

New Jersey Lighthouse Society
General Meeting – March 26, 2011
Audubon Park Community Center
Road C, Audubon Park, NJ
www.njlhs.org

President's Call to Order

President Brett Franks called the meeting to order at 11:14 A.M. and welcomed those in attendance.

No director or committee has been made to lead Programs, so please see THE BEAM for updates and news.

Our last meeting was held at the Twin Lights of Navesink for our General Membership Meeting and Sandy Hook for our Holiday Social. Things are moving forward with the agreement with Sandy Hook. The gift shop will possibly be opening 7 days a week. Volunteers will be needed. Please contact Sue Mazza, if you can help.

For this meeting no 50/50 or door prizes were allowed in this hall due to no license.

Today is a silent auction only with rules posted at the table. Bids will be taken throughout the day. High bidder will get the item. Events of the day are as follows:

- Photo Contest voting up until lunch then ballots will be counted during speakers. Winners will be announced at the end of the program. Thank you Judy Boucher.
- Lunch orders were taken but food is still available. Thank you Betty and Al Smith.
- Today's speakers are NJ Lighthouse Society (NJLHS) members with prior repeat winner status. Al Smith, Bill Volpe, Mike Boucher and Brett Franks will share how they get their winning photographs. This year we are trying to get more members involved.

Brett then asked for all to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Jim Cope then gave an "In Case of Emergency" speech for fire safety.

Minutes from Prior General Meetings

Karen Owen submitted the minutes from the December 4, 2010 meeting at Twin Lights of Navesink Lighthouse prepared by Robert Gleason. There being no changes noted, Cindy Mitzen made a motion to accept the minutes. Tom Laverty seconded the motion and they were passed unanimously.

Presidential Notes

Brett spoke of changes coming to the NJLHS. Nothing is really wrong, but we need to be more interesting. There are over 700 members on the roles, but only 100 attend at the meetings. There will possibly be some different changes throughout the year. Suggestions of meeting locations, speakers, topics, trips, etc. are welcomed and appreciated. Take advantage of our society.

Financial Updates

Treasurer's Report:

Due to Faith Giamboi's absence, Brett read the report. As of March 24, 2011:

<i>Operating Fund</i>	\$ 29,657.83
<i>Memorial Fund</i>	<u>\$ 4,621.73</u>
<i>Operating Account Total</i>	\$ 34,279.56
<i>Sandy Hook Account</i>	\$ 31,949.08

Preservation Account \$ 35,174.19
Society Balance Total \$101,402.83

The following deposits were made to the operating account but have not Faith does not have the deposit information:

February 14, 2011 \$ 550.00
March 14, 2011 \$7,112.00
March 14, 2011 \$6,157.00

The following checks are outstanding:

Check #3145 written on 12/04/2010 to Anne Fahringer for \$34.07
Check #3117 written on 10/23/2010 to Brett Franks for \$201.35

Review:

Forms must be completed and turned in with deposits or requests.

Be sure to have teller validate ALL copies on back of deposit.

Use Chart of Accounts account numbers whenever possible.

Contact Faith if assistance is needed.

Brett also added that \$15,000.00 will be transferred into Certificate of Deposit (CD) Accounts. \$10,000.00 from the Sandy Hook account over 2 years and \$5,000.00 from the Preservation account for 12 -13 months.

Finance Committee Report:

Jim Cope then presented the 2011 New Jersey Lighthouse Society Budget. He noted that line 40105 Membership Donations has already been surpassed and thanked the membership in attendance. He continued to note that trips were where most of the moneys seem to go, but that money is put back into the budget when the individual pays for the trip. The 2011 Budget is a balanced budget (all lines equal). It is the committee's recommendation along with the Executive Board to approve this budget. A thank you was given to Jim and his committee for their work on the budget.

First Vice President – Anthony Albence

Publicity

The NJLHS is currently on 75 media outlets including Facebook and Twitter. We currently have 303 friends on Facebook, a social media network.

Outreach

Community Outreach:

The NJLHS will be represented at the Spirit of the Jerseys State History Fair at the Historic Village at Allaire in Farmingdale, New Jersey on Saturday, May 7, 2011 from 11 A.M. to 5 P.M.. Admission is free of charge (except for a \$5.00 suggested donation for parking to defray the cost of the fair) and the event is rain or shine. Anthony also thanked Howard Wright for the putting the Outreach Committee Schedule on the website. All are welcomed and encouraged to attend any or all events.

Mary Katherine Kennedy reported that volunteering is wonderful! You get a chance to meet people and tell them about lighthouses. Sometimes you even learn things yourself. Anthony continued by saying that it is a fun time to talk to others. Ways and Means will also be at most events attended by the Outreach Committee.

Education Outreach / Speakers Bureau:

Due to the absence of Bob Gleason, Brett read his report.

The following members are going out on speaking assignments:

Bill Volpe – Pine Lakes Seniors

Cindy Mitzen – speaking engagement pending

Bob Gleason – Learning for Life

Faith Giamboi – Cedar Ridge

Brett Franks – Barnegat Lighthouse

The New Jersey Lighthouse Society's Children's Activity Book is in the printing and updates are being made.

Website:

Anthony introduced Howie who reported that copies 1-65 of THE BEAM are online. He has 20 more to go. Books are also being added to the online library. The video presentation today of the prior Photo Contest winners is also on the website.

Second Vice President – Rich Veit

Archives:

Materials housed at Sandy Hook are going to be moved to the new storage unit acquired by the society. Brett added that due to insurance (protection, fire, theft) issues we are moving materials to a secure storage unit with other society items. More and more materials will be put on the website. We also have many one of a kind things to preserve.

Preservation:

Projects:

Museum at Absecon Lighthouse (after summer)

Lenses to be worked on

Board of Director – Doreen Berson

Membership:

George Naill reported that 75 members were in attendance today, along with 4 guests and 2 new members.

Hospitality:

A thank you was given to all for the donations to the Hospitality Fund.

New Jersey Lighthouse Liaison:

The Lighthouse Managers have met and are planning the Lighthouse Challenge of New Jersey for October 15-16, 2011. Volunteers will be needed. Laura and Doreen are the liaisons from the society. Rack cards are already printed and out with artwork by Donna Elias.

Board of Director – Carol Winkie

Ways & Means:

Ways and Means materials are set up in the back corner for purchasing today. If you have any ideas for items to be sold, please e-mail Carol. Check Outreach schedule on the website for places where the Ways & Means will be set up.

Sandy Hook Shop:

No report at this time.

Board of Director – Mary Beth Doherty

Bylaws:

It has been at least fifteen (15) years since the Bylaws have been updated and/or revised. It is time to include the changes to committees and more. Committee will be meeting on Saturday, April 2, 2011 with a proposed copy for the June and September meetings and final approval by December.

N.E.L.L. (New England Lighthouse Lovers) Liaison:

Trips and events will be posted for their organization on our site and ours on theirs as well. Note the NELL Boat Trip on May 13-15 for \$125.00 per person. If interested see Mary Beth or contact the website.

Board of Director – Mike Boucher

THE BEAM:

With each issue now 16 pages, we are in need of “stuff”. Issue deadline is April 30th with final product going to printer late May. Mike will be away for the next couple General Meetings (June > Harbor Lights Cruise to Alaska, September > Norway).

Trips:

Delaware River Trip scheduled for May 21st at 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. out of Fortescue, NJ on the Bonanza. The cost is \$80.00 per person with a possible fuel charge due to rising fuel costs. Lights to be seen are the Barker Range, Bellevue Range Lighthouse, Bellevue Range, Billingsport Range, Bulkhead Bar Range, Cherry Island Range, Chester Range, Christina River, Deepwater Range, Eagle Point Range, East Horseshoe Range, Eddystone Range, Lightship Barnegat, Liston Range, Liston Front Range Lighthouse, Marcus Hook Range, Mifflin Range, New Castle Range, Reedy Island Range, Tinicum Range, Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, Nuclear Generating Station #2, Delaware Memorial Bridge, The Port of Wilmington, Philadelphia Airport, Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, USS Olympia, USS New Jersey, Walt Whitman Bridge, and the Benjamin Franklin Bridge. Bring your own food and snacks for the trip. Apryl added that 31 of the 50 seats have been sold.

Sheffield Island Trip plus hidden treasures (clambake) and/or overnight get a-way to Hilton Garden Inn, Norwalk, CT is scheduled for August 6 and/or August 6-7. Watch the website for updates.

Apryl reported on the Southern Tour to North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. The trip did not go last year due to lack of participation. This year the touring company has approved the trip with 27 deposits sent in for the same cost. Unfortunately, 4 have backed down and there are seats left to fill. Contact Apryl if interested. We must have 27 attendees at least to run the trip. The Trolley Tours itinerary is available for viewing is desired.

Board of Director – Jim Cope

Sandy Hook Stamp:

June 11, 1764 was the lighting of the New York Lighthouse – Sandy Hook (250 years ago). We are looking for approval from the United States Post Office (USPS) for a stamp to commemorate this 250th Anniversary. We are also checking with Howard Koslow, artist, to draw the stamp. Once submitted, petitions need to be signed. We will get the word out and keep all updated. We are hoping for envelop and cache with first day cancellation at the Sandy Hook Lighthouse. Brett added that this is a dedicated effort and will take a lot of work. Volunteers are need for petition signing and fact checking. Jim continued, if the USPS turns us down, we could still have a special cancellation through the Highland Park Post Office.

Historian (with Bouchers):

Materials are going to be moved to storage unit (with the other NJLHS materials) where the it will be climate controlled.

New Business

Audit Committee:

Brett assigned Anthony Albence to chair the Auditing Committee. Members to serve with Anthony will be Doreen Berson and Joan Stumpf.

Sandy Hook Account:

Money will be put into a CD for 2 years. This money will be dedicated to the 250th Anniversary. We are planning now since approval must also come from the National Parks Services. We would like a series of events. Volunteers are needed. A committee will be forming. If interested, see Jim or Brett.

Next Meeting:

We have ideas for the next meeting but would love suggestions. Brett questioned the members in attendance as to the June meeting. Do we want to stay to the west of the state (away from the coast) or travel to the shore? The show of hands for away, close or don't care was evenly split.

Photo Contest 2012:

Thoughts to expand the photo contest to other art forms such as drawing, painting, needle point, and more. Categories to be determined soon, so if you have any input please see Brett Franks or Judy Boucher.

Donations:

Brett read donation cards from the family of Anthonio Marrison (?), a Navy Yeoman whose family sent a donation in his memory and Anne Schaeffer's grand-daughter, Deanne Pearse sent \$250 in memory of her grandmother. She asked if the Society would use the funds towards the Lighthouse Challenge.

Note: After the General Membership Meeting, Brett held a Board Meeting where the \$250 donation along with \$500 from the Society will be given to the New Jersey Lighthouse Managers for assisting with this year's challenge. Doreen will present this to them at their next meeting on April 19th. Motion made by Brett, seconded by Doreen and all Board Members present were in approval.

For the Good of the Society:

"This is your Society! We want to do what works best for you." Ideas are welcomed.

Adjournment:

Mike made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Jim. All were in favor and the meeting ended at 12:12 P.M..

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen J. Stumpf-Owen
Recording Secretary
