



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. 6

November 1, 2023

Message from Our Foundation President



In early 2019 your Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation (CCLF) Board was eagerly awaiting the completion of the first cottage, and at the same time concerned about making it a museum since none of the Board had ever before planned a museum. So, we sought someone who had expertise in that field, and hired Becky Zingarelli to oversee the planning for a museum. One of the first things that was done was to form a Museum Working Team to develop and collect the materials that would be in the museum and how the information would be presented.

Besides Becky, the Museum Working Team consisted of Barbara Moser, Cheryl Bennett, Nancy Garwood, Liz Gravuer, Roger McCormick, Ginny Blaetz, Nancy Watts, Chris Ecker and myself. (If I have overlooked anyone, I apologize. I am currently on vacation, so do not have access to my old notes). The Museum group met weekly from about April to December when it seemed like an impossible task with so much to plan and so little time, but with Becky leading us and keeping us on track, it took shape.

The reason I am writing about the museum is because it has given me a new appreciation for the process; what is involved in the planning and execution. I have also learned that whenever I visit the museum, I don't try to take it all in at one time. When I visit our museum, I pick a poster or two and read all the information and learn new facts.

For example, why do we say: "without the lighthouse, would we have the Space Center in Brevard County?" In 1946 a committee selected Cape Canaveral as the location which met most of their criteria: good weather, a location where frequent explosions would not be a danger to the local population, and would also provide the best opportunity for the rockets to make it into orbit. Why did Cape Canaveral meet most of the criteria? Read the poster the next time you are in the museum.

Would you like to have been a lighthouse keeper? After reading the poster "Duties of a 19th Century Lighthouse Keeper" you may change your mind. Today during a hurricane, a lot of people leave the area, seeking a safer place to ride out the storm. However, the light had to stay lit 24 hours a day during hurricanes, so that meant that the keeper had to stay and ride out the storm. On your next visit to the museum, read this poster, and see if you still want to be a keeper.

Having visited all the lighthouse museums in Florida, I think ours is the best with the most information, and this is due to the planning which went into the museum. A big "Thank you" to Becky and the Museum Team for a job well done!

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

Ron

Museum Highlights

We're entering our favorite time of the year at the lighthouse. The weather is gorgeous so everyone is enjoying walking around the grounds and we're gearing up for all our wonderful holiday festivities. As you'll read about in other Beacon articles, we are decorating the Lighthouse and Keeper's Cottage Museum for the Christmas Holidays. Again, this year, we are participating in the 4th Annual Museums of Brevard Holiday Tour of Historic Homes the first three weekends in December. I hope you'll be able to come out to see the holidays with us.



If you've followed local events in months, you may be aware that program sponsored by the Tour-through some turmoil but is now Lighthouse Foundation was will now receive a \$25,000 grant.

for out-of-county advertising to increase our tourism but will also support our operations in order to maintain the high-quality venue that continues to attract more and more visitors. Our thanks to everyone at the TDC and County Commission for finalizing this program.

Brevard County over the past few there was a Cultural Support Grant ist Development Council that went resolved. The Cape Canaveral among the grant recipients, so we This money will be used primarily

Did You Know?

We only have a few artifacts that we can directly tie to a lighthouse keeper at Cape Canaveral. In the display case in the first room in the museum is a shadow box containing the spectacles and a pair of nautical earrings. The glasses belonged to Henry Wilson and the earrings to his wife, Frances Burnham Wilson. They were handed down to their great grandson, George Henry Franklin, who framed them.

Henry Wilson had been part of the Army detachment sent to protect Cape Canaveral in late 1853, during the Seminole Wars. He later left the Army and returned to become an Assistant Keeper on March 12, 1855 and married Keeper Mills Burnham's oldest daughter, Frances, the following year. After serving in the Confederate Army during the Civil War, Henry returned to Cape Canaveral, working as an Assistant Keeper until 1868 then at a variety of other positions. He became Cape Canaveral's first Postmaster in 1883, serving until his death in 1917. Henry and Frances had 8 children (6 girls and 2 boys). The younger boy, Frank, served as 2nd Assistant Keeper from 1894 to 1902. Frances died in 1924.



Becky Zingarelli
Museum Director
museumdirector@canaveralight.org.



Holiday Decorations at the Lighthouse

Each year we refresh and add to our holiday decorations. In 2021, the giant wreath we had placed on the top of the lighthouse was damaged and unusable, so we had to do without a wreath in 2022. This year, we will once again have a beautiful new wreath. Since it's too large to take up the stairs, we have called on our friends at the Aids to Navigation Team at the Ponce Inlet Coast Guard Station for assistance. They are the unit responsible for maintaining our beacon and love to help us decorate the lighthouse. They establish a rope and pulley system from the top and raise the wreath from the outside. They're looking forward to resuming their duties this year after taking a year off. Come out to the lighthouse to see all the new decorations this year!



The Museums of Brevard Holiday Tours



We are once again participating in the Museums of Brevard Holiday Tour of Historic Homes. For \$70, you'll not only be able to visit the lighthouse, you'll be able to visit seven other historic homes in Brevard County, as well. The 4th Annual MOB Holiday Tour of Historic Homes will take place over the first three weekends of December. This tour showcases the architecture styles of the late 19th century to the mid-20th century in Florida, all decorated for the holidays, with giveaways and treats. The Museums of Brevard is only selling 150 tickets. These MOB Tour tickets sales end 1 December. [Click here for tickets.](#)

Or visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/4th-annual-museums-of-brevard-holiday-tour-of-historic-homes-tickets-708788875607?aff=oddtcreator>

Travel Back in Time to the Celebrations of
yesterday at the Museums of Brevard's
4th Annual

Holiday Tour of Historic Homes

See beautiful architecture and gorgeous holiday decorations!
This unique event is a wonderful way to kick off the holiday season and
makes a great gift idea for the person who has everything!

Visit all 8 amazing
Historic Homes in
Brevard County for
the low event price
of \$70.

Each museum
will be
beautifully
decorated and
sharing holiday
cheer!



Limit of 150 sold.
All proceeds will
serve as donations
to participating
museums
for historical
preservation
projects.

*Ticket Sales
Begin
October 15!*

To purchase tickets,
Scan QR code,
or click and visit:



[https://
MOB4thAnnualHoliday
Tour.eventbrite.com](https://MOB4thAnnualHolidayTour.eventbrite.com)

US Space Force T-Minus 10-Miler Run

In the midst of our December holiday activities the Space Force is holding their 2nd Annual T-Minus 10-Miler race on Saturday December 9th, in celebration of the birthday of the Space Force. This is a true 10-mile race that winds through the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, as well as some areas of Kennedy Space Center. **The finish line is at the lighthouse.** It's always amazing to see so many runners, who within minutes of running 10 miles, are drawn to climb the lighthouse to the 3rd floor because it's so interesting. If you want to make some room to enjoy your holiday treats without gaining weight, come out and enjoy the run. <https://runspaceforce.com/10-miler/>



Keeping the Light Shining - Membership Musings

The Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation (CCLF) currently has 581 members, which includes 2 new members and 39 renewals, two of whom became Lifetime Members. Thank you to all our members, with special thanks to **Jerry & Darlene Hunt**, our newest Lifetime members!

The last few months have been “slow” for adding new members, but our established members are renewing at a steady pace. This is important because we rely on our members’ support for all that we do. I hate to sound like I’m beating a dead horse, but where would the CCLF be without a strong, growing membership? The cottage museum is a direct, tangible result of a strong membership and active Board that worked hard to see the project start to finish...from a dream to reality. Your annual dues became part of the “building fund” as the Board sought additional funding through grants and appropriations from the County and State. Once again your Board is repeating these steps, seeking funding for the last two cottages. Dreams do become reality; the museum is proof of that. Now to finish the job.

Fall is here! After all the heat and humidity we have had over the summer, the weather has taken a turn and it really feels like fall; perfect weather for our annual member/volunteer picnic at the lighthouse. By now those who were able to register have enjoyed spending time renewing friendships and making new friends at the lighthouse. This is the special event from your Board to you, CCLF members and volunteers, to say “thank you” for your support over the year(s) with lunch and leisure, and maybe even a game of corn hole. Hopefully you were able to take advantage of it and enjoy the peace which surrounds our lighthouse.

After the 2022 picnic, held in the sweltering summer heat, your membership committee changed the date to October this year, a much more comfortable time for outdoor activities. Let us know your feelings on this. Is there anything you would like done differently? Just let us know and we’ll see what can be done.

And what a beautiful day it was at the Lighthouse! Thanks to all the volunteers, docents, Keeper’s Closet volunteers—thanks to all who made this a special day of appreciation and recognition for the dedicated individuals and couples who give so much of their time and talent to keep our lighthouse and museum such a welcoming and informative historic icon of the Space Coast!

Your 2nd Vice President of the Foundation Todd McDowell presided over the festivities, and made special recognition and gratitude to Jody Youmans for his beautiful background music. Then after thanking everyone, Todd made special and new levels of recognition - recognizing volunteers in three categories: those who have given over 100 hours of their time this past year which included: John Thomas Concilus, Rebecca Rodriguez Concilus, Bob Cook, Alan Fleming, Steve Goldsmith, Liz Gravuer, Beth Greenberg, Dwight Greenberg, Tom Lindstrand, Matt McCaskill, Merritt Nord, Pete Van Etten, Vicki Williams and John Winkopp. Next he recognized those who have contributed over 200 hours this year which included: Ginny Blaetz, Jim Jarnac, and Dennis Meehl. Lastly, he recognized a final pair who had contributed just under 1000 hours - Karen and Ken Arbunkle! Wow! What a wonderful way to picnic at the lighthouse!



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

NEW MEMBERS 24 August 2023 - 20 October 2023

Head Lighthouse Keeper (\$100 + 2 Members)

Peggy Russell

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

RENEWALS 24 August 2023 - 20 October 2023

Assistant Keeper (\$35 - 1 Member)

Garrett Lans Clark Daniel Luna Ruth (Anni) Kennedy MacDonald
Lisa Maslyn Boneta Nord Janey Powell Cathy Riddell
Patricia Stusick

Lighthouse Keeper (\$50 - 2 Members)

Gary & Wanda Cordelli Bob & Cheryl DeWitt Beverly Oakes & Tommy Hasty
Annett & Paul Pike Paul & Kimberly Rezanka

Head Lighthouse Keeper (\$100 - 2 Members)

Cheryl Bennett Ginny Blaetz Larry G. Clark Phil & Bunny Finney
Peter & Donna Fischer Rich & Diana Grimison Robyn & Aaron Hattaway
Jay & Margaret Honeycutt Ray & Flory Valley

Student (\$15 = 1 Member)

Zeke Zocco

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

Jerry & Darlene Hunt



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	Lynn & Mike Mariotti Naples, FL
Barry & Sheila Compagnoni Melbourne Beach, FL	Jeanna & Mike Merrifield Titusville, FL
Preston A., Jr & Nancy C. Creech Goose Creek, SC	RADM Robert & Beverly Merrilees Merritt Island, FL
Sharon Crockett Rockledge, FL	Cal & [Virginia] Myer Naples, FL
[Charles] & Ginny Davis Manvel, TX	Ellen & [Donald] Myer Washington, D.C.
Robert Davis Merritt Island, FL	Jamie & Jessica Myer Los Angeles, CA
Jill & Jim Dooley Merritt Island, FL	Jeff & Cathi Myer Burlington, MA
Cynthia Dropeski Melbourne, FL	Larry & Elva Ostarly Rockledge, FL
Ron & Christine Ecker Satellite Beach, FL	Caroline & Jimmy Raleigh Merritt Island, FL
Albert & Marie Elebash Melbourne, FL	Jim Ravitch Merritt Island, FL
Rodger S. Fowler Merritt Island, FL	Hal Row Mims, FL
Ric & Nancy Garwood Merritt Island, FL	Dixie & Jerry Sansom Cocoa, FL
Rep. Tom Goodson Rockledge, FL	Michael & Susan Schwarz Port Canaveral, FL
(Bud)/Liz Gravuer Cocoa, FL	David Spain Merritt Island, FL
Beth & Dwight Greenberg Cocoa, FL	(Yvonne)/Bob Thornton Titusville, FL
Bobbie Grine (Deceased) Tuscaloosa, AL	James Trammell Melbourne, FL
Bob & Dianne Heidersbach Cape Canaveral, FL	RADM James and Kathie Underwood Merritt Island, FL
Christy & Randy Horn Oviedo, FL	Rose Marie Wiley Cocoa Beach, FL
Jerry & Darlene Hunt Merritt Island, FL	Dr. Elbert (Sonny) & Kay Witt Melbourne FL
Bill Jelen Merritt Island, FL	Dr. Jess & Bertie Yates Melbourne, 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

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.

Volunteer Spotlight on Kate Chase

An excellent combination for someone on the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation's Education committee is to love helping children and to love lighthouses.

Kate Chase, the Foundation's co-chair of the Education committee, certainly brings those attributes to the table.

"I like working with kids and I love the lighthouse," said Chase, who once worked at a charter school helping to educate young children.

Having grown up and attended high school and college in Charleston, South Carolina, Chase is familiar with the old Morris Island Lighthouse and other lighthouses in the Carolinas and Florida. She visited several lighthouses while in middle school.

While it has not been easy to get school children out to the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse since the pandemic because of transportation issues, it is work she likes to do.

"It's kind of a challenge getting the kids out there," she said.

Her husband, Ian Chase's military career with the Air Force brought them from Tampa, their previous station, to make their home in Brevard County about three years ago.

Ian Chase is friends with members of the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation. They were out for lunch with some of those friends when someone suggested she should help with the Education committee.

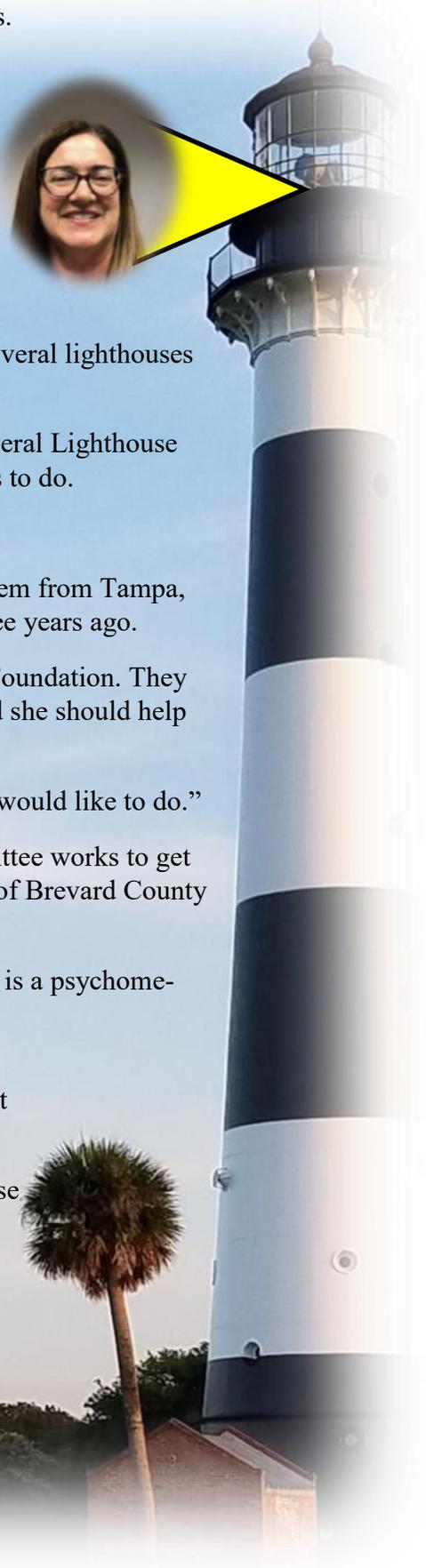
"I was kind of excited about it," she said. "It sounded like something I would like to do."

Soon, she was named co-chair of the Education committee. The committee works to get school children to learn about the lighthouse, and its ties to the history of Brevard County and the space program.

In addition to her duties as co-chair of the Education committee, Chase is a psychometrist, a specialized field of psychology that administers psychological and personality tests.

She is also trained as a docent but does not get the opportunity to go out to the lighthouse as much as she wants.

Thank you Kate for all you do to support the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation, and keeping our light shining brightly.



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 and a matted 5 x 7 inch picture of your brick ready for framing - all 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.



**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



Florida Lighthouse Association

Protecting, Preserving, & Restoring Florida's Lighthouses

Florida Lighthouse Association - Save the Dates!

Membership Meetings

St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum ~ Fall 2023

2023 Annual & Fall Membership Meeting St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum

When: **Friday November 3rd & Saturday November 4th**

Where: **Holiday Inn St. Augustine – Historic & St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum**

[REGISTER ONLINE HERE](#)

Cape Canaveral Lighthouse ~ Winter 2024

1. **Friday, January 26th: Social**
2. **Saturday, January 27th: Membership meeting and catered buffet lunch**

Stay tuned - More information to come!

Keep our Lights shining!

Alan & Dora Lee

Chairpersons

Meetings & Events Committee

Meetings@FloridaLighthouses.org



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CAPE CANAVERAL LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION

OUTDOOR BENCHES and ROCKERS

You may remember or even have sat upon one of the Poly Outdoor Rockers or Benches we acquired for use by our visitors at the Museum and Lighthouse. We selected Breezesta™ Poly Outdoor Furniture for its durability, low maintenance and Lifetime Warranty. And since it is made of recycled milk jugs and plastic water bottles, it also supports a healthier environment. In 2020, we offered the furniture items as a Fundraising opportunity for donors to help us financially during the COVID closure. We survived, but we still have four unsold Solid Benches with Arms.

Eight Solid benches w/arms. Recommended Donor Cost w/Plaque - ~~\$2500~~ (Four left. - 2 B&W; 2 G&W)

Nautically weathered and happily used, we are offering these last benches w/ Personalized Donor Plaques just in time for the Holidays! And at a Discounted Price of just **\$1500** each! Yes, our request is that you take this opportunity to recognize a loved one or family with your charitable contribution to the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation's future. For further information, please contact us at info@canaverallight.org.



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Thank You to Our 2023 Annual Sponsors!



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Aggressive Pest Management