a non-profit foundation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service code. Its mission is to collect, preserve, and teach the maritime history of Lewes and its environs. Its mission also extends to efforts to restore, maintain and display the Lightship LV-118 Overfalls and all other maritime artifacts and structures acquired by the group over the years. The OMMF is an all-volunteer organization with a membership of 320 households, a corps of dedicated volunteers, and an undying interest in Delaware maritime history. The newly-awarded grant will be combined with additional funds from the Delaware Community Redevelopment Fund and will assist in the first order of business: saving the exterior of the ship’s hull. For more information on the Foundation, upcoming events, or to arrange a presentation on the efforts of the group contact David Bernheisel at (302) 645-7737 or visit www.overfalls.org.

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2006 AT SANDY HOOK, AT LAST!

Al Smith

Richard Wells, Park Superintendent, has assured us that we WILL have the dedication of the refurbished Keeper’s House on June 10, 2006! While we have adapted well to the firehouse, it will be good to get back into the Keeper’s House. Hopefully, all the exhibits will be ready as well as the new and improved gift shop! Stay tuned!

The numbers at Sandy Hook were off slightly for the fiscal year 2005, but the “Hookers” still managed to accommodate 5,151 people’s wishes to climb the tower in 766 tours. Another 2,902 had additional questions answered by the volunteers. (Gee, it will be nice to say “the bathrooms are right over there!”)

Fifty-four volunteers completed 2,625 hours during 78 dates between October 1, 2004, and September 30, 2005. The top ten volunteers piled up over 1,263 of the total hours. Lois Mumie, who has declared that Sandy Hook is her second home, led the pack with 311 hours. The other Top Ten volunteers, in order, were Grace Schumacher, Al Smith, Ken Schumacher, Betty Smith, Johnnie Walker, Mike Smith, Cliff Smith, Susan Smith and Susan Mazza.

A HEARTY THANK YOU to all the volunteers, but especially the Top Ten for all the work you put in the past year. It can’t be done without EACH of you!

We had a number of new volunteers this year. Joanna Skidmore, a Tom Hoffman recruit from Brookdale Community College, was with us through July and August before going off to another college. Annette Colt, Linda Speece, Shelley Nelson and Martha Townsend rounded out the group of new volunteers. And we are looking forward to having Goldie Jadczak joining us in the new year.

If YOU are interested in joining our little band of volunteers, we certainly welcome you. Tours will start Saturday, April 1 (NO FOOlin’!) so stop out and see us any weekend between 12 & 4:30. You may also contact me at the meeting, at (856) 546-7810, or at cmagsmith@juno.com. We will be so glad to have you.

NUMB3RS

(NJLHS Speaker’s Bureau Equation)

8s + 1300m = 25t + 975a + 25EK

Bill Volpe

In the hit TV program NUMB3RS, there is always some number correlation between the victim of a crime and the perpetrator. The same can be said of the dedication of the volunteers in the NJLHS Speakers Bureau and the results they achieved, 8 speakers traveled 1300 miles to give 25 talks to audiences totaling 975 attendees and placed 25 Education Kits in primary schools.

Thanks to new volunteers, Faith Giamboi, Cindy Mitzen, Dennis Robbins and Al Smith, as well as veterans Joe Kelly, Elinor and Rich Veit and myself, the team has been able to entertain and educate many—while lulling very few to sleep. Many attendees comment that they are impressed with our diorama, are surprised by the variety of NJ lighthouse structure styles, and are intrigued by the significance of the colorful day marks of various lighthouses. The Bureau has also been referred to as a “gem of New Jersey history.”

Through the coordination of the Education Kit Project and the Speakers Bureau, we have been able to place over 125 Education Kits in schools throughout New Jersey and in other states. In fact, we have a presence in Arizona, California, Florida, Massachusetts, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. Education Kits continue to be available for purchase by the membership for donation to schools and libraries for the low price of $25.00.

My sincere thanks to our speakers, membership, and the organizations that have donated Kits; through your generous efforts we continue to spread the word.

NELL’s Public Cruise to CT Western L.I. Sound Lighthouses

The New England Lighthouse Lovers (NELL) announced they will be sponsoring an approximately 7 hour lighthouse cruise narrated by Jeremy D’Entremont to all 10 lights on the Western CT Long Island Sound on June 3, 2006, and the public is invited. NELL is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising funds to preserve and restore New England Lighthouses and other related maritime sites. Many NELL members also belong to NJLHS. The cruise departs 9:00 AM from Brewer Yacht Haven Marina, Stamford, CT and will visit 7 offshore lights rarely seen up close from Great Captain Island to Stratford Shoal. The cost of the trip for non-members of NELL is $60 and $30 for children age 12 and under. Anyone interested should visit the NELL web site at www.nell.cc for further details and information on registration. All proceeds after cost go to lighthouse preservation.

SUGGESTIONS NEEDED

Betty Smith

We are trying to plan trips and we are having a difficult time finding places where we can pick up people for the trips with the buses. If you know of any locations where our people can park their cars safely from 1 to 7 days, please let me know at njlhs@juno.com or by phone at 856-546-7810 in the evening and I will investigate them. Please give the location and owner and telephone number of a contact person.

PUBLICITY

Betty Smith

I have taken over as Publicity Chair and I need your help. If you have a newspaper in which we could publicize our activities (i.e. meetings, Challenge), please send me the name and address of that publication. Please let me know at njlhs@juno.com or by phone at 856-546-7810 in the evening.

LIGHT LINKS

Continued from Page 6

cated off US 101 about 15 miles north of Florence. Accessible by a short trail from the adjoining Heceta Head Lighthouse State Scenic Viewpoint (entry fee). Site open, tower open to guided tours. Site manager: Heceta Head Lighthouse Interpretive Center and Bed and Breakfast. Light List 635.

The site is updated several days a week with news items that were found on the internet and are listed on the left side of the homepage under “Hot Lighthouse News.” Each of these items is also listed in each state or country page for further reference. The next sections include recently contributed, rarely seen lighthouse photos (hard to get to locations), lighthouse web pages, links to newsletters and magazines, and endangered lighthouses. Other lighthouse information includes the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act, owning a lighthouse, overnight accommodations and articles on the different styles and different types of construction. Russ also has a special thank you section for everybody who has contributed to his site, which is quite extensive.

The web site is quite useful for the beginner or the seasoned lighthouse buff.
IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, CHECK THE WEB SITE (www.njlhs.org ) OR THE SOCIETY PHONE LINE 1-856-546-0514

MEETING: Spring 2006
DATE: Saturday, 3/25/2006
LOCATION: Surf City Fire Station, 713 Long Beach Blvd, Surf City, NJ

ITINERARY:
10:00AM Hospitality served at the Surf City Fire Station
11:00 AM Greeting and socializing with members and guests
11:00AM Introduction of Barnegat Lighthouse/ Interpretive Center staff
11:15AM Meeting called to order
12:15PM Lunch Break (bring your own)
1:00PM Photo Contest voting & judging
2:00PM Visit Barnegat Lighthouse/ InterpretiveCenter/Barnegat Light Museum

If you are bringing goodies for hospitality, please notify Martha Brown at 609-877-0134. Another reminder: since we are bringing the coffee prepared and ready to serve, donations towards the coffee would be helpful. If we don’t get enough to cover the cost of the coffee, we will have to go back to the coffee urn system, which takes much longer to serve.

FALL MEETING RECAP: The meeting at Sandy Hook fell into place, as I had hoped. Even with no heat and the fire alarm, the meeting was packed full with the demonstration of the new web site and the presentation on Hawaiian Lighthouses. Thanks again to the Copes and the Bouchers. Special thanks again to Lou Venuto and Tom Hoffman for their hospitality and assistance at Sandy Hook. The Holiday Social at the History House was beautiful and the Lighthouse visits and tree decorating at the Old Fire House were very successful. Thanks also to Carol DiNapoli and her committee at the History House and Al and Betty Smith and Sandy Hook volunteers at the Fire House. It was a busy and delightful day.

SUMMER 2006 MEETING: To be held on June 24, 2006. Arrangements are being made to meet at Ft. Wadsworth and visit a battery Weed at Fort Wadsworth.

OTHER 2006 MEETINGS: Arrangements are being formulated for East Point and Cape May for the September and December 2006 meetings (respectively).

DIRECTIONS: Assuming everyone knows how to get to Long Beach Island over the causeway (NJ Rt. 72), continue straight until you come to Long Beach Blvd. Turn left onto the Blvd. and continue into Surf City. The Fire Station is on the Blvd. to the left. Surf City Hotel will be on the right. Parking is on the street or in the Surf City Twp., parking lot, adjacent to the Fire Station.
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DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE ISSUE OF THE BEAM IS MAY 12