

**New Jersey Lighthouse Society
General Meeting – December 5, 2009
Paulsboro Sportsman's Inn
Paulsboro, NJ
<http://www.njlhs.org/>**

Call to Order

President Mary Beth Doherty called the meeting to order at 11:06AM and led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance. Jim Cope provided a fire safety review.

Minutes from June 20, 2009 General Meeting and the September 26 "unofficial" Meeting

Bob Gleason submitted the minutes from the June 20th meeting at the Cape May 4H Campgrounds. There being no changes noted, Al Smith made a motion to accept, Brett Franks seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously. The minutes for the September 26th meeting at SUNY Maritime College were distributed and filed as "unofficial" due to the lack of a 65 member quorum at the meeting.

President's Opening Remarks: Mary Beth apologized for having missed the September meeting and noted that while attendance at that session was relatively light, those who did attend had a great time at the State University of New York Maritime College in Throggs Neck, NY.

Review of the Day's Agenda: The December meeting will include the Preservation Raffle, the Holiday Social, and the beginning of the annual Membership Renewal process. The guest speaker for the meeting will be Jim Milsted from the Paulsboro Historical Society. Tincum Rear Range Lighthouse will be open for climbing at the end of the meeting if the weather cooperates.

Membership – The Total membership numbers were 212 single, 272 family for a total of 756 members. Mary Beth reminded everyone that Gift Memberships (available at the Membership Table) are a great holiday gift. Attendance at the meeting totaled 86 members.

Newsletter - THE BEAM - Mike Boucher

Mike asked that anyone vacationing or visiting lighthouses please consider writing an article for The BEAM. Please share your vacation photos and/or stories! Please don't be afraid to submit an article! January 23rd is the deadline for the next edition of The BEAM.

Website –Howard Wright

Please send any good Lighthouse Challenge pictures that you might have to webmaster@njlhs.org. The next group of vintage BEAMs is being posted on the website. Please visit the site and see for yourself.

Challenge – Doreen Berson

- The 2009 NJ Lighthouse Challenge was a success despite the horrendous weather. 1,733 started the Challenge and 1,359 completed. While the numbers are down slightly from 2008 they are very impressive considering the raging nor'easter that hit that weekend.
- Both boat trips were cancelled due to weather and will be rescheduled sometime in 2010. Payments were refunded to all who had signed up. Doreen gave a BIG Thanks to Faith Giamboi for writing and mailing all of those checks. In 2010, the trips will be coordinated by Apryl Roach, NJLHS Trip Coordinator. Details to follow.
- Challenge merchandise still available for purchase includes the 10th Anniversary Commemorative Program and some extra large t-shirts. Please see Doreen or Laura Portée if you are interested.
- The future of the Challenge will be discussed at the annual Lighthouse Managers Meeting in January.
- Doreen & Laura thanked everyone who has been part of the New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge® in the past 10 years. Chairing the event has been a rewarding & challenging experience.

Ways & Means – Marty Hudspeth

- A beautiful new ornament showing Robbins Reef Lighthouse is now available at Ways & Means for \$10.00.
- Carol Winkie has volunteered to help as a member of a Ways & Means Committee which will pick up responsibilities when Marty retires as Chairperson at the end of the year.
- Anthony Albence volunteered to work with Carol to develop a plan for handling Ways & Means in 2010.
- Marty, Mary Beth and the rest of the membership gave a **BIG** thank you to Carol and Anthony for stepping forward to help in this important area.

Nominating Committee Report & 2010 Elections – Mary Beth

- Betty Smith, Chairperson of the 2010 Nominating Committee, provided Mary Beth with the recommended slate of candidates prior to the September 26 meeting. However, since there was not a quorum at that meeting, Betty's report and the recommended slate of candidates was published in The BEAM to give the membership two opportunities to review the recommendation: in The BEAM and again at the December membership meeting.
- The recommended slate of candidates was:
 - Jayne Swope – Corresponding Secretary (returning)
 - Jim Cope – Director (returning)
 - Doreen Berson – Director (returning)
 - Mike Boucher - Director
- All nominated candidates have agreed to serve if elected.
- Mary Beth then called for any other candidate nominations from the membership.
- There being no further nominations from the floor, the candidate slate was approved, viva voce, per Roberts Rules, 10th Edition, pp 427-429.

Treasurer's Report: Faith Giamboi

Faith started by reminding the membership of the process for recording & reporting sales, deposits and purchases. Any time a bank deposit is made; all copies of the deposit slip should be validated by the bank teller. Understanding the process is particularly important for Committee Chairs.

Treasury figures for December 5, 2009 were as follows:

Operating Account	\$12,748.44
Sandy Hook Account	31,149.09
Challenge Account	2,849.78
Preservation Account	18,311.70
Memorial Fund	<u>4,156.21</u>
Society Balance	\$69,215.22

The Treasurer's Report was submitted for file.

1st Vice President's Report – Brett Franks**Preservation**

- Helping Hands has now been re-named "Wandering Wickies" to better represent our lighthouse keeper heritage. The Wickies cleaned the Cape May Lens for the Challenge
- No change in status for Ludlum. The lighthouse must be moved temporarily and the final site is still in question.
- The 2009 Raffle has been cancelled due to problems securing a NJ State license. Brett is working to resolve for 2010.

Historian: No update

Sandy Hook Report – Tom Laverty for Ken Schumacher (who was volunteering @ Sandy Hook)

- Sandy Hook volunteers are down significantly this year (down to 42 from 53). Bridge construction has been a significant factor in the decline.
- Attendance numbers were still strong at the lighthouse with fewer volunteers working harder to provide more tours and greet more visitors than in 2008.
- 2009 Statistics: 759 tours, 5327 climbers, 13,126 visitors handled by 42 volunteers serving 2,686 volunteer hours.

Recognition Committee – Tom Laverty

Tom led the Society in recognizing three important, hard working and wonderfully successful members:

- **Doreen Berson** – recognized for her years of service first as a member of the Challenge committee and then as Challenge Chairperson
- **Laura Portée** – recognized for her work as Challenge Co-Chair and as the Wizard of Facts and Figures.
- **Marty Hudspeth** – recognized for her many years working Ways and Means, first with her husband Bob, and then as Chairperson.

2nd Vice President Report – (Cindy Mitzen was not able to attend due to a death in the family)

Community Outreach – Anthony Albence

- Anthony recognized all of the volunteers who helped make 2009 a strong year for Community Outreach events. Particular thanks went to Alan and Amy Mertz for coordinating the Society's efforts at the Warren County Farmer's Fair and to Mary Catherine Kennedy for her continued support at a wide range of Community Outreach events.
- Watch for the 2010 Outreach schedule to be posted on the Society website.
- Thank you to Marty & Sheila for their Ways & Means support at so many of the Outreach events.

Education Outreach / Speakers Bureau – Bill Volpe

- 2009 statistics: 25 talks to 1,200 people
- Bill will be turning over the chairman position to Bob Gleason at the end of the year. During Bill's watch, Educational Outreach or Speakers Bureau completed 240 speaking engagements and touched over 10,200 people.
- Bill thanked key contributors Jim & Nancy Cope, Faith Giamboi, Brett Franks, and Mike Boucher. Bill personally presented the lighthouse story to 5,250 people during his term.
- In 2010, Bill will continue as an active speaker and plans to work with Mike Boucher to develop a Children's Lighthouse Activity Book to help stimulate interest..
- See Bill if you would like to donate a Lighthouse Education Kit to a 4th Grade Class. He has a special \$20 rate thru the end of the year.

Trips – Apryl Roach

- The second Seaway Trail trip, to Henderson Harbor, is on hold because Apryl has gotten limited response from the ship captains in the area.
- Plan to reschedule Challenge Boat Trips in the May and the July timeframes. May combine June meeting with a boat trip.
- Lighthouse Lovers Package – weekend trip to Norwalk Connecticut (Sheffield Island Lighthouse) in August/September timeframe.
- Southeast Lighthouse Tour – 7-10 day trip to Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina. Tentatively planned as a one week tour beginning on October 22nd.
- Will look to start locking in trip dates during the January board meeting so please watch the website for updates starting in late January.
- Also planning to include a trips corner in THE BEAM for updates.
- Please forward any trip suggestions to Apryl at trips@njlhs.org.

Programs: (Cindy Mitzen was not able to attend due to a death in the family)

- The next meeting is scheduled for March 20th in the Absecon area and will include the Annual Photo Contest. The photo categories will be listed in THE BEAM and include a new category, "Lights from the Water". Gary Martin is the scheduled guest speaker.
- Watch the NJLHS website for the exact location as well as information on the other 2010 meeting sites & dates.

Before breaking for lunch and the guest speaker, Mary Beth recognized Betty Smith and the Holiday Committee for all of the hard work that they did to provide the desserts for the holiday social here in Paulsboro.

There being no further Business, Mary Beth asked for and Greg Fitzgerald made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Jim Cope and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:12 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert E. Gleason
Recording Secretary