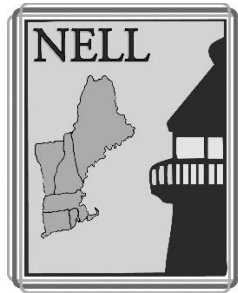


CHAPTER CHATTER



January/February

Happy New Year - Happy Valentine's Day

It's time for Lighthouses, Hot Chocolate and You 2017



This year's LHC&Y event will take us to Newport, RI, for the January 14-15 weekend. We'll be making visits to the Newport Harbor (Goat Island), Castle Hill, Point Judith, and Beavertail Lighthouses. If the destination sounds familiar, it's a reprise of our 2009 trip. Here's hoping we don't get sub-freezing temperatures to accompany us.

Saturday will be our day for exploring the lighthouses with our annual hot chocolate and cookies party to wrap it all up. Once again, we're having a cookie baking contest. Please submit copies of your favorite recipe along with plenty of samples to enjoy at the party. We've always had some top-notch winners.

We may visit the Gooseberry Light (a privately-built and privately-owned lighthouse) on Sunday, but this arrangement is still tentative.

Although everyone is welcome to stay at any hotel in the Newport area, our principal hotel and meeting place will be the Hampton Inn and Suites in Middletown. A block of 15 rooms has been reserved for Friday and Saturday evenings (Jan. 13 and 14) at a group rate of \$95 per room per night for a two-night minimum stay. PLEASE NOTE: These rooms will be reserved and held at this special rate ONLY until Dec. 16. Cancellations require a 72-hour notice before arrival to avoid a cancellation fee. Make your reservations by calling the hotel directly at (401) 848-6555. Inform the clerk that you're will the NELL lighthouse group. If you're asked for a code, it's "LIT". You may also call the main reservation number (800) 426-7866 or use the internet: www.middletownsuites.hamptoninn.com.

With the Hampton Inn as our starting point, makes to and schedules for visiting the lighthouses will be provided prior tour trip. To reserve your place and receive further information for this trip, contact Dave Dingledy (first vice-president in charge of yearly trips). Phone (781) 767-3018. NEW EMAIL ADDRESS (as of 11-29-16): da17lmwo@gmail.com. Home mailing address: 19 Lincoln Ave.; Holbrook, MA; 02343-1318.

Membership Dues Notice

It's time to renew your dues for 2017. Your membership runs from January 1 through December 31, 2017. If you plan to attend LHCY (lighthouse hot chocolate and you) your dues must be paid by now.

Single membership is \$20 and dual membership is \$30.

Make out your check to, "NELL" and send it to Kathy Santucci, 38 Lime Kiln Rd., Tuckahoe, NY 10707.

If you would like to pay your NELL dues by PayPal click on the link below and follow the instructions.

<http://www.newenglandlighthouse lovers.org/membership-form/>

Thank you, Walter Mills, membership

Whitehead Light Station ~ Penobscot Bay ~ St George Maine



Winter has firmly established herself here in Maine, but now is the perfect time to start planning your summer. We hope you'll find room on your calendar in the New Year to treat yourself (or a loved one!) to a class at Pine Island Camp's stunningly beautiful saltwater outpost on Whitehead Island.

All of these classes and retreats are all-inclusive and include delicious meals, comfortable accommodations, and free time to enjoy the incomparable serenity and beauty of this very special place.

June 22-25 & September 14-17 - Island Light Keepers Experience

July 13-17 - Knitters Retreat

July 27-31 - Craft Beer Appreciation with Charlie Papazian

August 10-16 - Applied Mindfulness

August 17-20 - Writing with Nature and a Sense of Purpose

September 21-24 - History of New England Lighthouses

Enrollment is limited, so please register early.

Accommodations

All guests stay in the beautifully renovated Keeper's House, in their choice of a single or double room, and enjoy, among other things:

- [Three delicious meals each day](#), prepared with local ingredients (including a lobster dinner) and served in our dining room or al fresco with an unparalleled view
- Beautiful bedrooms with private bathrooms
- Ample time to relax in the Keeper's House library, sitting room, porches and grounds
- A chance to explore an amazing part of Maine's maritime history first hand - climb the stairs and stand in the lantern room of the lighthouse that has been, and continues to be, a beacon to navigation for more than 200 years
- Full use of the 11.1 acre spruce woods and rocky shoreline, a unique and beautiful ecosystem
- A boat excursion to explore the local seascape of this special part of the Maine coast

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New England group tours Havasu's lighthouses

Chelsea Curiss today's news-Herald

Havasu's replica lighthouses continue to draw visitor attention. Recently, members of the New England Lighthouse Lovers club toured the treasured beacons.



Members of the New England Lighthouse Lovers club pose for a photo while in Lake Havasu City touring replica lighthouses. Front row: (always from left) Patty Winiecki and Jim Seery. Second row: Brandon Burrows, Ellen Scott, Ellen Granoth, Lynn Kerber, Hilari Seery, Judy Boucher and Kathy Santucci. Third row: Doug Scott, Bob Granoth, Bob Kerber, Anthony Savino, Debbie Heckman and Mike Boucher.

Credited as one of Lake Havasu's claims to fame, the city's replica lighthouses sparked interest in visitors traveling from across the states.

Members of the New England Lighthouse Lovers club, which operates along the East Coast, were joined by Havasu's Lighthouse Club on Nov. 12 to tour the city's replica lighthouses.

"It was great," said Lyndia LeCours, treasurer of the Lighthouse Club. "Everything went really nice and it was a good time."

The group of 18, made up of some NELL members and other lighthouse enthusiasts, traveled almost 3,000 miles to tour all 25 of Havasu's replica lighthouses and were led by 14 members of Havasu's Lighthouse Club.

The tour required the entire group to rent a 40-passenger boat so that they could visit the lighthouses that are only accessible by boat.

"We called the Lighthouse Club to ask them for information about how to access lighthouses that were lower down [the lake] and they told me that those were only accessible by boat," said Hilari Seery, NELL member who helped arrange the trip. "The conversation progressed from there about our trip and we ended up getting together with them, which was wonderful."

In the past, the Lighthouse Club advised a couple of groups through their lighthouse explorations, but did not participate in any activities with them until two weeks ago. Another group, comprised of almost 40 members of a New Jersey lighthouse club, is anticipated to visit in March.

Havasu's Lighthouse Club first began 16 years ago when a group of men wanted more lights around the lake because it was too dark, said LeCours. Apparently, after being denied help by the city, the group decided to build replica lighthouses to provide safety for navigation on the lake.

Currently, the nonprofit club receives donations and sponsorships to maintain and build lighthouses around Havasu. They hope to have a total of 26 lighthouses – that have coastguard approved lights and are solar-powered – by the end of the year.

Each replica lighthouse costs approximately \$5,000 and, typically, mimics an original lighthouse that resides in a club sponsor's hometown.

"People who sponsor the lighthouses lived in an area where their original lighthouses were and they ask us to build a lighthouse that looks like the original," LeCours said.

The only difference between original and replica lighthouses is the size – the replicas stand about 13 feet tall, with the exception of a couple slightly taller ones. Other than that, the replicas are built in the same structure and color as the original lighthouse.

"We can all paint and we can all hammer a hammer when we need to," LeCours said. "We're just people who love lighthouses."

Anyone interested in joining the Lighthouse Club, made up of more than 40 active members, can visit their website at <http://lh-lighthouseclub.org/> or attend their club meetings the second Tuesday of every month at 5 p.m. at the Quality Inn.

Just for fun....can you guess which lighthouse I am visiting?



If you think you know e-mail me
(Answer next Chapter Chatter)

November/December answer: New London Ledge, Connecticut

International Lighthouse News

Hukitola building, lighthouse on tourism map



KENDRAPADA: A 179-year-old lighthouse and the Hukitola monument in the district have been recently included by the tourism department in the tourist map of the state.

The towering lighthouse in the seaside village of Batighar, in the Mahakalapada block, is one of the oldest lighthouses in the country. It is complemented by the century-old colonial building at Hukitola island on the Bay of Bengal.

Earlier, the state government had granted Rs 1.2 crores to the Indian National Trust For Art and Cultural Heritage for the renovation of the building.

"The mangrove forest, creeks, beaches near the lighthouse, and Hukitola itself will attract many visitors. After their inclusion in the state tourist map, the forest and tourism departments will now arrange for boats for tourists to visit both the sites. Proper roads also need to be built up to Jamboo and Kharinashi," tourism officer Bijaya Mohanty said on Monday. While the lighthouse was built in 1837 to demarcate the Mahanadi entrance from the Hooghly entryway for confused sailors, the Hukitola building was constructed in 1888 to store rice from Burma after the infamous Nananka drought.

John Beams, a civil service officer who worked as the collector of Cuttack and Balasore, wrote about Hukitola in his autobiography, 'Memoirs of a Bengal Civilian'.

"The site being uninhabited was also nameless, and they cast about for a name for it. At last, Macpherson the collector of Cuttack, said, 'Let us call it 'Hookey Tolah' after old Hokeky Walker'. Hookey Walker was at that time working as the superintending engineer of the irrigation branch of Public Works department in Cuttack... The place was solemnly named and a bottle of champagne was drunk," wrote Beams.

However, historical significance has not led to proper upkeep of the sites. "Both the places lack basic civic amenities and need more public conveniences, including an improved system of lodging and eating. There is no drinking water facility available to the public. Authorities are also going to have to build public toilets soon", said Mohanty.

Happy Birthday to:

Helene Hoffecker	1/03	Ron Foster	1/08	Debbie Heckman	1/09
Linda Grumman	1/10	Carolyn Carbone	1/13	Sharon Mills	1/17
Patrick Clark	1/18	Penny Miller	1/19	Herb Carpenter	1/24
Chris Heacock	1/26	Melody Barnhart	1/27	Greg Fitzgerald	1/28
Henry Winkleman	1/29	Mary Jane Foster	1/29		
Debbie Brew	2/06	Maureen Kitching	2/07	Al Pocek	2/08
Sandy Coates	2/09	Janice Dingley	2/11	Judy Hall	2/14
Lynne Kerber	2/17	Linda Speece	2/23	Bill Kent	2/24
Bob Taylor	2/25	Phyllis Idell	2/26		

Anniversary Wishes to:

Ron & Mary Jane Foster	1/14	Hank & Chris Heacock	1/30
Lee & Bonnie Benford	2/15	Eugene & Lori Carew	2/22

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 Greg Fitzgerald at seagirtlight@gmail.com.

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.