

the FLA FLASH

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

QUARTERLY MEETING TO BE AT THE SANIBEL LIGHTHOUSE!

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by Tom Taylor, President

I want to congratulate Barbara and Ray Hamel and Kathy Fleming for the outstanding event that they provided our members with at the July meeting in St. Augustine. It was an awesome event!

For more than six years, the Florida Lighthouse Association has been the most important part of my life: from the very first organizational meeting in July, 1996, when thirty people were in attendance and we had funds of less than \$200 to this year's

membership of over 650 and a budget of \$50,000. It has been my pleasure and honor to serve as the Association's registered agent, as Secretary, and for the past four years, as its President. We sure have grown during this period and I have loved being able to have had a small part in this. The FLA has certainly made its mark in these brief years towards lighthouse preservation in this state, and I dearly thank all those people who have made this success possible. It has been a great team effort.

I will shortly be stepping down as President as required by our By-Laws, but as Past President, I will remain an active member of the Executive Committee. I will have other great lighthouse challenges upon me down here in the Keys, yet I plan to continue my efforts on behalf of the Florida Lighthouse Association. They say that all good things come to an end; but this is really not an end, just a change, and I for one am looking forward to the new leadership and new ideas that the in-

coming administration will bring to this organization. I hope that you all can be with us at our October Annual Meeting as we ring in a new, productive era in the continuing saga of the Florida Lighthouse Association. Best wishes to you all!

JULY QUARTERLY MEETING HELD AT ST. AUGUSTINE LIGHTHOUSE

by Barbara McClure

The July quarterly meeting was held at the Ponce de Leon Hotel in St. Augustine where we were treated to several special speakers which included Kathy Fleming of the St. Augustine Lighthouse and Museum, Ken Smith of Ken Smith Architects who, along with Bender & Associates, recently completed the Condition Assessment Report of Florida's thirty lighthouses, John Kelly of the General Services Administration (GSA) who gave an informative lecture on the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act of 2000, LaRay McBay of GSA who handles application

CONTENTS

Letter from President	1
St. Augustine LH Qrtly Mtg	1
January 2003 Qrtly Mtg	2
Sanibel Qrtly Mtg & History.....	2
Tour of the NE Lighthouses.....	4
St. Augustine Transfer.....	5
Personal Reflections (Cedar Key).....	6
Lighthouse Reports.....	8
New Members.....	10
Annual Appeal.....	10
Ponce Inlet Pass Information	10
FLA Contact Information.....	10
Miscellaneous Items	11

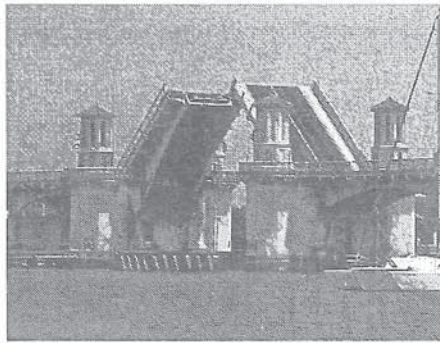
requests for possession of lighthouses on the disposal list, and Kevin Foster of the Department of Interior who stated that the St. Augustine Lighthouse and Museum application will be THE example for future applicants. Hal Belcher, who was unable to attend the quarterly meeting, was recognized by President Tom Taylor as the 2002 President's Award recipient for his continuing contribution and work for Florida lighthouses. Everyone missed congratulating Hal, so Hal! Congratulations! We missed you!



After a great lunch and rowdy auction, everyone left for the St. Augustine lighthouse on Anastasia Island. It could not have been a better day for visiting St. Augustine.



The Bridge of Lions was decorated with lighthouse flags that waved their welcome to each of us as we meandered onto Anastasia Island.



The water was calm and the sky clear for the most part. Groups were given a tour of the St. Augustine Harbor and Inlet where we saw a very different view of the lighthouse, the Castile and the Bridge of Lions. It was reported that the Inlet of 2002 looks very similar to the same Inlet that Menendez sailed in 1565.

Other areas open to guests were the lighthouse and museum, the Maritime Archaeological Lab and the original site of the first St. Augustine lighthouse. The lighthouse grounds were set up for the transfer of ownership presentation to be held that evening and you can read more about the exciting events in Kathy Fleming's article on page 5.

Again, FLA thanks Kathy Fleming, Ray & Barbara Hamel and the wonderful folks at the St. Augustine Lighthouse who were

such gracious hosts.

**JANUARY, 2003
MEETING/TOUR TO BE
AT JUPITER LIGHTHOUSE**
The January, 2003 quarterly meeting is going to be held at the Jupiter lighthouse. Further information will be provided in the December newsletter. In April the quarterly meeting will be held at the Cape San Blas lighthouse and July's meeting is being scheduled for a tour of the Cedar Key lighthouse. October, 2003 the FLA will once again visit Cape Canaveral lighthouse.

**OCTOBER, 2002
QUARTERLY MEETING
AT
SANIBEL LIGHTHOUSE**
By Tom Taylor

The 2002 Annual Meeting of the Florida Lighthouse Association will take place on October 12th, Columbus Day, at one of the most unique locations in Florida: Sanibel Island. The meeting will be held at the Sanibel Community Center, 2173 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, Florida, (941) 472-2155.

To get to Sanibel Island and the Community Center, follow these directions: From I-75 take Exit 21 to Daniels Parkway. Proceed west across U. S. 41; here the road becomes Cypress Lake Drive. Turn left on State Route 869 (Summerlin Road), pass through toll booth (\$3.00 per car) and cross Sanibel

Causeway. At the stop sign bear right (west) on Periwinkle Way to the Sanibel Community Center, 2173 Periwinkle Way.

Registration will begin at 9:30 am. The meeting will begin at 10:00 am and will include the election of the Officers of the Association for the coming year. Following the meeting, Margaret England, daughter of the last formal keeper of the Sanibel Island Lighthouse will present a talk on life at the Sanibel Island Lighthouse. We hope that her mother, Mrs. Mae England, wife of the last keeper, will be able to join us as a specially honored guest. After a roast beef luncheon at noon, we will hold our regular auctions and raffles.

Self-guided tours of the lighthouse grounds and one of the keepers' dwellings will begin at 1:30 pm and last until 5:00 pm. Please be patient and take your turn. Cindi Para has arranged for tours of the tower with many thanks to Chief Locke and his personnel. An exciting two-and-one-half hour Trolley Tour of Sanibel and Captiva Islands is also available for \$15 per person. The City of Sanibel has raised the parking fees next to the lighthouse to \$2 per car per hour. The Trolley Tour will include a stop at the lighthouse and you can get off to see the lighthouse and then get on another trolley for the ride back to the tour starting point, thus saving you the cost of the car parking fee and parking hassles at the lighthouse. If you

decide to drive to the lighthouse, because of the high parking fees and limited parking area at the lighthouse, we encourage car pooling to the lighthouse. Please register for the Trolley Tour and the luncheon on the enclosed registration form.

On Sunday, we are invited to an Open-House at the Boca Grande Lighthouse on Gasparilla Island from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. If you plan to go to Boca Grande on Sunday, please be sure to register on the enclosed form. There is a \$3.20 toll on the bridge to Gasparilla Island and a \$2.00 fee to enter and park in the state park. The \$5 registration fee will include the \$2.00 park entrance fee, the cost of the Open-House snacks, and a donation to the Barrier Island Parks Society, which manages and preserves the lighthouse. Marylin Hoeckel will be our host for this event. We hope you will all come to this unique and special event.

**HISTORY OF SANIBEL
LIGHTHOUSE**
written by Charles LeBuff
as found in *Florida Lighthouse Trail*
[used with permission]

In 1833, a group of New York investors platted a settlement on the island known as "Sanybel." Their elaborate plan indicated the future location of a lighthouse to aid in commerce, but their hopes for long-term settlement of the island were short-lived. A harsh

environment with hordes of mosquitoes, frequent hurricanes, and the threat of Indian attack during the Second Seminole War caused settlers to abandon "Sanybel" Island by 1836. By mid-century nearby Punta Rassa, on the opposite side of San Carlos Harbor from Sanibel, became a busy cattle-shipping port. Before the Civil War the shippers asked the Lighthouse Board to approve a lighthouse for the entrance to the harbor. Their request was denied because the Board determined maritime traffic did not justify construction of a new light station. However, by the early 1870s, as many as sixteen thousand head of Florida scrub cattle left Punta Rassa on vessels bound for Cuba each year.

The small seaport at Punta Rassa continued to grow, and in 1880, the Lighthouse Board finally approved another lighthouse between the Dry Tortugas and Egmont Key. At their urging, Congress appropriated the funds necessary to construct, equip, and staff the Sanibel Island Light Station. However, obstacles delayed the station's construction. The state of Florida had been granted title to public domain lands on Sanibel Island in 1845 when it entered the Union. This included East Point (now Point Ybel), the selected construction site. Quick diplomacy on the part of the federal government resulted

in Florida's agreeing to relinquish any land title claims to the island. The Sanibel Island Lighthouse Reservation was established by an executive order on December 9, 1883.

Construction of the station began in March 1884. In May, when the parts for the light tower were being delivered by schooner from New Jersey, the vessel foundered on an enormous sandbar in the Gulf of Mexico south of Point Ybel. The unique cargo sank to the bottom. Salvagers, including a hardhat diver, managed to retrieve most of the iron parts, and the construction timetable continued on schedule. When first lighted in 1884, the lamp inside the lighthouse's lantern was fueled by kerosene. Upgraded in 1923, it was retrofitted with a new burner that ignited timed releases of acetylene gas. The lighthouse was electrified in 1962.

The U.S. Coast Guard took over responsibility for lighthouses and other aids to navigation in 1939. The last of the resident keepers left the Sanibel Island Light Station ten years later. Because of major damage to the station's buildings and water supply during a 1948 hurricane, it was determined that the quarters were unsafe to be used by Coast Guard personnel. In early 1949, the light was listed as unwatched and fully automated.

In April 1949, the U.S. Fish and

Wildlife Service negotiated a revocable lease with the Coast Guard and assumed responsibility for the land and structures (excluding the light tower) for the headquarters of the Sanibel National Wildlife Refuge, renamed the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge in 1967. Permanent employees of that agency resided in the lighthouse quarters and maintained the refuge office at Point Ybel until 1982. Today, the quarters are occupied by employees of the City of Sanibel. The city manages the land under a lease agreement with the Coast Guard, but the still-functioning light remains under Coast Guard jurisdiction. In 1974, the quarters and tower were listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The tower height (ground to top of lantern) is 112 feet with a focal plane of 98 feet. There is a lighthouse exhibit in Burnap Cottage at the Sanibel Historical Village and Museum whose hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

TOUR OF THE NORTHEAST FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSES, JULY 18-19, 2002

by Hib Casselberry

Hal Belcher and Helen & Edger Livingston of the Amelia Island Lighthouse & Museum, Inc. welcomed a small adventuresome group of FLA members at their lighthouse on Friday morning, July 19th. The crew included Mike and Joyce Hager, Kenny & BonnieJean Exum, Hib Casselberry, and new

members, Tom and Maureen Workman.



Although we did not climb the tower, we did get inside to look at the granite stairs and the damaged brick interior walls.

After photos were taken, we drove to the Fort Clinch State Park to look at the old ruins of the Amelia Island North Range Light. Heading southward we crossed the St. Johns River by ferry boat and stopped for lunch at Singleton's Seafood in Mayport. Dean Singleton and Andrew Liliskis of the Mayport Lighthouse Association welcomed us. Jack Burrie of Lighthouse Point,



Florida, joined us for the rest of the day. With Andy and BonnieJean's help, our small group was allowed onto the very security sensitive Navy base. We had a wonderful tour given us by an off-duty Navy

security officer, Irene Neno, who escorted us to the two lighthouses on the base. We were able to climb up to the top of the new lighthouse and glimpse a beautiful view of the coastline and the base. That evening this group joined the rest at the St. Augustine Lighthouse and Hotel.

ST. AUGUSTINE
LIGHTHOUSE NOW OWNED
BY THE MUSEUM
by Kathy Fleming



On July 20th at a public Deed Transfer Ceremony on the light station grounds, the St. Augustine Lighthouse tower became the first of Florida's 30 lighthouses to be transferred into the hand of the non-profit organization that cares for the light under the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act (NHLPA). The transfer was the third out of six such transfers in the nationwide pilot program. The St. Augustine Lighthouse and Museum, Inc. will continue to maintain the 1874 tower to Department of the Interior Standards. The museum will now also operate the light itself as an active aid to navigation, maintaining the distinctive night mark of one fixed white flash ever thirty seconds. The site will remain free to members of the United States military.

The transfer ceremony was held under the shadow of the 165-foot tall spiral striped tower, which was decked out in red, white, and blue. Following a presentation of colors by the USCG Mayport Color Guard and the Pledge of Allegiance, Assistant Deputy Secretary of the Interior, Paul Hoffman, presented a ceremonial request for the transfer from the Department of the Interior. Mr. Hoffman was followed by Mr. Steven A. Perry, Administrator of the General Services Administration, Washington, D.C., who presented and signed a deed transferring ownership and the lighthouse's first order Fresnel lens. Finally, Rear Admiral Jay Carmichael, United States Coast Guard Seventh District presented a ceremonial key to the tower. Following the ceremony was a VIP reception including dinner and dancing for museum members, community leaders, VIP's and military brass on the lighthouse front lawn. Among those in attendance were Mr. Edwin Fielder, Regional Administrator for the General Services Administration; Joanelle Mulrain, Senior Aide to Senator Bill Nelson; Florida State Representative Doug Wiles, and Hib Casselberry, Florida Lighthouse Association, along with a host of museum staff and trustees, city and county representatives, and Junior Service League Members.

The NHLPA places local non-profits on equal footing under the law with certified local governments in the competition for lighthouse ownership if the lighthouses in question remain available for "education, park, recreation, cultural or historic preservation purposes for the general public at reasonable times and under reasonable conditions." At the

Quarterly Meeting of the Florida Lighthouse Association in St. Augustine, Mr. John Kelly, USCG Liaison to the General Services Administration, explained the Act and how it works to delegates from each of Florida's lighthouses. Mr. Kevin Foster, Director of the National Maritime Initiative, National Park Service; Ms. LeRay McBay, Realty Specialist, General Services Administration; and Capt. Larry Jaeger, USCG, were on hand to answer questions about how the process will continue for each of Florida's lighthouses. The United States Coast Guard expects to release some 301 lighthouses through General Services Administration in to private hands across the country following the successful completion of the pilot program. According to Foster, the St. Augustines's application for ownership will be "the prototype application" for those to follow.



"The transfer is a great honor to the St. Augustine Lighthouse and Museum, Inc.," said Kathy Fleming, the museum's executive director. "While we will have some additional expenses such as building insurance and increased maintenance costs for the lens and light, we also gain the opportunity to plan for our future in a meaningful way for the first time." The museum is in the process of launching an endowment campaign to help fund lighthouse preservation over the long term, and has secured building insurance on the lighthouse tower through Lloyds of London. Steve Adler, who helped maintain the light through the Coast Guard, has now been hired by the museum as a lighthouse technician. A host of volunteers from USCG Flotilla 14-7, Northrup Grumman, and Florida Power and Light will assist with periodic maintenance of the lens, motor and illuminate.

A very special thank you goes to Tom Taylor for suggesting St. Augustine Lighthouse be part of the pilot program.

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

July Open House, Cedar Key
by Barbara McClure



It was reported that over 500 people joined the FLA's small group of volunteers at the July open house of Cedar Key. So many people visited that the boats extended their pick-

up time. But when these visitors arrived, what did they really come for? Many came to see the lighthouse but many came simply to explore the island.

So many people will never have the opportunity to visit this island, with the well-maintained lighthouse, that I have decided to give you a firsthand perspective. Packing for weekend trips isn't all that hard but typically we know what we are facing. Packing for this trip was filled with consternation. I re-read the e-mails from the Wildlife Refuge Managers and the Cedar Key FLA expert, BonnieJean Exum. They had to be joking when they mentioned bug spray with every other word, right? But luckily I listened and brought along three cans. Bug Spray, members...remember that on your list. The next obstacle was convincing my son that there was a reason he needed to go on this trip. "Christopher," I said, "the surf on the West coast of Florida is nothing like you have ever seen." I wasn't necessarily lying. His eyes lit up and he was hooked. I warned him that it was a virtually deserted island located 7.5 nautical miles away from any form of life and that the building had no air-conditioning. "You will never experience anything like this again." I promised. He didn't care that he would be sleeping in a Keepers home built prior to the Civil War. He could check out the surf. I also informed him that the personnel had said he would be unable to surf ... it wasn't really a lie ...he would be unable to surf, you know? So, on the given day, he, his girlfriend, Alycia Pollack, (who by the way was a great trooper), and I left Merritt Island embarking on the unknown.

We reached Cedar Key looking for the boat ramp located at the very tip of the Island. Finding parking was nearly impossible but by a stroke of luck we eased into a space right near the ramps where the Wildlife Refuge personnel would meet us. BonnieJean and Ken Exum and Joe and Stephanie Dangler met us and after having a great lunch at Frog's Landing in Cedar Key we were rounded up and placed in two pie plates with motors ... err ... longboats. The ride over was slow and we were told that they had to be cautious, the water level is so low that you can practically walk across it to reach the island. Soon enough, however, Seahorse Key as it is affectionately known, loomed before us. The lighthouse is hidden behind trees until you round a corner and then there it is. We pulled alongside a wooden dock and unloaded our multitudes of baggage. Several young men were waiting for us and they gathered our bags and pointed at the cement walkway. Without looking up, and I advise you to not look up at first because you will be shocked, we began the walk to the lighthouse. It is a steep walkway that leads you directly to the Keepers home. Not only is it steep but it is a long walk and then couple that with carrying your luggage. If you make it past the two trees a bit beyond the water retention container without



stopping, you are a healthy person.

As you enter the lighthouse you climb onto the newly built porch. Through the screen doors you can see the small hallway and the spiral steps that you would take to the top of the tower. To either side of this hall are bedrooms. This is the original portion of the Keepers quarters. There are fireplaces in two of these rooms. The University has added a larger room for a dining hall, two bathrooms, a modern kitchen and a newer addition which contains more sleeping quarters. The floors are wooden as well as the window shutters. The first thing we all did after regaining our breath was to unlatch the shutters which allowed the heated air to at least circulate. The drawing room doors separating each of the rooms were then opened which created a nice cross breeze.

After unpacking and checking on the condition of the walkways and grave yard for the tour the next day, we all found the path down to the beach which was marked with an ominous sign. "Snakes?" I quizzed the other four. "That sign says venomous snakes." "Oh," Kenny looked up, "Yeah. Just stomp real loud as you are going down the trail. They'll leave you alone." And off they all went. Of course, I followed ... quickly. Christopher and Alycia had already bee-lined down to the beach. I was sure Christopher was by now realizing he had been duped and I thought that perhaps I would be better off facing snakes than him. As you step onto the beach you are greeted with the most beautiful pieces of petrified wood. We arrived at low tide and walked the shoreline inspecting the multitude of conch shells lining the sand.

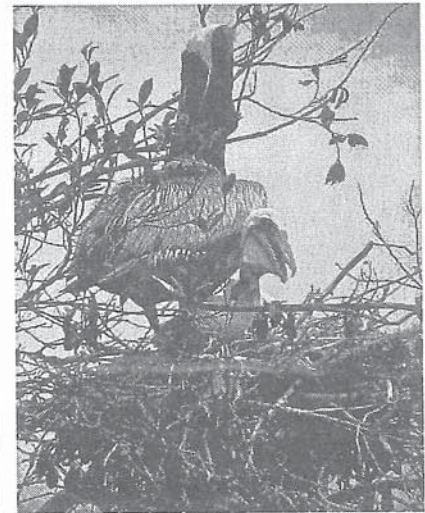


The water is mucky, extremely flat and there is a glistening of oil streaks from the motor boats.

Christopher stood glaring at me. Thank goodness Alycia was there. However, she did not look too happy either. The beach was not much of a beach. At least, it was not much like Cocoa Beach. I smiled at them and pointed at the purple flowers that looked similar to vines which I later learned were called Railroad Vines. My mother-in-law says they are a variety of a Morning Glory. They were beautifully untouched and spread across portions of the beach sand. Neither Christopher or Alycia looked impressed.

I was thrilled to spot Peregrine falcons flying overhead. It is not often that you can witness these predators in their natural habitats. We also saw the normal Florida seabirds - Blue Heron, Egrets and Pelicans. In fact, it was Pelican nesting season on the island and you could hear and see the babies squawking everywhere. We walked past a tree that was filled with Pelicans. Did you know baby Pelicans were born white? And,

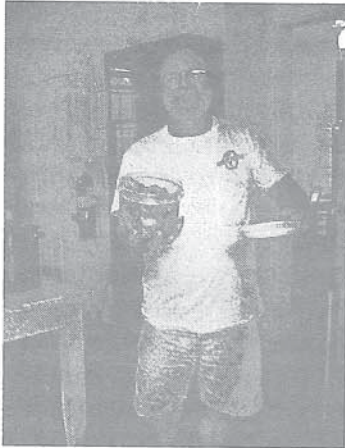
that a Pelican's feces is white and they use it to line their nest. Predators know this and therefore when the white baby is in its nest, it is left alone because it blends in with it.



We climbed back up the stairs to the lighthouse and prepared to fix dinner. Lucky for us, Stephanie & Joe thought ahead. After eating the salad, Crab Alfredo and fruit cups WITH whipped cream they had prepared, and watching an overcast sunset, we sat around folding brochures and discussing the upcoming races at Daytona. There was no television or radio available to us. It suddenly dawned on me that we were isolated but, not nearly as isolated as the Keepers and their families

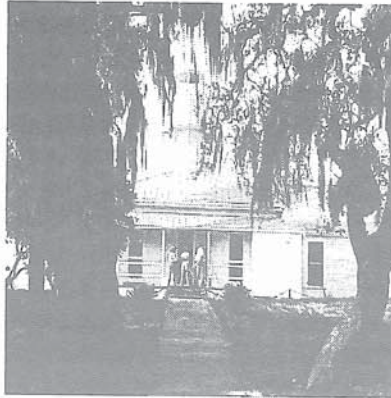


had been. The isolation itself was not necessarily horrible but the loneliness for the adults surely would have been a bothersome matter after a period of time. The children raised on the island would have found a myriad of curiosities that kept them busy.



We all slept soundly despite the heat, and even as the two snake hunters, who were spending the summer on the island investigating the snake population, made their way in the dark with their spotlights looking for the object of their studies. The next morning we prepared the home for visitors and soon the boats were arriving. Bonnie Jean, who is a wealth of information concerning the lighthouse history, assumed her position at the foot of the spiral steps leading upward. Others were taken on a tour of the grave yard by Christopher, Stephanie and Joe Dinger, that is located midway between the dock and lighthouse and to the right as you are facing the dock. Christopher began telling the visitors how I had lied to him and they laughed. Alycia & I fielded questions and pointed out different areas of the island we had discovered. My favorite part was leading people to the snake ... err, beach path and pointing out the

best picture taking areas for the baby pelicans.



As we loaded ourselves into the boat to depart the island I looked back up that long trail toward the lighthouse and knew I would miss it. I peered cautiously at Christopher and Alycia recognized that they were much like the Keepers' children of the past who must have looked forward to the release from the captivity of island life. Yet, just like those children of yesteryear, somewhere in their futures, they will tell the story of their weekend at the lighthouse and perhaps smile at its thought while retelling their tale.

LIGHTHOUSE REPORTS

Amelia Island: The lighthouse has been turned over to the City of Fernandina Beach, but the Coast Guard still owns the lens. The city has received a grant for the renovations. A small group of FLA members were able to tour the lighthouse grounds and the ruins of the Willow Creek Range Light. Hal Belcher gave an informative slide show of the lighthouse and surrounding areas.

Anclote Keys: The walkway to the lighthouse has been completed and this ambitious Association is moving forward with renovations. The 1900's lens has been located. It had been sent to Chicago after the

removal. The lens is now being returned to Florida. The Gulf Alliance hopes to have the lighthouse re-lit by the end of the year.

Boca Grande: This lighthouse will be open to members on Sunday, October 13th. Only individual cars are allowed, no buses! The drawbridge to Gasparilla Island does not support buses.

Cape Canaveral: The lighthouse has been transferred from the Coast Guard to the Air Force, but the Coast Guard still owns and maintains the first order optic beacon. If all goes well with receipt of the appropriations, the Air Force plans on beginning renovations to the oil house in the Fall of 2002. The grounds and the first floor of the lighthouse are being opened on one Saturday a month for government employees and their families. Badged personnel of Cape Canaveral Air Force Station and Patrick Air Force Base can proceed directly to the lighthouse. Families of badged employees may board an Air Force bus at Patrick Air Force Base for an escorted trip to the lighthouse. Additional plans are under study by the Air Force and Cape Security which could potentially broaden access opportunities in the future.

The Association has been overwhelmed with membership applications and wants everyone to be aware that they will receive a formal membership package shortly.

Cape Florida: No Report.

Cape San Blas: The Deed transfer is in the works to transfer the lighthouse from the Air Force to the County. St. Joe Historical Society is appointing a Lighthouse Committee to take over care of the lighthouse. They have extended the FLA an invitation to have the

April, 2003 meeting there. Members will be able to see this lighthouse first hand at that time.

Cape St. George: No Report.

Cedar Keys: The University of Florida has replaced the stairs and porch flooring of the lighthouse. All volunteer positions for the Open House to be held on Saturday and Sunday, October 19th & 20th, have been filled but those interested in July, 2003 may contact Bonnie Jean Exum at

bjexum@floralighthouses.org

Crooked River: Barbara Revell sends her thanks to all FLA members for their continuing support of the Crooked River Lighthouse. The Carrabelle Lighthouse Association now has an agreement with the City of Carabelle and is moving ahead with renovations and petitioning of grants. Crooked River Lighthouse will be open for tours during the April, 2003 meeting at Cape San Blas.

Dry Tortugas: No Report.

Egmont Key: District 3 Commissioner Richard Johnson thanked the FLA members that were able to visit the lighthouse in April. The next open house for Egmont Lighthouse will be November 2nd and 3rd. The Coast Guard is currently working at resolving a problem with the newly installed light that they believe was caused by an electrical strike during a storm two weeks ago.

Hillsboro Inlet: The next Open House for Hillsboro will be Saturday, October 5th. Only members of the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society may tour the lighthouse. To become a member, go to their website at www.hillsborolighthouse.org and join. The Society is working with the Coast Guard to try to have the

lighthouse open for tours four times next year. Check out their website throughout the year for updated information.

Jupiter Inlet: No Report.

Pensacola: The painting of the lighthouse and grounds have been completed. Dianne Levi, Pensacola Lighthouse representative, reports that there has been a tremendous amount of visitors to the lighthouse this summer. The Annual Haunted Halloween tour of the lighthouse and keepers' quarters will be held on Sunday, October 27th from noon to 4:00 p.m.

Ponce Inlet: The Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Association is in the beginning stages of two large lens restoration projects. The original first-order fixed Fresnel lens, used at the light station from 1887 to 1933 will be fully restored and put on display in our lens exhibit building. This project is being funded in part by a grant from the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources. The third-order rotating Fresnel lens used at the light station from 1933 to 1968 will also undergo restoration and be re-installed in the lantern room at the top of the lighthouse tower. This project is being funded in part by the Volusia County ECHO grant program. Both projects are expected to be completed within a year.

Reef Lights: Although summer is a slow time in the Keys, progress has been made with the Florida Keys Reef Lights Foundation. The IRS has granted the Foundation its 501(c)3 status, and the state solicitation registration and application for sales tax exemption are being filed. With this paperwork done, the Foundation will now be able to solicit donations towards the various projects that the Foundation is starting in order to

raise the awareness of the local residents and visitors to the enormous historical and engineering value of the Florida Keys Reef Lights. We hope to hold several informational meetings this winter for residents and visitors and to begin building six free-standing exhibit kiosks which will represent each of the six reef lights. These will be placed in the various libraries in the Keys and other high-profile areas. Also, a series of articles are being prepared for publication this winter in the various newspapers of the Keys.

Sanibel Island: The City of Sanibel will be receiving possession of the lighthouse from the Coast Guard. More information will be given at the October meeting. All members will be able to see this lighthouse first hand at the next quarterly meeting in October.

St. Augustine: The lighthouse was turned over to the St. Augustine Lighthouse and Museum at 6:00 p.m. on July 20th, 2002, by the United States Coast Guard and the GSA. See the article above for further details.

St. Johns: A small group of FLA members met with Andy Liliskis, the President of the Mayport Lighthouse Association. Andy notified the group that all activities between the Mayport Lighthouse Association and the Navy have been halted at this time. The group was able to visit the Old St. Johns lighthouse and take pictures. They were able to tour the St. Johns Light Station and meet with the Coast Guard that occupies the light.

St. Joseph Point: Work is still continuing on the lantern room.

St. Marks: District 4 Commissioner Barbara Revell reported that the work on this lighthouse is

continuing. Coast Guard has not yet turned the lighthouse over to the St. Marks Refuge as of this date.

NEW MEMBERS

We wish to welcome the new members who have joined us in the past quarter: Jim & Pam Cooper, Paul & Suzanne Hill, Rosalie Hull, Ian Katz, Peter Lynch, Eric S. Martin, Roberta Levitt & Ralph Moccia, Frank & Barb Murphy, Linda Patel, Jon & Valerie Richardson, Joseph W. Schoenherr, JoAnn & John Soderlund, Sandra & Addison Walker.

CROOKED RIVER CONTRIBUTIONS

Third Quarter, 2002

Paul Bradley, Jr., Jim and Ouida Boyle, Elizabeth P. Bush-Fertal, Darlene Chisholm, George H. Diller, Stan and Mary Farnham, William H. Fuller, Ray and Barbara Hamel, David L. Helsel, Joan Hudiburg, Andrew A. Hunter, Lorna Libby, Eric S. Martin, Bill & Judy Newblom, John Parkhurst, Harry and Jean Pettit, Amy Pressel, Michael D. Rehrig, John W. Sampson, Alta W. Sullivan, Philip Tanev, Tom Taylor, Joan H. Walton, Joyce Webber, Marlene L. Wood.

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 MEMBERSHIP:

Check or money order may be sent to FLA's 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.

PONCE INLET MEMBER PASSES

At the current time the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse is not honoring the free passes provided to members. Restoration of the Lighthouse had closed the tower to tours reducing the financing of the museum. Information as to when the passes will be honored will be provided in the future. The FLA apologizes to its members that this notice was not provided sooner.

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

Thomas W. Taylor, President:
Tom_fla@hotmail.com

Wayne Hawes, Executive Vice-President:

whawes1@tampabay.rr.com

Linda Koestel, Vice-President for Membership:

lkoestel@worldnet.att.net

Bonnie Jean Exum, Secretary:

bjexum@floridalighthouses.org

Alice & David D'Amico, Co-Vice-Presidents for Meetings and Special Events:

meetings@floridalighthouses.org

Judie Trotter, Co-Vice President for Fund Raising: jtrotter@cfl.rr.com

Geneva Hopkins, Co-Vice President for Fund Raising:

genevaimages@aol.com

George H. Diller, Treasurer/Cape Canaveral:

george.diller-1@ksc.nasa.gov

Richard A. Johnson, Dist. 3
Commissioner: Captrj@aol.com

Ann Caneer, Past-President, Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse:

lighthouse@ponceinlet.org

Neil Hurley, Historian:
lthouse@erols.com

Hib Casselberry, District 1
Commissioner:

lighthouse-fl@usa.com

Brenda Altmeier, District 2

Commissioner:

brenda.altmeier@noaa.gov

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@fdn.com

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, SanybelICL@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 Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation: Chris Lehnertz,

President,

clehnertz@surfmk.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

Ponce Inlet Lighthouse: Ann Caneer,

lighthouse@ponceinlet.org

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

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

Tom Taylor, President

Wayne Hawes, Executive V-P

Linda Koestel, Membership V-P

David & Alice D'Amicol, Meeting V-P

Judie Trotter, Fund Raising V-P

George Diller, Treasurer

Bonnie Jean Exum, Secretary

Neil E. Hurley, Historian

Ann Caneer, Past President

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Brenda Altmeier

Allyne Askins

Harold Belcher

George Blanck

David Butler

Ann Caneer

Hib Casselberry

George Diller

CWO Steve Elsassar, USCG

Kathy Fleming

Marilyn Hoeckel

Richard A. Johnson

Chief David B. Justice, USCG

Charles LeBuff

Dianne Levi

Andy Liliskis

John Lee

Larry McSparren

Lt. Col. Michael Newberry, USAF

Lee Niblock

Kevin O'Brien

Cindi Para

Danny Raffield

Barbara Revell

Perry Smith

Bill Trotter

FLA FLASH, Barbara McClure, Editor

Paul Bradley, Graphic Artist

OCTOBER CEDAR KEY OPEN HOUSE

Cedar Key Lighthouse located at the Cedar Keys National Wildlife Refuge has scheduled an open house for Saturday and Sunday, October 19th & 20th. 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. Parking will be very limited in Cedar Key as the Seafood Festival will be in full swing. Plan on arriving early for your ferry.

SPECIAL REQUEST FROM TOM TAYLOR

For two years now, we have been raising funds for the important restoration project of the Crooked River Lighthouse. This restoration project is headed up by one of our own FLA members, our Commissioner for District Four, Barbara Revell. Despite all odds against her, Barbara stepped forward three years ago to organize the

Carrabelle Lighthouse Association as a means of restoring and opening to the public the Crooked River Lighthouse. She was instrumental in helping the City of Carrabelle to receive the transfer of this lighthouse from the U.S. Coast Guard.

The Carrabelle Lighthouse Association now has a management agreement from the City to operate and restore the lighthouse. Barbara Revell and the Crooked River Lighthouse deserve OUR SUPPORT. It has been this President's fondest hopes that at least \$10,000 could be provided to the Carrabelle Lighthouse Association before his term as President expires on October 12th.

I am deeply appreciative to everyone who has already contributed, but we are still short of our goal. At the St. Augustine meeting, I mentioned that if each of our 600+ members would send in one more contribution of \$10, we could meet that goal. Many members at the meeting came forward with an additional \$10 or more for George Dillard to deposit into the Crooked River account. PLEASE!! If you have not yet sent in your extra \$10, do so TODAY. The envelope has been included again in this newsletter. PLEASE help me end my term as your President with a successful conclusion of this

fund-raising drive. It would be the greatest honor I could receive. THANK YOU!!

LIGHTHOUSE EMPLOYEE COOKBOOK

The Lighthouse Credit Foundation has produced an employee cookbook with over 65 recipes that are their employees favorites. ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE ASSOCIATION to help to preserve our local lighthouses.

To obtain a copy of the cookbook, send a check or money order for \$19.21 (\$17.95 + tax) to: Lighthouse Cookbook, 10500 Ulmerton Rd., PMB 153, Largo, Florida 33771 or call:

1-800-208-0362. It takes 10-14 business days for delivery. For further information regarding the Lighthouse Credit Foundation visit their website at <http://www.lighthousecredit.org>

EDUCATION REPORT

by Hib Casselberry
ESSAY 2002-2003 SCHOOL YEAR ON FLORIDA'S LIGHTHOUSES

Below are some ideas for Lighthouse Award topics for the 2002-2003 school year theme "Rights and Responsibilities in History." Input from the general membership would be greatly appreciated.

1. (Name of Florida lighthouse): Rights and Responsibilities and the Historic Preservation Movement.
2. Preservation of (Florida Lighthouse), 1971: Rights and Responsibilities and the Creation of the Gulf Islands National Seashore Act.
3. The Rights and Responsibilities of Keepers and Lighthouses as

Coastal Defense During WWI.

4. The Rights and Responsibilities of Keepers and Lighthouses as Coastal Defense During WWII.

5. Lighthouse Preservation: Rights and Responsibilities.

E-mail Hib with your input at Lthouse@Gate.net

PAUL BRADLEY GALLERIES

The VeArd's have scanned and posted the latest batch of sketches received from Paul Bradley. The Bradley Gallery now consists of 44 Florida Lighthouses, 97 Non-Florida Lighthouses and 31 Military sketches of ships, plan, people & vehicles. All of these sketches appear on the FLA's website at www.floralighthouses.org.

UP-DATE ON THE FIRST ANNUAL FLA PHOTO CONTEST

by David Hanko

Due to a last minute surge, (which I hoped for) we have a fair, if not respectable, number of entries. This is especially true in that this is the first year of the contest.

By the time this newsletter is delivered, the deadline will have passed and the winners possibly chosen. I have abstained from judging and have disqualified myself from the competition. (This seems only fair as I know which entries belong to whom, and the judging should be anonymous). The judging will be held on September 9th through popular vote by a panel of at least 30 professional photographers.

The winners will be announced at the October 2002 meeting. Thank you and good luck to all who entered.

ALABAMA LIGHTHOUSE ASSOCIATION

It appears that our friends are off to a great start with the newly formed Alabama Lighthouse Association as relayed by Capt. Hal. He reports that the Association is "up and running." The Association address is: P.O. Box 250, Mobile, AL 36601 and its official website is: AlabamaLighthouses.com The FLA extends our best wishes to this wonderful venture!

INTERESTING PEOPLE

The neat people I meet everyday include a couple from North East Palm Bay, Gus & Gert Gustafson, who telephoned me after reading the article that ran several months ago and is apparently re-running again. Their love of lighthouses led them to design a wedding topper of Sanibel Lighthouse for the gift box of their son's recent wedding on Sanibel Island. Gus said it took three weeks and he used balsa wood. The topper stood 18" high when completed. What a great idea!



SEE YOU ALL AT SANIBEL & PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE SUPPORT CROOKED RIVER!



Florida Lighthouse Association, Inc.

Post Office Box 34-0028, Tampa, FL 33694-0028

Phone:(813) 968-5640; Fax:(813) 960-2065

Website: <http://www.floridalighthouses.org> E-mail: info@floridalighthouses.org

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 --

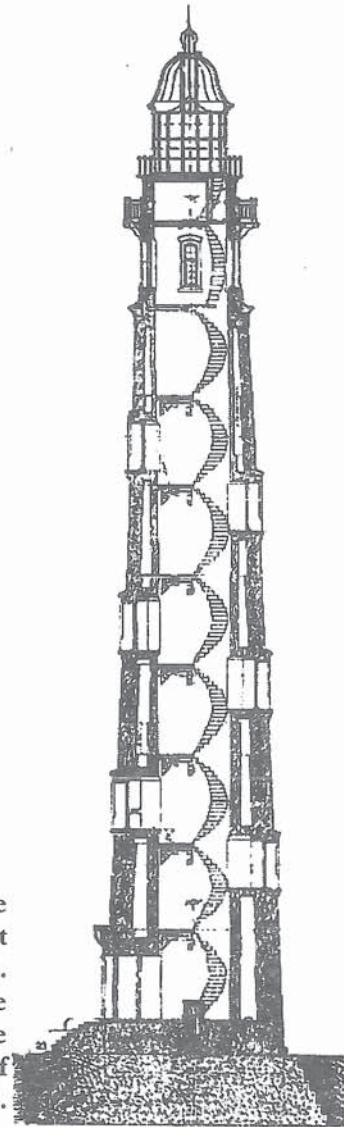
Thank you letter
and recognition in the *FLA FLASH*

\$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

SOME SUGGESTED ACCOMMODATIONS

ON SANIBEL ISLAND:

Lighthouse Resort and Club
210 Periwinkle Way
Sanibel, FL 33957-7493
(941) 472-4162
(Close to lighthouse)

Sanibel Lighthouse Inn
367 Periwinkle Way
Sanibel, FL 33957-7431
(941) 395-1277
(Close to lighthouse)

Brennan's Tarpon Tail Inn
367 Periwinkle Way
Sanibel, FL 33957-7431
(941) 472-0939
(Close to lighthouse)

Anchorage Inn of Sanibel
1245 Periwinkle Way
Sanibel, FL 33957-4720
(941) 395-9688
(Close to meeting)

Best Western Inn
3287 W. Gulf Drive
Sanibel, FL 33957-5611
(941) 472-1700

Driftwood Inn
711 Donax Street
Sanibel, FL 33957-6707
(941) 395-8874

Holiday Inn
1231 Middle Gulf Drive
Sanibel, FL 33957-4123
(941) 472-4123

Sandpiper Inn
720 Donax Street
Sanibel, FL 33957-6708
(941) 472-1529

IN FORT MYERS:

Fountain Motel
14621 McGregor Blvd.
Ft. Myers, FL 33908-1947
(941) 481-0429

Sleep Inn (Off I-75 & Daniels Pkwy.)
13651 Indian Paint Lane
Ft. Myers, FL 33912-1837

(941) 561-1117

Holiday Inn
13051 Bell Tower Drive
Ft. Myers, FL 33907-5927
(941) 482-2900

Radisson Inn
12635 S. Cleveland Avenue
Ft. Myers, FL 33907-3866
(941) 936-4300

Comfort Inn
11501 South Cleveland Avenue
Ft. Myers, FL 33907-2839
(941) 936-3993

Days Inn
11435 S. Cleveland Avenue
Ft. Myers, FL 33907-2343
(941) 936-1311

Howard Johnson
4811 S. Cleveland Avenue
Ft. Myers, FL 33907-1319
(941) 936-3229

Budget Inn
2717 Colonial Blvd.
Ft. Myers, FL 33907-1699
(941) 275-3500

Budget Inn
3715 Cleveland Avenue
Ft. Myers, FL 33901-7905
(941) 936-2181

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
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					

**RETURN TO: THE FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE ASSOCIATION, INC.
P. O. Box 34-0028
TAMPA, FL 33694-0028
(813) 968-5640 OPTION 3**