

# CHAPTER CHATTER



May/June

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## **NELL Members if you have not yet paid your dues please read below...**

2018 NELL Membership Dues are past due.

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.

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

## **Happy Birthday**

Bob Trapani	5/14	Fran Dollinger	5/14	Tom Cardaci	5/25
MaryAnn Clark	5/27				
Bob Kerber	6/01	Amy Winger	6/06	Frank DePasquale	6/10
Hilari Seery	6/16	Irma Streeter	6/16	Walt Mills	6/24
David Dingley	6/26	Ellen Granoth	6/28		

## **Anniversary Wishes**

Bill & Odette Kent	5/01	Robert & Sharon Mills	5/09	Bob & MaryAnn Scroope	5/28
Hilari & Jim Seery	6/10	Tom & Arlene Pregman	6/21	James & Nancy Cope	6/24
Henry & Arlene Winkleman	6/29				

## **NELL Spring Meeting 2018**



The Spring meeting and lighthouse tour will be 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2018, in Maine

Saturday will be an all-day (8 hour) boat trip leaving at 8.30am from Port Clyde aboard the Monhegan Boat Line boat The Laura B. to visit the following lights:

Marshall Point Light, Franklin Island Light, Pemaquid Point Light, Ram Island Light, Burnt Island Light, Cuckolds Island Light, Pond Island Light, Seguin Island Light and Damariscove Island Lifesaving Station.

There are no refreshments on the boat so you need to bring lunch.

The cost for this trip is \$100.00 per person.

In order to make this trip feasible we need a minimum of 40 people.

The Trade Winds Hotel in Rockland, is holding a block of twenty rooms for our group, either two double beds or one king. The rate is \$112.00 per room, per night which includes Free Continental Breakfast: served from 6.30-10am.

Includes: pancakes, oatmeal, cereal, hard boiled eggs, muffins, bagels, yogurt, coffee and juice

Mention the group code NELL or New England Lighthouse Lovers when you call (207) 596-6661 to make your reservations. There are other hotels in the area that may offer a different rate.

We will be having a dinner meeting at The Trade Winds on Saturday evening. Time to be advised. Menu choice below. If you are planning to attend the dinner you must send me your meal choice, so that I can give the Trade Winds a count for each option.

On Sunday the Maine Lighthouse Museum will be open 10am–4pm and you can walk out to Rockland Breakwater Lighthouse.

The following lighthouses in the area will be open:

Owls Head: 10am – 4pm

Marshall Point: 1pm – 5pm

Pemaquid Point: Tower – 10am-5pm – Museum – 9am-5pm

### **Menu ~ \$30 per person**

Cup of Clam Chowder

Entrée Choices:

A. Steamed Maine Lobster Drawn Butter, Coleslaw, and Rice

B. Sirloin Steak Mashed Potatoes, Chef's Choice Vegetable

C. Baked Stuffed Haddock: Haddock with Crab Stuffing, White Wine, Lemon, Butter Rice, Chef's Choice Vegetable

D. Chicken Marsala: Chicken served with a creamy marsala and mushroom sauce

E. Fettuccini Alfredo: Traditional

Chef's choice Dessert

To register for this trip please send payment

(\$100.00 per person for the boat trip and \$30.00 per person for your meal) to:

Kathy Santucci

38 Lime Kiln Road

Tuckahoe, NY 10707

If attending please be sure to respond with your choice of entrée for dinner.

## **Other Lighthouse News**

I received the following e-mail which I would like to share with the membership

We at The Maritime Aquarium have been participating in the Lighthouse Passport program and we have raised \$467.00 in donations over the last year. We would like to present NELL with that check in the near future, possibly at your next meeting. If you could email or call us with the next meeting information that would be excellent.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you.

### ***Travis J. Mingo, Captain***

Associate Director of Vessel Operations

R/V Spirit of the Sound

The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk

10 North Water St.

Norwalk CT 06854

(203)852-0700, x2262

(207)271-0599 Cell

[TMingo@MaritimeAquarium.org](mailto:TMingo@MaritimeAquarium.org)

[www.MaritimeAquarium.org](http://www.MaritimeAquarium.org)

### **The Norwalk Maritime Aquarium offers several cruises to view lighthouses.**

#### **Western Long Island Sound**

Venture out with us for rare close-up looks at eight historic lighthouses on Long Island Sound. During the 7-hour cruise, Aquarium educators will share histories and anecdotes about the lighthouses, and also point out the Sound's waterfowl. We'll make passes by these lighthouses: Greens Ledge, Sheffield Island, Stamford Harbor (or Harbor Ledge), Great Captain Island, Execution Rocks, Stepping Stones, Sands Point and Eatons Neck.

#### **Central Long Island Sound**

Venture out with us for rare close-up looks at five historic lighthouses on Long Island Sound. During the 5-hour cruise, Aquarium educators will share histories and anecdotes about the lighthouses, and also point out the Sound's waterfowl. We'll make passes by these lighthouses: Peck Ledge, Greens Ledge and Sheffield Island in Norwalk, Penfield Reef in Fairfield, and Stratford Shoal (or Middle Ground.) All the lighthouses are on the National Register of Historic Places.

R/V Spirit of the Sound has a climate-controlled cabin. Binoculars and water are provided. Food is not available for purchase on the boat. You may bring food and non-alcoholic beverages in a small bag or soft-sided cooler. Glass bottles are prohibited.

The Maritime Aquarium is now participating in the **U.S. Lighthouse Society's Lighthouse Passport Program**, a fun way to officially log your lighthouse adventures. Bring along your passport, or buy one aboard the R/V Spirit of the Sound. We'll stamp your Passport for every lighthouse we see during your Aquarium Lighthouse Cruise. Also, members of the U.S. Lighthouse Society now receive 10% discounts on the Aquarium's Lighthouse Cruises!

## International Lighthouse News



As reported by The Irish Times, a liquid emitting diode (LED) replacement is due to be installed at Fastnet that will reduce its beam from 27 to 18 nautical miles. This reduced range meets the standard accepted in Irish and British waters for safe navigation, and one that west Cork fishermen are happy with. However, tourism concerns in west Cork are concerned, and last week independent West Cork TD [Michael Collins](#) called on the lighthouse authority to consult with the community.

A former keeper at lighthouse in [Belfast](#) lough says that the west Cork community should question any changes by the CIL to Fastnet's light that might affect the heritage value of the navigational structure. Former assistant keeper at Mew Island lighthouse and former RNLI [Donaghadee](#) lifeboat mechanic Walker Simpson, who holds an MBE, said the west Cork community should learn from the experience of others. "Once they change the light, they forget about the buildings," he warned.

The historic optic lens at Mew that Mr Simpson once helped to maintain was replaced several years ago. It has been acquired by Belfast's Titanic Centre, which aims to make it the focus of a new exhibition.

The Mew optic transmitted one of the most powerful beams on this coastline and was used on both Tory, Co [Donegal](#), and in Belfast lough over a 130-year period. Mew lighthouse now has a LED replacement, along with a number of lights around the coast - a more cost efficient option.

Capt Robert McCabe, Irish Lights director of operations and navigational services, said a "responsible withdrawal" took place at Mew that involved ventilating and securing buildings that were no longer required.

Plans to dim the beam of Fastnet Lighthouse – known as Ireland's teardrop by departing emigrants, and a welcome sight for arriving sailors – have upset some tourism interests in west [Cork](#).

The beam shines 27 nautical miles into the Atlantic. The [Commissioners of Irish Lights](#), which maintains navigational marks around the island, plans to install an Led-based light on the 28m tower from this summer. Powered by battery rather than the current three diesel generators, it will stretch only 18 nautical miles.

A west Cork community organisation involved in tourism said several such groups in the area were very upset by the plan, and noted that Fastnet is a protected structure.

The Independent Cork South-West TD [Michael Collins](#), who lives near [Schull](#), called on the lighthouse authority to start "immediate consultations" with the local community. He said tourism interests were very concerned about the loss of illumination at night, particularly on the landward side.

"Communities in [Goleen](#), Schull, [Baltimore](#) and the islands of Roaringwater Bay are also worried about the visual impact of a shorter and narrower beam, given that this light is so important for safety at sea," said Mr Collins, who added: "Just like president [Mary Robinson](#) had a light in her window for emigrants, so this Fastnet light represents something for Irish people everywhere."

Irish Lights' director of operations and navigational services, Capt Robert McCabe, said the new light would be more fuel efficient and, although less powerful, comply with the maximum range required for lights on British and Irish coasts.

The [Irish South & West Fish Producers' Organisation](#) has welcomed the upgrade.

## NELL Family Picnic



2002 NELL Picnic with Connie Small

The attendees to the NELL Family Picnic from 2002. NELL Family Picnics took place at Great Island Common in New Castle, NH within sight of Wood Island Lifesaving Station, Portsmouth Harbor Lighthouse (NH) and Whaleback Lighthouse (ME). Connie Small, who was 100 years old at the time, can be seen in the middle of the group. Connie's husband, Elson Small, was fulltime keeper of Portsmouth Harbor Light from 1946 to 1948. Connie wrote a book in 1986 entitled *The Lighthouse Keeper's Wife*, which chronicles her life at the lighthouses she and Elson lived at. NELL member Augie Kurdt and his wife Lisa were responsible for bringing Connie Small to the picnic. Interim NELL President, Ron Foster, would like to bring back the annual NELL Family Picnic which was a fun and inexpensive way for NELL Members to share time together.

NELL also had a Family Picnic in 2009 at New Haven Light. We got to climb the tower and ride the Merry-go-Round.

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



If you think you know you can e-mail me. (Answer next Chapter Chatter)  
Last edition's answer: East Quoddy – Maine

**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 Ron Foster (860) 303-2986 or via e-mail: [ron@foster-photo.com](mailto:ron@foster-photo.com)

**The Lighthouse Digest** – For each subscription, please use the subscription envelope 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](mailto: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 John Donovan: [jdo624@me.com](mailto:jdo624@me.com) nofor 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](mailto: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.