

**New Jersey Lighthouse Society
General Meeting – June 20, 2009
Cape May County
4H Fairgrounds – Youth Center
Cape May, NJ
<http://www.njlhs.org/>**

Call to Order

Following a visit to the Cape May County Museum, President Mary Beth Doherty opened the meeting at 11:47AM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Jim Cope provided a review of safety procedures.

Minutes from March 21, 2009 General Meeting

Bob Gleason submitted the minutes from the March 21st meeting at Fort Monmouth VFW Post 2179 for approval. Cindy Mitzen made a motion to approve the minutes which was seconded by Nancy Sprout. The motion was passed by the membership and the March 21st minutes were approved.

President's Opening Remarks: Mary Beth reminded members that per the by-laws, the Society will need to form a Nominating Committee to recommend candidates for Officer/Director positions opening at the end of 2009. Anyone interested in volunteering to Chair the Nominating Committee should see Mary Beth during the meeting.

Membership - The Society's membership totals 689 members, 248 single and 193 family memberships. The total attendance at the meeting was 75 members.

Newsletter - THE BEAM - Mike Boucher

Mike asked that anyone vacationing or visiting lighthouses please consider writing an article for The BEAM.

Website – Mary Beth for Howard Wright

The first thirty issues of The BEAM are now on the website for viewing. There are also some new and interesting lighthouse videos on the site. Please visit the site and see for yourself.

Challenge – Laura Portée (Doreen Berson was attending her niece's wedding)

- Brochures & posters for this year's Challenge® have been printed & distributed. Thanks to Cindy Mitzen, who is serving as distribution coordinator, and to Dennis Whelan who is "manning" the email box and sending brochures to those requesting information. Also thanks to Howie Wright for setting up the Challenge web page and Mike Boucher for prominent.
- Received \$6,750 NJ Department of State, Division of Travel & Tourism grant! However grant size < 50% of 2008 value due to state budget challenges. Advertising will be reduced from '08 levels.
- All volunteers, even those returning to the same site, must sign-up with Carol Naill or Apryl Roach, the Challenge Volunteer Coordinators. Sign-up deadline is August 31st.
- Site coordinator is still needed for East Point location. Please see Laura if interested.
- Special 10th Anniversary Events include: two boat rides on Friday 10/6, and the addition of Ludlam Beach Lighthouse as a "Bonus" site. Please talk up the boat trips.
- Updates on other Challenges:
 - Mid-Coast Maine - 6/27-28
 - Lights Across the Border International Lighthouse Challenge - 9/12
 - Maryland - 9/19-20
- Reminder that we are looking for volunteer(s) to work with Doreen & Laura and be ready to take over Chairing the Challenge following the 2009 event.

Mary Beth shared a sad note: Don Smith, Society member & Challenge volunteer at Tuckerton Seaport, passed away on June 17th. Donations in his memory can be made to Tuckerton Seaport.

Ways & Means – Marty Hudspeth

- The 2nd Edition of the NJLHS Cookbook has been proofread and sent back to the publisher for printing. Hoping to have the finished product by the September meeting.
- New items available include: long sleeve T-shirts, pens, and a smaller NJLHS pin which is more like the original.
- Reminder that a volunteer is needed to become Ways & Means Chairperson at the end of 2009.

Treasurer's Report: Faith Giamboi

Faith requested that all Committee Chairs keep a record of what you spend or deposit and let her know if she will be receiving a bill or a change in account balance due to a deposit.

Treasury figures for June 20, 2009 were as follows:

Operating Account		\$16,385.41
Sandy Hook Account		27,219.56
Challenge Account		7,794.33
Preservation Account	17,694.37	
CD (Preservation – matures 9/11/09)	<u>5,000.00</u>	
Total Preservation		22,694.37
Memorial Fund		<u>3,884.74</u>
Current Balance		\$77,978.411

Reminder to properly document expenses. Anyone needing to submit expenses should see Faith to pick up a copy of the proper form. The Treasurer's Report will be filed for audit.

Finance – Jim Cope

- Updated the 2009 NJLHS budget (Challenge Budget specifically) to reflect the drop in NJ Grant funding.
- Mary Beth and Jim both expressed their appreciation for all of the work Faith has been doing to standardize the society's financial records & processes.

1st Vice President's Report – Brett Franks**Preservation**

- Memorial Committee: Carol Ann Cook \$1,000 grant went to Tinicum Rear Range Lighthouse for replacement of the entrance stairs & place a commemorative plaque.
- Twentieth Anniversary of NJLHS (1989-2009) committee will be introducing new anniversary items for sale at the next few meetings. Large pin and T-shirt are available today. Two new items will be available at the September meeting.
- Introduced Christine Jochem as the Society's new Historian.
- Phil Bur provided an update on Ludlum Beach Lighthouse.

Sandy Hook Report - Ken Schumacher

- Sandy Hook is doing well but is really in need of volunteers, greeters in particular.
- Economy is bringing lots of visitors to the Sandy Hook. Gift Shop sales are brisk.
- Bridge construction makes commuting time very unpredictable.
- A Commercial Use Agreement for the Gift Shop has been signed with the National Park Service.

2nd Vice President Report - Cindy Mitzen

Education Outreach / Speakers Bureau – (Bob Gleason for Bill Volpe)

Bill & Team have completed 3 Sandy Hook talks and 12 speaker engagements so far this year. A total of 538 people have been contacted and the Society has received donations totaling \$304. Five future talks are scheduled.

Community Outreach – (Cindy for Anthony Albence who could not attend)

The 2009 season kicked-off with the Spirit of Jersey event at Washington Crossing State Park and Ocean Fun Days at Island Beach and Sandy Hook parks. Thanks to Mary Catherine Kennedy and Alan & Amy Mertz for heading the Ocean Fun Day events. Alan is also coordinating the Warren County Farmer's Fair (July 26 – August 1) and has a sign-up sheet for interested volunteers at today's meeting.

Trips – (Aryl Roach had business conflict & could not make this meeting)

Bob Gleason said that the Seaway Trail trip was completed in June; Great weather and a lot of fun had by all.

Employer Donation – Based on the hours Cindy has volunteered for NJLHS, her employer (WalMart) has donated \$250 to the Society.

Recognition for The BEAM – Cindy asked Mike Boucher and Mary Beth to please come forward. The League of Historical Societies of New Jersey informed Cindy that they have awarded The BEAM newsletter 2nd Place for newsletters. Congratulations!

Programs

- SUNY Maritime will be the site for the September meeting. There is a possibility that we will be able to tour the school's training ship, EMPIRE STATE. Reviewed explained ordering process to take advantage of today's VFW lunch service.
- Cindy is looking for input on the location for the December meeting and ideas for the format of the Holiday Social.

New Business

Jim Cope reminded Society members that the US Postal Service would be issuing new lighthouse stamps on July 23rd. Please show your support for lighthouse preservation by buying a sheet of the stamps on the date of issuance. Cindy mentioned that Sandy Hook's 250th birthday is only five years away and it will be a great candidate for a future USPS Stamp.

There being no further Business, Mary Beth asked for, and Bill Schneider made, a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Nancy Cope and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:49 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert E. Gleason
Recording Secretary