

OUTER BANKS LIGHTHOUSE SOCIETY (OBLHS) BOARD

Seventeenth Annual Meeting

Saturday, May 19, 2012

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

Board members who were present:

Diana Chappell, Gayle Keresey, Richard Meissner, Judy Moon, Jim O'Donnell, Mabry O'Donnell, Bett Padgett, Bruce Roberts, Cheryl Shelton-Roberts, and Rick Ward

Board members who were absent:

Nicole DaVia, Robert DaVia, Virginia Howell, and Bill Padgett
No ex-officio or honorary Board members attended.

President Bett Padgett set the creative and pleasant tone of The Board meeting by calling the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. with an original song, "It's Not Safe Outside". Greetings and symbols of friendship and shared mission were exchanged while everyone expressed appreciation for the location and morning treats. Organizational communication experts agree that "Food energizes and motivates people more effectively than any other meeting tactic."

In 1912 the Bureau of Lighthouses reported to Congress: "To promote efficiency and friendly rivalry among lighthouse keepers, a system of efficiency stars and pennants has been established." This began a system of efficiency stars and pennants. Keepers who were commended for efficiency at each quarterly inspection during the year were entitled to wear the Inspector's star (red enamel on gold) for the next year. Those who received the Inspector's star for three successive years were entitled to wear the Commissioner's star (blue enamel on silver).

Stars were presented to Judy Moon and Nicole Da Via (in absentia) for three years of service, while both Gayle Keresey and Rick Ward received one year stars.

The minutes of the 2011 Board meeting were approved once Bill Padgett's name was listed as absent rather than present for the 2011 Board meeting.

A list of Board members with their home addresses, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers circulated among the members. (A copy of this list will be attached to the minutes.)

- Membership report from Robert (Bob) DaVia:

Active Members:

2009---470

2010---354

2011---449

2012---429

Lifetime Members: 8 at only \$500 each

Bob DaVia reported that he contacted approximately 120 members by e-mails and/or letters on Saturday, May 12, 2012, reminding them that their memberships had lapsed. In the one week between his messages and The Board meeting several people had renewed their memberships. All newsletters that are mailed contain renewal reminders.

Perhaps we could send automatic reminders through Pay Pal.

- Bob DaVia's Media Manager Report stated:
 - A. "Last year I was given the task of developing and maintaining our presence in Social Networking. I established a Twitter account @OBLHS, and started a new Facebook page (www.facebook.com/#!/groups/oblhs/). As of Wednesday, May 16, 2012, we have 141 members on the Facebook page, and 17 "Followers" on Twitter. My future plans are to increase the posts made to Twitter and Facebook with lighthouse happenings, as well as trivia and other fun things. My thanks to Diana and Judy for helping administer the Facebook site."
 - B. Media Manager: Develops, manages, and maintains OBLHS's presence on social networks to offer postings on special events and trivia challenges; answers specific queries with the goal of increasing visits to the social network page by lighthouse enthusiasts through sites such as Facebook. The Media Manager will check social network pages no less than once a week.

- Fundraising Report from Bruce Roberts

These are difficult economic times, especially because of Irene, which makes East Carolina Bank's \$5,000 grant for the Bodie Island Homecoming even more appreciated. (Mention of this donation was made at the 2011 meeting and will continue to be noted through the celebration.)

- Treasurer's report from Diana Chappell:
 - A. The Treasurer purchased Certificates of Deposit (\$10,000 for one year, \$10,000 for two years, and \$10,000 for three years) after the 2011 Board meeting.

B. Our balance as of April 30, 2012	
General Fund	\$12,605.99
Bodie Island Fund	\$ 9285.99
PayPal	\$ 671.36
CD's	\$30,861.22
BOLD Fund	<u>\$ 4,852.12</u>
	\$58,276.68

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

C. Donations:

Thanks to Diana Chappell, McKesson Corporation donated again this year in the amount of \$750.00.

Memorials were received for Mary Dobson and MB Dowd.

Clayton Elementary Fourth graders donated \$526.63.

Bill and Bett Padgett donated the money from their tree sale.

- *OBLHS Newsletter* report from Cheryl Shelton-Roberts:
 - A. Reporter, researcher, writer, and editor, Cheryl Shelton-Roberts continues enlightening and challenging our readers with creative ideas, informative updates, and enhancing pictures. Two full issues were published this year with the winter 2011 issue being eight pages larger than usual. Our next issue that will include tour information (especially full moon and nighttime climbs) will be published the end of June.
 - B. Newsletters are available on our members' site for those who wish to receive the newsletter on line.
 - C. The Board passed a motion granting the editor up to \$5,000 for publication of the *Best of Lighthouse News* which will delight our members and readers with 32 pages of articles from past issues. All members will receive a copy of this color issue printed on quality paper as one of the two issues received each year with membership. Before the winter holidays addition copies will be available for only \$4.95.
 - D. We need to keep at least one set of our *Lighthouse News* in a notebook for safe keeping. UNC and the Outer Banks History Center receive copies.
- Marketing and Tourism report from Bett Padgett :

We shipped 18,900 brochures in the last twelve months to North Carolina Welcome Centers, which leaves us enough brochures for 1½ years.

Compare the rate of distribution:

17,400 in 2011

13,050 in 2010

Paramount in our continuing brochure related efforts will be grant procurement to help offset the \$600 shipping cost per year and the printing costs, especially since our printer/shipper went out of business. 200 brochures were distributed at presentations and to new members.

A. The Society was mentioned in a variety of publications including

1. *The Keeper's Log* of United States Lighthouse Society
2. *Island Free Press*
3. *Economist*
4. *Lighthouse Digest*
5. *Raleigh News and Observer*
6. *My Heart Will Always Be in Carolina*

B. The Society has been represented at occasions including

1. Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum
2. Cape Lookout—presentation of Power Squadron plaque in keepers quarters
3. Power Squadron in Winston-Salem
4. Power Squadron in Rocky Mount
5. Topsail Island Historical Society
6. Rotary Club in Cary
7. Power Squadron in Charlotte
8. Chicamacomico LSS Heroes' Day
9. OBXMas—assisted with decoration at Hatteras and Plymouth
10. Midgett's Beachcomber Museum—collection of Nellie Myrtle Midgett
11. Meetings of Friends of Cape Lookout

- The Keepers' Store report from Judy Moon indicated that the total from the online orders were \$63.31 in 2010, \$105.25 in 2011, and \$45.89 to date in 2012. The Keepers' Weekend Store Sales were \$478.50 in 2010 and \$270.00 in 2011.

A. Ideas for the Keepers' Store:

1. Put a sales flyer in a newsletter.
2. Design tumblers (The Board discussed their design, number, and lids.)
3. Offer label pins and patches.

B. A motion passed unanimously giving Judy Moon the authority to pursue the design and contract for tumblers and coffee mugs with initial expense to The Society being no greater than \$1,000.

- C. The need for a new tee shirt was discussed. Virginia Howell and Bruce Roberts will create a design for the new shirts.
- Website administrator: Virginia Howell
 - A. Web Administrator: Develops, manages, and maintains the Web sites and overall Internet presence of the Outer Banks Lighthouse Society; checks for any references to the Outer Banks Lighthouse Society on other websites twice a year for appropriate usage of our logo and links used only with OBLHS's approval; checks to assure that information posted by the organization on NC lighthouses is up-to-date within six months; pursues any inappropriate uses of OBLHS sites and corrects any misuses; creates backups of files and determines that at least one other person has copies of these files and is capable of posting should the position be left for any reason.
 1. We will keep the store up to date.
 2. We will work with Pay Pal to assure that the services and calculations necessary for OBLHS are provided.
 - B. President Padgett shares up-to-date information about our lighthouses four times a year through the *Lighthouse Update*. These appear in the two regular newsletters and two separate issues during the year. The Board appreciates the work that goes into these publications.
 - C. Cheryl and Bruce Roberts have distributed to teachers much information including suggested activities, maps, and booklets. Virginia Howell will post all of this material to our website.
 1. We will have a Teachers' Page on the website, which will be readily available for all who need it.
 2. On the Students' Page there will be information for students to submit their lighthouse pictures.
 3. Children can submit pictures taken at 3 lighthouses and their names will be published on our Kid's Corner; they can also earn an appointment as an honorary North Carolina Lighthouse Keeper.
 4. Gayle Keresey will post her updated research with URL's, bibliography, background information, suggested classroom activities, and scavenger hunt lists for each North Carolina lighthouse.
 5. Families, teachers, students, community leaders, and government officials can find our educational material on our website, through Facebook, Twitter, and word of mouth.
 6. The Outer Banks Lighthouse Society will continue to sponsor three grants of up to \$1,000 each for assisting public school groups with transportation, climbing fees, and other expenses related to lighthouse visits. **The Educational Lighthouse Visitation application deadline is January 31, 2013.**

Send all applications to Dr. Mabry O'Donnell at odonnelm@marietta.edu. (A copy of the application form is attached to these minutes.) Old Baldy's Lighthouse Learner's program received \$1,000 to offset travel/ferry expenses for the Southport Elementary School fourth grade students to visit on April 5, 2012.

- The revised OBLHS By-laws presented by the committee--Mabry O'Donnell, Cheryl Shelton-Roberts, Richard Meissner, and Jim O'Donnell--were tweaked and unanimously adopted. (A copy of the revised By-laws is attached to these minutes.) Virginia Howell and Bett Padgett will put these on our website.
- The Nominating Committee (Richard Meissner, Jim O'Donnell, and Mabry O'Donnell) nominated the following people for a three year term on The Board. All were approved and their names will be presented at The Society's fall meeting.

Nicole DaVia, Richard Meissner, Judy Moon, Jim O'Donnell, Mabry O'Donnell, Bett Padgett, Bill Padgett, Bruce Roberts, and Cheryl Shelton-Roberts

- Nominated and unanimously elected by The Board to continue to serve The Society are the following:
 - President Bett Padgett (2 year term)
 - Vice President Cheryl Shelton-Roberts (2 year term)
 - Secretary(ies) Jim and Mabry O'Donnell (1 year term)
 - Treasurer Diana Chappell (1 year term)
 - Fundraising Chair Bruce Roberts (1 year term)
 - Membership Chair Robert DaVia (1 year term)
 - Special Events Chair Bett Padgett (1 year term)
 - We will enlist the help of the members.
 - Web Administrator Virginia Howell (1 year term)
 - Media Manager Bob DaVia (1 year term)
 - Store Keeper Judy Moon (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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Ocracoke Award:

Paula and Lauren Liebrecht 2006

Jane Morgan 2006

Roanoke River Lighthouse Award:

Edenton Historical Commission 2011

- Discussion of projects:
 - A. Bodie Island Homecoming and members' meeting is tentatively planned for October 18-19, 2013.
 - B. Diana Chappell will continue to collect information about a Grave Markers Program as well as observe the New England program.
 - C. Old Baldy Foundation hired a consultant for planning a museum to house its lens, and there is an initial building design. OBF has 30% of the parts from the original lens.
 - D. The Cape Lookout supporters continue working to retrieve their original lens from its current location in Rhode Island. Hopefully Rhode Islanders will be content with modern optics and the historic light may be returned southward.
 - E. Chicamacomico Life-Saving Station continues to thrive and survive even though they have experienced massive water surges and lack of sufficient funding. The Board voted to give Chicamacomico a onetime only \$5,000 grant for operational expenses contingent upon receipt of an approved grant application.
 - F. Keepers' Weekend: October 5-7, 2012
 1. The final plans will be announced through e-mail and *Lighthouse News*.
 2. Atlantic Towers Condominiums at Carolina Beach, North Carolina, will provide comfortable and reasonable lodging.
 3. The Federal Point group will join us.
 4. The dinner cruise replete with a clear public address system should provide convivial ambience for an entertaining speaker, awards, raffle, and a refocused auction.
 5. Items suggested for the auction are
 - a. Traveling necklace
 - b. Rick Ward-- replica of Price's Creek Lighthouse
 - c. Theresa Ward--lighthouse wall hanging
 - d. Virginia Howell--bag
 - e. Cheryl Shelton-Roberts--Civil War basket

f. Gift baskets--Judy Moon, Diana Chappell,
Richard Meissner

G. Bodie Island Lighthouse and the Homecoming will be our primary objectives for the next year.

- Next Meeting: Saturday, May 18, 2013, at 9:30 a.m., Dare County Public Library, Manteo, North Carolina.
- Ever cognizant of the perils facing our beloved lighthouses, The Board, led by its President and Founders continue its work toward the preservation of the lighthouses and maritime history of North Carolina. For sixteen years, OBLHS has striven for bright burning lights and safely maintained lighthouses.
- The meeting was adjourned at 2:46 p.m. (one hour and eight minutes earlier than in 2011)

Respectfully submitted,

James H. O'Donnell, Ph.D.

Mabry M. O'Donnell, Ph.D.