

MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING  
NJLHS, INC.  
ST. URIEL'S CHURCH, SEA GIRT, NJ  
MARCH 23, 1996

President Tom Laverty called the meeting to order at 11:15 AM at Miller Hall, St. Uriel's Church, Sea Girt. In the absence of the Recording Secretary it was agreed to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve both sets at the next meeting.

Treasurers Report: Debbie Megonigal, reported a balance of \$7,996.98 in the General Fund and \$2,235.07 in the Preservation Fund.

Announcements: Tom L. announced that member Carole Reily was in West Jersey Hospital, Marlton if members would like to send her a card. We have received a supply of lighthouse catalogs from a shop in Texas and newsletters from the new Outer Banks Lighthouse Society (Cheryl and Bruce Roberts, authors); members are welcome to take them.

New York Harbor Lights Society (Staten Island) newsletter is available for members to read. President Joe Esposito, has a project to save Romer Shoals.

Members Jo and Ted Panayotoff who have a bed and breakfast in Camden, Maine called "The Elms" sent a flyer about a combination lighthouse cruise with b & b. There are several suggested packages.

Guests: Tom then introduced Scott Thomson and daughter, Abigail, Jack Thomson's family, who are our guests today for the presentation of Jack and Thelma Thomson's collection of lighthouse miniatures and other memorabilia, including slide projector and slides, photographs, etc. These will be catalogued and the board plans to develop a movable exhibit for libraries and shows. Tom expressed our thanks and presented a certificate of appreciation to the Thomson Family.

Budget: Debbie Megonigal distributed copies of the proposed budget to be read and voted on later in the meeting.

Joe Reuss brought his model of Drum Point Lighthouse which he built over the past 13 1/2 years. It was prominently displayed for the enjoyment of the members.

The Treasurer then reviewed the Budget covering the categories of Expense and Revenue and separating the General Fund and Preservation Fund. See copy attached. The budget total is \$18,900.00 projected with a revenue surplus of \$2,700.00 Tom announced that the Society is donating \$500.00 to Barnegat Lightship for repairs and maintenance (now in Camden area) and \$500.00 to Tuckerton Seaport Society for help in reconstructing Tucker's Island Lighthouse (Little Egg Harbor); an additional \$500.00 is pledged for next year. Steve Martorano moved adoption of the Budget. Seconded by Rebecca Colesar. Motion passed.

Page 2 Minutes of the March 23, 1996 Meeting

Programs: Yvonne Miller, 1st VP and Program Chairperson said that the Sea Girt Lighthouse would be open for us from 2:30 to 4:30 PM. The program today is the judging of the photo contest by Harold Kessler.

The June Meeting will be at Concord Point Lighthouse at Havre de Grace, Maryland. Plans are for two boat trips to accommodate 116 people at a cost of \$14.00 each, leaving from Congress Ave. at 9 AM and 1:30 PM with luncheon meeting at Noon at Tidewater Grill for \$16.00 per person, including entree, beverage, dessert and gratuity. There were informational handouts on the table concerning other events in the area and places to stay overnight. Reservations will be first come --first served. Fishing Battery Lighthouse is on the island. Boats will be Skipjack or Oyster Deadrise plus Zodiac transfer. Member Paula Liebrecht described the trip as over calm waters, mostly on the river. A mailing will go out this week and reservations will be handled by Carole DiNapoli. A show of hands indicated about 40 members intending to participate.

The Fall Meeting, September 28th at Twin Lights/ Navesink. The meeting will take place at Henry Hudson Regional High School, next to the lighthouse, where 200 parking spaces are available. Tour of both towers at Twin Lights is promised, as well as the new exhibits room. Members may also want to see Sandy Hook the same day. The drawing for the raffle is planned for Noon.

The Winter Meeting on December 7th will be held at Tuckerton Seaport and the Baymen's Museum. General elections will be held. By that date it may be possible for us to visit the Tucker's Island Lighthouse replica.

Tom extended thanks to Yvonne for her efforts in planning.

Membership: Joan Walton announced that we have about 18-20 new members since the last meeting, bringing the total to over 600, and with more signing in today, pushing 650. Any members who were attending for the first time were asked to rise and introduce themselves. There were many different interest and backgrounds represented (descendants of lighthouse keepers). Permanent name tags are available at a cost of \$3.00 each payable to the Treasurer or Membership Chairperson. Please remember to sign in at the desk, pick up your name tag if you ordered one at the last meeting or get a stick-on tag.

Activities: Carole DiNapoli said there were 98 signed up for the boat trip on March 30th, New York Harbor. Those going should be there by 12:30 to board at 1 PM. Wear your name tag if you have one.

We are planning a Hudson River Trip on October 19th. The contract is being signed today. We will leave from Kingston, New York to see Roundout I and II, Saugerties, Esopus Meadows and possibly

Page 3 Minutes of the March 23, 1996 Meeting

Hudson-Athens. Carole asked for a volunteer assistant for planning these trips. Nancy Cope and George Moffett offered to help with activities and program planning.

Ways & Means: Bill Gately and Annette Colt listed the items available today. The new rubber LH logo stamps are here. Poster, t-shirts, sweatshirts, blinking light pins; last day for 1996 lighthouse calendars. A new book, "Bay Beacons," about the Chesapeake Lights is in stock today -- few copies. The sales table will be closed during meetings so everyone can hear the discussion. Posters are of Delaware, New Jersey and Maryland lights.

Vendor Policy was published in The Beam and was reviewed by Tom L. Preference will be given to members. The number of vendors is limited. This will begin with the September meeting.

Preservation: Fred Thies, Chairperson, was attending another meeting and would be delayed, so Tom gave the report. Tom met with the National Park Service representatives at Sandy Hook which has been turned over by the Coast Guard to the Service. We may have the opportunity to get involved as volunteers to act as tour guides and will have training sessions. Tom L. and Tom Hoffman, Historian at Sandy Hook, used to conduct night harbor tours and may revive this plan. Volunteers will be required to have at least 5 hours of training and it may be a year or more before this happens. The program also needs a coordinator. We may be able to have a room in the old Post Office building for our own use as a headquarters when the National Park Service at Sandy Hook renovates the structure; we will need to pay part of the utilities if this becomes a reality. Other preservation items were discussed under Budget.

Publicity: Elinor and Rich Veit are our new chairpersons, having volunteered at the December meeting and attended the January Board Meeting. They asked members to act as contacts in different areas of the state and other states, to let them know about newspapers in their areas, and to send clipping when there is any mention of the Society.

Tom then introduced all the officers, directors and chairpersons installed at the January Board meeting, and thanked Rosemary Dixon, Financial Consultant, for her help. Betty Smith, Hospitality, Yvonne M. and Carole DiN. repeated their need for help in all areas. Wherever your interest lie. Ways & Means would like to distribute the merchandise to committee members for storage between meeting.

Honorary Membership: Joan Walton, Membership Chairperson, then outlined the members recommended by the Board for this status. Barbara Gowdy, Betty Husarik, Howard Worner were cited for

Page 4 Minutes of the March 23, 1996 Meeting

outstanding service to the Society. Jack Granger moved the resolution to approve and Rich Hellenbrecht seconded. Motion passed. The new Honorary Members will be notified by letter of their new standing.

New Business; Jack Granger reported meeting a couple in his travels who were descendants of the Horton Point Lighthouse family (Long Island, N. Y.) and offered to help in planning a meeting at the lighthouse in the future. Program Chairperson will follow up on this for the coming year. Meeting places in the vicinity will be investigated. Jack will provide the contact.

Marge Ridolfi moved to adjourn the business portion of the meeting at 12:12 PM . Seconded by Steve Martorano. Meeting adjourned to reconvene at 12:45 PM for the program.

Carl Nelson introduced the Judge, Harold Kessler, for the photo competition, who gave an excellent critique for the 79 entries (60 lighthouses, 19 closeups). Winners will be published in The Beam.

Special thanks to Cheryl Collin for her donation of the lighthouse miniature won by new member Patricia Sullivan, and to Harbour Lights for their donations of shirts and calendars. The 50/50 paid \$105.00 to the winner.

One hundred twenty members and guests attended. Many went to Sea Girt Lighthouse later. The sun was shining!

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Walton for Nancy Matthews, Recording Secretary