

## New England Lighthouse Lovers - NELL

### 2007 Lighthouses, Hot Chocolate & You



Well, it happened again. For weeks we had unseasonably warm sunny weather. We should have known when NELL had its annual and first weekend long LHC&Y on Jan. 13-14 it would be rainy and cold most of the weekend. With NELL being like the US Postal Service, neither rain, sleet nor snow...would stop us from having a great weekend.

Starting out at Chatham Light we were met by Jeff Davis, Keeper of Chatham Light, and members of USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 11-01. When we climbed the tower and arrived at the lantern room we were given an excellent history of the light and shoreline, and were told that around 1923, when Chatham became automated the twin towers were split up. More on that later.

Unfortunately, we couldn't see too much out the lantern room windows due to the fog outside and condensation inside, but by receiving a good explanation of where things were, along with good imaginations, we did fine. After folks came down from the lantern room we started handing out the box lunches and that's when it really started to rain. Thank goodness the back of my truck opens upward as that afforded those picking up their lunches a little shelter.

From Chatham we went to Three Sisters of Nauset and were informed by Ed and Shirley Sabin, Park Service volunteers and long time members of Nauset Light Preservation Society that the Three Sisters were built so mariners could differentiate between Highland and the original twin lights at Chatham. Due to erosion of the coastline, the original 3 Sisters fell into the sea, and at times the base of one of them can still be seen in the water. The second set of Three Sisters was about to suffer the same fate and it was then that the government decided that one light would suffice and sold the other two, relocating the remaining one further inland. That one flashed 3 times every ten seconds in memory of the Three Sisters, a somewhat romantic story.

The National Park Service managed to repurchase the sisters between 1965 and 1975, restored them, sans lantern room on 2 of them, and placed them in their original configuration, 150 feet apart and 8.5 degrees off north 1,800 feet from the cast iron tower where they stand today. It is unknown even today as to why the tops were removed and, more importantly, where are they? A question no one seems able to answer. Could it be that this is another lighthouse mystery?

A short walk up the street and we were at Nauset Light and met by our hosts Bud Griffin, NELL member and President of Nauset Light Preservation Society along with society members Michelle Dirksen and Richard Ryder. When we climbed the tower we were told by Bud that in 1923 there was no longer a need for the remaining sister due to the north tower of the twin lights at Chatham being disassembled, moved and re-assembled at Nauset Beach in Eastham, Ma, so the government sold it.

After lunch and a leisurely drive to Highland Light, NELL members were treated to hot chocolate and some delicious, and I do mean delicious, home made brownies, cookies and pastries baked by Fran Webster, Administrator of Highland Light. While some members watched a DVD on the history of Highland Light, some climbed the tower while others purchased some of the many items offered for sale at the gift shop.

Some announcements were then made regarding the following items; Linda Graham is putting together a booklet of the weekend for Marguerite MacDonald, who was unable to attend due to her recovering from a private plane she was in that crashed on takeoff. Linda passed out some cards and requested members write a get well note or a hello to Marguerite and will forward them on along with pictures from the weekend.

Tom Kenworthy announced that the first wedding anniversary of his daughter Eileen, and her husband Ed was in December and that the couple is expecting a baby to arrive on July 4, 2007, and that Kaitlyn is very happy and excited

about having a baby brother or sister. He also informed us that several members have requested going to different lighthouses outside of New England for hot chocolate and our meeting weekends. He requested that anyone with a suggestion for these events contact him via phone -- 9 am to 9 pm EST -- or by email. LHC&Y suggestions are requested to be sent to him no later than April 30, 2007 and that he will do his best to get us to the light/s requested most. Tom very firmly stated that if phone calls to him continue coming in outside the requested times he will not accept phone calls any more. This is due to the fact that calls have come in at all hours of the night from as late as 1:30 a.m. to as early as 6:00 a.m.

Also announced was that all members that wished to purchase extra Harbour Lights Thumbnails of Three Sisters Light to match the one received in their LHC&Y packet could do so at the cost of \$5.00 each. (This offer has been extended to the members that did not attend LHC&Y. See offer and pictures at end of story)

Tom P. announced that a short BOD meeting would take place in the hotel at 4 p.m.

After all announcements were made and people finished spending their money, for a good cause, we all went outside for our group picture. Thankfully the rain had stopped, so we were able to take that without too much trouble.

From there we all went our separate ways with most members going to Collectors World to visit Cris and Maria Alex (who kept the store opened just for NELL members) and to do more shopping. Shortly after that, many members met in the Sea Dog Steak House for a 2 pound lobster dinner, prime rib or other delicious entrée, and then returned to the hotel and retired for a good nights sleep to get ready for the morrow.

After a hearty breakfast in the hotel dining room, most members headed to Race Point Light where we were transported by the Race Point Cape Cod Chapter of ALF to the RPL and met by Keeper Jim Walker, who looked very sharp in his keepers' uniform. (The last time I saw Jim was at Long Point Light when he was in his painting clothes.)

Jim showed us the new wind tower that will provide power to the keeper's house and the whistle house. We also saw all the improvements that have been made at the whistle house, which were many since my last visit. For those that are unaware of what's going on at Race Point, Jim is making two rooms in the whistle house. Each will have a double bed and a set of bunk beds. If memory serves me right there will also be a kitchen available. These rooms will be rented out as are the ones in the keeper's house to help raise money for the upkeep of RPL and preservation.

Even after a hearty breakfast we must have been a hungry group as we went thru 8 dozen delicious home made cookies and gallons of hot chocolate at the light which was provided by the many gracious and friendly volunteers of Race Point. The shuttles kept running back and forth, transporting the "late comers" to the light and returning members to the parking lot after they climbed the tower, made their purchases of souvenirs and "checked out" the secluded but serene and beautiful surroundings of Race Point Light.

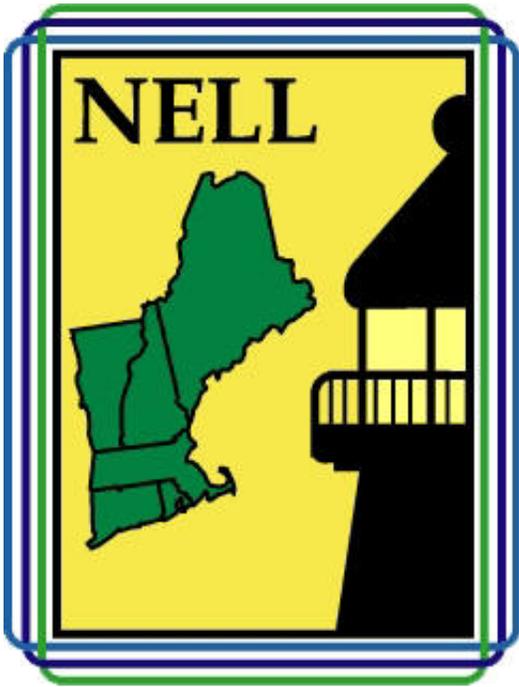
As the weekend was coming to an end, a small group of members said their goodbyes and headed home while the rest of us headed to the Coast Guard Heritage Museum located at 3353 Main Street, Rte 6A, in the 1856 US Customs

House, atop Cobbs Hill, in Barnstable Village. Entering the museum we were greeted by NELL members and volunteer curators Doug Bingham and Bill Collette, who opened the museum just for NELL's LHHC&Y event, as the museum is usually closed this time of year. It was very interesting and informative. On display are many artifacts from the coast guard along with displays of the different lifesaving equipment of yesteryear. You will be interested in the many stories and pictures of the shipwrecks of the area and the part that the cape played in our maritime history. Doug is a wealth of information which he is willing to share at a moments notice. Going upstairs you will find displays of WWII. The pictures and stories show a very important part of our countries history and will bring back mixed emotions of those times for the folks that lived them.

There are plans for a maritime library, more displays and more artifacts. I was lucky enough to see a Pulitzer Prize winning picture of the sinking of the Andrea Doria luxury liner on July 26, 1956 that is not yet on display. I would recommend this museum to anyone that has even the smallest interest in the Coast Guard, lighthouses and the maritime history that goes hand in hand with them. This museum is still in its infancy and NELL would like to wish Doug and Bill all the best.

A note regarding the accompanying pictures. Several of you are aware that the Seery's and I had been to the cape several weeks prior to hot chocolate and requested that pictures of Chatham and Nauset with the Christmas decorations on them be posted. That was done. I also posted other pictures that were not taken during hot chocolate as I felt they were better images. I'd like to thank everyone that helped with making LHHC&Y the big success that it was. I look forward to seeing you all in June. Until then "keep the flame."

Tom Kenworthy  
Vice President  
NELL



## New England Lighthouse Lovers - NELL

---

### Chatham Light - Chatham

(photos by Tom Kenworthy - unless noted otherwise)



Progression of Chatham Light to today

### Chatham Light

#### History

There have been six lighthouses built near this site. In 1808, the first two towers were built of wood, but were replaced with brick structures in 1941. A severe storm in 1980 caused a break in the offshore sandbar. Rapid erosion of the shoreline soon put these towers in danger.

In 1877, the present tower and its twin were built at this location, much further back from the water. The brick towers fell over the cliff in 1879 and 1881 respectively. When rotating lights replaced the earlier fixed lights in 1923, the north tower was moved to Eastham where it serves as Nauset Light. Electric lights, replaced the use of liquid fuels in 1939.

Chatham Light is 42 feet tall, built with a cast iron shell and a brick interior, with the light 80 feet above the water. The signal is two white lights every ten seconds.

## Lighthouse Tours

Thirty minute tours are conducted by Flotilla 11-1, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

No Charge for tours. Reservations not required.

May	first and third Wednesdays	1:00-3:30 PM
June	first and third Wednesdays	1:00-3:30 PM
July	first and third Wednesdays	1:00-3:30 PM
August	first and third Wednesdays	1:00-3:30 PM
September	first and third Wednesdays	1:00-3:30 PM
October	first and third Wednesdays	1:00-3:30 PM

**Check local publications for special tour dates.**

### Rules

Children under five years not allowed above the base.

Proper footwear required.

No food or beverages allowed inside the lighthouse.

Backpacks must be removed before entering.

Cellphones must be off during tours.

No public restrooms available.



Base of the old North Tower now Nauset Light

(Photo by Tom Kenworthy)



Chatham Light old north tower foundation on right side  
(Photo by Tom Kenworthy)





Chatham Light  
(Photo by Tom Kenworthy)



Chatham Light  
(Photo by Dennis Whelan)



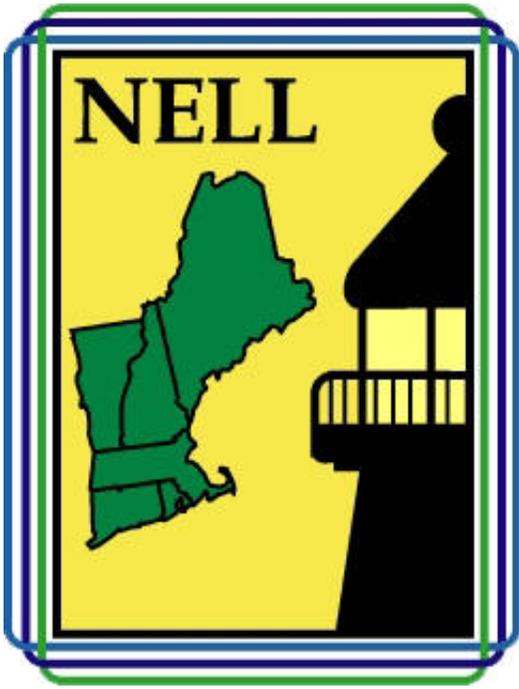
Chatham Lens  
(Photo by Dennis Whelan)



Twin Lights at Chatham



Chatham View  
(Photo by Dennis Whelan)



**New England Lighthouse Lovers - NELL**

---

### **Three Sisters Lights - Eastham**



One of the Three Sisters without a top  
(Photo by Lexis Foster)



Sister with Lantern Room  
(Photo by Tom Kenworthy)



The Three Sisters  
(Photo by Tom Kenworthy)



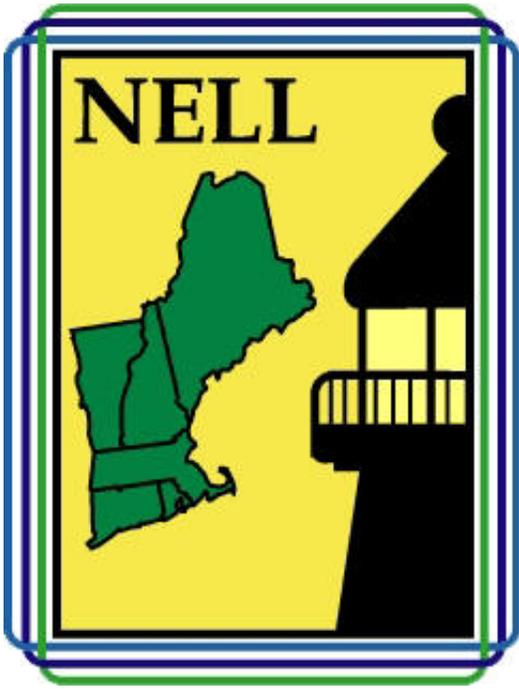
The Three Sisters of Nauset Lighthouse  
(Photo by Lexis Foster)



All of the Three Sisters Lighthouses & "Grampie" Ron Foster  
(Photos by Lexis Foster)



Docent at Three Sisters lighthouse explains their history  
(Photos by Lexis Foster)



**New England Lighthouse Lovers - NELL**

---

**Three Sisters Lights - Eastham**



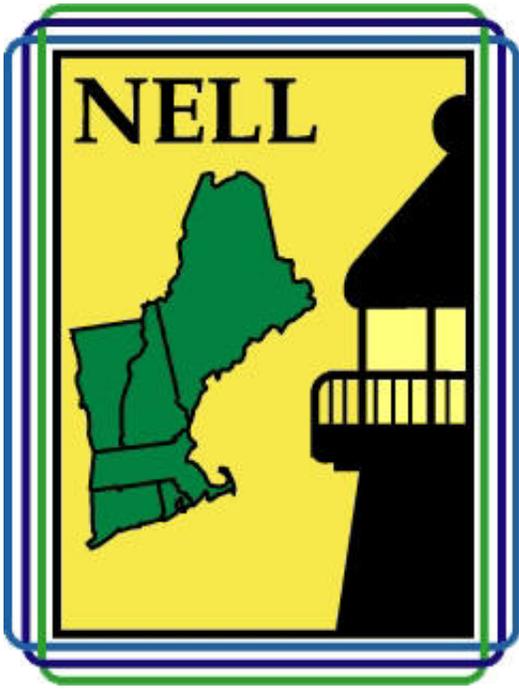
Three Sisters  
(Photo by Dennis Whelan)



Sister with Lantern Room  
(Photo by Dennis Whelan)



One of the Three Sisters in the fog  
(Photo by Dennis Whelan)



**New England Lighthouse Lovers - NELL**

---

**Nauset Light - Eastham**



Nauset with bench  
(Photo by Tom Kenworthy)



Nauset Light - Red Light  
(Photo by Tom Kenworthy)



Nauset Light - White Light  
(Photo by Tom Kenworthy)



Nauset Beach Lighthouse  
(Photo by Lexis Foster)



Nauset Light stairs  
(Photo by Tom Kenworthy)



Nauset thru the pines  
(Photo by Tom Kenworthy)



Richard Ryder, Bud Griffin, Michelle Dirksen of the Nauset Light Preservation Society receive a check from Tom Kenworthy, NELL Vice President and Tom Pregman, NELL President  
(Photo by Tom Kenworthy)



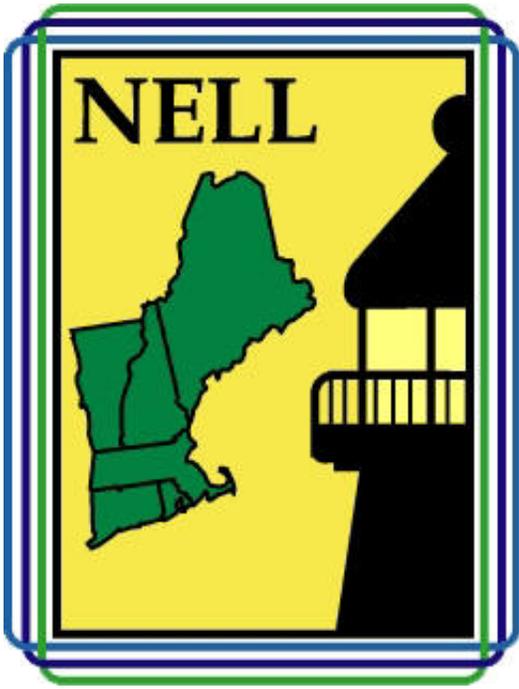
Nauset with bird  
(Photo by Tom Kenworthy)



Nauset Light  
(Photo by Dennis Whelan)



Nauset Red  
(Photo by Dennis Whelan)



## New England Lighthouse Lovers - NELL

### Nauset Beach Lighthouse - Eastham

(Photos by Lexis Foster)



New NELL Photographer - Lexis Foster with her dog "DJ"



Nauset Beach Lighthouse  
(Photo by Lexis Foster)



Red Rotating Beacon of Nauset Beach Lighthouse  
(Photo by Lexis Foster)



Nauset Beach Lighthouse and Keeper's Cottage  
(Photo by Lexis Foster)



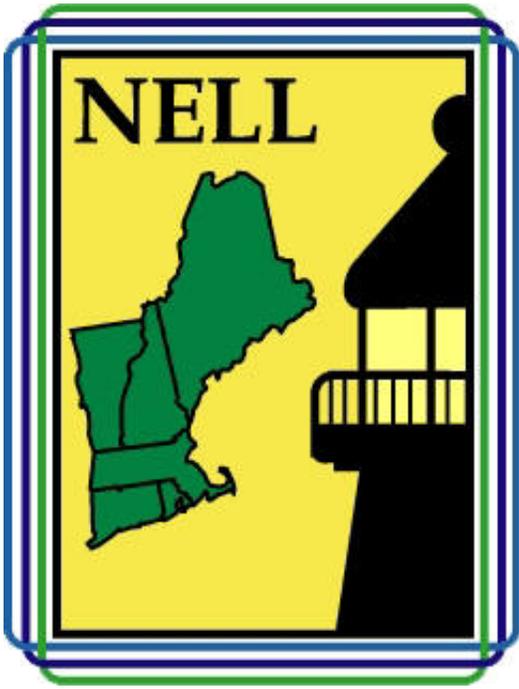
A friendly face in the window of the Keeper's House  
(Photo by Lexis Foster)



Looking up inside Nauset Beach Lighthouse  
(Photo by Lexis Foster)



White rotating beacon of Nauset Beach Lighthouse  
(Photo by Lexis Foster)



**New England Lighthouse Lovers - NELL**

---

**Nauset Light - Eastham**



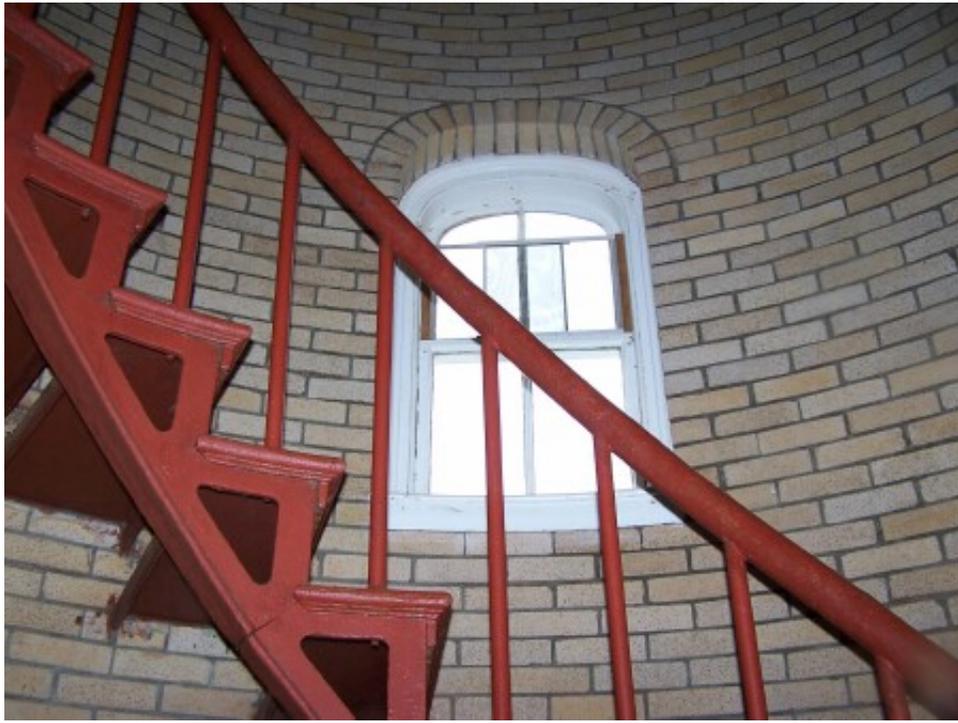
Nauset through the branches  
(Photo by Linda Graham)



Lighthouse Curtains at the Nauset Light Keeper's Cottage  
(Photo by Linda Graham)



Nauset Oil House  
(Photo by Linda Graham)



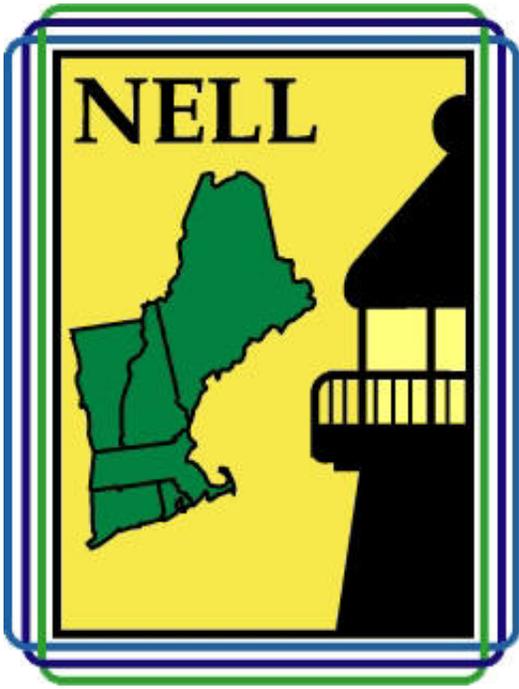
Nauset Stairway  
(Photo by Linda Graham)



Nauset walkway  
(Photo by Linda Graham)



Original site - current site in the background  
(Photo by Linda Graham)



**New England Lighthouse Lovers - NELL**

---

**Highland Light - Truro**



NELL members approaching Highland Light  
(Photo by Lexis Foster)



Cape Cod Lighthouse - Highland Light, Truro  
(Photo by Lexis Foster)



Highland Light - Truro  
(Photo by Lexis Foster)



Highland Light  
(Photo by Tom Kenworthy)



Highland Light thru the trees  
(Photo by Tom Kenworthy)



Highland Light stairs  
(Photo by Tom Kenworthy)



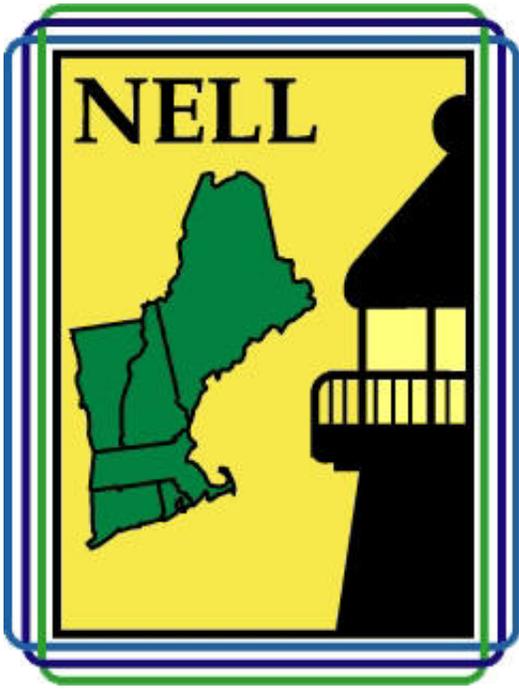
Tom Kenworthy, Fran Webster and Gordon Russell from Highland Light,  
Tom Pregman  
(Photo by Linda Graham)



Highland Light  
(Photo by Tom Kenworthy)



Highland Light with house  
(Photo by Tom Kenworthy)



**New England Lighthouse Lovers - NELL**

---

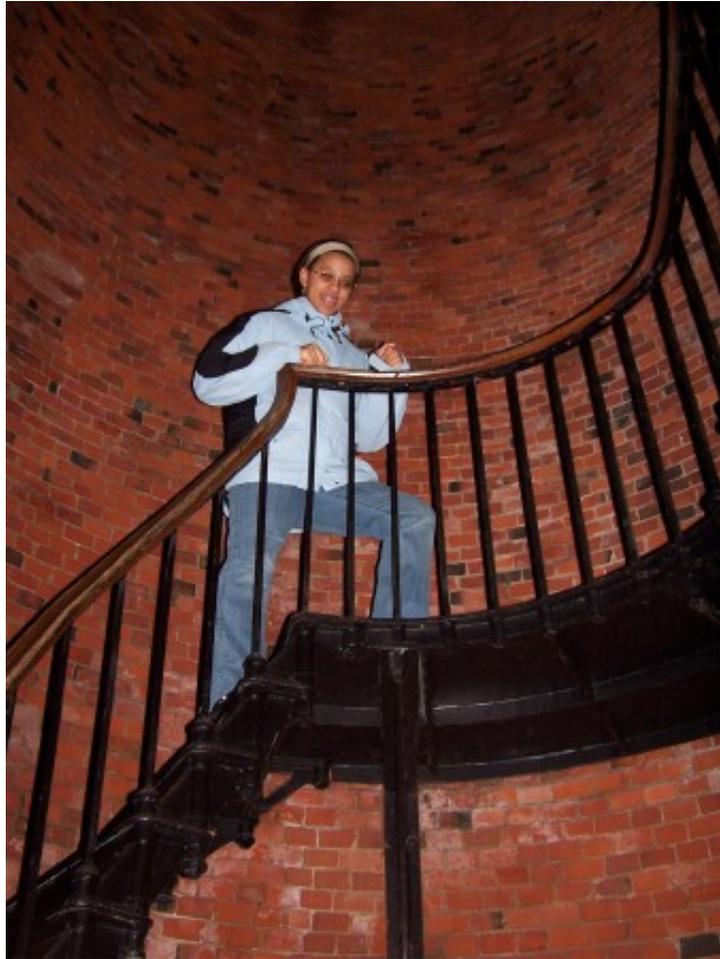
**Highland Light - Truro**



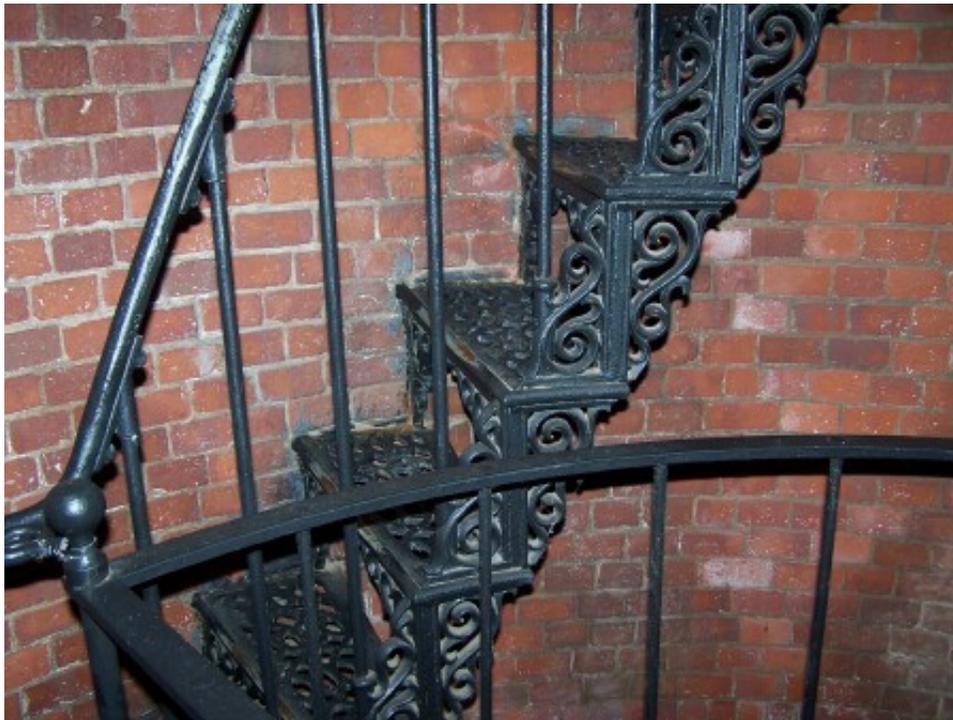
**Highland Light**  
(Photo by Linda Graham)



Cape Cod Lighthouse - Highland Light, Truro  
(Photo by Linda Graham)



Lexis Foster at Highland Light - Truro  
(Photo by Linda Graham)



Highland Light stairs  
(Photo by Linda Graham)



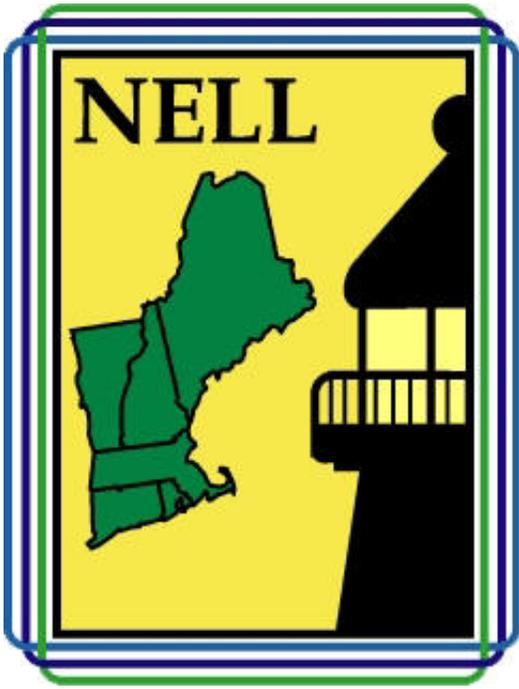
Highland Light - going down the stairs  
(Photo by Linda Graham)



Highland Light  
(Photo by Dennis Whelan)



Highland Light  
(Photo by Dennis Whelan)



**New England Lighthouse Lovers - NELL**

---

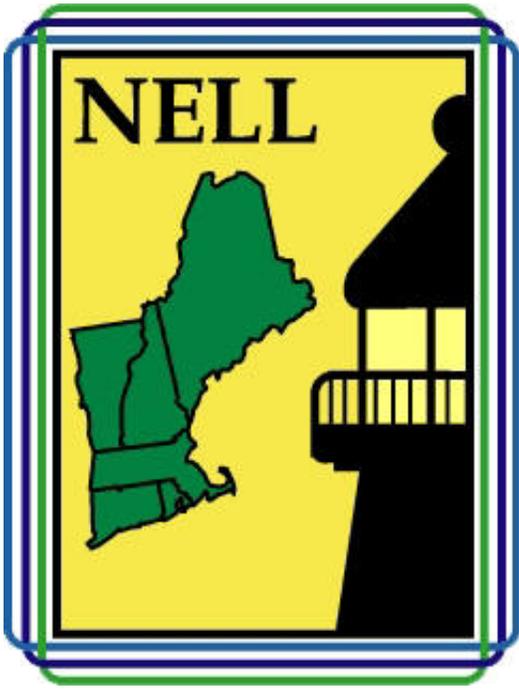
**Wood End & Long Point Lights - Provincetown**



**Long Point**  
(Photo by Dennis Whelan)



Wood End Lighthouse - Provincetown  
(Photo by Dennis Whelan)



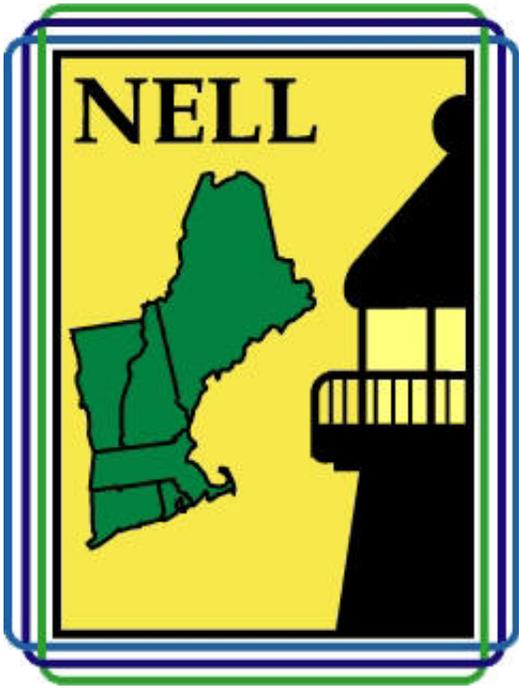
## New England Lighthouse Lovers - NELL

Shopping at Collector's World - Eastham  
Cris & Marie Alex stayed open late for the NELL shoppers





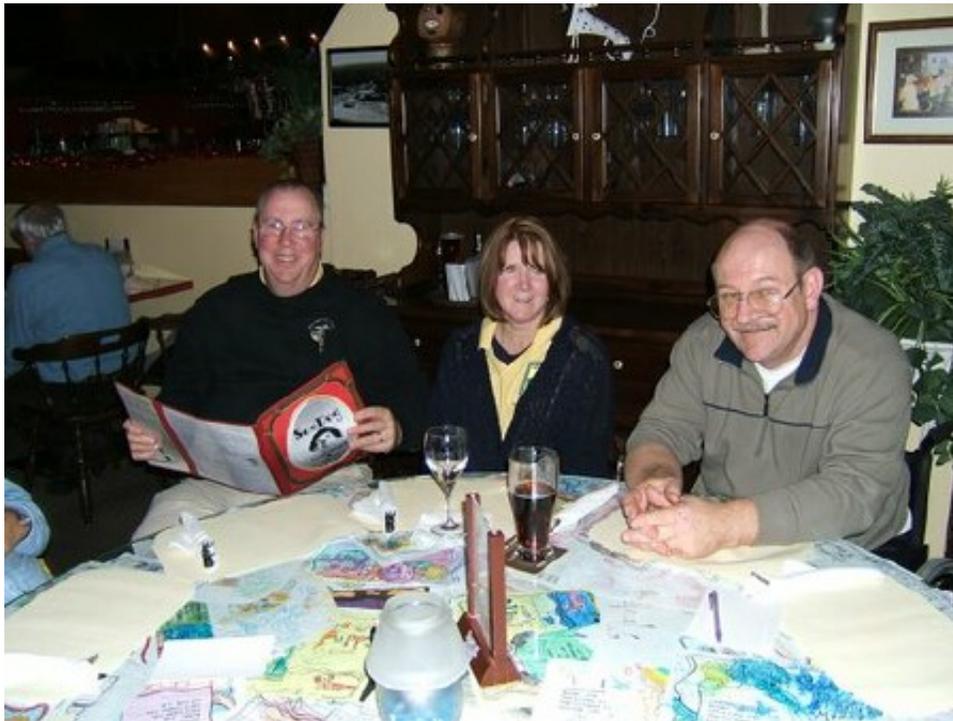




## New England Lighthouse Lovers - NELL

---

### Dinner at the Sea Dog Restaurant - Eastham or the tale of the two-pound lobsters (located next to Collector's World)



Gary and Patty L with Jim S  
(Photo by Joyce Wagner)



Happy Birthday to Carolyn Carbone  
(Photo by Joyce Wagner)



Judy & Lee Hall with their two-pound lobster  
(Photo by Joyce Wagner)



MJ and Lexis Foster  
(Photo by Joyce Wagner)



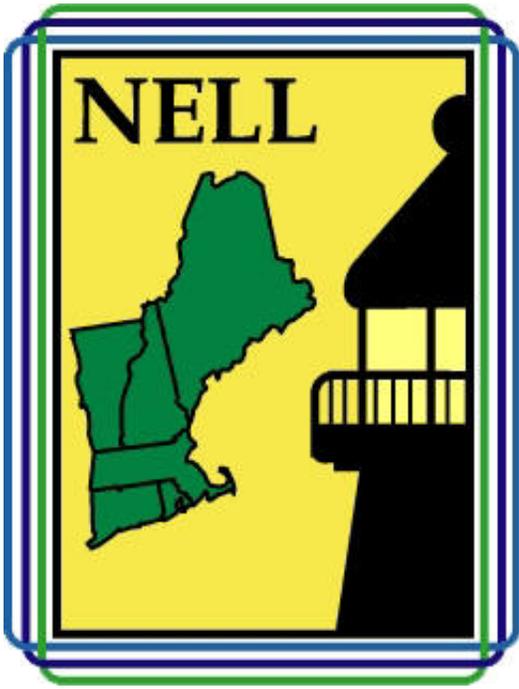
Kris Mays & Tom Kenworthy  
(Photo by Linda Graham)



Linda Graham  
(Photo by Joyce Wagner)



Norm & Cyn B last year's MR. & Mrs. NELL)  
(Photo by Joyce Wagner)

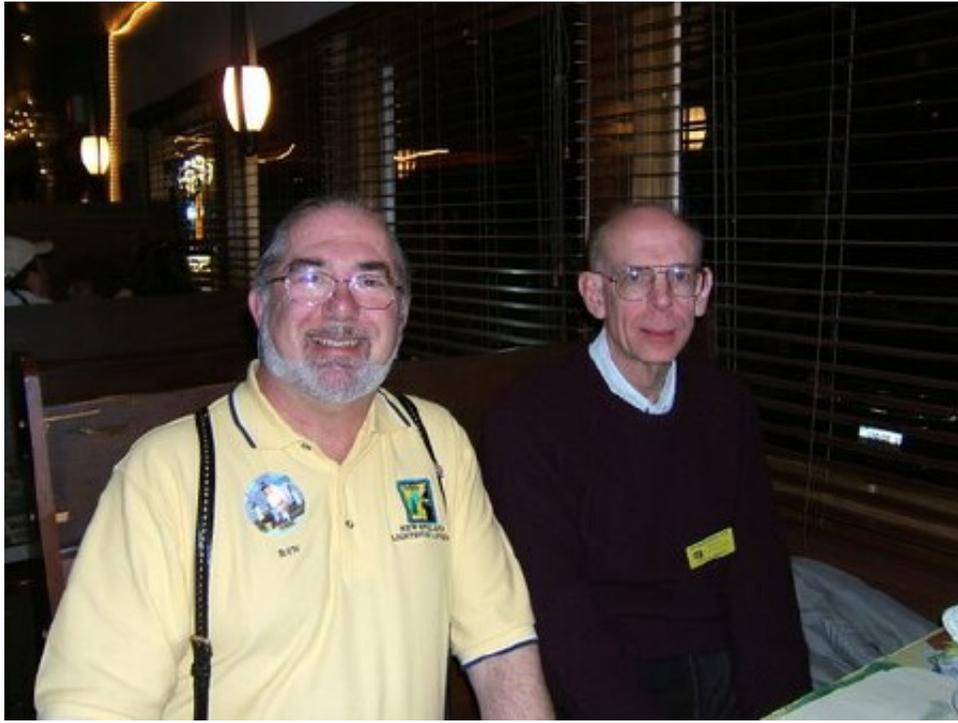


## New England Lighthouse Lovers - NELL

### Dinner at the Sea Dog (continued)



Patti L and Jim S with their 2 pounders  
(Photo by Joyce Wagner)



Ron Foster and Bob T at the Sea Dog  
(Photo by Joyce Wagner)



Rose L and Lorainne P  
(Photo by Joyce Wagner)



Tom & Arlene Pregman with Judy Hall  
(Photo by Joyce Wagner)



Tom Pregman means business with this two-pounder  
(Photo by Joyce Wagner)