Sandy Hook Keeper’s Quarters Reopens!!

Tom Laverty

On Saturday June 10, 2006 the much anticipated renovation of the Sandy Hook Lighthouse Keeper’s Quarters will be completed. Visitors will once again be able to walk in the rooms occupied by the dedicated Keeper’s and their families. Located next to the historic lighthouse, the Keeper’s house was constructed in 1883, and is the fifth house on that location. The building has been rehabilitated to reflect its 1930’s appearance. Sandy Hook is the oldest working lighthouse in the United States, having been built in 1764.

NJLHS partnered with the National Park Service in 1997 to provide volunteers who opened the Sandy Hook Lighthouse for the public. Over the last nine years our volunteers have given guided tours and programs to more than 6,000 visitors per year. In addition to the general lighthouse tour, volunteers have conducted weekday programs for scout, school, and day camp groups. Volunteers come from all over New Jersey, with some from as far as Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York and Connecticut. Many spend the night and provide a weekend of service at the lighthouse for our organization. In fact, the third floor of the Keeper’s Quarters will contain overnight accommodations for our volunteers so the organization can continue providing that incentive to interested members who wish to volunteer.

Shortly after our partnering with the National Park Service, the Sandy Hook Keeper’s Quarters became available as a staging area for the lighthouse tours. NJLHS began another partnership working with the Sandy Hook Foundation on a plan to better utilize the building. The Foundation has been involved in the restoration of several historic structures located within the Sandy Hook Unit of Gateway National Recreation area. Partnering with them was a logical step.

All three organizations, the Park Service, Foundation, and NJLHS agreed early on that the first floor of the Keeper’s Quarters should be used for exhibits to complement the lighthouse tours. To support this renovations began in 2002. The Foundation raised over $600,000 to cover the costs of materials and specialized work done by contractors, while a National Park Service maintenance team began the rehabilitation work on the structure itself. NJLHS hired Cornerstone Spatial Design of Ramsey, New Jersey to plan an exhibit about New Jersey Lighthouses for the first floor of the Quarters. A joint NJLHS and National Park Service team worked with the design company to do research and collect photographs needed for the exhibits. Additionally, the Sandy Hook Foundation searched for grants as the project moved forward so that the exhibits developed by Cornerstone could be built. A grant from the Sunfield Foundation made that possible and as The Beam is going to press, the new exhibits are being built and installed.

Located on the first floor of the quarters, The New Jersey Lighthouse Museum will provide stimulating and interactive exhibits for every age and will enhance the educational efforts

Continued on Page 3
A Message from Membership…

Mary Beth Doherty, Membership Chair

Meeting Attendees:
There were 167 members and guests who signed in at our March meeting at the Surf City Fire Station (near Barnegat Lighthouse). (Reminder: Please sign the attendance book. We like to keep track of how many people are coming to the meetings to ensure that we book a facility large enough with sufficient seating.)

Membership Numbers:
At the deadline for this issue, the membership numbers are as follows:
Single Memberships = 247
Family Memberships = 252 x 2 = 504
Total Members = 751

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 NJLHSMember1@aol.com.

Society Nametags: Stop by the Membership Table to order nametags. They are $4.00 each, payable upon 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.

The Beam, the official journal of the New Jersey Lighthouse Society, Inc., is published quarterly: March, June, September and December. Membership dues are $20.00 single and $25.00 family, and are for the calendar year. All materials are copyrighted and cannot be borrowed or reproduced without permission of the New Jersey Lighthouse Society. The NJLHS - New Jersey Lighthouse Society, Inc., is a non-profit educational corporation (501c3).

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The BEAM Fax: (973) 829-0876
NJLHS Announcements: (856) 546-0514

Society Address:
NJLHS, Inc.
P.O. Box 332
Navesink, NJ 07752-0332

Preservation Looking for Helping Hands

Brett Franks, Preservation Committee Chair

Do you know one end of a paintbrush from the other? Do you like to garden and care for plants? Are you a frustrated carpenter at heart, or better yet, a real one? This year the NJLHS Preservation Committee is looking to find volunteers who want to be “hands on”. Maintenance is the biggest drain on the funding for our eleven land-based lights. We want to see if we can help them stretch those dollars. We are compiling a list of volunteers willing to give a day or even a few hours to a lighthouse to help do some of the keeper’s chores around the place.

That might be painting some windows or fixing a door hinge—any small, odd jobs that a handyman would be hired to do. Our plan is to set up specific volunteer workdays at the various lights and provide some free labor. Possible events might include a spring clean up day or even a Tom Sawyer
Preservation Looking for Helping Hands

Continued from Page 2

Painting Party. And for those carpenters in the mix, do we have some old houses for you! If you have considered volunteering at one of our lights, but felt you couldn’t make the long-term commitment, this could be for you.

Sign-ups will be on the web site at the Preservation page. We’re just looking for skill and interest at this point, so don’t feel we will be asking you to work right away. You will tell us when you can help out, and you would be willing to do. Remember, this is in the very early stages of development. It’s our attempt to have the members interact at a more direct level with these lights; to give something of themselves rather than just monetary donations. So please consider helping out.

BOOK REVIEW

Nancy Cope


This book includes a selection of state maps along with a list of lighthouses in each state. Each lighthouse name corresponds with its respective number on the state map. The numbers are easily readable, enabling one to locate a lighthouse location at a quick glance. Samplings of the Cardaci’s lighthouse photos are included with each state. In addition, the authors have added selected comments on their personal lighthouse travels.

One special feature of the book is the accessibility key. A symbol next to each lighthouse name indicates the manner in which each lighthouse can be reached: car, hike, boat, ferry, air. The hike is then designated as easy, medium, or hard. This affords the individual lighthouse enthusiast the opportunity to decide if he/she wants to visit a particular lighthouse.

While reviewing the book’s detailed maps and extensive lighthouse lists, one can be sure that the authors are truly dedicated “lighthouse hunters”. This book has become a valuable supplement to our own lighthouse library.

Sandy Hook Keeper’s Quarters Reopens!!

Continued from Page 1

of the National Park Service. Many elementary school programs depend upon Sandy Hook to provide experiences in New Jersey history and marine sciences outside of the classroom. This museum will be very popular with the nearly 50,000 students and teachers as well as with the 2.5 million visitors who enjoy Sandy Hook each year. Combined with the tours of the Sandy Hook Lighthouse conducted by NJLHS volunteers, the museum and lighthouse will be an exciting destination for visitors.

We hope NJLHS members will join us 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday, June 10, at Sandy Hook. There will be lots of activities going on and you will be able to see first hand the exhibits and Keeper’s Quarters. The Lighthouse and Keeper’s Quarters will be open weekends by NJLHS volunteers April through October, 12 noon to 4 p.m. For further information call the National Park at 732-872-5970 or email the NJLHS at NJLHS@NJLHS.org.

NJ Lighthouse Challenge Adds NIGHT CLIMBS!

Doreen Lagattuta, Challenge Chair

For the 7th year in a row, the New Jersey Lighthouse Society (NJLHS) will be presenting the New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge, on October 14 & 15. The Society will add a new, original feature to this year’s Challenge—night climbs! As an added bonus, four NJ lighthouses will be open an additional 2 hours from 6pm to 8pm on Saturday night: Sandy Hook, Absecon, Cape May and Tinicum. Visitors will get the opportunity to see the lights in operation and climb the towers for nighttime views of the surrounding skylines. A special “night climb” souvenir will be added and available at all four of these lights to commemorate your visit.

To support the Challenge, NJLHS has received a 2006 Tourism Cooperative Marketing Grant of $8,000 from the New Jersey Office of Travel and Tourism. This grant was awarded for our commitment in promoting regional and state tourism through the NJ Lighthouse Challenge. The award was made possible through matching funds received from the Fred Thies, John Mazza, Harry Megonigal, and Bob Hudspeth Memorial Funds. We thank their families for their generosity in donating these funds to the NJLHS for the Challenge.

We look forward to seeing you at this year’s Challenge! If you have any questions, please contact Doreen Lagattuta, Challenge Chairperson dor0102@monmouth.com or Laura Portée, Challenge Assistant Chairperson mlportee@comcast.net.

THE RECIPE CORNER

Marty Hudspeth

COWBOY STEW

by Dixie Amento

5 lg. potatoes, diced
4 c. salted water
1½ lbs. ground beef
1 can corn, drained
1 can tomato sauce
1 lg. onion, chopped
1 (13-oz) can tomato sauce*
1 can Ro-Tel tomatoes with green chilies
1 (15-oz.) can red kidney beans

Boil potatoes in salted water. Brown onions and meat; drain. Add to cooked potatoes. Add all remaining ingredients. Cook on low heat for about 1 hour. Great winter meal! Serves 8-10.

*This item was left off the recipe on page 26 of the 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.
On Saturday, June 10, 2006 the Sandy Hook Foundation will present Sandy Hook Lighthouse Family Day, a festive event celebrating the opening of the rehabilitated Lighthouse Keeper’s Quarters (1883), the unveiling of the New Jersey Lighthouse Exhibits located in the Keeper’s Quarters, and the commemoration of Sandy Hook Lighthouse Day. The event, to be held from 12:00pm – 4:00pm rain or shine under tents on the grounds of the Sandy Hook Lighthouse in historic Fort Hancock, is free and open to the public. The Lighthouse Keeper’s Quarters is located adjacent to the Sandy Hook Lighthouse, the oldest working lighthouse in the United States. Sandy Hook Lighthouse Day will offer an opportunity for families from all over New Jersey to explore Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook. Parking is free when you alert the ranger at the gate you are there for Lighthouse Day.

Afternoon festivities will begin with a Marine Academy of Science and Technology Color Guard Procession and Pledge of Allegiance, followed by remarks by public officials.

All afternoon, visitors will have a chance to ride through historic Fort Hancock on a restored 1927 GMC Fire Truck, purchased new by the Hollis New Hampshire Fire Department and in service for over 50 years. A fourteen-month restoration project was completed that made the truck completely fire-fighting capable. Of very special interest, a 1938 White Tour Bus, “The Jammer,” will also be on hand for viewing by the public. One of only 500 manufactured by the White Truck Company for the National Park Service, these vehicles were built to fit through the roadways cut through the giant redwood trees of the western national parks. The name “Jammer” was derived from the jamming or meshing of the gears when shifted. The buses had a canvas roof which was rolled back to allow visitors to stand up and view the park through the opening. This particular bus was originally in the Yellowstone Park livery of Yellow and Black. During restoration the bus was converted to match the Glacier National Park colors of red and black. Currently, there are only 26 of the original 500 buses still in service. Both of these vehicles have been restored and are in the collection of the Mulheren Family of Rumson.

Avian Wildlife of northern New Jersey will also present a live Birds of Prey show from 2 – 2:45pm, featuring two hawks, an owl and a vulture. Visitors can come face to face with New Jersey’s native raptors. A wild bird rehabilitation center whose primary goal is to rehabilitate birds and return them to the wild, Avian Wildlife also is licensed to show to the public wild birds that are crippled or otherwise unable to return to their natural habitats and have become acclimated to be around people. Avian Wildlife works with all birds found in New Jersey, from the smallest to the largest.

Live musical entertainment will be provided throughout the afternoon by John and Andy: John O’Neill and Andy McDonagh, two local musicians with enormous talent and broad family appeal. Everyone young and old will love their upbeat and family-oriented style.

Visitors on June 10 can also climb to the top of the Sandy Hook Lighthouse (must be 48” tall to climb). Tours of the Sandy Hook Lighthouse, the oldest working Lighthouse in the United States, will be provided by New Jersey Lighthouse Society Volunteers. Its fixed light is visible for 19 miles. In 1764 the lighthouse stood just 500 feet from the tip of Sandy Hook, but ocean currents have continued to move sand up the coast, extending the tip further out into the harbor. Today the lighthouse now stands about one and one half miles from the northern end of Sandy Hook and offers unparalleled 360° views to those who climb to the top.

Tour the newly restored Lighthouse Keeper’s Quarters and visit the brand new New Jersey Lighthouse Exhibit. Learn about New Jersey’s harbor lights and coastal defense systems through the Sandy Hook Foundation’s brand new interactive exhibits and displays. Visitors can also explore the newly completed educational room, part of the Lighthouse Keeper’s Quarters where many school groups will visit in the coming room, and pay a visit to the gift shop on their way out.

Costumed interpreters will make the day complete with their depiction of how life used to be for the Light Keeper’s who lived in the Sandy Hook Lighthouse Keeper’s Quarters. Call the Sandy Hook Foundation office for more information at 732-291-7733 or visit the Sandy Hook web site at www.sandyhookfoundationnj.org.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ABSECON LIGHT</strong></td>
<td>Daily Tower &amp; House 10-5</td>
<td>(609)449-1360</td>
<td>$5</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> After August, Absecon Lighthouse is open Monday and Thursday – Sunday, 11 – 4pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 15</td>
<td>Donna Elias Art Show 2pm</td>
<td>(609)449-1360</td>
<td>on grounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 15</td>
<td>Garden Party/Wine Tasting 5:30</td>
<td>(609)449-1360</td>
<td>$50</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 17</td>
<td>Happy Hour Cruise 5:30</td>
<td>(609)449-1360</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BARNEGAT LIGHT</strong></td>
<td>Daily Tower and Grounds 10-5</td>
<td>(609)494-2016</td>
<td>$1 to climb</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CAPE MAY LIGHT</strong></td>
<td>Mon - Fri Tower &amp; Visitors Center 10-4</td>
<td>(800)275-4278</td>
<td>$5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sat - Sun Tower &amp; Visitors Center 9-6</td>
<td>(800)275-4278</td>
<td>$5</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/11 &amp; 9/9</td>
<td>Del Bay LH Adventure – 7hrs</td>
<td>(800)275-4278</td>
<td>$15 reserved</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/7 &amp; 8/11</td>
<td>Delaware Route Cruise – 5hrs</td>
<td>(800)275-4278</td>
<td>$75 inc buffet</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/29 &amp; 8/25</td>
<td>Ship John Route Cruise – 5hrs</td>
<td>(800)275-4278</td>
<td>$75 inc buffet</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EAST POINT LIGHT</strong></td>
<td>3rd Sundays Tower &amp; House 1-4</td>
<td>(856)691-5934</td>
<td>$2</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 5</td>
<td>Open House/Artist Day 10-4</td>
<td>(856)691-5934</td>
<td>$2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HEREFORD LIGHT</strong></td>
<td>Daily Thru Oct. House &amp; Grounds 9-5</td>
<td>(609)522-4520</td>
<td>$4</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 10-11</td>
<td>Craft Show/Donna Elias 9-5</td>
<td>(609)522-4520</td>
<td>on the grounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 15-16</td>
<td>Craft Show/Skip Willits 9-5</td>
<td>(609)522-4520</td>
<td>on the grounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 12-13</td>
<td>Craft Show/Kent Edwards 9-5</td>
<td>(609)522-4520</td>
<td>on the grounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 9</td>
<td>Craft Show 9-5</td>
<td>(609)522-4520</td>
<td>on the grounds</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SANDY HOOK LIGHT</strong></td>
<td>Sat &amp; Sun Climb the Tower 12 - 4:30</td>
<td>(732)872-5970</td>
<td>donation</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> Sandy Hook Park is open daily. There is fee for beach parking Memorial – Labor Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 10</td>
<td>Dedication/Family Day* 12-4</td>
<td>(732)872-5970</td>
<td>Free</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Sandy Hook Family Day at Fort Hancock (6/10) is free, inform fee collector at entrance</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SEA GIRT LIGHT</strong></td>
<td>Sundays House &amp; Tower 2-4</td>
<td>(732)974-0514</td>
<td>donation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TUCKERTON LIGHT</strong></td>
<td>Daily Seaport Events 10-5</td>
<td>(609)296-8868</td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TWIN LIGHTS</strong></td>
<td>Daily Tower &amp; Museum 10-5</td>
<td>(732)872-1814</td>
<td>donation</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> After Labor Day, hours are Wed – Sun 10 – 4:30pm</td>
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</table>
Once again, the members’ annual photo contest was an outstanding example of fine photography with a huge variety of beautiful lighthouses. Thank you all for participating. Also, thank you to the people who volunteered to help: Barbara Pepe, Judy Boucher, Pat and Ron Bandock, and my husband Michael.

THE WINNERS WERE:

**NEW JERSEY LIGHTHOUSES**
1st Place, Christine Cardaci–East Point
2nd Place, John M. Ozment
3rd Place, Greg DiNapoli
Honorable Mention, Gloria Rosner–Sandy Hook Yesterday

**LIGHTHOUSES IN AUTUMN**
1st Place, Bill Volpe-East Point
2nd Place, Nancy Sproat–Split Rock
3rd Place, Lucinda Holsinger–Path to the Light
Honorable Mentions, Bob Neild–A Fine Fall Day/Angles Gate, CA. & Florence Neild–Autumn Fog/Point Vicente

**INTERNATIONAL**
1st Place, John M. Ozment-East Quoddy Head
2nd Place, Howard Wright-Warnemunde at Sunset
3rd Place, Ann Fahringer

The next annual photo contest is slated to be held at the March 2007 meeting. The Winner’s Circle will stay the same, along with most of the other categories, which are:

1. International Lighthouses;
2. National Lighthouses;
3. New Jersey Lighthouses; and

Enjoy your summer, take lots of pictures, and have fun. Any questions, I can be reached at: cindymitzen@patmedia.net
PHOTO CONTEST 2006

Cindy Mitzen

1st Place
Lighthouses in Autumn
East Point
Bill Volpe

1st Place
Winner’s Circle
Roanoke River
Mike Boucher

1st Place
International Lighthouses
East Quoddy Head
John Ozment

2nd Place
National Lighthouses
Bodie Island
Christine Cardaci

Honorable Mention
New Jersey Lighthouses
Sandy Hook Yesterday
Gloria Rosner

1st Place
Lighthouses of New Jersey
East Point
Christine Cardaci

2nd Place
Lighthouses in Autumn
Split Rock
Nancy Sproat

Honorable Mention
National Lighthouses
Relighting of Ft. Wadsworth
Judy Boucher

2nd Place
International Lighthouses
Warnemunde at Sunset
Howard Wright
Items Needed for Sandy Hook Lighthouse Keeper’s Quarters...  
Betsy Barrett
(This letter has been edited from original)

My name is Betsy Barrett. I am the Project Chair for the renovations of the Sandy Hook Lighthouse Keeper’s Quarters and I am also a past president of the Sandy Hook Foundation. Recently, Mike Boucher and I were discussing “things” needed for the LHKQ’s, specifically some furnishings for the kitchen and bedrooms. He asked that I come up with a list of items that are needed and maybe this list would be printed in your newsletter.

We are requesting new items because it would be very hard to tell someone their “slightly” used item was a bit more used than we would like...So, here are some thoughts!

**KITCHEN**—dishware for 10; glassware including wine, beer, juice; serving utensils such as large serving spoons & forks; serving bowls (spaghetti), bakeware from cookie sheets to glass lasagna pans; pots & pans; set of stirring utensils such as wooden spoons, spoons with holes, spatulas; silverware for 12; sharp knives/knife block; coffee pot; toaster; cork screw; can opener & bottle opener; tongs; colander; Sadly, the space is so very limited we have no drawers. Everything will need to go into upper cabinets or the 4 foot wide but only 10” deep “pantry” for storage; (We have a new microwave that someone gifted us.) 4’ round, oak table with chairs; and also a stainless steel rolling cart to hold it.)

His web site has so much information on lighthouses—it’s hard to pick where to start. When you enter the site, you have several options. The first goes directly to the “See Lighthouses in” window to pick a state to visit. Each state with lighthouses is listed with a page for every lighthouse. Just click on the lighthouse you are interested in, and up comes a wealth of information, along with several photos of the lighthouse. Each lighthouse listing has a description and history of the lighthouse with links to other photos or web sites dealing with that lighthouse. The next section is the location of the lighthouse in general terms, Latitude and Longitude and a link to Google Maps and Mapquest (more about these later) followed by travel instructions on getting to the lighthouse as well as the times of operation. The section after that is “Notes from the Friends” telling of their observations of their visit to the lighthouse. They also have a link to find the closest hotel in the area. A few of the more remote sites do not have photos yet, but have all the other info listed above.

There are windows at the bottom of each page that you can click on to get a state map showing the location of the lighthouse in relation to the other light-houses in that state. You can also click on “Lights by Map” and it will take you to that web page. The other buttons at the bottom include “The History,” “The Friends,” “Lighthouse Links,” “Books of Light,” and “Lighthouse Posters.”

The best part of this site for me is the Latitude and Longitude section. Using Microsoft Street & Trips program, I located every lighthouse in the country. By using the “Find” feature of Streets & Trips and typing in the Latitude and Longitude coordinates, the program will place a thumb tack at the exact spot for the lighthouse. Once the thumb tack is in, it then can be changed to a lighthouse icon and labeled with its name. Clicking on a starting point and the lighthouse in the “Direction” section will give you directions to the lighthouse that are very accurate.

Another great feature is the Google Maps button for each lighthouse. Clicking on this will bring an aerial (satellite) view of the area. You can get a close-up view of most of the lighthouses by clicking the magnification button and you will see the lighthouse and the shadows being cast by it. Each Google map has two features within the site, one is the area view and the other is an actual road map that can be printed out with all the streets labeled (if you don’t have a lap top to take along with you on your lighthouse trip).

**BEDROOMS**—trundle bed, all sheets, mattress pad, pillows; 4 or 5 washable blankets; queen-sized bed with its sheets, pillows; (we have a new double bed with all of its stuff); rugs—preferably hooked rugs, all sizes; dressers; preferably oak and 2, no bigger than 3’ wide; lamps, small; standing lamps; night tables—no larger than 12” square; furnishings for the suite’s extra room—light couch, tables, lamps, small TV, telephone; someone to figure out 4 window treatments in the 3 different bedrooms.

**BATHROOMS**—towels
**SUPPORT THE GOALS OF YOUR LIGHTHOUSE SOCIETY**

A SAMPLE OF SOME OF THE ITEMS FOR SALE

**NJLHS T-Shirt**
Hanes Beefy Tee’s
S-XL $15.00, 2X $17.00, 3X $19.00
S/H $3.00 ea. add. shirt $1.50

**LIGHTHOUSE MAPS**
United States $9.00 & S/H $3.50
Massachusetts $5.00 each & S/H $2.50 each
Southeast U. S. $5.00 each & S/H $2.50 each
Florida $5.00 each & S/H $2.50 each

**Lighthouse & Lightships of America**
Book $18.00 & S/H $3.00

**Weathering the Storms**
signed by Terry Webb
$13.00 & S/H $4.00 ($1.50 each add. book)

**My Lighthouse Journal**
$17.00 & S/H $4.00 ($1.50 each add. book)

**NJLHS Patch**
$4.00 & S/H $1.00

**NJLH Pin**
$3.00
S/H $1.00 ($1.75 for 2-5 pins)

**NJLHS License Plate Holder**
$4.00 & S/H $1.00

**NJLH Bookmarks**
$2.50 ea. & S/H $.39¢

**NJLHS Deluxe Expandable Attache Bag**
approx. 18” x 14”, Black with Society logo embroidered on flap $37.00 & S/H $5.00

**OLD BAGS ON SALE**
Small $5.00 & S/H $3.00
Large $10.00 & S/H $4.00

**NJLHS License Plate Holder**
$4.00 & S/H $1.00

**NJLH Pin**
$3.00
S/H $1.00 ($1.75 for 2-5 pins)

**Weathering the Storms**
signed by Terry Webb
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**OLD BAGS ON SALE**
Small $5.00 & S/H $3.00
Large $10.00 & S/H $4.00

**80 Piece Puzzle**
Available: Sandy Hook, Absecon, Barnegat & Twin Lights $5.00 ea. & S/H $2.00

**NJLHS ORDER FORM**

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Visit the New Jersey Lighthouse Society web site to see many other items for sale www.njlhs.org

**Email:** njlhsways_means@verizon.net

**Phone:** 609-877-1393

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

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**The Beam**
Preserving NJLHS’s Documentary Heritage
Barbara Pepe, NJLHS Archivist

According to the New Jersey Lighthouse Society constitution and by-laws, one of our goals is to “acquire and preserve lighthouse lore and artifacts.” Another is to “establish archives/library with books, articles, photographs, postcards and artifacts obtained by the Society.” New Jersey lighthouse artifacts and documents are an integral part of the Society’s history. They help to tell the story of who we are. They are a record of what our goals are, what we’ve accomplished as an organization, where we’ve been, and where we’re going.

In 2002, when I first took on the role of NJLHS Archivist, I found the Society’s archival collection stored in an upper room at Twin Lights in no apparent order. Since one of my responsibilities is to preserve these precious documents as records of and for the NJLHS, I started out on a mission to organize the documents. So, with the help of the Society’s Historian, Jack Slavin, the archival collection was sorted out and reorganized into two filing cabinets and some boxes. I worked on a list of categories and a retention schedule for our inventory. Since then, there have been additions to the collection, mostly organizational documents, such as meeting minutes and financial records. But there is so much more that needs to be done.

In the coming year, I hope to create an inventory that will allow us to track the artifacts and documents we have stored in the archives. Sometime in the future, the membership, and eventually the public, will have access to these records. Until then, I’ll keep working on preserving the Society’s documentary history.

2006 AT SANDY HOOK
Al Smith

Sandy Hook Keeper’s House Opens!

AT LONG LAST…on June 10th at 1:00pm, the Sandy Hook Foundation and the National Park Service will host the rededication of the Keeper’s House! The exhibits will be ready for viewing and all involved have promised a fun-filled day of activities for visitors of all ages. Won’t you join us for this long awaited event?

Sandy Hook Reunion

October 7, 2006 will mark a milestone—

The Beam
IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, CHECK THE WEB SITE: (www.NJLHS.org) OR THE SOCIETY PHONE LINE: (856) 546-0514

SUMMER MEETING: Saturday, June 24, 2006
PLACE: Fort Wadsworth, Staten Island, NY
ITINERARY:
10 to 11 a.m. Hospitality served at the tent behind the Carriage House
11:00 a.m. Greeting and social interaction with members and guests followed by introduction of Steve Salgo, National Park Ranger and the interpreter
11:15 a.m. Meeting called to order
12:15 p.m. Break for lunch. Lunch will be available at the Carriage House. (Orders for lunch can be placed at the Hospitality Table from 10 to 11 a.m.)
1:00 p.m. Presentation by Steve Salgo at the Fort Wadsworth Visitors Center
2:00 p.m. Tours of Battery Weed and the Fort Wadsworth Lighthouse

(If you are bringing goodies for hospitality please notify Martha Brown at (609) 877-0134. Also remember that, 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.)

DIRECTIONS FROM NEW JERSEY AND POINTS NORTH & WEST: New Jersey Turnpike to the Goethals Bridge and pay a $6.00 toll. This is the beginning of the Staten Island Expressway east (toward Brooklyn & Verrazano Bridge). Take the LAST EXIT (Exit 15, Lilly Pond Ave.) BEFORE the toll plaza & bridge. At the light, make a left and turn on to Lilly Pond Avenue. Go under the S. I. Expressway. Follow Lilly Pond Avenue to the right and it becomes School Road. At the light, make a right on Bay Street. The entrance to Fort Wadsworth is straight ahead. Depending on security concerns, you might have to show your ID to the guard.

DIRECTIONS FROM NORTH-EAST AND EAST: MUST USE THE LOWER LEVEL of the Verrazano Bridge and stay in the right lane. Pay the $9.00 toll and take the Hylan Blvd. exit (Exit 15, not Bay Street). At the top of the ramp, make a left at the first traffic light onto Fingerboard Road and go over the S. I. Expressway. At the next light, make another left onto Narrows Road South and stay to the right; follow it down to Lilly Pond Avenue. Go left on Lilly Pond Avenue and follow the directions above. Phone Number for Fort Wadsworth: (718) 354-4500

Spring Meeting Recap:
What a wonderful, busy day! The Surf City Fire Station was perfect for a NJLHS meeting. After introducing Alex Butrim, Visitor Service Assistant of Barnegat Lighthouse State Park, and Karen Larson, President of the Barnegat Light Historical Society, the meeting moved along quickly. A video program, produced by Matt Laverty, was presented by Society President, Tom Laverty. It was followed by Bill Volpe introducing our honored guests and giving them their Service Awards. Mary Beth Doherty presented the new staff of The Bean and introduced the Webmaster, Howard Wright. During the lunch break, Service Award honorees were invited to visit the Barnegat Light Interpretive Center, while the membership remained in the Fire Station for the Photo Contest. Cindy Mitzen and a group of volunteers distributed ballots for the Photo Contest and the membership voted on a wonderful selection of photos. When all the ballots were cast, they were tallied and awards were presented to the winners.

Fall Meeting:
This meeting will be in the area of the East Point Lighthouse. The exact location will appear in the next issue of The Beam. Information on overnight accommodations and other points of interest in the area will be available at the June meeting.

Winter Meeting:
This meeting will be in Cape May at the West Cape May Fire Hall. Plans for visiting the Lighthouse and Holiday Social will be published in The Beam and on the web site at a later time.
A Question of Preservation
Brett Franks, Preservation Chair

I had an uncle who expounded the virtue of drink. He put away a pint of whiskey per day for many years. He said he was “preserving himself”—from the inside out! Pickled maybe, but preserved? My Granny preserved crabapples for years, trying to pass them off as jelly. Which makes the point that just because you can preserve something doesn’t always mean you should preserve something.

But what exactly is preservation? Does this term simply refer to the practice of keeping old things of value to our history available? If that’s true, my wife’s doing a great job of preserving me.

One of the cornerstones of the NJLHS, and something I find myself in a leadership role regarding, is the promotion of preservation. But exactly what does that mean to the membership? And how do you promote something when you’re not sure everyone understands what is involved? I suppose we should start by laying groundwork for understanding—and begin with a realization of the factors that influence what the Society chooses as worthwhile preservation efforts.

Is the meaning of preservation as simple as saving old buildings? Not completely! Many buildings have historical (and architectural) relevance. However, many of these structures are not preserved due to a high cost for repairs or a lack of community concern. With this in mind, consider: how do we relate historic value to economic value, and economic value to society’s desires? Can these factors create a simple formula? One that will answer which things are worth our efforts? Possibly, in broad terms a politician might appreciate? The product of concern multiplied by historic value, divided by cost.

Logically this way of thinking should work. We can’t change historic value, but we can manipulate the other two factors. Therefore, our preservation concerns hinge on two factors: human effort and available funds. Before reading any further, you can relax and take your hand off your wallet. I’m not looking for money this time (but if you have an abundance you want to be rid of...think of me). I’m writing this to gain some reaction from our members...that human effort piece. Let me give you two candidates for you’re consideration. (Additional information and contact data is listed on the Preservation page of the Society’s web site.)

Conover Beacon stands on the shore of Raritan Bay, most days. On some days, it actually stands in Raritan Bay. Conover is cast iron, bottom to top. It has already rusted away at the foundation line and is in serious disrepair. It doesn’t look like much at the moment, and isn’t very grand. The history of this light is only familiar to the most ardent of lighthouse lovers. Should we be concerned?

Conover in Leonardo at the foot of N. Leonard Avenue

Ludlum Beach Lighthouse stands in Sea Isle City. The problem is that it doesn’t look like a lighthouse! The tower and light were removed years ago. Now the owner is tired of caring for a 120-year-old building. So either he tears it down, or a few dedicated people convince the town to salvage the lighthouse. The structure is the original, but without the tower is it worth saving?

Ludlum Beach Lighthouse, Photo From the Sea Isle City Historic Society and the Collection of Phillip Bur

We already have eleven other land-based lights in the state vying for our attention. Are these two additions worth preservation efforts? Considering the costs, current interest and states of each, the politicians’ answer is no. But we can change that according to our formula. We can increase concern. So what should we do? Better yet, what CAN we do?

Ludlum Beach is on a doomsday timeline lasting only until the end of summer. Right now a few individuals are pulling together to try to get one of the local governments interested in saving the lighthouse. They need backing, including grants, plans, studies and probably a miracle or two. They need a partner with clout! Is NJLHS that partner? Maybe... Remember, though, that you can help make this happen. Drop a line to Sea Isle City, write to the editor of your paper, and see if your company is looking for a tax write-off or has a matching grant program. There are more ways to help lighthouses by taking twenty minutes at your computer drafting a letter than you would think possible.

The one factor I skipped is how to dis-
COMMUNITY OUTREACH 2006
Yvonne Miller

Thanks so much to the many volunteers who have signed up for the Community Outreach programs scheduled for this year. The dates for events where volunteers are still needed are listed below. To volunteer, call Yvonne Miller at (609) 654-2585 or email her at ymm615@hotmail.com

SPOTLIGHT ON NEW JERSEY
June 26
Molly Pitcher Service Center N J Turnpike bet. exits 8A & 8, Southbound, Cranberry, N.J.
(D. Whelan)

EAST POINT OPEN HOUSE
August 5
Heislerville, NJ; 9:30am to 4pm
(A. Albence, J. Gale, M. Hudspeth, S. Hines, D. Amento & B/L Gleason)

CAPE MAY COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM CLAMBAKE
August 19
4-H Fairgrounds, Rt.50, south of Egg Harbor, NJ; 4-7pm
(A. Albence, D. Megonigal, Y. Miller, D. Amento & S. Hines)

TUCKERTON DECOY AND BAYMEN’S FESTIVAL
September 23 & 24
Tuckerton, NJ
Volunteers are needed for this event. It is same weekend as the Lake Champlain trip. This is a great opportunity to disseminate information on the Challenge and the Society, and it is also a good moneymaker for Ways & Means.
(A. Albence and J. Gale volunteered but they need help or we will have to cancel this one.)

COASTAL DAYS
October 7
Barnegat Light, NJ; 11am to 4pm NJ Marine Consortium Exhibit
(A. Albence, M.C. Kennedy & D. Amento)

COASTAL DAYS
October 8
Cape May, NJ; 11am to 4pm NJ Marine Consortium Exhibit
(Y. Miller, D. Megonigal, D. Amento & A. Albence)

After many changing weather forecasts during the week before our trip, and two of the buses getting lost on the way (through we did get to see Broadway in New York), we all finally arrived at the LITTLE RED LIGHTHOUSE on a clear, beautiful day—May 13, 2006. The 72 people who participated feasted on a great lunch provided by Renard Petronzio, and were greeted at the lighthouse by two very knowledgeable people from the Park Service. Most of the people in attendance climbed to the top of the lighthouse and most everyone was glad that we did not have to walk down and walk back up that path from 155th Street. An added attraction was the work being done on the bridge and the elevators running up and down the outside of the scaffolding. Marion Hudspeth sold out of the all the LITTLE RED LIGHTHOUSE books that she had purchased for the trip. If anyone still wants one, please contact her. Paul Sobotor, a member of the New Jersey Lighthouse Society, was the lucky winner of the 50/50 that we ran and went away over $90 richer. It was nice to see different members of the Society on the trip and it seemed like everyone had a good time. See you on the next trip.
LAKE CHAMPLAIN’S BEACON COMES HOME

Article & Photos by Bill Schneider

Late morning on an overcast Saturday in June, I arrive at the Champlain, NY, home of Lockwood “Lucky” Clark and his son Rob. The Clarks are the proud owners of two Vermont lighthouses: Isle LaMotte and Windmill Point. Adjacent to their house sits a small machine shop wherein they fashioned a replacement pedestal for the beacon at Isle LaMotte. After crossing the bridge at Rouses Point, NY, I reach Windmill Point light by driving along the lake along the Clarks’ right of way—land that would otherwise appear to be their neighbor’s back yards!

Windmill Point is a forty foot tower of blue limestone. First lit in 1858, the light was transferred to a skeleton tower on the property in 1931. Lucky purchased the lighthouse in 1963 after visiting the site with his wife. The seller was his future brother-in-law, Emil Bayer.

Upon entering the attached keeper’s house I notice that it is not electrified but, rather, heated by propane. Proceeding through an alcove, Rob and I climb a circular staircase—a unique feature given that the steps are hewn entirely out of granite. After returning outside Lucky tells me his one regret was not buying the surrounding land when it could have been acquired cheaply. His property is now somewhat isolated at the end of the point, hemmed in by new lakefront homes.

Isle LaMotte Lighthouse is situated on its namesake island several miles to the south of Windmill. It came online in 1881, and the light was later placed in a skeleton tower in 1933. The light was purchased by Lucky’s father in 1949 and inherited by Lucky and his sister, Erika Bayer, who currently lives in the keeper’s house. The 25 foot cast iron tower is a salmon color. Rob attributes this hue to a reaction of the paint with iron, not due to external weathering. The family is researching methods to seal the iron so that it can be repainted and not fade. Rob and I climb two metal ladders to reach another plastic lens and the replacement pedestal. After exiting the tower I walk to the other end of the property and observe Windmill Point through binoculars. The light is easy to spot as its orange cap stands out clearly against the tree line. Lucky informs me he did not miss the chance this time to buy significant acreage around the lighthouse.

In a happy confluence of interests, the Coast Guard approached the Clarks in 2001 about moving the beacons back to their original sites. The Coast Guard paid for the painting of the structures, installation of new windows, cutting down trees—and provided the optics, solar panels and batteries. Relighting both towers cost $10,000 whereas the cost to rehab or to replace the steel towers would cost close to $100,000. Windmill Point was relit National Lighthouse Day, August 7, 2002, and Isle LaMotte was relit on October 3, 2002.

The 50-foot Cumberland Head Light was rebuilt in 1867 on a different site than the original 1838 light in order to heighten visibility. Local blue limestone was again used in the construction. Also, the original tower’s stone was reused for the interior of the new tower. In 1934 it was vacated and an acetylene light was placed on a nearby skeleton tower. In April 2003, the light was returned to the limestone tower.

Owner Matt Spiegel informed me that in 1946 several individuals banded together to win the auction for the property. The land was then subdivided with Rose and Joseph Church buying the lightstation parcel for about $11,000 in 1950. The Spiegels bought the property in 1998. I was able to observe the replacement of the lantern room glass while on site.

I returned to the region the following June to visit the lights on the New York side of the lake, beginning with Crown Point at the southernmost tip. A 55 foot gray limestone tower was erected in 1858 and, soon after, a Cape Cod keeper’s cottage was added. In 1910 New York and Vermont officials decided to name the light in honor of Samuel de Champlain—300 years after he “discovered” the lake. The Champlain Memorial Lighthouse was dedicated May 3, 1912. Total construction cost was $50,000.

The tower, which became one foot out of plumb, was encircled by eight Doric columns to shore up the structure. Decorative bronze and stone details complement the structure. In 1926 the Champlain Memorial Bridge to Chimney Point, VT was opened. Subsequently the station was decommissioned, the property conveyed to NY State and the dwelling demolished. The tower may be climbed, but be wary of the narrow passage!

The Barber Point Lighthouse com-
menced operation in 1873 with a fifth order Fresnel. The 36 foot tower is fashioned of blue limestone—as are many others on the lake. A steel skeleton tower went into service in 1935, allowing the property to be sold the following year. It has been resold several times, remaining a private residence. Since trees surround much of the house, the clearest view and photo opportunity is from the public road, Barber Lane.

The initial Split Rock Lighthouse was built by Peter Comstock in 1838 for a cost of $3,225. Comstock is also credited with building the original edifice at Cumberland Head in 1836. A fourth order Fresnel, installed in 1857, was transferred to the extant 39 foot blue limestone tower completed in 1867. Connecting keeper quarters were replaced in 1874 and again in the late 1890’s. The land and buildings were sold in 1931 for $2,700.

Gary Heurich, president of an historic family-owned brewery in Washington, DC now uses the house as a vacation retreat. I traversed the washboard dirt road (privately maintained) for over a mile until reaching the lighthouse. The light was purchased by Gary’s father bought in 1959. In November 1993, Gary sold 1,800 acres to the preservation group Open Space Institute (OSI). The lands sold included two miles of shoreline abutting Split Rock Mountain. OSI subsequently transferred the land to New York State the following year. Terms of the sale included granting Gary a conservation easement on the remainder of his property. He and his fellow Adirondack council members lobbied the Coast Guard to transfer the light back to the stone tower he owns. This transfer took place on March 19, 2003.

I met Linda and Roger Harwood at their home adjacent to the Peru boat launch. For almost ten years they have been the driving force behind restoring the Valcour Island Lighthouse. After beaching in a cove, we walk several minutes up a winding path before seeing the lighthouse through the trees. Entering the clearing, I observed a perimeter of stone where a wooden oil shed stood until its collapse in 2003.

Orren Shipman purchased the northern half of Valcour Island in 1870 for $6,500 and promptly sold the land to two subsequent owners. The federal government undertook an extensive (and expensive) process to gain clear title to the property by 1871. Bluff Point, as the light is also known, was completed in 1874 and is the last original beacon on Lake Champlain. To this day the light is not electrified. Like its sister, Barber Point, it is built in the Second Empire Style and features a mansard roof and dormers. The light was decommissioned in 1930 and the Fifth order Fresnel lens was removed. The light was transferred to a skeleton tower in 1930. On April 22, 1932 the dwelling was sold by sealed bid for $800 with the Federal government granted a right of way to the steel tower. Abe Raboff purchased the property in 1954. He sold it to New York State in 1986 after securing an easement for the lighthouse. During several years of negotiations the state signaled an intent to raze the dwelling. The title for the property was then transferred to the Clinton County Historical Association. The lighthouse received further protection via its receipt of National Historic Landmark status on August 26, 1993.

Upon entering the house one observed a piece of Lexan covering an area of original lath and plaster. Roger notes that the new wood floor was installed as a result of damage to the original floor caused by a downspout which discharged water into the house, rotting the old floor from below. Even in the dead of winter the tower door must be kept open to provide ventilation. Linda recounted to me the 50 hours of labor to strip the floor by volunteer Heather Finn. Unlike other restoration sites, scarce monies will not be expended for antique furnishings. Rooms, instead, will be dedicated to recounting local history. Linda did not indicate whether she foresees an exhibit room for the 1874 Dawn Valcour Society free love camp.

Roger recounted that an objection to returning the light to the house is that some local officials consider the tower historically significant in its current state. (Update: In November 2004 Linda reports the exhibit rooms are open, the light is in the house, and she and Roger see it shining from their dining room). Point AuRoche, the northernmost NY light, was activated in 1858 like its sisters at Windmill and Crown Points. In 1934 the Lighthouse Bureau opened the winning bid of $2,100 for 10.4 acres of land surrounding the tower (but excluding the structure itself). The tower is set upon on a fifty foot square parcel at the shoreline. The light was later automated and remains the sole lighthouse not replaced by a steel tower. The tower was vacated in 1989 and the sixth order Fresnel removed. A replacement light was placed on the La Roche Reef buoy. The GSA conveyed the tower to the adjoining plot containing the keeper’s house. The tower is difficult to locate hidden between two houses and many tall trees. In addition, the owner is not receptive to visitors, but it never hurts to chat up the neighbors. In the front yard next door to the tower I met Andre Vadeboncoeur, who allowed me into his back yard for a close-up view. (Thank you, Andre!) Sadly the tower is in great need of repair.
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