

OUTER BANKS LIGHTHOUSE SOCIETY (OBLHS) BOARD

Twenty-seventh Annual Meeting

Saturday, April 30, 2022

Meeting conducted in person and by Zoom video conferencing

Board members who were virtually present:

Gayle Keresey, Judy Moon, Bett Padgett, and Kelly Waller.

Board members who were physically present:

James Charlet, Robert DaVia, Nicole DaVia, John Havel, Aida Havel, Doug Stover, Bruce Roberts, and Cheryl Shelton-Roberts. Doug Stover was absent due to work commitments.

Guests:

Scott Babinowich, Chief of Interpretation, Education, and Visitor Services; Lynne Springer; and Richard Meissner

President Bett Padgett called the meeting to order at **9:33 a.m.**

Roll call was performed by voice responses. All board members were present.

There were no changes to the minutes of the 2021 annual board meeting Gayle made a motion that the minutes be approved, Cheryl seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

NPS Update: Scott Babinowich, Chief of Interpretation, Education, and Visitor Services (NPS) appeared virtually.

Bodie Island: Opened for climbing on April 27th. The lighthouse is currently open for climbing Wednesday through Saturday only, due to unprecedented hiring challenges. The Park Service is still hoping to offer full moon and new moon climbs starting in June.

Hatteras: The Park Service put together a video “fly through” last year. They are planning to install kiosks at Hatteras and Ocracoke so that people can see the interiors virtually. Up to nine levels of lead-based paint have been removed from the interior, and the removal process took twice as long as expected. The Park Service is still hopeful that there can be a truncated climbing season this year. The next phase of the restoration is planned to begin in late fall or early winter of this year.

The Park Service is also planning a new multi-use path to connect NC Highway 12 to the lighthouse grounds and to the original site of the lighthouse. This path will provide an opportunity for interpretation through exhibits and wayside panels. This project is in the design and engineering phase now, and there will be an environmental assessment for this project.

Ocracoke: The Environmental Assessment period for comments closed on April 23, 2022. The general consensus of the comments supported the NPS' preferred alternative. There is a current plan to have a new interpretative panel at Ocracoke at the entrance to the boardwalk, along with a bulletin board showing current information. This lighthouse is well staffed with seasonal help and volunteers.

Bob asked if there would be a marker at the original site of the Hatteras lighthouse. The Park Service likes the idea, but is concerned about longevity and maintenance of such a marker. At the present time, it has not been included in the pathway design.

Cheryl asked how many contractors were involved with the paint removal at Hatteras. Scott said there was one main contractor and one sub-contractor. There is also one main and one sub for the metal work and the replica iron fence. NPS awards the main contracts, but isn't involved with the subs. The main contract work is approved through the Denver NPS office.

A decision on whether to restore the original lens to the lantern room of Cape Hatteras or replace it with a replica lens will be made in late July or early August after the Environmental Assessment is complete.

Bett asked if there would be new signage after the restoration. Scott said they are working on replacing all of the signage, and on updating and making them more functional, as well as better identifying the Keepers' quarters.

There will also be an opportunity for new signage whichever decision is made regarding the lens. Scott added that the NPS does allow for non-profits to help with review of signage and the cost of the signage. Five wayside panels provided by the NPS have all faded terribly. The design of new wayside panels for the lifesaving buildings near Bodie Island Lighthouse is 75% complete, and NPS will let both James Charlet and the rest of the board review before finalization.

There was a discussion about the upcoming 150th anniversary of Bodie Island Lighthouse's lighting. The Park Service is working on a comprehensive plan for the celebration, and will be highlighting the anniversary throughout the summer. The celebration is anticipated to be similar to that planned for the 20th anniversary of the move of Cape Hatteras, and will highlight families and descendants. Plans include color guard, a musical component, reprinting of the coloring book from the 2013 BILH gathering, the sale of the BILH oral history book. Outer Banks Forever can help with a cake, there can be DVDs playing in the Visitors' Center, and our Society can have a table

with brochures and newsletters. Scott will coordinate with Eastern National to sell the oral history books.

There is a possibility of having the OBXmas climb at Hatteras if it fits with the restoration schedule, and if it doesn't, then it may be possible to have that climb at Bodie Island.

Committee Reports

Donations: Treasurer Bob DaVia reported that donations were down by a little over \$1,000, probably due to Covid and the lack of having an in-person event. Judy sometimes receives donations with memberships and passes those on to Bob.

Education Committee: Gayle Keresev, Chair

Gayle is working on a revised Bodie Island Lighthouse Scavenger Hunt to be used at the 150th anniversary event. There have been no new applications for lighthouse patches. Bob will put a mention of these on the Facebook pages for OBLHS and the BILH Descendants' pages at the start of the climbing season. John will send Bob a high-resolution image of the patch.

Fundraising and Grants: Doug Stover (Report made by Bett in his absence)

A. Grants: we awarded one grant to a school group from Havelock, but the school group had to return the grant (which Bob has received) because the ferry wasn't on the approved list for student transportation. The application for this grant did come from a mention in the Social Studies newsletter that is sent to all 4th grade public school teachers.

B. Fundraising: Doug is still looking into possible grants from the Outer Banks Community Foundation and RJ Reynolds Foundation. Pepsi (which was a potential source of a grant/donation last year) has changed direction and is now only offering "healthy living" grants.

Graphic Art/Website: John Havel, Webmaster

- A.** John's design of the logo for BILH's 150th anniversary has already appeared multiple times in various locations.
- B.** John will work on revising and receiving permission from the artists to reprint the BILH coloring book.
- C.** John has designed two full-color newsletters in InDesign. The upcoming issue will focus on BILH and will hopefully be out by June 1st. Bob asked if we would print extra copies, and the answer is yes. Bett asked if we would give away copies at the 150th event; the answer again is yes. Cheryl suggested that Professional Printing might be willing to give us a discount on the printing of additional copies. Aida suggested that there be a separate membership form attached to the free copies of the newsletter. Bett said that she would ask Tim Harrison of the Lighthouse Digest to put an ad in that magazine regarding the 150th anniversary of BILH.

D. Website: John is behind on updates to the website, but will put up information regarding BILH tomorrow.

The Keepers' Store: Kelly Waller, assisted by Judy Moon
Sales from July 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022:

A. Keepers' Weekend Sales: 0.00

Sale from Bound Newsletters 0.00

Total Store Sales: \$649.00

Total Inventory Keeper's Store: \$4,855.50

Total BOLD inventory on hand: \$1,742.00

John agreed to send Kelly a vector logo to Kelly in the next two weeks. Kelly will also let us know what the most popular items in the store are, and will send us a list of overstocked items that we can use as scavenger hunt prizes/handouts.

The long-sleeve denim shirt definitely needs to be re-ordered; Cheryl suggested that we include both men's and women's sizes. Bob will ask Diana about microfiber cloths.

Media: Bob DaVia, Manager

As of the meeting date, here are our social media statistics:

<i>Social Media</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2017</i>	
FACEBOOK	3513	3338	2941	2773	2641	2,170	Begun May 2012
TWITTER	92	92	84	69	50	46	Begun May 2012
INSTAGRAM	129	111	93	53			Begun April 2019

Gayle suggested that we put links on our Facebook pages to Twitter and Instagram, and she reminded us that we are approaching 4000 members on Facebook. It was suggested that the 4,000th member receive a free one-year membership to the Society.

Membership report: Judy Moon, Chair and Director

Active Members beginning in 2009 (originally begun in 1994)

2009	470
2010	354
2011	449
2012	429
2013	370
2014	389
2015	333
2016	212

2017	222
2018	190
2020	173
2021	205 (including expired members)
2022	179 (19 new members from 7/1/2021 – 4/30/2022)

Judy reported that an exact membership number is difficult to calculate due to our extension of memberships during the Covid pandemic. She did send out one final reminder to members whose membership had expired some time ago and a few did rejoin. There are several new lifetime members.

Bett asked how many hours per month Judy spends on membership matters. Judy said it was between 8 and 10 hours: she sends out postcard reminders and then processes new and renewal memberships that come in. Her files are in Microsoft Publisher, and she will share those files with the new Membership Chair.

OBLHS Newsletter: John Havel, Designer

John plans two newsletters for this year, one in June and one in December. There will be extra copies of the next newsletter printed to coincide with Bodie Island's 150th anniversary. John will put a QR code link in the newsletter to link to our website.

Public Outreach: Bett Padgett, Chair and Aida Havel

- A. There will be an in-person event in Edenton this year on August 7th for National Lighthouse Day. Last year, Madison Phillips donated a number of pieces of old lighthouse glass that John and Aida are storing.
- B. The Society presented three virtual presentations during the last year.
- C. We will continue to let teachers know about our grants and patches in the social studies newsletter.
- D. Brochures: We have 4,700 brochures left; printing price has increased.
- E. Bett is working on a video of "fun facts" about lighthouses. She received feedback that it needs to be more engaging for children, so her brother-in-law has helped by adding some videos.
- F. Bett will be giving a lighthouse presentation in June at NC State's Osher Life Long Learning Institute.
- G. Our Society has been represented at multiple public comment events sponsored by NPS
- H. Cheryl has given three presentations to Tar River Elementary School in Nash County.
- I. Bob mentioned that we have received 47 views of Willie Drye's presentation from the link on our Facebook page, and thanked Bett's brother for helping make that happen.

Treasurer report: Bob DaVia, Treasurer

A. Our balance as of March 31, 2022	
General Fund	\$18,453.05
PayPal	\$1,367.00

Nicole moved to accept the Treasurer's report; John seconded; and the motion passed unanimously.

Old and Unfinished Business

- A. Signage for lighthouses: see above. We, as a non-profit can and will be mentioned on appropriate signage.
- B. Question re: whether our Society joined the US Life-Saving Service Heritage Association: James will look into this as well as the possibility of exchanging membership lists with this organization.
- C. Exploration of watermarks: John made a motion to leave these off; Bett seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved. Regarding TM and copyright mentions on our logo: We voted to add this last year, but we revisited this matter this year. John made a motion to NOT use a trademark or copyright symbol, Bob seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- D. Special gift for members who gift a new membership to someone: Judy and Kelly will make suggestions to be vetted by Bob and Nicole. It was the consensus of the group that this is unnecessary.
- E. Discussion of discounts for membership renewals for multiple years. This would involve changes to the website and our envelopes. Again, there is no need to do this and it is too complicated. There was a brief discussion of raising dues, and the general consensus was not to raise dues at this time. Lynne Springer asked if gift memberships are renewed, and Judy said that in her recollection, they were not.
- A. Advertisements in Our State and possible article about our Society in Our State. Aida will look into having an article submitted or published in Carolina Country, the magazine for members of NC electric cooperatives.

To Do Lists

James Charlet

- Contact USLSS about joining and exchanging membership lists.

Nicole DaVia

- Provide an item for auction in October.

Robert DaVia

- Will look into buying a plain tent/canopy to which we can affix our Society's banners or other artwork.

Aida Havel

- Contact Carolina Country about the possibility of an article.
- Continue to work on public outreach.
- Circulate list of board members' email addresses.

John M. Havel

- Provide vector drawing of logo to Kelly.
- Look into putting a QR code in the newsletter and on our brochures to link to the membership page on our website.

Gayle Kersey

- Redo BILH scavenger hunt to align more with 150th anniversary.

Judy Moon

Bett Padgett

- Contact the family of our member who passed away in Florida to discuss what is to be done with the 500+ figurines left to our Society.

Bruce Roberts

Cheryl Shelton-Roberts

Doug Stover

Kelly Waller

- Make list of most popular store items.

New Business:

A. Board Member Vacancies: There are two board positions open: John Havel's reelection to a three year term and Lynne Springer's election to a new three year term. Gayle moved that both of these nominations be accepted; Cheryl seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

B. Nomination and Election of Board members and Committee Chairs: The following are the OBLHS Board Officers and Committee Chairs elected with unanimous approval.

Officer/Chair	Nominee	Length of Term	
President	Bett Padgett	2 years	2020-2022
Vice President	Judy Moon	1 year	2022-2023
Secretary	Aida Havel	1 year	2022-2023
Treasurer	Bob DaVia	1 year	2022-2023
Education Committee (includes student/project grants)	Gayle, Cheryl, Bett	1 year	2022-2023
Fundraising and Grants Chair	Doug Stover	1 year	2022-2023
Graphic Artist	John Havel	1 year	2022-2023
Media Manager	Bob DaVia	1 year	2022-2023
Membership Chair	Judy Moon	1 year	2022-2023
Newsletter Editor	John Havel	1 year	2022-2023
Nominating Chair	Bett Padgett	1 year	2022-2023
Public Outreach Chair	Bett Padgett	1 year	2022-2023
Special Events Chair/Partners	Doug Stover, Bett, Aida	1 year	2022-2023
Store Keeper	Kelly Waller	1 year	2022-2023
Website Chair	John Havel	1 year	2022-2023

Bob moved to accept the officers and the committee chairs; Gayle seconded; the board and committee chairs were unanimously approved.

C. Call for committee members:

Education: Gayle, Bett

Fundraising and Grants: Doug, Bob, Gayle, and Bett (on grants) fundraising (all)

Graphic Artist: John

Media: Bob, Judy (but anyone can post)

Membership: Judy

Newsletter: John, Aida, Bett, and Cheryl. John asked for specific help on lighthouse updates.

Nominating: Bett, Aida

Public Outreach: Bett, Doug, Aida

Special Events: Bett, Doug, Aida

Website: John

D. Annual OBLHS Prism Awards: will be given only when deemed appropriate by the Board. The awards are expensive, but they are an excellent means of showing appreciation to those who have upheld the values of The Society and given assistance to NC lights.

Society Awards for 2021:

Founders Award: John and Aida Havel

Currituck Beach Lighthouse Award: Tony Cerri

Bodie Island Lighthouse Award: Steve Sachs and Cherie Well-Laurier

Oak Island Lighthouse Award: Harry DeHaven and Richard Gressler

A listing of all Prism Award Winners from the past:

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 Supt. 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

Gayle Keresey	2016
Kim Gottshall	2017
(approved after the Board meeting)	
Russ Rowlett (Lighthouse Directory)	2018
Aida Havel	2019
Joseph Smith	2021

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
Richard Meissner	2016
Judy Moon	2018
Robert "Bob" DaVia	2019

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 (ICC)	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
Hatteras Island Genealogical & Preservation Society	2016
Steve Cammarn	2019

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 but declined the physical award.)	
Bruce Roberts	2014
Cheryl-Shelton Roberts	2014
Bob and Diana Long	2015
Pat Taylor	2016
Sue Kelly	2018

Currituck Beach 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 but declined the physical award.)	
Kay Hagan	2011
Dallas and Marjorie Spruill	2015
Erica Spruill	2015
Sam Spruill	2015
Emily Catherine Spruill	2017
Glenn Eagle	2018
Richard "Rich" Rehm	2019

Old Baldy Award:

Jane Kerr Oakley	2004
Ann Mills	2005
None	2006
Marilyn Ridgeway	2007
Kim Gottshall	2008
Chris Webb	2009
Phil Fravel	2017

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 and Jack Cowling	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
Doward Jones (1866 Plymouth)	2016
Bob Germaine (1886 Edenton)	2016

Jim "Jimbo" Jackson (1866 Plymouth)	2017
Carolyn Owens	2018
Ed Roberson (1866 Plymouth)	2019
Willie Drye	2021

A Society member from Florida, Dawn Darby, has passed away and left approximately 500 Harbor Lights figurines to our Society. It will be difficult for us to pay for both transporting and storing these items. We don't want to put too much burden on the family members. Bett will contact the family to discuss.

We discussed having more virtual presentations. Bett may do a presentation with Ken Mann focused on sea shanty, and perhaps include Connie Mason. John is willing to do a presentation on ten things nobody knows about Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. James is willing to do a presentation on the lifesaving service. Cheryl is willing to do a presentation on the history of our Society.

Plans were discussed for the Keepers' Weekend event in October at the Comfort Inn North and other activities we could offer attendees, such as a dolphin tour, a visit to the replica Roanoke Marshes lighthouse in Manteo, a visit to the QE2 ship at Roanoke Island Festival Park, and a visit to the Pea Island Cookhouse Museum in Manteo.

Meeting date and time for the next Board Meeting is Saturday, April 29, 2023 at 9:30 am at Coastal Studies Institute in Wanchese.

The virtual Board meeting adjourned at 2:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Aida Doss Havel
OBLHS Board Secretary