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

November 1, 2014, marks the end of the museum’s 125th Anniversary Celebration. Looking back over the Light Station’s past 126 years of operation, I cannot help but consider the many contributions of the Association’s original members who demonstrated their love for this iconic tower when they formed the Ponce De Leon Inlet Lighthouse Association, Inc. in July, 1972.

Committed to preserving this historic site for future generations, this dedicated group of individuals laid the groundwork for all preservation and restoration efforts to come. Thanks to the founding members and those who followed, this once dilapidated facility has been transformed into one of the best preserved historic light stations in the country. That the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse was awarded the coveted designation as a National Historic Landmark in 1998 is a testament to both the hard work and vision of these early lighthouse preservation pioneers. Their sacrifice, success, and dedication continue to inspire the Association’s Board, staff, and volunteers to this day.

I would like to extend a special and heartfelt thank you to the many individuals and businesses that sponsored the 125th Anniversary. Their generosity played a significant role in the Association’s success. As you know, time stops for no one, and the need to support the Lighthouse continues. Many of our 125th Anniversary supporters have pledged to the Endowment Fund in the year to come. In recognition of their continued generosity, the Association will identify substantial Endowment Fund contributors ($500 or more) in the Keeper Listing of each quarterly newsletter.

Recognizing the importance of supporting historic preservation, the Association routinely offers its expertise and guidance to other lighthouse organizations in need of assistance. We are honored to be considered as a standard of excellence in the museum and lighthouse community. In the past eleven months, Association staff has met with representatives from several preservation groups including the St. Simons, Bald Head Island, and St. Marks lighthouses.

On August 26, we were visited by Ginny Davis, the vice-president of the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation; RADM Bob Merrilees, the Foundation’s president; Jim Roche, a member of the board of directors; and Chris Kosmicki, project architect. They are planning the reconstruction of the two lighthouse keeper dwellings as well as other structures for the site. On the same day, we also hosted Annie Potts, a member of the Elbow Reef Lighthouse Society, who is working to preserve and protect the Elbow Reef Light Station, Hope Town, Abaco, Bahamas. It’s wonderful to see how many dedicated people are working to preserve and rehabilitate lighthouses and their heritage.

The Association’s many successes over the years could not have been achieved without the continued support of its many members. As you read through this issue of Illuminations please reflect on the significant accomplishments of the Association over the past four decades and consider the substantial costs associated with continuing this important work in the years ahead. Additional information regarding ways to support the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse can be found online at www.ponceinlet.org. You may also contact me via email at edgunn@ponceinlet.org or by phone at (386) 761-1821 ext. 15 to learn more.

With Warm Regards,

Ed Gunnlaugsson
Executive Director
Ponce Inlet Lighthouse

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**Administration**
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  - Executive Director
- Mike Bennett
  - Director of Operations
- Ellen Henry
  - Curator
- Mary Wentzel
  - Programs Manager
- Karen Huffman
  - Administrative Assistant / Bookkeeper
- Kristen Holmes
  - Registrar

**Maintenance Dept.**
- Bob McLean
- Tom DiTusa
- Dave Doiron
- Stump Madison
- Chuck Wescoat
- Angelo Vigorito
- Kevin Nichols
- Matt Ricco
- Dean Vanderbleek

**Gift Shop**
- Valair Mitchell
  - Gift Shop Manager
- Nick Warenyk
  - Asst. Gift Shop Manager
- Donna Doan
- Janet McSharry
- Jeremy Carter
- Daniel Lerro Jr.
- Barbara Bradley
- Joanne Roberson
- Daniell Charshbee
- Bill Teasley
- L.H. Beaconette: Nelly
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 Light Station.

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ILLUMINATIONS is published quarterly by the Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association, Inc.

Subscription is a benefit of membership in the Association. ILLUMINATIONS welcomes letters and comments from our readers.

Front Cover Image: Photo by Tom Zane

REGULAR HOURS OF OPERATION

Sept 2, 2014 – May 24, 2015
Open Daily from 10:00 AM until 6:00 PM
(Last Museum Admission at 5:00 P.M.)

Open Daily from 10:00 AM until 9:00 PM
(Last Museum Admission Sold at 8:00 PM)

SPECIAL HOURS OF OPERATION

October 18, 2014 (Saturday)
Open from 10:00 AM until 8:30 PM
(Last Museum Admission at 7:30 PM)

November 27, 2014 (Thursday)
Museum Closed for
Thanksgiving Holiday

November 28 & 29, 2014
(Friday & Saturday)
Museum and Gift Shop
Open from 10:00 AM until 7:00 PM
(Last Museum Admission Sold at 6:00 PM)

December 24, 2014 (Wednesday)
Museum and Gift Shop
Open from 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM
(Last Admission Sold at 3:00 PM)

December 25, 2014 (Thursday)
Museum Closed for Christmas Holiday

December 26 & 27, 2014
(Friday & Saturday)
Museum and Gift Shop
Open from 10:00 AM until 7:00 PM
(Last Admission Sold at 6:00 PM)

FALL 2014 TOWER CLOSURES

October 8, 2014 (Wednesday)
Tower Closed from 5:30 until 6:00 PM
Museum and Gift Shop Open until 6:00 PM
(Last Museum Admission Sold at 5:00 PM)

November 6, 2014 (Thursday)
Tower Closed from 4:30 until 6:00 PM
Museum and Gift Shop Open until 6:00 PM
(Last Museum Admission Sold at 5:00 PM)

December 6, 2014 (Saturday)
Tower Closed from 4:15 until 6:00 PM
Museum and Gift Shop Open until 6:00 PM
(Last Museum Admission Sold at 5:00 PM)

FALL 2014 PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION MEETING CALENDAR

October 20, 2014 (Monday)
Board of Trustees and Annual Membership Meeting
Open to general membership

November 17, 2014 (Monday)
Board of Trustees Meeting
Closed to general public and membership

December 15, 2014 (Monday)
Board of Trustees Meeting
Closed to general public and membership

All meetings are held in the Gift Shop Conference Room.
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Winter Springs, FL |
| David & Jennifer Ahrend  
Port Orange, FL |
| Mark & Amy Albenze  
Ponce Inlet, FL |
| Harriet B. Anderson  
Ormond Beach, FL |
| Bruce & Janet Babbitt  
Danville, IN |
| Catherine Baverle  
Ponce Inlet, FL |
| Bennett Brothers Construction  
John, Liston, & Virginia Bennett  
Daytona Beach |
| Bill & Virginia Bayer  
Ponce Inlet, FL |
| Joseph & Mary Blasewitz  
Safely Harbor, FL |
| Kristine & John F. Bradley  
South Orange, NJ |
| Ray Brocato  
Nashville, TN |
| Hyatt & Cici Brown  
Ormond Beach, FL |
| Joseph & Mary Cadden  
Maitland, FL |
| Joe & Kathy Cannon  
Ponce Inlet, FL |
| Ralph & Priscilla Carbone  
Lynnfield, MA |
| Susan & Ben Coe  
Powell, OH |
| Christian & Laurie Coggins  
Atlanta, GA |
| Russell J. & Alice Coyne  
Harrisburg, PA |
| Jean Conover  
Port Orange, FL |
| Alan & Jacqueline Crouch  
Wilbur by the Sea, FL |
| Therese & Jay Crumley  
Lake Zurich, IL |
| Carolyn Day  
Ponce Inlet, FL |
| Boondocks Restaurant  
Arlene Davis  
Wilbur by the Sea, FL |
| Janice & Donald Doudna  
Ponce Inlet, FL |
| JoAnn & John Doyle  
Ponce Inlet, FL |
| Dennis & Zachary Engel  
Mesa, AZ |
| Allen, Jean, & Sylvia Fine  
Sanford, FL |
| John & Beth Fitzgibbons  
Ponce Inlet, FL |
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Oak Harbor, WA |
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| Carlton & Cler Hudgins  
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| Salvatore & Joan R. La Greca  
Daytona Beach Shores, FL |
| Jacquelyn N. & Alan Law  
Oak Lawn, IL |
| Bill & Sara Jane Merrell  
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Winter Springs, FL |
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| Alec Rhodes  
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| John Wanat  
Brooksville, FL |
| Lt. Col. William & Sandra Wester  
Ponce Inlet, FL |
| Kathleen A. Wilson  
Ponce Inlet, FL |
| Donald & Mary Whiteley  
Leesville, SC |
October 16-19, 2014 (Thursday–Sunday) 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM..............................Biketoberfest at the Lighthouse
Visit the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and Museum during Daytona’s 2014 Biketoberfest. Enjoy fun-filled activities and learn about early motorcycle racing on the World’s Most Famous Beach. Climb to the top of Florida’s tallest lighthouse and explore the Light Station as you learn about the site’s unique maritime and social history.

October 18, 2014 (Saturday) 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM..........................................Museum at Night: Explore the Night Sky with MoAS and Uncover the Science of Light with the Old Lighthouse Keeper.
Originally conceived in the United Kingdom as a way to develop public appreciation for the nation’s rich cultural heritage, Museum at Night has become a worldwide campaign to improve museum, gallery, and cultural site accessibility by extending normal hours of operation on specific dates and holding special evening events.

Climb to the top of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and watch the moon as rises above the Atlantic Ocean. Explore the stars with powerful telescopes and participate in hands-on astronomy activities with Seth Mayo, Curator of Astronomy at the Museum of Arts and Science in Daytona Beach.

After examining the heavens above, come down to earth and discover the unique characteristics of light and learn how lighthouse optics work using refraction and reflection as you participate in the Light Station’s recently released Science of Light interactive workshop.

In appreciation for our local educators, teachers will be admitted free of charge with a valid school ID. All activities are included with regular admission, no advance reservations required. Please contact Mary Wentzel at mwentzel@ponceinlet.org, or (386) 761-1821 ext. 18, for more information.

October 31, 2014 (Friday) 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM..............................All Hallows Eve at the Lighthouse – Members Only
Celebrate Halloween at the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse! Join Volunteer John Mann as he presents his rendition of the spooky short story The Fog Horn by science fiction author Ray Bradbury. Guests will enjoy an array of treats and sparkling beverages at the top of the tower. The event is open and free to current Ponce Inlet Lighthouse members of all ages. This special event is limited to 25 participants. To make reservations, please contact Programs Manager Mary Wentzel via email at mwentzel@ponceinlet.org, or by phone at (386) 761-1821 ext. 18.

November 1, 2014 (Saturday) 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM..........................................Girl Scout Saturday
Calling all Girl Scouts! Come celebrate the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse’s 127th anniversary and earn an official Girl Scout badge at the same time. Girl Scouts who complete the half-day activity will earn their Official Girl Scout Archaeology Badge or the new Girl Scout Ponce Inlet Lighthouse fun patch. Online pre-registration is required for this event. The program is limited to 25 participants. For registration please contact Patti Delacruz at PDelacruz@citrus-gs.org or Girl Scouts of Citrus at www.citrus-gs.org.

November 13, 2014 (Thursday) 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM......................................Homeschool Day
Calling all Homeschoolers! Join us on November 13, 2014, for the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse’s 10th Annual Home School Day. Held each November, students and families can enjoy a fun-filled day of educational activities and workshops developed especially for the Homeschool community by teachers and educational professionals. Special admission fees apply and advanced reservations are required.

Registration begins on October 13, 2014. Tickets may be purchased online at www.lighthouselocker.org or by phone by calling the Gift Shop at (386) 761-1821 ext. 21. Please contact Programs Manager Mary Wentzel via email at mwentzel@ponceinlet.org, or by phone at (386) 761-1821 ext. 18, for more information.

November 28, 2014 (Friday) 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM........................................Thanksgiving Gifts at the Lighthouse
Participate in family-oriented activities and try your hand at making authentic old fashioned ornaments. Visit with the “Old Lighthouse Keeper” and learn about turn-of-the-century life at the historic Ponce Inlet Lighthouse. All activities are included with the price of regular admission, no advanced registration is required.

December 6, 2014 (Friday) 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM..............................Winter Holiday Program
Ring in the new year with a trip to the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse on December 26th. Participate in family-oriented activities including the Artifact Table and Kids Crafts. Visit with the “Old Lighthouse Keeper” and learn about turn-of-the-century life at the historic Ponce Inlet Lighthouse. All activities are included with the price of regular admission, no advanced registration is required.

Climb to the Moon Event Calendar

October 8, 2014

Wednesday • 6:15 PM to 7:45 PM

Climb to the Moon at Florida’s tallest lighthouse! Treat your significant other, family and friends to breathtaking views of the ocean, beach and coastal wetlands under the golden glow of the setting sun. Toast the full moon with a sparkling beverage and delicious hors d’oeuvres as it rises above the distant horizon and enjoy panoramic views of the World’s Most Famous Beach under its silvery light. Join the Old Lighthouse Keeper as he leads you on your journey into the past and discover the unique history of this National Historic Landmark.

Prices are $20 per person for Association Members and $25 per person for non-members. Participation is limited to 25 people per event. Contact Karen Huffman at (386) 761-1821 ext. 10 or via email at khuffman@ponceinlet.org to learn more about the Climb to the Moon event or to purchase tickets. Additional information about this event may be found online at www.ponceinlet.org.
America’s National Historic Landmark Lighthouses

Part 1: The Eighteenth-Century Towers

Since the 1607 founding of the Jamestown Colony in present-day Virginia, an estimated 1400 light stations, large and small, have been constructed along our nation’s coasts and inland waterways. Built solely for the benefit of the country’s maritime industry, these lighthouses have collectively aided mariners for more than 300 years.

Although each of these light stations has contributed to the tapestry of events that constitute our nation’s history, some played a larger role in regional, state, and national events than others. In doing so, these individual light stations became historically significant themselves.

Of the estimated 680 light stations that have survived to this day, 455 have been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Of these 455, only twelve have met the stringent requirements established by the Department of the Interior to be recognized as National Historic Landmarks, the most elite of all historic designations in the United States.

The Ponce De Leon Inlet Light Station joined the ranks of this distinguished assemblage of historically and culturally significant sites in 1998. Not to be confused with the 80,000 sites on the National Historic Register, the approximately 2,500 locations that have earned the coveted designation as National Historic Landmarks are structures or sites considered by the US Department of the Interior to have, above all others, “exceptional value in interpreting or illustrating the rich cultural, social, or architectural heritage of the United States.”

The Ponce Inlet Lighthouse shares this honor with many of the nation’s most cherished and iconic sites including the United States Capitol Building, the White House, the Lincoln Memorial, the bloodied battlefields of Yorktown and Gettysburg, and many others.

In addition to the Ponce De Leon Inlet Light Station, eleven other lighthouses have been designated National Historic Landmarks. These noteworthy towers include Massachusetts’ Boston Light on Little Brewster Island; New Jersey’s Sandy Hook Lighthouse; the Old Cape Henry Lighthouse on the Chesapeake Bay; Rhode Island’s Block Island Lighthouse; the magnificent Cape Hatteras Lighthouse in the Outer Banks; the 113-foot tall Grosse Point Lighthouse on Lake Michigan; the unique hexagonal-shaped Thomas Point Shoal Lighthouse near Annapolis, Maryland; the Cape Ann Lighthouse on Thatcher Island to the north of Boston, Massachusetts; the Navesink Twin Lights near the entrance to New York Harbor; Minnesota’s Split Rock Lighthouse; and New York’s oldest operating beacon, the Montauk Point Lighthouse.

But what makes one cultural site stand out among other sites that have been listed on the National Registry of Historic Places? Why were some designated as National Historic Landmarks while others were not?

What is a National Historic Landmark?

In 1935, the Sixteenth Congress of the United States passed the Historic Sites Act of 1935, a national policy designed to “preserve for public use historic sites, buildings, and sites of national significance for the inspiration and benefit of the people of the United States.” The criteria mentioned in the act defined a National Historic Landmark as:

- A site where events of national historic consequence occurred
- A site where prominent Americans lived or worked
- An iconic symbol of the ideals that shaped the nation
- A place(s) that characterizes a way of life
- A site that serves as an outstanding example of architectural design, construction method
- A site that possesses archaeological significance

While the geographic locations of our country’s National Historic Landmarks are as widespread as they are varied, there are some interesting commonalities about them. Three states (Pennsylvania, New York, and Massachusetts) account for nearly 25 percent of the nation’s National Historic Landmark sites. In
addition to those states, Boston, New York, and Philadelphia possess more National Historic Landmarks within each of their city limits than forty of the fifty states combined. Further, one hundred-twenty-eight ships or shipwrecks also have been designated as National Historic Landmarks. That number includes six United States Lighthouse Service or Coast Guard lightships that served in areas where a permanent light station could not be established.

Like the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse, about half of all National Historic Landmarks are maintained by private foundations. Many landmarks that are no longer used for their original purposes may be supported by a multitude of government agencies at the federal, state, or local level including the National Park Service, US Forest Service, United States Coast Guard, or each state’s Department of Natural Resources. The Ponce De Leon Inlet Lighthouse is entirely self-supporting and receives no government funding at the federal, state, or local levels.

THE FIRST AMERICAN LIGHT STATION

Let us begin our study of National Historic Landmark lighthouses with Boston Light, America’s first lighthouse. Commissioned by the General Court of the Colony of Massachusetts to guide maritime commerce in and out of the bustling port, Boston Light was built atop Little Brewster Island, a rocky outer island situated at the northeastern edge of the Boston’s main shipping channel. The first tower to be built on the site of the present light station dates back to September 14, 1716, and is acknowledged as the first lighthouse to be built in the American Colonies. A tax on tonnage of 1 pence per ton on all vessels, except coasters, paid for the lighthouse and its maintenance.

During the early part of the American Revolution, the original 75 foot tower was held by the British occupiers and was attacked and burned twice by American forces. When the British withdrew from Boston in 1776, they blew up the first tower and completely leveled it. It was not until 1783 that the current tower was built by the Massachusetts Legislature. While Boston
Light was the first light station, it is the second oldest working lighthouse in the United States (after Sandy Hook Lighthouse in New Jersey).

Transferred to the federal government by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on June 10, 1790, the seventy-five foot tall Boston Light remained relatively unchanged until 1856, when it was raised to its present height of 98 feet and a new lantern room was added. A second order Fresnel lens, which replaced a Winslow Lewis optic, is still in place and fully operational. Boston Light was automated in 1998, but it is still staffed, as tradition and law would have it, by volunteer watch-standers from the US Coast Guard Auxiliary. Its characteristic is one white flash every ten seconds, and is technically visible from a distance of 27 nautical miles.

**AMERICA’S OLDEST WORKING LIGHTHOUSE**

Sandy Hook Lighthouse, the oldest continuously operating lighthouse in the United States was built during the Colonial Period to aid ships entering and exiting New York Harbor. Jutting out into New York Harbor from the New Jersey shoreline, the need for a lighthouse to mark the northernmost tip of the narrow barrier island known as Sandy Point was voiced as early as 1676. Interestingly, it was not until the 1760s that several lotteries were held to finance the building of the sturdy, octagonal rubble stone tower. Illuminated for the first time on June 11, 1764, the lighthouse remains in operation to this day.

Originally called the New York Lighthouse, Sandy Hook was first maintained by the Master and Wardens of New York Harbor, and its upkeep was provided for by a fee of three pence a ton for ships entering the port. This fee paid the keeper and also went to purchase supplies like oil, candles and coal. The white, nine story, 103 foot tall lighthouse was easily seen by ships entering New York harbor against the green background of the New Jersey Highlands.

When the City of New York fell to the British in the early days of the Revolutionary War, the New York State Congress decided that the best thing to do was to either destroy the tower or hide away the lighting apparatus from the enemy. They did the latter. While this was accomplished, it only took the British two months to refurbish the tower and put it back in operation. A gunboat bombardment led by American Colonel Benjamin Tupper, who also fought the British at Boston Harbor Lighthouse, failed to destroy, or even dent its seven foot thick walls. The Sandy Hook Lighthouse and the light station would remain under English control for most of the war.

The animosity between New York and New Jersey over primacy of New York Harbor dates back to the early years of English colonization. Following the end of the Revolutionary War, the two states continued to feud over control of both the harbor and Sandy Hook Lighthouse. The issue of the lighthouse was finally decided with the passing of an Ninth Act of Congress for the “Establishment and support of Lighthouses, Beacons, Buoys, and Public Piers.” Signed into law on August 7, 1789, this historic piece of legislation transferred responsibility for the building and operation of all navigational aids within state and federal waters to the newly formed United States Light-House Establishment.

Subsequent years witnessed the installation and removal of minor beacons at the end of the spit, and the Sandy Hook Lighthouse operated at times as part of a pair of range lights. In
1856, a fixed third order Fresnel lens was installed in the lantern room. This lens remains in service to this day.

The peaceful, quite existence enjoyed by those who called Sandy Hook home ended abruptly with the establishment of Fort Hancock in 1895. Designed to protect New York Harbor from naval attack, the garrison was built by the United States Army. Constructed of reinforced concrete, the low lying fortress featured disappearing gun batteries along with numerous bunkers, munition magazines, and personnel spaces accessed via a system of underground tunnels. Maintained as an active Army facility throughout WWI and WWII, the tradition of maintaining a defensive fortification at Sandy Hook continued well into the Cold War with the installation of a Nike missile battery in 1954. The only military presence maintained on Sandy Hook today is a US Coast Guard base.

The Sandy Hook Lighthouse was designated a National Historic Landmark during its bicentennial anniversary in 1964. In 1996, ownership of the light station was transferred to the National Park Service.

Incidentally, the natural enemy of many lighthouses, ocean erosion, is not a problem at Sandy Hook. Originally only 500 feet from the tip of the Hook, it now stands a good mile and a half away. All lighthouses should be so lucky.

OLD CAPE HENRY

The importance of a navigational aid standing at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay leading to the Atlantic Ocean seems like a no-brainer, but according to research, the Virginia House of Burgesses, the legislature of Maryland, and Great Britain, argued for years about cooperating in construction of a permanent beacon at Cape Henry, Virginia. Grateful for this indecision, pirates like Blackbeard appreciated the opportunity to kidnap the men responsible for the nightly lighting of the woodpile-beacon on the beach. Like the controversial wreckers of Key West who made their living salvaging ships that had run aground under questionable circumstances, the entrepreneurial buccaneers who prowled the coast of Virginia would regularly relocate beacons along the beach to ensure a sufficient number of ships ran aground.

For fear that Old Cape Henry, left, would collapse; the new Cape Henry tower was built.
Eventually, allocations from Britain and the Colonial Governments of Maryland and Virginia were made, and stone was even delivered to the site for the lighthouse, but at that point the Revolutionary War interfered. It was not until the signing of the Ninth Act of Congress in 1789, that the Cape Henry Lighthouse was specifically authorized to be constructed, thus making it the first lighthouse to be ordered and financed by the new federal government.

Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton contracted with the famous New York architect John McComb, Jr. to construct the light station. Built atop a fifty-six foot sand dune seven hundred yards from the beach, the new 90-foot octagonal sandstone lighthouse was completed in early October, 1792. The Cape Henry Lighthouse became the first active aid to navigation built by the federal government when Keeper Laban Goffigan lit the beacon’s fish oil lamps for the first time a few weeks later.

As time passed, the Cape Henry Lighthouse was repaired and improved on numerous occasions. Renovations included the installation of new soap stone deck and the addition of a brick liner inside the tower to provide added stability. The beacon’s original fish oil lamps were replaced by eighteen Winslow Lewis Lamps in the early 1800s. Poorly constructed and failing to meet the needs of the maritime community, the tower’s Winslow Lewis Lamps were eventually replaced by a far superior second order Fresnel lens in the 1850s. In 1867, the tower’s wooden stairs were replaced with a cast iron staircase to make the structure more resilient to fire damage.

Confederate troops sabotaged the beacon in the early days of the Civil War to render the lighthouse useless to northern enemies. Replaced by a lightship anchored off the coast while under repair, the Cape Henry Lighthouse was returned to active service in 1863. It remained under Union control for the remainder of the war.

By 1872, the lighthouse was beginning to show its age. The structure was found to be in such an advanced state of deterioration that authorities feared it was “in danger of being thrown down by some heavy gale.” Condemned by the Lighthouse Board, a petition was sent to Congress requesting that a new tower be built. Although it took ongoing Congressional appropriations and years to construct, the first order Fresnel lens mounted atop the new 157 foot cast iron Cape Henry Lighthouse was first lit on December 15, 1881.

Positioned about three hundred feet southeast of the old tower, this cast-iron structure’s focal plane is shorter than its older and more revered predecessor due to the natural height of the dune on which the 1792 tower was built.

Although exhibiting multiple cracks in its stone walls, the Old Cape Henry Lighthouse defied the Lighthouse Board’s prediction of imminent collapse. The old Cape Henry Lighthouse survives to this day and is now open to the public on the US Army’s Fort Story Military Reservation. It was named a National Historic Landmark in 1964. It is the fourth oldest lighthouse still standing in the United States.

New York’s Landfall Light
Montauk Point Lighthouse is the first and oldest operating lighthouse in New York State and the fourth-oldest active lighthouse in the United States.
The busiest of all post-Revolutionary American ports, by 1789, New York Harbor was handling a third of the nation’s foreign trade. Due to prevailing winds in winter, vessels entering the bustling harbor were in desperate need of a lighthouse at the end of Long Island to guide them safely to port.

Authorized by the Second United States Congress, under President George Washington on April 12, 1792, the Montauk Point Lighthouse was designed by the prominent New York attorney, amateur scientist, and former New York delegate to both the Second Continental Congress and Congress of the Confederation, Ezra L’Hommedieu. One of New York’s most vocal advocates for the building of the Montauk Point Lighthouse, L’Hommedieu played a leading role in securing Congressional approval for establishing the light station and even chose the location where it was built.

Tradition has it that the Marquis de Lafayette dedicated the lighthouse’s cornerstone when the first blocks were laid in the summer of 1796, and that the Pirate Captain Kidd buried a sizeable fortune near two small lakes at the edge of the lighthouse reservation commonly referred to as the “Money Ponds.” Taking only six months to build, construction of the eighty-foot tall Montauk Point Lighthouse was finished on November 5, 1796. One of the first public works projects ever completed by the United States Government, the oil lamps at the top of the lighthouse were lit for the first time by Keeper Jacob Hand in April, 1797.

The historic tower underwent extensive renovations in 1860. The top of the lighthouse was removed and two additional levels were added along with a new lantern room. Now standing a little over 110 feet in height, the tower’s rehabilitation was finally completed when a 10,000-pound first order Fresnel lens was installed in the tower’s new lantern room.

A steam fog signal was added to the station in 1873. Originally exhibiting an all-white day-mark, the tower received its iconic brown horizontal stripe in 1899. The first order lens was replaced by a third and half order bivalve lens in 1903. In service for more than eighty years, the third and half order lens was eventually replaced with a modern airport beacon in 1987.

Erosion continues to be a threat despite ongoing efforts to stabilize Turtle Hill, the cliff bank on which the lighthouse is built. Whether it is better to construct a seawall to mitigate shore erosion or move the lighthouse back from the edge of the cliff is a discussion of great debate. Local surfers support the idea of moving the lighthouse since the construction of a seawall by the Army Corp of Engineers would ruin their nearby surf break. Those who believe that building a seawall is the best way to save the lighthouse argue that the historic structure would not survive the move from its current location.

On March 2, 2012, Montauk Point Lighthouse was named as a National Historic Landmark.

Many thanks go to Don and Mary Whiteley who provided us with dozens of new images for our digital collection as well as an oral history of Don’s grandfather, keeper Pinckney Whiteley. We also thank Hazel Dauksis for a collection of vintage tools which have been added to our Generator Room display. Our gratitude also goes to Diane Cripps, who has ably served as our temporary registrar and is now leaving us for her new position at Portsmouth Museums in Portsmouth, Virginia. They are lucky to have her!

Our wish list this quarter includes the following: clothing and personal items for men, women, and children dating from 1890-1920; vintage Florida postcards; books on all aspects and periods of Florida history; original food cans or boxes and pantry items c. 1920-30.
A Fond Farewell

We are sad to announce the departure of our long-time museum registrar Thomas L. Zane and his wife Sena. Tom and Sena are relocating to Utah to be close to family. Sena served as a volunteer at the Lighthouse and transcribed many of our oral history recordings.

For the past 10 years, Tom has ably overseen the recording and tracking of all the items in our collection, but his most outstanding contribution to this museum and to the entire lighthouse community world-wide has been the data base for Lighthouses of the World.

Taking nearly four years to complete, the Lighthouses of the World database includes images, architectural information, and a brief history of every lighthouse in the world which is still standing and can be visited. Available on two matching touch-screen kiosks located within the Principal Keeper Dwelling’s pantry, the program enables our museum visitors to touch any spot on the world map for instant access to pictures and information about all lighthouses in that location.

Besides his skills as a registrar and researcher, Tom is also a gifted photographer, whose work has appeared in our newsletter and many other publications, including our new souvenir book, A BEACON FOR MOSQUITO. Tom’s talent and interest has apparently been passed on to his son, Thomas W. Zane, whose photograph of this lighthouse appears on the front cover of the same book. Deeply involved in every cultural institution in Daytona Beach, the Zanes will be missed throughout the community. We wish them well!
The Ponce Inlet Lighthouse kicked off July by celebrating Independence Day at the Lighthouse. We had many guests pass through our gates during the busy 4th of July weekend, excited to climb the tower and to partake in our special activities. Our V.I.P volunteers were on hand to talk with our visitors and share with them what it was like to be a lighthouse keeper or a member of a lighthouse family at the tallest lighthouse in Florida.

On July 12th, musicians taking part in the annual Daytona Horn Camp gathered at the base of the tower and played a selection of classical and pop tunes on their French horns. In the shade of the lighthouse, 22 horn players from all over the country joined together to play music on that sweet summer day. If you think 22 horns aren’t enough, one tune featured four of the musician tooting conch shells. On each conch shell the players were able to sound a unique array of notes that were arranged to play a song. We would like to thank Heather Pettit-Johnson and the Daytona Horn Camp students for sharing their music with us.

The month of August was full of interesting opportunities. Our annual National Lighthouse Day was on August 7th. We had many activities available for children and their families from playing Victorian games to making lighthouse pennants and flags. The Old Lighthouse Keeper shared his unique knowledge of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse while volunteers manning the Artifact Table allowed visitors to examine antique household items commonly used by rural families at the turn of the nineteenth century.

In 2010, Congress unanimously passed Concurrent Resolution 226 calling for a national “Spirit of ’45 Day” to be observed on the second Sunday in August in honor of the men and women who served our nation, fought tyranny, and sacrificed so much during World War II. On August 10, 2014, the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse joined the rest of the nation in honoring the “Greatest Generation” with special activities and workshops throughout the day. In addition to these activities, museum guests were also treated to an afternoon of music as Roland St. Gelais played tunes from the WWII era on his trumpet. A graduate of the Eastman School of Music, Mr. Gelais is music teacher at both Tomoka and Ormond Beach Elementary schools. Although most of his time is consumed by teaching music at the two schools, Roland still finds time to moonlight as a freelance trumpet player performing with several local music organizations including orchestras, brass ensembles, big bands, jazz combos, rock bands, and solo work.

A detachment from the Ponce Inlet Coast Guard Station lowered the flag to half-mast in honor of the faceless heroes of WWII as a somber rendition of Taps was played on the bugle. We extend our gratitude to Petty Officer Neil B. Rice and his crew who braved the weather to participate in this special event.

On August 16th we celebrated International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend. Developed to emphasize the importance of preserving historic lighthouses and lightships, this international event also promoted communication via amateur radio as a means of fostering good will around the world.

This year, the Ponce De Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association was proud to host a group of Ham Radio enthusiasts from Central Florida who transmitted from...
the Lighthouse during the event. Our radio operators made contact with other radio enthusiasts in Canada, the Czech Republic, Italy, Poland, Spain and twenty-two states. One of the lighthouses who answered our call request was Copper Harbor Lighthouse (call-sign USA-193) located on Michigan’s Keweenaw Peninsula. Our operators also made contact with Eagle Bluff Lighthouse (first lit in 1868) in Ephraim, Wisconsin.

Another lighthouse that Ponce Inlet communicated with during Saturday’s event was with the Cape Ann Light Station in Rockport Massachusetts. One of only twelve lighthouses in the country to have been designated a National Historic Landmark; the Cape Ann Lighthouse shares this distinction with only eleven lighthouses in the country. These notable towers include Boston Light, Sandy Hook Lighthouse, Cape Henry Lighthouse, Block Island Lighthouse, Cape Hatteras Lighthouse, Grosse Point Lighthouse, Thomas Point Shoal Lighthouse, Navesink Lighthouse, Split Rock Lighthouse, Montauk Point Lighthouse, and the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse.

We had a fantastic group of amateur radio operators in attendance during the event. A resident of St. Cloud, Florida, Richard Graves (call-sign KK4JDO) received his amateur radio operating license in 2012. Employed by a large pediatric healthcare system, Mr. Graves holds an Amateur Extra Class license as well. Mike Edwards (call-sign KE4YGT), another member of the radio club, lives in Melbourne, Florida, where he has been broadcasting since 1995. Originally from Finland, radio-operator Toivo Voll (call-sign KG4OXA) resides in Tampa where he is employed as a network engineer.

Also from the Tampa Bay area, radioman Vince Hrabosky (call-sign KI4FX) has been licensed since 1993. When I asked Vince how he became interested in ham radio operating Vince replied, “I became interested in amateur radio after seeing it used for emergency communications during Hurricane Andrew and found it to be a fascinating medium for sending and receiving messages and for talking with people from around the globe.”

A fun and collectable component to ham radio operating is the QSL card exchange. Measuring approximately 3”x5”, QSL cards confirm 2-way contact on a specific date and time. Resembling oversized business cards, QSL cards are often adorned with colorful graphics, beautiful images, and the geographic coordinates of the operator’s home. On a QSL card received from Bedford, Massachusetts, James AB1DQ proudly states he is an Extra Class Operator as well as an accordion player. The card sports a lighthearted picture of James playing his accordion. Originally mailed to their intended recipients via the postal service, many QSL cards are now sent via the internet. However, in today’s age of electronic communications many are now sent via the internet. International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend proved to be a wonderful way of fostering international goodwill.”
We are planning a great fall season at the lighthouse. Upcoming educational events include: Museum at Night on Saturday, October 18, from 6:00 to 8:30 pm; All Hallows Eve on Friday, October 31st from 5:30 – 7:00 pm; Girl Scout Day on Saturday, November 1st, from 1:00 - 3:00 pm; Homeschool Day on Thursday, November 13th, from 10:00 - 2:00 pm; Thanksgiving Gifts at the Lighthouse on Friday, November 28th, from 10:00 - 2:00 pm; and our Winter Holiday Program on Friday, December 26th, from 10:00 until 2:00 pm. Be sure to stop by the lighthouse during Biketoberfest 2014 (October 16th – 19th) for fun family-oriented workshops and activities. A complete list of this quarter’s events can be found in this newsletter on page 6.

The lighthouse is finalizing the 2015 Climb to the Moon Event Calendar. The remaining 2014 Climb to the Moon event dates are filling up quickly. Don’t miss the opportunity to toast the setting sun with a sparkling beverage and enjoy delicious hors d’oeuvres by the light of the full moon. Limited to only 25 participants per evening, Climb to the Moon events often sell out months in advance so be sure to register early. Tickets must be purchased by calling Karen at (386) 761-1821 ext. 10.

In closing, we would like to thank our dedicated volunteer corps, Association members, and local supporters for helping the Preservation Association. When asked what they enjoy most about spending time at the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse, our volunteers often cite the fascinating conversations they have with museum guests regarding their experiences growing up in rural communities, belonging to large families, and using many of the common household items included in the Lighthouse’s artifact touch box.

With so many addicted to their smart phones and oblivious to their surroundings it is refreshing to watch grandparents talking with their grandchildren about what it was like to live in time before computers, cell phones, and other modern conveniences. These special moments are made all the more richer when a grandparent holds up an item like a rug beater or a wash board and describes in great detail how he or she was responsible for cleaning the rugs in their house or how they would help their mother wash clothes in the same galvanized tub that they took a bath in every week whether they needed to or not.

The Preservation Association is always on the look-out for individuals interested in becoming a lighthouse volunteer. Those wishing to do so may contact Programs Manager Mary Wentzel by email at mwentzel@ponceinlet.org or by phone at (386) 761-1821 ext. 18. You can also learn more about volunteer opportunities online at www.ponceinlet.org.
Committed to the ongoing preservation and dissemination of the maritime and social history of Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station, the Lighthouse Association relies heavily on the dedication of its volunteers to provide quality educational programming to museum visitors and others throughout the community.

Each quarter, the Association likes to recognize a particular individual who exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism that is so critical to helping it achieve its many goals. In this issue of Illuminations the Preservation Association is pleased to recognize Earl Davis as its VIP Volunteer of the Quarter.

Some might say that Earl’s biggest claim to fame is marrying Gladys Meyer Davis, one of the most beautiful and kindest women in Ponce Inlet. The daughter of Edward Meyer, Ponce Inlet Lighthouse’s last civilian keeper, Gladys can also claim the honor of being the last child born at the historic light station. After spending time with Earl you realize that he has lived much of his life in the shade of the tallest lighthouse in Florida. Thanks to dedicated volunteers like Earl, our beloved lighthouse was saved from an uncertain future back in 1970, when it was declared surplus property by the United States Coast Guard. That it stands today as one of only 12 lighthouses in the country to have been designated a National Historic Landmark is a testament to the early efforts of Earl, Gladys, and other volunteers.

Wed for 59 years this October, Earl and Gladys are two of Ponce Inlet’s oldest and most recognizable residents. Earl and Gladys have seen many changes in Ponce Inlet over the years. One of the biggest changes has been the town’s population. The once sleepy community of Ponce Park has grown from a population of less than 40 full-time residents in 1950, to more than 4,000 full time residents and approximately 3,600 part-time residents in 2014.

Originally built in 1922, by Redwood Wharton Sr., the childhood home of Gladys and her siblings, Mary, Betty, Edward, and Jack, was purchased by Chief Edward Meyer in 1941. The small historic house was later acquired by Gladys and Earl who went on to raise their two girls, Julie and Ellen, there. When the home was sold to the Town of Ponce Inlet in 2003, Earl and Gladys moved to a new house a few blocks away. Restored to its original 1922 appearance, the old Wharton/Meyer/Davis house now serves as small museum dedicated to preserving the Town’s history. Next door stands the last original cottage built in 1890s by Nathaniel Hasty.

If you are lucky enough to get to talk with Earl you will find out that he was raised in the farming community of Bloomingdale, just 12 miles west of Savannah, Georgia. When asked what it was like living in Bloomingdale as a child, Earl often jokes that the town was so small “It didn’t even have a Baptist Church,” something almost unheard of in the Deep South. Born to Lula and Luther Davis in 1925, Earl fondly recalls growing up in the rural south with his two older siblings, Freda and Watson.

Born in 1921, Earl’s brother Watson joined the National Guard at the age of 18. That same year, Watson transferred to the US Army. Following several months of special operations training, Watson earned the Army’s coveted paratrooper badge and was assigned to Bravo Company, First Battalion, 101st Airborne Division, 502 Parachute Infantry Regiment. Participating in the largest paratrooper operation in history, Pvt. Davis jumped into Belgium with his unit on September 17, 1944. He was killed in action on September 19, 1944, at the age of 23.

Withdrawing from high school in his junior year, Earl enlisted in the US Navy when he was only 18 years old. He proudly served from July, 1943, until April, 1946. Not a natural born sailor by any means, Earl recounts how he spent many a day and night with a bucket nearby due to chronic seasickness. When asked how he dealt with being seasick so often, Earl simply chuckles and...
October 2014 • Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station

Volunteer of the Quarter

V.I.P Volunteer CONT’D.

responds that coping with it was the only choice he had. It wasn’t like he could step off the boat whenever he was sick.

Following the war, Earl returned to high school to earn his diploma. Moving to DeLand, Florida, Earl enrolled at Stetson University where he graduated with a Bachelor’s Degree in 1950. Relocating to Daytona Beach, Earl first met his future bride while dining at Chief Meyer’s Fishing Camp and Grill, where she was working as a waitress. One of three beautiful daughters born to Chief Meyer, Gladys was closely watched by father who had developed a reputation for being a difficult man for any potential suitor to impress. Earl and Gladys hit it off immediately, and with Earl’s silver tongue winning her father’s approval, they were married on the afternoon of October 30, 1955, at the historic St Mary’s Episcopal Church in Daytona Beach.

Earl has played an important role within the local community and with the Preservation Association since retiring from Florida Power and Light in 1987. His contributions to the Association’s early efforts to preserve and restore the Light Station were invaluable. Earl and Gladys were always on the lookout for artifacts, building materials, or anything else they could find to benefit the lighthouse and museum. A true picker at heart, Earl frequently shows up at the lighthouse with something interesting in hand. Regardless of whether the object is a lighthouse artifact, domestic antique, old document, or historic image, the manner in which it was found by Earl is usually as fascinating as the object itself.

Earl continues to visit the lighthouse and walk the grounds almost every day. He often stops by the Lighthouse on days when educational programs are being offered. Never one to shy away from a social opportunity, Earl once startled a volunteer who was teaching the use of semaphore flags to a group of children by grabbing a spare set of the flags and signaling while reciting mnemonics taught to him by the Navy during his service in World War II. Although more than seven decades had passed since he’d last worn a Navy uniform, Earl got them all right.

In addition to contributing hundreds of hours to the lighthouse every year, Earl also serves as one of the Town’s most knowledgeable historians. Earl has many stories about the early days in Ponce and it is rare for him to repeat the same one twice unless asked.

Although 89 years old and no longer as spry as he once was, Earl remains one of Ponce Inlet’s most active volunteers. When asked why he is slowing down, Earl’s response is full of both humor and truth. He replies “I don’t get around as much as I used to. My mother and father won’t let me,” before adding with a grin, “That’s Mother Nature and Father Time.” October 30, 2014, will mark Earl’s and Gladys’ 59th wedding anniversary. Congratulations Love Birds!

We are very proud to recognize Earl Davis as the Ponce De Leon Inlet Lighthouse’s VIP Volunteer of the Quarter.
During the week of June 23, the Light Station was alive with restoration work on the historic keeper dwellings. Chuck Spitznagel and Butch Boswell of Federal Masonry Restoration were on site to conduct training for members of our maintenance department, to carry out several repointing projects, and to assess others for the future. Federal Masonry Restoration specializes in the use of historically compatible materials and traditional methods of application. Their first task was to complete the repointing of the south wall of the principal keeper dwelling. The hot weather made the project a challenge, but the wall was quickly finished, and their attention then turned to the cistern behind the first assistant keeper house.

Even though several wells were dug here over the years, each lighthouse keeper family obtained water for cooking, drinking, and bathing by collecting rainwater from the dwelling roof and funneling it into a large brick cistern. The cistern for the first assistant keeper’s family could hold about 3,000 gallons of water. Most of the cistern is hidden underground, but when the entire top is exposed this is an impressively large structure. Cisterns had to be as waterproof as possible and were coated with cement to prevent ground water from leaking into their interiors. These coatings were sacrificial and were expected to deteriorate and be replaced over the years. The top coating for the first assistant keeper’s cistern had cracked and flaked to a degree that demanded a recoat, and this was carried out by Butch Boswell. Once the area around the cistern had been excavated, Butch found that the east end of the structure needed some rebuilding, and this project required the remainder of the week to complete.

An examination of all the chimneys by Federal Masonry revealed that the east chimney of the first assistant keeper dwelling is in the most immediate need of repair and repointing, and that deterioration of the other chimneys is minor. Several other future projects were assessed including the stabilization and repair of some portions of the historic oil storage building. What had appeared to us as potentially serious restoration issues were revealed to be straightforward spot repair work. The team also assessed the condition of the granite steps and trim of the lighthouse tower. We look forward to our continuing relationship with these skilled masons who are scheduled to return here soon.

For more information about Federal Masonry Restoration and their many important projects, including historic Blair House in Washington DC, contact Chuck Spitznagel at cspitz@fedmasonry.com.
Keeper’s Descendants Visit the Lighthouse

On July 23, 2014, the Light Station was visited by South Carolina resident Donald Lamberton Whiteley and his wife Mary. Donald is the grandson of Pinckney Lamberton Whiteley, who served twice at this lighthouse. Pinckney Whiteley was second assistant to principal keeper John Lindquist from 1908-1911. In 1911, Pinckney married Carrie Geneva Sellers here at what was then known as the Mosquito Inlet Light Station. Shortly after their wedding, Donald and Carrie moved to Dayton, Ohio, to be close to her family during the birth of their first child. That child was a boy whom they named Donald Lamberton Whiteley and his son, also Donald Lamberton Whiteley, is the one who came to visit Ponce Inlet in July.

Don and Mary Fulmer Whiteley are both musicians and graduates of Newberry College. Mary is the organist and Don is the choir director for Emmanuel Lutheran Church in West Columbia, SC. Don is a state certified and nationally registered paramedic who works as the manager for EMT training and certification for the state of South Carolina. The Whiteleys have been retracing the footsteps of Don’s grandfather Pinckney, who had spent his entire career in the Lighthouse Service.

>> continued on next page
Several years after their move to Dayton, Pinckney and Carrie Whiteley found themselves at the Tybee Island Lighthouse in Georgia, where Pinckney served as first assistant keeper. In February of 1918, he transferred back to Mosquito Inlet to again work with John Lindquist, who had become a well-loved family friend. During this second tour at Mosquito Inlet, Pinckney fell ill and spent over a week in the hospital with a possible kidney ailment. At the time, the cause of his illness was not completely understood, but it would eventually prove fatal. Pinckney came from an illustrious lighthouse family and was actually raised at Castle Pinckney, the Sixth District Lighthouse Depot in Charleston Harbor, where his father, James Whiteley, was in charge of the Depot. During the Whiteleys' time of residence, the family's water supply was stored in a cistern that was unfortunately lined with lead. This may have been the cause of the kidney problems that proved fatal to Pinckney and other family members as well. Pinckney Whiteley died at the age of 37 and is buried in the Magnolia Cemetery in Charleston, SC.

Don and Mary Whiteley are not the first descendants of Pinckney Whiteley to visit the Lighthouse. In September 2007, Carol Dirks and Nancy Hill, daughters of Caroline May Whiteley and Tandy Hill and granddaughters of Pinckney Whiteley, came to Ponce Inlet and provided information and family pictures. To read more about Pinckney Whiteley, see our April 2013 newsletter.

During Don and Mary's visit to Ponce Inlet, there was one outstanding and memorable moment when they entered the first assistant keeper dwelling and saw a desk in the living room that is identical to one in their possession that belonged to Pinckney and was actually used during his time as first assistant at Ponce Inlet. They have generously offered this antique to us and we look forward to someday having it on view in the first assistant dwelling where it was used nearly 100 years ago.
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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<td>All privileges of 1st Assistant Membership, a personalized guided tour of the Light Station, recognition of support in the quarterly newsletters’ Principal Keeper List</td>
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<td>Corporate Lampist</td>
<td>All privileges of General or Family Membership for up to five company principals, a personalized guided tour of the Light Station, use of the Light Station’s conference room for one meeting, recognition of company support in the quarterly newsletters’ Corporate Lampist List</td>
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Select type of membership:
- General
- Senior
- Student (submit copy of ID)
- Family
- 2nd Assistant Keeper
- 1st Assistant Keeper
- Principal Keeper
- Corporate Lampist

Name:
Address 1:
Address 2:
City: State: ZIP:
Phone: ( )
E-mail:

Please charge my:
- Visa
- MasterCard 3-Digit Security Code:

Or, make check payable to:
Ponce Inlet Lighthouse
4931 S. Peninsula Dr., Ponce Inlet, FL 32127

Thank You for Your Generous Support!
As the winter season rapidly approaches, now is the perfect time to get an early start on all of your holiday shopping needs. Avoid the holiday rush and the hustle and bustle of malls by purchasing many of your gifts from the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse. The Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Gift Shop specializes in unique lighthouse and nautical themed gifts for people of all ages. Our wide selection includes clothing, house wares, toys, and collectibles including a wide selection of custom products made especially for the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse.

Do you have a friend or relative who is difficult to shop for? Consider an annual membership or memorial brick instead of a traditional gift that may never be used. With all proceeds going towards the ongoing preservation and restoration of the historic Ponce De Leon Inlet Lighthouse, your thoughtful gift will not only bring a smile to the face of its recipient but will help the Preservation Association continue its important mission of preserving and disseminating the maritime and social history of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse for years to come.

Merchandise, annual memberships, and memorial bricks may be purchased onsite in the Lighthouse Gift Shop or online at www.poncelighthousestore.org. Orders may be processed over the phone by calling the Gift Shop Manager at (386) 761-1821 ext. 21. Those wishing to purchase an annual membership by mail may do so by filling out the membership form on page 22 and mailing it along with check or credit card information to the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse at 4931 South Peninsula Drive, Ponce Inlet, FL 32127.

**Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Memorial Bricks**

The Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Memorial Brick Program is a unique and thoughtful way to honor friends and loved ones or celebrate special events including weddings, birthdays, and family vacations. Each laser-engraved brick features the Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse logo and up to three lines of text. Each personalized brick is installed in the Light Station’s memorial walkway leading out onto the historic grounds where it will remain in perpetuity. Best of all, a portion of your brick purchase price is tax-deductible.

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**The Science of Light and Lighthouse Illumination DVD**

Explore the fascinating history of light and discover how lighthouse illumination has evolved from the time of simple bonfires to the magnificent Fresnel lenses of the 19th & 20th centuries. Investigate the fascinating history of lighthouses and learn how mariners used these silent sentinels to safely navigate the unforgiving sea.

Written, directed, and produced by the Ponce De Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association, this unique program will help young and old alike develop an appreciation for our nation’s lighthouses. Order your copy before October 1, 2014, and receive a limited edition copy autographed by the author and actors featured in the film.

| Item #: 2588 | Price: $8.95 (+S&H) |

**A Beacon for Mosquito: The Story of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse**

Who were the first European explorers to visit Ponce De Leon Inlet? Why was it once named Mosquito Inlet? When was the first lighthouse built and why is the tower painted red? Learn the truth to these questions and many other interesting facts about the Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station and local area in the Preservation Association’s newest book, A BEACON FOR MOSQUITO: The Story of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse.

Written by Curator Ellen Henry, A BEACON FOR MOSQUITO explores the fascinating history of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and the area for which it is named from the time of the first Spanish explorers through the present day. Learn how the historic Light Station was almost lost and how a group of concerned Ponce Inlet residents saved the lighthouse from an uncertain future with the forming of the Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association in 1972.

As the only official history of the Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station certified by the Preservation Association, this newest addition to our growing collection of published works will satisfy the curiosity of lighthouse enthusiasts and history buffs alike.

Order your copy before October 1, 2014 and receive a signed copy by the author!

| Item #: 2588 | Price: $8.95 (+S&H) |
The Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Gift Shop specializes in unique lighthouse and nautical themed gifts for people of all ages. Our wide selection includes clothing, house wares, toys, and collectibles. Customers may also shop online at LIGHITHOUSELOCKER.ORG, and place orders by phone at (386) 761-1821 ext. 21. Please contact the Gift Shop at (386) 761-1821 ext. 21 or via email at valair@ponceinlet.org for more information. Usual UPS shipping charges apply to all orders.

**Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Gift Shop**

**Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Custom Raincoat**

Enjoy the cool Florida days of fall and winter with this fashionable hooded raincoat and windbreaker. Custom made for the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and Museum, this lightweight two-toned water-resistant raincoat is made of 100% nylon and features an embroidered image of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse. Available in three color combinations: blue & grey, black & grey, and red & black.

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Measuring 6” tall, this highly detailed model features the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and First Assistant Keeper’s dwelling. Measuring 6” tall, this beautiful piece is a wonderful addition to any lighthouse enthusiast’s collection.

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**Custom Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Ornament**

No Christmas tree is complete without a custom ornament from the historic Ponce Inlet Lighthouse. Made especially for the Preservation Association, this unique unbreakable ornament features a collage of beautiful images taken at the Ponce Inlet Light Station.

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**Brass Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Ornament**

Plated in brilliant brass, this wonderful Christmas tree ornament features the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse mounted in a yuletide wreath of holly.

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Looking for the first time through the eyepiece of a classic kaleidoscope is a lasting memory for many little ones. Add the unique excitement of assembling one on your own and your child will surely develop an understanding of how these wonderful instruments work. Easy to create and highly interactive. No major tools needed, just some patience. Appropriate for ages 3 and up.

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**Custom Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Hooded Sweatshirt**

Keep warm on chilly autumn and winter nights with this cotton/polyester blend hooded pull-over sweatshirt featuring the name of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and the year the Light Station was founded in 1887. Available in charcoal, blue, grey, and pink in sizes small through xx-large. Please indicate desired color and size when ordering. Add $1.00 for xx-large.

Item #: 2800 Price: $23.99 (+S&H)

**United States Lighthouse Service Badge Ball Cap**

Shade your eyes from the bright Florida sun with this custom ball cap featuring an embroidered image of the historic United States Lighthouse Service badge. Made of 100% cotton this comfortable ball cap includes a Velcro strap to adjust to any size head.

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