

September 2021

NELL Members:

We finally saw the lighthouses on Lake Sunapee, NH and had a membership meeting! It's been a long time since we've been together with our NELL friends (no thanks to COVID-19).

We began Saturday morning, September 18th, with our meeting at the Sunapee Lake Lodge. Members holding the positions of President (Henry Winkleman), Secretary (Linda Sherlock), and Treasurer (Kathy Santucci) agreed to run for another term. We are eagerly waiting for someone to volunteer to run for Vice President. Some benefits of being a Board member are the advantage of being involved in discussions and plans for upcoming events, and the privilege of voting.

Ron Foster and Graham Meddings volunteered for positions on the Preservation Committee, joining Walter Mills. We are grateful to you for your commitment to NELL and its goals.

Sandy Peterson and Debbie Brew offered to fill the position of Fundraising Co-Chairs. They are both well-suited for that position as they always know what needs to be done and work so well together.

Ron Foster selected Graham Meddings as Mr. NELL for 2021 and awarded him with the NELL buoy. Linda Sherlock chose Sharon Mills as Ms. NELL and presented her with the painted lighthouse and crown.

The membership voted to designate Frank and Carolyn Carbone as "Honorary Members" of NELL.

Former NELL member Kevin Sullivan's widow, Rosalie, donated Kevin's collection of lighthouse replicas and memorabilia, including Harbour Lights. Norm and Cyne Bosse and Jean and Gary Zunda were instrumental in picking up the items from Rosalie, some of which were auctioned during the meeting.

Arlene Winkleman is planning our next Lighthouses, Hot Chocolate & You (LHHC&Y) event to be held in January 2022.

Ellen and Bob Granoth are in the planning stages of our 2022 spring membership event, which will take place in the Cape May, NJ area during the weekend of May 13th-15th. The highlight will be a cruise which will include an on-board breakfast and lunch.

In the afternoon, the sun appeared as we boarded the M/V Kearsarge for a two-hour cruise on Lake Sunapee to view Burkehaven, Loon Island, and Herrick Cove Lighthouses. Our narrator, Midge Eliassen from the Lake Sunapee Protective Association, had a wealth of knowledge to share. Ron Foster presented a check from NELL to Midge to assist the LSPA in their efforts to preserve the lighthouses.

Ellen Granoth held a raffle for a sweatshirt and a T-shirt imprinted with the images of the lighthouses. Ron Foster won the sweatshirt and Bob Taylor won the T-shirt.

The buffet lunch got many positive reviews. The music added to the ambiance. Some people, who shall remain anonymous, were dancing on the bow of the boat!

On Sunday morning, September 19th, we enjoyed a delicious and filling buffet breakfast. The silent auction winners were announced by Bob Mills who added his witty humor. John Donovan won the 50-50 raffle and donated a portion of his winnings to NELL.

Our guest speaker, Eric Jay Dolin, gave a fabulous slide presentation and talk on his book, *Brilliant Beacons: A History of the American Lighthouse*. Eric is a very talented author and interesting speaker. We thoroughly enjoyed his presentation.

I owe a debt of gratitude to a number of people who helped make this event a success.

Thank you to Bob Taylor for making badges and postcards. Bob always does a fabulous job! He also brought along the Historian Books for those who wished to peruse them.

Ellen and Bob Granoth traveled near and far to purchase canvas tote bags which they had imprinted by a graphic designer with images of the three lighthouses on the lake. If you are interested in purchasing any, a few bags are still available. Ellen and Bob are very generous with their time and energy in promoting and selling merchandise, for which we are very thankful.

Special appreciation to Debbie Brew, Sandy Peterson, and Jean Zunda for organizing, pricing, and keeping watch over the silent auction items. They sure know how to get things done!

Thanks to John Donovan for his photography skills and keeping the Facebook page up to date. John also has the responsibility of being the keeper of the NELL banner.

A number of members contributed items for the silent auction. The money raised from the auction was deposited into our preservation fund. Many thanks for your generosity.

Even during the pandemic, our fundraising activities were ongoing. Thank you to everyone who purchased pens with the NELL logo and/or face masks. Approximately \$2,000.00 was raised between those two efforts. Those monies also went into the preservation fund.

Zoom presentations during COVID allowed us opportunities to connect with friends online while enjoying some beautiful lighthouse photos. Thank you to Graham Meddings, Tom Pregman, Ron Foster, Bob Taylor, and John Donovan for your presentations, and to Henry and Arlene Winkleman and their daughter, Sara, for hosting. You can watch these presentations on our website or on YouTube.

It was such a great pleasure to see NELL members that we haven't seen in a while. Plans are in the works for some interesting and exciting future trips. Please encourage your family, friends, and former NELL members to join or rejoin and be part of these adventures!

See you in January at LHHC&Y!

Linda Sherlock
Secretary