



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.

JUNE 2017

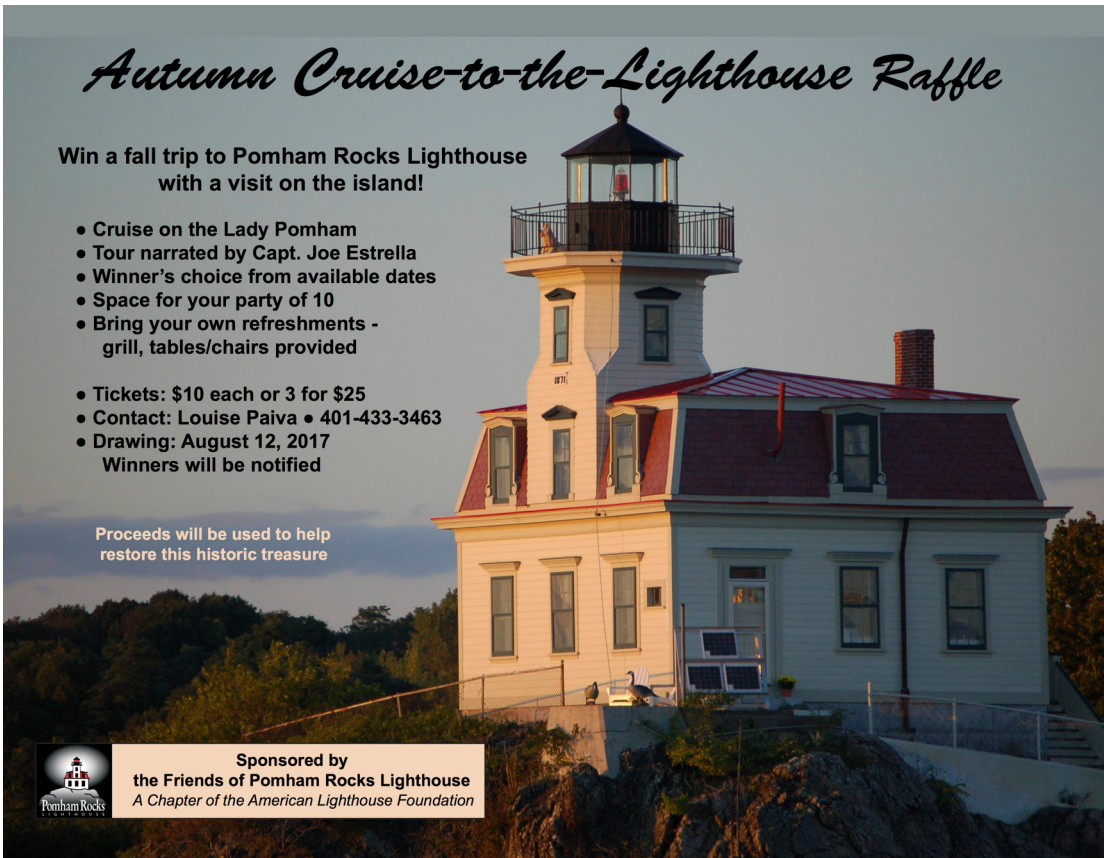
WIN A TRIP TO

Autumn Cruise-to-the-Lighthouse Raffle

Win a fall trip to Pomham Rocks Lighthouse
with a visit on the island!

- Cruise on the Lady Pomham
- Tour narrated by Capt. Joe Estrella
- Winner's choice from available dates
- Space for your party of 10
- Bring your own refreshments - grill, tables/chairs provided
- Tickets: \$10 each or 3 for \$25
- Contact: Louise Paiva • 401-433-3463
- Drawing: August 12, 2017
- Winners will be notified

Proceeds will be used to help
restore this historic treasure



Sponsored by
the Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse
A Chapter of the American Lighthouse Foundation

POMHAM ROCKS LIGHTHOUSE

MORE DETAILS INSIDE

Autumn Cruise-to-the-Lighthouse Raffle

What better way is there to spend a fall afternoon than with family and friends on Pomham Rocks? Our fall raffle offers this one-of-a-kind opportunity for you to bring a party of 10 of your closest friends and relatives to Pomham Rocks Lighthouse for a fun-filled afternoon. Guests will cruise down the bay on the Lady Pomham and Captain Joe Estrella will provide a narrated tour. Bring your own lunch or refreshments for an exclusive fall picnic. A grill, table and chairs are available on the island.

Just fill out the tickets on the next page (PRINT name, address and phone number) and send that left part of the tickets with your check, made payable to Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse, to Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse, 81 Harris Street, Riverside, RI 02915. Feel free to make copies of the ticket page before you fill it in, and sell extra tickets to anyone interested in a unique adventure. The more tickets we sell, the more we can do to benefit the Lighthouse.

Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25. The drawing will take place at the Lighthouse booth at the end of The Looff: East Providence Arts Festival at Rose Larisa Park on August 12. Proceeds from the Autumn Cruise-to-the-Lighthouse Raffle will be used to renovate the interior of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse. Call 401-433-3463 with any questions.

**Friends of
Pomham Rocks**
Autumn
Cruise-to-the-Lighthouse
Raffle

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____



FRIENDS OF POMHAM ROCKS LIGHTHOUSE

A Chapter of the American Lighthouse Foundation

Autumn Cruise-to-the-Lighthouse Fundraising Raffle

Tickets: \$10.00 Each or 3 for \$25.00

*Make out check and mail to: Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse,
81 Harris Street, Riverside, RI 02915*

*Drawing on 8/12/2017 • 6:00PM • Pomham Booth
at East Providence Arts Festival at Rose Larisa Park
Need not be present to win*

www.pomhamrockslighthouse.org

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\$29,445.00 RAISED TO DATE:

**UPDATE ON MEMBERSHIP CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
TO RESTORE INTERIOR OF THE LIGHTHOUSE
AS OF MAY 20, 2017**

I continue to be impressed with the response of our membership!!! In our last newsletter, I reported that 92 of our members had contributed and/or pledged a total of \$26,045.00 as of February 28, 2017. Since then an additional 6 members have committed to help us, bringing our total gift and pledges to \$29,445.00. As you know, these gifts will be matched by our anonymous donor, meaning that as of May 20, 2017, our membership is directly responsible for \$58,890.00 being added to the restoration effort. WONDERFUL!!!

Thank you so very much to the following members who have stepped up since February 28, 2017:

Adrith & Arnold Andrade
Karen & Bill Cardinal
Jeff Estrella

Betsy & Ed Frey
Liz & Andy Leddy
Cathy & Bill Lizotte

If any readers have any questions regarding the campaign, I can be reached by phone at my office at (401) 453-6409 or by mail at Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse, c/o Nathan W. Chace, One Park Row, Suite 300, Providence, Rhode Island 02903. I can also be reached via e-mail at nchace@crflp.com

Thank you members!!!

Nate Chace
Director of Development

START YOUR COLLECTION

A new collection of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse merchandise is now available. Produced by East Providence's Barlow Designs, all items feature a colorful photo of the historic New England landmark. They include:

- 12oz ceramic mugs (\$10)
- Cork-backed square coasters, sold individually (\$4) or in boxed sets of four (\$15)
- Round ceramic ornaments (\$10)
- Cork-back square Artstone trivets or hotplates (\$10)

Merchandise will be available at upcoming events and at "Only in Rhode Island" at Long Wharf Mall, Newport. To purchase items locally, call 401-433-3463. Proceeds from the sale of these items will be used to renovate the interior of the lighthouse. Your support will help preserve this maritime light station and the way of life it reflects for future generations.



WORKS IN PROGRESS

Having electricity at Pomham Rocks Lighthouse is having a positive impact on the restoration of “creature comforts” at the lighthouse. Joe Estrella and Dennis Tardiff have been busy working out at the light. In addition to the lighting installed in the cellar and electric heaters in the dwelling, there is again, after approximately 37 years, running water to the kitchen sink. To facilitate this, a new 165 gallon water tank was installed in the basement along with a new water pump/pressure tank combination. New piping was also installed to the kitchen along with a new faucet for the sink. A new outside spigot was installed as well. Pomham Rocks personnel procured the items and performed the installation for under \$700.00 versus the estimated price from a contractor of \$15,500.00. Restoration of water to the second floor bathroom will be done once approval from the Rhode Island Preservation and Heritage Commission is given.

Other work done includes the installation of a new solar system powered photocell controlled LED yard light that lights the east end of the island at night. Additionally, “shore power” electricity was installed via underground conduit to the Oil house from the main building and a temporary rain water Oil House roof collection system installed to be ready for contractor use once a contractor commences with renovation. The collection system was fabricated from donated materials and was no cost to the lighthouse.



Cleaned Kitchen Counters



Running water coming from new sink



Water storage on Oil House



New LED yard light on Oil House

AMERICAN LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION GALA 2017

Every year the FPRL Board selects a candidate for the Len Hadley Volunteerism Award from the American Lighthouse Foundation (ALF), named after one of the original members of the organization who was a stellar volunteer for a number of ALF projects until his death in 2001. The award recognizes volunteers for their passion, selflessness, and commitment to lighthouse preservation.

The 2017 award was presented to Alex Dias. He received it at a ceremony held May 7th in Kennebunkport ME. The following is the statement read to the audience who attended the event:

Alex Dias joined the Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse in 2012 but his fascination with lighthouses dates back to 2005 while he was in the 5th grade. David Kelleher, the Len Hadley Volunteerism Award recipient for 2007, gave a presentation to Alex's 5th grade class about Pomham Rocks Lighthouse and the other Rhode Island lighthouses. At that point he was instantly hooked! In 2012 when Alex was a Junior in high school, he had to select a topic for his senior project and it was an easy choice. He reached out to Dave who agreed to mentor his project; a history of Rhode Island lighthouses and scale replica of the Bullocks Point Lighthouse which had been demolished in 1939 following the destructive hurricane in 1938.

Seven years after Dave's original presentation, he was now taking Alex out to the light for a first time visit.

Since then Alex has volunteered for just about every aspect of the organization.

He began participating on the Events Committee in 2012 and continues to volunteer at numerous events throughout the year including the Providence Boat Show, the annual banquet, Earth Day Clean up, Summer BBQ, Pomham Santa, and many others.

In 2015 Alex established the first official website for Pomham Rocks Lighthouse. He also began to gather historic information to add to the site with most of the vintage photographs seen on the website a direct result of his efforts. He keeps it up to date with news and events along with fixing any technical problems that invariably arise.

Alex became a non-voting member of the FPRL Executive Committee in 2015 and one year later was elevated to a full voting chapter Executive Committee member.

In addition, Alex works with Joe Estrella, the Len Hadley Volunteerism Award recipient for 2012, on the boats for which he serves as 1st mate. He is working toward his 100-ton Captain's license under Joe's supervision so Pomham Rocks will have another licensed Captain to get members and others to the off-shore lighthouse. He has obtained his first Aid/CPR certification and completed man over board drills with the Coast Guard.

Alex also serves as grounds committee chair for the island's landscaping needs. Duties include lawn mowing and poison ivy removal.

He recently repaired the cement walk from the dock to the light and painted the interior of the Oil House.

This past year Alex created the new format for the FPRL newsletter, “The Pomham Glow.” This now allows the chapter to print and mail it in-house at a lower cost.

In the summer of 2016 Alex was featured in a mini documentary series “The Last Lightkeepers” by Rob Apse which highlighted individuals and preservation groups who have taken on the responsibility to protect light stations for future generations.

And lastly, we must mention that he has accomplished all this while being a fulltime student at the University of Rhode Island in which he will graduate from on May 21, 2017.

At the end of the ceremony the winners of a silent auction were announced. Alex won an overnight stay at the Borden Flats Lighthouse in Fall River. As he was preparing to go and pay for his prize ALF Board Member Brad Coupe stood up and announced he would pay Alex’s winning bid for him as he was so very impressed with all “this young man” had accomplished. We at Pomham Rocks are not the only ones who are proud of Alex and his achievements!

Congratulations Alex!



ALF President Jeremy D’Entremont (left) and FPRL Chairman Joe Estrella (right) present Alex Dias with the 2017 Len Hadley Volunteerism Award.



Some of the Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse that were at the banquet

IHOP FUNDRAISER REPORT

Our IHOP fundraiser on May 1 brought in \$500, which included a very generous donation from the owners of the restaurant, Bill and Karen Cardinal. The proceeds will go toward the Lighthouse restoration. Thanks to all who participate



BOATS

Our smaller “red” boat is ready and will be featured in the Riverside Memorial Day parade as a “Friends of Pomham Rocks” float. Our launch was taken out of its winter storage location on land and re-floated April 13th. Basic maintenance was performed on the launch mechanical systems, and as of this writing, has already made seven trips to the lighthouse this season to support the ongoing installations and maintenance Pomham Rocks personnel are performing. A salvaged teak marine seat was refinished and installed in the launch as well. The seat and refinishing was of no cost to the lighthouse.



New bench on the Lady Pomham

POMHAM ROCKS LIGHTHOUSE ON NATIONAL T.V.

Last July, Jean was contacted by HGTV to see if we were willing to have their crew go out to the lighthouse to film it as part of their program about a young couple thinking of buying a house in Warwick. In these kind of programs, produced by HGTV, they not only film the couple visiting three houses to choose from but also go to some interesting sites in the area of these houses.

HGTV decided to visit the horse stable at Goddard Park, Matunuck Oyster Bar and Pomham Rocks Lighthouse.

Joe and Alex prepared the launch to take the crew of camera men, technicians and directors. It was a full boat and they left from Sabin Point. But, there was a problem getting them back to Sabin since the tide had gone out and they had difficulty unloading the equipment and the crew. Myself and the young couple had to be taken by a Harbor Patrol boat to the Lighthouse Marina in Barrington since that boat could not dock at Sabin due to the low tide.

The program begins at the lighthouse with a beautiful shot of the lighthouse from above. The couple talks about living in a lighthouse. They come ashore and meet with me. I tell them a few facts about the lighthouse as I lead them towards it and they asked me if we would sell the lighthouse for \$250,000 and I told them (with tongue in cheek) that we wanted a \$1,000,000.

I brought them up to the lantern room where they viewed Providence to the north and Warwick to the south.

The episode lasts about 5 minutes or so with more shots of the lighthouse. I was very honored to be a part of this effort and thank Joe and Alex for their efforts in getting us out to and back from the island. I think this was an excellent opportunity to present our lighthouse to millions of viewers across the country since these HGTV episodes are very popular. I was stopped at church, the drug store and in the neighborhood by people saying they saw the program.

-Dave Kelleher



\$250,000? How about \$1,000,000



To the lantern room

ANNUAL EARTH DAY CLEAN UP

On a damp and cool Earth Day, 45 men, women and children showed up to help clean the Crescent Beach area from the beginning of the Terrace to almost the beginning of Sabin Point Park. Three groups organized the event, The Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse, The Riverside Renaissance Movement, and members of the Suez Company from the pollution plant. A few members of the public also participated.

Due to the increased awareness of taking care of the shore the last few years, the area was in pretty good shape when we arrived, but the crew did a great job of finding material deep in the weeds and growth on the upper banks and filled 40 bags of trash plus some tires and large pieces of wood and iron.

The Suez group sent the most workers with some families joining in. There were 11 members of FPRL who came, mainly members of the Board or Event Committee and Jason, Chair of the Riverside Renaissance brought a good deal of rakes and other cleaning tools to the site. The friends provided water and snacks, the city provided gloves and bags and the state picked up all the trash on Monday with no cost to the city.

The event was declared a success and hopefully the beach will remain clean over the coming summer season. Plans are already in the works for next year, possibly cleaning the bike path area as it travels along the area that faces the lighthouse. Thank you everybody.



Trash Pile



Tire removal



Volunteers

2017 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Assistant Keeper (18 & Under):	\$15
Individual Membership:	\$30
Household Membership:	\$50
Lighthouse Inspector:	\$100
Lighthouse Superintendent:	\$250
Commissioner of Lighthouses:	\$500

Please mail your checks to:
P.O. Box 15121
Riverside, Rhode Island 02915

Checks can be made out to:
Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse

2017 WORK PARTIES

Summer work parties will be beginning in the coming weeks. Tasks out at the island include a range from keeping the dock clean to mowing the grass. We will start by removing the growth that has come up outside the fence on the island.

If you are interested in going out on a work party for the summer of 2017 please be sure to contact 401-585-4731 or workparty@pomhamrockslighthouse.org and leave a message to be added to our new work party list. Please be sure to include your name and contact information.

Thank You!

CALL FOR OLD PICTURES

We are currently looking for anyone that may have pictures of the Sabin Point or Bullocks Point lighthouse. The Bullocks Point Lighthouse was badly damaged in the Hurricane of 1938 and was subsequently torn down because of the damage. The Sabin Point Lighthouse, a twin of Pomham Rocks, was destroyed in 1968, leaving Pomham Rocks as the last of 5 lighthouses originally on the Providence River. We are hoping to preserve the history of these other Providence River Lighthouses that are no longer standing. If you have pictures of either of these lighthouses and would like to donate them please send them or a copy to, P.O. Box 15121 East Providence, RI 02915, or they can be emailed to history@pomhamrockslighthouse.org

Thank you



EVENTS COMMITTEE

Recent News:

We had a successful shore clean-up at the Crescent Park Beach despite a cold, damp day. See accompanying article.

Due to heavy downpours predicted for May 6, we bowed out of the Touch-A-Truck event at the Chamber of Commerce. Safety for the children who would be clambering onto the boat in slippery conditions was a major concern of the Committee.

Coming Attractions:

Memorial Day Parade May 29 from 9:30 a.m. to roughly 12:00 p.m. Calling all members to come walk with us along side the two Lighthouse boats for the Memorial Day Parade. Meet at the Carousel at 9:00. The route goes up Bullocks Pt. Ave. to Turner, to Willett, ending at the American Legion. There are a few spots in the vehicles towing the boats for riders. Wear your Pomham apparel if you have it. The event is always a festive occasion with the neighbors

Carousel Family Fun Night, June 23, 5:00-8:00 p.m. at Rose Larisa Park. We've been invited to join the evening as vendors, where we will be selling our NEW merchandise, as well as raffle tickets. We always welcome volunteer.

Our NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING will be held Monday, June 5, at 7:00 p.m at Mary Chace's. New members always welcome. RSVP 437.2846 and for directions



Memorial Day 2009

We hope
to see you
at the
Parade!

2017 EVENTS

May 29: Memorial Day Parade

*All members are welcome to walk along the red boat. Meeting time is 9am @
Crescent Park Carousel Parking lot
Remember to wear Pomham Apparel

June 23: Carousel Family Fun Night **5pm – 8pm @ Crescent Park**

August 1: Family Fun Night @Senior Center **5:00pm – 8:00pm**

August 5: Summer BBQ **12pm 4pm** **Al's Waterfront Restaurant**

August 12: Loeff Arts Festival **11am – 6pm** **Volunteers are needed for 1-2hr shifts at our booth**

October 11: David Robinson presentation on Green **Jacket Shoal (off Bold Point)** **7pm @ St. Brendan's Parish Hall**

December 3: Annual Banquet **Rhode Island Yacht Club** **Details TBA**

FOLLOW US ON

www.pomhamrockslighthouse.org

Facebook: Pomham Rocks Lighthouse

YouTube: Pomham Rocks Lighthouse

Instagram: @pomham_rocks_lighthouse

