



# THE POMHAM GLOW

June 2005 · Volume 1 · Issue 1

## 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.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Monday, June 13, 2005, 7:00 pm**

**Location: Oldham School,  
Riverside, RI**

**General Meeting of FPRL**

**"Life at the Lighthouse"**

Several former residents of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse will discuss living in the historic treasure.

**Saturday, June 18, 2005**

**10:00 am - 3:00 pm,**

**Sponsored by American  
Lighthouse Foundation**

**Rhode Island Lighthouses Cruise  
SOLD OUT**

**6:00 pm**

**Sponsored by American  
Lighthouse Foundation**

**Dinner at White's of Westport**  
\$32 per person.

**Sunday, June 19, 2005**

**9:00 am**

**Sponsored by American  
Lighthouse Foundation**

**Brunch & Annual Meeting**

\$20 per person. Contact ALF for reservations at 207-646-0245 or visit:

[www.lighthousefoundation.org](http://www.lighthousefoundation.org).

**July 22-24, 2005**

**25th Annual East Providence  
Heritage Festival**

Pierce Field, East Providence, RI  
Visit the Friends of Pomham  
Rocks Lighthouse booth.

FPRL hats, t-shirts, etc., will be available for sale.

Booth volunteers are needed.

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

#### REPORT

Earlier this year the members of the Education Committee met at the Francis School in Rumford to discuss plans for implementing a curriculum about lighthouses for the East Providence public and private schools. They studied various materials that were brought to the meeting.

The committee members decided to draft a letter to be sent to all the schools requesting that any teachers using materials about lighthouses in their classrooms send those materials to the Francis School so that all the different materials could be assembled in kits that could be sent to all the participating schools.

Besides these materials, lighthouse models, curriculums from various sources, and books about lighthouses would also be included in the kits.

An art teacher has also been approached to begin the process of developing an art contest for the students in the Fall of 2005. A sponsor for the contest will be sought to provide prizes for the winning contestants.

Dave Kelleher has a lighthouse presentation that he is offering to any teacher in East Providence to help get a lighthouse unit in any of the schools. St. Margaret School was the first to request a presentation. Mr. Kelleher presented the program on May 6<sup>th</sup> to fifty-five 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. It was well received. A number of teachers took membership applications and the students might even have a dress down day to help raise funds for Pomham Rocks. Similar programs are planned for classes at Oldham and Francis Schools.

### NEW BEGINNINGS

*Don Doucette*

*Acting Chair*

*Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse*

Many of us love new beginnings, especially if the anticipated result is seen as a positive and exciting series of events. And so, as we begin the process of restoring and preserving Pomham Rocks Lighthouse, we are excited and hopeful about its future.

In December 1871, the Pomham Rocks Lighthouse began its working career of **"Guiding the Way Along the Bay."**

However, during recent decades, it seemed Pomham's working days might be at an end. This is not the case, however, as we look toward Pomham's restoration and the return of a modern signal apparatus in the light tower. This process will begin in the near future. It seems that Pomham Rocks Lighthouse had only been on holiday, resting before its next assignment.

The current partnership between ExxonMobil, The American Lighthouse Foundation and The Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse is dedicated to the ongoing preservation of the Pomham property.

As we planned and organized, we realized the need to communicate regularly with our members and friends. So, we present our first official published newsletter, unofficially dubbed "**The Pomham Glow.**"

We hope you enjoy these news tidbits concerning our new beginning toward the restoration of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse. Please join us in this exciting venture and help restore and rekindle Rhode Island's Night Light, the Pomham Rocks Lighthouse.

## FUNDRAISING HAS BEGUN!

A presentation about Rhode Island Lighthouses was presented to the East Providence Chapter of AARP at the Riverside Congregational Church on Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> with 5 members of the chapter in attendance. Dave Kelleher presented the program about 21 of the Rhode Island lighthouses. He showed pictures of each one and also presented models of some of the lighthouses. He gave the audience facts about each light, some history, and told of how some of these structures were restored.

Mr. Kelleher ended the presentation with a detailed presentation about the Pomham Rocks Lighthouse restoration project.

The presentation was well received and

the AARP Board representative, Mrs. Helen Hubbard, presented Mr. Kelleher with a \$50.00 donation for the Pomham Rocks



Lighthouse Restoration project. Many members took membership applications for the Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse and expressed great interest in the project.

On Monday, May 16th, Dave Kelleher made a presentation about the restoration of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse to the members of the East Providence/Seekonk Rotary at their noon time luncheon.

Mr. Kelleher gave them a brief history of the Lighthouse, an account of the process by which the lease from Exxon/Mobil was obtained, and a short explanation of how the restoration would be done and how it would be financed.

The presentation was well received. However, since it was too late to apply for funding from the Club by the June deadline, our request will be considered for their December distribution date.

## GENERAL MEETING OF THE FRIENDS OF POMHAM ROCKS LIGHTHOUSE

**Monday, June 13, 2005 at 7:00 pm**      **Location: Oldham School, Riverside, RI**

**General Meeting of FPRL**

**“Life at the Lighthouse”**

Several former residents of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse will discuss living in the historic treasure. Photos and other memorabilia will be displayed.

*Open to the general public and FPRL members.*

### **Directions to Oldham School, Bullocks Point Avenue, Riverside, Rhode Island:**

#### **FROM POINTS NORTH, SOUTH OR WEST:**

Get to Route 95 to Providence, RI. Take split onto Route 195 east and move to right lane when possible before crossing Washington Bridge. Take exit 4 (the sign is just at the exit so be careful) and bear right towards Riverside, you are now on the Veterans Memorial Parkway. Go all the way to the light on top of the hill. Go straight onto Route 103 east (Pawtucket Ave.) about one half mile beyond the center of Riverside. The Oldham School will be on the left where we will meet in the all purpose room.

#### **FROM POINTS EAST:**

Take Route 195 west to East Providence Exit 6. At bottom of ramp go left. You will be on Broadway (for about a mile) and follow that to the end. Take a left onto Veterans Memorial Parkway. Go to the light on top of the hill. Go straight onto Route 103 east (Pawtucket Avenue) about one half mile beyond the center of Riverside. The Oldham School will be on the left where we will meet in the all purpose room.

## CALL FOR MEMORIES

The Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse would like to hear your story.

If you spent time at the Lighthouse, are related to someone associated with it, or have information that you would like to share, please call Don Doucette 508-226-1185, Dave Kelleher 401-433-2763 or email: pomhamrockslighthouse@yahoo.com.

## WISH LIST

Our organization is in need of a web site designer and host. If you, or someone you know, is interested in designing our web site, please contact: pomhamrockslighthouse@yahoo.com



**Don Pillsbury**, for providing our organization with beautiful aerial pictures of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse for use in our promotional work.

**Amy Doucette and David Barlow**, for displaying our organization's information at your company booth at the 2005 Rhode Island Home Show.

**Stauch, Vetromile & Mitchel** of East Providence, for creating our beautiful logo and permitting us to use it for our promotional items.

Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse  
A Chapter of the American Lighthouse Foundation  
P.O. Box 15121  
East Providence, Rhode Island 02915

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