

NJLHS, INC.
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 14, 1995 MEETING
ST. TERESA OF AVILA CHURCH HALL
NORTH TARRYTOWN, NY

The meeting was called to order at 11:20 AM by President Tom Laverty. Minutes of the June 24th meeting at Hereford Inlet were distributed to the members as they signed in. Fred Thies moved the approval of the minutes. In the absence of the Secretary, Joan Walton was asked to take the minutes. The meeting was recorded.

Tom L. introduced Marie Heckmeyer who was our speaker for the day. He also thanked Yvonne Miller, Program Chairperson, for arranging for the facility and the entire day. Yvonne in turn thanked Bill Kaufhold and Katherine House for their assistance.

We have received a favorable determination from the IRS and now have our designation 501(C)3 for tax exemption. We are also tax exempt and non-profit for NJ and have our license from the Legalized Games of Chance Commission. Any donations made to the Society are tax deductible; this is now stated in our new brochure.

Treasurer Debbie Megonigal reported a balance of \$6,267.45 in the General Fund; \$1,525.16 in the Preservation Fund after paying for the prints.

The Sea Girt Lighthouse Committee has invited us to participate in their 1996 celebration. Details will come later. This is a positive note and we will respond. Our March meeting will be in Sea Girt and the lighthouse will be open to members that day.

As a 501(C)3 organization we are prohibited from lobbying as an organization but as individuals we should know about the Historic Preservation Bond Referendum which will be on the November ballot, A 70-S 1544, a \$340 Million Dollar referendum to finance Open Space, parks, historic preservation projects, which could include farmland preservation as well as some of the lighthouses, such as Twin Lights, Barnegat, Cape May and Absecon. A press release will be placed on the table for information.

A letter has been received concerning the development of a new Tuckerton Seaport Museum and Village; this group has contacted us for assistance and plans to reconstruct the old Tucker's Island Lighthouse as a visitors' center. Any ideas on this matter will be welcome.

Membership Report. Joan Walton reported an increase of 28 memberships since the June meeting, bringing the total to approximately 400 memberships, of which about 150 are Family and count as two, sometimes three, members each. We number 550-60, plus 40 affiliates who receive The Beam (lighthouses, historic societies, county libraries, maritime museums, etc.)

Membership pins are on the sign-in table for those who ordered them. If you wish to order a pin for the next meeting please place a check mark next to your name on the list. The pins cost \$3.00 each. Please write or print your name the way you want it to appear on the pin.

Programs. Yvonne Miller, Chairperson, announced that the December elections meeting will be held in Atlantic City at the Uptown School Complex at 11:00 AM; hospitality will begin at 10:30. Felicia Grondin of the IPPA will report on the progress of the Absecon Lighthouse Restoration. Our main speaker will be Michael Henry of Watson & Henry, Architects for the project. Further directions to the meeting will be in The Beam.

Our March 23rd, 1996 meeting will be held at St. Uriel's Episcopal Church in Sea Girt. The lighthouse is nearby and will be open to our members. The photo contest chaired by Carl Nelson will be held the same day and judged by Ed Hansbury. Revised rules will be in The Beam; a few copies are available today. Members interested in a matting/mounting workshop were asked for a show of hands. Affirmative.

June 22nd, 1996 we will meet with the Chesapeake Chapter at Havre de Grace, Maryland to see Concord Point Lighthouse. Lauren Liebrecht, one of our members, was introduced. She also serves on the board of the Chesapeake Chapter, USLHS. Several of our members are also members of Chesapeake. Turkey Point Lighthouse is a short distance. Some may wish to stay overnight. There is also close by the largest postcard collection in the world at Perryville (Bill Martin).

The Fall meeting, September 28th, 1996 is planned for Twin Lights/Navesink Lighthouse. Tom L. will make a presentation at his lighthouse and the meeting will probably be held at Highlands High School. At the present time the museum has been taken down and a new exhibit and generator building should be in place by that date. Planning ahead, our December 7th, 1996 meeting at the new Maritime Museum in Philadelphia at Penn's Landing is a possibility.

New members were asked to stand and be introduced.

Prints. Joan W. has prints available today, both Artist's Proofs and Limited Editions. The results of the drawing in June will be printed in the next Beam. Mary Edwards of Whiting was the winner of the original painting and 20 limited editions were awarded that day.

Activities. Carole DiNapoli was unable to attend but reported to Tom L. that the boat trip for October 21st from Highlands is full. Please be at the dock at 1:00 PM; the boat leaves at 1:30. Those who signed up should have received confirmation and directions in the mail.

Suggestions for future trips were Delaware Bay heading northward to Ship John Shoal in May and the Hudson River in the Fall. Fred Thies suggested a marina on the Delaware where we could stop for lunch provided we can dock the boat there. This will be kept in mind.

The membership expressed its appreciation to the Program Chairperson for her great plans and hard work.

Ways & Means. Annette Colt and Bill Gately, Co -Chairs, were commended for their outreach and sales efforts at Sandy Hook, both the Clearwater in August and Heritage Festivals in September were covered and many new members were found and memorabilia and merchandise were sold (\$1,600.00). Members were asked to keep the Society informed about Craft Fairs where we could be represented; volunteers are needed to man these events. Zoe Madans suggested that lighthouse gift shops could be placed on our mailing list. Steve Martorano said that the information center at Smithville would appreciate receiving our brochures for distribution upon request. In the past we have supplied brochures to Cape May Lighthouse, Hereford Inlet, Barnegat, Twin Lights and the Ferry Terminal. Garden State Parkway has not been supplied because we have been unable to contact the administrator who must give permission. The Membership Chair will supply brochures upon request with approval of the Board.

Preservation. Conover Beacon at Leonardo. Middletown Township Committee for Open Space is interested in working with us and devising a plan for restoration of the lighthouse. Tom L. is meeting next week with them and will advise on taking ownership of the beacon. The Township should have a good chance after other agencies have passed. Beth Leahy, preservation specialist, went with Tom L. to inspect and feels it can be preserved.

Preservation Committee Chairman Fred Thies outlined a plan to produce a lighthouse booklet similar to the Seaway Heritage Trail book, to be published by our Society. His committee plans to visit the lightship in Camden but will hold off until it is moved to the Wiggins Marina area near the Aquarium. There are currently administrative difficulties and plans are on hold.

Publicity. Barbara Nelson can no longer act as Chairperson. We will need a volunteer to coordinate news releases for meetings in various parts of the state. Jack Granger announced that he had been contacted by a state representative about reissuing the lighthouse folder from several years ago. He has provided photographs for their use and in turn has received a set of five duck stamps. Jack will supply the name of the contact to Tom L. for follow up.

In addition, Howard Koslow, the artist who produced the Preservation Society collage and the lighthouse stamp series may be approached about producing a poster/painting for the Society in the future. Jack G. showed the first day covers for the lighthouse stamps.

The Beam. Kim Ruth, Editor, announced the deadline for the next issue will be October 30th. He brought 2,500 new brochures which the Membership Chairperson will store and distribute.

Tom L. then called upon Jim Cope, Chairman of the Nominating Committee (Annette Colt, Betty and Al Smith, Nancy Cope) to present the slate. There will be nominations from the floor today but not at the December meeting because of the absentee ballot provision.

Jim Cope stated that the candidates would be elected for two-year terms, 1996 and 1997, with the exception of the Second Vice President which will be for one year, since Yvonne Miller had moved to First Vice President upon the death of Jack Thomson in June.

Second Vice President;	Steve Martorano
Corresponding Secretary:	Joan Walton
Directors:	Albert Smith
	Richard Phillips
	Jack Granger

All candidates nominated have agreed to serve if elected. Tom thanked the committee for their work and asked for nominations from the floor. There were none. Debbie Megonigal moved to close the nominations; Fred Thies seconded. Motion passed without objection.

The membership was then asked for input on two issues, with a 15 minute time limit on each discussion.

Membership chair presented a proposal concerning Life Membership for discussion.

3 years paid membership required
categories divided into age groups
under 50 -- \$200.00
51-65 -- \$150.00
66-79 -- \$100.00

Those who spoke to the issue questioned and commented as follows: Individual vs Family; active membership; required to attend number of meetings per year; members out of meeting range who would send money but not attend; what is the expense incurred for sending The Beam for life; how is Honorary Membership different from Life; how do we establish the cost; life member should have permanent card. The Board will discuss these issues and write a new proposal for approval by the Membership. This should not require an amendment but be read into the minutes for the record.

Annette Colt, Co-chair of Ways & means presented for discussion the second issue. We have no definite vendor policy for people who bring items for sale at meetings. Should we have such a policy?
80 and over -- no further dues required.

Should vendors be required to pay a flat rate for table space or give a percentage to the Society? Should we allow sale of merchandise which competes with our inventory? Should vendors be members?

Comments and suggestions from the membership were: Membership should/should not be required of vendors; vendors have been very generous in the past with donations to the Society; each vendor should be responsible for collecting his own sales tax; we should ask for tax number so it is on record; vendors might occasionally donate an item for auction; limit number of vendors at each meeting/keep list of vendors wishing to come by date; members who belong to other organizations stated they did ask a table fee of \$15.00 but sold only once a year.; possibility of annual fund raiser/craft fair instead or in addition to vendors at meetings.

What about people from other organizations who want to sell us item either on consignment or for inventory? What should our policy be? Suggestions: first we should copyright our logo; not necessary to patent; check on our tax exempt conditions (casual sales vs gift shop -- should not present a problem).

What criteria should be used in deciding whether or not an item is appropriate for us to sell or allow to be sold? Several members agreed that if the item did not sell the vendor would get the message. Perhaps we need a screening committee. Many products are hidden behind the lighthouse image. Ways & Means committee will sort out and propose a policy to the Board and for approval by the Membership.

Fred T. moved, Al Smith seconded adjournment of the business portion of the meeting.

Yvonne M. introduced Sue Moga, Assistant Naturalist for Westchester County Park Recreation and Conservation Department who would see that we got to the lighthouse. Our guides would be Chris and Andra. We will divide into two groups for a 1/4 mile walk through Kingsland Point Park to the light from the parking lot, a five minute drive from the church.

Marie Heckmeyer, daughter of the last civilian lighthouse keeper to occupy Tarrytown Lighthouse spoke to us about her father's 43 year career at North Dumpling, Great Captain and Tarrytown Lighthouses. She presented a brief and interesting biography. The Program Chairperson presented her with a Society sweatshirt and NJ Lighthouse calendar in appreciation.

The Lighthouse T shirt/sweatshirt contest was judged by new members Helga and Donald Eelman and Marie Heckmeyer. Winners were:

Handcrafted: Joy and Ray Vanaman
Commercial: Patricia Hospador
Children: Justin Penna and Shandon Madans

Paghe 6
10/14/95, NJLHS MEETING

Winner of the 50/50 (\$58.00) was ?
Door prizes went to Debbie Megonigal, Lee Sliwa, Bill Volpe and
?

The meeting ended and the visit to the Tarrytown Lighthouse began at 1
PM.

Joan Walton for Nancy Matthews, Secretary