From The Editor’s Desk

It is hard to believe that I’m starting my fifth year of putting The Beam together. Boy time sure does travel fast when you’re having fun. This year The Beam has been cut to 12 pages to save some money. For this issue I received a host of stories from many different people on a wide variety of subjects. So many, that I had plenty of stories from which to pick. All the stories not in this issue will appear in future issues. Thank You! In this issue we have stories on Narragansett Bay, Makilteo Lighthouse, The Great Lakes Bus tour of last year, a real Long Island Lighthouse Challenge – fog, and Absecon Lighthouse Facts along with the rest of usual columns. We have a new puzzle, “Lighthouse Suduko” from John Bishop. I hope everybody has their photos ready for this year’s photo contest. Good Luck to everyone who enters the contest. So sit back and enjoy this issue, spring is just around the corner and summer also isn’t too far off.

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mary Beth Doherty

Happy New Year!

Wow…one year of my term has gone by already! What a learning experience it was, and I look forward to finding out what this new year brings.

Last year was what I’ll call a “transition year”. It was a year of change within the Society, and I’m hoping that we’ve worked out the kinks to make 2010 an easier year for us all around.

According to Merriam-Webster, change means: “to make different in some particular way; to give a different position, course or direction to; to make a shift from one to another; to become different.”

For some people change is good. They welcome it; they look forward to it--they make it happen. For others, change is scary. They try to resist it and they avoid it at all costs!

We (NJLHS) have to acknowledge that after 20 years things cannot remain the same. Technology has advanced, founding members are no longer with us, and members who’ve held positions for a long time are no longer available to do so. Basically, the Society (and the membership) has to accept the fact that change is inevitable.

In the coming year there will be things that will be done differently—that doesn’t mean they’ll be done “wrong”…just different. I’d like to believe that instead of criticism there will be open minds and some understanding. We (those of us who are volunteering time to NJLHS) are trying, we are learning—and we need your support to make it all work.

With that said, going forward into 2010 you will see new names and faces of those who have volunteered to fill the positions that became vacant in 2009. I’d like to publicly thank them all for stepping forward—for accepting the challenges that lay ahead of them, for making the positions “theirs”, and for being a part of NJLHS change. To those volunteers who are remaining in your roles, THANK YOU for your continued efforts.

I hope you join me and embrace all the change. I look forward to working with you all this year!

2010 TRIPS IN PROGRESS

Apryl Roach

MAY

May 22, 2010
Delaware Bay Boat Trip

JULY

Date to be determined
Long Island Sound - American Princess Cruise

AUGUST

August 7, – 8, 2010
Overnight package Hilton Garden Inn, Norwalk, CT, Sheffield Island Lighthouse Lover’s Get-a-Way & Clambake

OCTOBER

October 23, - 31, 2010
Southeastern Coast Lighthouse Tour: Georgia, South & North Carolina

Please visit our website at www.njlhs.org for updates and details as they become available. Send all inquiries to trips@njlhs.org
The morning of Wednesday, July 22 last was bright and clear in Newport, Rhode Island. This was a pleasant surprise since Monday was mostly gloomy and Tuesday was absolutely dreadful.

Two days earlier, I had picked up a brochure in Groton, CT advertising a Lighthouse Cruise and Newport Harbor tour, sailing out of Quonset, RI. I hadn’t been aware of this when I planned my vacation, but the chance to see waterside views of ten lighthouses, including a few not visible from land, was not to be passed up. So at 1:30 that afternoon, I found myself lined up to get on the Millennium Ferry.

The main business of this boat, which seats nearly 400, is to make fast runs to Martha’s Vineyard. But during the summer, on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, this afternoon cruise takes place.

It is fairly easy to see why Narragansett Bay needed so many lights: it is full of islands, large and small. The largest is Conanicut Island, which is home to the village of Jamestown, and which separates the bay into its west and east passages. There are several smaller islands, and a number of rocks and shoals that made the Bay a hazardous place for sailing ships in the days before GPS.

At 2:00 p.m. we shoved off and start down the western passage of the bay. Our narrator is Mr. Arthur Strauss, a local historian and folklorist. Unfortunately, the boat’s public address system is not up to the roar of the twin engines when the captain opens them up—at least not for those of us enjoying the weather outside the cabin.

Our first stop is Poplar Point Light in the village of Wickford. Built in 1831, it is one of only five pre-1850 lights integral with the keeper’s house still standing in the United States. (Eastpoint is one of the others.) Its relatively short life as an active aid ended in 1882, and it has been in private hands ever since. The keeper’s house has been added on to several times, so that today it is very nearly a mansion. It is now part of a Golf and Country Club.

The Plum Beach Lighthouse sits in the shadow of the Jamestown Bridge, which takes traffic from the mainland to Conanicut Island. This little s p a r k - plug-style light with a cast iron c a i s s o n foundation, several hundred yards off the western shore of the bay, marks a dangerous shoal. Its name comes from a tiny resort town on the mainland a little south of the light. It was built in 1899, and operated until 1941, when the first Jamestown Bridge was built. Preservation efforts began in 1988 when a private developer proposed moving it to a condominium in Massachusetts. It has since been thoroughly restored and was relit in 2003.

Dutch Island lies a b o u t h a l f w a y b e t w e e n Conanicut Island and the mainland. Mostly a wildlife refuge today, it has been a military outpost for much of its history. On a rocky spit of land at its southern end stands the Dutch Island Lighthouse. The first tower, built in 1826, did not withstand the elements very well. In 1856 it was replaced with the square, 42 foot brick tower which stands today. Deactivated in 1972, it was leased to a private foundation in 2000. Major restorations were completed in 2007.

The first Beavertail Lighthouse was built in 1749, making it the third to be built in what is the United States. It lasted over a century, until it was replaced by the square 52 foot granite block tower seen today. It was automated in 1872. Like most of the lights around the bay, it is now in the hands of a private foundation, although it lies in a state park. Major renovations have been ongoing since 2007; the scaffolding around the tower is evident in my photograph.

As the boat turns slightly northeast, entering the east passage of the bay, the water suddenly becomes calmer. We are now heading for the town of Newport. Our first stop is Castle Hill Lighthouse, situated at the westernmost point in the town.

This 1890 light, just 34 feet tall is built directly into the cliff face. Its scenic waterfront property, on Newport’s Ocean Drive,
Continued from Page 3

is shared with the Castle Hill Inn. This ornate Victorian mansion was once the home of the noted nineteenth century naturalist, Louis Agassiz.

The boat now makes a turn into Newport Harbor. During the summer, the harbor is filled with yachts. While not quite as old as Providence, Newport has been an important port city for more than three centuries.

We soon make our way, very slowly, to Lime Rock Light House, or, as it is more recently known, Ida Lewis Light-house. This light’s history could make a sizeable article in itself. Lime Rock was an obstacle two hundred yards into Newport Harbor. A small stone lighthouse was erected there in 1854, the brick and granite keeper’s house in 1856. In this case, though, the light is not so interesting as the remarkable lady who served as its keeper for 54 years.

Hosea Lewis was the first keeper of this light; he became an invalid in 1857 and his then 16 year old daughter became the de facto keeper until 1879, when she was appointed the official keeper. She kept this title until her death in 1911 at the age of 70. She is credited with at least 17 lifesaving incidents and became the first woman to win the Carnegie Award for heroism. The light was deactivated in 1927, and the property bought by the yacht club named for the late keeper. A boardwalk connected the rock to the mainland, and the shoreline was bulkheaded to create a marina.

Our next stop is Goat Island, less than a mile away as the crow flies, but a 30 minute sail, picking our way among the million dollar yachts. Actually, our view of the light is blocked by the causeway that joins the island to Newport. Originally built in 1823 (the first in Newport waters) it was rebuilt in 1842 on an offshore dike. In the 1970’s, the area between the dike and the island was filled, and the property bought for a hotel. Unfortunately, our course towards Rose Island did not give us a good waterside view of Goat Island.

Rose Island sits about midstream in the east passage of the bay. It was built in 1869, a wood frame structure. It lasted exactly a century, until the construction of the Jamestown-Newport Bridge (now the Claiborne Pell Bridge) just to the north, rendered it obsolete, and it was deactivated. Today, it is owned by the City of Newport, and it may be rented for small conferences or social gatherings.

It’s a clear run, at top speed, to our last light, Conanicut Island. This Victorian style wood frame structure, with its light at 47 feet, was built in 1886 and deactivated in 1933. Originally white, it is now a bright red. A private residence today, its gallery and optic have disappeared. One of its residents, though, was standing on his third story roof, and waved as we passed by.

A short sail brings us back to Quonset, where we berth at just a bit after 4:00 p.m. As we disembark we pass a long line of passengers waiting for the evening trip to Martha’s Vineyard.

I’d recommend this tour to all of my fellow lighthouse aficionados. Quonset is easily accessible from both Providence and Newport. The schedule is available at rhodeislandbaycruises.com.

For the historical information in this article, I must recognize the Lighthouse Friends at lighthousefriends.com for all of the lighthouses except Whale Rock; and for that one, http://lighthouse.cc, developed and copyrighted by Jeremy D’Entremont.

NEW JERSEY HISTORICAL COMMISSION 2009 “AWARD OF RECOGNITION”

The New Jersey Historical Commission’s 2009 “Award of Recognition” was presented to The Twin Lights Historical Society at the Commission’s conference on November 21, 2009. The conference was titled “New Jersey and the Bill of Rights”, commemorating the 220th anniversary of our state’s ratification of the Bill of Rights, the first state to do so.

The Twin Lights Historical Society received its award for its role in preserving and restoring the Twin Lights of the Navesink Highlands, formerly known as the Navesink Light Attendants’ Station. The Society was formed over 50 years ago to assist the “Twin Lights Commission” with establishing the historical site as a public park and as a museum dedicated to maritime history. Today the Society continues to be active working closely with the NJDEP Division of Parks and Forestry. The Twin Lights Historical Society serves 100,000 visitors each year and maintains year-round visiting hours with free admission. The Society features three ongoing exhibitions, is responsible for the care of the archival and artifact collections, and conducts the Millicent Mercer Johnsen Lecture Series.

A THANK YOU

Dear Mary Beth,

I’d like to thank you for sending my new membership card for NJLHS.

You may be interested to know that my mother bought the membership to thank me for helping her complete the recent Lighthouse Challenge in October. We tried it last year for the first time and couldn’t get to the range lights within the time limit, so only made 9 lighthouses. This year was our second attempt and though the weather was another NorEaster, we completed the challenge by visiting all 11 lights and finished at East Point Light, her favorite. Our strategy worked as we timed our arrival at low tide so we could get all the way to the lighthouse. High tides that weekend blocked the access road.

My mom’s name is Anna Scheaffer, she’s 90 years young, from Brigantine, NJ.

I’m Chuck from Mays Landing, NJ, 55 and quite proud she managed the long drives and hope to do it again next year.

If it’s at all possible, could you please print the attached picture in the Beam? It would make her day.

Thanks,
Chuck Scheaffer
The NJLHS Recognition Committee (members Mary Beth Doherty, Brett Franks, and Tom Laverty) acknowledged three members for outstanding service at the December 5, 2009 meeting at the Paulsboro Sportsman’s Inn. Committee Chair Tom Laverty and NJLHS 1st Vice President, Brett Franks, presented the awards. Recognized were:

Doreen Berson

Doreen has been a long time member of NJLHS. In 2003 she became assistant chair of the Lighthouse Challenge Committee. When NJLHS member Rick Weber, who had spearheaded the Challenge stepped down from those duties, Doreen took the reins with enthusiasm. Under her guidance the Challenge grew. “It was estimated that approximately 1,500 people took the first New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge® in 2000. A total of 342 people completed the Challenge that year, becoming members of the “11 Points of Light Club” (History of the New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge, NJLHS.ORG February 12th 2009). Since then participation has increased each year. The New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge® 2009, saw 1733 start and 1,359 people finish despite nor’easters that hampered access to a couple of the lighthouses on the tour. Doreen brought focus and organization to what has become an internationally known Lighthouse event.

Laura Portée
Recognized as Assistant Chair, then Co-Chair of the New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge 2006-2009.

Laura Portée entered the Lighthouse Challenge effort in 2006. First as assistant chair, then co-chair. Her statistic keeping skills, marketing efforts, and constant correspondence about the Challenge helped get the event recognized in the press, magazines, TV, and radio. Laura made up the forms, collected the data, and collated all the information for nearly every aspect of the Challenge. Each year she was able to tell us from how far visitors came and how many states were represented (well over 30 one year). Foreign visitors came from Sweden, Poland, Germany, Romania, United Kingdom, and Austria. While Laura did not chair the event as long as Doreen, her efforts combined with Doreen’s helped make this event the spectacular and fun October weekend, for which the Challenge was known.

Marty Hudspeth
Recognized as Chair of Ways and Means Committee 2004-2009.

Marty’s husband, Bob, originally volunteered to lead the NJLHS Ways and Means Committee. Shortly after taking over the position he passed away. Marty graciously agreed to step into his position and eventually became both Committee Chair and a NJLHS Board of Directors member. In her tenure in charge of Ways and Means, she built the Society’s effort to raise money through the sale of logo shirts, hats, pins, lighthouse books, and other items. She organized, edited and had published a cookbook full of Society member’s special recipes. The book was a hit and sold quickly. Each membership meeting Marty could be seen directing a crew of people lugging box after box of items into the meeting hall to be set up, organized, priced, and then sold to members. Each day after the meeting was over the same crew lugger all the material back to her van for transport to her house. It was quite an undertaking. However, Marty’s Ways and Means Committee made money for the Society. They established an on line Ways and Means shop through the NJLHS.org web site, and furthered recognition of the Society through the sale of the NJLHS specialty items.

Marty’s leadership along with the Doreen and Laura’s Challenge leadership will be missed as we move into 2010. Please extend your personal thanks along with the Society’s recognition for volunteer jobs done far above and beyond the call of duty.

**Lighthouse Sudoku**

John Bishop

Fill in the blank cells using the following letters: A, B, D, E, L, N, O, R, OR Y (OLD BARNEY). Each letter can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle. Solution is located on page 10.

```
O L A D
L D N
A Y O N
Y E L R A
L B A R E
D A E B O
R D A Y
A E R N
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**Mukilteo Light Station**

Bev Schreiber

Much to the Mukilteo Historical Society’s dismay, the Mukilteo Light Station grounds are now currently inaccessible. The city of Mukilteo, WA owns the station and grounds. The Historical Society gives the tours, runs the gift shop, does the flower gardening and provides the exhibits.

The station grounds are part of a redevelopment project of the city’s waterfront area, which also includes a park, pavillions and walking trails. When finished, the sidewalks around all of the lighthouse buildings will be connected and widened. A new ramp will also make the ground floor of the tower accessible to wheelchairs, thus allowing visitors to view our other 4th order Fresnel lens and inside displays. The tower is also scheduled to be repainted.

Unfortunately, the reopening date is not known at this time. (It could possibly be as late as August.) Please check our web site before visiting -- www.info@mukilteohistorical.org or call (425) 353-8662. Hope you’ll come to Washington state and visit us. We always keep our light on!
We had a wonderful time touring the lighthouses along the Great Lakes Seaway. Beginning early on Friday morning, June 7th, we departed the long term parking lot at Newark, New Jersey. Our trip included amazing photo and climbing opportunities as we toured the Great Lakes on a deluxe motor coach for 6 days and 5 nights. We also enjoyed fantastic meals, including a very memorable lobster bisque at Penn State!

On our journey of the Seaways trail we had the fortune of capturing precious moments of at least 15 historic lighthouses along the waters of New York and Pennsylvania, with an added bonus, visit to the American side of Niagara Falls as we ventured along Lake Erie, the Niagara River, Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River! Our visits included, the Erie Land Lighthouse first built in 1818, leading to a delightful cookout on Presque Isle and a visit to the Presque Isle Lighthouse which was first lit on July 12, 1872. We then traveled further to see the Presque Isle Light (officially relit in 1989), a very nice luncheon with a spectacular view of Henderson Harbor, and another photo opportunity at Stony Point and a splendid view along Lake Ontario while visiting the Tibbetts Point Lighthouse.

We had a few moments to spare and, with the knowledge of our tour driver, Juan, we were able to visit the American side of Niagara Falls. Photo opportunities included the skyline with an amazing rainbow for those who were able to capture that moment. On a cruise from the Harbor Marina area we sailed along the Buffalo Harbor with the privilege of viewing beautiful, hidden treasures which one could not see up close from the land. These included the Buffalo Intake Crib Lighthouse, Grand Island Lighthouse, North Breakwater South End Lighthouse, and the Horseshoe Reef Lighthouse to name a few. Later we boarded the bus and visited a National Historic Landmark, Old Fort Niagara Lighthouse and a visually pleasing replica of the Olcott lighthouse which was built and dedicated in 2003.

Just when our cups were full, our cups runneth over as we were able to visit and climb the light at 30 Mile Point in Barker, NY. Later we received a warm welcome as the tour bus pulled up in front of the Braddock Point Lighthouse, where we were greeted kindly by Donald and Nandy Town and their beautiful daughter who extended impeccable hospitality during our visit. It is important to note that Braddock Point has never been open to the public since it was decommissioned in 1954 and passed into private hands. The Braddock Point Lighthouse has been restored to original specifications, relit by the U.S. Coast Guard and is absolutely beautiful! The New Jersey Lighthouse Society was the first group to visit and we treasure having the opportunity to be part of the magnificent Braddock Point Lighthouse with many thanks to the Town’s for the blessings of open doors.

On our journey of the Seaways trail we had the fortune of capturing precious moments of at least 15 historic lighthouses along the waters of New York and Pennsylvania, with an added bonus, visit to the American side of Niagara Falls as we ventured along Lake Erie, the Niagara River, Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River! Our visits included, the Erie Land Lighthouse first built in 1818, leading to a delightful cookout on Presque Isle and a visit to the Presque Isle Lighthouse which was first lit on July 12, 1872. We then traveled further to see the Presque Isle Light (officially relit in 1989), a very nice luncheon with a spectacular view of Henderson Harbor, and another photo opportunity at Stony Point and a splendid view along Lake Ontario while visiting the Tibbetts Point Lighthouse.

We had a wonderful time touring the lighthouses along the Great Lakes Seaway and welcome the opportunity for you to join us on future trips. Please visit the Society website www.NJLHS.org for updates or send any inquires to trips@njlhs.org.

LONG ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE CHALLENGE - FOG
Joan K. Preston

Frank Trafford and I spent a rainy, foggy, cold Saturday to Sunday, May 16-17, 2009 on the Long Island Lighthouse Challenge. Even though the weather was dreadful for taking pictures, we really enjoyed exploring and getting lost (which we manage to do on warm, sunny days) on Long Island’s South Shore and North Shore.

Entering the Robert Moses State Park and Fire Island Lighthouse was spooky. At the entrance is a water tower that looks like a lighthouse, (our first mistake!). One has to park and walk a quarter of a mile through beach grass and shrubs on an elevated boardwalk with “no end in sight” because of the fog.

Montauk Point was beautiful, heaven-like and eerily quiet in the fog. We moved on to the next adventure, getting to Greenport, LI by traveling north and crossing the bay twice by car ferry.

Everyone needs the Peconic Star boat adventure out into the bay and the inclement weather to see the non-land lighthouses on the reefs: cedar Island, Long Beach Bar, Orient Point (called the “Sparkplug”) and Plum Island.

My only regret is that we finished the Challenge on Sunday morning when all the wineries were closed. The Long Island Challenge was indeed an adventure into the ghost-like lighthouses out in the bay and will be remembered for a long time.

FLORIDA CHALLENGE
The newest Challenge will be held April 24 and 25, 2010 at the “Forgotten Coast” in the panhandle of Florida. Go to the following website www.stgeorgelight.org/challenge and click on the Challenge logo on the bottom left. Brochure, FAQs and other information are on their site.
Congress approved the building of Absecon Lighthouse: August 1854
Land for the lighthouse was transferred to the federal government by the Camden and Atlantic Land Company on December 5, 1854 for the sum of $520.
The engineer was Lt. George Gordon Meade (of the Battle of Gettysburg, Civil War fame). Construction was started by Major Hartman Bache, continued by Lt. George Meade and completed by Lt. Col. William Reynolds.

**FIRST LIGHTED:** January 15, 1857

**Characteristic:** Fixed white light of the first order

**Lens:** Made by L. Sautter of Paris, France in 1854 especially for Absecon Lighthouse

**Height from ground to top of ventilator:** 171”

**Steps to watch room:** 228, 12 more to lantern room for a total of 240 steps

**Focal plane:** 167”

**Range:** 19.5 nautical miles or 20 standard miles

**Diameter at base:** 26” 4’ – at top: 12”

**Inside diameter:** 10” from ground to watch room

**Decommissioned:** July 11, 1933

**DAYMARK (The outside color of the tower changed many times):**

1857: Natural brick

1871: White, red, white

1897: Orange, black, orange

**Early 1900’s:** Yellow, black, yellow

(Decommissioned on July 11, 1933)

1948: White, blue, white (with a blue lantern room) Owned by the city of Atlantic City.

These were the city’s colors.

**Early 1970’s:** White, red, white (for second time) now owned by state of NJ.

1998: Yellow, black, yellow (These were the colors painted for the longest period of time.)

Also the colors it was painted during the period of interpretations selected for historic reasons (from the time the lantern was electrified, 1925, to the time it was decommissioned 1933).

Placed on New Jersey Register of Historic Places: August 13 or September 11, 1970
Placed on National Register of Historic Places: January 25, 1971

**Principal Keepers of Absecon Lighthouse:**

Daniel L. Scull – 1857
William Bartlett – 1861
John F. Nixon – 1865

Abraham G. Wolf – 1873
Thomas Bills – 1896
Knud Hanson - 1914

In addition to the principal keeper, there were two assistant keepers.

At least 26 men and one woman held the title of Keeper of Absecon Lighthouse during its years as an active aide to navigation.

During Absecon Lighthouse’s 76 years of service at least 14 children were born there and at least seven people, including one infant, died there.

1988: The Inlet Public/Private Association (IPPA) was formed to advocate for the redevelopment of the Inlet section of Atlantic City. It immediately adopted the lighthouse as its logo.

1994 - 1995: The IPPA adopted Absecon Lighthouse for restoration purposes and had a Historic Structure Report done with a $50,000 grant from the city of Atlantic City. Architectural Firm of Watson & Henry prepared the HSR.

1997: Restoration of tower and reconstruction of keeper’s house were started.

1998: On July 6th, the nearly completed keeper’s residence was lost in a fire. The tower was not harmed.

1999: The tower was opened to visitors in April. The lantern was relit on a daily basis.

2000: Rebuilding of the keeper’s residence was once more resumed.

2001: The newly reconstructed keeper’s house was opened to the public in October.

Absecon Lighthouse is owned by the State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Parks and Forestry. It is leased to the IPPA for restoration and operation.
As I reflect on my time with the Education Outreach program, my first speaking assignment comes to mind. It was March 1998, our President Tom Laverty had a calendar conflict and, since I lived near the site of his next scheduled talk, I was asked to fill in. The sponsor was a women’s group, the site was a banquet room in an upscale restaurant and the program included several speakers and dinner with 135 guests.

The setting was impressive, the food excellent and the atmosphere friendly, but I was far too anxious to enjoy it. My approach in this new venture would be to focus attention away from me and toward a number of exhibits, i.e. lighthouse miniatures, books, enlarged photos and to highlight the achievements of some of the many women who kept the lights. Fortunately, Ann was invited to accompany me and she provided a calming influence.

Shortly after we arrived and began to set up the exhibits, I was informed that my allotted speaking time had been scaled back to 12 minutes. Twelve minutes I thought, how can I cover the subject in such a brief period? I decided to drop considerable detail and defer all questions until the end of the event. Somehow it worked; I not only got through the evening but managed to receive several positive comments from attendees.

My second talk occurred a year later and my third in 2001. That year I offered to give Tom some help and he assigned me the Speaker’s Bureau responsibility. There I was, with the vast experience of three talks and less than 200 attendees and I had been given the total program to address. As a matter of personal survival, I developed a very basic outline on lighthouse history, structure styles, daymarks, and lenses and sprinkled in a few human interest stories that may fascinate the public.

Shortly thereafter, I began documenting a variety of statistics; number of talks given, locations, attendance, presenters and miles traveled. Now, several years later, and only through the collaborative efforts of several committed speakers, the aggregate numbers have grown higher than I ever anticipated. By year end 2009, we had reached a total of 10,191 attendees while responding to 243 requests.

The NJLHS Outreach efforts are known from Sussex to Cape May, our audiences have covered primary school children, scout troops, social groups, senior organizations and assisted living residences, not to mention a boat trip in the NY/NJ harbor. Our travels have taken us approximately 14,000 miles and our speakers have devoted countless hours to fulfill the mission.

I offer my sincere thanks to the volunteers who have made this outreach a successful venture, I consider myself very fortunate to have been associated with such a fine group of individuals. The members who have made this possible over the years are:

Mike Boucher, Mary Beth Doherty, Jim and Nancy Cope, Brett Franks, Bill Geilfuss, Faith Giamboi, Joe and Donna Kelly, Tom Laverty, Cindy Mitzen, Kate Moser, Dennis Robbins, Kim Ruth, Bill Schneider, Jack Slavin, Al Smith, Judy Swiencki, Ray Vliet, Elinor and Rich Veit and of course, Ann for her unwavering support, encouragement, and for understanding the many times I was unavailable to do those little household things that never got done.

I also wish to express my thanks to the Society for the opportunity to have had a role in this important function; it was truly a rewarding experience.

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**CAPE MAY LIGHTHOUSE TURNS 150 YEARS OLD**

**Margo Harvey**

The Cape May Lighthouse, one of the oldest continually operating lighthouses in the country, was first lit Oct. 31, 1859. In honor of the beacon’s 150th anniversary, the Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts (MAC) held a celebration on Saturday, Oct. 31, 2009 on the grounds of the Cape May Lighthouse, located at Cape May Point State Park on Lighthouse Avenue off Sunset Boulevard.

The official ceremony kicked off at 1 p.m. with brief remarks on the Cape May Lighthouse’s history and costumed reenactors including General George G. Meade, who was accompanied by his honor guard, and Dr. Emlen Physick. Afterwards, the candles on the Lighthouse’s birthday cake were blown out and the cake, along with light refreshments, was served to the public.

Left to right: General George G. Meade, his Honor Guard & Dr. Emlen Physick. Photo Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts & Humanities

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**NJ LIGHTHOUSES CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Marty Hudspeth**

**ABSECON LIGHTHOUSE**

Saturday March 20 “I Love a Man in Uniform” Murder Mystery, 7:00 PM
Friday, April 23, Guys & Girls Fashion Show & Fishbowl Auction, 5:00 PM
Sunday, May 23, Pirate Day, 11:00 AM.
Friday, June 4, Golf Tournament, Noon, Shotgun Start McCullough’s Emerald Links, Egg Harbor Township
Thursday, June 24, Luscious Libations for the Lighthouse, 6 PM
Wednesday July 21, 28, August 4, 11 & 18, Wacky Wednesdays at the lighthouse
Saturday August 7, National Lighthouse Day, An Evening Performance by John Mock, 7:00 PM
Call for ticket prices & information at 609-449-1360 website: www.abseconlighthouse.org

**BARNEGAT LIGHTHOUSE**

Saturday Lecture Series at 1:00 PM except where noted
March 20, The Fossil Story, What Fossils Tell Us About the Past. This lecture describes how fossils form.
April 24, The History of Barnegat Lighthouse. A comprehensive fact filled presentation by Professor Alex Butrym a member of the staff at Barnegat Lighthouse State Park.
May 22, The Life of a Clam, presented by Rick Bushnell of Reclam The Bay. All Lectures are in the visitor’s center at the park.

For more information: Phone 609-494-2016, E-mail: FriendsofBLSP@verizon.net
Cost: Free

**CAPE MAY LIGHTHOUSE**

The Cape May Lighthouse will be open daily beginning March 26 (call for hours). Admission to climb is $7 for adults and $3 for children (ages 3-12). For more information about the Cape May Lighthouse and hours of operation, call 609-884-5404 or 800-275-4278, or visit MAC’s website at www.capemaymac.org.

**EAST POINT LIGHTHOUSE**

Hours of operation: 3rd Sunday April to October
Time: 1 to 4 PM
Phone 856-546-7810, E-mail: eastpointlighthousenj@yahoo.com
Fee: $2.00
COMMUNITY OUTREACH
 Anthony Albence

As signs of spring are now apparent, you may rest assured that the Society’s 2010 Community Outreach season will soon also “bloom” for another year!

The Society will once again be well-represented at a wide variety of events across the state this year. I have made it my practice to regularly review the events where we are represented and, if it is apparent that our limited resources may be more effectively deployed by changing the mix of events where we are represented, I am happy to make a change. We all know that, as part of the life cycle of events, they naturally go through “ebbs and flows”—and sometimes are phased out after a successful run. With this in mind, the mix of events where we are present evolves and changes. The latest information is always posted on the Community Outreach page on the NJLHS website.

This year’s first Outreach event will be Spirit of the Jersey’s History Fair—a relatively new event, and a great venue highlighting the rich and diverse history of New Jersey. This is a fun and informative gathering and had proven to be a successful outreach for us. (Let’s hope we finally have good weather this year!!) The 2010 Fair will be held on Saturday, 5/1, from 11AM-5PM at Washington Crossing State Park in Titusville (near Lambertville, north of Trenton). More info on the event may be found on the Fair’s website. (www.njhistoryfair.org)

The Community Outreach team continues to grow by welcoming new members who are very eager to participate. Recruiting more volunteers is the only way that outreach efforts may continue and flourish! Remember, you don’t need to be an expert—just a friendly person who is willing to chat with folks and to learn more along the way.

You’ll also be happy to know that our NJLHS giveaway items distributed at our outreach events have proven to be quite popular! The mini-crayons packs (for our children’s coloring activities) feature the Society logo, and the mini-flashlights that carry the tagline “Keep the lights shining” along with the Society web address. These items will be back for 2010!!

I’d also like to offer special note of welcome to our new Ways and Means chair Carol Winkie, who is taking over for the amazing Marty Hudspeth. I look forward to working with her as part of the Ways and Means “team”, and to continuing the Society’s longstanding strong partnership between Community Outreach and Ways and Means.

As always (and as stated above): additional/new volunteers are also most welcome. This is ESSENTIAL to ensuring a strong NJLHS presence in the community. Remember, you don’t need to be a lighthouse “expert” to be part of the team—just willing to discuss our shared interests with event patrons. There’s always someone to “fill in the blanks”. We have an outstanding base of lighthouse knowledge in our membership ranks.

Please feel free to contact me with any info on NJ events where our presence may be a plus, other ideas/for more information. My email is: cua20064@aol.com

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PHAROS PHILATELIC CORNER
 Jim Cope

The fourth in a series of six Flags of Our Nation stamps will be released by the United States Postal Service sometime in April this year. The series will show the flags of the states of Montana to North Dakota and one American flag repeated five times in a roll of 50 stamps. Cape Hatteras Lighthouse is pictured along with the North Carolina flag and what appears to be a heron. This has been the only lighthouse pictured on this series of stamps, so far. New Jersey’s flag is included in this series, but only shows a sand castle along side of the flag and a beach. The 44¢ self-stick stamps are only available in coils of 50. The Flags of Our Nation stamp series feature nine different state or territorial flags along with one American flag. Next to each flag is something that goes along with that state. Some of the designs have changed slightly from the original release which only showed one lighthouse – Cape Hatteras.

DELAWARE BAY LIGHTHOUSE BOAT TRIP
 Date: Saturday May 22, 2010
This is the makeup for the Challenge rainout in October 2009

Departure Location: Cape May, New Jersey
Vessel: Spirit of Cape May; capacity is 250 people
Departure Time: 10:00 AM
Length of Trip: 5-6 hours
Lighthouses viewed from the water: Cape May, Brandywine Shoal, Miah Maul Shoal, Elbow of Cross Ledge and Ship John Shoal
Buffet Menu:
Lunch is included in the price: Fried Chicken, Small Hoagie Wedges, Veggie & Dip, Fruit & Dip, Cheese & Pepperoni with Crackers, & other light fare

Name: _______________________________________
Address: ________________________________ City: _______ State: _______ Zip: _______
Phone Number: ___________________________ email address: ___________________________
No. of People: ______

Total Cost ($85.00 per person) Note: All fees are non-refundable. Please make check payable to “NJLHS”.
Registration Deadline is: May 1, 2010. Send completed Registration Form and check to:

Mike Boucher
15 Starrow Drive
Newburgh, NY 12550

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The Beam
Another year at Sandy Hook has come to an end, and what a challenging year 2009 was!

By now, most Society members have heard about the construction of the new bridge over the Shrewsbury River at Highlands. Half of the old bridge was removed to allow the construction of the new northbound bridge. This reduced Route 36 to one lane in each direction and forced all traffic leaving Sandy Hook to travel north across the river. Add in the twice an hour opening of the drawbridge for river traffic, and the delay for traffic trying to leave Sandy Hook reached over three hours on weekends in the summer.

This had a severe impact on the Society operations at the Sandy Hook Lighthouse and our Gift Shop in the Keeper’s House. These are totally volunteer-staffed operations, and it was very difficult convincing volunteers that they were having fun after they spent three hours in traffic just to get to the highway. Many days were staffed with just one Guide and one Greeter.

Several volunteers took advantage of the bedrooms available to us in the Keeper’s House to stay overnight, and arrive and leave when the traffic volume was low.

The traffic seemed to get a little better towards the end of the summer, as the DOT and the Park Service took measures to reduce the delays. Hopefully, they learned enough to avoid a repeat of the problems in 2010.

After many years of dedicated service, Al Smith retired at the end of 2008 as the Society’s Coordinator at Sandy Hook. A committee; Lois Mumie, Sue Mazza, Grace Schumacher, Pat Hospador, Jean Burgess, and Annette Colt, was formed to operate the Gift Shop, while I became the volunteer coordinator. The volunteer calendar was made available on-line, so everyone with internet access could see when they were scheduled, and also when help was needed.

Towards the end of the summer, I developed some health issues which would not allow me to continue as the volunteer coordinator. Al Smith has agreed to “unretire” and will be the coordinator again, while the Gift Shop Committee will continue.

The National Park Service operates on the Federal Government fiscal year of October 1 – September 30, so the following information is for October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2009.

We had 5,327 people tour the lighthouse on 759 tours, with another 7,799 people visiting the Keeper’s House without taking the tour. This was a total of 13,126 people who visited us at Sandy Hook, which was gratifying in light of the economy and the well-publicized traffic conditions.

Forty two volunteers contributed 2,686 hours of service. Of that, the top ten volunteers (Lois Mumie, Bob Zarling, Annette Colt, Ken Schumacher, Grace Schumacher, Sue Mazza, Ken Farkas, Pat Hospador, Dawn Farkas, Al Smith) contributed 57% of the total hours. The top three alone contributed over 25% of the hours!

2010 looks to be another interesting year. As always, we welcome new volunteers. If you are interested in joining us, please contact AI, me, or any of the Sandy Hook volunteers.

Thank you to everyone who helped during the year! The fact that we had a successful year would not have been possible without your dedication and support.

Hi everyone. I hope you all enjoyed the Holiday meeting. I’m so sorry that I couldn’t attend. I want to send a very special “Thank You” to Betty Smith for all she did to make the meeting as special as it was.

Now on to the spring meeting; I hope the birds are chirping and the sun is shining on March 20th when we all visit the Tuckerton Seaport. I was trying for Atlantic City, but I just couldn’t get it to work out the way I wanted it to. Being new at this Programs Chair stuff I’m still learning. I give Yvonne a lot of credit, she was the Programs Chair for so long (longer then I’ve been a member) that I don’t even know who held the position before her. These are hard shoes to fill.

Back to the meeting March 20th with hospitably starting at 10:00am. When you arrive at the Seaport let them know you are attending the lightouse meeting, this will get you in free of charge. This is the annual photo contest meeting so don’t forget to bring your pictures. Judy Boucher is the chairperson if you want to volunteer to help her out. As usual the business meeting will run from about 11:00am till noon. Lunch will follow, brown bag it if you wish, or you can purchase food at the Seaport’s Scojo’s Restaurant (eat in or take-out). Lunch time will also be the time to vote on your favorite photos. We have a new Way & Means chairperson Carol Winkie; please stop by and visit her. I have asked her to bring only a limited amount of merchandise to this meeting out of respect for the Seaport’s gift shop. Judy has arranged for professional photographer Gary Martin to speak to us and share some of his knowledge on getting those tough shots. Once the votes are counted the winners of the photo contest will be announced. Then you’re on your own to visit the Seaport. Don’t forget to stop by THE BENCH, where the plaques for Harry and Debbie Megenigal are placed. I’m sure if they can intervene, this will be a wonderful meeting and an enjoyable day. Save June 26th for the summer meeting.

DIRECTIONS TO TUCKERTON SEAPORT:
FROM NORTH JERSEY: Take the Garden State Parkway south to Exit 58 (Tuckerton/Little Egg Harbor). Make a left at the end of the ramp onto Route 539 South. Follow Route 539 (becomes Green Street) to the third traffic light at Route 9 (Main Street). Make a right. The Seaport is on the left across from the lake.

FROM SOUTH JERSEY: Take the Garden State Parkway north to Exit 50 (New Garetta/Route 9 north). Follow Route 9 north for approximately 7 miles through New Garetta and into Little Egg Harbor Township. The Seaport is on the right across from the lake approximately 1 mile after entering Tuckerton Borough.

Sudoku Solution

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A MESSAGE FROM MEMBERSHIP
Mary Beth Doherty, Membership Chair NJLHSMember1@aol.com

Just a reminder that it’s renewal time—thank you to those who’ve already paid their dues, and to those who haven’t, please send them in or renew at the March meeting. If you don’t renew, you’ll be dropped from the mailing list and won’t receive future Beams!

As I mentioned in the President’s column, change is inevitable and I view it as a good thing. The time has come for another change...after being Membership Chair for 13 (I think!) years, I am turning the Membership reigns over to very capable people. The Gleasons and the Naills will be co-chairs going forward. If you have any questions on your status or anything related to membership, they are the people to go to. It’s time for “new blood” with new ideas. I know they’ll do a great job! Thank you for taking this on!

Meeting Attendees:
There were 92 members and guests who attended our holiday meeting/social at the Paulsboro Sportman’s Inn located in Paulsboro, NJ. I have to say that meeting was one of my favorites—I saw some faces I haven’t seen in a very long time. The hospitality was wonderful and, despite the weather, I think those who were there had a great time!

Please remember to sign the book—we want to make sure there are enough seats for you at future meetings!

Nametags:
Nametags are $6.00 each and to be ordered and paid for at each meeting. The price includes shipping and you have 3 options for the backing: standard pin, double butterfly clutch, or, for $1.00 extra you can order a magnet. Stop by the Membership Table to place your order.

Membership Numbers:
At the deadline for this issue, the membership numbers are as follows:
Single Memberships: 213
Family Memberships: 274 x 2 = 548
Total Members = 761*
* This number does include one Lifetime member, and seven Honorary members.

Gift Membership:
Not sure what to give that person who has everything? How about a membership to NJLHS? The application is printed in this issue of The Beam and see the Membership Team for copies...the membership packet will be mailed to the recipient, with a note saying that their membership to the Society is a gift from you. Let’s get our numbers up!

New Members:
The following members have joined our Society since the December issue. 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!

Davenport, Judy
Laird, Robert
Moccia, Bud
Peterson, Wayne
Prendergast, Frank
Scheaffer, Mr. & Mrs.
Charles D.
Sterling, Jennifer Bellotti
Wheary, Bruce

Vineland, NJ
New Egypt, NJ
Toms River, NJ
Washington NJ
Toms River, NJ
Mays Landing, NJ
Toms River, NJ
Helmetta, NJ

WHAT’S NEW WITH WAYS & MEANS
Marty Hudspeth
The New Ways & Means Chair

Carol Winkie has been a member of the NJLHS for 3 years, becoming a member after retiring from education after thirty years. She has completed three Lighthouse Challenges. She and her husband, Philip, have two daughters and six living grandchildren. Her love of lighthouses started in her youth when she spent her summers on Long Beach Island. She and her family were frequent visitors to Old Barney. Later, the love was rekindled when she met Charles Wingate, whose father was the Lighthouse Keeper at Tinicum from 1919 to his retirement in June 1939. Charlie was born in 1920 while his father was the innkeeper and served as interim lighthouse keeper until October 1939 when the new innkeeper arrived. Charlie just died March 3, 2009.

RECIPE CORNER
Marty Hudspeth

Herb Cheese Ball by Sheila Hines
2 (8 oz.) pkgs cream cheese, softened
2T. cream or Half& half
2 cloves garlic, crushed
½ tsp. dried basil leaves
½ tsp. dried dill weed
Lemon pepper
Beat cream cheese, cream or half & half, garlic, basil leaves, dill weed. Mix well and place in a small bowl. Chill. Roll in lemon pepper before serving at room temperature with crackers.

ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST
Judy Boucher

The time is upon us for the 2010 Photo Contest. I hope you have selected the entry or entries that will put you in, or keep you in, the Winners’ Circle. The winning photos will again be displayed at Sandy Hook for the month of April. In addition to that, they will this year also be displayed at the Monmouth Beach Cultural Center in October. This means that the winning photos will not be returned to you until the December meeting.

The above mentioned displays — and the limitations of space on the day of the meeting — dictate that no photos larger than 8 X 10 will be accepted for the contest. Likewise, no frames are allowed. Winning photos will be put into black frames owned by NJLHS for the exhibits.

The categories this year are:
East Coast Lighthouses
West Coast or Great Lakes Lighthouses
Other Lighthouses
Views from the Water (special category)
Winners’ Circle

Any member in good standing (dues have been paid) who is an amateur photographer (has not received any payment for photographs) may submit 3 photos in total. Those in the Winners’ Circle (Post card notices were sent to each of the 22 members) can submit 2 photos in the Winners’ Circle and one in the Views from the Water category. All other members may submit their 3 entries in any category/categories.

Each photo must be accompanied by a Registration Form. These are available at the NJLHS website: www.njlhs.org and will be available at the meeting. Do not put your name any place on the photo. The name of the lighthouse and its location may appear on the front or the back.

Anyone willing to help out the day of the contest is asked to please contact me via phone 845-787-4807.

I am looking forward this year to seeing your photos and to hearing prize winning photographer Gary Martin offer us tips on improving our photography.

Looking ahead to next year – there will be all new categories based on the construction styles of lighthouses: caisson/ spark plug, conical (round) tower, integral (keeper’s house attached), and skeletal – and the Winners’ Circle. Another change: only 1st place winners from this year will move to next year’s Winners’ Circle.
New Jersey Lighthouse Society
The Beam
P O Box 332
Navesink, NJ 07752-0332

ANNUAL NEW JERSEY LIGHTHOUSE PHOTO CONTEST WILL BE HELD AT THE MARCH MEETING

DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE BEAM IS MAY 1