

Official Newsletter of  
Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society

# Big Diamond

VOL. 13 No. 2

[www.hillsborolighthouse.org](http://www.hillsborolighthouse.org)

April 2010

## *Tour on Lighthouse's 103rd Anniversary Draws a Crowd*

On a beautiful sunny, but windy day, over 200 people came to the Hillsboro Inlet Light Station on Saturday, March 13th to celebrate the 103rd Anniversary of the Hillsboro Lighthouse. Visitors from all over the world enjoyed tours of the Hillsboro Inlet Lighthouse & Museum, including John and Lorie Roe of Utah, who took time to climb the 175 steps to enjoy the views from the top of the 142-foot tower.

Past HLPS President and Historian Hib Casselberry spent time with visitors discussing the Station's Commemorative "Centennial Brick Patio," plans for which were submitted to the USCG for review on February 24th. The patio pavers, engraved with personalized inscriptions, will be located in a new brick patio to be built on the grounds where the USCG bell and flagpole currently resides.

Designed by Art Makenian, and drawn by retired Architect Paul M. Bradley, the patio will provide its visitors with a delightful setting for viewing the lighthouse.

For more information about upcoming HLPS events and for information on purchasing a commemorative Centennial Patio brick, please visit the HLPS Website at [www.hillsborolighthouse.org](http://www.hillsborolighthouse.org).



*John & Lorie Roe of Utah*

## *HLPS Annual Meeting and Luncheon Announced*

The Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society invites its members to attend our annual meeting and luncheon, scheduled for Saturday, May 8th at noon at **Christine's by the Sea** at the Lighthouse Cove Resort in Pompano Beach, FL.

Distinguished guests are expected to include Rear Admiral Branham CG Dist. 7, the COs of Sector Miami, Fort Lauderdale & other USCG members, the Mayors of Broward County & local municipalities and leaders of other local organizations.

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## *South Florida Coast Guard Association Announces "Evening Under the Stars" at the Hillsboro Light Station*

***"Just an excuse to enjoy a beautiful evening with music and friends at a spectacular location!"***

The South Florida Coast Guard Association (SFCGA), a nonprofit corporation dedicated to providing professional development and networking opportunities for all South Florida Coast Guard personnel, announced "An Evening Under the Stars" at the Hillsboro Lighthouse, scheduled for Tuesday, April 20, 2010 from 6-8pm at the Hillsboro Inlet

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**UPCOMING HILLSBORO LIGHTHOUSE TOUR DATE!**

**April 10th**

**See Page 3**

## From the President

It is hard to believe that three years have gone by since we celebrated the centennial of our lighthouse. I find it even harder to believe that I got involved with the restoration and lighting of the lighthouse sixteen years ago, and I feel very fortunate that I can still spend a considerable amount of time promoting the well being of our Hillsboro Light.

On March 13th, we conducted our second tour of the year, and celebrated the 103rd birthday of the Hillsboro Lighthouse. If you missed the event, the next tour is scheduled for April 10th. I am confident that the weather will be warmer and more pleasant. I intend to request from the Coast Guard to have one of the Historic Keeper's Cottages be opened for viewing if it is not occupied, as we used to do during previous tours. This gives visitors an idea of the Keepers' lifestyle for the past one hundred plus years.

An Annual Membership Meeting is coming up on May 8th at Christine's in Pompano Beach. Our Board and Volunteer Staff members will be looking forward to meeting with you and sharing your opinions of HLPS. It is most important that our members show interest in what goes on, not only with the light, but with the men and women who run it. We have invited USCG leaders to join us at this meeting so we might share our thoughts and concerns. This is a serious civic event not to be ignored by members. Remember, when your interest in this light goes out, so will the light on the Lighthouse. It happened with this and many other lighthouses before and it could happen again.

Let me bring you up to date on the status of our Commemorative Brick Patio project. We have well over one hundred (100) bricks sold to many members and non-members, even military personnel and Coast Guardsmen and their families. I have forwarded the revised plans and a cover letter requesting from the Commandant of the Seventh Coast Guard District, RADM Steve Branham, to consider giving the go ahead. The architectural drawings include the new location and drinking fountain.

I hope to see you at Christine's on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

*Art Makenian*



HELP BEAUTIFY HILLSBORO LIGHT STATION

**Be a part of the Lighthouse Centennial Patio!**

To help pay for the completion of the new Centennial Commemorative Patio, we are asking you to "buy a brick," supporting an HLPS project and creating your permanent legacy at the Hillsboro Inlet Light Station.

See more at our Web site at [www.hillsborolighthouse.org](http://www.hillsborolighthouse.org)

*Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society, Inc. (HLPS) is in compliance with the registration requirements of the Solicitation of Contributions Act, Chapter 496.405, Florida Statutes: Registration # CH8700. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free (800-435-7352) from within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the State of Florida.*

THE MISSION OF HLPS IS TO PROMOTE THE HISTORY OF THE HILLSBORO LIGHTHOUSE STATION AND THE HILLSBORO INLET AREA THROUGH PRESERVATION OF STRUCTURES AND ARTIFACTS, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC ACCESS TOURS.

### **2010 OFFICERS & BOARD**

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Newsletter Mailing, January

**Doug Matthes**  
HLPS Web Master

## *Florida Lighthouse Day is April 24th*

### **Take the Forgotten Coast Lighthouse Challenge**

The Forgotten Coast Lighthouse Challenge is scheduled for Florida Lighthouse Day weekend, April 24th and 25th, 2010. Participants are invited to visit and/or climb the four lighthouses on the Forgotten Coast: **Cape San Blas Lighthouse, Cape St. George Light, Crooked River Lighthouse, and St. Mark's Lighthouse.** A complimentary commemorative souvenir will be offered at each lighthouse, with a fifth souvenir for participants who visit all four.

The Forgotten Coast is a section of Florida's Panhandle that includes Mexico Beach, St. Joe Beach, WindMark Beach, Port St. Joe, Cape San Blas, Indian Pass, Apalachicola, St. George Island, Eastpoint, Carrabelle, Lanark Village, Panacea, Alligator Point, Shell Point and St. Marks.

The four lighthouses will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are available at the lighthouses for \$10 per individual over 10 years of age, or a \$25 family ticket is available for up to five people in family. Both the individual and the family ticket includes one Challenge tote bag (while supplies last) and one raffle

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**Crooked River Light**

## **UPCOMING LIGHTHOUSE TOUR**

### *Saturday, April 10th*

Please join the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society and the Coast Guard Auxiliary for a spring tour of the Hillsboro Lighthouse. The next tour is scheduled for **Saturday, April 10th.**

Park in the **Pompano Beach City Parking Lot** (fee required) across from the **Sands Harbor Hotel & Marina.** HLPS member volunteers will be at the HLPS Lighthouse Tour table under the HLPS sign at the Sands Harbor Hotel dock.

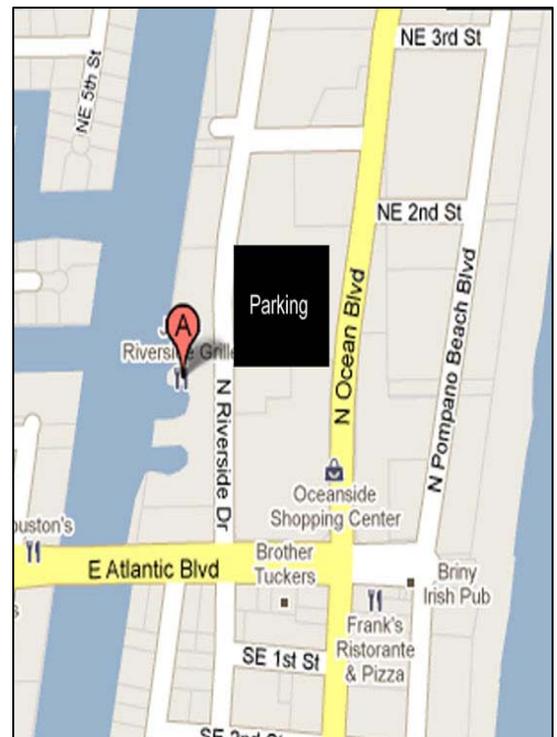
Transportation to and from the Lighthouse is by tour boat provided by South Florida Diving Headquarters via the Intracoastal Waterway. The HLPS table opens at 8:45 a.m., with **the first boat departing at approximately 9:00 a.m.**

Round trip boat transportation cost is \$15 per person, but is FREE to HLPS members. Annual HLPS dues are \$25 for Individual, \$35 for Families and \$50 for Business or Organization (with the latter limit of 10 people each tour date). While you can wear flip-flops on the boat, or go barefoot to walk the sandy beach at the Lighthouse, USCG regulations require that in order to climb the Lighthouse, **you must have flat shoes with rubber soles and closed toes. No sandals, flip flops, or shoes with heels are allowed inside the Lighthouse.** Children must be accompanied by an adult and must be a minimum of 48" (4 feet) tall to climb the tower.

We suggest you allow at least two hours to enjoy the Lighthouse and all that the grounds have to offer. Consider bringing a picnic basket!

**The last boat leaves the Lighthouse approximately 4:30 p.m.**

**- Sorry, no pets are allowed -**



Visit  
[www.hillsborolighthouse.org](http://www.hillsborolighthouse.org)  
 and click on  
**<Tours>**  
 for more information.

## AN OVERVIEW OF OUR LIGHTHOUSE, PART IV BERT MALCOLM AND THE HILLSBORO CLUB STORY

By Art Makenian

It is difficult to write stories about the Hillsboro Inlet Lighthouse and ignore the most elegant club in South Florida. The land access to the Lighthouse grounds is through the Club's main gateway. The following article is derived from the Club's leaflet given to the guests several years back. I have read with great interest the transformation story of the Club and the man behind it all.

The Hillsboro Club was started in 1925 by Herbert (Bert) Lawrence Malcolm (1884-1959). Bert was born in Melbourne, Australia, the son of an American mining engineer. He graduated from Yale in 1907, and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and active in athletics and religious affairs. He helped earn his way through college by working in a hotel in the summer, and his experience stood him in a good stead in later years. On graduation, he began to teach at the Lake Placid School, which kept spring and fall terms in the Adirondacks and the winter term in Florida. He taught at Choate from 1909 to 1914, with the exception of one year, in which he took pre medical courses. He returned to the Lake Placid School in 1914 as assistant headmaster and director of athletics, and was headmaster from 1921 to 1925. Former students described him as a superb teacher.

In 1922 he bought the original parcel of land on which the Club stands, and built the present main building to house the school. Biographies in the class histories of Yale 1907 do not explain Bert's shift to hotel-keeping, but it is said that as headmaster he arranged to have parents spend winter vacations at the school and found them more profitable and less troublesome than the boys.

In 1941 Bert married Patty Edwards. They had two children, Herbert L. Jr. (Sandy) and Mary. Patty remarried in 1970 and is now Mrs. Phillip Scott, of Randolph, New Hampshire.

The Hillsboro Club property now consists of about fifteen acres with 953'8" of ocean front. This was part of public lands sold by the State to a private investor in 1885 for seventy cents an acre. In 1903, the United States paid \$300 for the three acres occupied now by Hillsboro Light and the Coast Guard Station. As late as 1919 the property was valued at \$1.80 per front foot. In 1922, Bert bought 653'8" for \$20.00 per foot, and later added 100'0" for \$50.00/ft and another 200'0" for \$75/ft. The current price (1971) for Hotel zoned property is \$2000 a foot.

Other dramatic changes have occurred. The town of Hillsboro Beach was organized in 1947, with 17 voters. Now there are 460 voters and 1800 winter residents (1971). Bert served on the town commission for ten years, including two terms as mayor. Town planning provided for an eventual population of 10,000. In 1947, there were nine private houses. Now there are fifty Houses, Motels and High-rises. In 1929 the Club's telephone number was Hillsboro 2. In the Twenties, the Inlet was crossed by rowboat, and the first bridge was a narrow wooden affair swung on a turnstile and operated by hand. Water was supplied by a pipe under the inlet and breaks were frequent - the wise guests kept their bathtubs full!

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**St. George Light**

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ticket. Additionally, an entry fee of \$5.00 per vehicle is charged at the St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge. Participants can start at any of the four lighthouses. The Challenge Route, from Cape San Blas to St. Marks, is about 100 miles, with most of the route following U.S. Highway 98. It is 35 miles from Cape San Blas to St. George Island; allow about 45 minutes for the drive. It is 20 miles from St. George Island to Carrabelle; allow about 30 minutes for the drive. It is 45 miles from Carrabelle to St. Marks; allow about an hour for the drive. The Forgotten Coast Lighthouse Challenge will be held rain or shine.

Money raised by the sale of tickets will be used to help cover the expenses of the Challenge, with leftover funds divided equally by the four lighthouse organizations. Each of the four lighthouses has a gift shop, but be aware that credit cards are not accepted at all of the lighthouses.

For more information, please see [www.stgeorgelight.org/challenge/tour.pdf](http://www.stgeorgelight.org/challenge/tour.pdf)



*(Continued from page 4)*

When the boom days of the Twenties gave way to the depression days of the Thirties, many Gold Coast Resorts proved made out of tinsel, but the continued growth and success of the Hillsboro were due to Bert's energy and vitality. He was a master of detail and determined on excellence, perhaps aware that only perfection of service, food and accessories would compensate for old buildings. At the same time he spent boldly to improve accommodations, adding for example, the modern cottages to the north, the Sea Room, and extra tennis courts. Above all he had an outstanding talent for personnel, filling every type of position with people who were capable, cheerful, and hard working, and then inspiring their loyalty so that year by year returning guests were greeted by much of the same staff. The result was that the guests were loyal in their turn, as witness some current members who bring grandchildren of old timers.

A factor in this invaluable tradition was Bert's fondness for young people and his insistence that children were always welcome at the Club. He implemented this by providing a specialist to direct sports, including his own favorite, tennis, for teenagers and younger married people.



***Hillsboro Club & Hillsboro Light Station***

Not to be shelved prematurely, older members created the Bush League. Its origin is obscured by claims of who's in or out, much as shots are cheerfully debated today. The scroll in the lobby lists the members as of 1961.

A living reminder of Bert's fondness for children is the traditional Christmas Eve celebration. He delighted in reading "The Night before Christmas" to the children gathered on the stage and in watching them receive their gifts from an anonymous Santa Claus. Youngsters in their first long pants then, like their more sophisticated children now, had very ambivalent feeling about wanting a present, but wanting not to be classed as a child.

Two famous hurricanes have tested both the strength of the buildings and the resilience of the organization. The 1935 storm, which took a heavy toll of life along the Overseas Highway in the Keys, damaged the main building and required heavy outlays for repair and make it storm proof. In September 1947 hurricane Betsy zeroed in on Hillsboro Inlet. The Coast Guards' anemometer broke after registering 155 mph winds. The ocean washed away the beach, smashed the porch, and encroached under the Sea Room. Bert demonstrated his usual efficiency. By the time the club opened, the grounds were spruced, the porch replaced, a sea wall built and the beach restored by sand pumped in from the ocean bed. Incidentally, part of Bert's reason for buying where he did was his knowledge that beaches tend to build up north of inlets, and so far the Club has escaped sand erosion.

In 1944, Bert bought and remodeled the Waumbek in Jefferson, New Hampshire, and was developing Pink Sands in Harbour Island, in the Bahamas. He wanted to devote more time and money to these projects. And by then the Hillsboro Club was an immensely valuable property. He hoped that several regular guests would join to buy him out and establish a bona fide club, but at first no group was willing to raise the money. In 1959 he gave an option to a developer who planned a commercial development with a club organization. The "Goldfish Bowl" was built as a model apartment of a proposed high-rise. Old patrons were upset; there was considerable friction and some pressure from the club members who had backed the developer financially. Finally, in 1962, the present Hillsboro Association was formed, bought the property, and set up the Club.

The Hillsboro Club is a non-profit, social organization consisting of 310 Senior (voting) and 225 Associate (non-voting) members. Guests must be sponsored by members. The physical property is owned by the Hillsboro Association Inc. a Delaware Corporation whose stock and debenture capital is owned in substantial part by the Hillsboro Club and its members. The Club leases the property from the Association under the lease contract containing an option to purchase. All membership matters are under the jurisdiction of the Club directors.



*(Continued from page 1)*

Luncheon selections include your choice of pasta, fish, chicken or vegetarian, and includes soup, salad & bread, plus coffee, tea or soda. A cash bar will be available, along with many door prizes to be given away during the event.

As in years past, Members wishing to attend should print an RSVP form from [www.hillsborolighthouse.org](http://www.hillsborolighthouse.org) and mail it to the HLPS prior to April 30th to reserve your seat.

**HLPS Annual Membership Meeting and Luncheon  
Saturday, May 8th, 2010—12:00 Noon  
Christine's by the Sea Restaurant  
at the Lighthouse Cove Resort  
1406 N. Ocean Blvd. (A1A), Pompano Beach, FL**

For more information, email:  
[info@hillsborolighthouse.org](mailto:info@hillsborolighthouse.org)  
or visit [www.hillsborolighthouse.org](http://www.hillsborolighthouse.org)

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Light Station, 901 Hillsboro Mile, Hillsboro Beach, FL. The event costs \$10 for SFCGA members and \$20 for non members (which will include one year's membership to SFCGA). Parking is limited at the lighthouse and car pooling is suggested. Light refreshments, desserts and beverages will be served, and music will be provided by Shane Le Mar Entertainment and Productions. You must RSVP by Friday, April 16, 2010 to Gwen Leys, [gsleysRN@bellsouth.net](mailto:gsleysRN@bellsouth.net) or 954-942-8108 as your name MUST appear on the guest list at the gate.

For more information visit [www.thesfcga.com](http://www.thesfcga.com).



## PLEASE PATRONIZE HLPS BUSINESS MEMBERS

*The following local businesses have joined HLPS at the business/corporate/company level of membership. We thank them for their generous support of HLPS and our projects. Please patronize their businesses.*

- \* **Ben & Jeannie Ellis, CRS, Real Estate Brokers**, PO Box 2103, Pompano Beach, FL 33061; Phone: 954-401-6471  
[www.waterfronthomesandliving.com](http://www.waterfronthomesandliving.com) E-mail: [waterfronthomes@bellsouth.net](mailto:waterfronthomes@bellsouth.net)
- \* **Beacon Images, Photographs by Von Staden**, Nicholas & Sandy Von Staden; Pompano Beach, FL  
Phone: 954-695-0918 or 954-401-0932 E-mail: [nvonstaden@comcast.net](mailto:nvonstaden@comcast.net)
- \* **Black Rhino Hurricane Shutters & Impact Glass**, 1384 SW Third St., Boca Raton, FL 33486; Phone: 954-734-4411  
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- \* **Computer Ways, Inc.**, Dave Noderer, CEO, 10 Fairway Dr, Suite 133, Deerfield Beach, FL 33441  
Phone: 954-418-9799 [www.computerways.com](http://www.computerways.com) E-mail: [daven@computerways.com](mailto:daven@computerways.com)
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Website: [www.ControlAltDispute.com](http://www.ControlAltDispute.com) E-mail: [sandy@controlaltdispute.com](mailto:sandy@controlaltdispute.com)
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E-mail: [JencoPlumbing@bellsouth.net](mailto:JencoPlumbing@bellsouth.net)
- \* **Martin Kidwell, CPA**, 950 N. Federal Hwy. #211, Pompano Beach, FL 33062; Phone: 954-784-0090  
E-mail: [Marty@Kidwellcpa.com](mailto:Marty@Kidwellcpa.com)
- \* **Palm Tree Doctor**, Doug & Linda Giles, 430 S. Dixie Hwy W, Pompano Beach, FL 33060; Phone: 954-946-3600  
E-mail: [Linda@Palmtreeedr.com](mailto:Linda@Palmtreeedr.com)
- \* **Pompano Waterway Development, Inc.**, Richard L. Niebling, 2629 N. Riverside Dr., Pompano Beach, FL 33062  
Office/FAX: 954-943-9738, Cell: 866-678-5997 E-Mail: [NieblingRichard@gmail.com](mailto:NieblingRichard@gmail.com)
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- \* **William A. Webb & Associates, CPA**, 404 E. Atlantic Blvd., Pompano Beach, FL 33060; Phone: 954-782-5250  
E-mail: [Bill@webbcpa.com](mailto:Bill@webbcpa.com)

## NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS

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 Cooper, Lawrence & Penny  
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 Craig, Roy & M. Letourneau  
 Creedon, Larry & Helen  
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 Cruz, Pedro E.  
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 Estes, William  
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 Ferguson, Robert  
 Freeman, Susan  
 Hagermann, Gary  
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 Kinghorn, Bonnie  
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 Murphy, Mariann  
 Noble, Dick & Pat  
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 Perrelli, Rosemarie  
 Porter, Jeff  
 Proscia, Joanne H.  
 Redd, Carol  
 Rettstadt, Rich  
 Richter family  
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Rowley, Charles / Mary Alice  
 Saathoff, Barbara  
 Sea Scouts, Ship 238 +  
 Snider, Margaret & Susan Roberts  
 Stone, Robert & Karen  
 Strauch family  
 Stremlo, Gail  
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 Waltman, Shelly  
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 Thos. Workman & Associates \*  
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 Wilson, Frank  
 Wilson, Max & Betty  
 Wolf, Robert & Barvara  
 Yarbrough, Larry & Annette  
 Zadell, Edward

+ = Organization  
 \* = Business Membership  
 \*\* = LIFE MEMBERS

## MONETARY DONATIONS

- In Memory of John R. Kirbert: Katherine Babinski, Sara Babinski, Todd Christopher, Alison Froelich, William & Susan Hart, Ken & Marilyn Judson, Ellen Kirbert, Ronald & JoAnn Le Fever, Patricia Westbury, Jay & Mary Williams
- Thomas Workman & Associates

## JANUARY 16th LIGHTHOUSE TOUR

**HLPS Workers at Sands Harbor Hotel dock:** Martha Casselberry, Jeannie Ellis, Susan Taylor  
**Coast Guard Auxiliary:** Jerry Edelman, Pat Feighery, Art Makenian & Tom Thayer, Gene Cain, Scott Cleary, Ed Duda, Marie Duda, Jane Mueller; (USCG Auxiliary Division 3)  
**HLPS Workers at Lighthouse:** Jack Burrie, Hib Casselberry, Ed Dietrich, Ben Ellis, Stephen Hoczak, Bill Slager  
**Publicity:** Bill Slager, with Jack Burrie, Hib Casselberry, Art Makenian, Webmaster Doug Matthes  
**Sands Harbor Hotel** provided use of their dock, tables, chairs & umbrellas  
**South Florida Diving Headquarters** provided water transportation on **Aquaview**  
**Dr. Ray McAllister** narrated the boat ride  
**Joyce and Mike Hager** ran the Gift Shop  
**Ben Ellis & Rick McKinsey** narrated the **Barefoot Mailman**  
**USCG Station Manager Kim Wistz** provided tables and chairs at the Lighthouse

### HLPS Newsletter to receive Facelift

**Big Diamond** is HLPS' quarterly newsletter distributed free of charge to over 600 HLPS members. Our newsletter will be undergoing a facelift in the spring and we're looking forward to launching a fresh, new look with our June issue. HLPS members and local businesses are invited to provide us with photos, news and stories relevant to all things Hillsboro Lighthouse, Hillsboro Inlet and The Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society. Email your suggestions and/or contributions to [editor@hillsborolighthouse.org](mailto:editor@hillsborolighthouse.org).

-Steve Hoczak



Join our mailing list and receive "eNews of HLPS" detailing HLPS news and the progress of projects at the Hillsboro Inlet. Send your email address to Hib Casselberry at [info@hillsborolighthouse.org](mailto:info@hillsborolighthouse.org).



“Twilight Beacon” by Susan Caplan of Pompano Beach, FL  
<http://photosbysusan.aminus3.com/>

**Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society, Inc.**  
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**Editor:** [editor@hillsborolighthouse.org](mailto:editor@hillsborolighthouse.org)



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[www.saveourlights.com](http://www.saveourlights.com)

### Membership Category and Dues Expiration Date

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