

OUTER BANKS LIGHTHOUSE SOCIETY (OBLHS) BOARD

Twenty-fifth Annual Meeting

Saturday, April 4, 2020

Meeting conducted virtually via Zoom video conferencing

Amended May 2020

Board members who were virtually present:

Diana Chappell, Robert DaVia, Nicole DaVia, Aida Havel, John Havel, Gayle Keresey, Judy Moon, Bett Padgett, Kelly Waller, and Doug Stover, Bruce Roberts, and Cheryl Shelton-Roberts

Guest

James Charlet, 2020 Board member nomination

Acting President Diana Chappell (Diana) called the meeting to order at **9:46 a.m.** Although we missed our traditional night-before social, we confirmed with one another that we are friends, indeed like family, and that we endeavor to benefit our lighthouses by our efforts that are expressed in our individual ways and as worked within committees. During a difficult time of a pandemic and self-isolation, our lighthouses serve as a much-needed source of inspiration and reason for us to carry forward our goals.

Roll call was performed by voice responses. An updated list of contacts will be sent to all Board members via email along with the minutes for correction; additionally, the secretary is required to send updated versions of the Board members' contact list via e-mail each time there is a change.

After Aida Havel (Aida) corrected the 2019 Board meeting minutes to include Cape Hatteras National Seashore Deputy Superintendent Mark Dowdle as an attending guest last year, the minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Aida received an **Inspector's efficiency red star pin** in accordance with the 1912 U.S. Bureau of Lighthouses system for one year's service on the Board; Doug Stover (Doug) received an **Inspector's efficiency blue star pin** for three years' service on the Board. We thank Diana for keeping track of these awards to date and presenting them.

NPS Update: Jami Lanier (Jami) of the National Park Service (NPS) sent the Board a report about the future repairs and restoration of Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. John Havel

(John) and Doug are on the committee to communicate with the park and facilitate in planning.

A follow-up meeting, called a “value analysis,” is planned and Doug and John are to attend. The first meeting was cancelled due to a family death in the meeting facilitator’s family; subsequently, the group of 23 participants will meet virtually April 21, 22, 23. The meeting’s focus is to look through all of engineer Quinn Evans’ plans and discuss exactly what is going to be done to the lighthouse. In addition to repairs at the lighthouse, the oil house will be restored to a period of significance. The NPS balked at the \$1million cost to put in a replica Fresnel lens, which John (and many Board members) wants very much to see done. Some lead has been discovered in the lighthouse and must be mitigated. This work is to begin summer or winter 2021, but Jami’s details were not clear as to a start date.

The **officers’ and committee chairs’ reports** were sent via email to Board members prior to the meeting to read; due to a virtual meeting, hard copies could not be distributed as is traditionally done at our annual in-person Board meetings. Each officer/chair presented to the Board via oral communication format; it is appreciated that each person who gave a report were well prepared!

Donations: Treasurer Robert DaVia (Bob) reported that OBLHS received \$1,115.17 in donations over the past year. Donations for the silent and live auction items used at the October 2019 Annual Keeper’s Weekend in Corolla is detailed in the Treasurer’s Report.

Education Committee: (Gayle) Keresey, Chair

A. Gayle worked with John to complete the **NC Lighthouse Explorer Patch** for OBLHS. The name was changed from Scout or Youth Patch in order to serve more interested individuals. Instead of setting an age limit, it will be made available to anyone who earns the patch by accomplishing seven of ten listed activities and the appropriate paperwork is mailed to Gayle for approval and awarding. A form letter will accompany the earned patch to each recipient. No patch will be awarded without receipt of satisfactory paperwork.

B. During the course of the meeting and working his magic, John asked the Board to go to the OBLHS.org website’s homepage to see his newly placed ad for the NC Lighthouse Explorer Patch. Clicking on the brightly colored icon takes a visitor to the page with information about the patch and how to earn one.

C. We applaud Diana for having been the first to earn a patch! All Board members are also urged to do the same.

NEXT STEPS:

– Board members will work with one another to make sure the OBLHS NC Lighthouse Explorer Patch Program is advertised on our website, in the annual newsletter, on Facebook and other social media, and mentioned during school presentations and in communications with other lighthouses.

– Note: The Patch project specifically involved John, Judy Moon (Judy), Gayle, and Bob, and we hope they continue their good work and urge other Board members to help. During this time of quarantine, it is an excellent opportunity to offer at-home activities for families. Judy has been busy again posting information having to do with the patch for her area in AltaVista, Virginia. Thanks go to John for already putting a big green button on the oblhs.org webpage to draw attention to the patch. The link leads to the education page and other activities as well.

– John will provide artwork for the patch to anyone wishing to advertise the opportunity to earn one to any group, organization, or individual.

– Aida will contact the Girl Scout troop on Hatteras Island.

– Cheryl Shelton-Roberts (Cheryl) will contact the US Lighthouse Society and Lighthouse Digest about the availability of our “NC Lighthouse Explorers Patch,” and offer a link to oblhs.org/. John will post a direct link to the patch and directions on how to earn one on the Society’s website’s home (main) page.

– Bett Padgett (Bett) will continue to reach out to the NC department of social studies via email to alert them to OBLHS’s resources including the patch.

– Bett and Cheryl will serve on the education committee with Gayle as Chair.

Fundraising: Everyone

A. The Board voted to combine two committee functions into a newly named Fundraising and Grants Committee as suggested by Doug. This committee will work to raise monies for OBLHS while applying to resources for grants to fund our projects.

B. The Board voted to rename its formerly “Lighthouse Learners Grants” as the “Education and Student Travel and Project Grants” within the Education Committee to more accurately describe its goals.

C. Applications for student travel and project grants come to the OBLHS, P.O. Box 1005 in Morehead City, NC 28557. Cheryl or Bruce Roberts (Bruce) will forward them to a Board member involved in these activities.

D. Doug has already met a person connected with Pepsi and will pursue any interest in that company to helping with OBLHS projects. Doug pointed out that for the next year or two that North Carolina lighthouse are well funded, so we can look at projects in the \$10,000-\$100,000 range; e.g. we could help with widening the sidewalk to serve those who have to wait to climb Cape Hatteras. Doug emphasized that we list projects to work on and that we help all NC lighthouses including Plymouth and Edenton. Diana suggested that the Society list lower dollar projects (\$10,000 and up) and apply for grants; these projects should be printed on a PR brochure that will be created by John and

other Board members including Doug and Bett. The Board agreed that all Board members should help with fundraising so that we know what is going on.

E. Bob wants Board members to find matching grant opportunities like those that Diana procured by reporting her volunteer hours to one of her employers and the company made a matching donation. OBLHS qualifies because it is a nonprofit organization in good standing and is allowed to accept matching donations.

F. Bob volunteered work on setting up paperwork to qualify us for any matching grant opportunities like that Diana received at her former employer. Doug pointed out that we could apply for grants from companies such as Pepsi that also has a matching grant program as well as opportunities to receive a straight donation.

NEXT STEPS:

- John will work with Doug to put the PR together to go to area businesses and interested individuals.
- OBLHS projects will be listed on this PR brochure that is meant to be part of a package given out to media and other public contacts to educate them on OBLHS and its accomplishments and goals. It is suggested that we begin with the widening of the sidewalk for climbers waiting to get climbing tickets at the Cape Hatteras Light as its first project.
- Doug will explore Pepsi’s interest in helping OBLHS with its projects.
- All Board members will look for opportunities to raise funds for our future projects as well as the brochure and newsletter printing.
- Bob will prepare paperwork required to gain and accept matching grants from employers and other interested companies.

Graphic Art/Website: John Havel, Webmaster

A. During July 2019, John worked with Doug and Judy Moon (Judy) to attend all meetings for the 20th celebration of the relocation of the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. John designed and created all signage, posters, badges, and supportive photography. With these specially designed materials, a wonderful display was installed by Jami (NPS) and her assistant, Clair, with assistance from John and Aida. Unfortunately, the room and its displays have been closed due to the pandemic. But, we have the displays to look forward to when facilities reopen in the future, thanks to John’s devoted work on the move display. These efforts allowed artifacts to be placed on display including the wind vane and anemometer that were ripped off by a hurricane. The Board thanked both John and Aida for their hard work on this display and all the efforts put into planning the move celebration July 1, 2019. The event was a *great success* and the display/exhibit will last for generations to remind those unfamiliar with the history that took place on this hallowed ground in 1999 that the event was celebrated in 2009 and 2019.

B. The PowerPoint presentation has been placed on the website, Facebook, and at our Twitter account @OBLHS. To find it quickly, any interested individual may go to oblhs.org and click on the “NC Lighthouses,” and scroll down the page below range lights and see Bett’s video. Visitors to the website can also click video “The Guiding Lights of North Carolina” from the Kid’s Corner and Teacher Resources section of the website.

C. Currituck Beach Lighthouse has new manager overlooking both the Island Farm (Manteo) and the lighthouse (Corolla) and is named “obcinc.org.”

D. Some Board of Directors’ names have changed, and John asked that we check the oblhs.org site, click on “About Us” at the bottom of the page, and make sure information listed about each of us is accurate. This includes adding ex officio and honorary members. Aida volunteered to help with these changes. He also put our standard OBLHS logo back up instead of the 25th anniversary logo. Aida continues to help John.

E. On OBLHS.org, “News and Events” link: John wrote a full piece on the 20th anniversary of the move accompanied by many photos. Great job, John! John needs the 150th anniversary piece finished and posted. These are just some of the many improvements and changes have been made to the website.

F. All Board of Directors are to check for broken links and notify John immediately.

NEXT STEPS:

- John will continue to add updates provided by all Board members.
- We will all strive to give John needed content for the website to keep it current and interesting to give OBLHS a positive, impressive public face.
- Cheryl will provide all Board minutes and John will convert them to pdf and post.

Fundraising and Grant Committee (newly named): Doug Stover, Chair

A. No grant applications were submitted to OBLHS during 2019. Our grant program is not in abeyance; it is simply a matter of schools taking few trips. This year, we are in a time of halted plans, interrupted meeting schedules, and hesitancy to reopen school due to COVID-19 restrictions.

B. Although the possibility of reaching teachers and other interested individuals during 2020 looks unpromising we will continue to “advertise” our grant opportunities via social media and other contacts.

NEXT STEPS

- Doug will continue to offer Dare County Schools a presentation on lighthouses and get the word out that we offer two different grants.

The Keepers’ Store: Kelly Waller (Kelly) assisted by Judy Moon

A. Keepers' Weekend Sales were reported as: \$366.00

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Total Store Sales: | 728.50 |
| Tax collected: | 0.00 |
| Shipping | 84.50 |
| Total | \$ 813.00 |

| | |
|---|------------|
| Inventory on Hand at Retail: | \$7,743.50 |
| Inventory of new polo shirts purchased: | \$ 634.46 |
| Total Inventory Keeper's Store: | \$8,377.96 |

B. Kelly ordered the new OBLHS polo shirts for the Oct 2019 event; however, there are few new items in the store at this time. Thanks, Kelly and Judy, the new shirt is great!

C. Diana still holds the Bodie Island Lighthouse Descendants homecoming event (BOLD) T-shirts; she suggests that for us to find them good homes, she will send an email to members with sizes available and that we will give tees to those who will pay postage. Diana will work on an email to members to accomplish this project. It is approximately \$6 per T-shirt for postage and she will mention the BOLD book, which we still have many in inventory. Diana checks when she is in the Nags Head area to see if the Eastern National bookstore has them available because she has found in the past that although the store has them in inventory, they are not kept stocked on the shelf. Judy will ask Jamie Anderson at Downtown Books in Manteo, an advocate for "local" books, to carry the books, even if on consignment. And we feel strongly that the BOLD books should be sold at the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse since it is within the Cape Hatteras National Seashore and a local light. Cheryl pointed out that several keepers who served at Cape Hatteras also served at Bodie Island and vice versa. Aida will ask GeeGee Rosell at Buxton Village Books if she will carry them. Diana will check the prices so all of us can approach booksellers; John will ask Meghan at Currituck Beach for which Bev Parker is the buyer at the lighthouse.

D. Diana suggested not to give the books away but perhaps offer them at half price. Aida suggested that we reach out to the bookstores before offering them at a discount or for free. John will go to Bodie and urge the manager to keep the books available.

NEXT STEPS:

– Diana will email the membership and offer a free BOLD T-shirt if they will pay postage; this T-shirt is from the 2013 Bodie Island Descendants Homecoming bearing the logo from original artwork by (the late) Glenn Eure.

– The following Board members will contact a bookstore to promote sales of the BOLD book: Judy – Downtown Books

John – Bodie Island and Cape Hatteras Eastern National bookstores and Bev Parker at Currituck Beach Light

Aida – Buxton Village Books

Media: Bob DaVia, Manager

A. Followers continue to increase on our social media platforms. Bob started an Instagram account in March 2019. We also have a Twitter account in addition to a highly active Facebook page. There remains a need to distinguish between members of the Facebook group and actual Society members.

| <i>Social Media</i> | <i>2020</i> | <i>2019</i> | <i>2018</i> | <i>2017</i> | |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| FACEBOOK | 2941 | 2773 | 2641 | 2,170 | Begun May 2012 |
| TWITTER | 84 | 69 | 50 | 46 | Begun May 2012 |
| INSTAGRAM | 93 | 53 | | | Begun April 2019 |

B. Judy monitors the Facebook page for OBLHS and approves those who request to join the group. She is strict about solicitation and reminds people that no sales are to be made on our page; she feels the page must be kept “clean,” or otherwise, people will run away with it. People will repeatedly try to reach her by Messenger, but she sticks to the “clean” standards. Bob is strict with solicitors also. No bad language, no suggestive photos are allowed. Bett asked if Judy needs help, but she said we just need help getting new members.

C. Bob suggested an ad in *Lighthouse Digest* that runs about \$25. They ran a piece about John and the 20th anniversary. Kathleen Finnegan, managing editor, might give us a discount as a nonprofit organization. Bob reported that an ad is \$22 for up to 25 words (approx.). There is a caveat in that some media resources refuse to advertise our event because we require a membership in order to attend.

Bett reminded John to check Google analytics to see where our website visitors come from and what page(s) they go to.

Next Step:

– John will contact Ms. Finnegan at *Lighthouse Digest* about an ad for OBLHS.

Note: The Board expressed its gratitude to Bob for administering these sites and keeping track of their growth. We also thank Judy for helping to monitor the page(s) as well. Great Teamwork!

- **Membership report:** Judy Moon, Chair and Director

- A.** Active Members beginning in 2009 (originally begun in 1994)

| | | |
|------------|------------|------------|
| 2009---470 | 2013---370 | 2017---222 |
| 2010---354 | 2014---389 | 2018---190 |
| 2011---449 | 2015---333 | 2019---196 |
| 2012---429 | 2016---212 | 2020---173 |

A. OBLHS membership is down despite new members. We lost 35 regular members and gained 12 new members. Diana pointed out that Judy does a great job of keeping in touch with members, including a phone call to someone if she doesn't hear from him/her

in reasonable time. Many organizations are losing memberships—people are busy and distracted while some can no longer travel to join our annual events and do not want to keep paying membership. Judy stays in touch with all members as much as possible.

Note: Members are notified close to renewal date by postcard to compensate for lack of a renewal date that normally is received with a US postal-mailed newsletter. At the end of the following month, if no reply has been received, she puts them on an "inactive" list. Soon thereafter, she sends a "We want you back" postcard.

Thank you for the fine job you do, Judy to maintain/build the membership. The Board is impressed with your organization and the personal touches you give to keeping the membership.

B. Lifetime Members – *16.

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Diana Chappell | David Fraley |
| John Gottshall | Kim Gottshall |
| John Howard, Jr. | Gayle Keresey |
| Lauren Liebrecht | Paula Liebrecht |
| Leah Loar-Mays | Richard Meissner |
| Jim O'Donnell | Mabry O'Donnell |
| Sarah M. Rankin | Judy Rosson |
| Kendra Sykes | Rebecca Taylor |

OBLHS Newsletter: Cheryl Shelton-Roberts, Editor,

A. During 2019, OBLHS printed:

1. 400 copies of the special 25th anniversary edition of Vol. XXV for \$917
2. 400 copies of Vol. XXV no. 2 in November for \$953
3. 500 mailing envelopes (10x13) for \$212.

B. Professional Printing Center of Chesapeake, VA, provided web-friendly PDFs at no cost.

C. After a lengthy and interesting discussion, the Board voted to continue the hard copy of the newsletter for members since it is an integral part for what the Society stands and the respected image it keeps. It was noted that many members still do not elect to take the electronic version, preferring a hard copy to collect instead. The number of issues printed each year is decided based on expense versus money available and if content is available to the editor.

Note: Cheryl has checked with the printer and discovered that only a negligible amount is saved by printing fewer copies. These extra copies can continue to be distributed at sites that welcome the newsletter.

NEXT STEPS:

– John will work with Cheryl to update the appearance of the newsletter; possibly, a color version can be explored.

- James will contribute some of his outstanding writing as time allows during his busy schedule as a newly published author. (Congratulations, James!)
- Bett will continue to contact the NC Dept. of Social Studies; she will also research a group that the Dorothea Dix Park partners work with that honor groups working for historical sites, events that took place at them, and how they can be remembered/honored; a mention by this group can help to make the public aware of our great lighthouses and about OBLHS's work.
- To draw more attention and possible members, Diana suggested "Today in History" for our Facebook page, similar to what Sarah Spinks Downing did in her book *Today in History on the OBX*. No Board member has volunteered to create/maintain this yet. It could be fun!

Public Outreach: Bett Padgett, Chair

A. The brochure is often the Society's first impression on visitors to the Outer Banks. These brochures are placed free-of-charge at North Carolina's Visitor Centers.

B. The year-to-year comparative rate of distribution is:

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 27,435 brochures Apr '19-Mar '20 | 26,205 in 2017 |
| 21,515 in 2019 | 22,080 in 2016 |
| 26,505 in 2018 | 12,852 in 2015 |

C. Ralph Burroughs mails brochures within 24 hours of receiving a request. He worked with Diana, Cheryl, and John to design and print updated brochures. The cost of each brochure is approximately \$0.10.

D. Bett contacted Wake County Schools about the Lighthouse Travel Grant for students. The NC Dept. of Social Studies will publish an announcement in its newsletter about the grant opportunity to get kids to lighthouses.

E. Aida offered to man a table at events in Dare County. She will notify us when she can attend various events and inform the Board if there is an expense involved such as a fee to have an OBLHS table at an event. The Board will approve sponsoring a fee on an event-by-event basis. Meanwhile, Bett will watch for waterfront events and communicate with Aida about details and the possibility of participating as representatives of OBLHS.

NEXT STEPS:

- Bett will continue to contact the department of instruction at state-and-counties levels about offering presentations on NC lighthouses.
- Aida will contact the Board about any special events she can attend and display a table about OBLHS. In turn, Bob will announce OBLHS presence at an event on social media and invite anyone who wants to help to stop by the table. Judy again offered the use of

her tent/canopy; Bob will look for a good deal to purchase one for OBLHS to own and use in case Judy is unavailable; the Havelis offered to hold the tent at their home in Salvo. Our group had such a great time discussing the subject of outreach and enjoyed some much-needed laughter.

– Aida knows Amy Sasscer, Dare Education Foundation, which is akin to a contemporary PTA and supports Dare Co Schools. She will explore if we can partner with Sasscer and get lighthouse information to the schools through her.

– Doug knows Frank Hester, a former coastguardsman and currently the NPS site manager for the Cape Hatteras restoration project who also sits on the Dare County Board of Education. Doug will talk with Mr. Hester and inform him of OBLHS and what we do.

– Bett and Aida will collaborate on events relative to the OBLHS mission and discuss attendance.

– Each Board member is an ambassador for the Society and our lighthouses, and we will all strive to be advocates for them.

Special Events: Doug Stover, Chair

A. Bett asked for volunteers to help Doug with events along with her; Aida volunteered with enthusiasm to help him. Bob will take registration fees for our annual event. Bett volunteered to help with making phone calls for caterers, etc.

NEXT STEPS:

– Aida and Bett will help Doug with event planning.

– Bob will receive registration and raffle monies and see they are taken care of.

Treasurer report: Bob DaVia, Treasurer

A. Our balance as of March 28, 2020

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|--------------|-------------|
| General Fund | \$23,017.87 |
|--------------|-------------|

B. Our balance as of April 30, 2019

| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| General Fund | \$22,662.59 |
| YOY Variance | (\$ 355.28) |

C. There were no CPA fees again in 2019 because Diana Chappell performed our financial review and Bob prepared the tax return. Diana's professional help, gratis to the Society, and Bob's submission of the tax return are mandatory to maintain our organization's maintaining our 501(c) 3 status.

Note: A complete OBLHS Treasurer's report is available upon request.

D. The OBLHS 2019 Keepers Weekend netted \$1,135.45. This is an admirable amount considering the expenses involved with renting an event space in the Corolla

area. There was a great deal of work put into creating beautiful silent auction baskets and gaining items donated for the live auction. Richard Meissner along with Diana and others are to be commended for such a great job; the event was a success and everyone had a wonderful time.

NEXT STEP:

- Bob will look into investing some of the money held in the General Fund.
- Bob will take care of a duplicate payment for a gift card from the 2019 annual event.

Unfinished and Other Business:

A. Update on marker at original location of Cape Hatteras Lighthouse by John: John's marker was put in place in July 2019 and is still in pristine condition. At times after a storm, the post is "shorter," and later will appear taller as sand is redistributed, but it has remained intact.

B. Scott Babinowich, formerly a NPS temporary ranger from Vicksburg, MS, has been promoted to Chief of Interpretation for the NPS Outer Banks Group. He helped Judy, Bob, Doug, and the Havel with planning the 20th move celebration. To date, there has been no further movement on the project to establish a permanent marker at the original site of the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse before the move in 1999. John suggests that Doug involve Pepsi on a project such as this and get some movement going to bring a permanent marker to reality.

C. Doug, Judy, John, and Aida received a round of applause for all they did on the 20th event celebration of the move. Bruce attended the event also and was duly impressed. Bett performed her wonderful song "Cape Hatteras: If a Lighthouse Could Speak." It was a great day. Diana set up a table representing the Society and gave out information to attendees and visitors. NPS Supt. Hallac said that it was the best event ever at the light station he had attended; Aida read Hallac's letter that was distributed to relative participants, sent on the day of the event. He thanked John and Aida for locating and marking the original site of the lighthouse because it enables him to take a visitor and show the exact, original location. He warmly acknowledged the meaning of the event and quality of Aida's leading the panel of experts who answered questions from the audience. OBLHS has a great working relationship with the Park. Aida and John noted that Doug and Judy should have been included in Hallac's letter of appreciation for all the work they also did.

D. Grave markers: Aida wanted to pursue the subject on her own; however, the reception she got from the Board last year discouraged her from following through on the project. She got busy with details of the move celebration and the OBLHS October annual event. She won't go forward with the project without more support. Bett pointed out that we have thought about this before. Cheryl would rather have a budget for Judy or Aida, anyone local, to represent us at various events, get our membership up, and then go for a project like this. Aida would still like to discuss the logistics of the project and see if there is more interest among Board members. It is devoted efforts such as Aida's that makes this organization stand out among the others.

E. Board members reported progress on individual to-do lists. A separate list is attached to this report.

NEXT STEPS:

–Doug will consider asking Pepsi with help funding a permanent marker at the original site of the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse.

– Aida will approach the Board when she feels it the right timing about proceeding with marking known keeper’s graves with a special marker.

New Business:

A. Nomination of Directors Committee is now composed of Bett, Judy, and Aida.

B. A new Director was nominated for a 3-year term and unanimously approved by the Board: Welcome, James Charlet!

C. Diana Chappell was named our newest **Honorary Board Member** and presented with a personalize plaque with a statement of the Board’s appreciation and gavel icon.

D. Nomination and Election of officers/chairs: The following are the OBLHS Board Officers and Committee Chairs elected with universal approval.

| Officer/Chair | Nominee | Length of Term | |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| President | Bett Padgett | 2 years | 2019 - 2020 |
| Vice President | Judy Moon | 1 year | 2019 - 2020 |
| Secretary | Cheryl Shelton-Roberts | 1 year | 2019 - 2020 |
| Treasurer | Bob DaVia | 1 year | 2019 - 2020 |
| Education Committee (includes student/project grants) | Gayle, Cheryl, Bett | 1 year | 2019 - 2020 |
| Fundraising and Grants Chair | Doug Stover | 1 year | 2019 - 2020 |
| Graphic Artist | John Havel | 1 year | 2019 - 2020 |
| Media Manager | Bob DaVia | 1 year | 2019 - 2020 |
| Membership Chair | Judy Moon | 1 year | 2019 - 2020 |
| Newsletter Editor | Cheryl Shelton-Roberts | 1 year | 2019 - 2020 |
| Nominating Chair | Bett Padgett | 1 year | 2019 - 2020 |
| Public Outreach Chair | Bett Padgett | 1 year | 2019 - 2020 |
| Special Events Chairs | Doug Stover | 1 year | 2019 - 2020 |
| Store Keeper | Kelly Waller | 1 year | 2019 - 2020 |
| Website Chair | John Havel | 1 year | 2019 - 2020 |

E. 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.

SUMMARY: Our four newest Fresnel Prism Award recipients for 2020 are:

Cape Hatteras Award: Tom Ketchum

Cape Lookout Award: Paula Foster

Roanoke River Lighthouse Award: Karen Mastin

Currituck Beach Award: Chris Revelee

President's Award: Aida Havel

Gayle moved and John seconded after which a unanimous voice vote finalized the approval.

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 |

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|--|------|
| 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 |
| 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 Lamphop | 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 |

2020 Annual Keepers Weekend plans: John and Aida started planning last October; however, the COVID-19 quarantine has plans up in the air. They have already gathered an impressive list of possible activities for that weekend. Bett pointed out that traditionally we send out information about the weekend to members each August. The Board agreed to at least block off rooms for a discount tentatively for the first weekend in October 2020. We need to have the right to cancel if plans are cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions. We might have to plan some of the venues in Avon because facilities on Hatteras Island are limited. Aida and John and Doug will continue to inquire about renting a place including the Fessenden Center. We are grateful that we have Board members who are local to Hatteras Island, which facilitates in planning. If we settle on October 2-4, it could afford an opportunity to participate in a full-moon climb at the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. Aida will check on Hatteras Island events and Bett will check on other groups planning Outer Banks events that might conflict with our plans and report back to the Board. John pointed out that there will be a celebration of Cape Hatteras Light's 150th birthday, but these plans are also at a standstill. **Summary:** If our event is

cancelled in October, there will be a second chance at a gathering in December 16 at Cape Hatteras. The following day is the Wright Bros event in Kill Devil Hills.

James has reached out to the Hatteras Inlet Coast Guard Station for help to get our group out to the Diamond Shoals Light Station—a very special option. If this were to happen, we would likely have a third day, perhaps for Friday. Also discussed is a visit and tour to the Little Kinnakeet Life-Saving Station.

Danny Couch has a large bus and conducts island tours, which is a good optional activity. Bett suggested that we have two simultaneously occurring activities where half our group does one thing and the other half does another. The Hatteras Weather Bureau Station is being rebuilt at this time but remains an optional place to visit. Bett suggested that we have a presentation during lunch but not at dinner due to a long day's activities and attendees get tired.

If we have this year's event at Cape Hatteras we can return to Cape Lookout in 2021 since work on the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse is queued for 2021.

We will revisit this mid-June to attempt to make more solid event plans for this year with Aida as our lead contact.

Bob brought up that we can still hold our raffle whether we have the event at Cape Hatteras or not. He said some have complained that the font is so small on the tickets, so Bett volunteered to take care of the tickets and check on improving the font size. We can also have some silent auction baskets for sale, but postage expense could be an issue.

Bob would like to see Joseph Smith give a presentation for the Society portraying Augustin Fresnel. We will look into the possibility of this for a future event.

Establish regular communication with members: We need to send regular emails and make frequent posts to the website and Facebook. We used to do a quarterly contact with lighthouse stewards and our members about every three months. Bett suggested that if there is an event like a lightning strike or some improvement that we should send an email to all members. We can post “News Bulletins.” All agreed that announcements on Facebook are good for short-term announcements.

Official membership drive: We can offer keepers' descendants a special rate for membership. We can ask our members to sign on a friend to help us increase our membership. But in consideration of many losing jobs/income during this pandemic, we can continue memberships even if they don't renew. Judy will inform current members that if they cannot renew that they will be kept on the roster.

Building the Bogue Banks Front Range Lights: Richard Meissner has spoken with the superintendent of Ft. Macon, but plans are also on hold there for this project due to COVID-19 restrictions.

We continue our main goal: Get schools to use our travel and special project grants. We have tried several venues and we will consider an ad in *Our State* magazine; Judy and Kelly have gone to the Tyrrell and Dare County School boards to give out information. The Education and Public Outreach Committees can work together to continue trying to get this information out. Kelly asked if we could have a special “spinoff” Facebook page just for our educational offerings on NC lights. A link on Facebook directly to the website’s education page is a good idea. Bob can set the page up and Gayle can create the content. Kelly suggested that we put links to the NC Lighthouse Explorer Patch or educational activities. John is fully aware that a link on Facebook drives traffic to the website. Judy will put pictures with links to the coloring book and word games and other activities with a link to each specific page; John will help. Bett will alert local Raleigh schools of these links.

Joining the US Lighthouse Society: *Summary* As an established affiliate group of the USLHS, we are offered the same basic benefits as one of their chapters. We can use any of their resources and even go to them for advice. They offer help with printing or taxes, etc. It might serve us best at this time to remain independent. Being a chapter would certainly bring us recognition. Aida is interested in learning of any restrictions the USLHS would put on us as a chapter and Cheryl will gather and summarize this info and report to the Board.

Service pins: The Board voted to continue the tradition of giving service pins to Board members after one and three years’ service.

Potential donations: John has a list of companies that use the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse on their logos. Cheryl suggested that we contact these companies to get donations.

Board Meeting 2021: Coastal Studies Institute: Doug has a contact there and will reserve their meeting room. **Saturday April 24, 2021 at 9:30 am.** See you there! If you bring gratuities, remember it is completely voluntary.

In closing, Bett thanked everyone for their service to the Board. Judy pointed out that inquiries to the website go to Bett and Judy now and we thank Diana for her efficient handling of these inquiries in the past. And we welcomed James Charlet to our group! We plan to bring the life-saving stations into our purview along with the lighthouse service as John suggested. And we welcome Bett back to the presidency!

The virtual Board meeting adjourned at 1:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Shelton-Roberts, May 17, 2020