



# THE FLA FLASH

A quarterly publication of the Florida Lighthouse Association, Inc.  
[www.floralighthouses.org](http://www.floralighthouses.org)

## ST. MARKS LIGHTHOUSE

April 12, 2008

It has been almost 3 years since Hurricane Dennis came ashore and devastated the Big Bend area of the panhandle. The Village of St. Marks was literally under water and made national headlines. The St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge was closed for over a week for repairs and cleanup. And – this was the weekend that we planned a meeting and visit to the Refuge and the St. Marks Lighthouse. The management of the Refuge extended their hospitality and allowed us to visit and view the cleanup in progress and the St. Marks Refuge Association graciously provided busses to transport our group to the closed refuge. But, many of our members were disappointed. Glass panes in the lantern room had been shattered and neither the tower nor the keepers' house was safe to enter so soon after the storm. So, the Refuge and the Association have extended their hospitality to us again and we will try a second time to climb the wooden steps of the St. Marks Lighthouse.



The timing of this meeting in Tallahassee was carefully planned and is crucial to the future of the FLA. As most are aware, the FLA specialty license plate legislation (Senate Bill 734 and House Bill 371) should be voted on in our legislature in mid to late April. Your support and participation during this process is needed if we are to succeed. Our success will help insure the financial resources needed to restore and preserve many of our state's lighthouses.

The meeting and luncheon will be held at the Ramada Conference Center in Tallahassee. This facility is located at the crossroads of I-10 and Monroe Street and is approximately 5 miles from the Capitol. Instead of only one speaker for this meeting, we have invited many legislators and dignitaries to attend the meeting. To date, we have tentative agreements from newly elected State Representative Matt Hudson from District 101 who will be cosponsoring our bill in the House, Senator Mike Fesano who will sponsor the bill in the Senate, Rep Will Kendrick will co-sponsor the bill and attend, Ex Dir Malinda Horton from the *Florida Assn of Museums, VISIT FLORIDA*® VP Kerri Post, and Ex Dir Caroline Weiss from *FI Trust for Historic Preservation*. We are making every effort to invite other legislators and representatives from various state organizations to join us. These will be posted on our website when they become available.

Contents:	
St. Marks Promo	1
Stan's Beacon	2
St. Marks Cont./Partners	3
Cp. FL Meeting Minutes	4-5
Lighthouse Reports	6-8
FLA 365 Club	9
Plate Q & A	10

However, we expect many guests at this meeting and a show of unity among our membership will be very important. So, we are asking all meeting attendees to wear their **blue 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary T-shirt** to the meeting. We still have a limited number of these shirts available in our inventory, so we will attempt to provide shirts to as many as possible of those who never purchased one. (Continued on page 3)

Be a part of history, see page 9 for St. George Stair information...





## *Stan's Beacon: Comments from the President*

During the successful FLA January 19 meeting, with an exciting boat ride to Fowey Rocks Lighthouse and a visit and climb of Cape Florida Lighthouse, I urged members to write a note, send an email, call, or mail a card to your legislators supporting the lighthouse specialty license plate, Senate Bill 734, sponsored by Senator Mike Fasano and House Bill 371, sponsored by Representatives Bill Proctor and Matt Hudson. "We have climbed a long arduous trek up the mountain and can see the summit. The license plate goal is in sight. To reach it we need a blizzard....a blizzard of supporting letters and emails. Now is the time to help complete what you voted the top goal. Seize the moment. Save our lights."

Please send a thank you to the sponsors for their support of lighthouses and a note to your legislators asking for their yes vote. *You can make a difference.* Yes, sometimes letters don't get read by some legislators, but will be read by an aide who provides a count to the legislator. So it still counts! The more constituents support legislation, the more attention it gets. *You matter.*

Multiply your effect by having your friends and neighbors send a note; or sign your letter! We have come a long way and now need a final surge to the top. Wayne Gretsky said: "You miss 100% of the shots you never take." So please take a shot at this! Do what you can large or small. We can't do it without you. Thank you for your help in insuring FLA's brighter future. *You'll feel good for being a part of achieving this FLA milestone.*

Legislative Sponsors (email us for other addresses at [FLApresident@gmail.com](mailto:FLApresident@gmail.com))

**Representative Matt Hudson (District 101) :**

Harmon Turner Bldg, 3301 E. Tamiami Trail, Suite 212, Naples, FL 34112.

**Representative Bill Proctor (District 20):**

900 State Rd, Suite 2, St. Augustine, FL 32084

**Senator Mike Fasano (District 11):**

8217 Massachusetts, New Port Richey, FL 34653

*"We realize some of you can contribute only on a limited basis, so you might decide not to be involved. Believe us, your help even on a limited basis matters. And regardless of how much you do, even just one letter, we appreciate it and you'll feel good to be a part of the success."*

## **House Bill 371 Review by Infrastructure Committee.**

February 9, 2008

The Infrastructure Committee reviewed the Lighthouse Specialty License Plate bill 371, February 8, 2008 in meeting room 404 of the House Office Building, Tallahassee.

Representative Bill Proctor, who sponsored the bill on our behalf made a concise and excellent presentation. FLA members John Canetta, Eric Martin and Harry Pettit spoke to the committee and answered questions. Canetta is also a member and historian of the Carrabelle Lighthouse Association. Martin is Executive Vice President of FLA and also President of the Florida Keys Reef Lights Foundation.

The Committee voted 7-1 to approve and sent it on to the Economic Expansion and Infrastructure Council for review.

Malinda Horton, Executive Director of Florida Association of Museums (FAM), who attended also, wrote after the meeting: "The meeting went just fine. Your guys all did a great job. The committee members all liked the fact that only 10% was being used for marketing and administrative costs. Many times it is as much as 25%. They liked that 90% of the monies were go straight to the lighthouses."

Stan Farnham, FLA President said: "We're proud of the outstanding job our FLA members did in Tallahassee. Unlike most associations, they did this at personal expense which included not only the travel to Tallahassee but an overnight motel bill. They made a difference February 8."

As FLASH goes to press, this was the first step toward approval with another committee and the full House needed for approval, plus review by two committees in the Senate of the companion 734 bill, and vote of the full Senate. The legislation requires Governor Signature.



In the afternoon, we will visit the St. Marks Lighthouse. Upon entering the Refuge, the park system has a unique gift shop / learning facility well worth the time to visit. One of our favorite Rangers, Andy Edel, has promised that all the rooms in the Keepers' House will be open including photos, exhibits, and artifacts relating to the history of the lighthouse. Andy has also indicated that we have a very good chance of being able to climb the tower escorted by the head keeper himself. In the past, only a partial climb was possible but Andy says that he's optimistic about us being able to climb all the way up to the lantern room. In addition to "Head Keeper" Andy, there will be at least one female keeper in period costume. For those with a keen interest in the history of the Refuge, there will be talks about the local history on the observation platform near the lighthouse. The speaker indicates points of interest and everyone has binoculars. Light refreshments will be served in the Keepers' House during the afternoon.

The cost of this meeting including luncheon, facility rental, light refreshments, and a donation to the lighthouse will be \$40.

### Meeting Agenda

- 8:30 Meeting Registration
- 9:00 Second Quarterly meeting of the FLA
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:30 Departure per private vehicle for St. Marks Lighthouse
- 2:30 Tower opens for viewing and climbing  
History Chats on the Observation Platform  
Light refreshments in the Keeper's dwelling

### Hotel

#### **Ramada Conference Center**

2900 North Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, Fl. 32303  
Phone: 850-386-1027

We have secured a preferred rate of **\$59.95** for an exterior single/double occupancy room per night per room, and **\$69.95** for an interior single/double occupancy room. These rates are available from 4/11 thru 4/13. A cut-off date of **3/25/08** has been established for guest room accommodations. Any reservation received after that date will be handled on a space available basis. There is a restaurant on the premises.

## FLA TOP GOAL - FORGE ALLIANCES

### Partner Events

**VISIT FLORIDA®** is having "2008 Florida Tourism Day at the Capital" on Tuesday, March 25 in Tallahassee. For information, see: [www.visitflorida.org/TourismDay](http://www.visitflorida.org/TourismDay).

**Florida Trust for Historic Preservation's** annual conference is May 15-17 in Pensacola.

**Florida Association of Museums (FAM)** has a workshop March 6 in Orlando on Enhancing Fundraising to Increase Donations. The annual conference is September 7-10 in Miami.

THE ONLY ONE OF ITS KIND!

## The Keeper's Log...

Is the official  
quarterly  
journal of the  
United States  
Lighthouse  
Society...



- Lighthouse history with archival photos, diagrams and maps from cover to cover
- Features include both American and foreign lighthouses, past and present
- Technical articles, lightships and more

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244 Kearny Street, 5th Floor,  
San Francisco, CA 94108



# Florida Lighthouse Association, Inc.

Member Meeting Minutes • Cape Florida Lighthouse • January 19, 2008

**Call to order:** President Stan Farnham called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**Invocation:** Hib Casselberry led the group in prayer.

**New Members:** Stan welcomed and introduced new members: Skip Empey, Gladys Llanes, Judy Bowerman, Teri Long & Ken Cutler.

**Out of State Attendees:** Linda Speece, Linda Shay and Janet Garcia were awarded a gift for attending. (Pictured with Gayle (L) & Dennis (R) Stemas)



**FLA 365 Club:** Stan thanked the new members of the FLA 365 Club and awarded them a certificate: Wanda Forrester, Stan & Dottie Beckstrom and Olivia Larkins; not present: Maureen & Tom Workman, Ponce Inlet Lighthouse-Ed Gunn, and the Villages Lighthouse Group.

The Villages Lighthouse Group has invited the FLA to speak. Stan Farnham will meet the group and award them their certificate on Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>.

Certificates for Sen. Fasano and Rep. Proctor, which were signed by the board, will be framed and sent to them for their support. Stan read a letter from Gov. Crist thanking the FLA for his certificate.

**\$1,000 Challenge:** Stan announced two new members: Bill Trushel and Dorris Underwood.

**License Plate Material:** Stan announced many tools are available to members, to aid them in gaining support for the plate. Stan encouraged members to write the Senators and Representatives to ask for their support.

**License Plate Slideshow:** Stan quickly presented a PowerPoint Slideshow which can be used by members, and shared with other groups, to gain support for this project.



**Host Certificate:** Stan presented a certificate to Sarah Ballinger and thanked her for being a generous host.

**Reports:** Available via email: Grant History, FL Historic Commission Meeting.

**Upcoming Events:** Boca Grande speech in March; FL Trust Meeting in May, Stan will manage a session on Lighthouse Restoration.

**Strategic Plan:** Handout on all tables, which shows how the number one goal will become "market the license" instead of "get license plate". We have forged alliances with key partners such as: Kerrie Post-VP VISIT FL®, Melinda Horton-Ex. Director of FAM and Carolyn Weiss-Ex. Director of FL Trust. We have asked those three partners to attend and speak at our April meeting, along with Senator Fasano, Representative Hudson and Representative Proctor.

**Peril Ranking:** A spreadsheet is available which shows the peril ranking of all 29 lighthouses (excluding St. Joseph). #1 is Loggerhead.

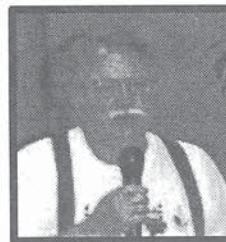
**Special Guest:** Stan introduced Melissa Memory, Chief Cultural Resources for Dry Tortugas & Everglades. Melissa spoke to members and presented a slide show about the Dry Tortugas. She asked for opinions and feedback from the members. Melissa supplied detailed information and photos of previous restoration to the lighthouses and the surrounding structures.

## 2007 Thomas Taylor Presidents Award:



Stan Farnham proudly announced the winner of the President's Award: Paul Bradley (pictured left). Paul was recognized with a warm round of applause, and standing ovation, from the members.

**Guest Speaker:** Stan introduced Dr. John Van Leer (pictured left), who teaches Marine Sciences at the University of Miami and has been a resident of the Key Biscayne area for 35 years. Dr. Van Leer spoke to the members about the changing sea levels and its impact on our lighthouses.



Break: The members took a 25 minute break.

## Officers Reports:

**Secretary:** Christi Sessions stated the previous meeting minutes were distributed in writing, available in the FLASH and on-line. Christi stated



that one correction was noted by Stan Beckstrom, the Jupiter Lighthouse report stated Outstanding National Area, which should have read Outstanding Natural Area. The correction has been made and the minutes were accepted.

**Treasurer:** John Kennedy provided a breakdown on the last quarter's income and expenses. Key figures reported thru Dec. 31, 2007: Total balance: \$59144.73, with general fund at \$24761.88 and the license plate fund at \$34382.85

**Ex. VP:** Eric Martin said he would be working on getting the remaining non-renewed members to pay their dues for 2008.

**VP of Membership:** Dede Smith announced we have 300 paid memberships for 2008.

**VP of Fundraising:** Charley Knox announced the next ornament in the series will be Sombrero Key Lighthouse. He asked members with good photos of this light to email them to him for the design.

**VP of Meetings:** Gayle Stemac thanked Ken Smith for supplying and setting up the audio equipment for the meetings. She awarded him a gift for his support. She stated the next registration form will have a place to list your cell phone number. It is very important



to be able to reach members once they have left home.

April will be in Tallahassee at St. Marks. The meeting will include multiple legislators and dignitaries as our speakers. She asked people to wear their blue FLA 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary T-shirts to the meeting.

July will be held at the Florida Aquarium in Tampa. We are trying a change of venue for this meeting due to the extreme summer temperatures, this meeting will be in the air conditioning.

Jan meeting is currently being worked out, while we are looking at Pensacola for April. The lighthouse will be celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the city will be celebrating its 450<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**VP of IT, Webmaster:** Stan Beckstrom apologized that he has been slower at posting information to the web due to multiple computer problems. He

has added the longitude and latitude coordinates to the active lighthouse pages.



**Special Presentation:** Gayle Stemac announced that the board had unanimously approved to declare Stan & Mary Farnham (pictured left), Honorary Lifetime Members of the FLA; including complimentary attendance at all FLA sponsored meetings and events. They were awarded a certificate and gift for this honor.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Graphics:** Paul Bradley spoke to the members about the design of the Great Lakes Lighthouses and displayed his artwork of several of the lighthouses. He offered the artwork to members that made a donation to the FLA. The members jumped at the opportunity to own these beautiful works of art.



**Flash:** Christi Sessions reminded members to view the FLASH on-line, in color.

**PR Committee:** Ken Smith announced, "Jack Burrie is looking for people to join his committee." They are looking for people with a writing background to assist in writing articles for business journals, magazines and papers.

**Lighthouse Reports:** See the "Lighthouse Reports" section for those that submitted information.

**Cape St. George-** Jim Kemp announced the tower is now 24' 9" in height. They are working hard to complete the tower. He stated they are very proud of the dedicated workers.

**Auction:** The auction was postponed until another meeting.

**Adjournment:** President Stan Farnham adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Christi Sessions, Secretary



## FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE REPORTS JANUARY 2008

### EXCITING FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE MILESTONES.

IMAGINE IF ALL WERE RESTORED AND OPEN! SOON THREE HISTORIC LIGHTHOUSES WILL JOIN THE PRESENT SIX PUBLICLY OPEN LIGHTHOUSES. READ THE REPORTS FOR CAPE SAN BLAS, CAPE ST. GEORGE AND CROOKED RIVER LIGHTHOUSES.

#### ST. AUGUSTINE LIGHTHOUSE:

THE LIGHTHOUSE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MARITIME PROGRAM TEAM SURVEYED SALT RUN CULTURAL RESOURCES, BEFORE DREDGING, WHICH INCLUDED 19TH CENTURY ARTIFACTS NEAR THE OLD SPANISH WATCHTOWER SITE, THE FIRST FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE. THE ST. AUGUSTINE LIGHTHOUSE IS ALSO WORKING ON THE FEASIBILITY OF A NATIONAL MARITIME HERITAGE AREA ALONG THE COASTAL AREAS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY WITH A FOCUS ON THE HISTORY OF THE NATION'S OLDEST PORT. *MAKE IT MOVE*, AN INTERACTIVE, 500 SQUARE FOOT TRAVELING EXHIBIT FROM THE OREGON MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY (OMSI), WHICH EXPLORES THE WORLD OF SIMPLE MACHINES, OPENED AT SALM JANUARY 26. BOAT BUILDING, A VOLUNTEER SMALL CRAFT BOAT BUILDING PROGRAM IS UNDERWAY AT THE LIGHTHOUSE. JIM GARRIGAN JOINED ST. AUGUSTINE AS THE GENERAL MANAGER, LIGHTHOUSE RETAIL STORE. KATHY FLEMING SAID: "CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE ON YOUR WONDERFULLY HARD WORK ON THE LICENSE PLATE PROJECT. AS REP PROCTOR SAID, CALLS, EMAILS AND LETTERS TO YOUR AREA REPRESENTATIVES ARE CRITICAL TO GETTING THE BILLS PASSED IN BOTH THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE." FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SALM, CHECK OUT BLOG AT [WWW.STAUGUSTINELIGHTHOUSE.COM/BLOG](http://WWW.STAUGUSTINELIGHTHOUSE.COM/BLOG).

#### PONCE DE LEON INLET LIGHT STATION:

THE PONCE DE LEON LIGHT STATION ANNOUNCED A NEW ADDITION TO ITS LIGHTHOUSE ARTIFACTS COLLECTION, A RARE 1903 CHANCE BROTHERS THIRD ORDER MIDDLE RADIUS FIXED FRESNEL LENS. THIS MAGNIFICENT EXAMPLE OF BRITISH FRESNEL LENS-MAKING IS ONE OF ONLY TWO COMPLETE CHANCE BROTHERS LENSES IN THE UNITED STATES. THE BEACON, WHICH IS IN REMARKABLE CONDITION, INCLUDES THE LENS, PEDESTAL, AN INCANDESCENT OIL VAPOR LAMP, AND TWO PRESSURE TANKS, ONE FOR AIR AND ONE FOR THE KEROSENE FUEL THIS APPARATUS WAS PUT INTO SERVICE IN AUSTRALIA AT THE CAPE DON LIGHTHOUSE IN 1917 AND LATER USED AT THE HANNIBAL ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE. THE NEW LENS WILL BE INSTALLED IN THE AYRES DAVIES LENS EXHIBIT BUILDING WHEN RESTORATION IS COMPLETE. RESTORATION EFFORTS IN THE SECOND ASSISTANT KEEPER'S DWELLING, BEGUN IN FALL OF 2007, NEAR COMPLETION. THE RESTORATION TEAM WORKED DILIGENTLY TO REPAIR THE BUILDING'S DETERIORATED WALLS, CEILINGS, AND MASONRY USING SPECIALLY FORMULATED MORTARS, PLASTERS, AND HISTORIC APPLICATION TECHNIQUES. ONCE COMPLETED, NEWLY UPDATED EXHIBITS WILL BE REINSTALLED INCLUDING A HISTORIC KEEPER'S PENDENT AND A NEW CHILDREN'S INTERACTIVE EXHIBIT.

#### CAPE CANAVERAL LIGHTHOUSE:

THE CAPE CANAVERAL LIGHTHOUSE HAS BEEN CLOSED TO THE CAPE CANAVERAL LIGHTHOUSE

FOUNDATION MEMBERSHIP AND THE PUBLIC, BECAUSE OF LEAD CONTAMINATION. THE AIR FORCE WAS BEEN WORKING TO DEVELOP MULTIPLE OPTIONS THAT WOULD ADDRESS REMEDIATION OF THE SOIL AND COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH EACH OF THESE CAN BE FINALIZED SO THAT A POSSIBLE COURSE OF ACTION CAN BE CHOSEN.

A NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE FOUNDATION BEGINS IN 2008, WITH OFFICERS ELECTION SCHEDULED.

#### JUPITER LIGHTHOUSE:

CONGRESSMEN TIM MAHONEY AND RON KLEIN VISITED JUPITER INLET LIGHTHOUSE JANUARY 8 TO MEET WITH MEMBERS OF THE JUPITER INLET WORKING GROUP IN TWO SEPARATE MEETINGS HOSTED BY THE LOXAHATCHEE RIVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY (LRHS). THE GROUP FOCUSED ON THE STATUS OF THE JUPITER INLET LIGHTHOUSE OUTSTANDING NATURAL AREA (JILONA) LEGISLATION (H.R.1922) CURRENTLY BEFORE CONGRESS INTRODUCED BY MAHONEY AND CO-SPONSORED BY KLEIN. CONGRESSMAN KLEIN MET WITH BRUCE DAWSON, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT (BLM), JAMIE STUYE, LRHS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE TOWN OF JUPITER'S MAYOR KAREN GOLONKA AND TOWN MANAGER ANDY LUKASIK. CONGRESSMAN MAHONEY MET WITH PALM BEACH COUNTY COMMISSIONER KAREN MARCUS, MAYOR GOLONKA, AND JUPITER INLET WORKING GROUP MEMBERS. SENATOR BILL NELSON INTRODUCED THE COMPANION JILONA BILL IN THE SENATE (S.1143) CO-SPONSORED BY SENATOR MEL MARTINEZ. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE LEGISLATION VISIT:

[HTTP://WWW.JUPITER.FLUS/PARKSRECREATION/JILONA.CFM](http://WWW.JUPITER.FLUS/PARKSRECREATION/JILONA.CFM)

#### HILLSBORO LIGHTHOUSE:

HLPS HAS A NEW PRESIDENT, ARTHUR A. MAKENIAN. HE HAS BEEN ON THE HLPS BOARD FOR ABOUT 8 YEARS EITHER AS A BOARD MEMBER OR AN EX-OFFICIO MEMBER WHILE HE WAS AN OFFICER IN THE COAST GUARD AUXILIARY. WITH ART'S GUIDANCE WE ARE SETTING A SCHEDULE FOR THE FULL YEAR OF 2008. A GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING WAS PLANNED FOR MARCH 1 WITH DINNER, ENTERTAINMENT, DOOR PRIZES, ETC. HLPS'S FIRST LIGHTHOUSE TOUR WAS SCHEDULED FOR LATE MARCH.

#### FLORIDA KEYS REEF LIGHTS:

THE FLORIDA KEYS REEF LIGHTS FOUNDATION HAD A BOARD MEETING FOLLOWING THE FLA JANUARY GENERAL MEETING. THE BOARD FILLED A VACANCY BY APPOINTING ERIC S. MARTIN AND THEN ELECTED HIM PRESIDENT. FKRIF PLANS A GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON OR NEAR LIGHTHOUSE DAY TO VISIT SOMBRERO LIGHTHOUSE WHICH WILL BE 150 YEARS OLD THIS YEAR. THE GROUP IS ALSO WORKING ON GETTING A HISTORIC MARKER OR TWO FOR THE REEF LIGHTS THAT ARE VIEWING DISTANCE FROM LAND. THE NEWSLETTER WILL RESUME SOON.



**SANIBEL LIGHTHOUSE:**

SANIBEL'S APPLICATION FOR THE LIGHTHOUSE HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE BLM WHO MUST NOW PUBLISH THE RELEASE OF PUBLIC LANDS ORDER. BRUCE DAWSON OF BLM ANTICIPATES TRANSFER IN FALL OF 2008. THE CITY'S DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS WILL BE IN CHARGE OF THE FACILITY WHEN THE TRANSFER HAS TAKEN PLACE. "CAPTAIN SERVIDIO OF USCG SAID: "WE WOULD LIKE TO ASSURE SANIBEL ISLAND RESIDENTS WE WILL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THE LIGHT."

**EGMONT KEY LIGHTHOUSE:**

THE EGMONT KEY ALLIANCE MEMBERS WORKED HARD ON THE **DISCOVER EGMONT KEY** FUNDRAISER IN NOVEMBER; A VERY SUCCESSFUL WEEKEND EVENT WITH MORE THAN 500 VISITORS TO THE ISLAND. FOR 2008, EGMONT KEY ALLIANCE HAS A NEW BOARD: JIM SPANGLER PRESIDENT; WENDY ANASTASIOU VICE PRESIDENT; PHIL SORENSON TREASURER; AND JANICA JOHNSON SECRETARY. THEY MET TO PLAN THE CELEBRATION FOR THE 150 YEAR OLD LIGHTHOUSE IN APRIL.

**CEDAR KEY LIGHTHOUSE:**

THE DOCK AND A NEW WILD LIFE OBSERVATION PLATFORM ARE BEING WORKED ON, WHICH HOPEFULLY WILL BE OPEN FOR FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE DAY IN SEPTEMBER. THE GROUNDS WILL BE OPEN JULY 5 WITH EMPHASIS ON WILDLIFE. THE LIGHTHOUSE WILL BE OPEN, THOUGH PRESS RELEASES WILL NOT MENTION THE LIGHTHOUSE; NO TOURS, NO LAB, JUST WILDLIFE EXHIBITS. FOR NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE WEEK, CEDAR KEY WILL CELEBRATE OCTOBER 18 & 19, SAT AND SUN. FROM 9 AM TILL 4 PM. THE OPEN HOUSE WILL FEATURE THE LIGHTHOUSE AND WILDLIFE WITH A NEED 4 VOLUNTEERS TO HELP OUT FRIDAY - SUNDAY.

**ST MARKS LIGHTHOUSE:**

LEAD-CONTAMINATED SOIL AROUND THE ST. MARKS LIGHTHOUSE WAS CLEANED UP WITH SOIL REMOVED ROUGHLY 18 INCHES DEEP, 10-20 FEET OUT FROM THE LIGHTHOUSE. LEAD IN THE SOIL, WHICH IS UNSTABLE, WILL LEACH DEEPER AND DEEPER BELOW THE SURFACE IF NOT REMOVED. THE CONTRACTOR STABILIZED THE LEAD BY APPLYING LIQUID PHOSPHATE, WHICH TURNED IT INTO A MINERAL CALLED APATITE. IN THIS FORM, IT NO LONGER LEACHES. THE CONTAMINATED SOIL WAS REMOVED TO A CLASS D LANDFILL WHERE IT WILL REMAIN IN A HARMLESS STATE. THE US COAST GUARD CONTRACTOR, AEROSTAR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC., HAD A CONTRACT ARCHEOLOGIST ON SITE AT ALL TWES. SHE FOUND SHARDS OF CROCKERY, POTTERY AND GLASS, WHICH WILL BE DATED AND RETURNED TO THE REFUGE FOR DISPLAY ONCE THE TRANSFER HAS OCCURRED AND THE MUSEUM BUILT! AMONG THE OLDEST FINDINGS WAS A SMALL CHERT PIECE, CAREFULLY HONED BY EARLY NATIVE AMERICANS INTO A SHARP IMPLEMENT. CLEAN SOIL AND SOD WERE PLACED AROUND THE STRUCTURE. THE HISTORIC OLEANDER WAS TRIMMED BACK TO REMOVE SOIL AROUND ITS BASE, BUT IT WILL RECOVER BEAUTIFULLY. (EXCERPTS FROM ARTICLE BY REFUGE VOLUNTEER CHRISTINE BARNES)

**CROOKED RIVER LIGHTHOUSE:**

MORE THAN 240 ADULTS AND CHILDREN ATTENDED THE CROOKED RIVER LIGHTHOUSE BEACON LIGHTING CELEBRATION ON DECEMBER 8, 2007 AFTER BEING

SHUT OFF FOR 12 YEARS. JOHN CANETTA, CLA HISTORIAN; MARY KATZER, CLA PAST PRESIDENT; BARBARA REVELL, FIRST CLA PRESIDENT AND U.S. COAST GUARD SENIOR CHIEF PAUL ZADO TURNED ON THE CEREMONIAL SWITCH TO LIGHT THE BEACON. HAVING A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE U.S. COAST GUARD WAS ESPECIALLY APPROPRIATE BECAUSE THE COAST GUARD TURNED OFF THE BEACON IN AUGUST, 1995. ARLENE OEHLER, CLA PRESIDENT, HANDED OUT 20 CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION TO PAST AND PRESENT CLA SUPPORTERS.

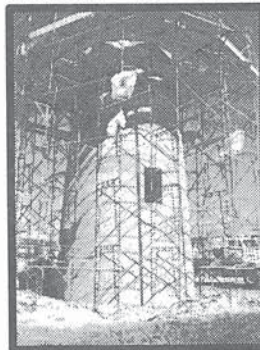
FAMILIES HAVE BEEN ENJOYING "PLAYING PIRATE" ON THE NEW 68-FOOT REPLICA OF A PIRATE SHIP, THE CARRABELLA IN THE CROOKED RIVER LIGHTHOUSE PARK. THE CARRABELLE CITY COMMISSION AWARDED THE CONTRACT TO BUILD THE REPLICA OF THE ORIGINAL KEEPER'S HOUSE TO KEN SMITH, ARCHITECT, AT THE JANUARY 3, 2008, COMMISSION MEETING. THE KEEPER'S HOUSE WILL BE AN INTERPRETIVE CENTER TO PRESERVE THE HISTORY OF THE CROOKED RIVER LIGHTHOUSE FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

**CAPE SAN BLAS LIGHTHOUSE:**

THE SLEEPING BEAUTY GIFT SHOP OPENED WITH REGULAR HOURS BEGINNING SATURDAY, MARCH 1 FROM 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. ET. THESE HOURS WILL BE FOR SATURDAY ONLY UNTIL THE SUMMER SEASON BEGINS. DAYS AND HOURS WILL INCREASE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OUR GUESTS. OPENING OF THE LIGHTHOUSE TOWER FOR TOURS IS STILL EXPECTED IN THE SPRING.

**CAPE ST. GEORGE LIGHTHOUSE:**

CAPE ST. GEORGE LIGHT REBUILDING BEGAN IN OCTOBER WITH THE SETTING OF 16 CONCRETE PILINGS 35 FEET INTO THE GROUND. A NETWORK OF REBAR INSTALLED OVER THE EXPOSED ENDS OF THE PILINGS FORMED THE BASE FOR THE CONCRETE FOUNDATION. VOLUNTEERS CONTINUED TO CLEAN ORIGINAL BRICKS, WITH ORIGINAL BRICKS USED ON THE SURFACES VISIBLE TO LIGHTHOUSE VISITORS. APPROXIMATELY 20,000 ORIGINAL BRICKS WILL BE PART OF THE 160,000 BRICKS USED IN RECONSTRUCTION. AFTER COMPLETING THE TOWER, THE SOAPSTONE DECK WILL BE INSTALLED AND TOPPED WITH THE ALREADY REBUILT LANTERN ROOM. FUNDING FROM FLORIDA STATE GRANTS, (\$48,000 SMALL MATCHING GRANT AND A \$350,000 LIGHTHOUSE GRANT), ENABLED COMPLETION OF THE CONSTRUCTION TO THIS POINT. THE ASSOCIATION CONTINUES TO RAISE THE \$50,000 STILL NEEDED FOR PAINT, WINDOWS, STAIRCASE, AND FINISHING TOUCHES. THE ST. GEORGE ISLAND VISITOR CENTER AND LIGHTHOUSE MUSEUM OFFICIALLY



OPENED TO THE PUBLIC IN EARLY JANUARY. THE SMALL FACILITY, FUNDED WITH MONEY FROM THE FRANKLIN COUNTY TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, IS PACKED FULL OF INFORMATION FOR VISITORS TO FRANKLIN COUNTY AS WELL AS HISTORICAL FACTS, PHOTOS, AND ARTIFACTS FROM THE CAPE ST. GEORGE LIGHT.



**PENSACOLA LIGHTHOUSE:**

REGULARLY SCHEDULED KEEPERS' QUARTERS TOURS CONCLUDED OCTOBER 28<sup>TH</sup>, BUT ACTIVITY CONTINUES. THE COAST GUARD LIAISON OFFICE HAD TWO HAUNTED KEEPERS' HOUSE TOURS OCTOBER 30<sup>TH</sup> AND 31<sup>ST</sup> AS A FUND RAISER FOR THEIR "PELICAN" PROJECT, WHICH REACHED THE PELICAN FUND GOAL PLA ALSO RECEIVED A DONATION. PLA MEMBERS WERE TOUR GUIDES FOR MORE THAN 600 VISITORS. ON JANUARY 4<sup>TH</sup> NIGHT THE LIGHTHOUSE WAS THE SITE FOR A GROUP OF GHOST SEEKERS FROM SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS TO SET UP THEIR PARANORMAL TEST EQUIPMENT AND CAMERAS TO TRY TO CONFIRM THE PRESENCE OF GHOSTS. THIS WAS A VERY PROFESSIONAL GROUP. THE LOCAL ABC TV STATION COVERED THE EVENT. TWO PENSACOLA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE "VISIT PENSACOLA" DEPARTMENT PEOPLE PARTICIPATED.

NEGOTIATIONS TO OPEN THE LIGHT TOWER FOR TOURS CONTINUE WITH THE COAST GUARD. GERRY MCGILL, A

PENSACOLA MARITIME ATTORNEY, HAS BEEN VERY HELPFUL WITH NEGOTIATIONS.

THE PLA ELECTED OFFICERS FOR 2008: PRESIDENT - DICK CALLAWAY; VICE PRESIDENT - ROGER ISRAEL; SECRETARY, TREASURER -BILL TRUSHEL; MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR - PAT EASTERWOOD; LIAISON DIRECTOR - GORDON LEVI.

THE PENSACOLA LIGHTHOUSE, LIT JANUARY 1, 1859, WILL MARK THE 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY IN 2009, WHICH ALSO IS THE 450<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF TRISTAN DE LUNA'S THIRTEEN SHIP FLEET DROPPING ANCHOR OFF WHAT IS NOW PENSACOLA AND ATTEMPTING TO ESTABLISH A SETTLEMENT. MANY SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENTS ARE BEING PLANNED FOR THAT ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AS WELL THE FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE ASSOCIATION WILL MEET IN PENSACOLA APRIL 18, 2009 TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE CELEBRATIONS.

# By Land & By Sea.....

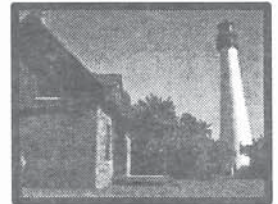
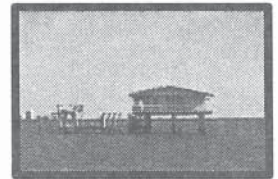
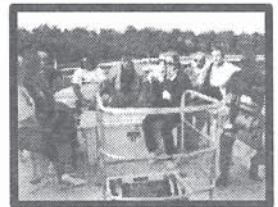
By: Dennis & Gayle Stemas

Talking about it lasted until the afternoon, long after lunch was finished. After all, it was expected to be the highlight of the January meeting. Everyone hoped the weather would cooperate and the boat trip six miles out into Biscayne National Park to visit and photograph the Fowey Rocks Lighthouse would become a reality. No one was disappointed!! The morning dawned sunny and clear with mild comfortable temperatures. The seas were calm, but the captain of the boat advised us that the wind was blowing pretty hard out at sea. This would mean a change of plans. Instead of the direct route out to the lighthouse, he would take a short detour and go thru Stiltsville to get there. No one was complaining. So each group boarded the boat for a personal and close-up encounter with the lighthouse. Captain Mike actually brought the boat close enough to the lighthouse to touch. He even jokingly called out and asked if anyone wanted to swing off the boat and climb the lighthouse ladder. No one took him up on his offer but everyone saw the lighthouse like never before and took some fantastic pictures.

The Cape Florida Lighthouse along with stories of the lighthouse keepers and the Seminole Wars filled the remainder of the morning hours. The groups were warned that the stairs are secured only at the top and bottom so movement is normal and expected. And move they did. What an experience upon reaching the top - the views, which included the Miami skyline, were awesome.

The Membership meeting in the afternoon brought a wonderful surprise. Stan Farnham presented the Thomas Taylor 2007 Award to a very deserving Paul Bradley. Multiple other prizes and certificates were awarded which included a special award to Stan and Mary Farnham. Professor John Van Leer from the Univ of Miami presented some compelling scientific data about our oceans along with projections for future oceanic changes. He advised us of the impact of these changes on our lighthouses. Melissa Memory, Chief of Cultural Resources for Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks, spoke about the Loggerhead Lighthouse and the immense challenges facing its preservation.

Most importantly, Stan Farnham presented a short slide show on the license plate project and stressed the need for everyone to write and call our legislators and encourage them to support the license plate legislation.





**St. George Lighthouse Association is selling sponsorships for individual stairs for \$250 each.** The stair will have a commemorative plaque. There are 91 stairs with a number of them already sold, but you may request a stair by number (if not taken). The fund raiser is part of a campaign to raise the \$60,000 needed to complete the restoration. The first and last stairs are priced at \$500.

For more information contact: Terry Kemp fullmoon.sgi@fairpoint.net

## The Villages Lighthouse Group Meeting



STAN FARNHAM SPOKE TO MORE THAN 50 MEMBERS OF THE VILLAGES LIGHTHOUSE GROUP FEBRUARY 11 AT THE LA HACIENDA CENTER IN THE VILLAGES, LADY LAKE, FLORIDA. HE WAS THE MAIN SPEAKER. HE TOLD THE GROUP ABOUT FLA AND TALKED PASSIONATELY ABOUT THE LIGHTHOUSE SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATE. HE URGED THEM TO GET INVOLVED. JOHN CRONIN, PRESIDENT (PICTURED LEFT) OF THE GROUP RESPONDED BY SCHEDULING A LETTER WRITING EFFORT FOR THEIR NEXT MEETING TO LEGISLATORS TO SUPPORT THE LICENSE. FARNHAM ALSO PRESENTED CRONIN WITH A CERTIFICATE FOR THE

VILLAGES LIGHTHOUSE GROUP FLA 365 CLUB MEMBERSHIP FOR THEIR DONATION. GAYLE & DENNIS STEMAC AND MARY FARNHAM ALSO ATTENDED.



# FLA 365 CLUB



New members of the *FLA 365 Club* are:  
**Alfred King, III & The Villages Lighthouse Group**

The *FLA 365 Club* provides recognition, other than the \$1,000 Challenge, for license fund raising. This dollar-a-day club also credits other tax deductible "contributions" toward the total, or you can simply write a check for \$365 or more. The *FLA 365 Club* includes all members (individuals or couples) with a total donation of \$365 to \$999.

- Your membership fee, for example, counts towards the total of \$365. That could be as low as \$25 and more if you choose a higher level.
- Your tax-deductible portion of your meeting fee counts. If you attended meetings in 2006 you received a tax statement from Dennis so you know the amount. It averages \$11 per person per meeting.

Current members of the *FLA 365 Club*: Bill Trushel, Kay Taylor, Jeanne Taylor, Ann Howard, George W. Evans, Ed & Dorothy Butler, Norm & Pauline Collins, Rip & Sharon Puls, Ray & Barbara Hamel, Hib & Martha Casselberry, John & Kathy Kennedy, Betty Phelps, John Sampson, Joan Hudiburg, J. Olivia Larkins, Wanda Forrester, Stan & Dottie Beckstrom, Ponce Inlet Lighthouse – Ed Gunn, and Maureen & Tom Workman.

### Sign me up for the *FLA 365 Club*!

Name: _____	Membership Fees: _____
Address: _____	Tax Deductible Meeting Fees: _____
_____	Other Donations: _____
_____	Amount Enclosed: _____
Email: _____	Total (\$365-\$999): _____

**It's that easy, join today!**

Mail to: John Kennedy, FLA Treasurer, 1634 S. Hermitage Road, Fort Myers, Florida 33919



## **QUESTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ASKED...AND ANSWERS**



### **DOES FLA OWN LIGHTHOUSES?**

**NO.** THE IMPRESSION SOME LEGISLATORS AND OTHERS HAVE IS WE OWN OR WANT TO OWN LIGHTHOUSES, WHICH IS NOT THE CASE. WE SIMPLY SUPPORT LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS IN NEED FOR RESTORATION. A CHART IS AVAILABLE WHICH LISTS ALL THE HISTORIC LIGHTHOUSES, OWNERSHIP, ESTIMATED RESTORATION COSTS AND PERIL RANKING. WE PROVIDED IT TO SPONSORS OF OUR LEGISLATION AND TO OTHERS. THE CHART ANSWERS MANY QUESTIONS PEOPLE HAVE.



### **THE MARKETING/ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS ARE JUST 10 PERCENT IN THE FLA BILLS. MANY HAVE 20-25 PERCENT. WHY THE DIFFERENCE?**

FLA HAS NO SALARIED POSITIONS. OFFICERS ARE NOT REIMBURSED FOR THEIR PERSONAL EXPENSES. THIS MEANS THE MAXIMUM DOLLARS GO TO MEET THE MISSION BECAUSE THE ALL-VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION HAS MINIMUM EXPENSES.

### **HOW WILL THE MONEY BE SPENT?**

FLA WILL INVEST LICENSE FUNDS IN LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS TO SUPPORT PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION EFFORTS. A GRANT PROCEDURE EXPLAINS THE PROCESS. SOMETIMES STORIES REVEAL AND EXPLAIN THE MUCH BROADER EFFORT THAT APPLIES TO THE 29 HISTORIC LIGHTHOUSES.

CAPE ST. GEORGE IS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE. FLA PROVIDED \$15,000 FOR RECOVERY OF THE COLLAPSED TOWER (OCT 2005) IN 2006, THEN DID A 1 FOR 10 MATCH TO HELP WITH RESTORATION OF THE LANTERN ROOM (\$5,000) AND THEN WORKED WITH THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE AND LEGISLATURE ON THE LIGHTHOUSE GRANTS. CAPE ST. GEORGE WILL NEED \$50,000 TO COMPLETE THE JOB AND NOT ONLY OPEN THE MUSEUM BUT THE TOWER FOR TOURS; DEFINITELY A HERITAGE TOURISM DRAW. AT CROOKED RIVER (CARRABELLE) FLA EFFORTS IN SUPPORT WERE FOR MULTIPLE STATE GRANTS. CARRABELLE HAS NOW AWARDED THE CONTRACT FOR THE MUSEUM (KEEPER'S QUARTERS), THE 68-FOOT PIRATE SHIP REPLICA IS ALREADY A DRAW. WITH THE MUSEUM, SHIP AND LIGHTHOUSE THE SMALL TOWN OF CARRABELLE WILL HAVE A HERITAGE TOURISM FOCAL POINT. CARRABELLE ALSO IS AN OUTSTANDING EXAMPLE OF COLLABORATION OF ALL THE LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS, THE CITY MANAGER, MAYOR, COUNCIL, CARRABELLE LIGHTHOUSE ASSOCIATION, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, LIGHTHOUSE ARCHITECT, LOCAL NEWS MEDIA, LEGISLATOR (REP. WILL KENDRICK) AND FLA. *WHEN THAT MANY DIFFERENT PEOPLE AND DIFFERENT GROUPS COME TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE A COMMON GOAL, NO ONE SHOULD BE SURPRISED WHAT CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED.*

*THE GREEK STATESMAN DEMOSTHENES SAID: "SMALL OPPORTUNITIES ARE THE BEGINNING OF GREAT ENTERPRISES." GREAT THINGS ARE DONE WITH SMALL THINGS AT A TIME AS HAS HAPPENED WITH FLA. THE LICENSE FUNDS PROVIDE SUSTAINED FUNDING WITHOUT REGARD TO STATE BUDGETS OR TAX FUNDS.*

**FLA EFFORTS TIE IN WITH HERITAGE TOURISM VISIT FLORIDA® (VISIT OUR LIGHTS); SIGNIFICANT HISTORIC PRESERVATION, FLORIDA TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION; AND MUSEUMS, FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS (FAM). ALL THREE ORGANIZATIONS ARE FLA PARTNERS.**

### **Welcome to our new members!**

Sarah Ballinger, Linda Speece, Phil Sorenson, Gladys Llanes, Carl & Karen Thornton, Jr., Mike Osterloh, Wayne, Nancy & Margaret Wallace, Jane Eaton, Teri Long & Ken Cutler

Membership year is  
October 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>.  
Membership Levels and Dues are:

Circle of Light \$1,000 – Watch Room \$250  
Commissioner \$100 – Inspector \$50  
Keeper (Family) \$35 – Assistant Keeper \$25.00

Photo Credits: Stan Farnham, Dede Smith, Christi Sessions  
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### **The Mission of The Florida Lighthouse Association**

The Florida Lighthouse Association is a nonprofit group of citizen activists dedicated to the preservation of the 30 remaining historic lighthouses that line our state's 1200 mile coastline. Once central to the economic growth and settlement of our nation, many of Florida's lighthouses face uncertain futures.

Our mission is to preserve, restore, protect and defend Florida's lighthouse towers, along with their material culture, buildings, artifacts and records to assure that the magic of Florida's lighthouses and lighthouse keepers will be available for the enjoyment and understanding of future generations.

For information, contact:

**Florida Lighthouse Association, Inc.**

81 Lighthouse Ave., St. Augustine, FL 32080

WebSite: [www.floridalighthouses.org](http://www.floridalighthouses.org)

E-mail: [flapresident@gmail.com](mailto:flapresident@gmail.com)

Stan Farnham, *President*

Christi Sessions, *Secretary*

John Kennedy, *Treasurer*

Dede Smith, *V-P Membership*

Neil E. Hurley, *Historian*

Eric S. Martin, *Executive Vice President*

Sharon Puls, *Assistant Secretary*

Dennis & Gayle Stemac, *V-P Events*

Charley & Lottie Knox, *V-P Fund Raising*

Hib Casselberry, Ray Stewart, Rip Puls  
& Dianne Levi, *District Commissioners*



**St. Marks Lighthouse**  
**April 12, 2008**  
**EVENT RESERVATION**  
Reservation Deadline: March 29, 2008

NAMES OF ALL PARTICIPANTS (please print):

\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_

LUNCHEON

Luncheon buffet will be served with warm dinner rolls and butter, and coffee or iced tea. It will feature a tossed salad with assorted dressings, a fresh fruit salad, smothered chicken breast with mushrooms, sliced London broil with burgundy sauce, wild rice blend, egg noodles, and green beans almandine. Dessert will be your choice of chocolate mousse or homemade key lime pie.

Total number of persons \_\_\_\_\_ X \$40. pp = \_\_\_\_\_

Tax Deductible Donation to Gene Oakes Memorial Fund: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please make separate checks payable to the FLA)

Please make your check payable to the Florida Lighthouse Association. Mail with payment to:

Dennis and Gayle Stemas  
10847 Duck Hook Ct.  
San Antonio, FLORIDA 33576

- The FLA has a no-refund policy in effect. Receipt of payment confirms reservation.
- All reservations received after the deadline will be returned.
- For reservation confirmation, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.