

**New Jersey Lighthouse Society  
General Meeting  
June 28, 2008  
Fort Mott State Park  
Pennsville, NJ 08070  
<http://www.njlhs.org/>**

**Call to Order**

President Yvonne Miller Thies opened the meeting at 11:05AM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Special Guests Jeff Gales, Executive Director of USLHS, and Judy Osip, Friends of Supawna Meadows, were introduced.

**Minutes from December 8, 2007 General Meeting**

Bob Gleason submitted the minutes from the March 29<sup>th</sup> meeting at Central School in Highland Park were submitted for approval. Debbie Megonigal made a motion to accept the minutes. Rick Hodgman seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report: Debbie Megonigal**

Treasury figures for June 28, 2008 were as follows:

Operating Account	\$30,314.72
Sandy Hook Fund	28,864.88
Challenge Fund	1,027.34
Preservation Fund	22,582.43
Memorial Fund	4,323.00
Current Balance	\$87,112.37

There were no questions following the reading of the report so the Treasurer's Report was filed for audit.

**Ways & Means – Marty Hudspeth**

- 50 more recipes still needed for the cookbook, particularly bread or muffins
- Thanks to the NJLHS Website a lady in France placed an order for the new magnetic bookmarks.
- Please visit the table and buy items so that we can purchase new & different items.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President's Report – Brett Franks report delivered by Laura Portée****Preservation**

- Two Helping Hands events were completed (East Point and Sandy Hook). More member participation for Helping Hands is needed!
- The lighthouse grant letter, explaining how lighthouse managers can apply for a grant for small repairs, has been composed and mailed. To date, no responses.
- The 2008 Preservation Raffle will take place during the September meeting in Sandy Hook.

**Past President's Report: Tom Laverty's report delivered by Yvonne Miller Thies**

**Recognition** – Reminder that nominations for the NJLHS Recognition Awards should be submitted to Tom via e-mail ([tom.laverty@njlhs.com](mailto:tom.laverty@njlhs.com)) or regular mail (Tom Laverty, NJLHS, Inc., PO Box 332, Navesink, NJ 07752-0332) by MONDAY June 30th.

**Sandy Hook Report – presented by Al Smith**

Things are going well at "the Hook" although greeters and guides are urgently needed for the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's Report: Mary Beth Doherty**

**Membership** - The Society's membership totals 659 members, 179 single and 240 family memberships. The total attendance at the 6/28 meeting was 80 members.

**Website** – The photos from the Martha's Vineyard & Nantucket trip are now on the web site. Please check them out!

#### **Newsletter - THE BEAM**

Apologized that the BEAM did not go out as early as normal. If you are a paid member and you have not received your copy of THE BEAM by July 14<sup>th</sup> please contact Mary Beth. Deadline for articles for the September BEAM is August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

#### **Education Outreach / Speakers Bureau – Bill Volpe**

The Speakers Bureau has conducted 11 talks to date with 8 more scheduled. Sandy Hook presentations, normally for school age children or scouts, number 9 to date with 4 more scheduled. Eleven education kits have been placed. On a total basis, 800+ people have been contacted by the combined Speakers Bureau / Education Outreach team so far in 2008.

#### **Community Outreach – Anthony Albence**

Community Outreach completed the Spirit of New Jersey History event at Washington Crossing State Park in early May. The team also completed the Barnegat Bay Festival. Volunteers are still needed for the week long Warren County Farmer's Festival, July 27 – Aug 2, 2008. This is a day & night time event so volunteers are really needed. Please check the BEAM and the website to volunteer for other events later in the summer and into the fall.

#### **Challenge – Doreen Berson and Laura Portée**

- Awarded the 2008 Governor's Excellence in Tourism Award
- Received 2008 matching grants from Ocean County Tourism Department (\$1,450) and NJ Department of State Division of Travel & Tourism (\$15,000).
- Brochures & Posters for the '08 Challenge have been distributed. See Cindy Mitzen if more are needed.
- '08 Challenge volunteers still needed – particularly at two new "lens" sites.
- Publicity for this year's Challenge will be placed in AAA World, Lighthouse Digest, NJ Monthly and NJ Family.
- Next Challenge Committee meeting will be Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 10am – 1pm at the Twin Rivers Library. Committee members who can not make this meeting PLEASE let Laura or Doreen know so alternate plans can be made to distribute your materials to you.

#### **President's Report**

##### **Programs Committee Report – Yvonne serving as temporary chairperson**

The September 27<sup>th</sup> membership meeting will take place at Sandy Hook. Current plans call for the Society to rent a tent near the Chapel. The December 6<sup>th</sup> membership meeting is planned for Absecon Uptown School to be followed by the Holiday Social at Absecon Lighthouse. Updates will be posted on the website and listed in The BEAM. Yvonne asked for volunteers to get involved with Programs.

##### **Trips – Yvonne and Betty Smith**

The May, Cape Cod trip was a big success. Since the Seaway Trail Trip will be postponed until 2009, Betty announced that NJLHS will run a bus/boat trip to visit the lighthouses of Boston Harbor. The trip will run Friday August 22 thru 24. The trip will leave from Newark Airport @ 9:30am on Friday. Hotel accommodations will be at the Hampton Inn Braintree. Cost for the trip will be \$515 per person or \$820 per couple. Watch the website for more news.

Yvonne Miller Thies suggested that concerned individuals in attendance at today's meeting consider writing to Governor Corzine expressing their concern for the possible closing of Fort Mott as a state park.

**Barnegat Lighthouse State Park** – The Friends of Barnegat Light have taken the lead in organizing the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration for the lighthouse. Activities include trying to install re-light the tower using an airport beacon. Festivities are targeted to begin on October 11, 2008.

#### **Local Lighthouse Items**

- The Friends of Barnegat Light have taken the lead in organizing the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration for the lighthouse. Activities include trying to install re-light the tower using an airport beacon. Festivities are targeted to begin on October 11, 2008.
- Yvonne called for members to consider volunteering to support Barnegat as well as other NJ lighthouses. Tinicum in particular is in particular need.
- While discussing volunteers, Rich Veit shared the sad news that Ed Downs, an Absecon volunteer and NJLHS member, passed away earlier in the month.
- Please submit Lighthouse Happenings/Events to Faith Giamboi at njlhsevents@peoplepc.com so that she can enter them in The BEAM and have them entered on the Society website.

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#### **Photo Contest – Cindy Mitzen**

The winning photographs from the March contest are now back from their display at the Sandy Hook Keepers House and can be picked up at today's meeting. A new category will be introduced in 2009 – "Spirit of the Challenge". Unlike other categories, pictures in this new category can include Challenge participants.

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**New Business - Election of 2008 Officer or Director Positions** – Yvonne announced that Debbie Megonigal has announced her intention not to run for Treasurer during the 2008 officer and director elections. She commended Debbie for her tireless and efficient work in the Treasurer position for many years. The membership stood and gave an emotional round of applause for Debbie. Yvonne then announced that she has asked; and Debbie has agreed to chair the 2008 NJLHS Officer/Director nominating committee.

There being no further New Business, Yvonne asked for, and Bill Schneider made, a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Kate Klix and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 PM. Following adjournment, the following activities took place.

**United States Lighthouse Society (USLHS)** – Jeff Gales, Executive Director of the US Lighthouse Society gave a presentation on the USLHS goals & mission as well as the status of their new headquarters in Washington State. A copy of the USLHS quarterly publication, THE KEEPER'S LOG and a USLHS membership application was available for all members. Jeff encouraged all NJLHS members to consider joining and take advantage of the many membership benefits.

Ranger Andy Grant gave an overview of the day's events & displays available at Fort Mott as part of Shore Defense Living History Day.

On behalf of the NJLHS, Yvonne presented Judy Oslip, President of the Friends of Supawna Meadows, with a donation check of \$500 for use with the park and the Finns Point Lighthouse.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert E. Gleason  
Recording Secretary