

BIG DIAMOND

HILLSBORO
LIGHTHOUSE
PRESERVATION
SOCIETY

June 2017
Volume 20, Number 2

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SAVE THE DATE FOR HLPS GALA 2018

By Rona Trachtenberg

What could be better than enjoying a romantic catered dinner, sitting a few feet away from the watchful gaze of the Hillsboro Lighthouse, with a full moon illuminating the glistening ocean?

That is what 265 guests, who shared the vision of our fundraiser, experienced on Friday evening, March 10, 2017 during the 110th anniversary celebration of the Hillsboro Lighthouse.

This *Full Moon Fundraising Gala* was the creative concept of Divich & Doone and quickly became a HLPS team effort to raise funds for imperative repairs to our beloved lighthouse.

Countless people-hours were expended by dedicated volunteers, such as Kim Zeman, Linda Peck, and especially Art Makenian, who received an award from the Coast Guard

(Continued on page 6)

ART MAKENIAN RECEIVES COAST GUARD AWARD

By Andrea Rutherford.

Long-time member of U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 36 **Art Makenian**, was awarded an **Meritorious Public Service Award** at the Hillsboro Inlet Gala on March 10, 2017. The ceremony was arranged by the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society.

The award was read by U.S. Coast Guard 7th District Captain Daniel Youngberg, Chief Resource Management.

The award was presented and signed by S.A. Buschman, Rear Admiral, USCG, Commander, 7th District. Admiral

Buschman presented the award and gave personal congratulations for Art's dedication



Capt. Youngberg (top) reads the award presented by Admiral Buschman (bottom left) to Art Makenian. Photo by Teri Kovacs

(Continued on page 5)

RECENT TOUR



June 17, 2017

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome back to a new year with the HLPS. So far, 2017 is turning out to be one of the best years, ever!

First, the turn-out for our tours are at a record pace. To date, we have been running all boats on each tour close to capacity. It seems as if our marketing and exposé campaigns are finally paying off. But, this brings us to a quickly approaching problem – how to handle more people. Fear not, we are working on ways to try and alleviate this problem, without cutting benefits and maintaining our emphasis on our members as being the number one concern (outside of the lighthouse, itself). As a request, please be patient and keep in mind that we are an all-volunteer, non-profit organization and that we do our best to make your experiences at the USCG grounds and lighthouse the finest possible experience we can. But, we all have other jobs and lives that also **require our attention throughout the year. If you are wondering why we don't** hire full or part time help it is because we want as much of your donation monies as possible going back into maintaining the lighthouse and helping to improve your experience there and we have no plans to change this fact.

Secondly, on Feb. 11th we had a successful and fun membership meeting, held across from the new Pompano Beach parking garage at pavilion #2, on the beach (with a view of the lighthouse in the distance). There was free food, drink, and plenty of lively conversation and fun by all. A special thank you goes **out to one of our honorary volunteers (he's actually a member with a big heart)**, Keith Campbell, for volunteering to cook for not only this event, but for the birthday weekend – it is very much appreciated. For those of you who attended, thanks for your support and suggestions on what we can do to **improve. For those of you who couldn't make it, hope to see you next year!** We are planning on repeating what we did this year – as in: in the beginning of the month of February, with free food, and most probably at the same venue. If you have any suggestions, please feel free to email or call us.

Thirdly, our 110th gala event and weekend. WHAT A BLOW-OUT! It was an **amazing, successful, and busy weekend by anyone's measure. We kicked off the lighthouse's 110th birthday weekend** with a spectacular, full-moon dinner and night viewing of the lighthouse and the lens room. Dignitaries, politicians, and honored guests abound. We auctioned off a cabin for the weekend (a big thank you goes out to the winners of the auction – the Shaw family) and we also had a very successful private auction (thank you to all who bid). The

(Continued on page 4)

The mission of the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society is to promote the history of the Hillsboro Inlet Light Station and the Hillsboro Inlet area through preservation of structures and artifacts, education and public access tours.

HLPS OFFICERS AND VOLUNTEERS**Ken Herman**

President / Webmaster

Ed Dietrich

Vice President

Charles J. Seltz

Treasurer

John (Jack) Burrle

Secretary

Arthur A. Makenian

Executive Director / Lighthouse Preservationist

Linda Peck

Membership Chair

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Bill Slager

Tour Coordinator

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Susan Williams

Big Diamond

Dave Noderer

Key Volunteers

Ralph Krugler - Hib Casselberry

Steve Smith - Kim Zeman

Holly Brown - Mary Martin

2017 HILLSBORO LIGHT STATION TOUR SCHEDULE

Hillsboro Lighthouse 2017 Tour Dates



January 7th (Sat.) – Alsdorf Park 9:00, 9:45, 10:30, 11:15	July 23th (Sun.) – Sands Dock 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00
February 4th (Sat.) – Sands Dock 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00	August 19th (Sat.) – Alsdorf Park 8:30, 9:15, 10:00, 10:45
March 11th & 12th (Sat./Sun.) – Sands Dock 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00 9:00, 10:00, 11:00	September 9th (Sat.) – Sands Dock 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00
April 8th (Sat.) – Sands Dock 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00	October 14th (Sat.) – Sands Dock 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00
May 20th (Sat.) – Sands Dock 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00	November 12th (Sun.) – Alsdorf Park 9:00, 9:45, 10:30, 11:15
June 10th (Sat.) – Sands Dock 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00	December 2nd (Sat.) – Sands Dock 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00

HILLSBORO LIGHTHOUSE MUSEUM IS ENLIGHTENING TOURIST AND LOCALS!



The museum is located at: Hillsboro Inlet Park, A1A at 2700 N. Ocean Boulevard, Pompano Beach. It is open Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday - 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. It is also open on Tour days from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. On most other days you can arrange a private tour by contacting Jerry or Linda at: museum@hillsborolighthouse.org or by phone 954-609-7974.

We are very proud of our loyal volunteers, Jerry Smietanka, Linda Peck, Cindy Malaney, and Mona Silverstein who keep the Museum open every week. If you are interested in helping out for a 2 hour time slot, please contact Jerry or Linda at museum@hillsborolighthouse.org or 954-609-7974.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE (CONT FROM PAGE 2)

speeches, proclamations and awards were also a spotlight of the event. But, that was just the beginning of the weekend. **Both Saturday and Sunday we had overflowing boats. So much so, we had to extend Saturday's** schedule to accommodate everyone. Needless to say, by the end of the weekend all the volunteers were exhausted. But, everyone had a great time and it was very successful monetarily for us. The monies raised are going a long way into helping renovate our entry way into the lighthouse. We plan to restore it back to its original design.

Fourthly, the beginning of 2017 brings new tension rods to the top portion of the lighthouse. If you looked out the windows on your climb to the top of the lighthouse in 2016, you might have noticed that some of the tension rods are looking like they had seen better days, as in they are rusted almost completely through. **Because of this, we are now in the process of replacing 42 of the tension rods that are in the 'black' section of the lighthouse.** This work started last year with the analysis and ordering of the new materials, and continued in the beginning of April with the new materials arriving on site, and is scheduled to be fully complete sometime in May - with the installation and touch-up painting. The new rods are composed of the same materials as the old rods they are currently replacing and when final installation and touch-up is complete, one should not be able to notice a difference, except that the new rods will look new and un-rusted. And, once all **the new rods are installed, the 'black' part of the lighthouse will be fully re-painted.** This will be the final step in current painting renovation process of the lighthouse. In late 2016 and the beginning of 2017, both the inside **and the 'white' section of the lighthouse was completely re-painted,** with portions of the entry vestibule also being renovated and painted.

Finally, as we look forward into 2017, we can only plan and hope that our success continues in this same trajectory. I know that I speak for all volunteers and board members when I say we are proud of our accomplishments and are honored to be able to represent you in maintaining this unique, important and historic landmark called the Hillsboro Inlet Lighthouse. Thank you for all your monetary and moral support - without it, there would be no working lighthouse.

Ken Herman, President, HLPS

Memorial Bricks for sale. Support HLPS and become a part of the Station's Centennial Patio around the flag pole. <http://www.hillsborolighthouse.org/memorial-bricks>

HLPS Store Now Online!

<http://www.hillsborolighthouse.org/store>

LIGHTHOUSE LINKS

- Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society: HillsboroLighthouse.org
- Florida Lighthouse Association: FloridaLighthouses.org
- Florida Keys Reef Lights Foundation: ReefLights.org
- Florida Trust for Historic Preservation: FloridaTrust.org
- National Trust for Historic Preservation: PreservationNation.org

ART MAKENIAN COAST GUARD AWARD (CONTINUED FROM PG 1)

to restoring and maintaining the lighthouse and for his role in preserving this historic site.

This award is the second highest award that the Coast Guard can give to an Auxiliarist (the highest would be for life-saving), and it recognizes “unusual courage in advancing a USCG mission,” as well as a substantial contribution to the USCG that produced tangible results, and for specific individual accomplishments that provide unique benefits to the public.

In his 30 years in the Auxilliary, Art is a past Flotilla Commander, coxswain, radio watch stander, ATON verifier and repairer, and instructor for 36, but since 2000, his time has spent dealing with the on-going issues with the lighthouse. In that time, he has dealt with seven Coast Guard Admirals, as well as other Coast Guard officers and staff, to ensure the lighthouse meets the standards for safe and reliable operation.

This is not a typical Auxilliary mission. For example, as this article is being written, Art just finished supervising the replacement of the many tension rods supporting the upper platform of the lighthouse, a six-week, \$90,000 project. Wearing his hard hat, Art arrived by 6:30 every weekday morning to admit the construction workers (including crane equipment and operators) onto the Coast Guard property and then spend the entire day overseeing them.

Over the past 20 years, Art estimates that every piece of the 147-foot lighthouse has been scraped, painted, repaired, or replaced, some multiple times. Some of that work has been completed by Art and volunteers from the Coast Guard Auxilliary and HLPS, but many projects require professionals.

To help raise money, the HLPS accepts donations and offers monthly tours of the lighthouse, allowing the public to climb the steps, look at the 360-degree view from the top, and learn about this unique piece of Florida's history. **Staffed by volunteers from the HLPS and Coast Guard Auxilliary, tours are conducted one Saturday or Sunday a month.**

Art was nominated for this award by the Coast Guard. The award reads:

*The Commandant of the United States Coast Guard takes great pleasure in presenting the **Coast Guard Meritorious Public Service Award** to **Arthur Makenian**, in recognition of nearly 30 years of unwavering service to the maritime community and the United States Coast Guard. Your service as president of the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society (HLPS) from 2008 until 2016 and as the HLPS preservationist since 2016, has been extraordinary. You worked untiringly to preserve a grand historical treasure of the Coast Guard, the Hillsboro Inlet Lighthouse, one of the most powerful lights in the country, first lit in March 1907. Since your time with the HLPS, you spent countless volunteer hours raising awareness and educating the public about the lighthouse, leading over 20,000 guests on tour in the last two years alone. You also led the effort to raise over two million dollars for numerous noteworthy project including recognition of the Lighthouse as a Florida Heritage Site with the placement of a historical marker and plaque, the dedication of two other monuments, the Barefoot Mailman and a Centennial Bell, the installation of a live streaming camera showing the inlet water conditions, and the establishment of a beautiful commemorative brick patio with flagpole. In addition, you oversaw the renovation and maintenance of the lighthouse, leading to the light being operational again, obtaining contracts for the regular cleaning of the lenses and painting of the structure, to ensure the lighthouse is in prime condition to be used and enjoyed for many generations to come. Your efforts as president and preservationist of the HLPS, and your selfless community involvement stand as models of leadership, innovation, and cooperation nationwide. Your dedication and unwavering support to the Hillsboro maritime community and the Coast Guard are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.*

SAVE THE DATE FOR HLPS GALA 2018 (CONTINUED FROM PG 1)

for his many years of outstanding service.

There were so many others who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make this evening a success. A special appreciative *thank you* goes to Debbie Divich, the Event Chairperson, HLPS Media Coordinator and Grant Writer.

Debbie described the special evening, “The weather was perfect, the outdoor venue was outstanding, the large, translucent tent showed off the stars, and the views from the top of the lighthouse were spectacular, especially at night with the big yellow full moon rising magically out of the water.”

The guests, who paid \$110 per person, for the 110th anniversary, eagerly complied with the request to dress in black and white themed attire in honor of our Lighthouse colors. The attendees relaxed during the cocktail hour, listened to live music by the Earl Trio Band, and then supped on a four-course meal. **Leslie Sheffield, who also stages fundraising events, was impressed that we used Hugh’s Catering** because she is aware of their reputation for excellence and knew our guests would have a first class experience in culinary.

Leslie and her table companions wondered “how in the world HLPS was going to make any money from this event?” From the beginning of our planning stages, we knew we wanted our guests to have a first class experience at a first class venue and didn’t want to spare expense at our First Annual Gala!

Thanks to our MiniMu founder, Chris Doone and her team for organizing and coordinating a fabulous Silent Auction with many happy winners taking home wonderful items that were donated by our generous community of business owners, restaurants and artists.

A special shout out to Diamond Sponsor Dominique Rochelle Myers, the Keynote Photographer at the Gala and for **Dominique’s generosity in donating** eight of the 44 auction items. Thanks also go to Diamond Sponsor Pamela J. Rossi Jewelers for their donation of a “Big Diamond” that was auctioned off and for her offer to design a piece of jewelry to sell at future venues and fundraisers. A complete list of our Diamond, Gold and Silver donors can be found in this issue of the *Big Diamond*.

Additional funds were also raised through our Online Auction of a Two-Night Cottage stay. The lucky winning family, of this unique auction item, was able to stay in the coveted Cottage #2 after the event. The family spent two nights on the property and remained after the festivities ended on Friday. They enjoyed private weekend access to the island until 2 p.m. Sunday (we were able to get them a late checkout). They will never forget this once-in-lifetime memorable weekend with their family!

After the meal and live music, guests were invited to climb the Lighthouse tower for access to the much sought after Lens Room, **which is rarely open on public tours, not even once or twice a year, or at the discretion of our President Ken Herman ... as it was that evening.**

The Lens Room is well protected and highly monitored with only two to three guests allowed to enter at one time due to the small space, the protectiveness of HLPS, and the rules mandated by the Coast



Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society

1st Annual Evening Gala Fundraiser & Silent Auction A Special
Thanks to all Our Sponsors & Partners!

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Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society

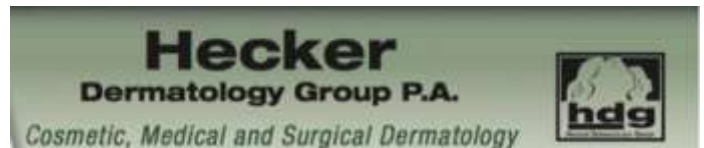
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Dave Noderer, Photographer

Rona Trachtenberg, Artwork

Thank you to our Silver Sponsors

SAVE THE DATE FOR HLPS GALA 2018 (CONTINUED)

Guard.

We would like to thank, as always, the United States Coast Guard for the use of their property. We were honored to have in attendance RADM Scott A. Buschman, CAPT Daniel A. Youngburg, CAPT Larry Yarbrough, and their spouses. In addition, Broward Mayor Barbara Sharief and her husband graced our event with their presence. Mayor Lamar Fisher, Mayor Deb Tarrant, Comm Chip LaMarca, LHP mayor Troast and their respective spouses were also in attendance.

This first fundraising attempt of its kind netted nearly \$15,000 with approximately \$8,000 coming from the silent auction. These funds will be used to repair and restore the structural cross beams on the two upper levels of the tower. But, as you all know, the upkeep of our Historic Lighthouse is never complete. It will cost nearly \$100,000 to finish the job properly so fundraising, requests for funds, and grant writing are constantly ongoing.

The feedback from the guests was so positive that we are planning to repeat the event on Friday, March 2, 2018 as the 111th Full Moon Gala. We will keep what worked and make improvements thanks to constructive comments we received from our guests and volunteer team. There will also be a special 111th birthday bash during the weekend of March 10 and 11, 2018.

So, if you missed this wonderful evening and weekend events, you will get a second chance in 2018 so please SAVE THIS DATE on your calendar. See you all there! Buy your tickets early. We hope to sell out again in 2018!

NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS— JANUARY 2017 TO JUNE 2017

Join today to help preserve our lighthouse's heritage and receive these benefits:

- A subscription to our newsletter "The Big Diamond"
- Free admission to all tours, programs, and lectures for the membership period
- Timely updates to events related to the lighthouse

Membership rates:

Individual	\$25.00 / year
Family	\$50.00 / year
Business	\$100.00 / year
Lifetime	\$500.00 or more. Lifetime is a one-time fee

To apply or for more information , please contact: membership@hillsborolighthouse.org

Picture Parties *	Randy Core	Kyle Green
Oceans 234 *	Lynn Correia	Kimberly Greenwood
Green Barn Orchid Supply *	Patricia Corsiaino	Jean Gripshover
Sally O'Loughlin	Kenneth Costantino	Michael Gritt
Teresa Ace	Edna Craig	Mary Ann Hammer
Milgros Aguilar	Natalie Cuchetti	William Hanigan
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Jerry & Betty Anderson	Jesse Douglas Davenport	Alan & Sandra Harvey
Michael Anderson	Beth Davis	Chris Hassett
Bob & Maureen Andrews	Judith Dawson	Robert Hazlett
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Mary Jane Collins	Bill & Debbie Grady	Norman Kuglin
Daryl Coons **	Robin Granger	Lina Kurucz

NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS— JANUARY 2016 TO MAY 2016 (CONT)

Lynne Lake	Jose Ontiveros	Tom & Mary Smolar
Wayne / Mary Landry	Tom Otto	Cathy Snyder
Robert Lee	John Papalia	Sarah Sorensen
Ron Levinson	Marylyn Parmelee	Rae Spelman
Anthony & Autumn Lizell	Alzira L Paul	Robin Spickard
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Rosalie Marano	Oscar Ramirez	Kelly Taylor
Thomas Martin *	Jessica Ravelli	Air Duct Aseptics *
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Tina Martino *	Jean Riley	Margaret Thomas
Michael McCormack	David & Colleen Rittenhouse	Pamela Thomas
Bonnie McHolme	Patty Robards	Charles Tracey
Roger & Lea Ann McVay	Pascale Roberts	Rona Trachtenberg *
Ellen Medlin	Christine Robinson	Wilmot (Bill) & Judy Tramel
Michael Meli	Suzanne Rockwell	Pete Troost
Cheryl Meltzer	Pamela Roe Johnson	Target *
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Kevin Nanz	Lakeview Orchards *	George & Cathy Zografos
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Tom & Terry Norton	Teresa Simpson	
Kathy Oleksy	Surf World *	
Kim Olsen	Su Su Smith	

MONETARY AND OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

Donations In Memory of Bob Cowdrey

Ellen Barry
Ruthie Brooks
Laraine Schorr
Teresa Salvemini

Labib Joubran
Jack Prenner
Doreen Gauthier
Friends of the Lighthouse Point Library
Adrienne M. Foland

Marta Cruz
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Other Donations:

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By Dave Noderer—2017-06-17