



CANAVERAL BEACON

The official member newsletter of the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation.

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Our Mission

To assist the 45th Space Wing in preserving, protecting, promoting, and interpreting the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse and its historical significance to the Florida Space Coast, State of Florida, and our Nation

Volume 9, Issue 5

October 2019

The Long Shadows of Fall

As autumn sets in around Florida with the same heat, but slightly less humidity, I noticed a dozen or so wild turkeys hanging out in the morning shadow of the lighthouse earlier this week. Of course, this made me think of Thanksgiving and of all the many blessings for which I am thankful.

As President of your Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation, I am so thankful for our volunteers and docents. I see the time and talent that so many of them give so generously to promoting the lighthouse to our community and beyond. They share so much of their passion for the lighthouse with each person who visits, young and old, local or foreign – anyone who visits, and many who hear about it without ever having been there. Our volunteers and docents are amazing – every one! And I've had many opportunities in the recent weeks to observe firsthand – from our fundraising event at the American Muscle Car Museum, to the Motorcycle Club who toured, to the 4th Grade students from Lewis Carroll Elementary, regular tours, special tours – our volunteers and docents share a passion that is contagious. Visitors leave the lighthouse inspired by what they've learned; reflective on the historical context our lighthouse brings to the aerospace and maritime industries upon which our county and central Florida thrive.

I am thankful to serve on a Board of Directors each of whom contributes willingly and professionally their ideas, their heartfelt desire to improve and enhance the experience our visitors receive when coming to the lighthouse.

And last, but not least, our Annual Sponsors whose generosity in donating to the preservation of our Foundation's work makes the entire endeavor possible; and our loyal members who comprehend the value of an understanding of history – and the significant role our lighthouse has played in that history.

There is something magical in the long shadows of a fall evening. They stretch to the East, reaching to the Atlantic for the cooler days of winter which surely must arrive soon. And with them, the future.

See you at the lighthouse, Jim



Lighthouse Events

HIGHLIGHTS FROM CCLF'S KEEP THE LIGHT SHINING FUNDRAISING GALA

A marvelous evening, shared with old friends and new CCLF "family" members, the Lighthouse Foundation's fundraising event at the American Muscle Car Museum was terrific! Our hosts, owners Mark and Tetiana Pieloch spent the evening with guests, providing a special tour for the VIP ticket holders that featured a champagne toast and Stone Crab Claws. The museum doors then opened and all were transported into a time of automotive classics as we toured an incredible collection of perfectly restored and maintained "cars." A live auction featured prize packages from GoTravel, the Brevard County Sheriff, the Kennedy Space Center Visitors Center, Canaveral Tours with lunch at Rising Tide Tap & Table; and a dinner at Café Margaux with tickets to a play at the historic Cocoa Village Theater — with all proceeds supporting the Lighthouse Foundation. Our thanks to our Annual Sponsors, new Friends of the LighthouseA&M Therapy, Community Bank of the South, and especially Wild Ocean Seafood for the delicious, delectable hors d' oeuvres!



Guests enjoyed the delicious food provided by Wild Ocean Market.



Mark & Tetiana Pieloch with CCLF President, Jim Underwood.



Attendees were all ears as Mark Pieloch showcased a 1959 Ford Country Sedan.



Images from the event were provided by Andrew Mackay and Darrell Woehler.

More photos from the American Muscle Car Museum Event



Luminaries that Matter

U.S. COAST GUARD TO THE RESCUE

Have you ever wondered about what it takes to keep our light shining? Recently, the rotating beacon equipment failed causing Cape Canaveral Light (DCB-224) to become inoperable. Unfortunately, the repair required a specific part that needed to be ordered first before the beacon could be fixed.



Thanks to the U.S. Coast Guard Aids to the Navigation Team in Ponce, our light was not out for long — and a CCLF volunteer was around to witness their handy work. Quickly the men hoisted the heavy equipment up the side of the lighthouse and completed the repair. Our favorite Space Coast beacon shines again!

CCLF MEMBERS HONORED AT FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE ASSOCIATION FALL MEETING



During the Florida Lighthouse Association (FLA) Fall 2019 Meeting, CCLF members Ron and Chris Ecker were presented the Florida Lighthouse Association's 2019 President's Award in recognition of their years of volunteer service to the lighthouse community. As the plaque's citation states, the Eckers were recognized for "...organizing memorable FLA meetings since 2010 and for their loving support of Cape Canaveral Lighthouse and the Florida Lighthouses." Congratulations Ron and Chris!

Community Outreach

CCLF PARTICIPATES IN 23RD ANNUAL TEACHER OPEN HOUSE

During September, volunteers Laura Kelly and Patricia Lautner represented the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation (CCLF) at the 23rd Annual Teacher Open House which was held at Brevard Zoo. This annual event showcases educational organizations and business that offer learning opportunities for students throughout Central Florida.



Laura and Patricia shared information about our fourth-grade history lesson plan on the importance of Cape Canaveral Lighthouse and student field trips to visit the lighthouse and its museum. They also provided information about the Foundation's goals and recent accomplishments as well as tour information to attendees.

ILLUMINATING THE LIVES OF OTHERS, ONE EVENT AT A TIME

Would your Club or Group like to know more about the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse located on the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station? Consider inviting a CCLF docent to speak at your next event.

Take a journey through time with a CCLF speaker and discover the rich history of Cape Canaveral Light and the role it has played in shaping Florida's Space Coast Community. Your guests will also hear about the Foundation's education programs for Brevard County students, our plans to rebuild the keeper's cottages as they were when lighthouse keepers and their families lived and worked there, as well as lighthouse tour opportunities and community events.

To schedule a lighthouse historian for your next event, please contact CCLF Speaker Coordinator, Yvonne Thornton, by email at myvonneLight@aol.com or by phone at (321) 267-5208. For further information, please visit CCLF's website at www.canaverallight.org.

Volunteer Spotlight

JIM ROCHE



A lighthouse beacon has been illuminating Jim Roche's life from the moment he took his first breath. Born in Lincoln County Maine, Jim was a "Coast Guard Kid" who spent his first five years living among the island beacons of Cuckolds Light Station, Burnt Island Light and finally Wood Island Light before his family moved to the mainland. Soon after, his passion for nautical history and love of the U.S. Coast Guard began to grow. As a young lad, he had the opportunity to sail aboard the USCG Eagle during a dependent cruise. He later would return to the ship to complete a tour of Temporary Active Duty during a leg of its annual summer cruise.

At age 16, Jim took a job at Coast Guard Station Eatons Neck in New York working as the keeper of a 76-foot lighthouse located in the middle of base housing. Working under the base's ANT Supervisor, USCG BM1 Brian Pertty, Jim gained experience scheduling and conducting lighthouse tours while learning how to maintain the 1789 Henry Le Plete lens atop the lighthouse. Replacing the 1000-watt lightbulb was no small fete as was cleaning the lens. If you thought it was just a matter of grabbing a bottle of Windex, you'd be wrong as regular glass cleaner destroys the optics in the prisms. Instead, Jim used lint rags and elbow grease to polish the glass in order to prevent scratching. Luckily, his hard work did not go unnoticed. When his father retired from the service, Jim was presented with a plaque by the District Admiral for his work at the lighthouse.

In 1986, Jim enlisted in the Coast Guard and found himself stationed aboard the USCGC Westwind WAGB-281 until it was decommissioned in 1988. His nautical career then led him to the USCGC Point Martin WPB-83379 where he served as Public Affairs Officer and Evidence Collector. Later, he was stationed at Group Los Angeles/Long Beach where he served as Controller, building historical displays and delivering several lectures about the rich history of U.S. Coast Guard. In 1998, while serving at Station Marathon, he received the Foundation for History Award for his Coast Guard history research and displays. But it was during his tour at Group/Sector Key West when Jim's passion for history and fondness for the lighthouses of his childhood prompted him to begin researching the history of Cuckolds Light and start the long and arduous process of writing a book.

Following his active duty service, Jim joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary in 2003 where he would serve as Flotilla Vice Commander and Commander for three different units as well as Division 17 Commander at USCG Station Port Canaveral. He also trained and competed in the Auxiliary's National Search and Rescue Competition, where his team finished in fifth place.

After 20-years of service, Jim retired in 2006 and went on to publish his book, Cuckolds Light, A Challenge To All Except the Mariner, in 2007. Jim joined the CCLF in 2008 and serves as the Safety and Security Chair and is a stalwart supporter who never says "no" when asked to help further our goals. Jim also married his beautiful wife Therese at Cape Canaveral Lighthouse and in 2018, purchased and restored a decommissioned 30-foot Coast Guard utility boat, a style of boat commonly used for short coastal missions and servicing lighthouses.



Keeping the Light Shining

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MUSINGS

One of the Membership Committee's greatest challenges has been the inaccessibility of the lighthouse grounds as a result of being located on a secured military base...until now!

The Air Force recently granted CCLF permission to lead periodic "escorted convoy" visits to the lighthouse. This will allow members, brick purchasers, and sponsors who lack the necessary credentials to access the lighthouse grounds on their own to drive their motorcycles, cars or trucks through the base to visit Cape Canaveral Lighthouse and Keeper's Cottages.

Cape Canaveral Light Open House: The first escorted visit will take place on Saturday, November 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Attendees will be able to explore the lighthouse, visit our recon-

structed "Keeper's Cottage" museum, locate their engraved paver stones, and purchase a souvenir from the gift shop. Docents will be on duty to answer questions and our wonderful, new restroom facility will be open to guests. For further information, please see the related story under the Upcoming Events section in this newsletter.

Based on the success of this event, member interest, and Air Force approval, we hope is to offer these visits and similar opportunities on a quarterly basis.

Member Roll Call: Maintaining a current Member Roster is tantamount to our success. Please remember to notify CCLF when your mailing address, telephone number or email address changes. To update your contact information, please email CCLF Membership Chair, Chris Ecker, at cclfmbrship1@aol.com.

Please join us in welcoming the following new members to the CCLF

Assistant Lighthouse Keepers (\$35—1 Member)

Includes our newest members from the American Muscle Car Museum Event

Janet B & Henry E. Abt
Gary & Karen Barrows
Tony Clark
Joel Eley
Stephanie & Monte Giorgi
Beth & Marie Hemans
Michael Locurto
Richard McDowell
Scott Moderson
Jerry Morrison
Nerissa & Barry Ramsey
Stacey Rosati
Ted Spall
Jay Yarotsky

Russell & Deborah Allison
Bob & Janet Birmingham
Judy Clontz
Nathan Eley
David Gooding
Liviu Kalimnios
John & Susan Lucarelli
Kyle McHenry
Ciro Morales
Wayne Owens
Gary Rembert
Bonnie Rowe
Ralph & Judith Towell
Cathy Riddell

Chris Aoussat
Sean Blake
Justin Connors
Ben Eley
Kelly Guldi
Jerry Kenney
Karen Mann
Tom and Judy McLeod
Nathan Moriarty
David & Norma Pagan
Jim & Amy Rollyson
Jolene & Pete Schulte
Pam Underwood

Brian & Brenda Barnett
Al & Geri Bonavito
Ralph & Winnie Crawford
Terry Fore
Thomas & Marlene Guthrie
Mike & Elaine LeClerc
Ellieana McDowell
Dr. Amado Mendoza
Tom Moriarty
Arne Pontan
Chelsea Rollyson
David & Shelly Smith
Michael Whalen

Lighthouse Keeper (\$50 = 2 Members)

Janie & Ron Hall
Linda Halpin

Lifetime Membership (\$1,000 = 1 Lifetime Member)

Rose Marie Wiley

Plus 17 Renewals!

* * * **2019 CCLF Membership Application Form** * * *

SIGN UP NEW MEMBERS OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION TODAY!

Visit *CanaveralLight.org* to pay your membership dues online via PayPal, or
complete the form below and mail it with your check to:
CCLF | P.O. Box 1978 | Cape Canaveral, FL 32920

 New Member **Renewal**

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

Interested in volunteering? Yes No

Please circle your desired membership category from the lists provided below:

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS

Head Lighthouse Keeper	\$100
Lighthouse Keeper (Family)	\$50
Assistant Lighthouse Keeper (Individual)	\$35
Student Lighthouse Keeper	\$15

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

Life Membership (Family-2 member)	\$1,500
Life Membership (Single)	\$1,000

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$ _____

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
CONTACT:

Chris Ecker, CCLF Membership
Phone: (321) 591-9844
Email: cclfmbrship1@aol.com

Bev Merrilees, CCLF Volunteers
Phone: (321) 452-5426
Email: bmerrilees@cfl.rr.com

CCLF membership benefits include:

- Admittance to annual membership appreciation meeting held at the lighthouse;
- Subscription to *The Canaveral Beacon*, CCLF's bi-monthly newsletter;
- Member discounts at the Keeper's Closet Gift Shop, including 10% off commemorative brick orders;
- Volunteer opportunities to support & promote the lighthouse in its historical context; and, most importantly,
- Supporting CCLF's efforts to resurrect history and rebuild three lighthouse keepers' cottages and restore the lighthouse grounds!

Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER 10: 2ND ANNUAL CAPE CANAVERAL LIGHTHOUSE 1/2 MARATHON AND 10K RACE

Join us on November 10, 2019, for the 2nd Annual Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation Half Marathon and 10K Race, benefiting the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse. On this one-of-a-kind course, you'll wind through iconic rocket launch complexes and historic testing sites before reaching the finish line at the 151-year-old lighthouse where a party and awards await all runners. Registration for the race is now open. For further information, visit RuntheCape.com.



NOVEMBER 23: CAPE CANAVERAL LIGHT OPEN HOUSE FOR MEMBERS AND BRICK PURCHASERS



CCLF members, sponsors and brick purchases who lack the necessary credentials to access the lighthouse grounds on their own are invited to join us from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 23, 2019, for an escorted visit to Cape Canaveral Lighthouse and our newly reconstructed Keeper's Cottage. The group will meet outside of the Space Florida Building located near the south gate of Cape Canaveral Air Force Station before heading to the lighthouse. Upon arrival, attendees will have approximately 90 minutes to explore the grounds on their own. Individuals will be permitted to climb the spiral staircase up to the 5th floor of the lighthouse providing they wear close-toed shoes and be at least 48" tall. The Keeper's Closet gift shop will be open and docents will be on hand to share information about the history of the lighthouse and answer visitor questions.

Advance registration is required and will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Base access is limited to a maximum of 25 vehicles and all will be required to drive in a single-file line as a caravan when heading to and from the lighthouse, without exception. Additionally, the names of all vehicle occupants must be provided by November 13 in order to participate in the event. To register for this event, please contact Chris Ecker by phone at 321-591-5593 or by email at cclfmbrship1@aol.com.

VOLUNTEERS - Can't do it without you!

Whether you have a little time or a lot of time to volunteer, we have a job for you.

Volunteer Docents relate the story of the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse to visitors, tour guests and Brevard County School children. Soon Docents will be telling more of the lighthouse story in our new Museum.

Volunteers manage and operate our gift shop "The Keeper's Closet" on tour days, during special events, Air Force Family Day, and Descendants Day. The gift shop manager selects and purchases inventory and has designed and built the new gift shop in the museum.

Volunteers relate our story to the public at community events such as Pioneer Day on Merritt Island, Cape Canaveral Founders Day, and our Half-Marathon to be held in November.

Volunteers spread the word about our lighthouse and our Foundation by making presentations to civic groups, local and other locations in Florida. Training and materials are provided

We need assistance with fund-raising; grant writing; speakers scheduling & training; volunteer recruitment, training, & scheduling; the lighthouse newsletter the "Canaveral Beacon"; badging and security liaison with the AF; construction oversight; museum planning and management.

As you can see, success brings more opportunities to help the Foundation toward our goal of recreating the lighthouse community as it was when Keepers and their families lived and worked there. You have seen the completion of the 1st Keeper's Cottage and public restrooms— this is the result of hard work and dedication of our volunteers.

To volunteer or to discuss volunteer opportunities, please contact Bev Merrilees, Volunteer Coordinator, TODAY and join the TEAM. Bev can be reached at Bmerrilees@cfl.rr.com or (321) 452-5426 Home or (321) 698-0873 Cell

Paving the Way & Building a Legacy

GIVE A ONE-OF-A-KIND GIFT THAT MAKES A LASTING IMPRESSION

Buy an engraved paver for your friend, colleague or family member to commemorate life's milestones and support Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation's (CCLF) Brick Program. CCLF's Brick Program is one of our major funding sources helping to rebuild the keeper's cottages and restore Cape Canaveral Lighthouse grounds. Soon, the first of three cottages will be finished and we will begin paving the walkways to link it to the lighthouse, keeping with the historical accuracy of the restoration project.



You can purchase a 4" by 8" brick for \$150. Includes engraving of three (3) rows, up to 12 characters per line. Insignias and art designs available for an additional \$20. CCLF members will receive a 10 percent discount on all brick orders. All donations are tax deductible. For additional information, please contact Ann Bolton, CLF's Brick Project Coordinator, at annbolton@cfl.rr.com.

Pay tribute to a space program retiree, honor a graduate, celebrate a wedding or wedding anniversary. Commemorative bricks are also a perfect birthday present for that "someone who has everything!"



Save a part of history, buy a brick!
10% Discount for CCLF Members

*** BRICK ORDER FORM ***

To purchase a 4" X 8" brick paver, please return this form along with payment to:
Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation, P.O. Box 1978; Cape Canaveral, FL 32920

Purchaser's Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

ENGRAVING: *Periods and spaces count as 1 character each. CCLF has right of final approval of copy.*

Line 1 _____

Line 2 _____

Line 3 _____

Brick orders may be placed online under the Brick Walkway News section at CanaveralLight.org.



The Florida Lighthouse Association (FLA) mission is to protect, preserve, restore, and defend Florida's Lighthouse towers, along with their material culture, buildings, artifacts, and records to assure that the magic of Florida's lighthouses and lighthouse keepers will be available for the enjoyment and understanding of future generations.



PRESERVING FLORIDA'S HISTORY, ONE LIGHTHOUSE AT A TIME

FLA is a nonprofit membership organization whose members play a critical role preserving, restoring and protecting Florida's remaining 29 historic lighthouses and educating the public.

Members receive:

- *FLASH*, FLA's semi-annual publication as well as routine updates on FLA activities via an electronic newsletter;
- Priority invitations to FLA Meetings, educational events and lighthouse tours; and
- Free admission to St. Augustine Lighthouse, Ponce Inlet Lighthouse, Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse, Crooked River Lighthouse, Cape St. George Lighthouse and Pensacola Lighthouse.

Individual, family and corporate annual membership packages are available. For additional information about FLA membership, or to join, go to FloridaLighthouses.org.

SUPPORT FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSES WHILE YOU DRIVE

Florida residents can show their love of lighthouses while driving when they purchase a "Visit Our Lights" license plate for their vehicle. The design features Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse and 90 percent of the proceeds from plate sales help support the Florida Lighthouse Association's mission to protect, preserve and restore the Sunshine State's remaining lighthouses. For further information on how to get a "Visit Our Lights" tag, visit FLA's website at FloridaLighthouses.org.



A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800) 435-7352 WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY 410 ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

Community Beacons

CCLF SPONSORS ARE VITAL TO BUILDING COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Becoming a Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation Sponsor is an excellent way to increase your company's visibility within Florida's Space Coast community! For more information on becoming a CCLF "community beacon", please contact Jim Underwood at radmjim@aol.com.

CCLF would like to extend its sincere appreciation to those who've pledged their support in 2019:



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