FILIBUSTERING TO CUBA

Derived from the Dutch word *filibuster* (freebooter) and the later French and Spanish *filibustier* and *filibuster*, the use of the term filibuster has evolved over the years to describe privately funded military campaigns against foreign nations. Insurgent activities such as these often occurred in the early years of U.S. history and were often staged against the neighboring Spanish colonies of Texas, Louisiana, and East and West Florida. Filibusters were often promoted as legitimate campaigns to fight tyranny, Spanish interference in U.S. trade along the Mississippi River, and what was deemed as the hostile actions of Spanish officials along the U.S. border. Many of these filibustering expeditions resulted in open warfare and the acquisition of new lands for the United States, including Texas and Florida.

In May of 1890, and again in August 1891, a Venezuelan native named Narcisco Lopez, armed with the financial support of Americans sympathetic to Cuba's desire for independence or interested in the expansion of U.S. territory in the pro-slavery South, landed on the island of Cuba with hundreds of men recruited in the United States. Although his first expedition initially met with success, the "freedom fighters" under the leadership of "General" Lopez were soon overwhelmed by the Spanish army and forced back into the sea.

Undaunted by his previous failures to secure Cuban independence, Lopez remained intent on overthrowing Spanish rule and soon organized a second filibustering expedition to the island. Landing at Hulla, Florida, in August, 1891, Lopez and his army were soon defeated at the village of Las Pozas. Captured by the Spanish, Lopez and 51 of his followers were placed before a firing squad and publicly executed. By the time of his death, the term "filibuster" had become widely accepted as the appropriate title for the privately funded military expeditions launched against foreign governments.

The struggle for Cuban independence continued for nearly thirty years following Lopez's ill-fated expedition, with filibustering playing an important role. In 1873, nearly thirty years following Lopez's ill-fated expedition, the steamer *Virginius*, with filibustering playing an important role. In 1873, the steamer *Virginius*, sailing from New York with arms and ammunition for Cuban rebels, was intercepted by the Spanish cruiser *Tornado* off the coast of Jamaica and charged with piracy, the Virginian’s captain, Joseph Fry, and 52 others crewmembers of American, British, and Cuban nationality were tried by a military tribunal and summarily shot. Only through the quick intervention of Spanish officials along the U.S. - Florida border. Many of these filibustering expeditions resulted in open warfare and the acquisition of new lands for the United States, including Texas and Florida.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Oct. 11, 2006  Budget Finance Committee Meeting 8:30 a.m. in the Gift Shop Conference Room
Oct. 16, 2006  Board of Trustees and Annual Membership Meeting  *  7:30 p.m. in the Gift Shop Conference Room
Nov. 20, 2006  Board Meeting  *  7:30 p.m. in the Gift Shop Conference Room
Dec. 18, 2006  Board Meeting  *  7:30 p.m. in the Gift Shop Conference Room

*Board of Trustees Meetings are open to the public. We welcome your attendance and participation.

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association, Inc.

The Military 1 Remington 43 Caliber Rolling Block Rifle, Spanish Export, was a common firearm smuggled into Cuba by Filibusters such as the Commodore.
The Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association is dedicated to the preservation and dissemination of the maritime and social history of the Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse:

2006 Board of Trustees
Wilda Hampton, Trustee Emerita
Robyn Hird, President
Tamm Lewis, 1st Vice President
Bill Merritt, 2nd Vice President
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Connie Bach Assistant Manager
Donna Dunn
Karen Geese
Gail Harvey
Janet McIlroy
Cindie Powell
Sharon Strommel
Joanne Tatami
Bill Van Leer

Beaconettes: Shelly & Nelly
The Light Station is published quarterly by the Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association, Inc.

Subscription is a benefit of membership in the association. The Light Station welcomes letters and comments from our readers.

MEMBER:
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR
STATE AND LOCAL HISTORY
AMERICAN HEIRLOOM SOCIETY
FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS
FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION
FLORIDA LIGHOUSE SOCIETY
MUSEUM OF FLORIDA HISTORY
NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
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NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse was proud to host the annual Florida Lighthouse Association’s (FILA) Strategic Planning Session on June 17. The meeting was attended by many FILA members including 27 officers and numerous 3s including 3 of the Association’s founding members, 3 directors from the 6 Florida lighthouses open to the public, the 5 of the FILA’s past presidents, and 5 of the 4 District Commissioners. The meeting addressed many issues facing lighthouses throughout Florida and the future goals of the FILA. Our continued participation in organizations such as the FILA demonstrates our continued commitment to the preservation of our Light Station and all of Florida’s historic and cultural resources.

We are happy to announce that our new Memorial Brick fund raising program has met with a positive response from members and visitors alike. Initiated in July, the Memorial Brick Program will provide the association with much needed funding for future exhibits and conservation efforts.

We encourage all members to consider purchasing a memorial brick as a support of the Light Station which will be used in the new brick walkway leading out of the gift shop. With Christmas right around the corner, these unique bricks would make a wonderful gift or memorial for family, friends or even special occasion. Have a wonderful holiday season and we hope to see you at the lighthouse soon.

Sincerely,
Ann Caneer
Executive Director

Since many of our members know, TC the Lighthouse Cat passed away in June after serving over 15 years as Lighthouse Ambassador. The staff buried TC in the small graveyard behind the Principal Keeper’s Dwelling next to the other lighthouse cats that have passed away over the years. We are happy to announce, however, that we acquired two new black and white kittens through the generosity of the Ponce Inlet, Corvette Club and Harry Bach, husband of Gift Shop Assistant Manager Connie Bach. The Corvette Club donated the kittens (named Shelly and Nelly) to the Lighthouse shortly after TC’s death and paid for their shots and spaying fees. Veterinarian Dr. Kathleen Batter and Dr. Susan Klahl of Halifax Veterinary Clinic loaned a large cage for the kittens to live in while they became acclimated to their new home here at the Lighthouse. Our thanks go out to all parties for their generosity and assistance in helping us acquire our new feline friends that the gift shop staff have nicknamed the “Beaconettes”.

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Join the Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association

A general annual membership includes:
• Free admission to the museum and lighthouse during regular hours of operation
• 10 percent discount in the museum gift shop and online store
• One subscription to The Light Station quarterly newsletter
• Invitations to special events
• Volunteer opportunities

Membership categories:

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2nd Assistant Keeper $100
• All privileges of General or Family Membership
• Recognition of your membership in the newsletters/ New Keepers List

1st Assistant Keeper $200
• All privileges of 2nd Assistant Membership
• Two free General Memberships

Principal Keeper $500
• All privileges of 1st Assistant Membership
• Personal guided tour of the Light Station
• Exhibit sponsorship recognition

Corporate Lampist $500
• All privileges of General or Family Membership for up to five company principals
• Use of the Light Station’s conference room for one meeting with up to twenty attendance. This meeting will include a personal guided tour of the Light Station
• Recognition of your company’s support in the newsletters/New Corporate Lampist List
• Exhibit sponsorship recognition

Ponce de Leon Lighthouse Memberships

20% Off Any Single Purchase

For a family membership, you may list an additional adult and the names of all children:

Adult
Children

(List any additional names on a separate sheet.)

We will contact 1st Assistant Keeper, Principal Keeper or Corporate Lampist members to obtain gift membership and company principal information.

Membership enclosed: $
Donation enclosed: $
Total enclosed: $

Please charge my: (check one)
✓ Visa  □ MasterCard

Exp. Date:

Signature:

Or, make check payable to:
Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association, Inc.
4531 S. Peninsula Dr., Ponce Inlet, FL 32127

Thank You for Your Generous Support!
THE POINTE DE LEON LIGHTHOUSE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE MANY INDIVIDUALS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE COLLECTION OF ARTIFACTS, HISTORIC DOCUMENTS AND IMAGES OVER THE PAST FIVE MONTHS. THEIR GENEROUS DONATIONS AND SUPPORT HAVE HELPED TO GAIN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF LOCAL HISTORY AND TO ENRICH MANY OF OUR MUSEUM'S EXHIBITS. OVER 100 PEOPLE HAVE VOLUNTEERED THEIR SERVICES AND ABILITY TO HELP WITH THESE DONATIONS. THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF SOME OF THE THOSE WHO HAVE MADE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LIGHTHOUSE'S COLLECTIONS:

**MEMENTOS**
- A fine collection of antique clothing to the lighthouse, including a World War II Navy uniform and map, by Juliette and Nathan Matthews. Museum staff members who are now certified in the use of Johnstone's for monument repair are very special thanks also go out to Christi Spingler of Crisfield, who has continued his guidance in our ongoing brick restoration program. Thank you for your hard work and dedication!
- The Lighthouse would like to recognize the many hours of service provided by all of our volunteers.

**WISH LIST**
- The Pointe de Leon Lighthouse continues its search for Civil War artifacts, especially related to those related to Civil War shipping and Ft. Moultrie. We are particularly interested in a recently U.S. Coast Guard uniform, that will be used in our upcoming WWII Radio Room exhibit. We would sincerely appreciate your help and assistance related to these two historic periods for our collections.

**Special Events**
- From May 1 – 27, the Pointe de Leon Lighthouse will be open for special events from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. • Guided Tours
- Special Events: Live Entertainment
- Special Events: Meet the 1930s Lighthouse Keeper
- Special Events: 1930s-era Lighthouse Treasure Hunt

**EDUCATION NEWS**
- During the summer, the Pointe de Leon Lighthouse will be holding special events for children and adults alike. The Pointe de Leon Lighthouse is proud to offer a variety of educational programs for all ages.

**Corporate Lampists**
- Brown and Brown, Inc.
- Boondocks Restaurant, Waikoloa, Big Island, HI
- Brochure Displays, Daytona Beach, FL
- Caring Cleaners, Daytona Beach, FL
- Cobb & Cole Design, Daytona Beach, FL
- Hall Construction Co. Inc., Daytona Beach, FL
- Inlet Harbor Restaurant, Ponce Inlet, FL
- Racing’s North Turn Restaurant, Daytona Beach, FL
- Raymond James and Associates, Inc., Daytona Beach, FL
- Stewart Marshman Center, Daytona Beach, FL
- Volusia Audubon Society, Daytona Beach, FL
- Wickham & Bowers, Daytona Beach, FL

**Principal Keepers**
- Frederick & Barbara Treadway
- Ponce Inlet, FL

**1st Assistant Keepers**
- Cheryl, Jim, & Shamus Cunningham
- Ponce Inlet, FL
- Linda Downs
- Orlando, FL
- Anthony Girolami
- Port Orange, FL
- Edison Graham
- Ponce Inlet, FL
- Barbara LaVeille & Family
- Ponce Inlet, FL
- Eric, Mari, Neil & Dain Owen
- Marietta, GA
- Patrick and Debbie Pawling
- Hamilton, OH
- Sunshine State Community Bank
- Port Orange, FL

**NEW KEEPERS**
- ReBe, Brian, Ariel & Bridget Anderson
- Ponce Inlet, FL
- Bruce & Janet Babbitt
- Danville, IN
- Command Medical Products
- Ormond Beach, FL
- Kelly & Taylor Crumley
- Long Grove, IL
- TARGET & Martha Derwisch
- Ponce Inlet, FL
- Michael, Lauren, & Lisa Elsberry
- Ponce Inlet, FL
- Dennis & Zachary Engel
- Ovotona, MN
- Janice, Dana, & Alain Fredey
- Oviedo, FL
- Robert, Dianne, J., & Scott Gilpatrick
- South Daytona, FL
- Cliff & Kim Greene
- Minetona, MN
- Mark & Karen Hudson
- Naples, FL
- Dr. Herbert & Ruth Kerman
- Daytona Beach Shores, FL
- John L. & Patricia Ann La Bele
- Ponce Inlet, FL
- Lester & Tami Lewis & Family
- Ponce Inlet, FL
- Bob & Brenda Lindstrom
- Woodstock, GA
- Donna Lough
- DePuy, NY
- Wendy Michael
- Daytona Beach, FL
- Alan & Mary Ann Redinger
- Ponce Inlet, FL
- Philip A. Rhodes
- Ponce Inlet, FL
- Ernest & Margaret Rieth
- Ponce Inlet, FL
- Robert, Margie, Robert Jr., & Tony Riggie
- Ponce Inlet, FL
- William & Alice Rippey
- Port Orange, FL
- Diane Schamay
- Ponce Inlet, FL
- Frederic Schamb
- Winter Park, FL
- Virginia Schow
- Ormond Beach, FL
- Robert, Barry, Ruth Trump
- Plymouth, MI

**Volunteer and Education News**

**Volunteer Opportunities**
- Call now to learn more about the importance of the Pointe de Leon Lighthouse volunteers.

**Thank You**
- The Pointe de Leon Lighthouse would like to express our sincere gratitude to the following individuals for their recent gifts:

- Ed Gunn, Pat Satterfield, Ed Milano, Mike Bennett, and Jimmie Vanover

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- William & Alice Rippey
- Port Orange, FL
- Diane Schamay
- Ponce Inlet, FL
- Frederic Schamb
- Winter Park, FL
- Virginia Schow
- Ormond Beach, FL
- Robert, Barry, Ruth Trump
- Plymouth, MI

**Special Events**
- Special Events from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Special Events from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Special Events from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Homeschool Day**
- (in partnership with the Marine Science Center)
- Meet Histronic Characters
- Marine science lab
- Admission registration required, and there is special admission for this event.
- Please see www.ponceinlet.org for more information.

**Biketoberfest**
- Guided Tours from 12-2 p.m.
- Includes a cost of regular admission, no advance reservations required.

**Thanksgiving Gifts at the Lighthouse**
- Fun workshpiks
- Guided Tours
- Live Entertainment
- Meet the1930s Lighthouse Keeper
- Canveral Lense Demonstration
- Included in cost of regular admission, no advance reservations required.

**Special Holiday Hours**
- The Lighthouse will be open from 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. with the last admission to the museum at 6 p.m. on November 24, 25, and 26, and all day on December 29, 28, 29 and 30th.
- The Lighthouse will close early on December 24th at 4 p.m.

**An 1890 Holiday at the Lighthouse**
- Make 1890 era Christmas ornaments
- Meet the1890s Lighthouse Keeper
- Canveral Lense Demonstration
- Included in cost of regular admission, no advance reservations required.

**Christmas Day**
- The lighthouse is closed for the day but will remain open to regular operating hours on December 26. We will be open New Year's Eve day and New Year's Day. Happy Holidays!
In return for the crew’s release, the United States Government was forced to pay $254,840 in ransom to Spain to free the ship and its crew. The $254,840 was a large sum of money, and the United States had to pay it to Spain to release the ship and its crew. The payment was a direct result of the Spanish-American War, which took place in 1898. The war was fought between Spain and the United States over control of the Philippines, Guam, and Puerto Rico. The payment was a symbol of the United States’ growing power and influence in the world. The payment was also a testament to the United States’ desire to protect its citizens and to uphold international law.

The ship that was captured by the Spanish was the USS Maine. The Maine was a battleship that was part of the United States Navy. It was commissioned in 1895 and was one of the largest and most modern ships in the world. The Maine was sent to Cuba in 1896 to protect American citizens and interests there. On February 15, 1898, the Maine exploded and sank in the harbor at Havana, Cuba. The explosion killed 266 sailors and crew members and injured 160 others. The disaster sparked outrage in the United States and fueled the drive for war with Spain.

The war that followed, known as the Spanish-American War, lasted for just a few months. It resulted in the United States gaining control of the Philippines, Guam, Puerto Rico, and Cuba. The war was a significant victory for the United States and solidified its position as a major world power.

The payment of $254,840 to Spain was not the only way in which the United States sought compensation for the Maine’s destruction. The United States also sought reparations for the losses it suffered during the war. The United States and Spain eventually reached a settlement in which Spain agreed to pay the United States a total of $20 million in compensation. This settlement was signed on September 10, 1898.

Despite the remote location and hostile environment (or perhaps because of it), the San Juan Salvamento Lighthouse became the subject of numerous literary and artistic works. Authors wrote about it, and the lighthouse was featured in the novel "The Lighthouse at the End of the World" by the Belgian writer Georges Rodenbach. The lighthouse building was 21 feet tall and crowned with a gray metal globe. The lighthouse’s beacon shone out over the luminous waters of Drake’s Passage through a square window in the beacon’s keepers quarters. The beacon’s characteristic was a white light flashing twice with three-second intervals every 15 seconds. A life-saving post was constructed not far away to rescue helpless sailors who made it to shore after their vessels sank in the violent seas.

Although the San Juan Salvamento lighthouse was replaced by the Faro Ano Nuevo lighthouse in 1962, the remains of the original structure were relocated and relocated to the United States National Museum with the assistance of the Argentine Navy in 1997. In 1998 a group of Jules Verne enthusiasts coordinated their efforts with the logistic Navy to sail the lighthouse on its original site overlooking Drake’s Passage between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. The new lighthouse, whose construction was based on drawings of the original, is listed as an operational aid to navigation and continues to fulfill its original mission of guiding ships at sea.

**Lighthouses of the World: The Lighthouse at the End of the World**

Located on the eastern end of the Ile de les Fadas, a large island in the southern tip of South America, and separated from the mainland by the Strait of Le Maire, the San Juan Salvamento Lighthouse is the oldest beacon in Argentina. Commanding a spectacular view of the towering peaks of the Andes, the waters around Cape Horn, and beyond, this 19th-century landmark has guided ships through some of the roughest seas in the world. For admirals looking east, the beacon may have been a welcome sight for their weary crews, guiding them to safety through the treacherous waters of Drake’s Passage. The beacon’s story is one of endurance, strength, and survival, a testament to the resilience of those who built and maintained it.

The beacon was a symbol of hope and a beacon of light in the darkest of times. It stood as a reminder of the power of human ingenuity and the importance of perseverance. And it remained standing, in all its glory, as a tribute to those who built it and those who maintained it. The beacon, like the lighthouse, is a symbol of the human spirit, a reminder of the power of hope, and a beacon of light in the darkest of times.