The trustees will provide transport and access to Cape Poge Light. Martha’s Vineyard Museum will open Edgartown & East Chop Lights.

We are working with the town of Aquinnah regarding access to Gay Head Light in its new location. There is no access to West Chop as it is a Coast Guard Light. It can be photographed from the road. The Martha’s Vineyard Museum will be open on Friday & Saturday.

Edgartown Commons on Martha’s Vineyard is holding a block of 15 suites for our group until March 2nd. Price for two nights: 1-bedroom $318.13 or 2-bedroom $427.83.
For reservations call Rob Hurst: (508) 627-4671 or (800) 439-4671

The Holiday Inn, in Falmouth, is holding a block of 10 ground floor rooms until 3:00 pm, April 19th.
Price per night: $144.00 for either a room with two double beds or one king bed.
For reservations call: (877) 272-6415. Online booking: http://bit.ly/2k3NuhG. Our group code is "NEL". It is about 10 minutes to the ferry dock.

For either hotel, please mention you’re with "NELL". You are welcome to book other facilities if you wish. Please make your own ferry arrangements. If you are planning to bring a car it is advisable to book in advance.

To register for this trip send $30.00 per person to: Kathy Santucci, 38 Lime Kiln Road, Tuckahoe, NY 10707.
Hello, Everyone!

May for Martha's Vineyard Trip

The spring NELL lighthouse trip will be held on the weekend of May 19-21. Our destination is Martha's Vineyard and its 5 lighthouses: Cape Poge, Edgartown, East Chop, West Chop, and Gay Head. We'll be allowed to access all lighthouses, except West Chop, which can be viewed from a vantage point suitable for photo ops. Since a number of members will be bringing their cars over to the Vineyard, traveling will be done by car pools. Dave Dingledy, the first-vice president in charge of this trip, will send a list of signed-on travelers with their phone numbers and email addresses to each responder, so that teaming up for car pools may be planned in advance.

Our starting point will be the Edgartown Commons hotel in Edgartown at 9:00 am, Saturday morning. From there we'll travel to the 5 lighthouses and spend the day visiting them with a lunch break in between. Sunday will be a day of leisure, shopping, and visiting museums with a membership meeting scheduled for late morning or early afternoon.

Two hotels have blocked a limited number of rooms at discount for our group. When you call for a reservation, be sure to identify yourself as a "NELL" member. The hotels are: Holiday Inn in Falmouth, for those who want to stay on the mainland, and the Edgartown Commons at Edgartown on the Vineyard. For Holiday Inn reservations call (877) 272-6415. For Edgartown Commons, call Rob Hurst at (508) 627-4671. The special reservations are for a limited time only. Other facilities are available and the two hotels can provide assistance at locating them.

For ferry service, the Steamship Authority Ferry is the only one that will take motor vehicles aboard. Its dock location is at Woods Hole. Call (508) 477-8600 for information, schedules, and reservations. The other 5 ferry services are for pedestrians only. For those staying on the mainland, the best one is the Falmouth to Edgartown Ferry, which is docked near the Holiday Inn. Call (508) 548-9400 for information and reservations.

For more information about our itinerary, contact Dave Dingledy at (781) 767-3018 or email him at da17lmwo@gmail.com. When our itinerary is finalized, Dave will send out the schedule to all responders. If you plan to come on this trip and have not contacted Dave yet, please do so, so that you get on the all-important master list.

Dave Dingledy

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

2017 NELL Membership Dues are past due. Your membership dues payment must be received by March 31, 2017. Send your check, $20.00 for single membership or $30.00 for a dual membership to: NELL, c/o Kathy Santucci, 38 Lime Kiln Road, Tuckahoe, NY 10707. All unpaid members will be removed from the membership list at the end of March. If you would like to pay your NELL dues by PayPal click on the link below and follow the instructions.

http://www.newenglandlighthouselovers.org/membership-form/

Thank you, Walter Mills, Membership
Whitehead Light Station

We are delighted to announce that we're offering a second knitting retreat at Whitehead Light Station this year! Join Heather Monroe Kinne, independent dyer and owner of Highland Handmades, and Mim Bird, master knitter and owner of Over The Rainbow Yarn, for an island knitting retreat on Labor Day Weekend (September 1-5). Using seawater and fiber reactive dyes from a Maine based company, Heather will show you how to turn a skein of super wash wool yarn into your own unique colorway. Once you have your beautiful skein, Mim will work with you to create a personal design that showcases your color. Whether you're a skilled knitter or a beginner, this is an opportunity to learn from and be inspired by your fellow knitters as well as two of Maine's highly accomplished fiber arts professionals.

As is true for all of our programs, this unique learning experience is enriched by the unparalleled beauty of Whitehead Island. Guests stay in the historic and elegant Light Keeper's House and are treated to delicious meals prepared with ingredients from Maine's mid-coast area. There's a chair waiting for you. Register now. whiteheadlightstation.org

2017 Lighthouse Challenge and Festival Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 – 11 June</td>
<td>Door County 24th Annual Lighthouse Festival</td>
<td><a href="http://www.dcmmm.org">www.dcmmm.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17-18 June</td>
<td>8th Annual Hereford Inlet Lighthouse Maritime Festival</td>
<td><a href="http://www">www</a>. herefordlighthousefestivals.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Mid-coast Maine Lighthouse Challenge</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lighthousefoundation.org">www.lighthousefoundation.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-9 July</td>
<td>14th Annual Toledo Lighthouse Waterfront Festival</td>
<td><a href="http://www.toledoharborlighthouse.org">www.toledoharborlighthouse.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>National Lighthouse Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>25-27 August</td>
<td>2nd Traveling Michigan Lighthouse Festival</td>
<td><a href="http://www.michigannelighthousefestival.com">www.michigannelighthousefestival.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Maine open lighthouse day</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lighthousefoundation.org">www.lighthousefoundation.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>8-10 Sept.</td>
<td>Mukilteo Lighthouse Festival</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mukilteolighthousefestival.com">www.mukilteolighthousefestival.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Aug-16 Sept.</td>
<td>22nd Annual Apostle Island Lighthouse Celebration</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lighthousecelebration.com">www.lighthousecelebration.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>16-17 Sept.</td>
<td>Maryland Lighthouse Challenge</td>
<td><a href="http://www.facebook.com/events">www.facebook.com/events</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08 - 10 Sept.</td>
<td>52nd Annual Mukilteo Lighthouse Festival</td>
<td><a href="http://www">www</a>. mukilteolighthousefestival.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge</td>
<td><a href="http://www.wildwoods">www.wildwoods</a> nj.com/calendar</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Not all the noted websites have been updated yet to reflect the 2017 information. They are provided so that you will have the event date and website location information together.
Lighthouses are as much a part of Cape Cod’s history and allure as its miles of beaches, quaint villages, and fabulous shops. There are eighteen lighthouses on Cape Cod. Some of them are more universally known, such as Chatham Light, Nauset Light, Race Point Light, Highland Light, and Nobska Light. There are a few lesser known like Cleveland Ledge Light, Wings Neck Light, and Point Gammon Light, yet all of the structures have one common thread, they are located on the water. However there are three lighthouses in Eastham that are not even within sight of water. In fact they sit quietly in a field on Cable Road more than 1,800-feet from the ocean. These are the Three Sisters Lighthouses and their story is one of the most fascinating in Cape Cod history. It is a story that is still going on to this day. 

The history of these structures begins nearly 200-years ago when the Town of Eastham petitioned to have a beacon built along the shore to protect passing vessels after there had been so many shipwrecks. The proposal was approved in 1836 with work being completed in 1838. However instead of there being one lighthouse it was decided that there would be three. The reason for the three was to help vessels differentiate the Eastham lights from the single Highland Light to the north in Truro, and the twin lights of Chatham to the south. The fifteen-foot tall brick structures were constructed by local builder Winslow Lewis and his team who had put in the lowest bid. The three towers soon gained the ‘Three Sisters’ nickname. Legend has it that vessels passing by remarked that they resembled three ladies in white dresses wearing black hats. The lighthouses did their job for decades until shoreline erosion threatened them. Today when a lighthouse is threatened measures are taken to save them by moving them safely away from the eroding cliffs. In the late 1800’s though the three brick towers were simply allowed to succumb to nature and fall into the sea. They were replaced in 1892 by three new ‘Sisters’ standing twenty-two feet tall and 150-feet apart. These new wooden towers with brick foundations were positioned thirty-feet back from where the original towers had fallen.
**Happy Birthday to:**

Barbara Lunn 3/06  Wayne Grabner 3/06  Bonnie Benford 3/09
MaryAnn Scroope 3/10  John Whidden 3/13  Lee Hall 3/22
Gladys Grabner 3/27

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

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

If you think you know e-mail me
(Answer next Chapter Chatter)
January/February answer: Castle Hill, RI
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: 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 LHHC&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.