

Big Diamond

VOL. 11 No. 2

www.HillsboroLighthouse.org

July 2008



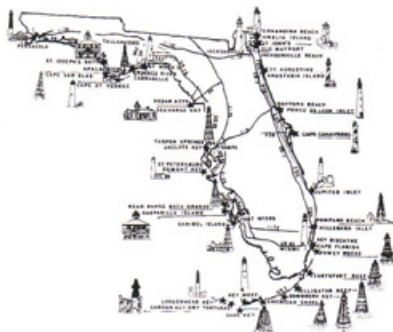
FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE SPECIALTY TAG

After more than a decade of trying, the Florida Lighthouse Association (FLA) is finally getting a Florida lighthouse license plate for fellow citizens.

Countless members and friends of FLA volunteered time, materials and funds to achieve the \$60,000.00 fee and the survey cost of \$14,000 to achieve this goal. Much of the money was raised in memory of Gene Oaks, former FLA president who was a fervent believer of the tag as a means of producing income necessary for the preservation, restoration and repair of Florida's beautiful, historic lighthouses.

Current president, Stanley Farnham, who has worked tirelessly over the past few years providing leadership, saw the goal finally accomplished when the bill authorizing the "Visit Our Lights" tag was approved by both the Florida Senate and the House of Representatives. Governor Crist signed the bill on May 28, 2008.

You will be paying twenty-five dollars extra when you renew your yearly tag. Over 90% of that will go to repair and restore Florida's historic lighthouses. HLPS congratulates the FLA for making their dream a reality. The Tag Agency will have these license plates available by January or February 2009. Please consider a Florida lighthouse tag for your cars.



JULY TOUR RESCHEDULED

Hurricane Wilma and more recent storms did a lot of damage to the USCG dock at the Hillsboro Inlet Light Station. Funding and the many permits for a new USCG dock have taken time. Now they have been obtained and construction is scheduled to start in July.

AUGUST 16th LIGHTHOUSE TOUR

This August will be the 8th anniversary of the repair of the rotation system and relighting of the Fresnel Lens. It's a good time to celebrate with a tour of this historic 101 year old tower.

HLPS's starting point for the Lighthouse Tour will be at the dock of Sands Harbor Hotel, 125 N. Riverside Dr. in Pompano Beach, your parking across the street at Pompano's City Parking Lot. Allow 3 hours for parking fee. A 49 passenger boat will be shuttling to and from the lighthouse about every 50 minutes beginning at 9:00 A.M. and continuing from the Sands Harbor dock until 3:00 P.M. The Lighthouse Station will be closed at 4:30 P.M. and anyone left at the Lighthouse Station will be taken back by the dive boat at that time.

ATTENTION: NEW MAILING ADDRESS !

Mail to be sent to HLPS, including dues & donations must be addressed to:
P.O. Box 610326
Pompano Beach, FL 33061-0326
HLPS has no other postal address.





Do you know Liz? Have you met her at the Lighthouse?

Elizabeth M. Clark. Member of USCG Auxiliary
Flotilla 3-7, Lighthouse Point, Florida.



Liz is not your typical US Coast Guard Auxiliary member. For one thing, she holds a Captain's license, Oceans, Unlimited Tonnage. She is also a marine consultant, a marine surveyor, a certified commercial pilot with Air Transport Pilot qualifications, a certified flight instructor and holds two different Assistant District Office positions in the Seventh District Auxiliary staff. Did I forget to mention that she also holds a Flotilla job as The Commander.

Liz graduated from the US Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York in June 1959 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Transportation and Navigation, a 3rd mate's license unlimited and a commission as an Ensign in the US Navy Reserve. She served on active duty for one year and then began her Merchant Marine career.

For the next 40 years, Liz traveled the seas around the world. She has experienced dry-docking worldwide. She performed vessel cargo, hull and machinery surveys on vessels from US Navy to various cargo and container ships. During the period 1964 to 1973, she was the master of 500 foot cargo ships that delivered cargo all over the Middle East area from Indonesia to Viet Nam. She remembers three of the first four times going up the river to Saigon. "The ship before me go with rockets but I got through safely", she told me. She also remembered one time eating at an establishment in Saigon, when the Viet Cong set off explosives only a couple of stores down the street. Liz distinctly remembers having to anchor in the harbor, only feet away from the banks of what everyone called "VC territory". Her last vessel as Captain was an 860 foot containership for Sealand Service going from the West Coast of the US to the Aleutian Islands and Far East for the last eleven years before she retired. She has owned many boats during her life, mainly sail boats. Her present boat is a modest 30 foot Grady-White, down from her last boat-a 50 foot catamaran.

She remembers that she always wanted to fly and after she moved to Florida in 1965 studied on her own. Within a year she received her private pilot's license and five months later had her commercial license. After every sea trip she would have 2 to 5 months of shore time. This is when she would crank up her Piper Apache twin-engine and ferry people all over Florida and to the Bahamas. She doesn't own a plane anymore but fondly remembers being a part owner in a Champion Citaborea (that's aerobatic spelled backward) back in the early 1960's. The flying club she belonged to then shared this plane. She gleefully recalls that it cost her \$2.00 to \$3.00 an hour to fly.

Elizabeth, all right, Liz, retired in 1997 from the Merchant Marines with the rank of Captain, but this has not stopped her from continuing her proficiency qualifications. As late as 2002 she was taking courses from the Maritime Technology Institute in Fort Lauderdale, such courses as Bridge Resource Management, Medical Emergency, Personal Survival and Basic Fire Fighting.

Liz and her US Coast Guard Auxiliary volunteer team have been and will continue to be in the future at the USCG Light Station to assist and oversee general security of the visitors and members of HLPS.

**The Cultural Arts Committee. of the City of Pompano Beach is celebrating the
2008 Centennial of the City with monthly Fine Arts Exhibits at two free sites:**

Herb Skolnick Community Center
800 S.W. 36th Avenue, Pompano Beach
954 786 4590 (see schedule below *)

E. Pat Larkins Community Center
520 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Pompano Beach
954 786 4585 (see schedule below **)

The pictures for the August 2008 exhibit must have the Hillsboro Inlet Lighthouse and/or its grounds shown within the painting or photo. Thirty pictures may be displayed at each site - first come, first served. Minimum size is 12"x16", framed and wired for hanging. Maximum size is 40" x 40".

What better advertizing for our lighthouse! Do you know that many thousands of Broward residents do not even know there is a lighthouse nearby? HLPS plans to have five pictures displayed and one member is anxious to have four of his pictures displayed. So if you have a nice picture or two of the lighthouse that measures within the above framed sizes, please send the following information by mail or email to:

Marcia Hirschy, 2625 S.E. 5 Court, Pompano Beach 33062 or by E-mail at
coolqueenie22@bellsouth.net BEFORE July 20, 2008

Picture Title, Artist's name (if known), owner's name, your name & phone number.

[Only thirty pictures can be displayed at each site, first come - first served.]

* Delivery date to Skolnick Center is Monday, August 4, 11:15-1:00, Pick up: Tuesday, Sept 2

** Delivery date to Larkins Center is Tuesday, August 5, 10 - 12noon Pick up: Wed., Sept. 3

For additional information call Marcia at 954 941 8269.

PLEASE PATRONIZE HLPS BUSINESS MEMBERS:

Businesses have joined at the business/corporate/company level of membership in the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society, Inc. We thank them for their generous support of HLPS and the projects that we have. Please patronize their business.

Ben & Jeannie Ellis, CRS, Real Estate Brokers, Mail Address: P.O. Box 2103. Pompano Beach, 33061 Ph.:
(954) 401-6471 www.WaterfrontHomesAndLiving.com E-mail: WaterfrontHomes@bellsouth.net

Beacon Images, Photographs by Von Staden, Nichalas & Sandy Von Staden of Pompano Beach, Phones:
(954) 696-09918 & (954) 401-0932, E-mail: nvonstuden@comcast.net

Black Rhino Hurricane Shutters & Impact Glass, Inc. 432 S. Military Trail, Deerfield Beach, FL 33442
Ph.: (954) 734-4411, Web: www.BlackRinoShutters.com E-mail: Makenian@BlackRinoShutters.com

JenCo Plumbing Services, Inc. Wayne Jenkins, 1530 S.W. 7 Ave., Pompano Beach, FL 33060
Ph. (954)788-2802 FAX: (954) 788-2803 E-mail: JencoPlumbing@bellsouth.net

Martin C. Kidwell, CPA 950 N. Federal Hwy., Suite 211, Pompano Beach, FL 33062 Phone: 954-784-0090

Lighthouse Insurance, Inc., Attn. Wm. Roger Grissinger, 2731 NE 8 Ct., Pompano Beach (954) 786-1640

Lighthouse Yachts, Inc. 2400 E. Commercial Blvd. #206, Ft. Lauderdale (954) 727-2204
E-mail: MgCurran@LighthouseYachts.com

Richard L. Niebling, 2629 N. Riverside Dr., Pompano Beach, FL 33062

Palm Tree Doctor, William & Linda Giles, 430 S. Dixie Hwy W. Pompano Beach, FL 33060 Ph.: (954) 946-3600
E-mail: Linda@Palmtreeedr.com

William A. Webb & Associates, CPA 404 E. Atlantic Blvd., Pompano Beach, FL 33060(954)782-5250
E-mail: Bill@webbcpa.com

Light Management, Inc., Attn. Josh Kerrigan, 101 N. Riverside Dr., Pompano Beach, FL 33062, Ph: 954-941-6447

Cub Scout Pack #222

Gold Coast Amateur Radio Club
Howard & Verna DeHaan

**Recently three of our members, Arne Baekkelund, Irene Isler Lang
and Stuart McIver have died and are in God's loving care.**

LIFE AT HILLSBORO LIGHT STATION IN THE 1930s and 40s

The following reminiscence was made by Harriet Stone Simmons just before she and her family came to celebrate Hillsboro Lighthouse's 100th birthday, in March 2007. Her father, Benjamin F. Stone, was a Keeper at Hillsboro in the early 1920s - 1926, then Keeper at Cape Canaveral and Head Keeper again at Hillsboro 1936 until his death in 1942.



3 of Keeper Stone's children, George, Harriet & Fred

As children of the Keeper, what did we do at Hillsboro Lighthouse back in the 1930s and 40s? Well, during the school year we walked from the lighthouse, past the Hillsboro Club, thru the hammock to A1A to catch the school bus to Pompano. At both the elementary and high school we were known as "Beanpickers".

In the afternoons we went swimming 'til the sun was almost down. Then we would climb the Lighthouse steps with our father to take down the curtains that protected the lens during the day. We helped polish the lens, too. Daddy would say to keep our hands covered with the cloth as the lens panes could chip if we touched them with our fingers. He also did not want finger prints on the lens.

Not having toys or TV, we had a see-saw, flying ginny and a spring board that our father had made. If we were too rough or got hurt, we couldn't play on them for a couple of days. Having four brothers I thought I was just as tough as them.

We had animals in cages – a raccoon, two skunks, a rabbit and a ten foot alligator named Joe. We would feed them and clean their cages. It took two of us to clean Joe's cage, one of us to scratch between his eyes to keep him asleep while the other scrubbed the cage.

On weekends during the school season or during the summer we would go up in the Lighthouse with binoculars to check for turtle crawls. Now it is against the law to even touch a turtle egg, but back then when we found them we would dig up the eggs and sell them to Cap's Place, the restaurant across from the Lighthouse. There the cooks would make turtle egg pancakes. We also would row Cap's guest boat from A1A to take parties across the Intracoastal to the restaurant for dinner. The people gave us tips for the ride. Also Cap's Place had no phone, so we took reservations for them at the Lighthouse phone.

At low tide the sand bar was out of water so we could dig for clams. When Mrs. Ruby Alexander, the bridge tender, wanted some, we would dig them up and float with incoming tide to take the bucket of clams over to the bridge. Mrs Alexander would then make clam patties for her two daughters, Kathleen and Mary and us kids. Then at high tide we'd jump off the bridge and swim home in the clear water, so clear you could see the bottom of the inlet.

When the Hillsboro Club was closed for the summer, we had the beach to ourselves. We would comb the beach for shells and sea beans. You could polish the sea beans which was my brother, Fred's job. The best shells were on the coral reefs and on the north corner of the inlet. We would find bleeding hearts, conchs, star fish, porcupines, sand dollars and many other shells. Under the edge of the reef, with the help of a glass bottom bucket, we would get lobster and tiny fish. We would make more spending money by selling what we caught. When we went fishing in the ocean, Mom would send a lunch with us and put a lemon in for me as I was always getting sea sick. The lemon would settle my stomach. There are granite boulders that had been brought in to help keep the beach from eroding. These boulders had holes large enough so we could hide in them. We had wiener roasts down there, too. We did everything as a family. We did not have much company because the Lighthouse was government property.

A most exciting time living at the Lighthouse was getting a ship to salute us as it steamed by. We would lower flag to half mast and the ship would blow off steam three times. Daddy would not let us do this very often because the ship might lose so much steam it would be hard to get up enough steam in time to get in to Port Everglades. — Those were the best years of my life. Today I love living close enough to be able to visit the place where I grew up.

HLPS OFFICERS

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Daniel E. Gordon
1st Vice President
Frederick R. MacLean, Jr
2nd Vice President
Jack Burrie
Secretary
Charles J. Seitz
Treasurer
Hibbard Casselberry
Director &
Administrative Mgr.
Joyce Hager
Director, Gift Shop Mgr.

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– USCG Affairs
Dr. Ray McAllister
Media & Maritime
Barry Dockswell
Government Affairs

COUNCIL:

Edward J. Chandler, Esq.

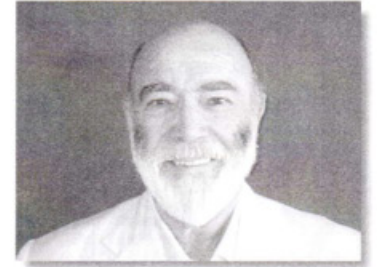


Hillsboro Lighthouse

President's Letter

I find myself in a position to report to our membership all positive and good news about our Lighthouse.

To start with, the most important issue:



TOURS TO THE LIGHTHOUSE. As you are all aware, in the past we experienced conflicting dates, cancellations and re-scheduling of the Lighthouse tours and events. This led us to disappoint our membership and the public. Not a good feeling. Now here is the good news. Under a very special licensing agreement with the USCG, your HLPS will be allowed to conduct tours, even more than three or four times a year. Why this change all of a sudden? Well, it did not happen all of a sudden. Like a category 5 Hurricane, it took multiple elements and a lot of time to have this factor become a reality. We must thank The U.S. Coast Guard, The U.S. Coast Guard 7th District, The Hillsboro Inlet District Authority and The Hillsboro Club, for bringing about this change. I will try to inform you more on this subject in future issues of the Big Diamond.

It was reported that our Lighthouse lens was not in function for a lengthy period. Among many basic components of the lens rotating mechanism, there is a worn gear on the outer shaft of the gearbox. Apparently, the subject gear failed and needed replacement. This failure kept the mighty Fresnel lens out of service for several weeks. The good news is that a new gear has been remanufactured locally and installed by our local CG technicians.

While I was overseas for a month, I was advised that one of our very important HLPS Board Members, Kay McGinn, had resigned after serving that position for many years. Kay's contributions to our small organization were immeasurable. In fact, without her presence many issues would not have materialized. Thank you, Kay McGinn.

The State of Florida will now join the ranks of other US Coastal States by having its own Lighthouse auto license plate. (Please see the separate article and the picture in this issue.) I urge all lighthouse enthusiasts to use this plate to support not only our Lighthouse, but all the Lighthouses in this State.

On May 29, 2008, HLPS held a Board of Directors meeting at Sand's Hotel. The Board unanimously voted for Barry Dockswell to join the HLPS Board. Please join me in welcoming Barry as the new member of our Board of Directors team.

I thank you for your patience and your continued support for our efforts. I look forward to many fun filled gatherings in the near future at the Lighthouse.

Art Makenian

HLPS MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Prices have soared in all areas of our lives since Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society became an organization in 1997. We do not wish to raise the price of belonging to this organization, but feel there should be clarification of the different levels and for "nonmembers". ** Our chartered transportation cost has gone up.

MEMBERSHIPS:

Assistant Keeper Level – consists of one person, 1 year privileges of transportation to and from each tour, quarterly newsletters and additional announcements of other activities during that year.

Keeper Level – consists of 1 year, same as Assistant Keeper, except includes a family living under one roof.

Business Level – consists of 1 year, same as Assistant Keeper for a business or organization. They can bring up to 8 business associates or members to each HLPS activity, different ones each time if they choose.

The business/organization will be listed in each newsletter, "Big Diamond".

Life Member – consists of life membership (one household) with same privileges as Keeper Level.

NON-MEMBER:

**We are adding a new stipulation, not a membership. For those people who want to partake of a Lighthouse Tour without joining the Organization (this would include house guests and relatives who do not live with you), the transportation fee to and from the Lighthouse will be added.

- One time only transportation fee (per person) -----\$ 15.00 each time.
- Assistant Keeper, one year (one person) -----\$ 25.00 per Year.
- Keeper, one year (one household) -----\$ 35.00 per Year.
- Business/Organization, one yr. (Up to 8 people per tour) ----\$ 50.00 per Year.
- Life Membership (one household) -----\$500.00 one time.

✂ Cut here or photocopy and mail it.

**Be a part of History: Join / Rejoin The Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society, Inc.
HLPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & RENEWAL FORM - 2008**

Please enroll me (us) in the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society, HLPS. **PLEASE PRINT**
Enclosed is a check or money order for the level of membership I (we) have selected in the column on the right.

Name: _____
 Household (How many) _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: ___ Zip: _____
 E-mail: _____
 Business Name: _____
 Website: _____
 Fax: _____

Check Type Classification Desired:

- Individual Mbr. \$25.00 Annual
- Household Mbr. \$35.00
- Business Mbr. \$50.00
- Life Member \$500.00
- Nonmember \$15.00 one time each

Committee Interests:

- Publication Membership
- Meeting Help Tour Guide
- Art Collection Education
- Memory Book Parades
- Publicity History
- Other: _____

Mail this information & payment to:

Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society, Inc. (HLPS)
P.O. Box 610326
Pompano Beach, FL 33061-0326
HLPS is a non-profit corporation, is tax exempt under Section 501 (C) (3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.
Donors may deduct contributions as provided in Section 170.
HLPS was chartered in Florida in 1909.

Notes & suggestions to HLPS from you:

NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS SINCE H.L.P.S.'s Feb. '08 NEWSLETTER

erson, Nancy	Downie, Donald & Rosalynn	Johns, Tracey	Richard, Gloria
Angelico, Thomas & GERALYN	Ellis, Ben & Jeannie	Kenoyer, Steve & Linda	Robinson, Charles & Margy
Bean, David	Emmons, Roger	Kidwell, Martin C., CPA*	Ross, Wes
Black Rhino Shutters & Impact Glass *	Evans, George & Maddie	King, Ron & Margaret	Schmidlin, Charles & Alice
Blankenship, Gail	Fanning, Dennis & Linda	Knight, Bob	Shamblin, Larry & Vicki
Burrows, Roland	Farrar, Robert E.	LaPrade, Walter & Deborah	Siegel, William & Sandra
Campbell, J.	Fassoles, John & Sue	Lighthouse Yachts *	Stone, Robert & Karen
Cleary, Scott	Fauss, David & Melissa	McNab, Bob & Margery	Tiedeman, Marian
Coate, Daniel & family	Foss, Alice F.	Mills, Doug	VonStaden, Nicholas / Sandy*
Corcoran, Colette	Fowler, David	Murphy, John & Claire	Weingarten, Darlene
Cowdrey, Bob & Dot	Garten, Kevin & Jessica	Niebling, Richard L. *	White, Edward W.
Curry, Robert	Healy, Pat	Noble, Dick & Pat	Workman, Thomas & Maureen
Czocher, James & Joyce	Helf, Jim	O'Connell, Bob & Terry	
Daher, John & Joy	Hernet, Steve & Carol	O'Mara, Thomas & Albina	
Dinverno, James & Vicki	Hilty, Barbara	Oyer, Harvey, Jr.	* = Business Membership
	Jacobsen, Nills & Ronnie Farr	Palm Tree Doctor *	** = LIFE MEMBERS

DONATIONS:

Monetary Contributions: George & Muriel McCullar (for Education) and Marvin & Alice Iuen

Artwork for Feb. 29 Display & Sale: Pat Anderson (Lighthouse Point), Joseph Bass (St. Louis, MO), Paul Bradley (Ft. Lauderdale), Ed Dietrich (Deerfield Beach), Kay McGinn (Pompano Beach), David Shing (Pompano Beach), Michael A. Spear (Pompano Beach), George Thompson (Pompano Beach), plus several small items that were donated in the past to HLPS.

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEER HELPERS

(Since February 2008 Newsletter)

Newsletter Layout: Hib & Martha Casselberry, **Publisher:** Minuteman Press of Ft. Lauderdale

Newsletter Mailing Feb.: Hib & Martha Casselberry, Dan & Travis Devendorf, Bob O'Connell and Kim Zeman.

Feb. 29 Annual Meeting & Dinner: Jack Burrie, Hib & Martha Casselberry, Joyce Hager and Art Makenian.

Month of April: Art Showing at Broward County Stirling Road Library- Pen & Ink Sketches by Paul Bradley (sponsored by HLPS) and Hib & Martha Casselberry. **Movers for Larger Warehouse space:** Jack Burrie, Dan Devendorf, Fred MacLean, Bob O'Connell & Bill Slager. **HLPS new Brochures Editing:** Ray McAllister, Art Makenian, Hib Casselberry & Jack Burrie.

HELP NEEDED: News Release coordinator (distribute to newspapers, TV & radio), File Clerk (to file business papers in HLPS cabinet), Membership Go-getter (contact people to join HLPS), Volunteer Coordinator, School Coordinator (make contacts with schools for HLPS education programs).



Display by Sheldon Voss



Scouts & parents at the top



“Sunrise at Lighthouse” by Scott Martin, Photographer, a framed 40” x 30” piece donated to HLPS and will be exhibited in August’s Pompano Beach art exhibit. (See p. 3)

Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society, Inc.
(New) P. O. Box 610326, Pompano Beach, FL 33061-0326

Answering Phone: (954) 942-2102 with FAQ
HLPS Website: www.HillsboroLighthouse.org
HLPS E-mail: Info@HillsboroLighthouse.org
JULY 2008



If there is a red mark around your expiration date, please send in your renewal payment and form

FIRST CLASS MAIL

This is your statis.