



THE POMHAM GLOW

Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse,
A Chapter of the American Lighthouse Foundation
Mission Statement

To ensure the historic restoration and preservation of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse and to improve public awareness, appreciation and access to Pomham Rocks Lighthouse.

MARCH 2019

POMHAM'S NEW CHAIRMAN WAS KEEPER IN 1970'S



NEW CHAIRMAN AT POMHAM ROCKS LIGHTHOUSE

On December 2nd, 2019, Joe Estrella, our Chairman of the Board of Directors for the last two years stepped down. Joe's vast experience in the construction trade was critical during Pomham Rocks Lighthouse's last two stages of restoration; reestablishing electrical service in 2017 and interior restoration in 2018. Joe will continue on as one of the members of the Board of Directors and will remain very active with Pomham's maintenance and care. Thank you, Joe, for your tireless dedication & expertise.

Our new Chairman is former keeper, Dennis Tardiff. Dennis' association with Pomham Rocks began in 1971 when he reported to Pomham Rocks Light Station as a 19-year-old U.S. Coast Guardsman. He served at Pomham until it's decommissioning in June of 1974. In 2016, after a 42-year hiatus, Dennis joined Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse. The following year he found himself elected to the Board of Directors. Dennis will help care for our beautiful lighthouse by using his years of engineering experience in the U.S. Coast Guard and later, the Utilities division of manufacturing firm.

The annual banquet was held at Rhode Island Yacht Club. Members enjoyed views of Narragansett bay and of course a distance view of the lighthouse. We would like to thank RIYC once again for their generosity of hosting our annual banquet. Another thank you to our events committee for organizing the event.



Annual Banquet at RIYC



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2019 MEMBERSHIP DUES

2019 Membership Dues letters were mailed out January 10th. Please renew your membership with Pomham Rocks Lighthouse. Your continuing support enables us to maintain our beautifully restored lighthouse. Thank you!

Membership Levels are as follows:

Assistant Keeper (Full time Student)

\$15.00

Individual Membership

\$30.00

Family Membership

(Those living under same roof) \$50.00

Lighthouse Inspector

\$100.00

Lighthouse Superintendent

\$250.00

Corporate Membership

\$250.00

Commissioner of Lighthouses

\$500.00

**Please make checks payable to Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 15121

Riverside, Rhode Island 02915

BOATS STATUS

The Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse has two boats to facilitate our trips to the island. The smaller Trip Angler outboard powered boat was donated to Pomham Rocks by the City of East Providence some years ago. It is currently in winter storage and is our back-up vessel. Our primary vessel, built in 1982, is the 22' diesel powered Crosby launch "Lady Pomham" purchased from Bristol Yacht Club in 2012. The "Lady Pomham" is remaining in the water at Rhode Island Yacht Club for our periodic inspection trips to the island over the winter. It will return to its usual East Providence dock in April. The "Lady Pomham" is a U.S. Coast Guard inspected 46 CFR sub-chapter "T" boat. The U.S. Coast Guard requires the crew to go through annual "in water" inspections, such as "man overboard" recovery, fire suppression, flooding control and loss of steering. The U.S. Coast Guard also inspects the underwater portion of the hull when we take the vessel out of the water for annual painting and maintenance.

Since the "Lady Pomham" was acquired by Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse, Joe Estrella has been the only qualified Captain available to pilot the vessel since it is a U.S. Coast Guard inspected vessel. Joe holds a 100 GRT Merchant Mariners Master's license issued by the U.S. Coast Guard. As of this fall, we have two more qualified Captains. Dennis Tardiff and Alex Dias both took the rigorous 100 GRT Master's course, as well as the Marine Radio

Operators test. Dennis and Alex became licensed United States Coast Guard Captains in the fall of 2018.

POMHAM SANTA

Santa came to the Riverside shoreline again this year, sponsored by the Friends of Pomham rocks Lighthouse. December 3rd was a very cold day, but Santa is used to that kind of weather, so he was comfortable, as for the rest of the crew, not really.

Andy Leddy was our Santa. Dennis Tardiff, Adam Dias, Joe Estrella and Alex Dias served as the vessel's crew and Dave Kelleher was Santa's elf. Santa sailed out from Cove Haven Marina in Bullocks Cove and cruised along the Terrace's east side where families greeted us from their decks and yards. We continued on to the jetty, where a group greeted us, as well as a group on the Barrington shore. Santa cruised around the tip of the terrace to the terrace's west side and again, he was greeted by people on their decks. Sabin point had a large group of children and parents waiting who waved to Santa as he arrived. Captain Joe made a couple of turns along that shore line before heading back to RIYC.

Thanks to Dunkin Donuts and Proud Mary's for donating refreshments. Events committee volunteers on shore included Mary Chase, Anne Greene, Pat Estrella, Kathy Turbitt, Louise Paiva and Carlene Joiner.

Everybody enjoyed Santa's visit this year and were looking forward to the upcoming Pomham Santa.

SAVE THE BAY TOURS

Save the bay will have 7 beautiful tours of Rhode Island lighthouses this summer. Maybe you would like to join me on one of these tours? As this may be the last time I narrate these tours. There are two sets of tours: the northern tour, which has a stop at Pomham Rocks and then tours down the bay to view 6 more lighthouses and three sites of where a lighthouse once stood. The tour costs \$55.00 and leaves from the Save the Bay building in Providence at 1:00 p.m. and returns around 4:00 p.m. The dates for the northern tour are June 6, July 20, and Sept 14.

The ultimate lighthouse tours, which is a daylong tour, leaves the Save the Bay building in Providence at 9:00 a.m. and returns at 4:00 p.m. The cost is \$100.00 and includes a box lunch. This tour cruises down the bay through the west passage, goes around Beavertail into Newport and then up the east passage back to Providence. Along the way you will view 16 lighthouses and 4 sites of lost lighthouses including a stop at Rose Island Lighthouse for a tour and lunch. The dates for this tour are June 22, July 28, August 10, and September 14.

A portion of the profits on all 7 of these tours goes to Pomham Rocks Lighthouse. There will also be two tours for the youngsters from the Save the Bay summer camps on July 9 and 18.

-Dave Kelleher

ANNUAL SHORE CLEAN UP

Our annual shore clean-up will take place this year on Saturday April 27 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The rain date will be Sunday April 28 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We will clean up the area from the water treatment plant to Exxon's property. This is the shoreline area that we worked on for a number of years but have not done so for the last three years. This is an area of the shore line that is not attended to by any other group.

We will meet on the grounds of the water treatment plant located at 1 Crest Ave in Riverside, just off Bullocks Point. Ave. We will gather at the north end of the grounds, where there will be parking. The Suez company members will be working with us as they have done in the past. Members of the Riverside Renaissance group will also join us. Coffee and refreshments will be available. Bags and gloves will be provided by the City. Please contact Dave Kelleher if you are planning on volunteering at lighthouse1936@verizon.net or 401-433-2763 by Friday April 26. Thank you and we hope to see you there!

MUSEUM

Members of the Museum Committee have been hard at work over the winter. They have acquired, catalogued and prepared for display artwork and historical artifacts related to Pomham Rocks Lighthouse and the other four East Providence lighthouses that no longer exist – Bullocks Point, Sabin Point, Fuller Rock and Sassafras Point. The group is committed to finding and preserving examples of lighthouse history and making them available for the public to view. Education is key to their mission, and they want to preserve these remnants of the past in order to inform current and future generations.

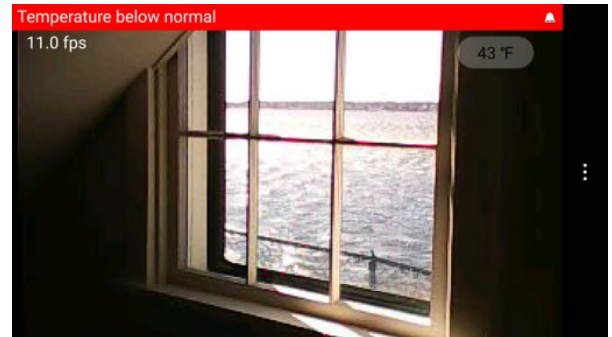
Some small artifacts and publications have been acquired that need to be protected and displayed. The group is seeking the help of local residents in providing museum-quality cases to display the items for all to see, as well as for items related to any of the East Providence lighthouses. Below are some examples of what is needed:



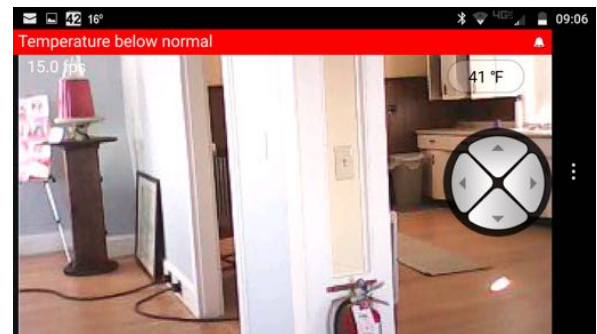
POMHAM ROCKS LIGHTHOUSE

WIFI

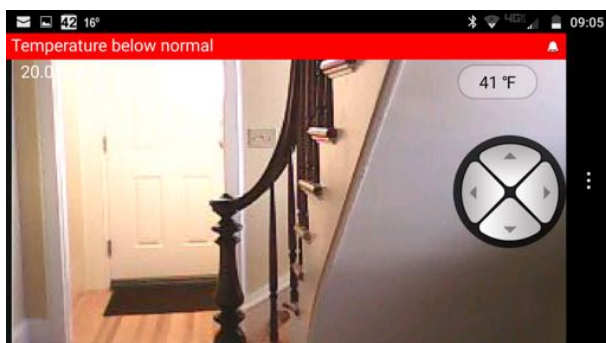
Yes, believe it or not, Pomham Rocks Lighthouse has WiFi. A dedicated member, Brad Huntley was the Systems Architect and Installer of a robust high quality, “Point to Point” system. We have the same kind of WiFi service you have at home. With Brad’s continuing help, we have installed an interior surveillance camera on the first floor which also shows the ambient temperature. We also have a new 3000-watt heater in the basement that we can control by using an app on our phones. The other 4000-watt heaters throughout the lighthouse are thermostatically controlled and will be replaced with WiFi enabled ones as they wear out. All the heaters are in place to minimally heat the interior of the lighthouse in an attempt to preserve the beautiful new plaster and wood work by keeping the temperature above freezing. There are plans to expand upon the WiFi system to provide additional surveillance this summer.



A view from the camera



A view from the camera



A view from the camera

2019 WORK PARTY SEASON

All those interesting in participating in this season of work parties at the lighthouse, please indicate your interest when sending in your membership application to receive more information. We hope to see you volunteering out at the light!

2019 EVENTS

APRIL 27: ANNUAL SHORE CLEAN UP

TIME: 9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.

LOCATION: MEET @ 1 CREST AVE
RIVERSIDE, RI

~MORE EVENTS ARE IN THE WORKS! STAY TUNED!!~

FOLLOW THE RESTORATION WORK @

www.pomhamrockslighthouse.org

Facebook: Pomham Rocks Lighthouse

YouTube: Pomham Rocks Lighthouse

Instagram: @pomham rocks lighthouse

