Absence Makes the Heart Grow Fonder... or Will It Be Christmas in July?

With thirty-three years of Coast Guard service, I’ve had my share of missing out and know well the ache that comes from longing for a loved one’s embrace - from birthdays, anniversaries and holidays, the achievements of my wife and daughter, our families and close friends as well as just the everyday banalities of life. My longest deployments were just shy of five months—two voyages to Antarctica on an icebreaker stationed in Long Beach, CA. I remember how much I missed everything and everyone, particularly since “At-Sea Comms” in 1972 were not at all what they are today. No internet, no email, no cellphones, international phone rates were prohibitive and staying connected to life at home while underway was restricted to a total of seven mail calls in Hawaii, Tahiti, New Zealand, Antarctica, Chile, Peru and Mexico. As the Communications Officer on board, I remember feeling like Santa Clause when the mail came – much like the courtroom scene from The Miracle on 34th Street when the letters to Santa Clause were delivered. And it felt like Christmas, too, as my shipmates and I devoured the letters handwritten in cursive and numbered. We found comfort in the packages containing memories of home.

Fast forward to present day, and I’m now ashore with all the technology one can imagine. Yet as "keeper" of our Cape Canaveral Lighthouse family, I feel that old sense of longing has returned as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to quarantine us all from "normal" life. Celebrations and community events are being postponed or cancelled, while future plans seem indefinitely on hold: our Annual Membership and Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon; Descendants Day Celebration; CCLF's "Under the Stars" Foundation Gala; a new Sunset with the Lighthouse from Sea…the list seems endless. Even our Half Marathon/10K, now scheduled as a 10 Miler/10K for November 8, 2020, may be postponed as a result of the virus and the planning for our Annual Sponsors Appreciation Event has yet to begin. I miss these events, but mostly I miss the people who come to them, and the fun interactions we have!

Speaking on behalf of the Board and volunteers, we miss all our lighthouse visitors – but I assure you, we remain vigilant as our work behind the scenes continues. The restoration painting of the lighthouse exterior is complete, new bricks have been engraved and placed, new displays have been completed in the museum and lighthouse. Rocking chairs and benches have been ordered—there are a few left for purchase as a donation to the Foundation. Our website facelift is almost ready for public viewing, and our Keeper’s Closet Gift Shop continues to amaze with new and desirable items—ready for your return possibly as early as this month. Now, that would be a Christmas in July!.

During the long Antarctic voyages, our log entries were for the most part routine: “Underway as before.” They never described the sheer beauty and expanse of the ocean, the vastness of the blanket of stars wrapping you in the night sky, nor the peace which accompanied the endless silence of Antarctica. And yet, “Underway as before” somehow still captures it all. Until we are together again... Keep safe, keep shining. Jim
Museum Highlights

We hope to reopen the lighthouse and museum in July and be able to welcome new and returning visitors, following our new guidelines. These guidelines are intended to keep everyone as safe as possible and adhere to CDC and Air Force guidance, including face masks for volunteers and visitors, social distancing between groups, and enhanced sanitization practices. While we’ve been closed, we have continued to make progress finishing the informational signs in the museum, so there will be several new items to see. Perhaps the most striking will be our life-size 6-foot cutout of Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Keeper Clinton Honeywell. Come on out and get your picture taken with Keeper Honeywell and learn more about the history of our Lighthouse.

If you’d like to become a docent, please contact George Eustis at cclhdocent@gmail.com.

Did You Know?

Keeper Clinton Honeywell actually tended the Cape Canaveral light longer than anyone else, although Mills Burnham was Head Lighthouse Keeper the longest, at 33 years (1853-1886). Honeywell started as 2nd Assistant Keeper in 1891. He became 1st Assistant Keeper two years later, in 1893, so was working when the brick lighthouse was demolished, and the iron lighthouse was moved to its present location. He would have also tended the temporary light erected while the iron lighthouse was moved. Then he was promoted to Head Keeper in 1904 and remained there for 26 years until he retired in 1930. So, he holds the record for tending the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse, at a total of 39 years. Although he never worked with Mills Burnham (who died in 1886), Honeywell married into the Burnham family, like so many others. He married Gertrude Wilson, a granddaughter of Mills and Mary Burnham. Between Mills Burnham and Clinton Honeywell, they tended the light for a total of 72 years!

Remember, next time you visit the museum, be sure to get your picture taken next to our life size portrait of Clinton Honeywell. Just one of our new additions.

Becky Zingarelli
Museum Director
Keeper’s Closet Gift Shop Highlights

In the last issue, we provided an update on the beautiful new Gift Shop that awaits our patrons once we are able to reopen to the public. The pictures of the new displays were phenomenal, but needed some historical context behind the current gift shop. For many years the gift shop, affectionately known as “The Keeper’s Closet,” was located in the Cafeteria on the CCAFS, and alternately, on the ground floor in the lighthouse. See the overlay photo below. Quaint maybe, but not able to offer a wide variety of items, and definitely not air conditioned.

Coming soon? Our website is undergoing a significant transformation during this interim, and will eventually allow us the opportunity to offer online sales — with some new technology and a lot of help from our loyal volunteers!!

FACE COVERINGS...As mentioned, we have developed and implemented new sanitization and safety procedures in preparation for the reopening of the Lighthouse, Museum and Gift Shop. Among these precautionary measures is the wearing of face coverings by all docents, volunteers and visitors. Fresh from her abbreviated world cruise, and in between house moves, our Tour Committee Chair, Mary Anne Moore was quick to volunteer to make special face coverings for docents and volunteers...of course, in a nautical lighthouse pattern! Kudos! To Mary Anne, who has also been doing this for other non-profits.
Corrosion! How easily the fresh salt spray in an ocean breeze can exact its toll on all things metal. And when that metal is 151 feet of cast iron, it comes as no surprise to anyone who lives in or near a beach community there is a need to restore and protect those surfaces. For the past few months, the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse has been given a complete restoration and preservation of the exterior surfaces. It was an interesting trip, but we’ve arrived safely. Below are photos of the actual work in progress. Upon close examination of these photos, one is able to detect why it is so important to protect this National treasure.

Restoration, preservation and protection of the lighthouse ... done!
Luminaries That Matter—Thank You!

Please Support Our Annual Foundation Sponsors for 2020

Sailor’s Beacon Sponsor

Brass Sponsors

Wick Sponsors

Friends Sponsors

Malcomb “Mac” McLouth   *   Christy Galzerano   *
A few years after moving to Brevard County for a new job as a reporter, Norm Moody had the opportunity to write the first of several stories about the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse.

His interest in lighthouses peaked with that first story and he became interested in the history of the lighthouse and curious about other beacons.

Retired Coast Guard Rear Admiral Bob Merrilees invited him to become a part of the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation and he gladly agreed to serve and was accepted on the Foundation Board.

Norm came to the United States from Nicaragua as a teenager to go to school for three years. About two years later, he met Elaine and married four months after meeting, a little more than 45 years ago. About three years later they had twins, a boy and a girl and now have three grandchildren who live in the area with their daughter and her husband.

Elaine was born and raised in Florida and is familiar with some of the lighthouses on the West Coast of Florida. While visiting the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse for an event several years ago, she became interested in its history as well as the history of Brevard County. After hearing that volunteers were needed, she offered to serve.

Elaine has worked at special events and in the Keeper’s Closet gift shop.

After graduating from University of Central Florida, Norm went on to additional journalism studies at the University of South Carolina. He has worked for three newspapers over the last 35 years. Semi-retired now, he does not expect to ever give up journalism. As editor of Senior Life of Florida and assignment editor of Viera Voice, he works two to three days a week from either the office in Viera or from home.

The work-from-home option and a flexible schedule allows Norm and Elaine to travel. They have a passion for travel and are, most of the time, either planning a trip or traveling, with at least one international trip a year.

In addition to the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation, Norm also serves with the Central/North Brevard Salvation Army and the National Veterans Homeless Support. He is an elder at his church, First Christian Church of Cocoa Beach.

Elaine and Norm also operate a mission that provides vision screening and eyeglasses once a year to people in Nicaragua who cannot afford eyeglasses. They have also held eyeglass clinics in Brevard County for homeless and needy veterans.

Norm is currently working with the Foundation on updating our Brochure and our Website.

As you can see, Norm and Elaine are heavily involved with the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation but also giving of themselves to our community and others in need. We appreciate their talents and dedication and are fortunate to have Norm and Elaine on our Team.
Keeping the Light Shining

MEMBERSHIP MUSINGS

We currently have 453 active members in the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation. A large percentage of renewals are due in June. Renewal reminders have been emailed, and hard copies sent to those whose membership is past due.

Until a few years ago memberships ran from 1 June to 31 May, so if you joined in January, your membership was due again in June, giving you only 6 months of membership. Now our members get the full year of membership when they join or renew. Check your renewal date at the top right corner of your membership card and help us reach our goal of 750 members this year by renewing if its time. Wouldn’t that be great?

With over 400 members, it is a fact that most of us do not know a lot of our members. We on the Membership Committee decided to share some member stories so we can start to get to know more about our members. Therefore, in each newsletter, we will include a paragraph (or two, or three) about one of our members. This month we want to introduce you to two of our newest LifeTime members, Cal and Virginia (Ginny) Myer.

Originally from Chicago, Cal and Ginny now live in a Retirement Community in Naples, Florida. Cal was an Army reservist who served 2 years in Frankfurt, Germany, accompanied by Ginny. Following that he went into advertising… Supply Chain Management. An interesting occupation after the Army, for sure.

As is often the case, Ginny was the impetus into their lighthouse journey, having loved lighthouses all her life. (Funny how a husband will go along with his wife’s interests). Cal refers to himself as a “Light Spouse” with good reason; they have seen most of the lighthouses along the East Coast, Chesapeake Bay, and those in Lake Michigan. Both were members of the US Lighthouse Society where they met CCLF members, Bob & Bev Merrilees. Through that relationship they learned of our Cape Canaveral Lighthouse, and the efforts in the early “talking” stages to rebuild 3 of the original cottages, including all the complexities of working with the Government. The fortitude and perseverance of the Foundation to pursue its dreams impressed them, and reading the Canaveral Beacon kept them in touch and informed with what was happening at the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse.

Cal & Ginny upgraded their membership in April to become “Lifetime Members” to honor Ginny, the original enthusiast. They both felt the Foundation could use the extra support in these trying times when we cannot be open and welcome visitors to the lighthouse. No longer able to physically visit lighthouses, Cal expressed hope that they will continue to “live vicariously” through their children. Perhaps their children and families will be able to visit one of the few East Coast lighthouses Cal & Ginny have not — The Cape Canaveral Lighthouse.

Thank you, Cal and Ginny Myer, true friends of the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation.

Please join us in welcoming the newest members of our Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation family!

Lighthouse Keepers
Todd & Dawn Bowers

As of June 20, 2020
And Celebrate the Recent Renewals of Our Supporting Members

Membership Renewals Since April

Upgraded to Lifetime Memberships

Cal & Ginny Myer
Jerry & Dixie Sansom

Head Lighthouse Keepers
George, Gail & Milanee Bell
   Anne Bonner
   Cindy Dropeski
   Caroline Engrand
   Rodger Fowler
   Barbara Hawk
   Randy & Linda May
   Matt McCaskill
   Ed & Kathy Otto
   Jack Purdy & Sharon Simcox
   Courtney & Eloise Yelle

Lighthouse Keepers
Ken & Karen Arbuckle
   Elizabeth Boggs
   MaryLou Coleman
   Jerry & Mary Dean
   Bard Hendricks
CAPTS Robert & Mary Ann Johnston
   Robert & Karen Kelley
   Scott & Mary Maclaughlin
   Barbara & Enoch Moser
   Merritt Nord & Vicki Williams
   Tom Quinn & Rosalie Wolf
   Col (Ret) Jim & Marcia Ridenour
   Tom & Kathy Royal
   Michael Sellers
   Lorenz & Phyllis Simpkins
   Ken & Dede Smith
   George & Bettie Sorie
   Anne Sullivan
   Bob & Yvonne Thornton
   David & Rebecca Utecht
   Donn & Jeanne Weaver
   Gaylord Withers & Jack Sippel

Assistant Keeper
Elsie Andreen-Mauer
   Sally Benson
   Lloyce Campbell
   Carla Ledford
   Douglas Robinson
   Dennis Thompson
   Jeanes B. Tornabene
   James Wolfrum
   Becky Zingarelli

Student Member
Mckenna Ecker
**CCLF Membership Application Form**

**Support Your Local Community & Join CCLF Today!**

Completed forms should be submitted along with payment to:
CCLF | P.O. Box 1978 | Cape Canaveral, FL 32920

Name(s): _______________________________________________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________________________ State: _____ Zip: ______

Home Phone: ___________________________ Cell Phone: ___________________________

E-mail address: ___________________________________________________________________________

☐ Yes, please contact me regarding volunteer opportunities.

Please select a membership level from the categories 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 More 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

To pay your membership dues online via PayPal, visit CanaveralLight.org

CCLF Member Benefits
- Admittance to annual membership appreciation meeting held at the lighthouse;
- Subscription to *The Canaveral Beacon*, CCLF’s bi-monthly newsletter;
- 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 restore the lighthouse grounds and resurrect history!

Members Save 10% at Keeper’s Closet

Stop by the Keeper’s Closet gift shop during your next visit to the lighthouse. Browse our selection of souvenirs, books, apparel, jewelry, children’s items and other lighthouse memorabilia. Proceeds support Foundation initiatives and community events. Members who present their membership card when shopping will receive a 10 percent discount on their purchase.
Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Special Recognition

The Officers and Directors of the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation have been truly blessed to have the volunteer services of Mr. Hal Row during the construction of the Keeper’s Cottage Museum. Hal Row is our volunteer construction project officer, interacting on behalf of the Foundation with both the 45th Space Wing Civil Engineering Division and Kinley Construction, our contractor. He has been our eyes and ears on the ground, never missing a meeting, and often offering less expensive alternatives and solutions to the myriad issues that occur when paper is put to brick and mortar. Drawing on his years of experience as a construction project manager for NASA, Hal “came out of retirement” to engulf himself in this project! All who have visited the new museum agree—it is gorgeous! And functional! As a token of our immense appreciation, we installed a bench in the museum to be on display for all who visit to see and appreciate. Unfortunately, personal circumstances prevented us from making a ceremonial presentation. However, during one of Hal’s recent maintenance visits, we caught him sitting on the bench! The smile on his face reflects the same joy we’ve had working with Hal on this terrific project. Thank you so much! The plaque’s inscription reads:

With Sincere Appreciation
Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation Recognizes
Hal Row
For His Outstanding Performance and Selfless Devotion as the Keeper’s Cottage Museum Volunteer Construction Project Manager
2018-2019

2020 Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation Board of Directors & Advisors

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45th Space Wing Representatives

Maj. Brian Shimek CCAFS Det1/CC AF Advisor
Dr. Sonny Witt, AF Liaison
Mr. Tom Penders, AF Archeologist
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, such as a lighthouse or heart, are 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.

**BRICK ORDER FORM**

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

Name ___________________________________________ ___________________________________________

Address ___________________________________________ ___________________________________________

Email ___________________________________________ Phone __________________________

☐ Member ☐ Non-Member

**Engraving Instructions:** Each line is limited to 12 characters, including punctuation and spaces. 
*CCLF retains the right of final approval of copy.*

Line 1_______________________________________________________________________

Line 2_______________________________________________________________________

Line 3_______________________________________________________________________

**SAVE**

**Restore a Part of Florida’s Space Coast History Today!**

CCLF Members Receive a 10% Discount on All Bricks

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*Paving the Way & Building a Legacy*
Florida Lighthouse Association

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. Individual, family and corporate annual membership packages are available.

Member benefits include:

- Actively working to preserve an important part of Florida history.
- Receive FLASH, the FLA newsletter published three times annually.
- Receive up-to-the-minute news via e-newsletter.
- Priority invitations to FLA Educational Meetings, vents and Lighthouse Tours.
- Free admission to 6 Florida lighthouses: St. Augustine, Ponce Inlet, Jupiter Inlet, Crooked River, Cape St. George and Pensacola.
- Voting Privileges.

For additional information about FLA membership, or to join, go to FloridaLighthouses.org.

Preserving Florida’s Lighthouses Is as Easy as Driving a Car

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.

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