

the FLA FLASH

A quarterly publication of the Florida Lighthouse Association, Inc.
www.floralighthouses.org

QUARTERLY MEETING TO BE AT ANCLOTE KEY LIGHTHOUSE!

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I want to thank all those who participated in the January event at Cape Florida. The Cape Florida Lighthouse is very special to the FLA as it is our "founding lighthouse." The FLA was organized here on July 27, 1996, on the day of the relighting of Cape Florida after its magnificent restoration. This year's event at Cape Florida saw the perfect number of participants and perfect weather. I want to thank Dr. Lee Niblock, manager of the Cape Florida Bill Baggs State Park, for our free admission, the tours of the lighthouse, and many other courtesies that he has rendered to us for this event and over the years. Dr. Niblock has been one of our strongest supporters. I

would also like to thank CPO Cory Baughman of the United States Coast Guard for his wonderful talk on the Vega optic; Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Gonzalez for allowing us to occupy the Lighthouse Café on their busy Saturday morning and for providing the wonderful lunch to us. Captain Omar Cartaya and his son, Omar, Jr. of Divers Paradise, also deserve our thanks for the two great voyages out to the Fowey Rocks Lighthouse. It was a perfect day to view that special structure! I also want to thank Joan Gill Blank for her kind consideration of me and for all those "behind the scenes" things she has done for the FLA through the years. I also want to thank David and Alice D'Amicol for once again doing such a superlative job in handling the reservations. And to all the officers and participating members ... **THANK YOU!!** You are the ones who really made the day!

Now we can focus on the April event at the Anclote Keys Lighthouse. This will prove to be probably the most spectacular event we have ever seen. **SEE YOU THERE !!**

EMMITT HATTEN DIES
Emmitt Hatten passed away

March 5, 2002. His father, James Hatten was the last civilian keeper at Pensacola. Emmitt proposed to his wife at the top of the lighthouse and spent their honeymoon at the Keepers' Quarters. The FLA extends its sincerest sympathies to the family and friends of this wonderful man.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT NEEDED FOR THE ST. AUGUSTINE LIGHTHOUSE

Letters of support are needed for inclusion with the application for tower ownership. St. Augustine expects to have the application submitted in a few weeks and ownership transfer completed by the end of Spring through a public ceremony. You should address your letters of support to Kathy A. Fleming, Executive Director, St. Augustine Lighthouse & Museum, Inc., 81 Lighthouse Ave., St. Augustine, FL 32080 or e-mail her at flrstlighthouse@hotmail.com for further information.

FLA RETURNS TO CAPE FLORIDA

On January 19th, members of the Florida Lighthouse Association returned to our roots at the Cape Florida Lighthouse. The Association was founded on Key Biscayne near this lighthouse at

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the Key Biscayne Community Church on July 27th, 1996. This most recent visit was the Association's third trip to this unique and very special Lighthouse. It is always gratifying, especially in January, to visit this spot in Paradise. The weather was phenomenal.



The meeting was held once again at the Lighthouse Café which has a magnificent view of the 1847 Cape Florida Lighthouse. Reverend Bud Schroeder, pastor of the Key Biscayne Community Church and an FLA member, gave the Invocation. Afterwards, the officers of the Association gave their reports. Dr. Lee Niblock, manager of the Cape Florida Bill Baggs State Park, was present to welcome us to Cape Florida. It was thanks to Dr.



Niblock, one of our founding members, that we enjoyed free admission this day to the park and he also accommodated us with the lighthouse tours.



It was noted at the meeting that the economic situation has hampered our fund-raising for the Crooked River Lighthouse, so the Association will continue with this campaign for another year. Executive Vice-President Wayne Hawes went over the plans for the Anclote Keys event in April as well. Details of this very special and exciting adventure will be



found elsewhere in this newsletter as well as the registration form. Please send this back ASAP as there are only a few more spaces left on the Anclote trip. Two boats are already filled and there is a waiting list for the Egmont trip. The July meeting will be at St. Augustine and the Lighthouse

Tour this year may feature the northeastern lighthouses in conjunction with that meeting. Lighthouses on that tour would include Amelia Island, the Amelia Island North Rear Range Light site, the Willow Pond Range Light site, the St. Johns River Lighthouse and the St. Johns Light Station. It will probably be a one-day bus tour with a previous evening orientation and program. Tom Taylor is working on this with Ray Hamel, who is coordinating the St. Augustine meeting. More details will be in the next newsletter.



President Taylor reported that Ken Smith and Burt Bender are doing the lighthouse survey for the State of Florida. Tom has offered the FLA's support to this effort. The Amelia Island Lighthouse preservation grant application by the City of Fernandino Beach ranked 4th of 94 projects and should result in \$350,000. In state funding this year. The Coast Guard delivered to the St. Joseph Historical Society the original third-order lens from the St. Joseph Point (1902) Lighthouse. The Coast Guard has also completed stabilization work on the St. Mark's Lighthouse. It has not yet been turned over to the St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge, so it will still be a while

before it has been restored enough for public access. At the April meeting, the FLA will be presenting a \$10,000 check to representatives of the St. Marks Refuge Association towards this further restoration.



There was some effort in Delaware to return the Boca Grande Entrance Rear Range Lighthouse to its original location up there, but it now appears the lighthouse will be turned over to the Florida State Park Service and will be restored by the Gasparilla Island Improvement and Conservation Association and the Barrier Island Parks Society.

The FLA website continues to improve under Tim and Lynda VeArd, webmasters, and new member-activated features will be available shortly.

The lighthouse reports came next and it was pleasing to learn that the publically-opened lighthouses have not suffered reverses due to the September 11th tragedy or the slow economy. Attendance is up and the gift shops are booming.

Key Biscayne historian and author, Joan Gill Blank, honored us with her presence. She is also one of our founding members and has spoken to us about the history of the Cape Florida Lighthouse

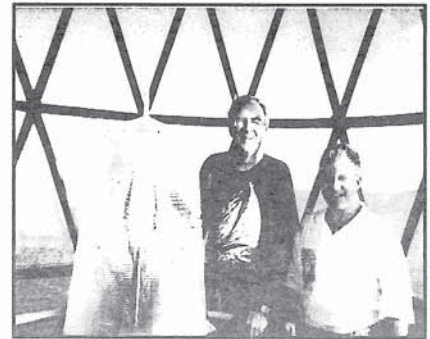
on previous occasions. This time, she came to present Tom Taylor with a ship painting, which he was very honored and grateful for.

As the meeting neared its conclusion, Wayne Hawes took the floor for another rousing and exciting auction to benefit the FLA. Wayne has always done a great job with this, and this time was no exception. We wish to thank all those people who donated the items for the auction and all those who purchased the items, giving the FLA the funding it needs to continue to pursue its goals in Florida lighthouse restoration.

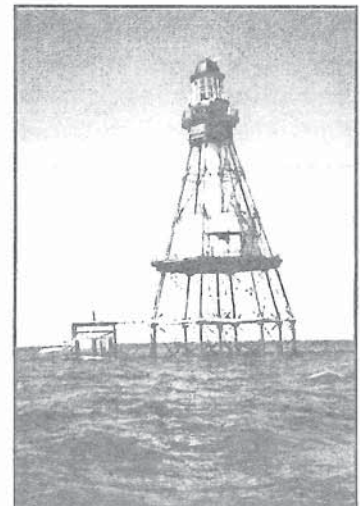
After the meeting, Petty Officer Cory Baughman of the United States Coast Guard treated us to a wonderful explanation of the workings and mysteries of the modern Vega lighthouse optic. The New Zealand-made Vega is the current, state-of-the-art optic which is replacing older optics in most of the Coast Guard-operated lighthouses, and we would see one in action in the top of the Fowey Rocks Lighthouse.



After Mr. Baughman's talk, we enjoyed a lunch of hot sandwiches prepared for us by Mr. and Mrs. David Gonzales and their staff of the Lighthouse Café. Following



the luncheon, the lighthouse tours began. One group headed for the Cape Florida Lighthouse while the other group wandered over to No Name Harbor where Captain Omar Cartaya and his crew were waiting to take us out to the Fowey Rocks Lighthouse. At 3:00



p.m., the groups exchanged places. Both tours were excellent with perfect South Florida weather. The events concluded about 5:00 p.m., and another great day at Cape Florida passed into history.

**SUPPORT CROOKED
RIVER LIGHTHOUSE!!**

**JULY, 2002
MEETING/TOUR TO BE
AT ST. AUGUSTINE
LIGHTHOUSE**

The next quarterly meeting will be held on July 20th at the St. Augustine Lighthouse. Kathy Fleming promises it will be an excellent meeting and is excited to announce that someone from the General Services Administration in Atlanta will be available to discuss how lighthouses are excised to groups like ours via the national Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act. This information is significant for all of Florida and she says that St. Augustine is happy to be leading the way. October's quarterly meeting is scheduled for the Boca Grand Lighthouse. More information will be in the June, 2002, newsletter.

CEDAR KEY OPEN HOUSES: Two Open Houses for Cedar Key Lighthouse located at the Cedar Keys National Wildlife Refuge are scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, July 6th & 7th, and again the weekend of October 3rd. Visitors may use their own boat to get to the island or use the Island Hopper Tour Group, 352-543-5904. Their tours begin at 8:30 a.m. with the last boat departing at 2:30 p.m. The costs are \$12.00 per adult and \$6.00 per child, plus tax and is on a first come, first serve basis.

**HISTORY CHANNEL
LIGHTHOUSE PROGRAM**

Mark your calendars now for the airing of a History Channel Special "Saving History-Lighthouses" to air at 8:00 p.m. EST on April 19th. There will be a number of lighthouses such as St. Helena in Michigan featured but it will include segments on American Lighthouse Foundation lighthouses of Portsmouth Harbor Light, New Hampshire, Little River Light, Maine, Rockland Breakwater Light, Main, plus a segment on the Shore Village Museum. It will also include segments from the history making relighting ceremony at Little River Lighthouse.

**INTERNATIONAL
LIGHTHOUSE
CONFERENCE**

The historic maritime City of New Bedford, Massachusetts and the American Lighthouse Foundation (ALF), will be hosting an International Lighthouse Conference (ILC) this September 17th through the 21st. This conference will be quite different from past lighthouse conferences that have dealt with such issues as preservation and fund raising initiatives since it will primarily focus on the education of children for lighthouse preservation.

The conference will include many workshops and

presentations from numerous educators and lighthouse groups from around the country. A special treat for the children of the area during the conference will be a helicopter arrival by George Morgan, "The Flying Santa of the Lighthouses", who has been keeping alive a tradition that began with Bill Wicapaw dropping presents to New England Lighthouse Keepers back in 1928.

The first 100 people to sign up for the conference will be given a boat trip to Boston Lighthouse, America's first light-station. Other attendees will be offered a cruise on the Ernestina, a 105-year-old ship that brings to life maritime history and education to students of all ages, plus a walking tour of the city, which was once known as "The Whaling Capital of the World".

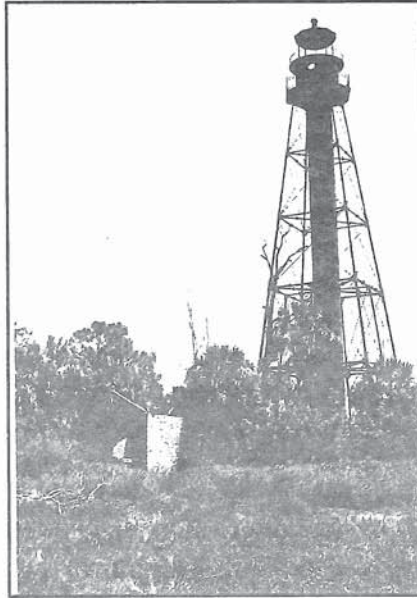
Visit the American Lighthouse Foundation web site for further information and/or to sign up for this important event. www.LighthouseFoundation.org

**APRIL, 2002
QUARTERLY MEETING
AT
ANCLOTE KEY
LIGHTHOUSE
By Wayne Hawes**

The second quarterly meeting of the FLA will be held aboard the Starlight Princess Paddle

Wheeler. The Board meeting will take place Friday evening at Jesse's Dockside restaurant at 7:30 p.m. This is located on Causeway Blvd. in Dunedin. Saturday morning registration will begin at 7:15 a.m. at Marker 1 Marina on Causeway Blvd., Dunedin. The boat will be leaving the dock promptly at 8:00 a.m. Our guest speakers, Toby Brewer (former Anclote Park Ranger), Connie Wiesehan (current Park Ranger), and Lary McSparren (President of the Gulf Islands Alliance) will be sharing the history and future plans of Anclote lighthouse as we cruise out to the lighthouse. We will visit the lighthouse and reboard for our quarterly meeting and luncheon during our return cruise. The paddle wheeler should be returning to the dock approximately 1:00 p.m. The afternoon is open to explore Honeymoon Island (free passes), Caladesi Island (\$7.00 per person for ferry), and/or enjoy shops around Dunedin and the famous Sponge Docks at Tarpon Springs. Saturday evening arrangements have been made at the famous Louis Pappas restaurant in Tarpon Springs for those who have indicated a desire to join us for a time of sharing. Sunday morning a limited group will be going out to Egmont Key lighthouse. We will be leaving from the Tierra Verde Yacht Club dock in the south St. Petersburg area.

ANCLOTE KEY LIGHTHOUSE



By Wayne Hawes

Anclote Key Lighthouse was originally a relatively minor coastal light when it was built by the U.S. Lighthouse Service in 1887 for a cost of \$35,000. On September 15, 1887, a kerosene lamp lighted the third-order Fresnel lens and started the boom times for Tarpon Springs. About 20 years later the light gained importance when Tarpon Springs became the world's leading sponge center. After harvesting sponges from the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico, mariners on sponging vessels used the light as a guide into the Anclote River and on to the Tarpon Springs Sponge Exchange.

According to the National Park Service, Anclote Key Lighthouse

is the sixth oldest standing lighthouse that was built using skeletal, tubular cast iron construction. Towers of this type were built in a number of locations where shifting sand or mud meant that the lighthouse might have to be moved, as the Cape San Blas Lighthouse was in 1919. The open skeletal framework also allowed hurricane-force winds to pass right through the structure.

James Gardner was the first keeper on Anclote Key. A principal keeper and two assistant keepers lived at the station in two nearly identical keeper's houses. The keeper's houses are now gone; only an oil house and cistern remain along with the lighthouse tower. A keeper once kept pigs on the island but crews on Cuban boats stole the animals. Mosquitoes were so numerous that on occasion the keepers could not work outside.

Anclote Key Light Station was decommissioned by the Coast Guard in 1984 and much deterioration and vandalism followed. Both keeper's quarters have been burned to the ground by arsonists, the glass lantern panels have been shattered by gunfire, and graffiti artists have defaced the structure. The 180-acre island and the lighthouse property were eventually transferred to Florida State Parks. Anclote Key Lighthouse was added to

the National Register of Historic Places in April 1999.

Lary and Pat McSparren were the original driving force that started the efforts to save Anclote Key Lighthouse. Three groups - the Gulf Islands GEOPark, which manages the lighthouse, the Gulf Islands Alliance Citizens Support Organization (CSO), and the Tarpon Springs Historical Society - are together trying to fully restore this 113-year old structure and surrounding grounds. The Tampa Bay Harbour Lights Collectors Club has adopted this project and three individuals have volunteered to co-chair a Relight the Light committee for the CSO.

There was a set back in 1998 when someone made off with tons of bricks from a walkway, the oil house and the remains of the two keepers quarters. The brick thieves apparently used a wheelbarrow for their crime. They even took materials from the remaining structures to build a bridge over a wet area near the lighthouse, causing further damage to the site.

A new dock has been completed, a boardwalk from the dock to the lighthouse is under construction, and the reconstruction of the first keepers' house is in the final planning stages. The next step will be to stabilize and restore

the tower. The remaining buildings and grounds work will follow as funds are available.

We are excited about the funds that are being made available. The first funds to be received are from a grant given by Historic Preservation. These are federal monies being given by the State of Florida for the preservation of the lighthouse. The amount of \$250,000. to be distributed in four quarterly payments. The next grant is a federal grant distributed by the Department of Transportation in the amount of \$786,000. And will be distributed over a two year period. And last, but not least, monies that will be available are the funds requested for the improvements that are budgeted by the Park management team in the amount of approximately \$320,000. for the year 2002. As you can see we are finally getting the funds to restore the lighthouse, however, we still need to raise over \$500,000. To build the two keepers quarters. The first of which needs to be built so our park ranger can protect our lighthouse from future vandalism.

Everyone involved with the project is very excited about the future of the Anclote Key Lighthouse.

**SUPPORT CROOKED
RIVER LIGHTHOUSE!!**

FLA'S WEBSITE By Tim & Lynda VeArd

With your help, FLA's website (www.FloridaLighthouses.org) can become an important tool for keeping FLA members informed. Even if you aren't "on-line" yet, you probably have friends who can show you the website or regularly check it to let you know when there is breaking news. In each FLASH, we will introduce a section of the website. It would be difficult to fully describe how to use a feature in these columns, so instead we will describe what you will find and suggest things you can try. Our goal is to provide HELP buttons on most pages to assist you in learning how to take full advantage of each section.

FLA's website is a little unique because it is *data driven* and much of what you see has been entered by several volunteers. Since the website is data driven, each page is created as it's being viewed. That makes it easier to make changes, which helps to keep it more interesting and current. For example, the HOME (first) page will be different for each person every time they visit. The HOME page displays a different lighthouse photo each time anyone visits. All of these photos have been contributed by FLA members (send your photos attached to an e-mail to tim@veard.com).

FLA's site is also unique because many people can help. Generally, websites are designed so that only one person, the webmaster, can put new material on the site. The website we created and donated to FLA is different because it can have as many webmasters as we have volunteers posting material. Only a few board members are helping so far, but we hope that other members will be interested in getting involved, too. To illustrate this concept, let us again use the HOME page. Under the "current" lighthouse photo, you will find a box with scrolling underlined titles going by. If you click on any title as it goes by, you will see a new window pop up with lots more information about that topic. These scrolling ALERTS are used to announce meetings, trips, special notices or changes in scheduled events. Since board and committee members can post information here, this is the best place to learn about what is going on because they can post "breaking news" as it occurs. You will also find other news or historical events that occurred this month for any Florida Lighthouse that are posted by other volunteers.

In the next issue, we will explain how to use the Lighthouse Tour section to have fun researching facts about lighthouses. There are powerful search and sort tools

featured in this section that let you find out things like - which lighthouse has more steps, quickly list lighthouses that use the color red in their daymark and countless other facts. Can't wait to learn how? Visit the website and click on one of the many HELP or TUTORIAL buttons.

BOOK REVIEW

by
Tom Taylor

LIGHTHOUSES OF EGMONT KEY. CD-ROM. By Neil E. Hurley and Geoff Mohlman. (2000. Preface, acknowledgments, appendices, about the authors, notes, index. \$16.95. Available via e-mail at <lthouse@erols.com>).

For too long books have been published repeating the same oft-quoted mistakes. Real research into the truth of the histories of Florida's lighthouses is needed, and *Lighthouses of Egmont Key* by Neil E. Hurley and Geoff Mohlman is a refreshing step in that direction. Coast Guard Reserve Commander Hurley and Mohlman, who is an architectural historian with Southeastern Archaeological Research, Inc., have done extensive research on the history of Egmont Key and its lighthouses.

Beginning with the early history of Egmont Key from the time of its discovery and how it got its

present name, the chapters in this CD-ROM presentation cover the history of the island as well as its first lighthouse (completed in 1848), the trials it suffered from hurricanes, and the building of the second lighthouse in 1858. The history of this second lighthouse, which still survives today although without its historic lantern, is told in the succeeding chapters.

The story of the lighthouse is entwined with the history of the island taking place around it. This detailed history is necessary in order to understand what was happening around the lighthouse and the keepers' families. All of the information is footnoted and well-documented, mostly from primary sources or reputable secondary sources. Clicking on the highlighted footnotes in the text brings you immediately to the source reference.

Egmont Key played many important roles in the history of the Tampa Bay area. One such role was the transportation of Seminole Indians to the west during the 1850s, and the lighthouse and its keeper were involved. The key also has an interesting Civil War history: the lighthouse served as a lookout tower for the blockading Union fleet and the keeper's dwelling housed refugees from Confederate-held Tampa. Nearly twenty federal sailors who died from fever or gunshots were buried just south

of the lighthouse, until they were removed to the National Cemetery in St. Augustine. A former Egmont Key Lighthouse keeper helped Confederate Secretary of State Judah P. Benjamin escape to the Bahamas after the Civil War.

After the war, Egmont Key and the lighthouse became tourist attractions. Because of the amount of general island history, this CD-ROM should be of interest not just to lighthouse buffs but to all persons interested in the history of Egmont Key and the Tampa Bay area.

One convenient feature of this CD-ROM is the listing of the subjects by each chapter after the heading of the chapter. By clicking on the subject, the CD-ROM instantly brings up the section of particular interest to the reader. This greatly reduces the time spent locating information. Neophytes in lighthouse technology will find the discussion on how a Fresnel lens works very "illuminating." The writing style is straightforward and easy to understand.

Numerous charts, graphics, and photographs complete the historic picture of the island and the lighthouse with a thoroughness that mere text could not accomplish. Clicking on graphics brings up

screens with annotations as to sources, dates, and other pertinent information. Clicking again on the graphic on this screen brings up an even larger view of the graphic which permits very close inspection of its details. The quality of the reproduction is excellent and can be printed out without too much loss of clarity.

Finally, the appendices provide detailed information of great interest to the hard-core lighthouse enthusiast. This is an informational resource of great value to lighthouse people and to people interested in the history of Egmont Key and the Tampa Bay area.

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LIGHTHOUSE REPORTS

Amelia Island: Hal Belcher had a recent visit from our Historian, Neil Hurley. Neil reports that he had the extreme pleasure of meeting one of the daughters of Keeper Thomas P. O'Hagan. Pictures of that visit will be posted on Neil's web-site.

St. Johns: Andy Liliskis needs to step away from work with the Mayport Lighthouse Association. He needs volunteers to fill in the gap and continue work on the museum and lighthouse arrangements. If you live in the Jacksonville area and can help, please contact Andy Liliskis at Mayport

Lighthouse Association, Inc., P. O. Box 35, Mayport, FL 32267-0035, (904) 251-2488; FAX (904) 251-3378; e-mail: beaks@leading.net

St. Augustine: The acceptance of the ownership of the St. Augustine Lighthouse Tower from the USCG via a process that includes very competent action by the General Services Administration and National Park Service under the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act of 2000 moved a step closer in February. The County of St. Johns Board of County Commissioners voted to support the application for the tower! In fact they have asked us to consider taking over ownership of all the property they lease to us as well. Our Board has yet to meet to discuss that recommendation. I hope this is a positive development for those of you saving other lighthouses across Florida! If you want to see the act and learn about what it says it is available on line from a variety of sources. Use the Google search engine for a variety of good links. Just type in the name of the Act.

Cape Canaveral: At the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse, the Air Force recently completed an in-depth corrosion and safety study and the associated analysis is underway. The initial assessment indicates that the overall structure is sound. The Air Force has obtained architectural drawings from the U.S. Coast Guard in Miami that

include the lighthouse, the keeper and assistant keeper dwellings, and the oil house.

Jupiter Inlet: No Report.

Hillsborough Inlet: At the January meeting of the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society Liaison Committee with the USCG, Capt. M.J. Kerski announced that a tour of the lighthouse is scheduled for May 18th and October 5th, 2002.

Cape Florida: See President's Message and Tour Report.

Dry Tortugas: No Report.

Sanibel Island: No Report.

Gasparilla Island and Boca Grande Entrance Rear Range: See January Quarterly Meeting article above.

Egmont Key: No Report.

Anclote Keys: See section regarding April, 2002, Quarterly Meeting.

Cedar Keys: See Open House article above.

St. Marks: See January Quarterly Meeting article above.

Crooked River: The Carrabelle Lighthouse Association (CLA) after six months of hard negotiations now has an agreement with the City of Carrabelle that allows them to manage Crooked River Lighthouse. Now the grant writing begins! The opening of the lighthouse to the public depends on how quickly they can raise money for restoration. There are some safety issues involved and it will not be opened until these problems are resolved. Upcoming events:

Carrabelle Lighthouse Association Birthday Party: August 10th. Come help them celebrate.

Cape St. George: No Report.

Cape San Blas: No Report.

Florida Keys Reef Lights

Foundation: The Florida Keys Reef Lights Foundation held its first Annual Meeting on January 20, 2002, at the Key Largo Library in the Florida Keys. About 30 members participated in the business meeting and then enjoyed Love Dean's wonderful slide presentation on the history of the iron-pile "Reel Lights." At the meeting, the "pro-tem" officers and Board members, chosen during the organizational meeting last July, were elected to regular one-year terms: Tom Taylor, President; Jerry Wilkinson, Vice-President; Brenda Altmeier, Treasurer; Dan Gallagher, Secretary; Love Dean, Historian; and Board Members Jack Burrie, Hib Casselberry, Jim Clupper, and Gail Swanson. Two new members were added to the Board, Joe Pais of Key West, and Richard Schulze of Fort Lauderdale. Joe Pais was with the Key West Lighthouse when it was restored and then served with the state historic grants programs in Tallahassee before returning recently to Key West. Richard Schulze was the FLA's first Executive Vice-President and has recently returned from "peace-keeping" duties overseas. Both men will be important additions to the FLRLF's Board. A Board

meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, March 9th, at the Islamorada Library to discuss possible special exhibits which may be built and installed in the five Florida Keys Libraries to help disseminate information about the Foundation and the Reef Lights. Work on the museum with the City of Marathon now looks like it will be part of a "three-year" plan for the marina redevelopment, so the museum project will be taking place later than first envisioned. We hope that FKRLF members may have a chance to visit one or more of the Reef Lights sometime later in the year.

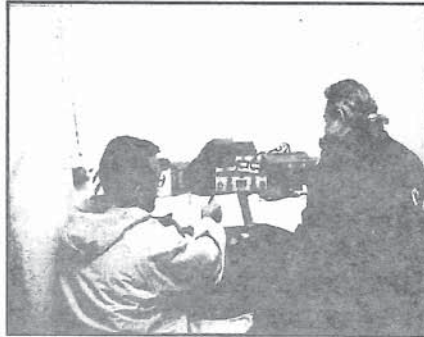


St. Joseph Point: See January Quarterly Meeting article above.

Pensacola: January 1st commemorated the first Amateur Radio transmission from the Pensacola lighthouse on the 143rd anniversary of the lighting of the Pensacola light. W4UC, the club's call sign for the Five Flags Amateur Radio Association, set up two transceivers at the base of the light tower - one in the entry

room and the other in the oil storage room. The coaxial cables were run up the center of the tower to the catwalk where two antennas were placed. The club received 376 contacts between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. from Canada, South America, Europe and most of the U.S. states, including Hawaii. All contacts will receive a copy of an artist's rendition of the lighthouse, a brief history of the lighthouse and an official call confirmation card that also has a picture of the Pensacola lighthouse. The Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society has a website (www.arlhs.com) and is looking for lighthouse locations for the August lighthouse transmissions. (August 2nd North America Lighthouse-Lightship weekend; August 16th International Lighthouse-Lightship weekend). Also at this website is the ARLHS Numbered List of Lights, such as Anclote Key (USA 13); Cape Florida (USA 118); Egmont Key (USA 269); Fowey Rocks (USA 307); Pensacola (USA 592). All contracts have been finalized and renovation work, which was listed in the last issue of the FLA Flash, was to begin the end of January on the Pensacola lighthouse. Unfortunately, the work will not begin until March 11th, thus delaying the opening for summer tours. However, when finished the light tower will be sparkling with new paint and

the original Keepers' room will be restored with the original wainscot walls and ceilings.



Ponce Inlet: There are a lot of exciting things going on at the Ponce Inlet Light Station. In February they received a \$35,000.00 exhibit grant from the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, to restore the original first order Fresnel lens. They will begin work on it in July. Ponce Inlet needs volunteers! An orientation meeting for those interested will be held in the conference room above the Lighthouse Gift Shop at 7 p.m. on April 23rd. There are openings for docent trainees, gardeners, maintenance assistance and gift shop assistants. They are also installing a new computerized POS system in the gift shop that should be up and running in May.

FIRST ANNUAL FLA PHOTO CONTEST

David Hanko is the Chairman of the First Annual FLA Photo Contest and he is absolutely EXCITED about it. David

reports the rules as follows:

1. The Contest is only open to FLA members in good standing.
 2. Photos submitted must only be of Florida lighthouses.
 3. Submitted photos must be 8X10 unmatted and unframed.
 4. Photos may be in either color or Black & White.
 5. Each photo entered must have the entrant's name, address, telephone number and name of the lighthouse.
 6. All photos submitted become the property of the FLA.
 7. Submission deadline is SEPTEMBER 1, 2002.
- All submissions must include a \$5.00 entry fee per photo payable by either check or money order. Please make your form of payment payable to "Florida Lighthouse Association" and forward it, along with your photo, to:

FLA PHOTO CONTEST
C/O DAVID HANKO
PHOTOGRAPHY
5150 4th Street No.
St. Petersburg, FL 33703

NEW MEMBERS

We wish to welcome the new members who have joined us in the past quarter: Charles Ansell, Ida L. Best, Patsy Chapin, John L. & Jacquelyn Darmin, Rod & Judy Eason, Jr., Phoebe H. Flynn, Barbara Goggins, F. David Good, Edward & Mary Grabowski, Linda Holloway, Kristen Jones, John La Forte, Thomas & Millicent McNearney, Marcia L. Napier, Laressa Nelson, Susan

Sebeny, Tonya C. Stewart, Robert Swain, Martha E. Wilson, and Jerri & Gregory Wingo.

CROOKED RIVER CONTRIBUTIONS

First Quarter, 2002

Michael & Cynthia Branigan and Tom Taylor, Tom & Alice Buzard, Dim & Vivian Bolick, John & Elizabeth Wilson, Allan W. Pither, Donald Fiery, Bruce Gibson, Paul Bradley.

Please note that only money to be donated to the Crooked River Campaign should be mailed in the envelopes provided with this newsletter.

INFORMATION UP-DATES

MEMBER DUES INFORMATION:

Check or money order to Membership VP, Linda Koestel, 1072 Grizzly Ct., Apopka, FL 32712-3059. You can check your membership card or the address label on this newsletter for your expiration date.

FLA BOARD MEMBERS/COMMISSIONER DIRECTORY, JANUARY, 2002 CONTACT INFO:

Thomas W. Taylor, President:
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Barbara Revell, District 4 Commissioner: benbar7@aol.com
Amelia Island Lighthouse: Hal Belcher, Amelia Island Lighthouse and Museum, Inc.: hal@net-magic.net
St. Johns River (Mayport) Lighthouse: Andy Liliskis, Mayport Lighthouse Association, Inc.: beaks@leading.net
St. Augustine Lighthouse: Kathy Fleming, St. Augustine Lighthouse and Museum, staughl@aug.com
Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse: George Blanck,

grblanck@msn.com
Cape Florida Lighthouse: Lee Niblock, Park Manager, capefla@gate.net
Key West Lighthouse & Reef Lights: Claudia Pennington, Key West Art & Historical Soc., (305) 295-6616
Sanibel Island Lighthouse: Charles LeBuff, SanybelCL@aol.com
Gasparilla (Port Boca Grande) Lighthouse: Marilyn Hoeckel, Barrier Island Parks Society, (941) 697-7750
Anclote Key Lighthouse: Gulf Island GEO Park, (727) 469-5942
Cedar Keys Lighthouse: Kenneth Litzenburger, Refuge Manager, (352) 493-0238
St. Marks Lighthouse: BMC David Justice, USCG, (850) 234-8139
Crooked River Lighthouse: Barbara Revell, benbar7@aol.com
Cape St. George Lighthouse: John Lee, no known e-mail address.
Cape San Blas Lighthouse: Director, Environmental Management, Eglin, AFB
St. Joseph's Point Lighthouse: Privately Owned.
Pensacola Lighthouse: Dianne D. Levi, dlg@infi.net
David Hanko, Photo Contest: jackalope@earthlink.net
FLAFLASHNEWS: Barbara McClure, Editor, 2610 Via San Marino Court, Merritt Island, Florida, 32953; (321) 453-7202 (No Calls after 10 p.m.) E-Mail: flash@floridalighthouses.org

LIGHTSHIP COIN AND PATCH

The Lightship Sailors Association is selling lighthouse coins and patches to raise money to complete the Lightship Sailors Memorial in New Bedford, MA. For a coin, send \$15.00 plus \$1.00 postage, and for the patch send \$10.00 plus \$1.00 postage to: Dennis M. Cosmo, Jr., 50 Belvedere St., Johnston, RI 02919.

LIGHTSHIP CREW PHOTOS NEEDED

Ken Black and Tim Harrison are working on a publication about U.S. Lightships. They are looking for photographs of crewmembers that served on board lightships to be included in the publication as well as photos and memories of life on board a lightship. If you have any to share you can send them to: Tim Harrison, P.O. Box 1690, Wells, Maine 04090.

KEEPERS NAMES AND SERVICE DATES

The Lighthouse Explorer Database of searchable lighthouse information on the Lighthouse Digest website (www.lhdigest.com) now contains about 2,500 lighthouses. When possible, they have included lists of keepers for the lighthouses. They are asking for anyone who has information that can be added to the database to send it to: Jeremy D'Entremont, Lighthouse Digest, P.O. Box 1690, Wells, Maine 04090. [Editors note: In doing research for school this past semester this website was a life-saver! I was able to reach a

person with Chinese Lighthouse experience to gather information on a report that earned me an A in the course.]

LIGHTHOUSE MONOPOLY
Efforts are being made to produce a Lighthouse Monopoly game to be produced by USAopoly but they need to be plied a little bit more. Send a letter explaining why you would like to see a Lighthouse Monopoly game produced and explain in the letter why you think it would sell. Direct your letters to **Betsy Meagher** at Bmeagher@USAopoly.com.

ST. AUGUSTINE NEEDS COAST GUARD ORAL HISTORY

The St. Augustine Lighthouse is gathering oral history and photographs of Coast Guard personnel who were stationed at the lighthouse during WWII. If you have anything that you can share with them contact: Annamarie Van Hemmen @ (904) 829-0745 or email: staughl@aug.com

SAVE FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSES!

SUPPORT CROOKED RIVER TODAY!!!

SAVE FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSES!

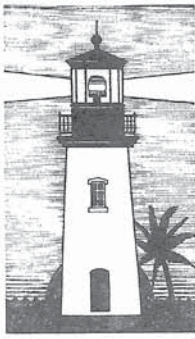
The *FLA FLASH* is a quarterly publication of the FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE ASSOCIATION, INC., and is a benefit of membership in the organization. The FLA is a non-profit Florida corporation which promotes the preservation of Florida's lighthouses and interprets the history and significance of those light-houses and of Florida's unique maritime heritage. For information, contact: Florida Lighthouse Association, P. O. Box 34-0028, Tampa, FL 33694-0028
Phone: (813) 968-5640 Option 3
Fax: (813) 960-2065

WSite: www.floridalighthouses.org
E-mail: info@floridalighthouses.org
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Wayne Hawes, Executive V-P
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Paul Bradley, Graphic Artist



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2002 ANNUAL APPEAL FOR THE CROOKED RIVER LIGHTHOUSE, CARRABELLE, FLORIDA

Dear Friend of Florida's Lighthouses:

For the second year, the Florida Lighthouse Association is making an Annual Appeal for one of Florida's endangered lighthouses. Our organization, now just five years old, has made an astonishing record in the preservation of our state's maritime sentinels. We organized a campaign to save the keeper's dwelling at the Cape San Blas Lighthouse when it was in danger of being washed away by the sea. The United States Air Force finally came to the rescue. We forestalled a drive by commercial interests to convince the U. S. Navy to permit an unnecessary move of the historic, 1859 St. Johns River Lighthouse, the last original vestige of the old town of Mayport. The Navy turned them down. We have helped form local non-profit organizations which can, under a new federal law which we supported, now obtain abandoned lighthouses from the federal General Service Administration for restoration, and we are raising funds for the restoration of several lighthouses. In 1998, we contributed to the salvation of the leaning and greatly endangered Cape St. George Lighthouse. Last year, we raised \$10,000 toward the restoration of the 1842 St. Marks Lighthouse, the second oldest in the state.

This year, the Florida Lighthouse Association is seeking to raise funds for the Crooked River Lighthouse, located in a section of the state which can greatly benefit from the tourism that this lighthouse will generate. This lighthouse has just been turned over to the City of Carrabelle and will be managed and restored by the new, non-profit Carrabelle Lighthouse Association. We are hoping to raise state-wide a minimum of \$15,000 to help get this new lighthouse restoration project underway, and we need YOUR help.

The Crooked River Lighthouse was built in 1895 as a steel, skeletal tower, to replace the long-vanished Dog Island Lighthouse which guided ships into St. George Sound and to the port of Apalachicola. When the Crooked River Lighthouse was built, the new port of Carrabelle was busy with shipping timber from its lumbering industry. The original lens for this lighthouse, which still exists today, is believed to be the first bivalve style lens ever installed in a lighthouse in the United States, an important historical feature of this lighthouse which is on the National Register of Historic Places. During World War II, the lighthouse guided in oil tankers who filled a pipeline carrying petroleum to Jacksonville. In recent years, the lighthouse marked the eastern end of the western section of Florida's Intracoastal Waterway. It should be restored to continue service as an important navigational aid for fishermen and small boat sailors. When the lighthouse is restored, we hope it will be re-activated as a "privately maintained" aid to navigation.

Our Annual Appeal this year will feature levels of support by which you can qualify for special gifts. As an individual, you will receive the satisfaction of knowing that you are contributing to a project that will last. Most of our lighthouses have been around for more than a hundred years, and with our help, they will last another century as monuments to that maritime heritage which has made this state so great. Florida's lighthouses have saved thousands and thousands of lives. Now that they are endangered by neglect and age, it is time that we offer back a little bit of support to help bring these sentinels of safety and maritime heritage back from the abyss of deterioration.

As a business, you can receive state-wide recognition for your generosity. Mention of your business will go into our quarterly journal the *FLA FLASH*, and we will encourage our members to patronize your business whenever possible. Donations above \$100 also bring a certificate or plaque which can be displayed in your office or showroom as physical proof that you have done your part in the preservation of Florida's valuable maritime heritage. Lighthouses have a lot of public appeal right now, and contributions to lighthouse restoration is not only politically correct but also something which the general population applauds. Donations to the Florida Lighthouse Association are also tax deductible.

Please contribute to our Annual Appeal for the Crooked River Lighthouse. Your donation, no matter how small is very much appreciated. The donation levels and gifts are:

\$1000 and above: FIRST-ORDER FRESNEL LENS LEVEL --

President's Club Wall Plaque,
recognition in the *FLA FLASH*,
Harbour Lights Calendar (while supply lasts),
Florida Lighthouse Trail book,
and Florida Lighthouse Screen Saver

\$500: LANTERN ROOM LEVEL --

President's Club Wall Plaque,
recognition in the *FLA FLASH*,
Harbour Lights Calendar (while supply lasts),
and *Florida Lighthouse Trail* book

\$250: WATCH ROOM LEVEL --

President's Club Certificate,
recognition in the *FLA FLASH*,
Harbour Lights Calendar (while supply lasts)
and our *Florida Lighthouse Trail* book

\$100: TOWER LEVEL --

President's Club Certificate,
recognition in the *FLA FLASH*,
and Harbour Lights Calendar
(while supply lasts)

\$50: WEIGHT WELL LEVEL --

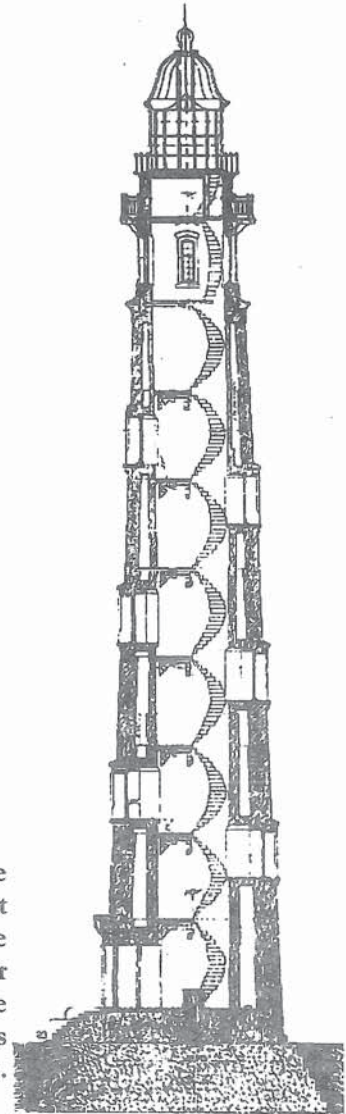
Thank you letter
and recognition in the *FLA FLASH*

\$25: FOUNDATION LEVEL --

Thank you letter
and recognition in the *FLA FLASH*

The Internal Revenue Service has approved the Florida Lighthouse Association for 501 (c) 3 tax-exempt status. Donors may now deduct contributions to us as provided in section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to the FLA or for our use are deductible for federal estate and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of sections 2055,2106, and 2522 of the Code. Copies of the I.R.S. letter are available by request from the Association office. PLEASE CONTRIBUTE WHAT YOU CAN TO THIS CAUSE.

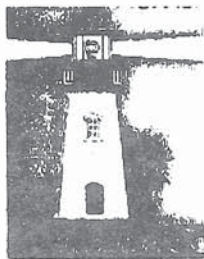
THANK YOU!



Sincerely,

Thomas W. Taylor
President

FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING
ANCLOTE KEY LIGHTHOUSE, DUNEDIN, FLORIDA
SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2002



The second Quarterly Meeting of the Florida Lighthouse Association for 2002 will be a Anclote Key Lighthouse, off the coast of Tarpon Springs. The program venue will be on board the Starlite Princess Riverboat (space is limited to approximately 200 people). You will be responsible for arranging your own lodging. We recommend the Holiday Inn Express in Dunedin, where we have arranged for Corporate Rates for FLA members. After the program, lunch and lighthouse tour, we have made arrangements for free admission to Honeymoon Island State Park for those interested. Enjoy the Sponge Docks and/or antique shops in Tarpon Springs or take the ferry out to Caladesi Island for an afternoon on the beach.

Sunday morning (8am-11:30am) we have arranged a boat trip to the Egmont Key lighthouse. As we are limited to 75 people, spaces will be delegated on a first-come, first-served basis, upon receipt of registration. PLEASE REGISTER EARLY.

Cancellations for full refund will be needed by April 1st, and after that, refunds will be made only if your place can be filled from the waiting list.

SCHEDULE
SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2002

- 7:15 am - 8:00am Board Starlite Princess at the Marker 1 Marina (343 Causeway Blvd, Dunedin)
- 8:00 am **BOAT LEAVES DOCK - DON'T BE LATE AND MISS A GREAT DAY**
- 8:00 am Special Guest Speakers (info about Anclote Lighthouse)
- 9:00 am Tour of Anclote Lighthouse
- 10:30 am Quarterly Meeting of the Florida Lighthouse Association
- 12:00 Noon Lunch is served
- 1:00 pm Return to dock at Marker 1 Marina

Sunday, April 21, 2002

8:00am - 11:30am Boat trip to Egmont Key --- \$17.50 per person - limited to the first 75 reservations.

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ANCLOTE KEY LIGHTHOUSE EVENT RESERVATION
APRIL 20, 2002; LUNCH AND TOURS OF THE LIGHTHOUSES
(RESERVATION DEADLINE: APRIL 1, 2002)***PLEASE NAME EACH PERSON***

NAMES (please print) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ E-MAIL _____

TELEPHONE: HOME () _____ OFFICE () _____

If interested, we are looking into dinner Saturday evening at Louis Pappas restaurant in Tarpon Springs
Please check here if interested in joining us for dinner. How many for dinner _____

SATURDAY LUNCH: (All Entrees include: fresh garden salad, bread, coffee, tea, and dessert) (All Entrees except Grilled Chicken Salad include rice and seasonal vegetable. Lunch selections will be made at the meeting Saturday and include the following meals:
BEEF KABOBS CHICKEN CORDON BLEU FRESH FROM THE WHARF
GRILLED CHICKEN SALAD SHRIMP CREOLE (MILD)

ANCLOTE TRIP & LUNCH NUMBER OF PERSONS _____ X \$36.00 PER PERSON = \$ _____

EGMONT KEY TRIP: NUMBER OF PERSONS _____ X \$17.50 PER PERSON = \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO THE FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE ASSOCIATION, INC.
AND MAIL THIS FORM AND YOUR PAYMENT TO:

David and Alice D'Amicol, 128 Peacock Drive, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701

~~407-331-9468~~ adamicol@cfj.rr.com

407-331-9468

Suggested Hotels

***Holiday Inn Express**

FLA SPECIAL RATE \$69.00 per night

*975 Broadway (Alt US 19)

*Dunedin, FL 34698

*727-450-1200

Amberlee Motel

1035 Broadway

Dunedin, FL 34698

727-733-3228

Best Western Yacht Harbor Inn & Suites

150 Marina Plaza

Dunedin, FL 34698

727-733-4121

Clearwater Beach Hotel

500 Mandalay Ave

Clearwater, FL 33767

727-441-2425

Inn on the Bay

1420 Bayshore Blvd

Dunedin, FL 34698

727-734-7689

Meranova Guest Inn

458 Virginia Lane

Dunedin, FL 34698

727-733-9248

Palm Court Motel

2090 Bayshore Blvd

Dunedin, FL 34698

727-736-0441

Ramada Inn Countryside

26508 US 19 N

Clearwater, FL 33761

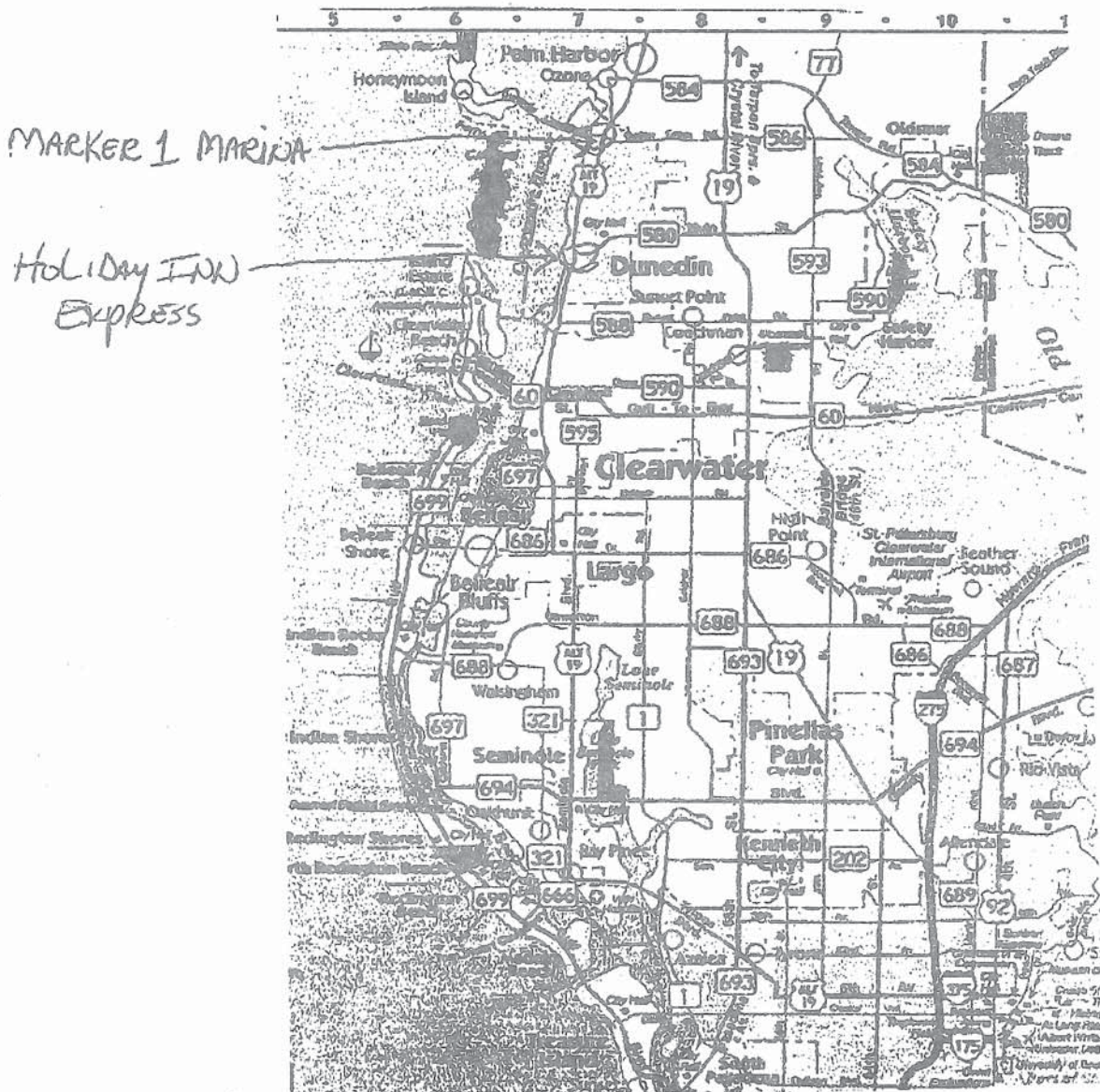
727-796-1234

Sheraton Sand Key Hotel

1160 Gulf Blvd

Clearwater, FL 33767

727-595-1611



PETITION FOR A FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATE

I/We, the undersigned, hereby state my intent to purchase a Florida LIGHTHOUSE specialized license plate, if approved by the legislature and offered by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

By signing this petition, I/we understand that the plate would carry an additional cost of \$15 annual use fee, plus a \$2 processing fee per year per vehicle. I/we certify that I am/we are the legal owner/lessee of a motor vehicle registered in the State of Florida, and said vehicle is eligible for a specialty license plate.

	PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP
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RETURN TO: THE FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE ASSOCIATION, INC.
P. O. BOX 34-0028
TAMPA, FL 33694-0028
(813) 968-5640 OPTION 3