U N I T E D S T A T E S

Lighthouse Society Bulletin

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KEEPER OF THE QUARTER

Our 1st Keeper of the Quarter for 1996 is Sheila Ramos of Sequim, Washington. Sheila was elected President of the Society's New Dungeness Chapter this past year. She brings excellent management skills to the Chapter's Board of Directors. The Chapter acts as caretaker of the New Dungeness Light Station.

Sheila began her position as the Chapter was experiencing growing pains and staff problems. Her clear vision and strong leadership smoothed out the workings. Her vision for the future will bode well for our 1864 station in the future. We raise our Keeper's Hat to Sheila Ramos, Keeper of the Quarter.

SEQUIN ISLAND LOOKING FOR CARETAKERS

The Friends of Sequin Island are looking for a summer caretaker. The caretaker will provide a presence on the island to deter would be vandals and will help in the maintenance of the island and it's buildings.

May 19, 1794, Congress approved an act to erect the Sequin Island Lighthouse. We could find no documentation on how much Congress appropriated, but March 2, 1797 an additional $1,170.00 was appropriated for "completing a light-house on the island of Sequin." The items needing completion were not noted.

March 3, 1819 brought approval of another act concerning Sequin. "That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to cause . . . the present wood tower, at the Sequin light-house, in the State of Massachusetts, to be replaced with one of stone."

W. B. Franklin (Light-house Inspector of the First District) wrote a letter dated September 30, 1855 appearing in the 1854-1855 Report on the Finances. Mr. Franklin states: "Sequin light-house needs rebuilding, and should be fitted with a first-order lens. New dwelling-houses are also needed. The tower, lantern, and dwelling-houses will require $25,000. If the above recommendations be carried out, the arrangement of these three first-order *seacoast* lights will be that recommended by the temporary light-house board in 1851." Mr. Franklin stated earlier in the letter that Mount Desert Rock and Matinicus Rock should receive first-order lenses.

If you would like to add to the continuing history of the Sequin lighthouse by applying for the summer caretaker position, contact Ann Webster-Wallace; Friends of Sequin Island; PO Box 438; Georgetown ME 04548.

BIG BAY POINT PREPARES FOR 100 YEAR CELEBRATION

Linda Gamble runs the Big Bay Point Lighthouse and is putting together a celebration for its 100th anniversary. Big Bay Point was first lit on October 20, 1896 and the celebration is planned for the weekend of October 19 and 20, 1996. Linda would like to hear from former Keepers, their descendants, or anyone that grew up around the lighthouse. She would also like photographs of the keepers, their families, and life at the lighthouse.

Anyone having information on the history of the lighthouse or former keepers please contact Linda Gamble at PO Box 3; Big Bay, MI 49808. If you are interested in the planned celebration, you may contact Linda at the same address.

CAPTAIN CICCOLELLA'S FAMILY DONATES LIGHTHOUSE ARTIFACTS

Retired Coast Guard Captain, and Society member, Joseph Ciccolella passed away in 1993. A few months ago his daughter called and wanted to know if we would be interested in his collection of lighthouse items.

Captain Ciccolella joined the Lighthouse Service in 1936 as an engineer. When the Coast Guard took over lighthouses in 1939, he received a commission. Most of his career was spent as an aids to navigation engineer.

We accepted the offer, not knowing what to expect. In January, we received 48 boxes of files and albums. Captain Ciccolella apparently never threw anything out; contained in the boxes were thousands of post cards, photographs, articles on lighthouses and lightships, generic and professional books, lighthouse logos, and even a wool District Inspector's flag.

The addition to our library and archives is overwhelming. We are busy arranging our library and file room to accommodate these items. Our sincerest appreciation to the Ciccolella family for their generous donation.

TWO LIGHTHOUSE CRUISES SPONSORED BY MID-ATLANTIC CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts (MAC) is sponsoring the Delaware Bay Lighthouse Adventure from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. April 27, and again on May 4, 1996. This adventure will be a four-hour cruise to view Brandywine Shoal, Fourteen Foot Bank, Miah Maull, Cross Ledge, and Ship John Shoal lighthouses.

Each cruise will be aboard the *Cape May Whale Watcher*. The vessel is a premier ocean vessel and is over 100 feet long. It features more than 350 feet of rail viewing space, seating capacity for 290 passengers, 90 seat upper sundeck, and an enclosed cabin. The vessel will leave from the Miss Chris Fishing Center at 3rd Avenue and Wilson Drive in Cape May.

Tickets for the Delaware Bay Lighthouse Adventure are $30.00 per person. For more information, contact MAC; PO Box 340; 1048 Washington St; Cape May NJ 08204 or call (609) 884-5404. To purchase tickets, call (800) 275-4278. Proceeds from this adventure benefit the ongoing restoration of the Cape May Lighthouse.

FIRST COMPLETED PASSPORT RETURNED TO THE SOCIETY

The first person to turn in a completed passport was Robert Newton of Renton, Washington. Robert lives near the Seattle/Puget Sound area lighthouses and accompanied the Society on the Maine 1995 lighthouse tour. He had also traveled to other areas allowing him to visit lighthouses around the country. With the Society accepting a photograph of himself in front of a participating lighthouse, Robert was able to successfully fill the passport (even though some of the lighthouses weren't as cooperative as they should have been).

We congratulate Robert Newton on a fine job and hope this will encourage others to see the light.

PASSPORT NEWS

The following lighthouses have joined the passport program. Some information may be missing from these listings as verification had not been finished by time of printing.

Alki Point: Open Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays May 15 through September 30 between noon and 4:00 p.m. Fees: None. The "Passport" stamp will be located at the lighthouse. For further information, contact Operations Officer; US Coast Guard Group Seattle; 1519 Alaskan Way S; Seattle, WA 98134-1192 or phone (206) 217-6138.

Currituck Beach: Open daily Easter through Thanksgiving between 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Fees: ??. The "Passport" stamp will be located in the lighthouse. For further information, contact Debbie Westner (Site Manager); PO Box 361; Corolla, NC 27927 or phone 919/453-8152.

Point No Point: Open Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays May 15 through September 30 between noon and 4:00 p.m. Fees: None. The "Passport" stamp will be located at the lighthouse. For further information, contact Operations Officer; US Coast Guard Group Seattle; 1519 Alaskan Way S; Seattle, WA 98134-1192 or phone (206) 217-6138.

Point Robinson: Open Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays May 15 through September 30 between noon and 4:00 p.m. Fees: None. The "Passport" stamp will be located at the lighthouse. For further information, contact Operations Officer; US Coast Guard Group Seattle; 1519 Alaskan Way S; Seattle, WA 98134-1192 or phone (206) 217-6138.

IT'S A BOY!



Our membership director, Denise Kendall, delivered the newest member of our lighthouse family on January 11, 1996. Derrick Allen arrived at 8:28 a.m. and weighed a hefty 8 pounds, 4 ounces. We expect Denise to return from her maternity leave around the beginning of March. In Denise's absence, Marian DiSilva filled in admirably.

SOCIETY HOURS

The office is open Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Pacific time (the equivalent of 9-5 Mountain, 10-6 Central, or 11-7 Eastern time).

We will be closed for the following holidays between March 1 and August 1, 1996: May 27 (Memorial Day) and July 4 (Independence Day).

Wayne will be out of the office on the following days between March 1 and August 1, 1996: May 17 through 21 (North Carolina 1 tour), June 15 through 19 (Cape Cod 3), and July 9 through 21 (Norway 1 tour).

CHAPTER CHATTER

This section will list any upcoming events and announcements for the Society Chapters. For further information on events, or the chapter itself, contact the person listed. This is an excellent way to meet your lighthouse loving neighbors.

CHESAPEAKE CHAPTER: Herb Entwistle; 211 Ross Drive, SW; Vienna, VA 22180. March 30, 1996 a tour of Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum plus a lunch cruise to Bloody Point Bar Lighthouse is planned. An evening cruise from Baltimore to Annapolis and back on the *Royal Blue* is planned for April 27, 1996. June 22, 1996 a meeting at the Concord Point Lighthouse and cruise to Turkey Point and Fishing Battery Lighthouses is planned. An extensive cruise of the Chesapeake Bay is planned for July 20 and 21, 1996.

CHINCOTEAGUE CHAPTER: Richard Vesely; Chincoteague Taxpayers Committee; PO Box 345; Chincoteague, VA 23336.

MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER: Joan Nelson; 104 Satuit Trail; Scituate, MA 02066

NEW DUNGENESS CHAPTER: Eric Henriksson; PO Box 1283; Sequim, WA 98382. Internet address: http://www.maine.com/lights/dungenes.htm

NEW YORK CHAPTER: Nancy Fiske; New York Harbor Lights; 96 Hillcrest Terr; Staten Island NY 10305-1513. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at the Art Lab at Snug Harbor. A New York Harbor Lighthouse Tour/Dinner Cruise is planned for May 11, 1996. This would make an excellent Mothers Day Gift. A trip to Cape May is tentatively planned for October 12 through 14, 1996.

OREGON CHAPTER: Michael Noack; President; PO Box 600; Lakeside, OR 97449. A meeting is planned at Charleston featuring a sunset cruise to photograph the Cape Arago Lighthouse in April. A meeting and work weekend is planned at Bandon assisting Oregon State Parks personnel during their Coquille River Lighthouse celebration in June. A meeting is planned in August to help the Yaquina Bay Lighthouse celebrate its 125th anniversary. A meeting in November will feature tours of Cape Disappointment and North Head Lighthouses, the