

New Jersey Lighthouse Society
General Meeting
December 2, 2006
West Cape May Fire Hall

President Tom Laverty opened the meeting at 11:18 am with the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes of the September 30th at the Maurice Township Public School were submitted for approval. Al Smith made a motion to accept the minutes as written, Jim Cope seconded, the motion passed

Treasurer's Report-Debbie Megonigal

Debbie read the treasurer's report. Total Operating \$52,891.84; Sandy Hook Fund \$19378.11; Preservation Fund \$23,003.05; Memorial Fund \$1,720. Elinor Veit made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, Mike Boucher seconded, and the membership approved.

Presidents Report Tom Laverty

- Tom gave Bill Volpe's reported for education and the speaker's bureau. 4 speaking events were held and about 220 attended, this past quarter. Three educational kits were sold. Bill will also represent the society on the state coastal heritage tourism committee.
- Tom will be taking over the recognition committee. The committee is still taking nominations for the next year's awards.

Officer and Committee Reports

Vice President Yvonne Miller Thies as Programs Chair

Yvonne announced that after the business meeting Phil Bur and Bob Urhmann will speak about Ludlam Beach Lighthouse. Sue Mazza and her crew will be hard at work over at the Cape May Point Fire Hall where the Holiday Social will be held. Blue tickets go to the social first, orange tickets go to the lighthouse first. The Cape May Lighthouse is open for tours and their gift shop is also open.

Programs

Judy Franks will be the new programs chair. Ann Volpe will assist her. More volunteers are welcomed.

- The March 31st meeting will be at St. Uriel's Episcopal Church Gymnasium in Sea Girt. The member's annual amateur photo contest will be held.
- June 30th the meeting will be at the Tuckerton Seaport under tents. Admission to the seaport will be free to members.

- September's meeting will be in the Highlands area; Twin Lights & maybe Conover's Beacon.
- December we will be going to the Philadelphia area to visit Turtle Rock.
- **Community Outreach**
Anthony Albence will be the new community outreach chairmen. Dennis Whelan will assist him. One of Dennis's projects is to update the dioramas. He has an extra diorama for central and northern parts of the state and will make it available to anyone who wants to use it for outreach etc. Anthony asked if our members see any actives we might be take an outreach to please contact him.

Membership: Mary Beth Doherty 2nd Vice President

- Membership 288 (x2) families 576; 299 single; total 875.
- In attendance 103 members.
- Membership can be renewed for this coming year, over at the membership table.

Web Site

- Howard is looking for your pictures

The Beam

- Keep sending in your pictures and articles. Marty Beth thanked Mike Boucher for all his hard work on the Beam. The last issue was in color and very well received.

Preservation-Brett Franks

- Phil Bur and Bob Urhmann will speak later and give an update on Ludlam Beach Lighthouse.
- Jim Woodward is doing a lens assessment of the lenses in the state. So far he has evaluated 5 lenses with more work to be done in March. He will be our guest speaker in March.
- Conover is looking to have a meeting in February, with Friends of Conover Beacon. Look on the web site for more information.
- In the early part of January Brett, along with Yvonne, will meet with representatives from Finn's Point.
- Preservation is on the web site *Helping Hands*. Rich Veit has a table site up so anyone who wishes can sign up to volunteer to help paint at Absecon Lighthouse or help with moving some of the societies archives from Twin Lights down to Sandy Hook, also the raffle in June could use some help.

Photo Contest-Cindy Mitzen

- The 2007 categories are National, International, New Jersey, and Black & White. There is also the Winners Circle. Lenses will also be added as a special category.

This year the winning photos in each category will be displayed at the Sandy Hook Keepers House, and will be displayed on line and in The Beam.

Ways and Means

- Marion reported that she is working on the 2nd edition of the cookbook; she is collecting recipes.
- New tee shirts designed by Matt Lavery are on sale.

Lighthouse Challenge 2006-Doreen Lagattuta

- Another successful Challenge. 1179 people finished the Challenge, 85 more than last year.
- Thank you to Assistant Chairman Laura Portee for compiling the statistics which is not an easy task. Her results help us when applying for grants and sponsorships.
- 135 finished the Dual Challenge, and 64 finished all three.
- Doreen thanked everyone for their participation and support. Over 121 NJHLS volunteers put in 1,001 hours during the weekend.
- Thank you to Brett Franks for the Night Climb idea. It was a huge success. It will continue next year along with the very popular souvenir puzzle. 1,620 visits were attributed to the Night Climbs.
- 8th Annual New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge October 20 and 21, 2007.
- Kick off meeting is scheduled for February 3rd.

Publicity

Betty Smith has stepped down from publicity chair.

Trips

- Don't forget to get your passport for the Nova Scotia trip
- St Lawrence Sea Way Trail is a trip BJ is looking into.

New Business

Nominating Committee

Laura Portee chairperson read the candidates for office;

- Yvonne Miller Thies President
- Mary Beth Doherty 1st Vice President
- Brett Franks 2nd Vice President
- Debbie Megonigal Treasure
- Bob Gleason Recording Secretary
- Tom Lavery Director
- Cindy Mitzen Director

Laura Portee, judge of election reported that the candidates for office were unopposed and there were no write in votes. She directed the recording secretary to cast one ballot for the slate. Cindy Mitzen did so and the candidates were duly elected.

Dennis Robbins thanked Tom Lavery for all his work getting Twin Lights on the National Register.

And from Brett Franks, update on the Gulf Coast. New Canal Lighthouse will be restored, more information to follow on the web site.

Al Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Carole Reily seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Mitzen,
Recording Secretary