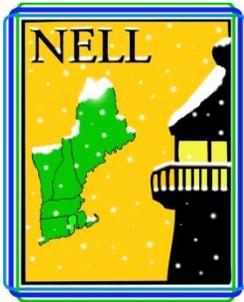


CHAPTER CHATTER



March/April

Happy Pesach - Happy Easter

NELL Spring Meeting 2015

May 15 -17

The Spring Trip is coming together to cover the South Shore of Massachusetts, from 15-17 May 2015. We are in advanced negotiation with a boat company out of Plymouth, MA for a trip that would pass by Duxbury Pier, Gurnet, Scituate, Minot's Ledge, Graves and Boston Harbor Lights. We'll stay in the Plymouth area and may be able to fit in another activity or two. Details are forthcoming soon! Greg.

NELL Members, If you have not yet paid your dues please read below...

2015 NELL Membership Dues are past due. Your membership dues payment must be received by March 27, 2015. Send your check, \$20.00 for single membership or \$30.00 for a dual membership to:
NELL, c/o Kathy Santucci, 38 Lime Kiln Rd, Tuckahoe, NY 10707.

All unpaid members will be removed from the membership list at the end of March.

Thank you,
Walter Mills
Membership

Happy Birthday to:

Barbara Lunn	3/06	Wayne Grabner	3/06	Bonnie Benford	3/09
MaryAnn Scroope	3/10	Lee Hall	3/22	Susan Mazza	3/26
Gladys Grabner	3/27	Sheila Hines	3/30		
Arlene Winkleman	4/07	David Idell	4/13	Daniel Drogowski	4/14
Linda Shay	4/14	Nancy Satkowski	4/19	Edward Osso	4/22

Anniversary Wishes to:

Strickland & Donna Hyde	3/5	Jim & Irma Streeter	3/7
Walt & Laurel Mills	4/1		

2015 Lighthouse Challenge and Festival Dates

16 -17 May	5th Annual Long Island Lighthouse Challenge	
12 -13 June	1st Annual Traveling Michigan Lighthouse Festival	www.michiganlighthouseguide.com
12 - 14 June	4th Annual Michigan's West Coast Lighthouse Festival	www.splka.org
12 - 14 June	Door County Lighthouse Festival	www.dcomm.org
22 - 23 June	Mid-coast Maine Lighthouse Challenge	www.rocklandlighthouse.com
11 -12 July	Toledo Lighthouse Waterfront Festival	www.toledoharborlighthouse.org
08 August	National Lighthouse Day	
01 - 19 September	20th Annual Apostle Island Lighthouse Celebration	www.lighthousecelebration.com
19 - 20 September	10th Anniversary Maryland Lighthouse Challenge	www.cheslights.org
11 - 13 September	50th Annual Mukilteo Lighthouse Festival	www.mukilteolighthousefestival.com
08 - 11 October	20th Annual Great Lakes Lighthouse Festival	www.lighthousefestival.org
17 - 18 October	New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge	www.wildwoodsnj.com/calendar

April 2016 Florida Panhandle Lighthouse Challenge

Not all the noted websites have been updated yet to reflect the 2015/16 information. They are provided so that you will have the event date and website location information together.

The City Island Nautical Museum is joining the effort to save a lighthouse located off the shore of the east Bronx.



Generations of boaters from the Bronx have passed by the classic structure, known as the Stepping Stones Lighthouse, at the foot of Eastchester Bay and Long Island Sound. Now the City Island Historical Society is assisting in a movement to restore the beacon, built in the 1870s, to its former glory.

The CNM will host a fundraiser at the museum building, located at 190 Fordham Street, on Sunday, March 1 at 2pm., raising seed money that will hopefully blossom into a full restoration. The reception will include speakers, photographs and refreshments. "A lot of people on City Island are very fond of (the lighthouse), and feel a sense of 'ownership' of sorts," said Barbara Dolensek, CINM vice-president, adding the boaters pass it on their way up and down Eastchester Bay and fishermen love the spot for its excellent eel fishing.

The proceeds of any donations collected will go to a restoration fund specifically for the lighthouse, and museum officials say that the most urgent things needed are a new roof on the structure and a dock that would facilitate repair crews and materials.

Three groups on Long Island are coordinating the effort, after the Coast Guard turned over the site in 2006 to the town of North Hempstead, NY on the condition that they raise money for its restoration.

A full restoration of the lighthouse would cost about \$6 million, said Dolensek.

The community on City Island has had a close relationship with the lighthouse, said Dolensek. "There were people living in it for years – the lightkeeper and his family – and they basically rode every day to City Island to send their kids to school and do their shopping," she said. "So City Island has always felt that the lighthouse was part of our community, and people here are very fond of it."

In a letter, Tom Nye, CINM museum president, stated that the lighthouse is significant because it guided recreational and commercial marine traffic from the Long Island Sound to New York City for generations. Even today, he stated, the children at P.S. 175, City Island's public school, have a special affinity for it.

The CINM is aiding the Great Neck Historical Society and the Great Neck Park District in their effort to restore the historical site.

Fully tax deductible donations can be sent to the Great Neck Historical Society, P.O. Box 234483, Great Neck, N.Y. 11023.

Truro's Highland Light to receive first phase of repairs this winter



TRURO — Highland Light is more than a Truro treasure. It is a national treasure. Considered one of the most important destinations within the Cape Cod National Seashore, the historic lighthouse was recently found to have some serious structural damage, but the good news is that it will be open to visitors this summer. Sue Moynihan, chief interpreter for the Seashore, said the lighthouse, which was built in 1857, has several major structural problems that the Seashore is addressing in a phased approach. The Seashore, which took ownership of the lighthouse soon after it was moved back from an eroding cliff in 1996, last year secured funding to have a team of experts examine the structure, which was exhibiting telltale cracks. Working over a period of 10 months in 2014, the team installed sensors to measure temperature and humidity and monitor cracks, and drilled into the walls to examine mortar and masonry. What they discovered was a third wall between the exterior and interior walls that had been built into the lighthouse when it was constructed (to replace an earlier lighthouse built in 1797) in order to provide ventilation. That structural ventilation system was inadvertently compromised when the lighthouse was moved in 1996. In preparation for the move, workers inserted a grout layer between the walls to stabilize the base. What took years to discover is that the additional grout caused a ventilation problem, allowing moisture to build up between the walls. In addition, a ventilation system at the top of the tower stopped functioning, and at the same time, many of the layers of paint coating the exterior of the tower are of a non-breathable variety that caused more moisture to be trapped in the walls. "It really does come down to moisture," Moynihan said. While "The lighthouse is not in danger of falling," one structural problem caused by the moisture is a corroding support beam that makes it unsafe for visitors to climb the tower. Seashore officials put together a phased plan of attack, scheduling the most critical work — stabilizing that support beam — for this winter so that the lighthouse can be reopened to visitors in time for summer. Moynihan said the Seashore was able to secure \$50,000 in "outside funding" from the National Park Service's Philadelphia office, to perform the first phase of the work. "They realized that having the lighthouse open was of great importance," she said. During the Seashore's last fiscal year, from Oct. 1, 2013 to Sept. 30, 2014, the lighthouse hosted 28,000 visitors who came to climb the tower. Moynihan said Seashore officials will request funding over the next three fiscal years to complete the rest of the work, which will include addressing the ventilation issues, repairing windows and removing all the layers of outer coating and repainting it with breathable coating.

Highland Light is one of two major historic renovation projects the Seashore is facing, the other being the Penniman House in Eastham. Built in 1868, when it was the grandest house in town, the sea captain's house is badly in need of a paint job, and the adjoining barn has suffered some structural damage. The Friends of the Cape Cod National Seashore have raised \$100,000 towards the estimated \$170,000 cost of repainting the house. "Our goal is in 2015 to award a contract to do the painting," she said. The Penniman House, part of the Cape Cod National Seashore's Fort Hill area, is very popular with visitors, Moynihan said. "But really Highland Light is our most important structure in the park."

Newly painted Oregon lighthouse almost ready for tours



The newly repainted [Yaquina Lighthouse](#) on the Oregon coast is will reopen for tours Sunday 1st February, 2015. The Bureau of Land Management says the 95-foot-tall lighthouse has been surrounded by scaffolding and wrapping since mid-October as old paint was removed and a natural cement wash was applied. The project has hit some snags. Strong winds have ripped the protective wrapping. Then temperatures plummeted below the threshold for applying paint. Yaquina's Manager Timothy Fisher says the restoration mimics the process used 100 years ago. He says the theory is that the paint used in combination with a cement wash will cut the need for painting the lighthouse as frequently.

City of Los Angeles wins bid to operate historic Point Fermin Lighthouse in San Pedro



In a move sure to cheer locals who worked for years to restore the Point Fermin Lighthouse, the federal government announced Tuesday that it will transfer San Pedro's historic structure to the city of Los Angeles. The decision comes almost three years after the 3.5-acre lighthouse was declared surplus property in 2012. Initially, 10 groups showed interest in operating the ocean-view property on Paseo del Mar at the southern end of Gaffey Street. Serious bidders dwindled to four by January 2013 — the city of Los Angeles and three philanthropic groups: Dana's Hope, Giving Care Inc. and Symbols of Love. The lighthouse, which opened in 1874, has been a beloved landmark in the port town and sits in a city-owned park. Supporters had wanted it to stay under local ownership and operation. Mark Mariscal, superintendent for the city's Department of Recreation and Parks, said while it could be months before the property is transferred, the city hopes to begin using the guest house south of the lighthouse for events like weddings or exhibits. The house now is being used for storage. The Point Fermin Lighthouse Society, the nonprofit that has been running the lighthouse as a museum since November 2003, will continue to help oversee the landmark, Mariscal said, along with the Point Fermin Historical Society, which originally considered entering its own bid for the property. The U.S. General Services Administration in San Diego emailed bidders Tuesday informing them of the decision. When notices were first published in the spring of 2012 that the Victorian lighthouse would be put up for bid, many residents who had worked for years to restore and maintain it expressed concern. "It's kind of like seeing your house go up for sale," Martha McKinzie of the Point Fermin Lighthouse Society, said at the time. The society, which did much of the work to restore and operate the lighthouse for tours, was listed as a partner in the city's application.

International Lighthouse News

Fraserburgh Lighthouse Illuminated in Pink as ‘Beacon of Hope’



Kinnaird Head Lighthouse in the pink for the Moonlight Prowl

A north-east lighthouse was illuminated in pink to turn it into a “beacon of hope” for cancer sufferers. The 18th century Kinnaird Head building at Fraserburgh for the special makeover as a show of support for those who will take part in fundraising Moonlight Prowl later this year. The annual 13-mile sponsored walk has raised more than £700,000 for breast cancer research at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary and the University of Aberdeen. The women who take part come from all over the from the north-east and further afield. The event will celebrate its 10th anniversary in the summer. Margaret-Jane Cardno, the chairwoman of the Prowl’s organizing committee, said: “I can’t believe we’ve reached 10 years, actually. “We wanted to mark the special occasion and we tried to think of ways we could demonstrate how important the walkers’ work has been. “We’ve raised the best part of three-quarters of a million, and that money is going towards what is turning out to be groundbreaking cancer research programs.” “We just felt that the lighthouse was a symbol of the hope that this work has generated.” The lighthouse, which forms part of the Museum of Scottish Lighthouse, remained pink from 7pm-midnight on Saturday. Ron Morrice, who is chairman of the museum, said: “It gives us great pleasure in helping the committee kick-start their 10th year of fundraising events.” The museum’s show of solidarity was praised by local councilor Brian Topping. “I think, for the organizers of the Moonlight Prowl and the women who have taken part over the years, it was absolutely fantastic – a wonderful sight,” he said. “The money that they have raised is quite spectacular for an excellent cause. Everyone knows someone who has been affected by cancer, so for that money to be put into research is wonderful.” This year’s walk will take place on Saturday, June 6. Registration for the event is available on the Moonlight Prowl’s website.

Renovation of Bona Lighthouse on Loch Ness completed



Bona was once the smallest mainland lighthouse in Britain. A small historic lighthouse at Loch Ness near Inverness has been renovated at a cost of £497,000. Scottish Canals and national heritage company Vivat Trust raised the funds needed to conserve Bona Lighthouse. It was designed in 1815 by a superintendent of engineer Thomas Telford and was at one time the smallest manned lighthouse in Britain. The building, which helped to guide boats using the Caledonian Canal, has been converted into holiday cottages. Historic Scotland was among organisations that supported the renovation project.

Just for fun....can you guess the light?



Hint - It is a southern light

If you think you know you can e-mail me. (answer next Chapter Chatter)
Last edition's answer: Bodie Island, North Carolina

Please Note:

We are looking for **volunteers** who are interested in serving on committees, those who have good ideas for lighthouse preservation, fund raising, suggestions on improving the operations of the club, or just getting more involved. Please contact Bill Kent: bktwo@comcast.net or 1(978) 809-7133.

The Lighthouse Digest – For each subscription, please use the subscription envelope that you can get from NELL's 2nd VP Lynne Kerber, or the form on the NELL website. Mail with check to Lighthouse Digest, ATTN: Kathleen Finnegan, P.O. Box 250, East Machias, ME 04630. Be sure to write NELL in the memo section of your check and NELL will receive \$10.00 per subscription to go toward restoration and preservation of lighthouses.

If you have any **knowledge of an upcoming event or news to share**, please send it to me: chapterchatter@outlook.com
All articles and information must be received by the 25th of the month prior to make the publication.

The NELL Beacon wants your stories too, send with pictures to Lynne Kerber: lighthousecats@comcast.net for publication. The NELL Beacon is our official club newsletter and will be published three times a year in time for our events. Deadline for the LHC&Y issue will be mid December, for the Spring Event issue mid April and for the Fall Event issue mid August.

If you know of a member that needs **some cheer, get well wishes, condolences or congratulations**, please let Cynthia Bosse - Sunshine Chair know at: bossnjc@comcast.net or call 1(860) 688-7347.

Please let me know your **birthday** (month & day only) and **anniversary** so I will be able to recognize you on your special day in our monthly Best Wishes section.