



# CANAVERAL BEACON

The official newsletter for members of the  
Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation.

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## Our Mission

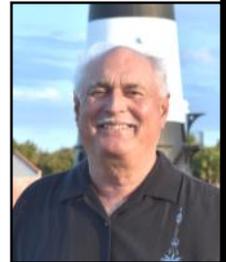
*To assist the 45th Space Wing in preserving, protecting, promoting, and interpreting the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse and its historical significance to the Florida Space Coast, State of Florida, and our Nation*

Vol. 10, No. 2

March 2020

### POLISHING THE BRASS

With the advent of the Space Age and the incredible advances in technology that has accompanied these past few years, it is most difficult to imagine the painstaking labor and meticulous attention to time, weather and survival required of the men and women living “the dream” at the lighthouse in 1868. The life of the lightkeeper was demanding in every way. I imagine some smoky residue after a night of burning kerosene in a lantern with a wick that needed to be trimmed so as not to emit the smoke, allowing it to burn brightly behind the 1st Order Fresnel lens that projected its beam far out to sea. The next morning would be met by wiping the crystals and polishing the brass.



Perhaps the above image is not historically accurate, but it conjures up the idea of hard work and getting ready for what comes next; and that is not fantasy. Hence, “polishing the brass” is what we are about as we celebrate the conclusion of the museum development phase and move into its management routine. New tours, a new gift shop, new regular operating hours, new artifacts and displays – all with the goal of enhancing the visitor’s experience at the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse complex.

Our first Operations Planning Workshop for 2020 was held in January and, as expected, it generated numerous ideas for improvement in both organization and processes. Some have already been implemented, such as establishing “regular hours of operation” for public tours so that our volunteers can anticipate, and thus, schedule their time with less uncertainty. Others are in place and functioning; e.g., the new Finance Committee’s work to build the 2020 budget; and the new Governance Committee’s efforts to define parameters in creating policies on issues of safety, security, and accessibility. In keeping with the theme of work being done by your Foundation Board of Directors, Advisors, Committee members and the many other volunteers, this issue will also share some of the activities and people who make our jobs fun and purposeful!

On a final note, I ask each of you to join me in thanking the many 2020 Annual Sponsors featured on Page 5 who have donated so generously to the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation, sharing our vision of a fully restored grounds with the additional Keeper’s Cottages and educational programs that will bring our history alive to all who visit.

See you at the light,

Jim

## A Lot of Brass to Polish...

For all lighthouse enthusiasts who haven't visited the beautiful display of Fresnel lenses maintained at the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse, Ron and Chris Ecker stopped in to capture this photo of the original Cape Canaveral 1st Order Fresnel lens so magnificently displayed *there* – away from the vibrations of rocket launches which were causing damage to the crystals *here*. We are proud to partner with them through the Florida Lighthouse Association. Wow! That is a lot of crystal to shine and brass to polish!



*Since Brasso wasn't invented in England until 1905, and J.A Wright's Metal polish didn't exist before 1873, what did Keepers use to polish the brass in 1868?  
Elbow grease?*

## Museum Highlights

The Lighthouse Museum has now been open for two months and our docents are enjoying showing off our new Keeper's Cottage! There are only a few blank spaces on the walls left, as we continue to finish our planned additions. We are also learning how to best integrate the museum into the overall tour experience as many more visitors arrive. If you haven't had a chance, come on out and learn more about the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse. Be sure to try out our interactive Light Box where you can bend light, just the way our Fresnel lens did.

We can always use more docents, so if you're interested, please contact George Eustis at [cclhdocent@gmail.com](mailto:cclhdocent@gmail.com).

### Did You Know?

The current lighthouse was originally built in 1868 next to the original lighthouse, near the ocean. It was decided in 1893 to move it a mile inland, away from encroaching seas. They knew it would take many months to move the lighthouse from its original site near the ocean to where it stands today. Mariners had been relying upon the light for decades and they didn't want to take away that aid to navigation. They built a temporary tower near the original site and placed a 4<sup>th</sup> Order Fresnel lens in it that flashed white every 10 seconds. It was described as "a square, black, skeletal structure in the shape of a pyramid" and was 55 feet tall. While not ideal, it was apparently good enough for the 9 months it took to move the lighthouse.

***Becky Zingarelli***

***Keeper's Cottage Museum Director***



## Appreciation Luncheon for the Museum Development and Gift Shop Working Team—Thank You!



Several Directors on the Foundation Board turned out to show their appreciation for the members of the Working Teams that developed the Keeper’s Cottage Museum and the “Keeper’s Closet” Gift Shop at a lunch hosted at Rusty’s Seafood and Oyster Bar on February 12. Ordering from a special menu prepared for our group by Rusty’s staff, everyone declared the food was delicious, and the conversations and laughter were contagious. Individual Certificates of Appreciation were created for the recipients by Becky Zingarelli and presented following remarks by Foundation President Jim Underwood and our new Museum Director Becky Z.

### The Museum Development WT

Several of the key members of the museum development working team were available for a group shot following one of the many weekly meetings at the keeper’s cottage—

Front row: Cheryl Bennett, Nancy Watts, Liz Gravuer, & Roger McCormick,

Back rows: Ron Ecker, Barbara Moser, Chris Ecker, Ginny Blaetz, Nancy Garwood and Becky Zingarelli.



# Luminaries That Matter—Thank You!

## Our Annual Sponsors for 2020

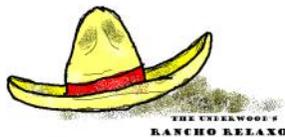
### Sailor's Beacon Sponsor



### Brass Sponsors



### Wick Sponsors



### Friends Sponsors



**Malcomb "Mac" McLouth \* Christy Galzerano \***

## Community Outreach

### Florida Key Lime Pie Festival

Patricia Lautner, our Community Outreach Chairperson, reports that the Florida Key Lime Pie Festival, which was held at the Veterans Memorial Center on Merritt Island on Saturday, January 18, was a great success despite the windy conditions. A big shout out to the USCG Auxiliary and Florida Surf Museum who helped put up our tent and take it down. Since we didn't have any weights, they tied our tent with theirs. The crowds were huge, and we got our message out to lots of folks.

Ron and Chris Ecker, Liz Gravuer, and Kathi & Rick Hayden helped familiarize the attendees with our lighthouse, tour opportunities, membership benefits, our brick program, our accomplishments and our goals. They all did a terrific job of representing the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation.



### First School Tour with the Museum

On January 22, we had 15 students and 4 chaperones from Imperial Estates and Atlantis Elementary Schools tour the Lighthouse and Museum despite the drizzly, cool weather. They listened and participated really well and were a great small group for our first tour that included the Lighthouse Keeper's Cottage Museum. The lead teacher emailed our Education Committee Co-chair Kristi Blanchard to say, "We had a really good time! Everything worked out great. Thanks for everything again! Please tell all of the docents they did a fabulous job!"



Special thanks to Becky and the Lighthouse docents who were prepared and gave interesting overviews in the museum.



## Volunteer Spotlight on Bob Davis



Being from Kentucky, the need to branch out found Bob enlisting into the U.S. Air Force in 1975. He was assigned to Rick-enbacker (Lockbourne) AFB, Ohio for all of his 4-year tour (1975-1979) as a Security Police Officer Patrol, Drug/Explosive De-tection Dog Handler. Near the end of his tour Bob decided there was more money to be made as an Air Force civilian so, he was discharged and then hired on as a

DoD Police Officer at Newark AFS, Ohio. After a little over 7 years and several Air Force civil service promotions at Newark he departed Ohio and headed to Gunter AFS, Alabama to serve as a Security Specialist doing program security work. In 1991, another promotion led him to Florida's Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, where he served as a Security Specialist within the 45 Security Forces Squadron Range Security Flight. In the Range Security Flight from 1991-2009, he worked in Range Security Op-erations and luckily was matrixed to the Titan IV Space Launch Squadron working directly with the Titan IV launch vehicle. In 2009 he took on the role of the 45 Space Wing Industrial Security representative and was there until his civil service retirement in 2012. Bob's military and civil service careers with the U.S. Air Force totaled some 37 years, 21 years here at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station.

Before his retirement at the end of 2012, Bob knew the need to keep busy in retirement was paramount, so he started to volun-teer at the lighthouse and for the 45th Space Wing for events/ launches. The fact that he lives close by also helped in that vol-unteer role and allowed for many hours of volunteering. He got up to speed rather quickly thanks to Docents Ginny Blaetz and Larry Murrish. Bob was a mainstay volunteer from 2012 to March 2019. Bob finds it enjoyable to interact with the general public and help them understand what the light is about and tell them that the light is theirs.

Bob's fellow Docents have nothing but praise for the job he does telling people about our lighthouse. One says that "especially if we have a large group of guests, like Air Force Family Day or the Half Marathon, Bob is a real asset. He is always at the light-house first and has it ready to go. He manages the guests in a pleasant and efficient manner."

We are fortunate to have such a knowledgeable and dedicated Docent and appreciate the many hours he devotes to the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse.



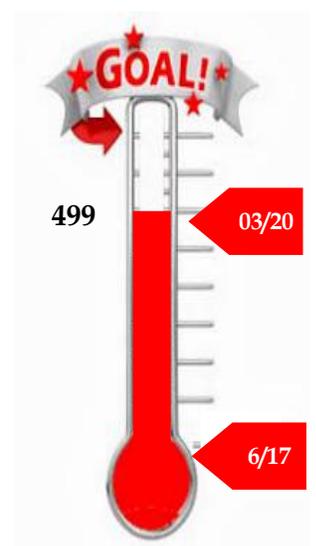
## Keeping the Light Shining

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MUSINGS

What a great year it's starting out to be. We currently have 499 active members in the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation; continual growth is very good. Let's keep it going!

**Save the date: Saturday 18 April 2020!** The Membership Committee is working to arrange the first caravan of 2020 to the lighthouse! This is specifically for you, our members and brick owners, to have an opportunity to visit the lighthouse and our new museum, which is now open. What a difference you'll see when you get there. Last November's convoy worked very well and everyone enjoyed being at the lighthouse, finding their bricks, and seeing the almost completed cottage/museum. With the museum now open, there is even more to see and enjoy. More information will be forthcoming as plans develop, but right now 18 April is the date. Remember, this is for you, our members and brick owners, and will not be extended outside of this group.

Is there something you would like to see us do? Let us know. We can always use new members on the Committee, and new, fresh ideas. We meet monthly at 4:30pm at the Space Florida Building. Our members live all over Brevard County and beyond. Living in Satellite Beach, I know it can be a long drive from South Brevard but think about it.... We need your support and ideas. Email us ([cclfmbrship1@aol.com](mailto:cclfmbrship1@aol.com)), phone us (321.591.5593), or come to a meeting. Do you want to volunteer in some other capacity? Let us know. We can always use more volunteers and docents. Help us to spread the word about our wonderful lighthouse and new museum; join, renew, and encourage your friends and family to do likewise via the application in this newsletter or at [www.canaveralight.org](http://www.canaveralight.org). We need you!



We are looking forward to another great year! Come join us!!

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

**Assistant Keeper (\$35 = 1 Member)**

Clarice Costello  
Hilari Seery

**Lighthouse Keeper (\$50 = 2 Members)**

Richard & Gail Beagley  
The Propeller Club – Steve Hovan and Lori Robinson  
Canaveral Tours – Shelly Parker  
Viera Company – Charlene Spangler  
Bob Harvey  
Susan Wiggins  
Pam & Wade Black  
MaryJean Thompson  
G.C. Davis Enterprises (L)

**Head Lighthouse Keeper (\$100 = 2 Members)**

Peter Fischer  
Elizabeth A. Johnson  
Cathy Jacob  
Drew & Bobbie LaGravenese

## And Celebrate the Recent Renewals of Our Supporting Members

### Membership Renewals through February 18, 2020

Mitch Varnes (Smooth Running (H))  
    Jess & Bertie Yates (L)  
    Linda McDaniel (A)  
Rich & Diana Grimison (H)  
    Laura Kelly (A)  
    Patricia Lautner (A)  
    Emma Richard (A)  
Samuel Ferguson (A)  
    Shelia LaVoie (A)  
    Kristi Blanchard (A)  
William & MaryLou Heink (H)  
Rusty & Sherrell Fischer (Rusty's Seafood) (H)  
    Larry Ostarly (H)  
Matla & Timothy Wieck (H)  
    Terry Ryan (L)  
Shane & Marian Smith (L)  
John & Rheta Sherman (L)  
Todd McDowell (AOTC) (L)  
Celeno West / Allen McFarland (L)  
    Antonio & Katie Vassalli (L)  
    Regina Butler (L)  
    Eric Kucera (A)  
    Roger McCormick (A)  
Bruce & Sandy Deardoff (L)  
    Bart Gaetjens (L)  
Robert & Dianne Heidersbach (L)  
    Rich Hensel (L)  
    William & Jean McCarthy (L)  
Malcolm & Judith McLouth (L)  
    Frank & Gina McTernan (L)  
    Jon & Melanie Miller (L)  
Brenden & Sandra McMillin (H)  
Rik & Martha Spruitenburg (H)  
    Christy Galzerano (L)

**\*\*\* 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**

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Head Lighthouse Keeper                   | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lighthouse Keeper (Family)               | \$50  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assistant Lighthouse Keeper (Individual) | \$35  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student Lighthouse Keeper                | \$15  |

**LIFE MEMBERSHIPS**

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership (Family-2 member) | \$1,500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership (Single)          | \$1,000 |

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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

**Bev Merrilees, CCLF Volunteers**

**To pay your membership dues online via PayPal, visit [CanaveralLight.org](http://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 SAVINGS AT  
KEEPER'S CLOSET**

Be sure to stop by the Keeper's Closet gift shop during your next visit to the lighthouse. There, you can

## 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](http://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](http://FloridaLighthouses.org).



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## Paving the Way & Building a Legacy

### BRICK WALKWAY NEWS

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](mailto:annbolton@cfl.rr.com).



**Restore a Part of Florida's Space Coast History Today!  
CCLF Members Receive a 10% Discount on All Bricks**

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### \*\*\* 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 \_\_\_\_\_

## Foundation Sponsors

### 2020 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE STILL AVAILABLE

It's never too late to become a Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation Sponsor! And it's an excellent way to increase your company's visibility within Florida's Space Coast community! In addition to event sponsorship opportunities, this year we are expanding the program to include annual packages, too. Our hope is to attract local businesses and community partners whose dollars will enable us to continue educating today's youth, promoting public awareness and making the full restoration of the lighthouse grounds a reality. For more information on Sponsorship opportunities, please contact CCLF President Jim Underwood at [radmjim@aol.com](mailto:radmjim@aol.com).

## Activities & Upcoming Events

### LIGHTHOUSE TOURS

Interested in arranging a private tour for your office? Small group excursions for up to 10 people as well as larger group tours are available through Canaveral Tours. For more information and to schedule your trip, please visit [CanaveralLight.org](http://CanaveralLight.org).

The Kennedy Space Center Visitors Center offers a "Cape Canaveral's Rise to Space Tour" which provides a unique experience in the early days of the rockets and missiles program that led to our current Aerospace Industry. It will stop at the lighthouse so tourists can visit our lighthouse and museum – the place where "the rise to space" started on Cape Canaveral.

Updated 2020 Visitors Count - 293 (1-31 Jan)

## 2020 Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation Board of Directors & Advisors

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Mr. Shane Smith, 2nd Vice President  
Mr. Brendan McMillin, Treasurer  
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Mr. Ken Arbuckle, Keeper's Closet Co-Leader  
Ms. Ann Bolton, Brick Project Leader  
Mr. Chris Broome, Esq., Legal Advisor  
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Dr. Sonny Witt, AF Liaison  
Mr. Tom Penders, AF Archeologist