

**OUTER BANKS LIGHTHOUSE SOCIETY
(OBLHS) BOARD**

**Twentieth Annual Meeting
(HAPPY PLATINUM ANNIVERSARY)**

Saturday, May 16, 2015

**Dare County Public Library
Manteo, North Carolina**

Board members who were present:

Diana Chappell, Nicole DaVia, Robert DaVia, John Havel, Richard Meissner, Judy Moon, Jim O'Donnell, Mabry O'Donnell, Bruce Roberts, Cheryl Shelton-Roberts, and Kelly Waller

Board members who were absent:

Virginia Howell, Gayle Keresey, Bill Padgett, Bett Padgett
No ex-officio or honorary Board members attended.

Eleven Board members gathered on time (the secretaries set their watches ahead and knew where they were going this year) and shared greetings and stories from the past year. President Diana Chappell called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

Roll was taken and Richard Meissner moved and Cheryl Shelton-Roberts seconded to approve as presented the minutes of the 2014 meeting; this passed by a unanimous decision. A list of Board members with their home addresses, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers circulated among those present. (A copy of this list will be attached to the minutes.) The secretaries send (via e-mail) updated versions of this document each time there is a change.

President Chappell presented Kelly Waller with her first year Service Pin, and all clapped with appreciation for her service.

The enlightening and edifying officer's reports were presented with gusto using written and oral communication formats.

- Membership report from Judy Moon
 - A. Active Members:
 - 2009---470
 - 2010---354
 - 2011---449
 - 2012---429
 - 2013---370

2014---389

2015---333

- B. Lifetime Members: **9*** (These are available for only \$500.00 each. There are no background checks or additional paperwork required.)

Wendy Brewer
 John Howard, Jr.
 Gayle Keresey
 Lauren Liebrecht
 Paula Liebrecht
 Richard Meissner
 Judy Rosson
 Kendra Sykes
 Rebecca Taylor

*NOTE: Lifetime member W.R. "Bill" Dowe asked to be removed from the membership. Jack Goodwin passed away in 2014.

1. We will congratulate all of our lifetime members in *The Lighthouse News*.

- C. Once a quarter Judy Moon sends an e-mail to all dormant memberships.
 Letters will be sent where there are no e-mail addresses on file.
- D. John Havel moved with a second from Kelly Waller that all memberships will be active from July 1 to July 1 starting in 2016. The motion was unanimously approved.

- Fundraising Report from everyone:
 - A. We have established our Amazon Smile.com account, announced it on Facebook, mentioned it on our website, and alluded to it in The Newsletter. A participant can access <http://smile.amazon.com/>, add Outer Banks Lighthouse Society, Inc., as the charity, and then when ordering from Amazon selecting <http://smile.amazon.com/> instead of <http://www.amazon.com/>, OBLHS will receive a percentage of the proceeds from the order. This year we amassed \$6.11 from this account, but with greater understanding of the Smile process followed by a higher volume of sales, we hope to receive a larger amount in the future.
 - B. Here is the specific information from the Amazon website:

About AmazonSmile

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose

from nearly one million organizations to support, but we wish to choose Outer Banks Lighthouse Society, Inc.

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

How do I select a charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

What charities can I choose from?

You can choose Outer Banks Lighthouse Society, an eligible 501(c) (3) public charitable organization.

- C. We appreciate the \$10.00 from *Lighthouse Digest*.
 - D. Richard Meissner will become the Fundraising Chair, and he, with assistance from Cheryl Shelton-Roberts, will compose a letter suggesting to our members that remembering OBLHS and The Lighthouses in their wills helps keep the programs available and the lights shining.
- Treasurer's report from Robert (Bob) DaVia
 - A. Our balance as of April 30, 2015

Bank of America	\$32,709.42
PayPal	\$000.00 (PayPal Balance was Transferred to Bank of America prior to April 30, 2014)

(Note: PayPal and Bank of America represent our only cash accounts.)
 - B. Donation total was higher this year than last, because of a \$5,000.00 bequest from the Estate of Yvonne Zemotel. This was received in January 2015.
 - C. 2014 Keepers' Weekend was smaller than was the 2013 event. The 2013 Keepers' Weekend included BOLD. This is also reflected in our lower Membership Income, Raffle Income, and Store Sales.
 - D. Newsletter and Printing expenses in Fall 2014 were higher, because we printed an additional Newsletter as well as 20,000 brochures.

(A complete OBLHS Treasurer's report is available upon request.)

- *OBLHS Newsletter* report from Cheryl Shelton-Roberts
 - A. Our costs:

1. We printed 1500 copies at an approximate cost of \$2,721.00 in 2014.
 2. Other costs included \$183.00 for 1,000 remittance envelopes and \$185.00 for 750 “catalog envelopes.”
 3. USPS charges for 3 mailings including a lighthouse update issue totaled \$441.00.
 4. Web friendly PDF’s were provided by Professional Printing Center, our printer in Chesapeake, at no cost.
 5. A \$1,500.00 stipend for the year was given to the editor of The Newsletters, for she does the research, writing, editing, and layout of each issue.
 6. Many of our members, fortunately, elect to receive electronic versions of their newsletters.
- B. For 2015 one issue (approximately 24 pages) will be printed by July 4th and each member will receive a jolly holiday greeting and a request for donations.
1. Richard Meissner will contact his printer, since we are always seeking a less expensive printer.
 2. John Havel volunteered to put the composition in PDF format and send it directly to the printer.
 3. The Newsletter will be digitized by the first issue in 2016.
 4. Bett Padgett will write updates at least 3 times a year.
 5. In recognition of our editing fewer issues of The Newsletter in the future, Richard Meissner moved and Robert DaVia seconded the motion for Cheryl Shelton-Roberts to receive a \$1,000.00 stipend plus submitted expenses for editing annually one large issue. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor. The Board will be indebted forever to Shelton-Roberts for the magnificent newsletter.
 6. We may consider a retrospective in The Newsletter.
- Public Outreach--Bett Padgett, Chair
 - A. We shipped 16,500 brochures this year to the Welcome Centers and to ferries. The five year comparative rate of distribution is:
 - 12,825 in 2014
 - 22,000 in 2013
 - 18,900 in 2012
 - 17,400 in 2011
 - 13,050 in 2010
 - B. The Society was mentioned in
 1. *Island Free Press*
 - C. The Society has been represented at occasions including
 1. Carolina Preserve (retirement community)
 2. Osher Institute of Life Long Learning at NCSU
 3. Clayton Elementary School
 4. Opening of the CAHA relocation exhibit in Mann Hall, NCSU
 5. Educational opportunities

- a. Tutoring of two 4th grade students at Lacy Elementary School about their lighthouse projects
 - b. Distribution of lighthouse information to teachers
- D. If a speaker is requested, we will try to provide one.
 - 1. Richard Meissner and Marjorie Spruill (as keeper and his wife) will present a program on North Carolina lighthouses to the New Bern Yacht Club in September. We look forward to hearing about the success of the presentation when The Board meets in May 2016.
- Gayle Keresey, Education Committee Chair and other members reported
 - A. The Bodie Island Lighthouse Scavenger Hunt is posted on the website.
 - B. The committee has two PowerPoint presentations with notes from Bett Padgett. The committee continues to develop educational kits for presentations to adults and students.
 - C. The Cape Hatteras Lighthouse Scavenger Hunt is the next hunt project to be completed.
 - D. Cheryl Shelton-Roberts and Richard Meissner will help develop a comprehensive lighthouse coloring book.
 - E. We may donate some posters and VHS tapes to schools.
 - F. The Board members would like to add crossword puzzles and word searches about lighthouses to our website.
- The Keepers' Store report from Kelly Waller indicates continued interest from buyers. The report covers July 1, 2014 through April 30, 2015.

A.	Keepers' Weekend Sales:	\$1,490.68
	Other Store Sales/Flyers:	\$ 15.69
	Total Store Sales:	\$1,506.37
	Total Inventory on Hand:	\$5,717.00
- Website administrator: Virginia Howell (No report submitted; open discussion by Board members)
 - A. Lack of updates has caused constant consternation. Most of our committees, members, and interested parties depend on a complete and up-to-date web site.
 - B. Bruce Roberts proposed and Richard Meissner seconded the unanimously adopted motion for John Havel to spearhead the effort toward maintaining the web site.
 - 1. We will allow up to \$3,000.00 to hire a person to design and establish a 21st century website. John Havel will recruit and vet the person for The Society.
 - 2. By July 1 all of The Board members will give Bett Padgett and/or Cheryl Shelton-Roberts pertinent information for the website.
 - 3. John Havel will keep the information updated and train other members of The Board to assist.

4. We are hopeful that this matter will be a happy topic by the 2016 Board meeting.

- Bob DaVia, Media Manager (develops and maintains our presence in Social Media), reported that since 2011 when he established our new Facebook account www.facebook.com/#!/groups/oblhs/ and our Twitter account @OBLHS, our presence on Social Networking has continued to grow.

A. As of Friday, May 15, 2015, we have 761 “Members” on the Facebook page and 44 “Followers” on Twitter.

<i>Social Media</i>	<i>2015⁴</i>	<i>2014³</i>	<i>2013²</i>	<i>2012¹</i>
FACEBOOK	761	325	201	141
TWITTER	44	41	17	32

¹ As of May 16, 2012

² As of May 16, 2013

³ As of May 16, 2014

⁴ As of May 15, 2015

- Grant Committee Chair, Mabry O’Donnell, asked Board members to remind school groups that Students’ Lighthouse travel grants are available. The Old Baldy Foundation, Inc. received a grant for this year.
 - A. Final reports from The Old Baldy Foundation, Inc. and Clayton Elementary School were circulated among The Board members. The Chair explained how she consults with groups seeking and receiving grants in order to provide a positive historical/educational lighthouse outing for the attendees as well as clear documentation of the experience.
 - B. The committee continues to remind grant recipients of the necessity to credit the Outer Banks Lighthouse Society for its generosity, and to teach the students through information available on the website about lighthouses and the OBLHS.
 - C. In its endeavor to provide inclusive and specific instructions for both the Students’ Lighthouse Travel Grants and the Special Lighthouse Project Grants, the grant committee proposed adoption of more specific wording for the grants. After congenial discussion including examples, Diana Chappell moved and Bruce Roberts seconded the motion to amend the wording of the grants. (The new documents are attached to these minutes and are provided on the website.)

- Richard Meissner, Keeper of the Archives, reported and received approval for
 - A. An “archive box” that will include all important documents of OBLHS such as minutes, publications, projects, documents, and awards.
 - B. The Outer Banks History Center has offered to house these materials. The documents will officially become the property of The State of North Carolina, but they will be available to members, researchers, and

interested parties. All original documents will be housed at The History Center.

- C. Another box will be maintained by the current president of OBLHS and passed to the succeeding presidents for their reference.
 - D. Everyone is encouraged to search for and send to Richard Meissner all appropriate documents and pictures.
- Richard Meissner will be our representative to the National Parks Centennial Celebration planning meetings.
 - The Board decided against having advertising in The Newsletter.
 - The rededication of the Circle of Stones is scheduled to be held on September 16-18, 2015, in conjunction with the Day of the Docks.
 - John Havel and Chris Cabrail are working on the signage for The Circle of Stones.
 - The Nominating Committee (Richard Meissner, Jim O'Donnell, and Mabry O'Donnell)
 - A. Nominated the following people who were unanimously elected by The Board to serve The Society

▪ Secretary(ies)	Jim and Mabry O'Donnell (1 year term)
▪ Treasurer	Robert DaVia (1 year term)
▪ Education Chair	Gayle Keresev (1 year term)
▪ Fundraising Chair	Richard Meissner with assistance from Cheryl Shelton-Roberts (1 year term)
▪ Graphic Artist	John Havel (1 year term)
▪ Grants Chair	Mabry O'Donnell (1 year term)
▪ Membership Chair	Judy Moon (1 year term)
▪ Media Manager	Bob DaVia (1 year term)
▪ Newsletter Editor	Cheryl Shelton-Roberts (1 year term)
▪ Nominating Chair	Mabry O'Donnell (1 year term)
▪ Public Outreach Chair	Bett Padgett (1 year term)
▪ Special Events Chairs	Diana Chappell and Richard Meissner (1 year term)
▪ Store Keeper	Kelly Waller (1 year term)
▪ Web Administrator	John Havel (1 year term)
 - Society Awards: *Note*--Awards will be given only when appropriate. The awards are expensive, but they are an excellent means for showing appreciation to those who have upheld the values of The Society. Richard Meissner moved and Kelly Waller seconded our honoring ten people for their efforts on behalf of our lighthouses in 2015.

President's Awards:

Betty Parrish	1997
Bill Parrish	1998
Betty Shelton	1998
John Gaskill	1998
Tom Yocum	1998
Connie Jones, Bodie Island	1999
Tim Harrison	2000
Bett Padgett	2000
LERC (maker of Coastal Cubs)	2000
Sandy Clunies	2000
Rick Polad	2001
Henry and Chris Gonzales	2001
Roy's Folks (Roy Ackland & David Weatherly)	2001
John Howard	2001
Bank of America	2001
Lynn Jennette	2001
Charlie Votaw	2002
Shirley Votaw	2002
Bruce Roberts	2002
Jack McCombs	2002
Sandy Semans	2003
Richard Meissner	2003
Ralph Burroughs	2003
Judy Castleberry	2004
Nancy D'Andrade	2004
Nick Johnston	2004
Brent Westwood	2004
Diana Chappell	2005
Lana Beth Deese	2005
Virginia Chadwick Howell	2005
Ross Tracy	2005
Larry Belli (former Superintendent of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore)	2006
The Dare County Tourist Board	2006
Julia Hollenbeck	2006
Cheryl Shelton-Roberts	2006
Bill Schneider	2006
Robert DaVia	2007
Ed and Judy Rosson	2007
Doward Jones	2007
James Charlet and Linda Molloy	2007
Doug Stover	2007
Rick and Teresa Ward	2007
Ann Mills	2008
Washington County Waterways Commission	2008

Courtney Whisler	2008
Nicole DaVia	2009
Judy Moon	2009
Gary and Judy Studer	2009
Janice Thomas	2009
Kelly Waller	2009
Marjorie and Dallas Spruill	2010
Judy Basnett	2011
Laddie Crisp, Jr.	2011
Rebecca Taylor	2012
Archer Daniels Midland	2013
Cyndy Holda	2013
Bob and Kathy Paisley	2014
Clayton Elementary School	
Fourth Grade Team	2014
Barbara Basnight Rawl	2014

Founders' Award:

Senator Marc Basnight	1997
Bill Younger	1998
Bill and Betty Parrish	1999
Governor James Hunt	2000
Tim Harrison	2001
Outer Banks Conservationists, Inc.	2002
Jim and Mabry O'Donnell	2003
Kim Younger Andrews	2004
Bruce and Cheryl Shelton-Roberts	2005
Ralph Burroughs	2006
Bett Padgett	2007
Rick Hardesty	2008
Diana Chappell	2009
Rick and Theresa Ward	2010
Doug Stover	2013
John Havel	2014
Mabry M. O'Donnell	2015

Cape Hatteras Award:

Russell Berry	1997
Dr. Ellis Cowling	1998
National Park Service Cape Hatteras Seashore, Outer Banks Group	1999
Joe Jakubik of International Chimney	2000
Charlie and Shirley Votaw	2001
Glenn Eure	2002
Bett Padgett	2003

Kevin Duffus	2004
Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum	2005
Lynn and Windsor Jacques	2006
None	2007
None	2008
Jinx Caylor	2010
Audrey Conner	2010
John Havel	2012
Congressman Walter B. Jones, Jr.	2014
Matt Finlayson	2015

Bodie Island Award:

Cullen Chambers	1997
John McPherson	1998
RAI Associates	1999
Lloyd Childers	2000
Patty Lockamy	2001
John Gaskill	2002
Doris and Dave Reed	2003
Paula and Lauren Liebrecht	2004
Nick Johnston	2005
Representative David Price	2006
Sandy Semans	2007
Lighthouse Lampists	2010
Bill Padgett	2011
Lighthouse Lampshop	2013
United Builders LLC	2013
Diana Chappell	2014
Sandy Clunies	2014 (Received the honor although she declined the physical award.)
Bruce Roberts	2014
Cheryl-Shelton Roberts	2014
Bob and Diana Long	2015

Currituck Award:

Lloyd Childers	2002
Outer Banks Conservationists	2003
John Wilson	2004
Melody Leckie	2005
Meghan Agresto and Luis Garcia	2006
Pat Riley	2007
Connie Wirtz	2008
Ed Cox	2009
William Parker	2009
Bob Rahnes	2011
Tracy Norris	2012

Cape Lookout Award:

Bob Vogel	2004
Richard Meissner	2005
Margaret Gilliken	2006
None	2007
None	2008
Sandy Clunies	2009 (Received the honor although she declined the physical award.)
Kay Hagan	2011
Dallas and Marjorie Spruill	2015
Erica Spruill	2015
Sam Spruill	2015

Old Baldy Award:

Jane Kerr Oakley	2004
Ann Mills	2005
None	2006
Marilyn Ridgeway	2007
Kim Gottshall	2008
Chris Webb	2009

Oak Island Award:

Town of Caswell Beach	2005
Friends of Oak Island Lighthouse	2006
None	2007
None	2008
Tom Kitchings	2011
Bob Ahlers	2012
E. Gifford Stack	2014

Ocracoke Award:

Paula and Lauren Liebrecht	2006
Jane Morgan	2006

Roanoke River Lighthouse Award:

Edenton Historical Commission	2011
Brenda Skiles (1866 Plymouth)	2015
Madison Phillips (1886 Edenton)	2015

- Bett Padgett will *Direct* the Keepers' Weekend, October 9-11, 2015, and Diana Chappell will *Manage* the reservations and money. Some of the exciting possibilities for the weekend include:
 - A. Lodging at the Holiday Inn Express in Plymouth
 - B. Tour of Roanoke River Lighthouse Replica in Plymouth, food, Port O' Plymouth Museum, box lunches, tour of Edenton, Annual Keepers'

Dinner, dedication of the Riverlight Trail, snacks, and meeting with friends.

C. Some *possible* items for the auction and raffle may be

1. Bruce Roberts picture
2. Edenton print
3. Life membership in OBLHS
4. Get Away to the First Colony Inn
5. Lightning Over Bodie picture
6. Fishing adventure with Dallas Spruill
7. Private tour of lighthouse and keepers' quarters at Currituck
8. Baskets

- Sites for future fall weekends

2016	Cape Lookout
2017	Old Baldy, Oak Island, and Wilmington
2018	Currituck
2019	To Be Determined
2020	Hatteras Lighthouse (150 th Anniversary)

- John Havel delivered a passionate, yet well-documented proposal for the historic restoration of the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. The Board unanimously agreed with Richard Meissner and Bruce Roberts that we will support John's proposal as presented. We gave him our best wishes for a successful end to the project.
- Within a month the secretaries will send a "To Do" list of the items that we have promised to complete.
- A special thank you to our undaunted leader, Diana Chappell, who remains omnipresent (even when we deserve less care), always encouraging (even though we may disappoint), always creative (even when we stand dumbstruck in awe of her ability), always working (even when she should take a break), and always kind (even when we deserve a frowny face). We thank you, Diana. Your reward can be observed in our successes; your guidance is apparent in all that we do.
- Our next Board meeting will be on May 21, 2016, 9:30 a.m., at the Dare County Public Library in Manteo, North Carolina.
- The meeting was adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James H. O'Donnell, Ph.D.

Mabry M. O'Donnell, Ph.D.

