



THE POMHAM GLOW

November 2013 · Volume 9 · Issue 2

Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse,
A Chapter of the American Lighthouse Foundation
Mission Statement

To ensure the historic restoration and preservation of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse and to improve public awareness, appreciation and access to Pomham Rocks Lighthouse.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2013 ANNUAL MEETING

Date: Friday, Nov. 15, 2013

Time: 6:00 pm

Where: Wharf Tavern
Water Street
Warren, RI

**RESERVATION DEADLINE:
NOVEMBER 10**

POMHAM SANTA

Date: Saturday, Nov. 30, 2013

Time: 9:30 am

Where: Starting at the Boat
Ramp at Haines Park,
Riverside, RI

The full schedule is on Page 3

PROVIDENCE BOAT SHOW

Date: Friday, January 31-

Sunday, February 2, 2014

Time: 10:00 am-10:00 pm on

Friday & Saturday

10:00 am-5:00 pm on

Sunday

Where: Rhode Island Convention
Center, Providence, RI

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse,

Our work for the restoration of the Lighthouse is continuing at a fast pace. As you will read in the many articles in this newsletter, multiple events and activities have been accomplished since our last newsletter in April. I am very grateful for the hard work that the Event Committee members and the Board members have done over the last six months.

Here is an update of some of the major work that has been completed and the progress of some others: The major job of refurbishing the original 1871 wooden windows is about to be completed. The Bill Lazotte Company is finishing up the painting and repairing of the windows and our work crew is finishing up the painting of the frames inside the lighthouse. Hopefully we will begin to install the windows this November. This, together with the new storm windows that were installed last January, will complete the exterior of the house. The placing of new rubber coated wire on the chain link fence was completed recently by Joe Estrella, Mike Tripp, Don Carlson, Nate Chace and Andy Valerio. This project really increases the security of most of the island with further improvements needed to protect visitors, especially children, from the dangerous cliffs that are on the island. Thanks to Jim Joiner, a security light and motion detector has been installed on the roof of the oil house facing the dock. Hopefully this will discourage uninvited visitors from going onto the island.

Initial plans have begun to bring electricity to the island. This will be the next big project to begin the restoration of the interior. Once we have electricity on the island and in the house, we can then work on a new heating system and then proceed with the walls, ceilings and floors.

One of the biggest moves we have made this Fall season is the purchase of a new launch. More details about this purchase are in this newsletter.

We have purchased a new electric toilet for the lighthouse. It operates without plumbing and will be necessary in order for us to have work parties with larger groups and for future tour groups to visit the island. Unfortunately it was damaged in transport and has been returned for a new one. The new one should be arriving soon and installed.

Thank you for your continued support for this restoration project. We look forward to the future when our efforts will bring this lighthouse back to its former glory.

Sincerely,

Dave Kelleher, Chairman

Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse

A Chapter of the American Lighthouse Foundation

www.pomhamrockslighthouse.org

email: pomhamrockslighthouse@yahoo.com



by William Weber
Rumford Lions 2013 Christmas Ornament

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT

The Rumford Lions have made Christmas ornaments as a fundraiser for several years. The ornaments are local East Providence Sites. This year the Lions have chosen Pomham Rocks Lighthouse as the local site. They did contact our group for permission to use our site and have offered us a number of the ornaments to sell for our profit.

The ornaments should be available at our Annual Meeting and by contacting Dave Kelleher at 401-433-2763 or lighthouse1936@verizon.net while they last.

ANNUAL TOUCH-A-TRUCK

Once again, we were invited to attend the annual Touch-A-Truck event sponsored by the East Providence Chamber of Commerce.

The event was held on May 4th in the large parking lot behind the Chamber's office which is on Waterman Avenue in East Providence.

The weather was perfect and we had one of the largest crowds in years.

We had a good number of youngsters climb aboard our boat and have their pictures taken in our model of the lighthouse.

Thanks go out to our members who helped at this event: Jean & Gary Zunda, Ann Greene, Mary Chace, Rob Charbonneau and David Kelleher.

LIGHTHOUSE COVE CLEAN UP

It was an unusually cold and very windy day in April when we gathered to conduct our annual clean up of the shoreline that is facing Pomham Rocks Lighthouse. Joining some of our members were members of United Water and a few from the general public. Even though we were small in number compared to other years, the group worked hard and was able to collect as much debris as in past years.

It has become apparent that our work over the last four years has had a good effect on the condition of the shoreline.

We appreciate the help from United Water in this effort. As we were working, we noticed the great improvements that have been done to the Water Control Plant for the betterment of the neighborhood and Narragansett Bay.

Thanks to our members who were able to join the effort this year: Gary Zunda, Walter Thayer, Carlene Joiner, Mary Chace, Nate Chace, Donald Carlson and David Kelleher.



by Carlene Joiner
The crew & debris from the Clean-Up

SAVE THE BAY TOURS

David Kelleher was the narrator for the Save the Bay Ultimate Lighthouse tours. There were three full day tours this year during the summer. These tours are becoming so popular that all three were sold out and had waiting lists. Save the Bay decided to add a few half day tours in August, September and October.

AMERICAN LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION GALA

The Annual Gala Event for the American Lighthouse Foundation was held in May at the Sheraton

Portsmouth Harborside Hotel in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

The evening's festivities included a buffet dinner and a silent auction. The entertainment was "From the Shoreline" by John Mock.

The 2013 FPRL Volunteer is Jean Zunda, our secretary, membership chair and Event Committee member. Due to another commitment, Jean was not able to attend the Gala. Don and Nancy Doucette and Carlene Joiner represented FPRL at the event.

Jean was presented her award and gifts at the June Board Meeting.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

The Annual Riverside Memorial Day Parade was held on May 27th. A group of FPRL members marched in the parade this year and were greeted by the people along the parade route.

Thanks to Rob Charbonneau for preparing and using his truck to pull the boat, for Carlene Joiner & Anne Greene for passing out lollipops and for Gary Zunda, Mary Chace, Lester Nathan and David Kelleher for marching alongside the boat.



by Carlene Joiner
Lester Nathan, Mary Chace, David Kelleher, Rob Charbonneau, Anne Green & Gary Zunda

LIGHTHOUSE PROGRAMS

Our Rhode Island Lighthouse presentation was shown to a number of schools this year: Alice M. Waddington, Orlo Avenue, James R. D. Oldham, Silver Spring and Saint Magarite-all in East Providence and Richmond Elementary in Richmond.

The History of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse program was presented to the Forever Young Club of St. Brendan Parish.

The Rhode Island Lighthouse program was presented to the Tockwotten Health Center.

CHOWDER & CLAM CAKES EVENT

It was a bright sunny day for our Chowder & Clam Cake Event. There was also a Raffle and Silent Auction. There was a pretty strong breeze at times which kept the attending members busy preventing the Raffle and Silent Auction items from flying off the tables.

Thanks to Louise Paiva and Flo Quigley for obtaining great items for the Raffle and Silent Auction.

We are very grateful to Pam and Don Leite for the use of their diner and providing the delicious chowder and clam cakes.

Thanks to all who worked to make this event a success: Joe Estrella, Jean & Gary Zunda, Anne Greene, Louise Paiva, Lester Nathan, Jim & Carlene Joiner and Andy Valerio.

NEW ENGLAND LIGHTHOUSE LOVERS VISIT

As a favor to NELL members, we honored their request to visit the Lighthouse and climb to the Lantern Room. The group was aware that the interior was not restored and not ready for tours. Being experienced lighthouse visitors, it was decided that they would be the first group, other than our own, to officially visit the Lighthouse.

They were very aware of the conditions of the staircase and floors. They were very careful moving around the interior of the building.

The comments from the NELL members were very complimentary especially from the ones who climbed to the Lantern Room and enjoyed the beautiful vistas.



by Carlene Joiner
David Kelleher explaining the history of the Lighthouse to the members of NELL

BEAVERTAIL MUSEUM DISPLAY

Beavertail Lighthouse in Jamestown has a newly opened addition to its museum. FPRL was invited by Mr. Varougan Kandtz, a director, to have a display as part of the museum.

Florence Quigley and David Kelleher went to the museum to talk with Mr. Kandtz.

Ann Greene designed a beautiful poster with pictures of our various activities and the work completed on Pomham Rocks Lighthouse. Some of the Lighthouse models were displayed along with some membership brochures and copies of our latest newsletter.

Mr. Kandtz reported that visitors to the museum were looking at our display and asking for more brochures. A visit to the museum at Beavertail Lighthouse is highly recommended. It is fantastic!

FAMILY NIGHT

A large crowd attended the Third Annual Family Night at the Senior Center. It was organized by the East Providence Police Department. There were many fun activities for children. There was also free hot dogs and ice cream.

David Kelleher set up a display of pictures and books about Pomham Rocks Lighthouse along with a few merchandise items. A drawing of the Lighthouse was given out for the children to color. The photo op model of the Lighthouse was a big hit. Many children had their picture taken with the model and "Keeper".

Looking for a unique
Holiday Gift?
Consider a membership in
Friends of Pomham Rocks
Lighthouse!
Contact Jean Zunda, Membership
Chair for more information.
You can contact her at:
jhzunda@gmail.com

NEW LAUNCH

The FPRL Board has approved the purchase of a Launch from the Bristol Yacht Club. Joe Estrella heard about the sale of launch and brought it to the attention of David Kelleher, Mike Tripp and Nate Chace. The remaining Board members were contacted for their approval to begin negotiations with the Yacht Club officials. With successful negotiations and approval of the American Lighthouse Foundation Board, the Launch was purchased.

Included in the package was all the necessary equipment required by the Coast Guard and a complete covering for winter storage.

The Launch will stay at the Yacht Club during the winter and will be launched in the spring.

This Launch will improve access to the Lighthouse for work parties and future tours for our members and the public.



POMHAM SANTA

Pomham Santa will sail along the Riverside shoreline. Here is the schedule for his arrival. Santa will come to town on Saturday, November 30th.

9:30 am - He will start from the boat ramp at Haines Park in Riverside.

9:45 am - He will sail past the jetty.

10:00 am - Santa passes Rose Larisa Park.

10:20 am - Santa will go past Sabin Point. There will be hot chocolate and munchies for the children and coffee for the adults.

10:45 am - Santa lands at Pomham Rocks Lighthouse.

Come welcome Pomham Santa as he comes to town!

OVERNIGHT FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

Have you ever imagined being a lighthouse keeper? Ever wonder what it was like to live in a lighthouse? Live out your dream and stay overnight at a lighthouse. For our major fundraiser this year, the Event Committee has made arrangements for three overnight stays.

1. Borden Flats Lighthouse in Mount Hope Bay, Fall River, Mass

A beautiful, restored spark plug style lighthouse which can be viewed online at www.bordenflatslighthouse.com. The reservation is for two people.

2. Rose Island Light in Narragansett Bay, Newport, RI

A restored 1870 Second Empire style lighthouse. Be the lighthouse keeper for a night. Reservation is for two people.

3. Spend two (2) nights on Block Island. The prize includes ferry tickets and reservations for two at the Surf Hotel.

Tickets will go on sale starting November 15, 2013 and continue until May 7, 2014. Raffle tickets are \$10.00 each or 3 tickets for \$25.00.

Tickets are available from Dave Kelleher at 401-433-2773 and lighthouse1936@verizon.net or Jean Zunda at 401-245-1543 and jhzunda@gmail.com.



Rose Island Light, Narragansett Bay,
Newport, RI



Borden Flats Lighthouse, Mount Hope Bay,
Fall River, MA

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