



THE POMHAM GLOW

April/May 2014 · Volume 10 · 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

EAST PROVIDENCE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNUAL TOUCH-A-TRUCK

Date: Saturday, May 3, 2014
Time: 9:00 am-1:00 pm
Where: Behind the Chamber's Office
Waterman Avenue
East Providence, RI

SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING RAFFLE WINNERS DRAWN SPEAKER PROGRAM

Date: Wednesday, May 7, 2014
Time: 6:00 pm Raffle Drawing
6:30 pm Program -
Living at Boston Light
Where: Riverside Public Library
Riverside, RI

LIGHTHOUSE COVE CLEAN UP

Date: Saturday, May 10, 2014
Time: 9:00 am-Noon
Where: Meet at East Providence
Water Control Center
Riverside, RI

Bags and Gloves will be provided by the City
Due to spring weather conditions & the State pickup, we will not have a rain date this year.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Date: Monday, May 26, 2014
Time: 10:00 am
Where: Meet at Oldham School
Bullocks Point Avenue
Riverside, RI

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse,

Five months have passed since our last newsletter and much has been accomplished. We are continuing to move forward on a number of fronts including: preparing to have our new launch ready for the summer, getting a new dock out at the lighthouse, continuing negotiations with the Gilbane Construction Company and Exxon Mobil in order to get electricity out to the island and begin the restoration of the interior and conducting our major fund raising raffle.

The newsletter will also bring you up-to-date on our activities: Pomham Santa's visit, the Providence Boat Show, our Annual Meeting and our lighthouse programs. All of these events and projects are reported within the newsletter.

We are going forward with the next major restoration effort, the most important effort since our exterior restoration in 2005/2006. This is an exciting time for us, but also a very trying time and all of us need to pull together to get it done.

So my fellow member, please join us at all our upcoming events, and help out if you can at our Clean Up event, our work parties at the lighthouse and maybe help us build the new dock.

Sincerely,

Dave Kelleher, Chairman

Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse

A Chapter of the American Lighthouse Foundation

www.pomhamrockslighthouse.org

email: pomhamrockslighthouse@yahoo.com



PROVIDENCE BOAT SHOW

The chapter participated in the 2014 Providence Boat Show held in the Rhode Island Convention Center on Sabin Street in Providence. The show was held from Friday, January 31st to Sunday, February 2nd. The show's hours were shorter this year.



by Carlene Joiner

FPRL booth at the Providence Boat Show 2014

Joe Estrella, Dave Kelleher & Gary Zunda set up our booth on Wednesday. The Center was not really ready for us, but after some negotiations and putting down a carpet, they were able to set up most of the booth. Thanks to Joan Knight's gifts of two tables and table fitting covers, the booth looked professional.

Attendance on Friday was light but Saturday was very good. Sunday's attendance was okay until around 2:00 when it dropped quite a bit (it was Super Bowl Sunday).

We sold around \$600.00 of raffle tickets, some merchandise, obtained a few memberships, made some good contacts and put the Pomham Rocks Lighthouse in public view. The boat show was a successful event for us.

Thanks to our members who worked at the booth: Nate & Mary Chace, Mike Tripp, Anne Greene, Jean Zunda, Carlene & Jim Joiner, Andy Valerio, Nancy Moore & Eric Johnson.

Again this year, Joe Estrella put in hours and hours of time at the booth for all three days, plus setting up and taking down. Dave Kelleher did his share on 4 of the 5 days. We are thinking of doing it again next year, but some decisions and changes will need discussion.

ANNUAL POMHAM SANTA VISIT



by Carlene Joiner

Pomham Santa wishes everyone "Merry Christmas!"

Santa made his annual visit to the children of East Providence once again, arriving by boat on Saturday November 30. The weather was clear but cold. Having sailed from Bullocks Cove around the Terrace and by Rose Larisa Park, he arrived at Sabin Point Park to be received by a good crowd of children and their parents.

As the crowd waited anxiously for Santa, they were treated with hot chocolate, hot coffee and Munchkins donated by the Dunkin Donuts store on Pawtucket Avenue. The morning's activities went well and we were pleased with this year's visit. The one problem with the visit was that there was a very low tide and Joe Estrella could not get the boat as close to the shore as he would have liked. Next year we need to plan a day when the tide is higher.

A big thank you to Andy Leddy as Santa, Joe Estrella as captain and decorator of the boat with reindeer and our servers, Ann Greene, Jean & Gary Zunda, Mary Chace, Mike Tripp, David Kelleher and Carlene Joiner.



by Carlene Joiner

Keeping warm while waiting for Santa

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Members of the Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse gathered for their annual meeting at the Wharf Tavern in Warren on Friday evening, November 15 at 6:00 pm.

Forty-one members attended and enjoyed a wonderful dinner served graciously by the Wharf staff. The members were also served a glass of wine thanks to Nate and Mary Chace.

A meeting prior to the dinner was directed by chairman Dave Kelleher with reports on the capital campaign by Nate Chace, annual financial report and Gilbane update by Mike Tripp, and new launch and update on refurbished windows by Joe Estrella.

There was a kick-off for ticket sales for our raffle of overnight stays at lighthouses. The winners will be drawn on May 7, 2014. Also a new ornament of the lighthouse was made available for the first time.

Following the dinner, winners of the silent auction items that were obtained through the efforts of Louise Paiva were announced.

A pleasant evening was had by all.

EVENT COMMITTEE PROJECTS & EVENTS

The members of the Event Committee will be working on a schedule of events and projects in the upcoming months. Here are a few of them.

- Looking into some new merchandise
- Designing a new membership folder
- Planning a Christening Ceremony for Lady Pomham
- Planning a summer clam bake or barbecue
- Possibility of participating in the Annual Watchemoket Day in October
- Setting up a display at Beavertail again this year

LADY POMHAM

The new boat in our "fleet", Lady Pomham, was put in the water on April 23rd at the Bristol Yacht Club and sailed down to her new berth at the East Providence Yacht Club which is located near the Washington Bridge.

Joe Estrella prepared the boat for the launching by painting the bottom of the hull and putting the lettering on the stern (Lady Pomham, East Providence, Rhode Island) and on the side (Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse).

Joe has been dealing with the United States Coast Guard to make sure that we have all of the safeguards on board and that it is registered correctly.

The Events Committee is planning on a Christening date for her sometime this summer. Stay tuned!



by David Kelleher

Joe Estrella's beautiful handiwork

ELECTRICITY & INTERIOR RESTORATION

Bringing electricity to the island and restoring the interior including heat is moving forward. Nate Chace has been negotiating with the Gilbane Corporation and Exxon Mobil. Engineers will be visiting the island for an inspection of the building in order to submit proposals for the interior and to see if there are any structural problems.

Nate continues to work on fund raising.

NEW FLOATING DOCK

A new floating dock is needed at the lighthouse to accommodate larger boats to get to the island. Joe Estrella has been in charge of this project and has accomplished a great deal of the many facets to complete the job. We have decided to build the dock ourselves.

Joe has looked into the best places to purchase the wood and hardware and has been successful with some very good deals. Joe is willing to have all the materials delivered to his home and have it built there and then have it brought down to Bold Point and bring it to the lighthouse and install it.

However, much effort was needed to get all the permits from the Coastal Resources Management Council. Joe spent hours going to various officials to accomplish all that was required. Six sets of an 11-page packet of drawings and photos were needed.

As of this writing, we have to wait for 45 days before it will be approved pending on advertising in the press.

SAVE THE BAY ULTIMATE LIGHTHOUSE TOURS

Save The Bay has increased the number of tours this year. Here is the schedule:

Half Day tours from Providence, includes viewing 7 lighthouses and 3 lost lighthouse sites with a possible stop at Pomham (if the new dock is ready). Cost: \$50.00, Time: 1:00-4:00 pm. Dates: May 17th & July 5th

Full Day tours from Providence: view 16 lighthouses and 5 lost lighthouse sites, includes a stop at Rose Island Lighthouse and a bag lunch. Cost: \$100.00, Time: 9:00 am-4:00 pm. Dates: June 14th, July 12th, September 6th & September 27th.

Half Day tours from Newport: view 9 lighthouses & 3 lost lighthouse sites. Cost: \$50.00, Time: 1-4 pm. Dates: June 7th & August 23rd.

These tours are great! Part of the fees go towards Pomham Rocks Lighthouse.

LIGHTHOUSE POWER POINT PROGRAMS

Dave Kelleher has presented a number of the Power Point Programs developed by Lester Nathan to various groups recently. He addressed the East Providence Rotary on March 24th at Chelo's Restaurant. He presented the program concerning the restoration of the exterior of the lighthouse. Twenty-two of the Rotary members attended the luncheon meeting. Jean Zunda also attended. She and Dave sold some raffle tickets after the presentation.

Dave also presented the Rhode Island Lighthouses program to the residents of the Emerald Bay Manor in Cumberland on Tuesday, April 8th. Thirty-five of the residents attended and enjoyed the program. Dave also displayed a number of his models. One of the residents, Mrs. Robinson, displayed a large number of her model lighthouses. A generous donation was made to the Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse.

Dave will be presenting the exterior restoration program to the Rhode Island Salt Water Anglers Association on Monday, April 28th in West Warwick and also the Rhode Island Lighthouses program to the National Teachers Association on Tuesday, May 6th at their Spring Meeting in Warwick.

OVERNIGHT STAYS RAFFLE

Ticket sales for our raffle have been coming in quite well. We have passed the \$3,000.00 mark in sales. We are still receiving results from our full page ad in Lighthouse Digest.

Our ads in *The Post*, *The Reporter*, and *411* have given us some sales. We did sell \$600.00 worth of tickets at the Providence Boat Show. We also sold tickets at the Rotary Meeting and the East Providence Historical Society meeting.

We plan to sell tickets at a meeting of the Rhode Island Salt Water Anglers Association, the National Teachers Association Meeting and at the Touch-A-Truck Event.

FRIENDS OF POMHAM ROCKS LIGHTHOUSE

A chapter of the American Lighthouse Foundation

Please renew now if you haven't already and get your friends and neighbors involved. This will be a very exciting year for Pomham Rocks Lighthouse!

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership Level:

- | | | | |
|--|-------|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Member Light Keeper | \$250 | <input type="checkbox"/> Member Light Lighter | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Member | \$ 45 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Member | \$ 25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Donation | | \$ _____ | |

Please Print:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

_____ Check/Money Order enclosed (payable to: Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse)

Mail application to: Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse, P.O. Box 15121, East Providence, RI 02915

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P.O. Box 15121
East Providence, Rhode Island 02915

