

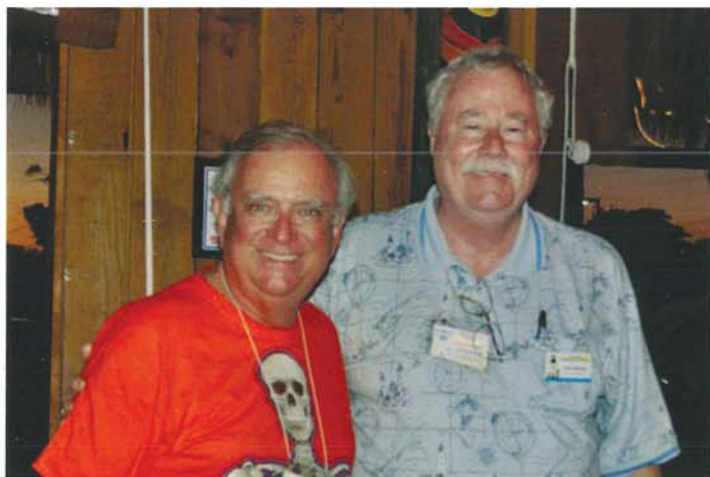


# FLASH

## FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE ASSOCIATION

<p><b>A Message from the President</b>  <i>Meet FLA's new president</i>  <b>Pages 1 &amp; 2</b></p>	<p><b>Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Meeting</b>  <i>Details of our most special meeting</i>  <i>January 22-23, 2016</i>  <b>Page 1 &amp; 4</b></p>	<p><b>Report of the 2014-15 Grants</b>  <i>Records set by FLA</i>  <b>Page 3</b>  <b>Report of the October Meeting</b>  <b>Pages 5 &amp; 6</b></p>
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### FLA Elects New President



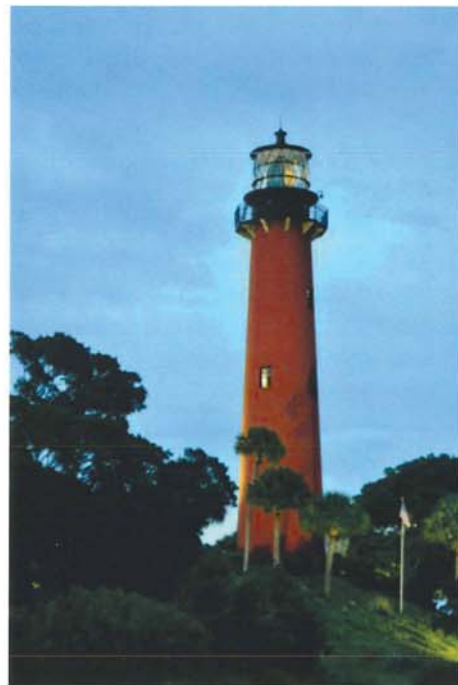
Outgoing president Ken Smith congratulates incoming president Chris Belcher. Chris has served as the FLA Executive Vice President for the past year. Chris is well prepared to take over FLA and lead us as we strive to protect, preserve and restore Florida's remaining historic lighthouses.

### Jupiter Inlet Meeting January 22-23, 2016

First lit on July 10, 1860, the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse has stood watch over the part of Florida's East Coast where it juts out further into the Atlantic Ocean than anywhere else and the dangerous reefs that are just off shore.

The Winter Meeting will offer a night climb during the full moon.

Registration is now open for this rare opportunity.



### FLA's Annual Giving Campaign In Final Weeks

The important work of the Florida Lighthouse Association can only happen with the help and support of our members and donors. This year we have been able to give over \$115,000 in grants to local lighthouse preservation groups to aid in their unexpected emergency repairs and educational efforts. Our grants process is designed to be easy for our Lighthouse members to apply so the funds can be put to use to further the FLA mission in the Preservation, Protection and Restoration of Florida's 30 Historic Lighthouses. We can only do this because of our members. Please consider being part of our efforts by pledging to give to the Annual Giving Campaign today.

FLA's mission is to safeguard Florida's remaining lighthouses for future generations by supporting community-based restoration, preservation and education efforts.



### FLA's NEW PRESIDENT, CHRIS BELCHER

In 2007, Dad asked me to drive him to a Florida Lighthouse Association (FLA) meeting in Jacksonville. The meeting's subjects were Amelia Lighthouse and the oil-house at Willow Pond. Dad was docent for Amelia but at the last moment I was drafted to be the docent at Willow Pond. Can you imagine being at a meeting in

Jacksonville and having to rush back to Fernandina and be ready to present the history of the rear-range light and oil-house – while two bus loads of lighthouse enthusiasts are headed our way? Fortunately, I already had the history and some pictures catalogued, so I dropped Dad at the Lighthouse, ran home and started compiling facts and printing pictures. I made it to Willow Pond just in time to greet the first bus and present, hopefully, an interesting and factual history of why the rear-range was built at Willow Pond.

Later that year, Sharon and I met Helen O'Hagan Sintes. Aware of her history at Amelia Lighthouse, we soaked up her stories of growing up there. Helen and Dad were long-time representatives of Amelia Lighthouse for the FLA Board but could rarely attend meetings. We also joined the Association and have thoroughly enjoyed their meetings and lighthouse climbs. Starting in early 2010, I became representative for Amelia Island Lighthouse.

We asked Helen how we could really help with Amelia Lighthouse. Helen is a staff officer, Lighthouse Keeper, for the local Coast Guard Auxiliary. Helen suggested the best way for us to help was to join and become members of one of the lighthouse maintenance crew charged with keeping Amelia clean and functioning. In 2009, we became Auxiliarists and proudly called Helen. We were excited when she told us we would be on her crew (a crew of three) and to report to the Lighthouse the next Saturday morning. On Independence Day, Helen trained me to hand-clean the 3rd order Fresnel lens and lamps! The opportunity to hand-clean the 110 year-old lens, glistening with 312 prisms and 12 bull's-eye lenses, was astounding. Were Sharon and I hooked on lighthouses? YES!

### A WORD FROM FLA'S PAST PRESIDENT, KEN SMITH

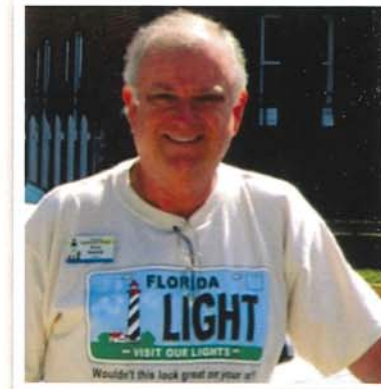
When you first asked me to be president of Florida Lighthouse Association five years ago I knew we were on the cusp of doing even more great things. Stan Farnham, as president, had led us through some important strategic planning and also, with the support of many FLA members and some key Florida legislators, secured the "Visit Our Lights" specialty license plate program and the beginning of our grants program.

In the past five years we have seen the small grants program grow into two significant programs. The Gene Oakes Lighthouse Fund channels money from the license plates to bricks and mortar preservation and restoration efforts. The Tom Taylor Keepers Fund is used for other projects like education and replication efforts. Together, in the past five years, FLA has been able to provide over \$370,000 in grants to benefit over half of the 30 remaining historic lighthouses of Florida. This is significant. Many of the local recipient preservation groups have leveraged funds to secure matching funds, effectively taking this amount and growing it into well over a million dollars.

We have also seen growth in the number of lighthouses that are now open for the public to visit and climb. We now have 12 lighthouses open on a regular schedule and another 6 open on special occasions. I believe both St. Marks and Gasparilla Island will be added to this list very soon. This will bring us up to having two-thirds of the lighthouses accessible or open.

We have been able to achieve these milestones because of the hard work of volunteers and staff throughout the state. Thanks to each for the hard work. It is worth it.

Many people have asked if I am still going to be active in FLA. The answer is, "Yes!" I have been asked to continue as the chair of the Development Committee, to work on fund raising. In addition, I am here to help Chris in anyway he needs. I look forward to continuing to serve on the Board, but most of all look forward to actively working to continue FLA's mission to protect, restore and preserve Florida's 30 remaining historic lighthouses.

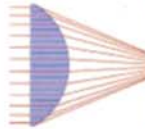


[www.FloridaLighthouses.org](http://www.FloridaLighthouses.org)

# FLA GRANTS FOR 2014-15 TOPS \$118,000



Key Biscayne National Park received a \$34,000 Gene Oakes Lighthouse Grant to replace U-bolts. Note the corrosion that had occurred by improper U-bolts. The replacements will be of proper metal.



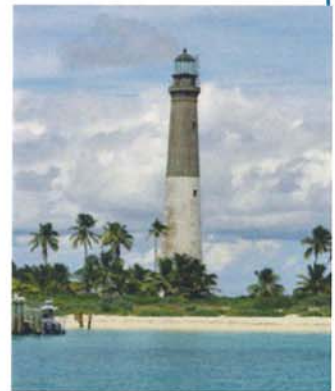
Pensacola Lighthouse and Museum received two grants. A Gene Oakes Lighthouse Grant was given to use as matching funds to repair steps. A Tom Taylor Keeper's Grant was awarded to purchase an educational Fresnel lens display.



The Florida Lighthouse Association set records for the two grants programs we run. Here are examples of the grants for 2014-15. Note that the partnerships include not only our lighthouse members but also the National Park service and the University of Florida. The Gene Oakes Lighthouse Grant fund continues to grow through sale of "Visit Our Lights" specialty license plates and the Tom Taylor Keeper's Grant fund grows through donations from our members. Thank you for your continued support.



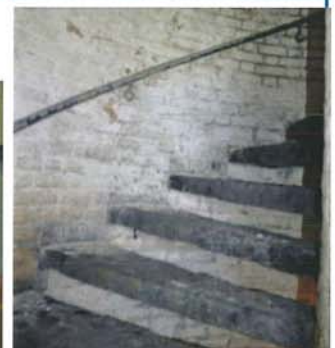
University of Florida received a Tom Taylor Keeper's Grant for replacement of the wheel chair ramp on the dock, allowing better access to the island.



St. Augustine Lighthouse and Museum was awarded a Gene Oakes Lighthouse Grant of \$25,000 to pay for emergency sand blasting, repair and painting of iron work.



Ft. Jefferson National Park received a Gene Oakes Lighthouse Grant for \$30,000 to pay for necessary step and hand rail replacement and repair.



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[www.FloridaLighthouses.org](http://www.FloridaLighthouses.org)

## HOTELS



### La Quinta Inn & Suites

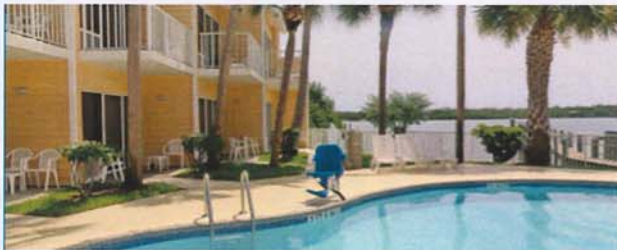
34 Fisherman Way  
Jupiter, FL 33477  
(561) 575-7201  
Rate: \$94.50 (must call the hotel and mention FLA for this rate)

Cut-off date January 3, 2016

### Fairfield Inn & Suites

6748 Indiantown Rd.  
Jupiter, FL 33458  
(561) 748-5252  
Rate: \$139 (must call the hotel and mention FLA for this rate)

Cut-off date January 3, 2015



### Jupiter Waterfront Inn

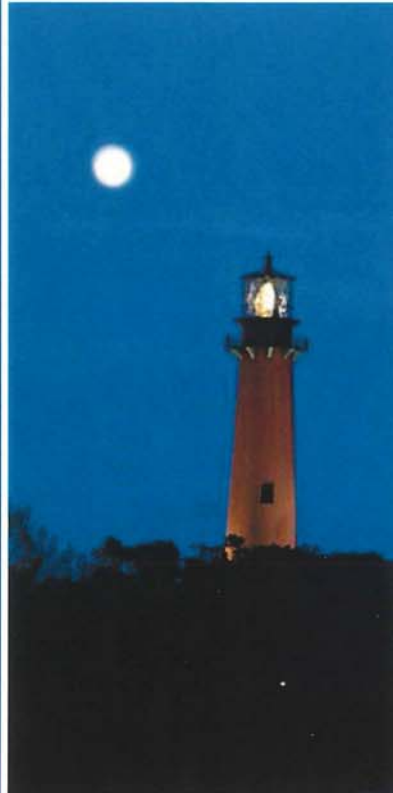
18903 SE Federal Highway  
Tequesta, FL 33469 (561) 747-9085  
Rate: \$19 (ask for FLA rate)  
Cut-off date January 3, 2015



### Comfort Inn & Suites

6752 Indiantown Rd.  
Jupiter, FL 33458  
(561) 745-7997  
Rate: \$175 (must call the hotel and mention FLA for this rate)

## Winter Meeting Jupiter Inlet Jan. 22-23, 2016



This picture from the 1880's is of a party of shark hunters on the beach in front of the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse.

### MEETING LOCATION AND SCHEDULE

**Friday, January 22, 1016:**  
Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse  
500 Captain Armour's Way  
Jupiter, FL 33469

**6:00 PM Board Meeting**  
**7:00 PM Social Hour and Lighthouse Climb**

**Saturday, January 23, 2016:**  
Jupiter Community Center  
200 Military Trail  
Jupiter, FL 33458

**9:30 AM to 12:30 PM Membership Meeting**  
**12:00 PM Lunch**  
**1:00 PM to 2:00 PM Committee Meetings**  
**1:00 PM Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse and Museum tours**

Cost is \$50 for Florida Lighthouse Association members, \$75 each for non-members, includes one-year membership\*

Deadline for registrations is January 13th. FLA New Member Sponsor - \$25, FLA members who sponsored a guest at a previous meeting and that guest joined within 30 days are eligible for this rate.

Register on line at [www.floridalighthouses.org](http://www.floridalighthouses.org)



### FLA October Meeting to the Keys

Left: members on the ferry to see American Shoals Lighthouse

Right: Crew members from Captain Hook's Marina



Left: President Chris Belcher thanks featured speaker Kelly Clark of Dry Tortugas National Park who shared the progress of restoration efforts at the Loggerhead Key Lighthouse, partially funded by a FLA Gene Oakes Lighthouse Grant



Right: Keynote speaker Chuck Lawson of Key Biscayne National Park shared with the membership the ongoing restoration efforts at Fowey Rocks partially funded by two grants from FLA's Gene Oakes Lighthouse Grants

Left: Hib Casselberry was recently honored by the National Lighthouse Museum in Staten Island, NY with this plaque recognizing him for his years of service in lighthouse preservation and restoration as well as his work of cultural and historic documentation



Gene Oakes lighthouse Grant are funded by the sale of "Visit Our Lights" Florida specialty license plates. Florida residents may order a plate on line at: [www.VisitOurLights.com](http://www.VisitOurLights.com)



Wouldn't this look good on your car?

[www.FloridaLighthouses.org](http://www.FloridaLighthouses.org)

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Members enjoyed a wonderful Continental breakfast on the two-hour ferry ride aboard the Yankee Freedom ferry



The view of Ft. Jefferson and the Dry Tortuga Harbor Light as we approached Garden Key



Loggerhead Key Lighthouse as we approach on a US Park Service tender

Right: Many thanks to the US Park Service for directing over 100 FLA members as we climbed Loggerhead Key Lighthouse in groups of five. Each group climbed one landing at a time in order to spend a few minutes at the top.



Right: Man thanks to the Ft. Jefferson National Park for allowing us the rare opportunity to visit and climb the Loggerhead Key Lighthouse. Through a recent FLA Gene Oakes Lighthouse Grant work will soon begin on repairing the stairs and railing. Loggerhead Key has marked the treacherous reefs around the Dry



Wouldn't this look good on your car?

Florida Lighthouse Association's new President, Chris Belcher, and his wife Sharon at the top of Loggerhead Key Lighthouse. This historic climb is the first time the Park Service has allowed a large group to climb this historic lighthouse.



## Christmas Gift Idea

Here is an idea for a Christmas Gift. Consider giving a gift membership to the Florida Lighthouse Association to a family member or friend. You will be sharing your passion for the preservation, protection and restoration of Florida lighthouses plus helping our Association grow.

Go to [www.FloridaLighthouses.org](http://www.FloridaLighthouses.org) and click on the "JOIN TODAY!/Gift Membership button.

[www.FloridaLighthouses.org](http://www.FloridaLighthouses.org)

FLASH

## HELP SAVE OUR LIGHTHOUSES CAMPAIGN

**PLEASE PRINT AND MAIL THIS FORM TO FLA OR EMAIL IT TO [INFO@FLORIDLIGHTHOUSES.ORG](mailto:INFO@FLORIDLIGHTHOUSES.ORG)**

FLA's mission is to safeguard Florida's remaining lighthouses for future generations by supporting community based restoration, preservation and education efforts. Only 30 lighthouses remain today. **The most recent State of Florida study estimates that it will take almost \$20 million dollars to preserve these towers.**

FLA members and donors made it possible for FLA to give over \$115,000 in grants to local lighthouse preservation groups during the last fiscal year! *This year requests for grants exceed the funds available!*

*Please make any changes/corrections to your address on the reverse (address) side of this page.*

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**List my/our name on FLA's donor recognition list as:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

*This is important - FLA uses email for e newsletters, meeting information, membership confirmations and gift receipts.*

**Preferred Phone:** (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes, I/We want to make a philanthropic gift to help save our lighthouses for future generations.**

**Enclosed** is my/our gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ *Checks should be made payable to FLA*

I/we **pledge** at total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

◇ I/we will **mail** gifts to fulfill our pledge to FLA:

Before Dec 30, 2015

Monthly

Quarterly (Dec, March, June, Sept)

◇ I/we will make **credit card payments** to fulfill our pledge as follows:

Before Dec 30, 2015

Quarterly (Dec, March, June, Sept)

Monthly ~ We will go to FLA's website to set up our monthly credit card payments

**Please also provide me/us with information on:**

Wills, trust and estate gift arrangements

Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds,

Savings Bonds

Paid-up Life Insurance

IRA distributions

FLA is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization, funded by philanthropic gifts and memberships from individuals. FLA does not receive government funding! Florida's "Visit Our Lights" license plate sales provide additional funding for preservation and restoration grants to local lighthouses.

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION (CH8757) AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE 1-800-435-7352 WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

FLA's mission is to safeguard Florida's remaining lighthouses for future generations by supporting community-based restoration, preservation and education efforts.



FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE  
ASSOCIATION

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St. Petersburg, FL 33731

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*Lighthouses played a critical role in Florida's history; making it possible to explore, settle and develop Florida by using its 1350 miles of coastline (second only to Alaska in states with longest coastline). Only 30 lighthouses remain today. A 2002 study done by the State of Florida estimates that it will take almost \$20 million dollars to preserve these towers.*

The Florida Lighthouse Association's (FLA) mission is to safeguard Florida's remaining lighthouses for future generations by supporting community based restoration, preservation and education efforts.

FLA is a nonprofit organization. Financial support comes from charitable gifts, membership dues, and Florida State specialty license plate sales. FLA does not receive any government funding!

**Here is how YOU can help preserve and protect Florida's lighthouses!**

**Your gift saves Florida Lighthouses!**

The Florida Lighthouse Association's (FLA) mission is to safeguard Florida's remaining lighthouses for future generations. A 2002 study done by the State of Florida estimates that it will take almost \$20 million dollars to preserve these towers. **Gifts from individuals play a critical role in protecting, preserving & restoring Florida's lighthouses!**