Lighthouses of the Florida Keys

by Anne and Karl Fahringer

After Thanksgiving Anne and I picked up friends (Mary and Cecil Shepard - NJLHS members) in Richmond, VA, and began our tour of the Florida Key Lighthouses. Eric Martin of the Florida Keys Reef Lighthouse Foundation (FKRLF) ran the 3rd annual FKRLF Boat Trip. We actually had 3 boat trips, one each on Dec 1, 2, and 3 visiting the following lighthouses:

Dec 1 Fowey Rocks Lighthouse
Dec 2 Alligator Reef Lighthouse and Tennessee Reef
Dec 3 Carysfort Reef Lighthouse and Key Largo Lighthouse

On Dec 1st we left the docks in Miami Beach at 5:45 am in order to get to Fowery Rocks Lighthouse for sunrise. We got there for sunrise enduring choppy water (we were soaked). Everybody got great pictures even though it was very difficult to hold the camera steady. Later in the afternoon we drove to Key Largo to spend 2 nights at Amy Slates Amoray Dive Resort.

On Dec 2nd we drove to Long Key and left at 8:00 am from Robbie’s Pier to see the Alligator Reef and Tennessee Reef Lighthouses. The surf was not as rough as it had been on the day before.

On Dec 3rd we left from the Amy Slates Amoray Dive Resort dock at 8:00 am to see the Carysfort Reef Lighthouse. As an unexpected surprise, we also got to see Key Largo Lighthouse. At the end of the 3rd day cruise, the four of us continued on to Key West and were able to see the following lighthouses even though three of them were over a mile away:

Dec 3 Sombrero Key and American Shoal
Dec 4 Fort Jefferson, Loggerhead Key, and Sand Key
Dec 5 Key West Lighthouse

On Dec 4th we took the Yankee Freedom Dry Tortugas Ferry from Key West to Dry Tortugas National Park (a 2 hour ride). We spent several hours touring Fort Jefferson and taking pictures of Fort Jefferson and Loggerhead Key Lighthouses. The return trip was very choppy (almost like a roller coaster ride). There were a few people who kept their brown bags handy!

On our way home, we took a side trip spending 2 days in Savannah, GA. It is a very historic city where we enjoyed their trolley rides and good food and viewed the Savannah Harbor Light. It was fun to add these 11 lighthouses to our Lighthouse Hunting List.

See page 3 for more pictures!
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*The photograph on the cover is of Hereford Inlet Lighthouse. It was taken by Lauren Ward during the 2012 Lighthouse Challenge of New Jersey.

MARCH MEETING
March 23rd
Location: Wall Intermediate School
2801 Allaire Road, Wall, NJ 07719
Meeting will be in the cafeteria.
Please see page 7 and the NJLHS website for directions and a map.

PROGRAM:
10:30 Hospitality/ Ways & Means
11:30 Meeting; (Voting will also be explained.)
12:30 Lunch (bring your own)
1:00 Sea Girt Lighthouse: Past, Present & Future
2:00 Discussion by members on their Super-storm Sandy Experiences
6:00 Announcement of 24 certificate winners; 6 each for spring, summer, fall, winter
Note: Calendar selection will be done by Board and announced at June Meeting

PHOTO CONTEST REMINDER: All photos are due by 11:15 AM on Saturday, March 23rd.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

I'm excited to be back working on the first Beam of the new year! I am also very much looking forward to the photo contest at the meeting this month. The March photo contest meeting was the first NJLHS meeting I ever attended. It was so much fun and all of the pictures were really great to see. We have some talented people in this society!

I'm also ready to shake off this cold weather. I'm hoping to explore some new lighthouses this summer -- possibly the Saugerties Lighthouse in New York or some of the Boston lights. If you are visiting any lighthouse at any time please send your stories and photos to me or to the Beam's email address. I hope to see everyone soon!

ADDRESS CHANGE
To change your address please go to:
http://www.njchs.org/join/AddrCng.pdf
download the form and mail to:
NJLHS, Inc. P.O. Box 332, Navesink, NJ 07752-0332
A MESSAGE FROM MEMBERSHIP
Carol Naill and Linda Gleason - Membership Co-Chairs

Well Hurricane Sandy certainly made it interesting but we still managed to have a nice Holiday meeting down at the West Cape May Fire Hall. We appreciate everyone who picked up their 2013 Membership Renewal form at the meeting (saved NJLHS $.45/ea). We also appreciate those who returned the form with their dues at the meeting (and saved NJLHS another $.45/ea). The March meeting is the annual Photo Contest and is traditionally one of the best attended events of the year! We look forward to seeing all our members, old and new, and guests are always welcome to our General Membership meetings.

Membership Numbers:
At the deadline for this issue, the membership numbers are as follows:
Single Memberships: 164
Family Memberships: 211 x 2 = 422
Total Members = 586 (19 more than last BEAM!)

Gift Memberships:
Not sure what to give that person who has everything?
How about a membership to NJLHS? You can find an application on the NJLHS web site and print one out. You can also get one from the Membership Team at the next membership meeting. The membership packet will be mailed to the recipient, with a personal 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 last issue of THE BEAM in December. 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 any of these new members at a future meeting, please welcome them!

Patricia Keyser  New Providence, NJ
Marion & Dave Howarth  Hockessin, DE
Fran & Bobby Travieso  Secaucus, NJ
Wanda & Donald Adams, Jr.  Sewell, NJ

RECIPE CORNER
Marty Hudspeth

Lemon Poppy Seed Muffins
(Low-carb, Gluten-free, Dairy-free)
By Carol Guchek

1 single cake, gluten-free cake mix
2 cups ground almonds
1/4 tsp. salt
1 1/2 tsp. baking powder
Sweetener equivalent to 1/2 cup sugar
2 tablespoons poppy seed
Juice & zest of 1 lemon (optional)
1 cup water
3 large eggs
3 tablespoons vegetable oil

Makes 12 half-cup muffins. Coat a 12-cup (1/2 cup capacity) muffin tin with non-stick spray. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Using a whisk combine cake mix, almonds, salt, baking powder, sugar equivalent and poppy seeds in a medium mixing bowl, stirring to break up any lumps. In a separate bowl combine lemon juice and zest, water, eggs and vegetable oil. Add to dry ingredients, whisking gently until just combines. Bake for 25 minutes, or until cake tester comes out clean. Cool on a rack and store in an airtight tin. These muffins have a lovely, fresh flavor and light texture. Great with a good cup of coffee.
A NOTE FROM THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE CHAIR

For 2013, please consider participating in the outreach team! As always: volunteers (new and returning) are essential to keep our Society throughout 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. Consider joining the Community Outreach team for the 2013 season.

Our planned outreach schedule for the year is now posted on the NJLHS website. Please check it out and contact me if you are interested in volunteering.

For 2013, we will also continue what has now become a tradition of giving out NJLHS logo items to those who visit us at our various community outreach events. We are in the process of replenishing our supplies of these items—and we may have some new items in store, so “stay tuned”!

Please feel free to contact me with any info on NJ events where NJLHS might want to be represented. My mailing address and email are listed at the bottom of the page.

Social Networking Update

As always, a friendly reminder to check out the Society’s presence on Facebook & Twitter! While you’re at it, please recommend that others become our “fans” on Facebook. We’re easy to find: either search the Society name in the search bar on Facebook, or navigate to www.facebook.com/njlhs. I’m happy to report that APPROXIMATELY 520 people “like” our page as of mid-November. If you are not one of our many “fans” yet, just look us up and “like us” today. For convenience, we’ve configured our Facebook page so that all of the content posted automatically publishes on the NJLHS account the micro-blog site Twitter. You may find us at www.twitter.com/njlhs or on Twitter by typing @njlhs in the Twitter search field. You can now keep up to date via your smartphone, iPad/tablet, and (of course) your notebook or desktop computer.

We also continue to publish notices of our General Membership Meetings to approximately 75 media venues (newspapers/radio/websites) throughout the state. However, we are always looking to add outlets to our media list. It seems that, as soon as we add an outlet to the list, we lose one or two contacts on our media list due to budgetary cutbacks at various media outlets. In light of this reality, please share contact info for any media outlets that you feel would like to receive our media notices. These could include newspaper, radio, TV, or web-based resources. We’re always happy add anyone to our media distribution list.

Thanks so much everyone...and keep the lights shining!

Anthony Albence, 1st Vice President
Chair, Community Outreach & Publicity
P.O. Box 8184
Wilmington, DE 19803-8184

E-mail: cua20064@aol.com
**SPRING EVENTS**

**MARCH**

**ABSECON LIGHTHOUSE**
Saturday, March 23 - 7 p.m.
“Lit With a Dim Bulb” Murder Mystery
7:00 p.m., doors open 6:30 p.m.
$25 per person

**MAY & JUNE**

**CAPE MAY LIGHTHOUSE**
Saturday, May 4 @ 8:00pm
Sunday, May 26 @ 8:45pm
Tuesday, June 25 @ 8:45pm
Thursday, June 27 @ 8:45pm

**Ghosts of the Lighthouse Trolley Tour**
Take a trolley tour through parts of West Cape May to the Cape May Lighthouse, with tales of ghostly activity along the way. Participants will hear a ghostly tale at the Lighthouse from a costumed Keeper with time available to climb to the top. Offered Saturday, May 4, at 8 p.m. Tour begins and ends at the Washington Street Mall Information Booth. $20 for adults and $15 for children (ages 3-12).

**CAPE MAY LIGHTHOUSE**
Saturday, May 11, 10am-5pm
Saturday, June 22, 10am-5pm

**Delaware Bay Lighthouse Adventure**
Come aboard the Cape May Whale Watcher or the Spirit of Cape May to view and photograph historic lighthouses of the late 19th and early part of the 20th centuries. Most of these lighthouses stand on pedestals out of sight of land and are still operational. Each cruise includes narration on Delaware Bay lore and legend, with information on fishing, spawning grounds and more. Includes complimentary continental breakfast in the morning and a lavish buffet lunch. A cash bar is available. Saturday, May 11 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets $99.

**CAPE MAY LIGHTHOUSE**
Saturday, May 25 @ 8pm-10pm
Saturday, June 22 @ 8pm-10pm

**Lighthouse Full Moon Climb**
The Friends of the Cape May Lighthouse invite you to the full moon climb. Take advantage of the light of the full moon and let it guide you up the 199 stairs to the starry top. The Lighthouse is located in Cape May Point State Park, Lower Township. Tower admission is free for “Friends” members. Saturday, May 25 at 8 p.m. Non-members price is $7 for adults, $3 for children (ages 3-12). Non-members who join the group at a meeting will get free admission to this program as well as future “Friends” events.

**CAPE MAY LIGHTHOUSE**
All Sunday at NOON starting May 26

**Lighthouse Storytime**
Bring your young children to the Education Center in Cape May Point State Park (adjacent to the Cape May Lighthouse) to listen to nautical tales and lighthouse adventure stories. Free admission.

**ABSECON LIGHTHOUSE**

“Hop In, Check In, Dine In” Raffle
Drawing Date: May 10th

Absecon Lighthouse is pleased to announce a benefit raffle, “Hop In, Check In, Dine In,” featuring a weekend to remember in (YES - We’re OPEN!) Atlantic City. Tickets are just $10 and the winner will receive this fabulous prize package:

- Limousine transportation to and from, courtesy of Avalon Limo
- Weekend stay at The Borgata Hotel Casino and Spa in Atlantic City
- $150 Dinner Comp, courtesy of the Borgata
- Tour and climb of Absecon Lighthouse

Raffle tickets can be purchased by calling Absecon Lighthouse at 609-449-1360, or visiting the Lighthouse at 31 S. Rhode Island Ave. in Atlantic City. The drawing will take place on Friday, May 10th. The winner need not be present to win. Proceeds from the raffle benefit educational programming for children.

**CAPE MAY LIGHTHOUSE EVENTS** are sponsored by the Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts & Humanities (MAC). For more information, call 609-884-5404 or 800-275-4278 or visit www.capemaymac.org
From the South via GSP:
-Take GSP exit 98 and follow signs for Rt 138 East. Immediately upon entering Rt 138 make a right onto Allenwood Road.
-Go about 1 mile to Rt 34. Make a left onto Rt 34 south and go about 1/2 mile to a traffic circle.
-Follow the circle 3/4 around and make a right onto Allaire Rd. The school is about 2 miles on the right.

From the North via GSP:
-Take GSP exit 98 and follow the signs for Rt 34 South. Go South on Rt 34 to a traffic circle.
-Follow the circle 3/4 around and make a right onto Allaire Rd. The school is about 2 miles on the right.

From the West via 195:
-Rt 195 ends at exit 35 (for Rt 34) and turns into Rt 138.
-Take this exit for Rt 34 South and follow it to a traffic circle, about 1 1/2 miles.
-Follow the circle 3/4 around and make a right onto Allaire Rd. The school is about 2 miles on the right.
SAVE THE DATE!

2013 General Membership Meetings

March 23rd
June 29th
September 21st
December 14th

Locations and information will be announced in each issue of The Beam and on the website!
www.njlhs.org

MARCH PHOTO CONTEST REMINDER:
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