



The Bay Run



Newsletter of
The Delaware Bay Lighthouse
Keepers and Friends Association, Inc.

*"Our mission is to preserve the history of the
Delaware Bay and River Lighthouses, Lightships and their Keepers*

Volume 12 Issue 3

Special Fall 2012 Edition

National Lighthouse Day at Hereford Light August 7th 2012 a Great Salute to our Beloved Lighthouses



On August 7th 1989 President George H.W. Bush signed a law creating this day as National Lighthouse Day. Created in honor of this same day in 1789 when the first U.S. Congress passed the first Public Works Act creating the United States Lighthouse Establishment. With a few minor name changes over the years the U.S. Lighthouse Service ran our Lighthouses until 1939 being dissolved and merged into the U.S. Coast Guard. INTERNATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE DAY is celebrated on August 18th each year. Did we ever "luck out" weather wise 84 degrees and NO humidity! The program at Herford Inlet Lighthouse in North Wildwood, NJ, honoring this day began with the glorious sounds of the bagpipes and the marching in of the United States Coast Guard Color Guard and members of the VFW bearing various flags. The Chaplain from North Wildwood VFW opened with a prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance, Mollie McGee singing our National Anthem (continued page 2)

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A BEAM From The President's Desk By Angelo S. Rigazio, Jr.



President's Message

Well the hot muggy summer of 2012 is just about over. We just turned off the air conditioners that have been going strong since Spring. Let's hope we can now enjoy some cool Fall weather.

In case you didn't know, we were only able to have two boat trips this year. All those who were passengers on the trip to Harbor of Refuge found out how the lighthouse got its name. When a thunderstorm kicked up, we were happy that the captain went into the harbor until the storm passed. The bay was the calmest I have ever seen on the second trip out to Ship John Shoal light. Captain Joe was able to put the stern of the Bonanza right up to the base of both Ship John and Miah Maul Shoal lights so those on board could actually touch the base of the lights.

So now we look forward to our Annual Keepers Reunion Banquet and hope to see you in Strathmere on November 4, 2012. Make sure you get your Reservation Form and Dinner choice to Darlene no later than October 15th. Remember this is a "SIT DOWN DINNER" not a buffet.

Until then: *"Keep the lights shining"* Angelo



Lightening on the Bay during our cruise to Harbor of Refuge

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Jim Moffatt
Retired?...Re-Hired!! Current address in Limbo

The Delaware Bay Lighthouse Keepers and Friends Association, Inc. (DBLHKFA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit preservation and educational organization.

National Lighthouse Day (Con't from cover page)

Steve Murray, Curator of Hereford Inlet Light, was Master of ceremonies/ He spoke to everyone attending with some of the history of the Coast Guard. Steve discussed the history, background and importance of lighthouses calling them the "watery interstate highway" Lighthouses at one time were known as "America's Castles" among the oldest standing structural treasures in America

Various speakers followed: North Wildwood's Mayor, Commander of The U.S. Coast Guard Base, Cape May, Congressman Frank LoBiondo, former Congressman Bill Hughes, Capt. Kelly Chair NJ Historic Trust; Grace Hamlin Exec. Dir. NJ Dept. of Travel & Tourism.

President Angelo,



former Coast Guard who was stationed on "Harbor of Refuge" spoke of his life as a keeper on the light. Angelo Rigazio was the last keeper on the light. He closed the lighthouse in 1973. He calls it "Second Home" he loves narrating our cruise when he returns there. Another member Charles Bolton was stationed on Ambrose Lightship, was also introduced. A wonderful day ended as we sang "God Bless America" Truly an interesting, informative, entertaining time. Our members attending enjoyed taking part in National Lighthouse Day and look forward to an annual event. We will "cherish the lighthouses as beacons of light preserving them for future generations."

PEGGY'S CORNER NEWS n' VIEWS

By Peggy Stapleford

Activities/Program Chair



Briefly Said!...

OCTOBER 20TH & 21ST 2012

*NJ Lighthouse Challenge Weekend - we'll be at Hereford Inlet Light - Stop by to help out!!
"Volunteers Needed"*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH 2012 Annual Keepers Reunion Banquet at the DEAUVILLE INN, Strathmere

These Reunions are meant to reunite former Lighthouse Keepers and Coast Guards. We welcome everyone interested in Lighthouse and Lightship preservation and the upkeep of our Historic Delaware Bay Beacons. Bring a friend.

Directions on the reverse side of your Reservation Form

Reservation & Choice of Dinner

RETURN DEADLINE OCT. 15TH

RESERVATIONS A MUST!!

(Form enclosed in this Bay Run)

COMING EVENTS: Save these dates NOW!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12th 2013

Winter Membership Meeting location

TBA Winter Bay Run

SATURDAY, APRIL 27th, 2013

SPRING Membership Meeting

at the Deauville Inn, Strathmere, NJ

THEN a Tour of Corson Inlet

Coast Guard Station and Boathouse.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

*Charles Gans
Havertown, PA*

*Robert & Janet Moscinski
Matawan, NJ*

*Gregory Young
Wilmington, DE*

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Of the Board Rod Mulligan



Cruisin' with the Chairman

During a recent family vacation in New York City, I had the opportunity to go on a couple of cruises. First cruise was aboard the Staten Island Ferry; which there is no charge. Crossing New York Harbor, I got to see Robin's Reef "Spark Plug lighthouse. Affectionally known as "Kate's Light" named for its most famous keeper Catherine Walker, who took over the lighthouse duties for 30 years after the death of her husband. She raised two children and rowing them to school each day across the Harbor to Staten Island. I also viewed "Lady Liberty" our famous symbol of freedom.

Next I wandered down to Pier 83 at the foot of West 42nd St. and boarded a tour boat for a cruise on the Hudson River. The aircraft carrier Intrepid is moored right here. What a great sight to see and then the New York Skyline, the Freedom Tower, replacing the Twin Towers. We cruised under the Brooklyn Bridge, Manhattan and Williamsburg Bridges. Then coming around the foot of the island to South Street Seaport another terrific location, lots to see and do. Here the tug Helen McAllister is docked. For many years the McAllister pushed coal barges from New Jersey to Brooklyn. It was donated to the South Street Seaport Museum by the family who just happens to be "shirt tail relatives,"

Returning our tour guide pointed out the spot where Capt. "Sully" Sullenberger successfully ditched US Airways flight 1549 in the Hudson River in 2009.

I recommend that everyone should take a trip to New York City and take the cruises. Tours are really interesting and the views spectacular.

Out of the four cruises we had scheduled two were cancelled due to weather conditions. President Angelo talks about the two successful cruise in his Beam article.

OUR TRIBUTE TO CAROLE F. REILY

***Founder, Past President of Our Delaware Bay Lighthouse Keepers and Friends
On the Fifth Anniversary of her Passing “Crossing the Bar”***

By Maxine Mulligan

We had planned a memorial tribute to Lighthouse Cruise August 25th. Due to impending storm, the cruise was ventured to Fortescue since the tribute memorial wreath purchased. Captain offered to take this dedicated group out memorial ceremony.



Carole on our last Delaware Bay inclement weather and an cancelled. Several members had already been planned; the Mike Rothman, of the Bonanza II, on the Bay to conduct the



#1 L to R New Member Greg Young, Peggy Stapleford, Jean Jones, Tony Giletto Maxine and Rod Mulligan

#2 The Memorial Wreath

#3 Peggy Stapleford , Jean Jones, and Tony Giletto preparing the wreath for dedication

When asked to do this tribute, I pondered, “What can I say about Carole?” I concluded she had many of the same attributes as the lighthouses she loved. She helped to guide people along life’s paths; was steadfast and serene (at times) , immovable, and continued on year after year, never giving up. Two words come to mind when I think of Carole; Commitment and Courage”. In facing life, Carole was courageous day after day, definitely committed to her friends and to our Lighthouse Organization. Yes, this was Carole and there will never be another “Lighthouse Lady”. “I am thankful for having her as a part of my life; I truly miss her” “You ‘crossed the bar’ to soon; we’ll miss you forever”

Like the lighthouses she loved so much, she: “called to those in darkness, far out upon the foam, she kept her light burning, that may guide the wanderer home” We will try to keep her light shining for future generations.



Memorial wreath dedicated to Bay and “The Lighthouse Lady” to keep her light shining.