

New Jersey Lighthouse Society
General Meeting
September 27, 2003
Pennsville High School, Pennsville NJ

President Tom Laverty opened the meeting at 11:12 am with the pledge of allegiance. The minutes of the June 21st meeting at Stony Point Battlefield and Park were submitted for approval. Martha Osburn-Henry made a motion to accept as written. MaryJane Lanuto seconded, the motion carried.

Treasures Report Debbie Megonigal

Total receipts \$10,347.02 total Disbursements \$15,780.51. Checking balance \$20,403.71; Preservation Fund is \$10,687.21; Memorial Fund is \$2,036.11 Money Market \$10,939.30. Sandy Hook Fund total receipts \$4,976.20; total disbursements \$2,743.62; balance \$9,433.30. Al Smith moved acceptance of the Treasurer's Report, Bill Geilfuss seconded, and the membership approved. Debbie noted that \$200 in the Sandy Hook fund was a donation from Salvatore Trentacoste and PSE&G matching gift/volunteer Program. And in the Preservation fund a donation of \$100 from Cindy Mitzen and the Wal-Mart Volunteerism Always Pays program.

Presidents Report Tom Laverty

- Last night the Jay Leno Tonight Show aired a short Roadside America piece filmed by Kevin Smith in which the Commissioner of The Department of Environmental Protection, Tom, and the Twin Lights Lighthouse were starred. The Commissioner was filmed in the North Tower and asked to explain the technology of how the light worked. He responded that it was too technical to give a simple answer. The film then panned down to Tom turning a light switch off and on.
- Tom also took the time to announce that our 1st Vice-President Yvonne and Fred will be getting married sometime in November. Tom and the assembly responded with a warm round of applause and congratulations.

Officer and Committee Reports

Vice President Yvonne Miller as Programs Chair announced that Candace Clifford will be speaking after the business meeting and has brought copies of her books that can be purchased and she will sign. There will also be a tee-shirt contest.

Programs

- December 6th our meeting is at 11am. It will be at the Uptown School Complex, please bring your own lunch. The Christmas social; tree decorating will follow at Abescon Lighthouse at 2:00pm.

Outreach

- The Tuckerton Baymens Decoy Show at Tuckerton Seaport was just completed. Yvonne thanked Dixie Amento, Anthony Albence, and Doreen Lagattuta and sent a special big thank you to Mary Catherine Kennedy. Mary Cay worked without

her side kick and friend Katherine Klix who was ill with pneumonia and greatly missed.

- Yvonne also took the time to apologize to Jim Gale. Jim picked up, along with the Bandocks, all the outreach materials and set them up at East Point for Open House. Yvonne forgot to acknowledge him in the Beam. Jim is one of her most reliable volunteers and she expressed her belated thanks.
- Tom also acknowledged the Veits for over 40 hours put in working on this year's raffle.

Trips

- Staten Island, November 8th is sold out. 3 mini-buses will leave Fort Wadsworth at 10:00am. This trip will run again in April.
- Nova Scotia; this trip will be tried again in August. At least 30 people are needed to run this trip.
- A Boston area trip for sometime in May is in the works. Betty Smith is working out the details of a boat trip for Saturday and a Cape Cod visit on Sunday. The bus will leave NJ on Friday and return on Monday.

Membership- Mary Beth Doherty

- Membership: 325(x2) families 650; 416 single; total 1066. The sign in for today's meeting is 115 with 7 guests.
- After December's meeting membership renewals will be sent out. Please note any changes in address- e-mail, or phone numbers.
- New membership brochures are out. They are now in color and have the new dues structure. Thank you to Doreen Lagattuta who did the design work for not only this brochure but also the Challenge brochures and posters.

Publicity -Rich and Elinor Veit

- 82 mailings announcing this meeting were sent out.
- 85 early joined (included the Chesapeake Chapter) and 334 NJLHS Challenge pieces of publicity were released for a total of 419 contacts.
- Absecon restoration: the ground work is about 98% complete.
- Some of the Miss America contestants were shown on TV at the top of Absecon Lighthouse.
- Volunteers are needed at the lighthouse.
- Preservation raffle made over \$5000 this year, and will be pulled at 1pm.

Lighthouse Challenge-Rick Weber

- Tee shirts and souvenir cards are ready.
- Posters and brochures are out
- Volunteers are still needed; Barnegat and Sea Girt are in special need.
- Volunteers that serve a minimum of 5 hours will receive a free tee-shirt and souvenir card set.
- The first ever Maryland Lighthouse Challenge had around 507 finishers. We have made up certificates that will be given to any one who completes both the

Maryland's challenge and our own. Tee shirts with this certificate prints on them can be purchased for \$15.00

Sandy Hook – Photo Contest - Al Smith

- Certificates for the winners of our annual photo contest were given out.
- Thank you to all who helped with the photo contest.
- Sandy Hook is closed today for the first time in 7 years due to the lack of volunteers.
- Sandy Hook is always looking for volunteers

Ways and Means-Ron and Pat Bandoek

- Pat and Ron are resigning from ways and means chair at the end of the year, Bob and Marion Hudspeth will take over this position.
- There will be a special raffle of the Eddie Stone lighthouse by Habroure Lights.

Newsletter-Joe Guchek – Editor of the Beam

- The Beam was out on time and Joe hopes everyone enjoys the new format. He thanks all those who contribute articles.
- The next deadline for the Beam is 7 weeks prior to the next meeting. E-mail any articles to Njlhsbeam@prodigy.net or The Beam 16 Labakan Place Highland Park, NJ 08904.

New Business

Bill Volpe, the chairman of the nominating committee, made their recommendations to the membership. The positions up for election are three board members. The nominees are Jim Cope, Doreen Lagattuta, and Al Smith. Rich Veit made a motion to close the nominations. Cindy Mitzen seconded, the nominations were closed.

Tom at this time also announced that Ray Vliet was stepping down as a director on the board. He was of tremendous help and will be missed.

Al Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting MaryBeth Doherty seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:18pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Mitzen, Recording Secretary