



# CANAVERAL BEACON

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

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## Our Mission

*To assist Space Launch Delta 45 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. 13, No. 2**

**March 1, 2023**

### Message from Our Foundation President



2023 is starting out on a high note; visitors to the Lighthouse have increased in January 2023 vs. January 2022. Although we had 3 fewer tours in January this year, the number of visitors has increased by 33. In February thus far we have had a Girl Scout troop and a group of Central Brevard Retired Teachers visit the Lighthouse in addition to the normal tours by Canaveral Tours. March is already filling up with three home school tours scheduled, the Duquesne University Alumni tour, Descendants Day on March 18 and a group of "Traveling Women from Sarasota." All these tours are in addition to the regularly scheduled tours.

Bottom line: We need more docents, volunteers, and escorts to support the increase in tour requests. If you are interested and want to help out please visit our website at <https://canaverallight.org/get-involved/> and fill out the volunteer form.

If you have never been a docent or volunteer during Descendants Day, you are missing a wonderful opportunity to gain experience about the history of the Cape and the people who lived here before it was a military base. The families are eager and happy to talk of their history. One of the things we do on Descendants Day is to take the descendants to the cemeteries so they can see where their ancestors are buried. Some members and volunteers have also requested to visit the cemeteries but we cannot do that during Descendants Day; therefore, a caravan will be scheduled later in the year for members/volunteers to visit the cemeteries.

**CALLING ALL RUNNERS AND/OR WALKERS.** Our second annual 5k/10k run is scheduled for Sunday April 30, 2023, with the run starting at 7:30 AM. All participants and quests MUST register in advance and be at the parking lot **prior to 6:30 AM**. Registration is now open and there is a 5-dollar discount for those who register before April 1, 2023. Those wanting to run/walk or get more information can do so at <https://raceroster.com/events/2023/71697/cape-canaveral-lighthouse5k10k>. If you have a friend or family member in the run you can also register as a spectator. Remember this is a fund raiser for the Lighthouse.

We are closer to getting a fourth order Fresnel Lens on loan from the Coast Guard for display in the Lighthouse Museum. CCLF must pay all costs affiliated with shipment and display. Therefore, a fund-raiser is being organized to help offset the cost to CCLF. To donate, send your check or money order payable to the CCLF, to: CCLF; P.O. Box 1978; Cape Canaveral, FL 32920. Be sure to indicate it is for the Fresnel Lens. Payment thru PayPal is not included since there is no way to segregate the donation for the lens. The Treasurer will send a receipt to those who donate, plus they will be recognized in the Beacon and on the website. In addition, those who donate \$50 or more will receive the Fresnel lens ornament featured in this issue of the *Canaveral Beacon*.

Thank you for your help in keeping our light shining into the future.

Ron

## Museum Highlights

In January and February, docents welcomed over 170 fourth and fifth grade students and 36 teachers and chaperones across the first three education tours to resume following COVID. We're also receiving many requests from home schools and other youth groups, so sharing the lighthouse with the next generation is a big part of our upcoming tours.

We're very excited to be getting an unusual 4<sup>th</sup> Order Fresnel lens on loan from the US Coast Guard. If you'd like to help create this exhibit, please see our special story in this issue on how you can donate. Fresnel lenses are an important part of the history of the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse. A 4<sup>th</sup> Order lens was used at Cape Canaveral briefly following the Civil War and again in 1893-94 when the lighthouse was moved. Our 1<sup>st</sup> Order lens sat atop the tower from 1868 until the Coast Guard removed it in 1993 due to rocket launch vibration damage. If you have any questions, please contact Becky Zingarelli at [museumdirector@canaverallight.org](mailto:museumdirector@canaverallight.org).

We just passed the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the completion of the first lighthouse on Cape Canaveral. In January of 1848, the brick lighthouse was completed, though it would not be in service for another year due to supply chain problems with the oil (yes, even back then the supply chain ruled our lives). It stood 65 feet tall and was equipped with a Winslow Lewis lantern system that contained 15 lamps.

If you'd like to become a docent or other volunteer, please visit our website's Get Involved page and complete the Volunteer form. <https://canaverallight.org/get-involved/> Enjoy all the other interesting things you can learn on our website, as well at [www.canaverallight.org](http://www.canaverallight.org).

### Did You Know?

The very first keeper at the Cape Canaveral lighthouse was Nathaniel Scobie. He and his family were the only European inhabitants in the area of the Cape, so he was hired by the Lighthouse Service in 1847 to supervise the construction of the original brick lighthouse. He was then appointed keeper when the lighthouse was finished 175 years ago. Unfortunately, there was unrest in the area due to the Seminole Wars. Scobie repeatedly requested military support in order to keep his family safe and the lighthouse operational, but help never came. After the Indian River Colony in Sebastian was attacked in August 1849, Scobie believed he was too vulnerable at the lighthouse and felt he had to abandon his post to save his family. He wasn't replaced until 6 months later when Ora Carpenter was hired as keeper.

Becky Zingarelli  
Museum Director  
[museumdirector@canaverallight.org](mailto:museumdirector@canaverallight.org).

### **Help Bring a Fresnel Lens back to the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse!**

We're receiving a special 4<sup>th</sup> Order Fresnel lens on loan from the Coast Guard. We need your help to make our newest exhibit a reality. Your donation will help pay all costs for shipping, display and interpretive signage. We're only a few months away from being able to receive the lens, so if you would like to donate, please make checks payable now to CCLF and send to CCLF, PO Box 1978, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920. Include a note stating the funds are to be used for the Fresnel lens exhibit. All donors will be acknowledged in our various publications and social media (please let us know if you do not what your name included). Donors of \$50 or more will also receive a beautiful glass ornament of a Fresnel lens.



## The Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation becomes a Founding Member of the official Museums of Brevard, Inc.!

On January 9, 2023, the informal alliance among over 20 Brevard historical museums, historic sites and societies made it official by incorporating in the State of Florida as a 501(c)3 nonprofit. This will allow the MOB to obtain grants and do additional fundraising to support outreach and marketing to increase the visibility and impact of all members. Stay tuned for opportunities for you to help preserve our cultural heritage, including the lighthouse and beyond.

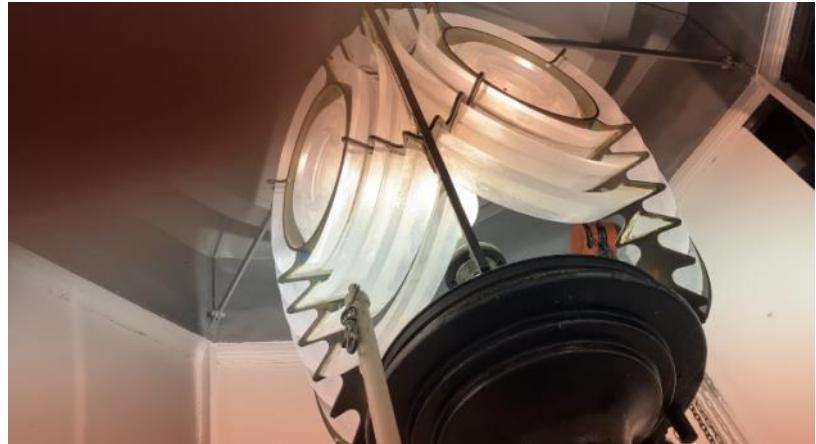
### Pioneer Days



On February 11, 2023, members of the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation led by our Community Outreach Chair Patricia Lautner participated in Pioneer Days of Brevard with a display table at the Sams House on Merritt Island.

### Florida Lighthouse Association (FLA) Update

The FLA Membership meeting began on Friday, 3 February, at 6:00pm, and ended at 10:00pm. The speakers were from the Cape Saint George Lighthouse, who spoke on the history of the Cape, the loss of their lighthouse into the Gulf of Mexico in 2007, and the rebuild by the local citizens in a park. The other speaker was from the Crooked River Lighthouse and spoke about how they reunited with their original 4th order bi-vlave Fresnel Lens which had been at the Coast Guard Station in New Orleans for years. It took a lot of persistence! On Saturday, 4 February, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held at 5:00pm for the new Fresnel Lens display.



We heard briefly from Sanibel regarding the ongoing work to repair the lighthouse damage from Hurricane Ian. Unfortunately Zoom did not work well and we lost that connection; however, the leg piece that was blown off in the wind has been located, and work is continuing to strengthen the structure.

Finally, two grants were approved: the first for the Ponce Inlet LH for masonry and plaster restoration in four buildings, and the 2nd was for St Augustine to replace the roof of one of the WWII Coast Guard barracks. These were recommended by the Grants Committee approved by the membership.

## Keeping the Light Shining

### Membership Musings

Hard to believe the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the new year is almost over, and we are preparing for our 1<sup>st</sup> convoy of the year. More on that coming up.

The [Cape Canaveral Lighthouse](#) Foundation (CCLF) is currently 605 members strong. Since the last newsletter, 15 new members have been added to the roster. Among them were 2 who joined as Lifetime Members (Julia and John "Jett" Black, III), and among our renewals, 1 member upgraded to a Lifetime membership (Hal Row)! To our newest Lifetime Members, and to those who renewed: Thank You All! With members like you we continue to thrive.

Now about our next convoy. Mark your calendar for 15 April 2023, Tax Day! No one looks forward to tax day, but this will give us something fun to think about. In addition to visiting the lighthouse, the lighthouse museum, and Hangar C, the convoy will visit LC26. This will add an extra hour to trip, but is well worth it to see where our space program began. Remember when we sent monkeys and dogs into space? Well, maybe you don't because you were too young; however, this is the birth place of that action. Information for convoy registration should be in your email inbox on 1 March. If you have not received the information on the convoy, please email [cclf-membership@canaverallight.org](mailto:cclf-membership@canaverallight.org) and be sure to let us know who you are so we can keep our list current.

Another fun activity to consider and plan: the CCLF annual 5K/10K run on 30 April 2023. For information and to sign up, visit this website: <https://raceroster.com/events/2023/71697/cape-canaveral-lighthouse-5k10k> After the run be sure to check out the lighthouse and the LH Museum. A membership table will be set up if you are ready to join or renew your membership. It's always a fun time at the lighthouse. We hope to see you at the there!

Do you have an accounting or bookkeeping background? **The CCLF needs you!** Our current Treasurer is planning to step down next year after 4 years of service, so we need to find his replacement. With an accounting or bookkeeping background and knowledge of quick books, it shouldn't be difficult, and training will be provided by our Treasurer if needed. Please go to our website at <https://canaverallight.org/get-involved/> and fill out the volunteer form. Be sure to indicate that this is for the Treasurer's position.



Sadly, Amazon Smile has gone away, so there won't be any need to go to Amazon Smile when ordering online anymore. Anyone who uses Smile has most likely received the email informing of the change. We are sorry to lose it.



***Welcoming the newest members of the  
Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation Family!***

**NEW MEMBERS 19 December 2022 - 21 February 2023**

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

Riley Muñoz

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

Kevin Jobes (Propeller Club Port Canaveral)

Cindy Maytrott

Richard & Chelsea McDowell (AOTC)

Brent & Morgan Naylor (Easy Peasy Science)

Cinthia Sandoval (Rancho Relaxo)

Dylan Trambauer & Allyson (CG Enterprises)

**Lifetime Family Membership (\$1,500 - 2 Lifetime Members)**

**Julia & Joseph (Jett) Black, III**

***...And celebrating our renewing members of the  
Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation Family!***

**RENEWALS 19 December 2022—21 February 2023**

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

Kristi Blanchard

Patricia Lautner

Roger McCormick

Karen Pessaro

Hilary Seery

Mark Seitter

Pauline Simpson

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

Ralph & Winnie Crawford

Rusty & Sherrell Fischer (Rusty's Seafood & Oyster Bar)

Cynthia Grey

Thomas Guthrie

Steve & Karen Hebert

Beverly & Douglas Kasimer

Brendan McMillin

Gina & Frank McTerran

Shelley Parker (Canaveral Tours)

Shane & Marian Smith

Charlene Spangler (The Viera Company)

The Ostary's

Mary Jean Thompson (Wild Ocean)

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

Joe & Helen Franta

Lang & Judy Houston

Adrian Smith

Bill Terry

**Lifetime Individual Membership (\$1000 - 1 Lifetime Member)**

**Hal Row**

## **Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation Lifetime Members**

Pierre & Kathy Alix Titusville, FL	Larry Kaczor & Caroline Kaczor Elliott Cocoa Beach, FL
Julia & Joseph (Jett) Black, III Cocoa Beach, FL	Al & Carol Koller, Jr. Titusville, FL
Carolyn Burby Port St. John, FL	Eric Kucera Merritt Island, FL
Lloyce Campbell Merritt Island, FL	Jeanna & Mike Merrifield Titusville, FL
Barry & Sheila Compagnoni Melbourne Beach, FL	RADM Robert & Beverly Merrilees Merritt Island, FL
Preston A., Jr & Nancy C. Creech Goose Creek, SC	Cal & Virginia Myer Naples, FL
Sharon Crockett Rockledge, FL	Jamie & Jessica Myer Los Angeles, CA
[Charles] & Ginny Davis Manvel, TX	Jeff & Cathi Myer Burlington, MA
Robert Davis Merritt Island, FL	Larry & Elva Ostarly Rockledge, FL
Jill & Jim Dooley Merritt Island, FL	Caroline & Jimmy Raleigh Merritt Island, FL
Cynthia Dropeski Melbourne, FL	Jim Ravitch Merritt Island, FL
Ron & Christine Ecker Satellite Beach, FL	Hal Row Mims, FL
Albert & Marie Elebash Melbourne, FL	Dixie & Jerry Sansom Cocoa, FL
Ric & Nancy Garwood Merritt Island, FL	Michael & Susan Schwarz Port Canaveral, FL
Rep. Tom Goodson Rockledge, FL	(Yvonne)/Bob Thornton Titusville, FL
(Bud)/Liz Gravuer Cocoa, FL	James Trammell Melbourne, FL
Beth & Dwight Greenberg Cocoa, FL	RADM James and Kathie Underwood Merritt Island, FL
Bobbie Grine (Deceased) Tuscaloosa, AL	Rose Marie Wiley Cocoa Beach, FL
Bob & Dianne Heidersbach Cape Canaveral, FL	Dr. Elbert (Sonny) & Kay Witt Melbourne FL
Christy & Randy Horn Oviedo, FL	Dr. Jess & Bertie Yates Melbourne, FL
Bill Jelen Merritt Island, FL	
Gene Johnson Merritt Island, FL	
Rocky & Lisa Johnson Cocoa, FL	

# \* \* \* 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**  
Phone: (321) 452-5426  
Email: [bmerrilees@cfl.rr.com](mailto:bmerrilees@cfl.rr.com)

## **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.

## Volunteer Spotlight on Bill & Mary Lou Heink



After working 39 years to help launch missiles and rockets, then retiring on the Space Coast, Bill Heink could not leave the space program behind. He set out as a tour guide on a bus at the Cape to have something to do after retirement and soon rediscovered the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse, which he had often seen while working as an engineer.

**“When I first got here, I drove past it many times,”** Heink said. During the tours sharing the history of the Cape and rocket launches there, he learned much more about the lighthouse.

“When we got to the lighthouse, I would turn it over to the lighthouse docents,” he said.

He would sometimes listen to the docents giving the guided tours of the lighthouse, and soon became interested in the beacon and its history.

Today he and his wife, Mary Lou, serve on the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation’s membership committee. They do whatever they are assigned. A native of California, Heink graduated with a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Wyoming, where he met Mary Lou Schott, a native of Laramie, Wyoming. They were married in August 1963, a year after his graduation.

His best job offer after graduation was from Convair, the same company his German-born father worked for during the World War II. It was also where he worked in the summers during college.

Soon after going to work full-time for Convair, he was helping to launch Atlas rockets from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California.

He was then chosen to come to Cape Canaveral to help activate the Atlas-Centaur launch pad – Complex 36B, and in 1964 moved to Merritt Island. The following year he went to work for Boeing after NASA decided not to complete 36B.

After a two-year stint in North Dakota following the end of the Apollo program, he returned to the Space Coast to work on the Shuttle program. After retirement from Boeing in August 2000, someone suggested the tour guide position for tours of Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, now Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, which had stops at the lighthouse.

That soon started about 10 years of volunteering with the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation.

Mary Lou would come to the membership committee luncheon meetings and soon also joined the group. Now they volunteer together.

Both the Heinks are used to serving and volunteering. Bill’s career in the space program afforded him recognitions and awards, including from his alma mater. Bill attained his Eagle Scout award and later served as a district scout leader, while Mary Lou was a Cub Scout den mother.

Bill said that while back surgery slowed him and limits the things he can do, he and Mary Lou will continue to serve with the Lighthouse Foundation.

## 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.

You can purchase a 4" by 8" brick for \$150. Purchase includes engraving of three (3) rows, up to 12 characters per line *as well as insignias and art designs, such as a lighthouse or heart at no additional charge.* 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).



Brick orders may be placed online under the Brick Walkway News section at [CanaveralLight.org](http://CanaveralLight.org).



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

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

## Florida Lighthouse Association Update



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 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).

*Since 2012 the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation (CCLF) has benefitted to the tune of \$92K from grants provided by The Florida Lighthouse Association (FLA), of which CCLF is a member. These grants have covered such diverse things as the shell pathway leading from the road to the lighthouse, architectural drawings for our planned buildings, funding to plan and set up our museum, the outdoor signage around the LH grounds, and most recently \$22K for necessary repairs around the museum. CCLF submitted the latest grant request in September, where it was sent by the FLA Grants Committee to the Board for approval at the October meeting. These grants were/are made possible by the sale of the specialty license plate shown below. If you're looking for a new tag, please consider supporting the Florida Lighthouse Association by purchasing this tag:*



Our members are also encouraged to join and attend the FLA meetings, which are not only informative, but fun as well. For additional information about FLA membership and meeting registration, go to [FloridaLighthouses.org](http://FloridaLighthouses.org).

The next FLA meeting is 29 April 2023. There will be a boat ride out to Alligator Reef, a new member of the FLA. For more information go to [FloridaLighthouses.org](http://FloridaLighthouses.org).

## Fair Winds and Following Seas

CCLF Advisor for Security and friend, James (Jim) Roche, Sr. passed away on the 5th of December, 2022. He was born to the son of a Coast Guard Lighthouse keeper in Cuckolds Light, Maine, in 1966. Jim was born with the salt from the sea in his veins. His father's active duty career let Jim experience different perspectives of the Coast Guard while they were transferred all over the country. His passion for the sea and serving only increased, leading him to enlist in the Coast Guard in 1986. He started his career as a rescue swimmer and switched ratings, leading him to be an incredible heavy-weather boat coxswain saving many lives. He served in many states, including Alabama, Washington, Florida, and California. Jim's final duty assignment was Key West, Fl, where he retired in 2006. He relocated to Central Florida and immediately started working in the marine industry.

In 2011, Jim married the love of his life. Therese (Smith). They started a family which included Matthew, Kelly, and nephews Johnathan and Cole. Jim's two sons James and Jacob from prior marriages, currently live in St. Pete Fl and Beaufort, SC.

## 2023 Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation Board of Directors & Advisors

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### 45TH SPACE DELTA REPRESENTATIVES

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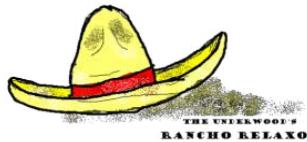
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