

**OUTER BANKS LIGHTHOUSE SOCIETY
(OBLHS) BOARD**
Fourteenth Annual Meeting

May 30, 2009

At the home of Richard Meissner
204 Pintail Lane
Harkers Island, NC

Board members who were present:

Robert DaVia, Virginia Howell, Richard Meissner, Jim O'Donnell, Mabry O'Donnell, Bett Padgett, Bruce Roberts, Cheryl Shelton-Roberts

Friends of The Outer Banks Lighthouse Society Board who were present and elected to The Board:

Nicole DaVia, Audrey Conner, and Judy Moon

Board members who were absent:

Diana Chappell, Sandra MacLean Clunies, Doward Jones, Bill Padgett, Charlie Votaw, and Shirley Votaw

There were no ex-officio or honorary Board members in attendance.

(A complete list of Board members will be attached to this report.)

President Bett Padgett called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. after greetings and introductions among the group.

The secretaries took roll.

The minutes of the 2008 Board meeting were approved after the correction of award recipients was made.

- Membership report from Robert (Bob) DaVia:
There were 684 active members in 2008, 648 in 2007, and 624 in 2006.
After culling the list, we have 470 active members in 2009.

Bob will decide whether a post card or e-mail reminder will be most effective in the future.
- Treasurer's report from Diana Chappell submitted in absentia:

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

- Fundraising report from Bruce Roberts:
The National economic situation prevented successful completion of fundraising activities in 2008.

We will consider allowing people/organizations to pay for a link to our site.

The Keeper's Store:

1. Will continue to use Pay Pal
2. Should sell Bruce and Cheryl-Shelton Roberts's books
3. Will offer for \$5.00 (including shipping and handling) issues of the OBLHS Newsletter that may be missing from a collection.
 - a. Special autographed issues will be available for \$7.50. These will be advertised on our website and in the *Newsletter*.
4. Consider adding a greater variety of items to the Keeper's Store.
 - a. Books (popular at raffle and auction last year)
 - b. Baseball caps
 - c. Mugs
 - d. Tee Shirts
There will be a new tee shirt design for the October weekend. A map of the North Carolina coast with lighthouses placed on the map without our logo will be sold. These may appeal more to the general public and sell through the online store.
 - e. Sweat Shirts
5. We have 2,300 Hatteras Homecoming posters, which we will offer for sale on our website. All prices for posters include shipping.
Cost:
Artist Glenn Eure will sign up to 100 copies. This will be his special signature added to the poster that has his printed signature. These will only be sold on our website-- \$20 each or 2 for \$35 which includes shipping.
The printed posters with no special signature will be sold to Eastern National for \$2.50 a piece and they can sell them for \$5.00 a piece.
6. All items on our site will be sponsored by us rather than commercial vendors.
7. David Baum may be interested in developing lighthouse pendants on special order through the Keeper's Store. Cost would be approximately \$100, and The Society would receive approximately 10%.

8. Robert DaVia and Bett Padgett will check the viability of selling ornaments.

- Newsletter report from Cheryl Shelton-Roberts:

The Board overwhelmingly voiced its appreciation for the creative and well researched issues of the OBLHS Newsletter. There were two issues published this year with 1,000 copies of each issue.

For two years The Society has mentioned publishing *Best of the Lighthouse News* as a service to our readers, as a source of revenue, and as a celebration of the 15th year of publication.

Bruce and Cheryl Roberts will give The Board a cost estimate for publishing this special newsletter.

Although we do not need the 1,000 copies of each issue for our membership, the publications are used as informative pieces for government representatives, the North Carolina Museum of History, new members, and friends of the OBLHS. We, therefore, will continue printing 1,000 copies of each issue.

Newsletters will be available on our members' site for those who wish to receive the newsletter on line. The password was divulged, but will not be listed in the minutes for security reasons. If anyone needs the password, please contact one of the officers.

Cheryl Shelton-Roberts will put a column on line memorializing David Stick.

- Marketing/Tourism report from Bett Padgett:
 - In order to update the membership brochures in stock, we can put stickers on them and give them to the Visitor's Centers. Rick Hardesty has volunteered to print new brochures, but he is waiting to get the necessary paper from The Society. We hope to purchase the paper for new brochures (either 11x17 or 11x25) that will include maps and will state that we were founded in 1994. When the new brochures are delivered, we will ask that the old copies be destroyed.
 - Having a "hit counter" on the website should yield interesting statistics.
 - Articles about lighthouses have appeared in various publications such as the *News and Observer*, *Wake County Physician*, and *Virginian Pilot*.
 - Travel CDs are in more outlets, but they are not selling and OBLHS has received no donations from them.

- Courtney Whisler will report to The Board about her year-long efforts to get OBLHS on Facebook, and there will be an e-mail announcement to our entire membership when the process is completed. We look forward to that report. OBLHS members can send pictures to Courtney for inclusion on the page.
 - Children's understanding of lighthouse geography may be enhanced with magnet and Velcro marine maps.
 - The Society has been represented at many occasions including:
 1. Chicamacomico LSS Heroes's Day
 2. North Carolina Museum of History Day at the Coast
 3. Day at the Coast
 4. Clayton Elementary School
 5. Planning meetings for Cape Lookout's 150th Anniversary
 - Robert DaVia will lead our efforts to expand outreach to other lighthouse societies. We may suggest a reciprocal sharing of newsletters.
 - Donations: Clayton Elementary School 4th grade gave reports about lighthouses, and they also donated \$225.41 to OBLHS.
 - Cards for Food Lion must be updated each year for OBLHS to receive donations from the company. Members need to be reminded in the newsletter.
 - OBLHS lifetime membership is available for only \$500.00. Members will be reminded in the newsletter.
- Update on Coastal and River Lights:

Currituck Beach Lighthouse (The Outer Banks Conservationists, Inc.) Work continues to update the facility. Come see the new chickens!

- **Bodie Island Lighthouse**
\$3.9 million award from the 2009 US budget for the restoration of the tower and the original lens. July 11-12 the lens will be removed in panels and carried down the steps. Cullen Chambers will be the contractor for the restoration of the lens. The light will be off during the year and a half restoration. Visitors will appreciate the new wild life observation deck that is scheduled to be constructed.
- **Cape Hatteras Lighthouse**

During the winter, new stairs at the lighthouse, new roofs on oil house and keepers' quarters with fresh paint on both structures were completed.

- **Ocracoke Light**
The light will be dark starting on June 15. Brickwork inside will be repointed, the stairs will be refinished and painted, some windows and doors will be replaced, and the lens will be restored. The Keepers' quarters now has a red tin roof as did the original.
 - **Cape Lookout Lighthouse**
This year is the 150th anniversary of the lighting of Cape Lookout Lighthouse. Special activities will take place October 9-11 and November 1. OBLHS will join the Friends of Cape Lookout National Seashore in this grand celebration. Please do everything you can (imagine the impossible) to retrieve the original Fresnel lens. The Society voted to transfer \$10,000 to the Cape Lookout National Seashore when the original Fresnel lens is returned to Cape Lookout. The money will not be transferred until the lens is moved. Richard Meissner will be our conduit for this project.
 - **Bald Head Lighthouse**
The Pirates are Coming, July 31-August 1-2.
There is also a new roof on the Oil House.
 - **Oak Island Light**
There are tours to the top of the light with at least two weeks' notice. It will be rewired this winter. The landscaping of the grounds is complete.
 - **Price's Creek Light**
The light is privately owned by Archer Daniels Midland and there are no restoration plans.
 - **Roanoke River Lighthouse (reproduction)**
The Museum and lighthouse has received a grant to landscape the area around the lighthouse. There will be better access to the lighthouse and better lighting.
 - **Roanoke Marshes Light**
Roanoke Island Festival Park has responsibility for the light.
- For their unswerving devotion to the cause of lighthouses and their history, The Board thanks Sandra MacLean Clunies, Doward Jones, Charlie Votaw, and Shirley Votaw. Their tireless dedication to the Cause will be remembered. Charlie and Shirley Votaw are celebrated for hosting The Board

have for auction. Books are quite popular at the event. Bett Padgett will inquire about original Cape Hatteras Lighthouse steps iron that could be sold at auction.

- BOLD (Bodie Island Lighthouse Keepers' Descendants Homecoming)
 - The Society will support The Park in hosting this event. Hopefully, this will be held in 2011 after the restoration of the Bodie Island Lighthouse.
 - Membership involvement
 - October Event
 - Writing articles for newsletter
 - Writing government officials
 - Donating quality items for auction and raffle
 - Mailing postcards and raffle tickets
- Society Awards: *Note--*Awards will be given only when appropriate. As is their nature, Bruce and Cheryl Roberts declined to be recognized for their continued service to our Society, lighthouses, and the country.

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

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

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

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

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

Cape Lookout

Bob Vogel	2004
Richard Meissner	2005
Margaret Gilliken	2006
None	2007
None	2008
Sandy Clunies	2009 (Will receive the honors although she declined the physical award.)

Old Baldy

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

Oak Island

Town of Caswell Beach	2005
Friends of Oak Island Lighthouse	2006
None	2007
None	2008

Ocracoke

Paula and Lauren Liebrecht	2006
Jane Morgan	2006
None	2007
None	2008

The awards are expensive, but they are an excellent means for showing appreciation to those who have upheld the values of The Society.

- Next Meeting: Saturday, May 22, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. at Roanoke Island Festival Park History Center.
- The Board members thanked Richard Meissner for providing beautiful interior and exterior scenery for the long, albeit productive meeting. Perfect décor with attention to detail and historical significance on the inside, and water complete with kayaks in the sprinkles on the outside, established the setting reminiscent of a splendid movie. Delicious food, (punctuated with delectable island tomatoes and giant shrimp), animated conversation, and great fellowship permeated the six hour event.
- The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m. with heartfelt thanks to our indefatigable and ever-faithful president, Bett Padgett, and mementos distributed among The Board. The president sang with guitar accompaniment an original song describing the similarities of the steadfast lens as a diamond and the tower that has diamonds.

Respectfully submitted,

James H. O'Donnell, Ph.D.

Mabry M. O'Donnell, Ph.D.