

**New Jersey Lighthouse Society
General Meeting
December 8, 2007
Audubon Park Hall
Audubon Park, NJ 08106**

Call to Order

President Yvonne Miller Thies opened the meeting at 11:18AM asking Al Smith to provide a short review of the site safety regulations followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from September 29, 2007 General Meeting

The minutes of the September 29th meeting at Henry Hudson Regional School in Highlands, NJ, were submitted for approval. Tom Laverty made a motion to accept the minutes. Cindy Mitzen seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Debbie Megonigal

Treasury figures for December 8, 2007 were as follows:

Operating Account	\$5,838.56
Sandy Hook Fund	32,698.79
Challenge Fund	3,160.54
Money Market Fund (Operating)	20,486.62
Preservation Fund	30,861.46
Memorial Fund	1,870.44
Current Balance	\$ 94,914.41

The Treasurer's Report was filed for audit.

President's Committees**Programs Committee Report – temporary chairperson Yvonne Miller Thies**

Following the resignation of Judy Franks, Yvonne will serve as interim Program Committee chairperson. The next General Membership Meeting will take place on March 29th at Central School in Highland Park, NJ 08904. The March meeting will feature the annual photo contest.

New Society Archivist Named – Elinor Veit has agreed to serve as Archivist for the Society.

Trips – Betty Smith

Since being announced in the Beam, 31 members have signed up for the Nantucket/Martha's Vineyard trip. The trip will include all meals, at least one boat trip and three nights lodging at the Lighthouse Inn in Dennis, MA. The trip will leave the weekend after Memorial Day. Deposits are due to Betty no later than January 10th. To date 19 members have signed up for the Long Island Lighthouse Challenge bus trip.

New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge – Doreen Berson**2007**

- "Thank You" to everyone involved with the planning and production of the 2007 Challenge. It was an Overwhelming Success!
- Highlights include
 - o 39% more people started than in 2006
 - o 51% more people finished than in 2006
 - o 76% of Starters actually finished (up from 70% in 2006)
 - o 2,000+ volunteer hours logged on Challenge weekend
 - o 148 completed the Dual Challenge (32% of total MD finishers)
 - o 65 completed the Triple Challenge (30% of total LI finishers)
- 2007 Souvenir pins available on the website – Challenge page

2008

- 9th Annual NJ Lighthouse Challenge will be held October 18-19, 2008
- Kickoff/Planning meeting to be held February 9th at Twin Rivers Library
- Two new sites added (Barnegat Light Historical Museum & Lens and Cape May County Historical Museum & Lens)
- Other lighthouse challenges include:
 - o Maine Lighthouse Challenge and Martha's Vineyard Lighthouse Challenge are both on the same weekend: June 7-8, 2008
(**Note:** Martha's Vineyard Challenge has since been changed to June 13-15, 2008)
 - o International Lighthouse Challenge: August 9, 2008
 - o As more information becomes available it will be posted on website - Challenge page

Community Outreach – Anthony Albence

Reminder that 2008 will include some exciting new outreach locations and volunteers are needed. Of particular interest is the Warren County Farmer's Festival, a week long event that will take place July 27 – Aug 2, 2008. Outreach has some fun new promotional items (like a flash light) for use at these events.

Education Outreach / Speakers Bureau – Bill Volpe (presented by Yvonne Miller-Thies)

2007 has been a very good year. Speaking Engagements and our Talks at Sandy Hook have reached 35 groups and over 1500 people. Eighteen Lighthouse Education Kits have been placed in schools during 2007. Additional speakers are needed to help in the Northern New Jersey area!

Historian – Jack Slavin (presented by Yvonne Miller-Thies)

No new information to report.

1st Vice President's Report: Mary Beth Doherty

Membership - The Society's membership totals 941 members, 275 single and 333 family memberships. The total attendance at the 12/8 meeting was 115 members. Membership renewal forms were handed out at the membership/welcome table. Members could pay at the meeting and receive their '08 membership card at the meeting or mail in their renewal and receive their card by mail. New name tags, which include the NJLHS Logo, are available for order at the sign in desk for \$6.00.

Website – Remember to check the website for updates/info on the March meeting.

Newsletter - THE BEAM

Deadline for articles for the March BEAM is January 26. The editor has already received three new articles - Thanks!

Publicity – Please provide Betty Smith with the names of any local websites or papers so that we can provide information on future NJLHS meetings and activities.

Photo Contest – Cindy Mitzen

The annual Photo Contest will be held during the March General Membership Meeting. Entries can be either 5"x7" or 8"x10" in size and can be entered in one of six categories; 1) East Coast Lighthouses, 2) West Coast Lighthouses, 3) International Lighthouses, 4) Lighthouse Doors, 5) Winners Circle or 6) Masters. Anyone wishing to volunteer to help with setting up or counting the votes should see Cindy.

Ways & Means – Marty Hudspeth

- Ways and Means is looking for '07 Challenge pictures for Sandy Hook, Twin Lights, Barnegat, Tuckers Island, Cape May, Tinicum and Absecon. They will be used for the new cookbook.

- New recipes still needed for the cookbook
- New Products Available:
 - o New sweatshirts available in four colors
 - o Ladies handbags – homemade by a lady in NY
 - o Lighthouses of the New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge book by Chris Chambers

2nd Vice President's Report – Brett Franks

Preservation – Bob Uhrmann and Phil Bur gave a 20 minute slide show and talk describing the history of Ludlum Beach Light.

Sandy Hook – Al Smith

- The Gift Shop had a phenomenal year in 2007.
- Looking for volunteers to help out at Sandy Hook as either Greeters or Tour Guides.
- Really need Greeters to volunteer and work in the Gift Shop for winter weekends during 2008.

The President asked that all new members in attendance at the meeting to stand and be recognized. There being no further Old Business the meeting moved on to New Business.

New Business - Election of 2008 Officer or Director Positions

The candidate slate recommended by the Nominating Committee and consisting of Doreen Berson – Director, Jim Cope – Director, Marty Hudspeth – Director and Jayne Swope – Corresponding Secretary was presented to the membership. A call was made for any other nominations from the membership. There being no further nominations the candidates a voice vote was held and the slate passed unanimously. At the conclusion of the voice vote the President announced that the four candidates were duly elected to the positions of Director or Corresponding Secretary. Yvonne welcomed the new directors and officer to the Board.

Note: Following the meeting it was determined that since each of the four candidates on the slate ran unopposed – a vote from the floor was redundant and not required. Instead the candidates should have simply been declared elected by Chair. (Robert's Rules, 10th Edition, page 427-429; Viva-Voce Election)

There being no further New Business, Yvonne asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Al Smith made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Betty Smith and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:20PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert E. Gleason
Recording Secretary