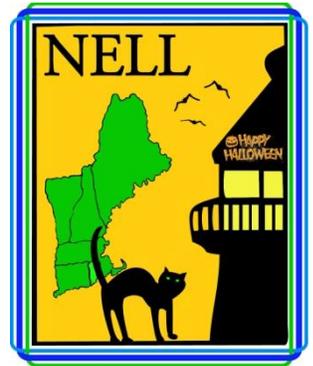
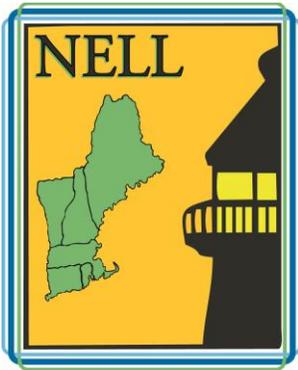


CHAPTER CHATTER



September/October

Happy Halloween

NELL Fall Meeting - 12th & 13th September

Saturday September 12th, is Maine Lighthouse Open House Day.

Please see the attached link: <http://www.lighthousefoundation.org/maine-open-lighthouse-day/>.

Directly across the street from the Trade Winds Inn is the Maine Lighthouse Museum.

FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING at the Trade Winds at 7:30PM.

Sunday September 13th, we will be taking the Laura B, run by the Monhegan Boat Line out of Port Clyde, ME leaving at 8:00AM. Coffee and tea will be available on board in the morning. You can bring your own lunch or we are looking to contract a brown bag lunch. The trip will include views of Marshall Point, Two Bush Light, Tenants Harbor Light, Whitehead Light and Matinicus Light. The tour indicated we will be back at Port Clyde by 2:00PM.

Hotel: Trade Winds Inn in Rockland: <http://www.tradewindsmaine.com/>. The rate is \$150.00 a night including taxes.

1(800) 834-3130 when making your reservations mention NELL. You may also pursue smaller venues in the local area.

The cost of the trip is \$110.00 and will include a bag lunch. A sandwich or sub can be Ham, Roast Beef, Turkey, BP&J, Ham Salad, Egg Salad, Tuna Salad, or Turkey Salad. It will include a drink, chips, pickle and a cookie.

Please send your deposit to: Kathy Santucci, 38 Lime Kiln Road, Tuckahoe, NY 10707

Also include your lunch selection and the Event Registration Form.

We will be opening the trip to non-members and will be advertised on Facebook and through ALF.

Happy Birthday to:

Dot Black	9/02	Tim Harrison	9/03	Tom Kenworthy	9/06
Ann Solaequi	9/13	Anita Norris	9/14	Marcia DeClerk	9/16
Lee Benford	9/18	Bob Scroope	9/22	Janie Coates	9/26
Donna Hyde	10/02	Christine Cardaci	10/06	Arlene Pregman	10/09
Anthony Savino	10/12	Jessica Schulman	10/17	Bill Grumman	10/20
Tom Pregman	10/22	Frank Carbone	10/30		

Anniversary Wishes to:

Bob Lynne Kerber	9/02	Ron & Pat Bandoek	9/09	David & Phyllis Idell	9/22
Herb & Tracie Carpenter	10/07	Wayne & Gladys Grabner	10/08		

Other Lighthouse Happenings

Challenges of Running Lighthouse Inn at Sea



BOOTHBAY HARBOR, Maine — Change sheets, make beds, sweep floors, stock the larder. For most innkeepers, the chore list is a nonstop routine. However, when your inn is perched atop a 2-acre rock in deep water, nothing is predictable. For Heather Graham and Mark Zinkiewicz, resident keepers at The Inn at Cuckolds Lighthouse, the list includes all of the above plus a mariner’s handbook of cautionary safeguards.

The rundown goes like this: check tidal charts, review weather radar, make sure the boat is ready, the gangway secure and the lighthouse shipshape. Simultaneously, they lay out an opulent welcome spread of tea, port, cheese, apricots and olives. “We are living our lives by the ebb and flow of the tides,” Zinkiewicz said.

The inn is located on an islet a half-mile from the tip of Southport, where life itself can be rocky. But whenever the Florida couple who moved here in April to run the guest house get stressed, they have a fast remedy.

“One of us tells the other, ‘Look out the window,’” Graham said. The 360-degree view of lapping waves and drifting schooners settles their nerves.

This is the second season for the [preserved lighthouse, built in 1892, under its new incarnation as a boutique inn](#). The Inn at Cuckolds Lighthouse promises luxury accommodations a short boat ride from shore. It’s an anti-Gilligan’s Island. Instead of roughing it, guests have high thread-count sheets, access to a deep wine cellar and a lobster bake prepared for them on the intimate island.

Sounds romantic and filled with mystique. But in the hospitality world, this gig is a rarity. Living in a working lighthouse, these hosts do double duty as the keepers of the flame — a beacon of lost ships. The working lighthouse, with a lens maintained by the Coast Guard, is a warning and a guide. “While we are at the front door of Boothbay Harbor, we are at the backdoor of the Atlantic,” Zinkiewicz, a licensed boat captain from Florida, said.

Such a wild setting comes with challenges and a new set of skills. Chief among them is reading the sea and the sky. They have to be prepared to batten down the hatches and call off long-planned vacations on a whim if Mother Nature misbehaves. Scenarios that would throw the most experienced innkeeper for a loop are par for the course.

“Under certain weather conditions, we can’t transport if the seas are rough,” said Graham, who describes herself as “very much a Southern girl.” “We have lots of intense fog that can come in very quickly,” Zinkiewicz added. “We try not to run the boats if there is a small craft advisory.”

So far this season, only a few getaways were dashed because of foul weather. One would-be guest had a complete washout. “We do everything we can to get the guests out here, but safety is the top priority,” Graham, a first-time innkeeper, said.

To keep things running smoothly, relief keeper Leslie Cooke is the couple’s lifeline. The captain based on shore ferries guests to and fro and runs last-minute errands.

With a busy schedule of lodgers coming and going and both suites fully booked through October, the couple are tied to the island, working seven days per week. "If there is one thing we wish, it's to have one day off a week," said Graham, whose first trip to Maine was a few months ago, when she was hired to oversee the inn with her partner.

Run as a nonprofit, the inn generates funds to help sustain the newly restored lighthouse, which [The Cuckolds Fog Station and Light Signal Council maintains](#). To the uninitiated, the inn is run like any high-end retreat. Only with ever-changing logistics.

Food deliveries arrive by boat on Thursdays. Weekenders come on Fridays. Fortunately, with Cooke's help, delivering a bag of forgotten mussels in a pinch keeps things humming.

With systems in place and smart planning, the innkeepers ensure the island never runs out of essentials — because it's no simple hop to the store to replenish. "You don't run out of milk," said Graham, who bakes muffins, frittatas and voluminous gourmet breakfasts every morning in the well-equipped kitchen. Two refrigerators and a freezer help. The idyllic setting requires constant monitoring. Vigilance and forethought are crucial.

"We have a geography issue," Mark said. "We have to get everything from Southport," a long swim or short boat ride away.

Two weekends ago, Nancy Rager of New Jersey surprised her husband, Richard, with a lighthouse escape for their 40th anniversary. On their way out in a motor boat with two other guests, the couple was equal parts excited and nervous. They signed waivers, acknowledging potential risks of uneven rocks and floating docks, and took cellphone photos as the lighthouse came into view. "When I heard we were going to be sequestered on an island at sea, I thought Alcatraz," Roger said. "That's why I wore stripes," his wife quipped.

An hour later as the Ragers sipped white wine on a patio surrounded by sailboats on the calm Atlantic, imprisonment this was not. "I've been everywhere," Nancy Rager said, taking in the view. "This is insurmountable. I really didn't expect it to be so awesome."

To make it awesome, the hosts were in high gear behind the scenes.

As they awaited dinner, Zinkiewicz trekked down to the rocks to harvest seaweed for the lobster bake. Threats of a rain shower loomed and plans to transport this reporter back to land were waylaid.

"Mother Nature can be unforgiving," Zinkiewicz said. "But that's the beauty of it all."

Despite the extra effort and rolling with the punches, the innkeepers — like their awestruck guests — are checking a big item off their bucket list.

To Zinkiewicz, "living in a lighthouse is a lifelong dream."

Made all the sweeter with their status as temporary stewards.

"I get to live in one of the most beautiful lighthouses on the Maine Coast and don't have to pay for taxes," he said. "It's magical."

CAPE DISAPPOINTMENT STATE PARK, Wash. — The Keepers of the North Head Lighthouse are sponsoring a benefit raffle this summer, with proceeds to be used to help restore the lighthouse. A total of 1,000 raffle tickets are available for purchase. The raffle last year raised almost \$4,000 to be used for historically accurate replication, restoration or construction.

The raffle prize is a two-night stay for six people at the North Head Lighthouse Keeper's Home (stay dates between Sept. 30, and March 2016, excluding holidays), plus one catered gourmet dinner for six with paired wine and a continental breakfast for six.

The Keepers of the North Head Lighthouse, a part of Friends of the Columbia River Gateway, are pleased to see progress on restoration with new windows and metal work at the top of the tower completed. More work is needed and will proceed as funds are available from the state Legislature.

The Keepers of the North Head Lighthouse continue to raise funds to be used on lighthouse restoration, as state park funds are not believed to be sufficient to complete restoration.

Tickets are \$5 each to anyone 18 years of age or older, and the drawing will be held Sept. 16 at 11 a.m. at the Picture Attic in Long Beach, Washington. The winner need not be present. If all tickets are sold, there will be nearly \$5,000 available for lighthouse restoration.

The tickets can be purchased at the Cape Disappointment State Park store in the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center; in the store on the North Head Lighthouse grounds at the park, at Bay Avenue Gallery in Ocean Park, Washington; the Picture Attic in Long Beach; Home at the Beach/Beautiful Things in the Long Beach Mall; and at selected Saturday Markets in Ilwaco, Washington. For information, call Lona Niemi at 360-642-2502.

International Lighthouse News

Alexandria Lighthouse to be reassembled in original location



CAIRO: The Lighthouse of Alexandria, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World that was badly damaged by three earthquakes, will be rebuilt nearby its original location.

In its meeting, "members of the Permanent Committee of the Egyptian Antiquities have approved an old project, submitted previously by the Alexandria governorate, aiming to revive the lighthouse," Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities SCA Dr. Mostafa Amin told Youm7.

He explained that members of the committee agreed on reconstructing the Lighthouse on an area of land located a few meters to the southwest of the landmark's original location. A comprehensive study has been completed and submitted to Alexandria governorate for final approval, he added.

The Lighthouse, also known as the Pharos, was badly damaged due to a series of earthquakes hit Alexandria and the Mediterranean area between the 3rd and 12th centuries, Greco-Roman archaeology professor Fathy Khourshid told The Cairo Post Tuesday.

"A severe earthquake in 1303 caused a huge destruction of the monument before the Mamluk Sultan Qaitbay in 1480 reused the monument's ruins to construct a fortress (currently standing and bearing his name) on the original location of the Pharos northwest of Alexandria," according to Khourshid.

Built by the Greek architect Sostratus of Cnidus for the purpose of guiding sailors into the harbor, the tower was completed and inaugurated during the reign of Ptolemy II Philadelphus (285 B.C.-246B.C.), said Khourshid.

"The original building comprised three stages: a lower square section with a central core, a middle octagonal section and a circular section at its top," he added.

Its top used to have a mirror that reflected sunlight during the day while a fire was lit at night in order to guide ships, said Khourshid.

In 1994, remains of the original building were unearthed on the floor of the sunken part of Alexandria's eastern harbor. With a height estimated at 130 meters, (420 feet) the tower was the tallest manmade structure on Earth for many centuries.

Taiwan's lighthouses become major tourist attractions

TAIPEI, Taiwan - Taiwan is planning to open two more lighthouses to the public since such structures have become major tourist attractions in the country, the Maritime and Port Bureau said on Saturday.

The bureau said that by the end of the year, Qimeiyu Lighthouse on Penghu and Fuguijiao Lighthouse in New Taipei City would be added to the list of lighthouse tourist attractions.

Taiwan has 35 lighthouses, 10 of which are currently open to visitors. The most recent additions to the list of lighthouse tourist sites are Paishachia, Ludao, Fangyuan and Gaomei lighthouses, which were opened to the public over the past two years.

The nation's lighthouses serve not only as facilities to protect fishing boats and improve security, but also as scenic sites that boost Taiwan's tourism, said the bureau, which is run by the Ministry of Transportation and Communications. Prior to 2013, visitors were allowed into only six of the nation's lighthouses: facilities in Pingtung County's Oluanpi, New Taipei City's Cape San Diego, Kaohsiung's Cijin, Penghu County's Yuweng Island and Dongju Island and Matsu County's Dongyin Island.

The bureau said that due to the rise in the number of visitors to the 10 lighthouses open to the public, the government has decided to open two more lighthouses. Qimei and Fugueijiao lighthouses would be renovated and their environs upgraded to accommodate tourists, according to the bureau. The work would include the installation of drink vending machines inside the lighthouses and the construction of public toilets at the sites, the bureau said. It said that once the number of visitors reaches a certain level, it would consider adding dining facilities.

Last year, more than 1 million people visited Taiwan's 10 tourism lighthouses, compared with about 880,000 in 2013, according to government statistics. Oluanpi Lighthouse in southern Taiwan has been the most popular, with the number of daily visitors averaging 1,000, many of them Chinese tourists, the bureau said.

The lighthouse, which was built more than 130 years ago during the Qing Dynasty, is surrounded by moats that were designed to prevent invasions by Aboriginal people.

In 2013, the Maritime and Port Bureau took over the management of the nation's lighthouses from the Ministry of Finance.

Century-old Fugueijiao lighthouse opened to public



Taipei, Aug. 29 (CNA) The century-old Fugueijiao (富貴角) lighthouse located on the northernmost point of Taiwan was officially opened to the public starting Saturday and visitors to the lighthouse will receive a stamped souvenir certificate featuring the lighthouse.

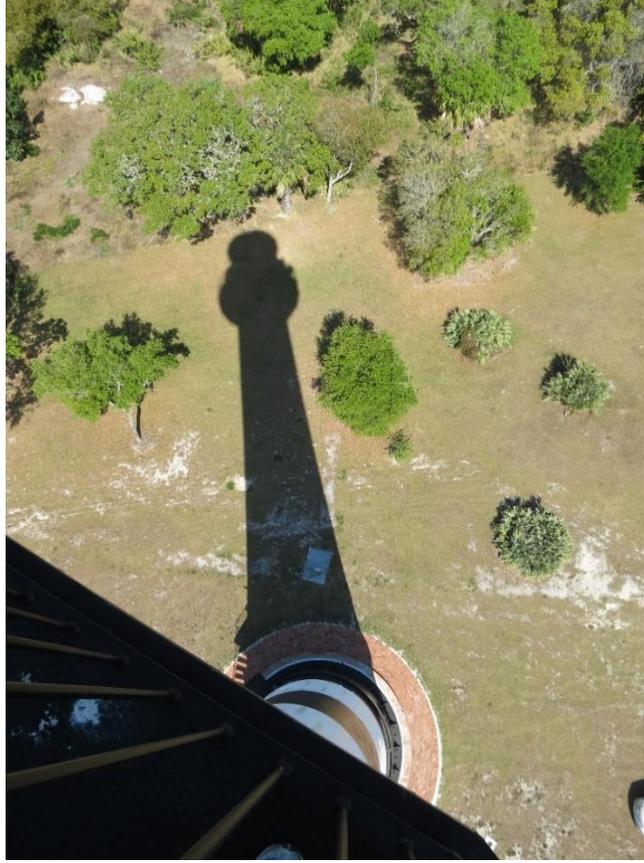
The Tourism Bureau under the Ministry of Transportation and Communications sponsored a hiking event around the lighthouse, inviting people to appreciate the beautiful scenery and learn about the history of the lighthouse.

The 14.3-meter Fugueijiao lighthouse was built by Japanese for the construction of a submarine cable between Taiwan and Japan, and also to serve as a navigation aid. In 1962 the tower was renovated into a octagonal building with black and white stripes.

To promote the lighthouse as a featured destination of the North Coast and Guanyinshan National Scenic Area, the tourism office has sought to add more recreational facilities in the neighboring area. Several abandoned barracks nearby have been converted into an art center.

A spokesman of the tourism office suggested that visitors can enjoy artistic programs in the art center, taste marine delicacies in the nearby Fuji (富基) fishing port, and tour the unique lighthouse on the northernmost tip of the island.

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



If you think you know you can e-mail me
July/August answer: Tybee Island, GA

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.